

ARIEL SOPHIA BARDI

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WORK EXPERIENCE

BBC, The Atlantic, Foreign Policy, Monocle, The Guardian, Al Jazeera, etc Nov 2015 – Present
Freelance Journalist Remote

- Reported for print, online, and TV from over a dozen countries, including Kyrgyzstan, Lebanon, Armenia, Sri Lanka, Israel and the West Bank, India, Nepal, Mexico, the United States, Italy, France, and Algeria.
- Drove more than 300 thousand individual visitors to multiple viral stories.
- “Death on the Hippie Trail” selected as one of *Slate Magazine*’s 10 best stories of 2017.
- Published a book chapter on archaeological disputes in *World(s) of Cultural Heritage* (University of Coimbra Press 2022).
- As a travel writer, serves as India, Algeria, and Italy destination expert for Viator Inc.

Temple University Rome Jan. 2023 – Present
Adjunct Professor Rome, Italy

- Teaches a workshop-style course in Travel Writing for undergraduate students with modules on the ethics and sustainability of travel, decolonizing travel writing, and visual storytelling.
- Oversees all aspects of course design and works one-on-one with students on narrative assignments.
- Previously taught writing at Beit Berl College in Israel, Descartes University in Paris, and Yale University.

EDUCATION

Yale University May, 2015
Ph.D. in Comparative Literature; M.A. History of Art New Haven, Connecticut
Dissertation: *Cleansing, Constructing, and Curating the State: India/Pakistan 47’ and Israel/Palestine 48’*

University of Paris-8 Dec, 2006
M.A. in Cultural and Gender Studies Paris, France

Bard College May, 2005
B.A. in French Studies; minor Gender Studies Annandale-on-Hudson, New York

RESIDENCIES, WORKSHOPS, AND FELLOWSHIPS

- 2024 Memoir Writing course with *Granta* literary magazine.
- 2023 Middle East fellow with the Moment Institute in Washington D.C.
- 2022 “Words of Witness” fellow at the Under the Volcano residency program in Tepoztlan, Mexico.
- 2021 fellow in the Logan nonfiction and documentary program through the Carey Institute of Global Good.
- 2021 Master Class in Hybrid Writing

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

- Realms of Memory discussion circle at Dissonances: Re-interpreting and re-assessing difficult heritage at the IMT School for Advanced Studies Lucca, July 2023.
- Webinar keynote address as part of the project *Patrimónios* (Heritages), UNESCO Chair in Intercultural Dialogue in Heritage of Portuguese Influence, May 2021.
- The 11th International Convention of Asia Scholars, July 2019. Leiden, Netherlands. “Contested Heritage and the Politics of Memory, Trauma and Mobility in Asia.”
- International Conference Worlds of Cultural Heritage(s): History and Politics, Feb 2019. Coimbra, Portugal. Presented paper, “When Pasts Overlap: Cultural Heritage at a Crossroads.”
- The 6th conference of the Asian Borderlands Research Network, Borderland Spaces: Ruins, Revival(s) and Resources, Aug 2018. Presented paper, “Partition in the Neoliberal City: Heritage Branding in Pakistan.”

SELECTED WRITING

▪ Essays and Nonfiction

- “A walk through the woods.” *Monocle*. August 2023.
- “What Theodor Herzl’s Zionist utopian novel says about Israel today.” *New Lines Magazine*. Nov 2022.
- “India’s Hindu Nationalists still feed off partition’s wounds.” *Foreign Policy*. Aug 2018.
- “How ‘Hindutva’ recast multi-faith India as the Hindu homeland.” *Aeon*. Oct 2017.
- “The soft nationalism of Amma, India’s hugging saint.” *LA Review of Books*. Sept 2017.
- “Shelter and sanctuary, the oldest of ideas.” *Yes Magazine*. May 2017.
- “Israel’s War of Construction,” *This Week in Palestine*.

▪ Reportage

- “How the Ram Mandir has transformed India.” *Foreign Policy*. March 2024.
- “FungalTopia.” *Proto.life*. Aug 2023.
- “The world’s most remote film festival,” *Foreign Policy*. Nov 2022.
- “Without safe homes or jobs, Italy’s Roma fear coronavirus impact.” *Al Jazeera*. March 2020.
- “Make Armenia green again.” *Foreign Policy*. Feb 2020.
- “How a mysterious order of knights found a place in the modern Middle East.” *Atlas Obscura*. Sept 2019.
- “Between gods and the government,” *Roads & Kingdoms*. June 2018.
- “In India’s rape capital, designers change how people picture assault. *Columbia Journalism Review*. Sept 2017.
- “God or geology? The conflict over Ram’s bridge,” *Hakai Magazine*. May 2017.
- “How Holi got politicized,” *The Atlantic*. March 2017.
- “Rebels with a cause: the female biker clubs reclaiming Delhi’s public space.” *The Guardian*. March 2017.
- “Death on the hippie trail.” *Roads & Kingdoms* cross-published with *Slate*. Jan 2017.
- “The village divided by a border.” *BBC Travel*. Nov 2016.
- “Between a wall and a green line: Palestinian life in the Seam Zone,” *+972*. Mar 2012.

▪ Visual Storytelling

- “When the border is a way of life” (award-winning photo essay), Eur-Asian Border Lab, Spring 2023.
- “The swimming cats of Van,” *Drawing the Times*. Oct 2022.
- “Obliterating god,” Slideluck Tel Aviv at Alfred Gallery. June 2014.

▪ Literary

- “Winter in Kashmir.” *Belle Ombre*. Sept 2021.

CERTIFICATIONS, SKILLS, & INTERESTS

- **Certifications:** Hostile Environment and First Aid Training (HEFAT), Safe and Secure Approaches to Field Environments (SSAFE), Visual Storytelling through the Magnum Foundation, Dignified Storytelling.
- **Skills:** Photography, copywriting, field and qualitative research, Microsoft Word, communications.
- **Interests:** Trekking, wild clay and food foraging, ceramics, botany and mycology, vegetarian cooking.