

Ghazi Faisal Al-Mulaifi, Ph.D.
Assistant Professor of Music

www.ghazimusic.com www.boomdiwan.com

Biographic Information: Ghazi Faisal Al-Mulaifi, PhD (b. 1977) is an applied-ethnomusicologist and professor of music who earned his Doctorate of Philosophy in Music from New York University (2015). Al- Mulaifi is also a Venice Biennale artist, composer, global jazz musician, and ensemble leader. His research interests include: Kuwaiti pearl diving music, global jazz, and heritage production. His current musical efforts include the creation of his ensemble Boom.Diwan; where he and traditional Kuwaiti musicians dialog Kuwaiti bahri (sea) music with global jazz traditions for the purpose of creating a new Kuwaiti music that revives a musical tradition of dialog and exchange.

EDUCATION

New York University, New York, NY

Ph.D. in Music, May 2016

Dissertation: "Al-Kout and the Sea: An Inquiry into the Production of Kuwaiti Maritime Heritage"

M.A. in Music, May, 2010

SUNY-Purchase College, Purchase, NY

B.A. in Philosophy, minor in Studio Composition, May 2008

FELLOWSHIPS AND AWARDS

Public Authority for Applied Education and Training Scholarship, Kuwait, 2010-2015

Henry M. MacCracken Fellowship, New York University, 2008-2013

Ministry of Higher Education Scholarship, Kuwait, 2007-2010

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

New York University at Abu Dhabi, Abu Dhabi, The United Arab Emirates.

Assistant Professor, 2019-Present.

Courses include: Engaging Khaleeji Musical Heritage: An Introduction to Applied Ethnomusicology and, The Modern Khaleeji Ensemble, and Guitar Performance.

The Public Authority for Applied Education and Training, Kuwait City, Kuwait

Assistant Professor (Tenured), 2015-Present

Courses Include: Kuwaiti Pearl Diving Music Ensemble, Solfege, Computer Music, Guitar, Jazz,

Musical Improvisation, Studio Production, and Keyboard Skills I. Designed course structure and requirements for each course.

New York University, Abu Dhabi, UAE, 2019

Guest Lecture for Dr. Jonathan Shannon's course 'Arab Music Cultures' Presented on the Cosmopolitanism of the Kuwaiti pearl diving music as music of the Indian Ocean Civilization Trade-Routes.

New York University, Abu Dhabi, UAE, 2018
Guest Lecture for Dr. Deborah Kapchan's course 'Dance and Music in the Arabian Peninsula' on performativity of Kuwaiti pearl diving music and its modern life in my ensemble Boom.Diwan

New York University, New York, NY, 2014
Guest Lecture for Dr. J. Martin Daughtry's course 'Expressive Cultures: Sounds.'
Lectured about the Folkloric Music and Pre-Oil History of Kuwait.

PUBLICATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS

Finished an ethnographic article for a major publication about a Kuwaiti pearl diving folkloric music ensemble. to be published Spring/Summer 2020.

Published an Op-Ed piece for the journal Khaleejessque. November 2019.

Presented and Applied-Ethnomusicological piece on Kuwait Pearl diving music for the Al Burda Festival, Ministry of Culture and Knowledge Development, Abu Dhabi, November 2018.

Presented a paper at the Music of Arabia conference at New York University-Abu Dhabi entitled, 'The Mayouf Mejally Ensemble: From the Diwaniya to the Stage.' March 2017.

Presented a paper at the Cross-Disciplinary and Multicultural Perspectives on Musical Rhythm III conference at New York University-Abu Dhabi entitled, 'Transmitting Musical Memory From Zanzibar to Ceylon.' March 2017.

Moderated a performance by the Mayouf Bahri Band at New York University-Abu Dhabi. March 2015.

Presented a paper at the Music of Arabia conference at New York University-Abu Dhabi entitled, 'Kuwaiti Bahri Music: A Sequential Approach to Understanding.' March 2015.

Multimedia presentation for the Arab Crossroads Studies Program at New York Abu Dhabi. March 2015.

'All the Men Died at Sea.' Arte East, Spring 2013 Issue.

Presented a paper at the annual Society of Ethnomusicology Conference entitled, Heritage. November 2010.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Performed Boom.Diwan for The Mother of the Nation Festival in Abu Dhabi.
March 2019.

Performed with Boom.Diwan in collaboration with Arturo O'Farrill and the Afro-Latin Jazz Orchestra for the Cuban-Khaleeji Project. February 2019.

Performed with Boom.Diwan in Ajman University. December 2018.
Performed with Boom.Diwan in the art space named The Fridge in Dubai. December 2018.

Performed with Boom.Diwan in the Hekayah festival in New York University at Abu Dhabi. December 2018.

Performed with Boom.Diwan for the Youth Festival in Al Shaheed Park Amphitheater in Kuwait. March 2018.

Performed with Boom.Diwan in the Jaber Al-Ahmed Cultural Center in Kuwait for the cultural organization Nuqat. January 2018.

Established the Modern Kuwaiti Ensemble, Boom.Diwan. January 2018.

Sound installation artist for Kuwait's Participation in the 14th International Architecture Exhibition of la Biennale di Venezia. June 2014.

Film score, live sound work and sound design for the film Muneera, produced in conjunction with Kuwait's Participation in the 14th International Architecture Exhibition of la Biennale di Venezia. June 2014.

TEACHING AND RESEARCH INTERESTS

Kuwaiti Pearl Diving Music, Cosmopolitanism, Global-Jazz, Musical Improvisation, Performance Theory, Music and Technology, Aesthetics, Music and Trade, Performance of Heritage, and Ancient Greek Philosophy.

MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS

Guitar, Kuwaiti hand percussion, piano composition.