

A R T I S T
S T A T E M E N T :

Adam Chamy is an artist creates dreamlike works that move between ancestral memory and speculative vision. Exploring magical realism through the rigorous reworking of found materials, mundane visual references, and observations of time, he creates layered, dreamlike compositions that blur the boundaries between the sacred and the everyday, the theatrical and the intimate.

Drawing on mystic archetypes—the truth-teller, the prophet, the outlaw—Chamy constructs palimpsest-like surfaces of painting, collage, and text that evoke the chaotic layering of dreams and memory. Celestial bodies, seasonal color palettes, and sequential forms often serve as temporal anchors within these otherworldly narratives. The resulting fantastical works invite viewers to drift alongside him—through histories and myths, into new worlds stitched together from fragments of the familiar.



SELF PORTRAIT
MIXED MEDIA ON FOUND CRATE
36" x 36" x 2"
2011

BIOGRAPHY

Chamy's practice spans mixed media painting, writing, and architecture - always in service of his unique otherworldly, intersectional voice. Chamy's work has exhibited at the United Nations East Gallery, Museo del Brigantaggio (Italy), and the al-Quds Gallery, and toured nationally with UNRWA USA and photojournalist Motaz Azaiza. His solo exhibition Of Refuge, Of Home – focused on narratives from his Palestinian-Texan heritage - was featured by WAMU/NPR and The Washington Post's Express. He received the 2023 Half-Light Press Short Story Prize for The Two Halves House, a magical-realist parable exploring national borders and family myth-making. As an architect with Cunningham Quill, Chamy has contributed to multiple AIA award-winning projects, including the adaptive reuse of the historic St. Elizabeths asylum into affordable housing.



KUFFIYEH SELF PORTRAIT
Watercolor on Paper
22 1/2" x 31"
2024

SELECT CREATIVE WORKS AND EXHIBITION HISTORY

2025 Exhibitor, Gabrielle’s Angel Foundation, New York City, NY
2025 Three Person Exhibit, “Handle with Care”, Gallery Y, Washington, DC
2025 Exhibitor, Queer Art Salon, DC CAH Gallery, Washington, DC
2024 Exhibitor, Queer Art Salon, Playhaus DC Union Market, Washington, DC
2024 Exhibitor, UNRWA USA, Gaza Through My Lens tour with photojournalist Motaz Azaiza Tour
2024 Exhibitor, Watermelon Seeds Exhibit, Politics and Prose, Washington, DC
2024 Exhibitor, Artomatic, Washington, DC
2024, Exhibitor, “From the Earth to the Sky”, Gallery Y, Washington, DC
2023 Illustator,Senitence Literary Journal, Los Angeles, CA
2023 Illustator, Critical Planning Journal
2023 Author and Illustrator, “The Two Halves House”, Half Light Press, New Orleans, LA
2022 Exhibitor, Waves of Joy, Gallery Y, Washington, DC
2022 Exhibitor, Hill Center Regional Juried Exhibition, Washington, DC
2022 Author and Illustrator, “The Cactus House”, Sentience Literary Journal, Los Angeles, CA
2022, Finalist, The Trawick Prize, Betheda, MD
2021 Exhibitor, Pride, Portico Gallery, Brentwood, MD
2020 Exhibitor, Art is not Optional, al-Quds Gallery, Washignton, 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 Reception, 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 Exhibitor, Paint the Music – Live Painting at Ebenezer Coffee House
2011 Exhibitor, Reagan National Airport - “Artomatic Takes Flight”- Arlington, VA
2011 Solo Exhibitor, “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 Tea & Coffee, Washington, DC
2009 Exhibitor, “Just Art” GaleriaZero, Barcelona, Spain
2009 Exhibitor, “My Space on 5th”, Touchstone Gallery, Washington DC
2005 Exhibitor, “Young Masters” Dallas Museum of Art, Dallas, TX

SELECT AWARDS, LIVE PAINTING, AND EVENTS

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, under Professor VanderGoot – Architecture Graduate Studio
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 Cover Illustrator and Designer for Novel: The Lost Tribes of the Alleghenies by Alan Margolis
2012- Live Painting 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 AND RELATED WORK HISTOR

2016- Ongoing Architect, Designer, Urban Designer, Cunningham Quill Architects, Washington, DC
2016 M.Arch / M. Community Planning University of Maryland, College Park, MD
[Thesis: an architectural process of memory and adaptation](#)
2009 BA International Affairs; Minor: Art + Art History;
George Washington University, Washington, DC
2000 – Ongoing Tarot Reader