

## education

- \*\* master of arts in **type design**, t]m 2008–09, koninklijke academie van beeldende kunsten | *KABK* | den haag, the netherlands.
- \*\* bachelor of arts in graphic design, **emphasis on typography and motion graphics**, 2007, notre dame university of louaize, zouk mosbeh, lebanon.
- \*\* cumulative gpa : 3.73 / 4 | *high distinction* |.
- \*\* official french baccalaureate part II | *general science* |.
- \*\* official lebanese baccalaureate part II | *life science* |.
- \*\* collège m. & h. arslanian djemaran, Lebanon | *graduated in 2004* |.

## experience

- \*\* was part of the type and media team realising the exhibition of the work of **tobias frere-jones** to commemorate the fourth **gerrit noordzij prize**, den haag, march 2009.
- \*\* attended the **robothon 2009**, a conference focusing on type design and production workflow, den haag, march 2009.
- \*\* was one of the 5 middle eastern designers selected to be part of the team at **mediamatic**, amsterdam, to create **el hema**, the virtual arabic version of a typical dutch store, hema. the exhibition was later awarded the **dutch design prize**, summer 2007.
- \*\* attended the **khatt kufi kaffiya**, symposium on arabic visual culture, amsterdam, the netherlands, summer 2006.
- \*\* assisted **pascal zoghbi** in his 2 day **kufi workshop** at mediamatic, amsterdam, the netherlands, summer 2006.
- \*\* completed 90 h. internship at **mohtaraf beirut graphics**, lebanon, 2007.
- \*\* completed 2 months internship at **JWT**, dubai, 2006.
- \*\* performed in the dance and theater groups of **hamazkayin armenian cultural & educational society**, lebanon, 1995–2006.
- \*\* performed as a dancer in the play *che guevara* created by the brothers sabbagh, lebanon, 2006.
- \*\* assisted in the preparation of the **plea 2005** international conference organized by *ndu* and hosted by *le royal* hotel.
- \*\* participated in *ndu's* one-week workshop with  **david jury**, editor of the typographic magazine, and member of the international society of typographical design, london, 2005.

## awards

- \*\* *If walls had ears... eyes & mouths* was selected among the 20 finalists of the mulsaq competition, organized by **the khatt foundation** and the trend-setting company **mosaiques**, in collaboration with dubai-based design gallery **traffic**.
- \*\* part of the team winning the **dutch design prize 2007**, under the visual identity category for the *el hema* project. the project was also in the short list for the **audi(ence) prize, 2007**.
- \*\* acknowledged a **member of the international society of typographic design** with a **merit** through the istd annual student assessment scheme 2007.
- \*\* first prize in the competition organized by *ndu* to design a 300 year celebration logo for the monastery of Louaize | *group of 2* |.
- \*\* granted the **said akl creative award 2006**.
- \*\* obtained 6 times academic recognition: **dean's list for all semesters**.
- \*\* granted scholarships for academic excellence ranging between 50% and 75% during all the years of undergraduate studies.



date of birth 19 . 03 . 1986  
 place of birth sharjah, uae  
 nationality lebanese  
 status single

Den Haag, Netherlands  
 +31 6 24 21 73 82

Dubai, UAE  
 +971 50 48 32 932

[kj.apelian@gmail.com](mailto:kj.apelian@gmail.com)

[debakir.com](http://debakir.com)

- publications**
- “ works published in die gestalten verlag’s **arabesque graphics book**.
  - “ works published in istd’s **typographic newsletters**.
- languages**
- “ **armenian** spoken and written fluently
  - “ **english** spoken and written fluently
  - “ **french** spoken and written fluently
  - “ **arabic** spoken and written a liiiiiitle bit less then fluently
- computer literacy**
- “ skilled in software such as the adobe creative suite and FontLab studio
- affiliations**
- “ member in **the khatt foundation**
  - “ member in **mediamatic foundation, amsterdam**
  - “ member of **the international society of typographic design**, london.
  - “ member of **hamazkayin armenian cultural & educational society**, lebanon
  - “ held the public relation position in the committee of **ndu’s sartarabad club** from fall 2004 to spring 2007

- references**
- “ **ms. yara khoury nammour**  
masters of art and design, middlesex university, uk | design director al mohtaraf, lebanon | part time teacher, ndu (faad), Lebanon.baadarani bldg, sanayeh, 113-6469, beirut, lebanon | m +961 3 270 758 yara@mohtaraf.com
  - “ **mr. willem velthoven**  
studied art history and visual communication in groningen | directing partner at mediamatic, mediamatic postbus 17490, 1001jl amsterdam, the netherlands m +31 6 460 78777 | t +31 20 638 9901 f +31 20 638 7969 | willem@mediamatic.net
  - “ **ms. huda smitshuijzen abifarès**  
degrees in graphic design from yale university school of art and rhode island school of design specializes in bilingual typographic research and design | founder of khatt foundation, center for arabic typography van tuyll van serooskerkenweg 142, 1076 jt amsterdam, the netherlands t +31 20-6766269 | huda.abifares@gmail.com www.khtt.net

**ju**