

MAAYAN HAREL

Visual Storytelling for Science, Atmospheric Science M.Sc.

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SUMMARY

I am a designer, artist, and instructor focused on science communication and illustration. My aim is to create graphics that are truthful, compelling, and beautiful, and to help others do the same!

EXPERIENCE

Principal Artist and Art Director

Maayan Visuals

January 2013 - present | United States, Israel

- Scientific illustration and graphic design for journal figures, popular publications, exhibits, cover art, and corporate clients.
- Art direction and project management of complex creative design projects with 4 graphic designers and artists reporting to me.

Instructor and Public Speaker

Maayan Visuals

March 2021 - present | Haifa, Israel

- Providing visual communication skills for the scientific community. Helping scientists and graduate students design their own figures, visual abstracts, presentations, and posters.

Graphic Designer

Los Angeles Zoo and Botanical Gardens

March 2019 - February 2021 | Los Angeles, CA

- Design of displays and panels for zoo exhibits, ornithological illustration.

Visiting Scholar and Illustrator

Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute

July - September 2013 | Colon, Panama

- Temporary scholarship working with educators and researchers to design signage and interpretive panels for visitors to Galeta Point Marine Laboratory.
- Development and design of Invasive Lionfish poster for use throughout the Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute.

Intern / Graphic Artist

National Geographic Magazine

October - December 2012 | Washington, D.C.

- Internship designing and researching editorial illustrations and infographics for publication.
- Creating conceptual letters page illustrations incorporating and responding to reader comments.
- Working closely with art directors, cartographers, editors, and writers of the magazine.

Intern / Science Illustrator

Smithsonian National Museum of Natural History

September - October 2012 | Washington, D.C.

- Internship working with science illustrators and entomologists, producing detailed entomological illustrations of insects in Coquille and Photoshop combined technique.

EDUCATION

M.Sc. Atmospheric Science

Tel Aviv University

October 2013 - September 2017

Graduate Certificate, Science Illustration

California State University Monterey Bay

September 2012- January 2013

B.Sc. Geosciences and Political Science

Tel Aviv University

October 2008 - August 2011

SELECT EXHIBITIONS

Insects- Dimensions Big and Small

Rehovot Gallery

Group exhibit, curated by Irit Levin

Rehovot, 2025

Guild of Natural Science Illustrators 50th Anniversary Exhibit

American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS) Gallery

Juried group exhibit

Washington D.C., 2018

Animal's

Industrial Art Studio

Group exhibit, curated by Maya Zimmermann

Haifa, 2014

Illustrating Nature

Pacific Grove Museum of Natural History

Group exhibit, curated by Ann Caudle and Jenny Keller

Pacific Grove, 2012

PUBLICATIONS

Portrait of a Denisovan girl: reconstructing anatomy without a skeleton *Journal of Natural Science Illustration*

Maayan Harel

June 2023, Cover story

Thunderstorm trends over Africa

Journal of Climate

Maayan Harel and Colin Price

January 2020

Predicting changes in thunderstorm number and area over Africa

American Geophysical Union (AGU) Annual Conference

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December 2017

Digital-coquille technique: step by step creation of a beetle illustration

Journal of Natural Science Illustration

Taina Litwak and Maayan Harel

December 2013

Are you still drawing those bugs?

Last Word on Nothing

Maayan Harel

September 2013

A new methodology for weighting high resolution model simulations to project future rainfall in the Middle East

Climate Research

Rana Samuels, Maayan Harel and Pinhas Alpert

June 2013

HONORS AND AWARDS

Rafael Katzman Scholarship for Excellence

Tel Aviv University Department of Geosciences

June 2016

Colon Container Terminal Scholarship

Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute

July 2013

Honorable Mention

Southern Ontario Nature and Science Illustrators Annual Exhibit

February 2013

SKILLS

Scientific illustration
Digital art
Graphic design
Information graphics
Data visualization
2D animation
Fine art
Adobe Creative Cloud
TinkerCAD
Academic writing