WINTER 2015 EVENTS

TUESDAY, JANUARY 13, 6:30 PM
PIGOTT HALL, BUILDING 260, ROOM 113

NAHGHEH SAMINI
Feminine Body, Feminine Mind: The Body of Woman in the Iranian Women Directors’ Films
Event in English
Free and Open to the Public

Naghmeh Samini was born in Iran and received her BA in Dramatic and MA in Cinema both from the University of Tehran. She earned her PhD in Drama and mythology. More than twenty of her plays have been staged in Iran, France, and India, and some have received readings in the United Kingdom and the U.S. This award-winning playwright has also written several screenplays. She has been working as a professor at the University of Tehran since 2006 and has also run several workshops in Iran and abroad (Japan, Malaysia).

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 18, 6:30 PM
CUBERLEY AUDITORIUM, SCHOOL OF EDUCATION

MAZ JOBRANI
“I’m Not a Terrorist, but I’ve Played One on TV!”
Event in English
Free and Open to the Public

Maz Jobrani is a founding member of The Axis of Evil Comedy Tour, which first aired on Comedy Central. He has had two Showtime specials, Brown and Friendly and most recently, I Come In Peace. He performs stand-up live around the world, including the Middle East where he performed for the King of Jordan. Maz has also performed stand-up on The Tonight Show and The Late Late Show with Craig Ferguson. He is a regular panelist on NPR’s Wait Wait Don’t Tell Me. He also has a book coming out, I’m Not a Terrorist, but I’ve Played One on TV published by Simon & Schuster, that’s expected to hit shelves in February 2015.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 6:30 PM
PIGOTT HALL, BUILDING 260, ROOM 113

FARYAR JAYEHHIAN
The Garden in the Carpet/The Carpet in the Garden
Event in English
Free and Open to the Public

Faryar Jayejjian is an Irannian architect and curator, born in Mashhad, Khorsaress, raised in Paris, France and educated in the United States. She studied at the University of Texas at Austin, where she earned a Bachelor of Architecture with High Honors in 1973, then at MIT and Harvard where she received her master’s in Urban Design in 1976. She co-founded Gamma Consultants recognized as the leading office in Museum and Persian garden design in Iran. Her buildings have been widely published in Iranian architectural magazines and established her as having a recognizible Iran-modern style. She is presently completing the Greater Khorsaress Museum in Mashhad. She is a visiting Scholar at MIT in 2014-15 to do research for her next exhibition, The Art of the Iranian Picnic.

THURSDAY, MARCH 5, 6:30 PM
PIGOTT HALL, BUILDING 260, ROOM 113

SALAR ABDHO
Tehran at Twilight/Tehran Noir
Event in English
Free and Open to the Public

Salar Abdo was born in Iran, and splits his time between Tehran and New York City. He has co-directed the Creative Writing MFA Program at the City College of New York. He is the author of The Poet Game and Onium. His essays and short stories have appeared in various publications, including the New York Times, Bomb, Giallo, Guernica, and on the BBC. He is the recipient of the NYFA Prize and the National Endowment for the Arts award. He is the editor of Tehran Noir and the author of Tehran at Twilight, his latest novel.

TUESDAY, MARCH 10, 6:30 PM
PIGOTT HALL, BUILDING 260, ROOM 113

SASHA POLAKOW-SURANSKY
Isolation and Proliferation: Israel, America, and the South African Nuclear Weapons Program
Event in English
Event is Free and Open to the Public

Sasha Polakow-Suransky is an editor for International Opinion at the New York Times Op-Ed page, based at the International New York Times bureau in London. He is responsible for assigning pieces on foreign policy, national security and international affairs. Before moving to the New York Times in early 2011, he was a senior editor at Foreign Affairs from 2007-2011. Mr. Polakow-Suransky holds a bachelor’s degree in history and urban studies from Brown University and an M Phil in modern history from Oxford University (St. Antony’s College), where he was a Rhodes Scholar from 2003-2006.

THURSDAY, MARCH 12, 6:30 PM
PIGOTT HALL, BUILDING 260, ROOM 113

PETER FREUND AND NASSER RAHMANINEJAD
IRAN USA
Event in English
Free and Open to the Public

Peter Freund is a media artist, curator, and scholar based in the San Francisco Bay Area. His artistic practice takes an experimentalist approach to exploring the fantastic aspect of political and historical themes. His films and video installations have been broadcast in a variety of gallery museum, and festival venues from North and South America to Europe, Asia, and the Middle East. In the late 1990s, Freund co-founded and directed the Multimedia Arts Program at Berkeley City College, the largest public educational program of its kind in the Bay Area. It was there that Freund met and began collaborating with Nasser Rahninejad on film/video projects. Currently Freund is associate professor and chair of the Art & Art History Department at Saint Mary’s College, where he teaches experimental media production and art theory. In August 2015, Freund looks forward to a solo exhibition of the present program at Sazmanabad Center for Contemporary Art in Tehran, Iran.