

Contents

List of Illustrations ix

Acknowledgments xi

Prologue. Itinerant Journeys xv

Introduction 1

1. Producing Queer Space in Beirut:
Zones of Encounter in Post-Civil-War Lebanon 11
2. Producing Prestige in and around Beirut:
The Indiscreet Charm of the Bourgeoisie and
the Assertion of a Queer Presence 43
3. Walking through the Concrete Jungle:
The Queer Urban Stroller Traveling amid
de Certeau, Benjamin, and Bourdieu 69
4. Queer Performances and the Politics of Place:
The Art of Drag and the Routine of Sectarianism 91
5. The Homosexual Sphere between Spatial Appropriation and
Contestation: Collective Activism and the Many Lives of Young
Gay Men in Beirut 112
6. The Queering of Closed and Open Spaces:
Spatial Practices and the Dialectics of External
and Internal Homophobia 134

7. The Gay Gaze and the Politics of Memory: A Stroll on the Corniche and a Walk through Zoqāq al-Blāṭ	156
8. "Seeing Oneself" and the Mirror Stage: The Ḥammām and the Gay Icon Fairuz	187
9. Phenomenology and the Spatial Assertion of Queerness: Spatial Alienation, Anthropology, and Urban Studies	210
10. Raising the Rainbow Flag between City and Country: Dancing, Protesting, and the Mimetics of Everyday Life	227
Conclusion. Struggling for Difference	246
Notes	249
Glossary of Transliterated Arabic Terms	261
Bibliography	265
Index	275