

# SOMAYEH CHITCHIAN

Architect  
Urban & Migration Research

35 Oxford St.  
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## EDUCATION

- 2013-ongoing **Doctor of Design**, student  
Harvard University | Graduate School of Design (GSD) | **Urban Theory Lab**  
Advisor: Prof. Neil Brenner  
Dissertation title:  
*Logistification of Migration: Corridors of Circulation, Bordering, and Inhabitation*
- 2011-2013 **Master in Design Studies (MDes)** with Distinction  
Harvard University | Graduate School of Design (GSD)  
Critical Conservation concentration | Advisor: Prof. K. Michael Hays
- 2013 Master's thesis: *Other[ed] City: (Re)presentations of Muslim Identities in Contemporary Urban West (the case of the city of Boston)* | [Project link](#)
- 2006-2008 **Master of Science (M.Sc)** in Architecture  
Delft University of Architecture (TU Delft) | The Netherlands  
Chair of Interiors, Buildings, and Cities | [Project link](#)
- 2002-2005 **Bachelor of Science (B.Sc)** in Architecture  
Delft University of Architecture (TU Delft) | The Netherlands

## HONORS & AWARDS

- 2015-2019 **Max Planck Institute Doctoral Fellowship**  
Institute for the Study of Religious and Ethnic Diversity | Germany  
Department of Socio-Cultural Diversity | Supervision: Prof. Steven Vertovec
- 2014 **Harvard EDC Student of the Year Award**  
ESRI Development Center | Harvard Center for Geographic Analysis  
Winner best student GIS project | Masters thesis | [Project link](#)
- 2011 **Dr. M. A. Mojtahedi Foundation Fellow**  
California | United States | Fund recipient for Harvard master's degree
- 2010 **Prins Bernhard Cultuurfonds Fellow**  
Amsterdam | The Netherlands | Fund recipient for Harvard master's degree
- 2010 **Henri F. Benkemper Fonds Fellow**  
Amsterdam | The Netherlands | Fund recipient for Harvard master's degree
- 2004 **BSc5 Winning Semester Project, Delft University of Technology**  
"Restoration and Mixed Use of TU North and Mijnbouwplein #11"

## PUBLICATIONS

- Forthcoming **Urban Geography Journal**  
Special Issue: Urban Studies and Refugee Migration: Conceptual Challenges and Methodological Approaches  
Title: *(Re)Spatializing Migration Analysis*
- Forthcoming **Edited Volume** | Outcome 2019 workshop  
"Inside Out - Outside In: Shifting Architectures of Refugee (In)habitation" (MPI-MMG)  
Editors: Somayeh Chitchian, Dr. Shahd Wari (MPI-MMG), Maja Momic (HCU Hamburg)  
Title (preliminary): *Inhabiting Displacement: Spaces and Subjects of Architecture*

## LANGUAGES

Farsi (Persian)	Native speaker
English	Excellent
Dutch	Very good
Azeri (Turkish)	Elementary

## COMPUTER SKILLS

Adobe	Photoshop
	Illustrator
	InDesign
	Premiere Pro
	Acrobat
GIS	ArcMap
CAD	AutoCad
	Vectorworks
3D	Rhinoceros
	Maya
Microsoft	Excel
	Powerpoint
	Word

## INTERESTS

Graphic design  
Photography  
Persian calligraphy  
Drawing & sketching  
Music & movies  
Organizing social events  
Community building and/or  
Faith-based activities  
Hiking / walking  
Traveling

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## ORGANIZED WORKSHOPS

2019 | winter | **Inside Out - Outside In: Shifting Architectures of Refugee (In)habitation**  
Venue: Max Planck Institute for the Study of Religious and Ethnic Diversity (MPI-MMG) | Germany  
Keynote: Prof. A. Iyer Siddiqi (Barnard College) | Keynote response: Prof. R. Sanyal (LSE) | Event [webpage](#)  
Co-organized with Dr. Shahd Wari (MPI-MMG), and Maja Momic (HCU Hamburg)

## CONFERENCES & SUMMER SCHOOLS

2018 | fall | **Spaces & Flows: Ninth International Conference on Urban and ExtraUrban Studies** | Heidelberg, Germany  
Panel: Migration geographies (1): Migration and back  
Presentation: *Infrastructures of Migration: The In-betweenness of Space and Subject*

2018 | fall | **Transregional Academy at National University of Singapore: Infrastructures, Regions, and Urbanizations**  
Organized by: Forum Transregionale Studien, Max Weber Stiftung, NUS, and Asia Research Institute  
Project: *Logistification of Migration: Infrastructures of Mobility, Containment, and Rebellion*

2018 | spring | **American Association of Geographers (AAG)** | New Orleans, US-LA  
Panel: Breaking Boundaries from Bottom to Top: Critical Approaches to Migration  
Presentation: *Migration Question as an Urban Question: Towards New Methodologies and Spatialities of Analysis*

2017 | **"Refugee Migration and Urban Studies - Theoretical Challenges and New Approaches"**  
IMISCOE | 14th Annual Conference | "Migration, Diversity, and the City" | Rotterdam, Netherlands  
Presentation title: *(Re)spatializing Migration Studies: Migration Question as an Urban Question*

2016 | **"DIVERCITIES: Governing Urban Diversity"** | Vienna, Austria  
University of Vienna | Marie Jahoda Summer School | Sociology department  
Presentation title: *(Re)spatializing Migration Studies: Interscalar Urban- and Human (Im)mobility Restructuration*

2013 | **"Ways of Knowing: Graduate Conference on Religion"** | Cambridge, US-MA  
Harvard Divinity School | Second annual conference  
Paper title: *Other[ed] City: (Re)presentations of Muslim Identities in Contemporary Urban West (the case of the city of Boston)* | master's thesis

2013 | **"Migration, Mobility, Movement: Crossing Borders in World History"** | Cambridge, US-MA  
Northeastern University | Department of History  
Fifth annual graduate student conference

## TEACHING EXPERIENCES

### Harvard University

2015 | spring semester | Teaching Fellow | Master in Design Studies (MDes) | Graduate School of Design (GSD)  
Course: DESo3332 - Critical Conservation: Urban Cultural Ecologies of Progressive Places  
Instructors: Susan Nigra Snyder and George E. Thomas

2014 | fall semester | Teaching Fellow | Department of Urban Planning and Design | Graduate School of Design  
Course: SESo5210 - Cities by Design 1 | Core course for Urban Design students  
Instructors: Rahul Mehrotra and Jana Cephas

2013 | fall semester | Teaching Fellow | Master in Design Studies (MDes) | Graduate School of Design (GSD)  
Course: DESo3332 - Critical Conservation: Understanding the Urban Cultural Ecology of Progressive Urban Places |  
Teaching staff: Susan Nigra Snyder and George E. Thomas

## RESEARCH ASSISTANTSHIPS

### Harvard University

2014 | spring semester | Conservation proposal for Pennsylvania Academy of Fine Arts (PAFA)  
Title: Conserving the Intangible: Daylight and Kinetic Experience of the Museum  
Supervisors: Susan Nigra Snyder and George E. Thomas

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## RESEARCH ASSISTANTSHIP (continued)

2013 Master track area assistant | Graduate School of Design  
Master in Design Studies (MDes) | Critical Conservation concentration

2013 Research Assistant | HarvardX | Graduate School of Design  
| summer | Course: *The Architectural Imagination* | Supervisor: Prof. K. Michael Hays.

2014-2015 Project Assistant | Frances Loeb Library | Graduate School of Design

2012-2013 Research Assistant | Harvard Law School  
Supervisor: Prof. M. Shahab Ahmed | Text translation

2011-2012 Research Assistant | Gulf Encyclopedia | Graduate School of Design  
Title: *The Gulf Encyclopedia for Sustainable Urbanism (GESU)*

## Delft University of Technology (TU Delft)

2006-2008 Teaching and research assistant | Department of Building Technology

## ORGANIZATIONAL POSITIONS

### Harvard University

2019-2020 Graduate Assistant | Graduate School of Arts and Sciences (GSAS) | Office of Student Services  
Supervisors: Danielle Farrell (Director of Student Services), and Janet Daniels (Program Coordinator)

2019-2020 Resident Advisor (RA) | GSAS Office of Residential Life | Perkins Hall, 4th floor  
& 2014-2015 Supervisors: G. McCavana (Dean for Student Affairs), D. Farrell, A. Skipwith (Director of Residential Life)

2013 Summer Conference Assistant | Graduate School of Arts and Sciences (GSAS)  
| summer | Assistance to the Housing Services staff in the GSAS Residence Halls

## ARCHITECTURE

### 2008 Architect

Imagine Envelope B.V. | The Hague | The Netherlands  
Design of advanced building envelopes | [www.imagine-envelope.com](http://www.imagine-envelope.com) | Project collaborations:

### 2005-2006 Intern architect

Rooijakkers+Tomesen Architecten | Amsterdam | The Netherlands | [www.rooijakkers-tomesen.com](http://www.rooijakkers-tomesen.com)

## ACTIVITIES & EXHIBITIONS

### Logo Designs

2019 Max Planck Phdnet | Mental Health Awareness Week | [Link](#)

2018 Runner-up | Logo competition Max Planck Phdnet | [Link](#)

2017 Academy for African Urban Diversity (AAUD) | [Link](#)

### "Encounter" (photo)

2015 The Dudley Review | Harvard GSAS literary journal | April 2016, p.16  
Literary journal by GSAS students, featuring their art, writing & music.

2014 Light: The MESSA Journal | University of Chicago | Spring 2014, 3(2), p.32  
Middle Eastern Studies Student's Association (MESSA) | [Journal link](#)

### 2015 "Street / Documentary Photography" (exhibition)

Harvard University | Dudley House | GSAS Student Center | Café Gato Rojo  
Selected work | Dudley House photography class fall 2013 | Instructor: B.D. Colen

### 2005-2006 The Rich Persia: Architectural study trip to and exhibition of Iran

Delft University of Technology | The Netherlands  
First student-led architectural study trip to Iran from TU Delft