DORON ALTARATZ

doronal@edu.jmc.ac.il • +972-50-2211436 • https://altaratz.com/

ABOUT

Dr. Doron Altaratz is a media theorist specializing in computational photography and algorithmic visuality. His research explores how emerging imaging technologies, such as photogrammetry, machine vision, and interactive systems, reshape visual language, perception, and the conditions of mediation. Drawing on media theory, his work examines how computational processes structure not only the making of images but also their experience and understanding. He investigates the shifting boundaries between human agency and machine vision in contemporary image cultures through critical writing and practice-based inquiry.

RESEARCH INTERESTS

- **Media Theory**: Exploring automation and collaboration in computational photography and its social implications on visual language.
- **Computational Photography**: Investigating algorithmic image creation and interactive imaging methods.
- **Cultural Heritage Preservation**: Utilizing photogrammetry and 3D modeling to document historical artifacts and sites.
- **Interactive Installations & Mixed Reality**: Creating immersive VR/AR experiences.
- **Algorithmic Technologies & User Interaction**: Analyzing how computational processes influence engagement with media.

EDUCATION

2022 **Ph.D.**, The Department of Communications and Journalism, The Hebrew University of Jerusalem. Thesis title: The Visual Algorithm

2004 **M.P.S**, Interactive Telecommunications Program, Tisch School of the Arts, New York University. Thesis title: The Angel of History

1997 **B.F.A**, The Department of Photography, Bezalel Academy of Art and Design, Jerusalem. Thesis title: A Visit to the Mountain

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

2026 - current Cities and Territories Research Group. DINÂMIA'CET - Instituto Universitário de Lisboa- **Associate Researcher**

2024 - current The Department of Photographic Communication, Jerusalem Multidisciplinary College (Formerly Hadassah Academic College) - **Director of the Department**

2006 - 2024 The Department of Photographic Communication, Jerusalem Multidisciplinary College (Formerly Hadassah Academic College) - **Senior Lecturer**

2014 - 2021 Bezalel Academy of Art and Design, Jerusalem (M.Des program): **Lecturer**

PUBLICATIONS

Caine, M., Tager, S., Altaratz, D. (2026). Going round the bend: Visualizing surface details in a 3-dimensional world. In M. Ioannides et al. (Eds.), *Digital Heritage. Progress in Cultural Heritage: Documentation, Preservation, and Protection* (EuroMed), Lecture Notes in Computer Science, vol. 16262 (pp. 93-104). Springer. https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-032-34786-2_9

Andron, S., Avramidis, K., Ward, T. (Eds.) (2026). *Urban Surfaces Research Network, Vol. 7*, with contributions by the workshop participants, including D. Altaratz. Melbourne Centre for Cities, University of Melbourne. https://doi.org/10.26188/33455761

Nathan, D., Altaratz, D., Rozen, S., Fenakel Fiedelman, M., Gertner Moryossef, I. (2026). Linear or grid? LMS layout and students' perceived usability across academic progression. *Frontiers in Education*, 11, 1896137. https://doi.org/10.3389/feduc.2026.1896137

Morse, T. Altaratz, D. (2026). Witnessing carnage: Self-documented terrorism and the moral challenges of decentralized digital platforms. *New Media & Society*, 28(4), 1524-1549

Altaratz, D. (2024). The uncanniness of interactive photography: Exploring spatial perception in virtual tours and structure from motion. *Philosophy of Photography, 15*(47).

Altaratz, D. Morse, T. (2023). Digital Séance: Fabricated Encounters with the Dead. *Social Sciences.* 12:11. 635. https://doi.org/10.3390/socsci12110635

Trentin, MG. Altaratz, D. Caine, M. Re'em, A. Tinazzo, A. Gasanova, S. (2023). Historic Graffiti as a Visual Medium for the Sustainable Development of the Underground Built Heritage. *Sustainability***. ;** 15(15):11697. https://doi.org/10.3390/su151511697

Altaratz, D. (2023). The Human Tripod: Computational Photography, Automated Processes, and Professional Identity. *photographies*, 16:2, 291-311, 2023

Re'em A., Caine M., Altaratz D., and Tchekhanovets Y. (2022) Historical Archaeology of Medieval Pilgrimage: Dating the "Walls of the Crosses" in the Holy Sepulcher Chapel of St. Helena. In New Studies in the Archaeology of Jerusalem and Its Region, Volume 15.

Altaratz, D., Frosh, P. (2021). Sentient Photography: Image-Production and the Smartphone Camera,. *photographies*, 14:2, 243-264, 2021

Caine, M., Altaratz, D., Mann, E., & Havkin, A. (2020). The Spirit of the Cloud: The 'New Jerusalem' as a metaphor for social experiences of virtual technologies. *Proceedings of EVA London 2020 30*, 58-65.

Caine, M., Altaratz, D., Maggen M. (2019). Combining RTI & SFM. A Multi-Faceted Approach to Inscription Analysis. Proceedings of the Electronic Visualization and the Arts, Florence (EVA 2019) Conference (pp. 97-104). Firenze University Press.

Caine, M., Altaratz, D., MacDonald, L.,Reem, A. (2018). The Riddle of the Crosses: The Crusaders in the Holy Sepulchre. Proceedings of the Electronic Visualisation and the Arts (EVA 2018) Conference (pp. 132-139). London, UK

RECENT CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

Conference title: ICPT 2026, International Conference of Photography and Theory
Location: Nicosia Municipal Arts Centre (NiMAC), Nicosia, Cyprus
Dates: November 26-28, 2026 (forthcoming)
Paper title: The Digital Shaking Tent: Generative AI, the Vanishing Photographer's Body, and the Séance of the Image (Doron Altaratz)

Conference title: Forecasting the Future: Between Media, Technology and Society, 7th Conference
Location: Jagiellonian University, Kraków, Poland
Dates: October 15-16, 2026
Paper title: The Captureless Image: Lightless Photography and the Algorithmic Reshaping of Creative Work (Doron Altaratz)

Conference title: InfoVis-DL 2026 workshop at TPDL 2026
Location: University of the Algarve, Faro, Portugal

Date: September 21, 2026
Paper title: From Inscription to Information: A Multi-modal Visualization Pipeline for Endangered Graffiti Heritage at Apostolos Andreas Monastery, Cyprus (Doron Altaratz & Mia Gaia Trentin)

Conference title: 7th International Conference of Photography & Theory
Location: CYENS Centre of Excellence, Nicosia, Cyprus
Dates: November 7-9, 2024
Panel 16: Love and Loss through the lens: mediated death
Paper title: The Digital Séance: Fabricated Encounters with the Dead (Doron Altaratz & Tal Morse)
Panel 18: Phantasmagoria, spectatorship and the mediation of affect
Paper title: Witnessing Carnage: Self-documented Terrorism and the Moral Challenges of Decentralized Digital Platforms (Doron Altaratz & Tal Morse)

Conference title: The Israeli Communication Association's annual conference 2024
Location: Reichman University, Herzliya, ISRAEL
Date: April 18, 2024
Panel: photographic communications in protest and war
Paper title: A Photogrammetric look at the disaster (Doron Altaratz & Moshe Caine)

Conference title: Helsinki Photomedia 2024
Location: Aalto University, Helsinki, Finland
Dates: April 11-13, 2024
Panel 1: Archive and Memory 1
Paper title: The Digital Séance: Fabricated Encounters with the Dead (Doron Altaratz & Tal Morse)

Conference title: DDD16: Learning from Suffering and Dying
Location: University of Padua, ITALY
Dates: September 7-9, 2023
Panel 1: Rethinking Digital Death: The Norms, Politics, and Technologies of Grief and Remembering
Paper title: Deepfaking the Dead: computational photography and Raising of "Lazarus" (Doron Altaratz & Tal Morse)

Conference title: (Death Online Research Symposium)DORS#6 DEATH FUTURES
Location: Northumbria University, Newcastle Upon Tyne, UK
Dates: May 31-June 2, 2023
Panel 11: Digital Death: Technologies and Cultures in the Production of Immortality, Afterlife, and Identity
Paper title: Deepfaking the Dead: computational photography and Raising of "Lazarus" (Doron Altaratz & Tal Morse)

Conference title: Conference of Photography and Theory 2022
Location: Theatro Polis, Nicosia, Cyprus
Dates: November 17-19, 2022
Session 07: On Machine Vision and Ai
Paper title: The Uncannniness of Computational Photography (Doron Altaratz)

Conference title: 9th European Communication Conference ECREA 2022
Location: Aarhus University, Aarhus, Denmark
Dates: October 19-22, 2022
Session 07: Negotiating Digital Afterlife: Post mortal Communication in a Hyper-mediated Society
Paper title: Deepfaking the Dead: computational photography and Raising of "Lazarus" (Doron Altaratz & Tal Morse)

Conference title: Helsinki Photomedia 2022
Location: Aalto University, Espoo, Finland
Dates: March 31- April 04, 2022
Session 01: Technologies and Cultures: Critical Approaches
Paper title: Visual Portals of Reality: User Agency and Remote Sensing of Post-Processing Photography (Doron Altaratz)

Invited Talks

"The Wall as Interface," Digital Humanities talk, Lisbon, September 23, 2026.

"From Walls to Data: Photographic and Computational Approaches to Graffiti Research," NOVA FCSH - Universidade Nova de Lisboa, February 19, 2025.

"Lo studio dei graffiti dal rilievo all'archeologia sperimentale," Università Ca' Foscari, Venezia, June 4, 2024.

"Deciphering the Engraved Crosses in the Holy Sepulcher - Saint Helena Chapel," The Cyprus Institute, Nicosia, September 11, 2023.

Teaching, Research, and Mobility Programs

2026 DIPTCH 2026: Digital Imaging and the Preservation of Tangible Cultural Heritage, international online course, Jerusalem Multidisciplinary College - **convenor (October 2026 to January 2027).**

2025 Erasmus+ mobility program - Camilo José Cela University, Madrid, SPAIN - **guest lecture of the communications department.**

2024 Erasmus+ mobility program - The Cyprus Institute, Nicosia, CYPRUS - **Students and staff mobility at the Science & Technology in Archaeology and Culture Research Center (STARC).**

2024 VeLA workshop, Department of Humanities, Ca’ Foscari University of Venice, ITALY - **invited instructor (June 3-7, 2024).**

2023 Visiting Faculty - Anant National University, Ahmedabad, India - **guest lecturer in the interaction design department, conducting workshops and research collaborations**.

Teaching Experience

The Department of Photographic Communication, Jerusalem Multidisciplinary College (Formerly Hadassah Academic College)

- Leading the department’s academic and administrative activities.
- Overseeing faculty, student projects, and research initiatives in photographic communications.
- Developing curriculum to integrate emerging technologies like photogrammetry and immersive media.
- Teaching courses in interactive and computational photography, photogrammetry, virtual reality, and immersive experiences.
- Guiding students in computational photography, interactive imaging, and 3D model creation.
- Supervising undergraduate research and final projects.

Residency

2018 Arebyte International Artist Residency Program. Arebyte Gallery, London, UK

Solo Show

2018 The New Jerusalem, Arebyte Gallery, London, UK
2018 Visions of Heaven and Hell, The Villa Gallery, Jerusalem
2016 Memory Mountain, The Jerusalem Artists House, Jerusalem

SELECTED GROUP SHOWS

2024 ARK(IVE) - The Jerusalem Design Week 2024, Hansen House, Jerusalem
2024 The New Jerusalem- The Cube Artists studio's 40th-anniversary, Jerusalem
2023 The National Trinity, The Jerusalem Design Week 2023, Hansen House, Jerusalem
2021 PUNCH.GENERATE. FREAK - Jerusalem Design Week 2021, Hansen House, Jerusalem
2019 Woven Time - The Jerusalem Design Week 2019, Hansen House, Jerusalem
2016 Memory Box - The International Photography Festival, Rosentalis Gallery, Jaffa
2014 Oasis Mosaic - Night Light Festival - Neve Shannan, Tel Aviv