

SAMI ISMAT

b. 1992, Damascus, Syria/based in Chicago

sami.h.ismat@gmail.com

samiismat.com

Selected Exhibitions and Performances:

- 2021 *Lemon & Oil*, film, *Pivot Arts Festival*, Pivot Arts
- 2020 *Transfixed*, Online video, *Peacebook Online*, Collaboraction and *Is It a Good Time?*, Mana Contemporary
Veni, Vedi, Vici, Immersive Performance, The Future of Our Plans SAIC Graduate Exhibition
- 2019 *The Syrian Refugee Art Studio*, Performance & Exhibition, School of the Art Institute of Chicago
Every Time I Step Towards Freedom, Painting and Performance, Dfbrl8r Art Gallery - Zhou B Arts Center
Road to Asylum, Installation, Open Studios 2019 School of The Art Institute of Chicago
Pyrophones, Group Performance with Ensemble of Abandoned Practices, School of the Art Institute of Chicago
Sitting in Our Lap & Plucking Our Beards, Street Performance & Protest, State St.-Chicago Loop
New Normal, Performance in collaboration with Jonas Becker, Museum of Contemporary Art Chicago
Atlas Unlimited: Entr'acte, Lecture Performance in Collaboration with Karthik Pandian & Andros Zins-Browne, Graham Foundation
Atlas Unlimited, Performance & Exhibition, Karthik Pandian & Andros Zins-Browne, Logan Center for Arts
- 2018 *By a Shore Rests a Body*, Performance and Sculpture made in collaboration with Armin Hayerpatian & Divyamann Sahoo, New Blood Festival/Links Hall

Selected Theatre Directing Experience:

<u>Project</u>	<u>Playwright/Deviser</u>	<u>Producer/Venue</u>
<i>Picnic Summit</i>	Sami Ismat	Collaboraction
<i>Human Trash</i>	Sami Ismat	Rough House Theatre/Links Hall
<i>Real News</i>	Sami Ismat	HOMESSET Series
<i>Frivolous Dabke</i>	Sami Ismat	Collaboraction/Art Institute of Chicago
<i>Ghosts of Freedom</i> (workshop production)	Sami Ismat	Trellis Residency/Greenhouse Theatre Center
<i>Finding a Loving Motherland</i>	Sami Ismat	Collaboraction
<i>Mibbaj</i>	Riad Ismat	Stratford East Theatre, London
<i>Hypocrisy of Bureaucracy</i>	Sami Ismat	East 15 Acting School
<i>Top Girls</i>	Caryl Churchill	East 15 Acting School
<i>Nature is Beauty</i>	Sami Ismat & Ensemble	East 15 Acting School

Education:

Master of Fine Arts in Studio: Performance Art, School of the Art Institute of Chicago, Chicago, IL, USA – 2020

Graduate Student Senate, Performance Dept. Representative 2019-2020
Institute of International Education Fund (IIE) Scholarship for Syrian Students
Graduate Admissions Incentive Scholarship

Master of Fine Arts in Theatre Directing with Merit, East 15 Acting School University of Essex, Essex, England, United Kingdom – 2016

Said Foundation Scholarship

Bachelor of Arts in Mass Communication American University of Sharjah, Sharjah, United Arab Emirates (UAE) - 2014

H.H. Sheikh Sultan III bin Mubammad Al-Qasimi - Cultural Office Scholarship.
Dean's Honorary List 2012, 2013
Chancellor's Honor Student Year 2012/13

Selected Professional Training

- 2021 Sojourn Summer Institute (online), Goodman Theatre, Chicago, IL
- 2018 Directors Lab Chicago, Victory Gardens Theatre, Chicago, IL
Sojourn Summer Institute, Goodman Theatre, Chicago, IL
Rude Mechs devised theatre workshop, The Neofuturists, Chicago, IL
- 2015 Intensive Residency for Directing at Russian Academy of Dramatic Arts (GITIS), Moscow, Russia

Professional Experience:

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| Adjunct Faculty in Theatre Columbia College Chicago | Fall 2020 – Present |
| Teaching Assistant School of The Art Institute of Chicago | Fall 2018 – Winter 2020 |
| Lighting Designer and Production Stage Manager Links Hall | October 2018 – June 2020 |