

Adam Chamy is an expressionist artist and writer whose work explores wonder, the otherworldly, and the emotional terrain of memory and myth. He reworks found materials, everyday imagery, and fragments of time into vivid, layered compositions that incorporate portraiture, flash fiction, and narrative text.

Rooted in a lifelong struggle with insomnia and shaped by his identity as a queer Palestinian-Texan, Chamy channels mystic archetypes—the truth-teller, the prophet, the outlaw to craft palimpsest-like visions that straddle ancestral memory and speculative dreaming. His work spans from minimalist watercolors meditating on land and culture to maximalist portraits and collages that blur fable and identity. Each piece becomes a site of translation: between the sacred and the mundane, the theatrical and the intimate, the visible and invisible.





SELF PORTRAIT WATERCOLOR ON PAPER 22.5" x 31" 2024

BIOGRAPHY

Adam Chamy is a multidisciplinary queer Palestinian-American artist, writer, and architect based in Washington, DC. They received architectural training at the University of Maryland and focused on sociocultural anthropology, fine arts, and international affairs at the George Washington University. His art is deeply multidisciplinary incorporating a variety of media including short stories, found materials and mixed two dimensional media while always being in service of his unique otherworldly style and intersectional voice.

Chamy's work has been shown at the United Nations East Gallery (NYC), Museo del Brigantaggio (Italy), and al-Quds Gallery (Washington, DC). His solo exhibition Of Refuge, Of Home was featured by NPR and The Washington Post. He is also the 2023 Half-Light Press Short Story Prize winner for The Two Halves House, a parable exploring themes of national borders and family myth-making



SELF PORTRAIT MIXED MEDIA ON FOUND BOOK 8-1/2" x 11" 2007

SELECT ILLUSTRATIONS AND EXHIBITION HISTORY

2025 Exhibitor, Queer Art Salon, DC CAH Gallery, Washington, DC 2024 Exhibitor, UNRWA USA, Gaza Through My Lens tour with Motaz Azaiza Fundraising Tour 2024 Exhibitor, Watermelon Seeds Exhibit, Politics and Prose, Washington, DC 2024 Exhibitor, 2024, Exhibitor, From the Earth to the Sky, Gallery Y, Washington, DC 2024 Exhibitor, Queer Art Showcase, Playhaus, Washington, DC 2024 Exhibitor, Artomatic, Washington, DC 2024 Exhibitor, Watermelon Seeds: Palestinian and Arab-American Art, The Den, Politics and Prose, Washington, DC 2024, Illustrator, "DC State of Mind" The Critical Planning Journal, UCLA, Los Angeles, CA 2023 Illustrator, Sentience Literary Journal, Los Angeles, CA 2023 Exhibitor, Waves of Joy, Gallery Y, Washington, DC 2022 Exhibitor, Juried Show, Hill Center Regional Juried Exhibition, Washington, DC 2022 Author and Illustrator, "The Cactus House", Sentience Literary Journal, Los Angeles, CA 2021 Exhibitor, Pride, Portico Gallery, Brentwood, MD 2020 Exhibitor, Art is not Optional, al-Quds Gallery, Washington, DC 2019 Illustrator & Author, TinyQueerZine 2018 Exhibitor, SuperFine! Art Fair, Washington, DC 2018 Illustrator, Two Hawks Quarterly, Antioch University, Culver City, California 2017 Exhibitor, ThinkSmall, Art Space, Richmond, Virginia 2017 Finalist ArtBank, Juried Contest for Public Art with the District of Columbia , Washington, DC. 2017 Exhibitor, Hill Center Regional Juried Exhibition Washington, DC 2017 Exhibitor, "Look Closer" Georgetown Visitation, Washington, DC 2017 Exhibitor, Artomatic, Crystal City, Virginia 2016 Exhibitor, Forbidden Colors, al-Quds Gallery, Washington, DC 2015 Exhibitor, And We Have Countries, al-Quds Gallery, Washington, DC 2013 Exhibitor, League of Arab States, Ronald Reagan Atrium Gallery, Washington, DC 2012 Exhibitor, "The Art of Rebellion", Museo del Brigantaggio, Itri, Italy 2012 Exhibitor, Palestine: Memories, Dreams, Perseverance, Northeast Gallery, United Nations, New York, NY 2012 Cover Illustrator and Designer for Novel: The Lost Tribes of the Alleghenies by Alan Margolis 2011 Exhibitor, Juried, Reagan National Airport- "Artomatic Takes Flight"- Arlington, VA 2011 Solo Show, "Of Refuge, Of Home" al-Quds Gallery, Washington, DC 2011 Exhibitor, "Arab-American Art Exhibition"–National Arab-American Professionals Network-DC 2011 Illustrator & Designer "Washington" Numbers Alive! Books for Young Travelers" by Rebecca Klemm 2011 Exhibitor, "Art" by Adam Chamy & Jessica Shull, Flying Fish, Washington, DC 2009 Exhibitor, "Just Art" GaleriaZero, Barcelona, Spain 2009 Exhibitor, "My Space on 5th", Touchstone Gallery, Washington DC 2005 Juried Exhibitor, "Young Masters under 18" - Dallas Museum of Art, Dallas, TX

SELECT AWARDS, LIVE PAINTING, AND EVENTS

2024 Critic – Professor VanderGoot – Architecture Graduate Studio, University of Maryland- College Park 2023 Winner, Half Light Press Short Story Prize, New Orleans, LA

2021-2022 Design Team Member, Architectural Design Awards, Residences at St. Elizabeths

- DC Preservation League Award
- Washingtonian Residential Design Award
- American Institute of Architects Virginia Award of Merit in Historic Preservation
- American Institute of Architects DC Citation for Equitable Communities
- Washingtonian Residential Design Award Residences at St. Elizabeths East

2022 Semi-Finalist, Trawick Prize, Bethesda, Maryland

2016-2019- Regular Live Artist at Olde City Farm + Guild, Various DJ / Art Events, Washington, DC.

- 2016-2019 Regular Live Painting at Petworth Arts, Washington, DC
- 2017 Speaker District of Columbia Design Forum Office of Planning, Washington, DC

2016, Lecturer – APA Student Presentations "Frederick: A Sustainability Plan" Phoenix, Arizona

2015 Awardee, AIA Top 10 Cote Award for Students "Regenerative Urban Ecology: Fostering a place-based work space"

- 2015 Lecturer Narrative Meaning in Site Design, Professor VanderGoot Architecture Graduate Studio University of Maryland - College Park
- 2014 Television Interview, "Adam Chamy: Arab-American Artist and Designer" Al-Hurrah Television Network,
- 2014 Lecturer, Narrative Meaning in Site Analysis, under Professor VanderGoot Architecture Graduate Studio
- 2012 Live Painting Series at "Paint the Music" Ebenezer's, Washington, DC
- 2011 Lecturer, "Artistic Arabs in the Arts" sponsored by the Arab Student Association, George Washington University, Washington, DC
- 2011 Lecturer, "Of Refuge, of Home" introduction to exhibit and Arab art for John Hopkins School of Advanced International Studies students, Jerusalem Fund Art Gallery, Washington, DC
- 2006, Presenter on Culture and Memory, "Iconic Fluidity: The Changing Face of Lincoln's Temple", The George Washington University Writing and Research Symposium

EDUCATION + RELATED WORK HISTORY

- 2016- Ongoing Architect, Urban Designer, Cunningham Quill Architects, Washington, DC
- 2016 Master in Architecture, University of Maryland, College Park, MD <u>Thesis: an architectural process of memory and adaptation</u>
- 2016 Master in Community Planning University of Maryland, College Park, MD
- 2009 BA International Affairs; Art + Art History; George Washington University, Washington, DC
- 2000 Ongoing Tarot Reader