

# Beatrice Bottomley

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Dipartimento di Filosofia  
Via Zamboni 38, Bologna.

## Education

- **PhD in Cultural, Intellectual, and Visual History at the Warburg Institute – University of London, October 2019 to November 2023.**

Under the supervision of Professor Charles Burnett and Doctor Kazuyo Murata. Examined by Doctor Liana Saif and Professor Peter Adamson.

- **MRes in the Hamito-semitic, Muslim and Arab Worlds (mention Très Bien) at l'Institut de Recherches et d'Etudes sur le Monde Arabe et Musulman (IREMAM) – CNRS/Aix-Marseille Université, 2016-2018.**

Under the supervision of Professor Richard Jacquemond.

- **BA Arabic (first class) at the School of Oriental and African Studies (SOAS) - University of London, 2011-2015.**

Visiting Student at An-Najah University, Nablus, 2013-2014.

## Academic Employment

- Post-doctoral Researcher on ERC Project '**UseFool. Knowledge and manipulation of nature between usefulness and deception in the Arabo-Islamic tradition (9th–15th century)**' at University of Bologna – from May 2024 to present.
- Graduate Teaching Assistant to Professor Peter Adamson on module '**Philosophy in the Islamic World**' at King's College London - September 2021 to May 2023.

## Academic Publications

### Book Chapters

- [forthcoming] '**From Ibn 'Arabī's Theory to Practice of Language,**' in *Micrologus Library: Science and Craft: The relations between the theoretical and practical sides of the occult and esoteric sciences in the Islamic World*, edited by Godefroid De Callatay, Sebastian Moreau, and Liana Saif. Florence: SISMEL – Edizioni del Galluzzo.
- '**Ars combinatoria: Deciphering the Earthly and Divine in the Mediaeval World and Beyond,**' co-written with Arianna Dalla Costa, in *Media Technologies and the Digital Humanities in Mediaeval and Early Modern Studies*, edited by Katharine Scherff and Lane Sobehrad. London: Taylor and Francis, 2023.

### Book Reviews

- '**Sorcery or Science? Contesting Knowledge and Practice in West African Sufi Texts** by Ariela Marcus-Sells.' *Journal of Islamic Studies*, 34 (September 2023).
- '**Translation Movement and Acculturation in the Mediaeval Islamic World** by Labeeb Bsoul.' *The Oxford Critical Comparative and Translation Review* (March 2021).

## Peer-reviewed Articles

- **'On Countries and Hotels: Disassembling Narratives of Time and Place,'** *antiAtlas Journal*, no.2 (October 2019).

## Awards & Grants

- **LAHP doctoral studentship**, 2019-23, fees, maintenance, and research expenses.
- **John Coffin Memorial Trust**, March 2022, £500 for organisation of event **Agitated Air: Poems After Ibn Arabi'**.
- **IREMAM research grant**, 2018, €600 awarded by Centre national de la recherche scientifique (CNRS).

## Selected Conferences, Seminars & Workshops

- Paper **'Writing the World: Letters, Natures, and Properties in the Premodern Islamic Tradition'** at Convegno Nazionale Società Italiana di Storia della Scienza, 31<sup>st</sup> May 2024.
- Lecture **'How to Be Things with Words: From Theories of Language to Practical Techniques in the Premodern Islamic World'** invited by ERC Project *UseFool* at the University of Bologna, 25<sup>th</sup> March 2024.
- Invited speaker on panel **'Ritual Tech: Alphanumeric Prayer between Religion and Science I'** at *The International Congress on Medieval Studies* at Western Michigan University, 11-13<sup>th</sup> May 2023.
- Invited speaker at conference **'Science and Craft: the relations between the theoretical and practical sides of the occult and esoteric sciences in the Islamic World'** organised by *ERC PhilAnd* at the Warburg Institute, 10-13<sup>th</sup> January 2023.
- Paper **'Combinatoria, from Ontological Framework to Practical Technique,'** with Arianna Dalla Costa for *Philosophical Perspectives on Medieval Theories of Science* at Max-Planck-Institut, 27-29<sup>th</sup> September 2022.
- Paper **'Ars combinatoria: Deciphering the Earthly and Divine in the Mediaeval World and Beyond,'** invited speaker with Arianna Dalla Costa for *Annual Symposium on Mediaeval and Renaissance Studies* at St Louis University, 21<sup>st</sup> June 2022.
- Invited speaker at **'Giornata di Studi: Misurare il Mondo I'** at Kunsthistorisches Institut in Florenz, Max-Planck-Institut in cooperation with Museo Galilei, 4<sup>th</sup> March 2022.
- Workshop **'Circling Around the Truth: Rotating Symbols in the Mechanisation of Thought and Reality'** with Arianna Dalla Costa for *Writing Technologies Research Network* at The Oxford Research Centre in the Humanities (TORCH), University of Oxford, 4<sup>th</sup> February 2022.
- Invited speaker at seminar **'Text as Image in Ibn Arabi's *al-Futūḥāt al-Makkiyya* and Fra Filippo Lippi's "Coronation of the Virgin"'** with Gregor Meineke for *Perlego Text-Image Research Network* at the University of Oxford in cooperation with the Freie Universität Berlin, 25<sup>th</sup> November 2021.
- Invited speaker at seminar **'Writing Technologies: works-in-progress'** at The Oxford Research Centre in the Humanities (TORCH), University of Oxford, 22<sup>nd</sup> October 2021.
- Organiser of and participant in seminar **'Conversation with Federico Campagna'** with Liana Saif and John Tresch at the Warburg Institute, 11<sup>th</sup> November 2020.
- Work selected for **Translation Workshop with Peter Cole**, St Anne's College, Oxford, November 2019.

## Administrative Roles

- **Periodic Programme Review Committee for School of Advanced Studies, University of London** – April 2024.
- **Events Committee of The Warburg Institute** – September 2022 to October 2023.
- **Assistant Convenor of Arabic Philosophy Reading Group at The Warburg Institute** – October 2021 to July 2022.

## Selected Employment

- **Managing Editor at *postmedieval***, an award-winning journal that publishes theoretically driven scholarship on premodernity and its ongoing reverberations – February 2023 to July 2024.
- **Library Assistant at The Warburg Institute** – February to July 2023.
- **Freelance translation** – August 2015 to present – Translation of articles and essays from Arabic and French into English for a number of clients; including Villa Medici, Alifbata Éditions, Loose Joints Publishing, la Cité internationale de la bande dessinée et de l'image, and L'École Nationale Supérieure des Beaux Arts de Lyon.

## Selected Arts & Public Engagement Events

- Organiser of '**Agitated Air: Poems After Ibn Arabi**' Reading and Conversation with Yasmine Seale, Robin Moger, and Marina Warner at the Warburg Institute, 24<sup>th</sup> March 2022.
- Organiser of Lecture and Workshop '**A Bridge Between - The Art of Arabic Calligraphy**' with Soraya Syed at the Warburg Institute, 4<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> November 2021.
- Organiser of Seminar Series '**Reading and Observing the Lunar Mansions**' with Arianna Dalla Costa at The Warburg Institute, various dates in October and November 2021.

## Selected Other Publications

- [forthcoming] Archive reviews '**Beyazit Library**' and '**Türk ve İslam Eserleri Müzesi**' for *Hazine Blog*.
- Interview with Federico Campagna for podcast **Overmorrow's Library**, Centre d'Art Contemporain Genève, June 2022.
- Essay '**GPT-3, Divine Writing and Other Realities**' for *Warburg Institute Blog*, July 2021.

## Relevant Skills

- **Languages** – English (native)
  - French (fluent)
  - Modern Standard Arabic, Classical Arabic (advanced - reading and writing)
  - Italian (proficient – reading, speaking, and writing)
  - Levantine Arabic (basic - speaking)
  - Modern Turkish, Persian, Classical Greek, Latin (basic - reading)
- **Arabic Palaeography** – Completed *Arabic Manuscripts Summer School* co-organised by Luke Yarbrough (UCLA) and Marina Rustow (Princeton).
- **Digital humanities** – Python (basic)