

## Curriculum Vitae of Esmé Lily Katherine Partridge

### Profile

Interfaith coordinator, consultant, researcher and writer holding a First Class BA (Hons) in Religion from SOAS and specialising in Islamic thought, secularism and religion in a digital age. Equipped with advanced writing and research skills in addition to professional experience in editing, communications and podcasting.

### Education

**2018-2021 SOAS, University of London**

**BA (Hons) Religion, Culture and Society (with Arabic)**

Modules in the Religions of the Middle East; Islamic Studies; Arabic Language; Islam in Britain; and Religion in World Politics. Final year dissertation on digital spirituality in a secular age. Awarded a **First Class** final degree classification.

**2011-2018 Wood Green School, Oxfordshire**

**A-Levels**

Extended Project (AS Equiv): **A\***; Religious Studies: **A\***; Drama: **B**; English: **C**.

**GCSEs**

Attained ten GCSEs including English and Mathematics, achieving five **As** and **A\*s**.

### Professional Experience

**July 2021 - Good Faith Partnership**

**Present Interfaith Coordinator**

Coordinating relationships between religious leaders and communities towards launching a UK chapter of a Muslim civic engagement initiative. Assisting with a number of projects at the intersection of religion, politics and civil society including the development of a religion and diplomacy training programme for the Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office and organising conferences between faith leaders and parliamentarians.

**October Freelan Writer and Editor**

**2020 -**

**Present**

Regularly writing articles on Islam, philosophy and secularism published by The Journal of the [Muhayiddin Ibn 'Arabi Society](#), Temenos Academy Review, [ArabLit Quarterly](#), [Alif](#), [Athwart Magazine](#), [Renovatio](#) (The Journal of Zaytuna College), [Traversing Tradition](#), [Muslim Institute](#), [Theos Think Tank](#), [The Royal Society of Arts](#) and [UnHerd](#). Reviewing all contributor pieces in [Alif](#) and professionally editing an academic volume on Islam and Greek philosophy.

**July 2020 - Everyday Muslim**

**July 2021 Interviewer, Podcast Writer & Presenter**

Conducted oral history interviews with individuals on their experiences as Muslims living in Britain and adapting their stories into radio-style podcast scripts. Produced and presented the podcast series '[Stories from the Archives](#)' narrating the stories of Black British Muslims; Muslims who lived through the Partition of India and Pakistan; and British converts to Islam.

- July 2020 - December 2020**    **Freelance Historical Consultant**  
 Researched and presented on the religions and philosophies of the Early Modern Silk Road to develop a convincing narrative for a startup fantasy roleplaying game.
- October 2018 - June 2020**    **SOAS Students' Union Student Representative**  
 Proposed suggestions for the running of the History, Religions and Philosophies department on a termly basis and mediated staff-student dialogue. Elected by students for two consecutive academic years.
- Student Representative Training Facilitator**  
 Devised and led interactive training workshops for prospective student representatives.
- July 2017**    **Oxford City Council Arts & Culture Intern**  
 Assisted with planning and promoting cultural events in the City of Oxford during a short summer placement.
- June - November 2016**    **Bestival Public Relations Intern**  
 Assisted with internal and external communications, content writing for the Bestival website, and representing the company on Soho Radio as part of their weekly promotional programme, announcing artist line-ups and competition winners live on air.

### **Publications, Awards and Presentations**

- Began writing dissertation-length independent research essays on Philosophy and Islamic thought at the age of seventeen.
- Awarded a commendation in the international Ibn Arabi Society Young Writers Competition 2019 for an essay on the mystical dimension of the Moon in the cosmology of Ibn Arabi which has since been published in Volume 68 of the peer-reviewed Journal of The Muhyiddin Ibn Arabi Society.
- Contributed to the development of Alif: Traditional Wisdom in Review, a digital media publication bridging the gap between the Islamic and Western intellectual traditions.
- Presented a lecture on *Creativity and Imagination Within Islamic Mysticism* at The Temenos Academy's Young Scholars Day 2019 at the University of Cambridge.
- Featured thrice in SOAS in the Media.
- Featured on several channels and podcasts presenting on religion, philosophy and mysticism in modernity, in addition to panel discussions and a recent interview with David Bentley Hart (see portfolio for details).