

PROGRAM IN IRANIAN STUDIES and

THE BITA DARYABARI ENDOWMENT IN PERSIAN LETTERS

WINTER 2015 EVENTS

TUESDAY, JANUARY 13, 6:30 PM

PIGOTT HALL, BUILDING 260, ROOM 113

NAGHMEH 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 Drama 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 2005 and has also run several workshops in Iran and abroad (Japan, Malaysia).

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 18, 6:30 PM

CUBBERLEY 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 in front of 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 Terroris's, 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 JAVAHERIAN

The Garden in the Carpet/The Carpet in the Garden

Event in English

Free and Open to the Public

Faryar Javaherian is an Iranian architect and curator, born in Mahshad, Khorassan, 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 recognizable Iranian-Modern style. She is presently completing the Greater Khorassan Museum in Mashahd. 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 ABDOH

Tehran at Twilight/Tehran Noir

Event in English

Free and Open to the Public

Salar Abdoh was born in Iran, and splits his time between Tehran and New York City, where he codirects the Creative Writing MFA Program at the City College of New York. He is the author of *The Poet Game and Opium*. His essays and short stories have appeared in various publications, including the New York Times, BOMB, Callaloo, 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 & 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 office 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-Suranksy holds a bachelor's degree in history and urban studies from Brown University and an D-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 fantasmatic aspect of political and historical themes. His films and video installations have been exhibited 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 education program of its kind in the Bay Area. It was there that Freund met and began collaborating with Nasser Rahmaninejad on film/video projects. Currently Freund is associate professor and chair of the Art & Art History Department at Saint Marry'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 Sazmanab Center for Contemporary Art in Tehran, Iran.

STANFORD FESTIVAL OF IRANIAN ARTS

JANUARY 24 & 25, 4:30 PM

CUBBERLEY AUDITORIUM, SCHOOL OF EDUCATION

PLAY READING: ARDAVIRAF'S REPORT by BAHRAM BEYZAIE

Event in Persian

Ticketed Event: To purchase tickets call the Stanford Ticket office (650-725-2787) or visit the website: https://tickets.stanford.edu/

Ardaviraf is inspired by Zoroastrian text that many consider to be one of the earliest renditions of journey to the other world that was canonically later captured in Dante's Divine Comedy. In Beyzaie's adaptation of the ancient Persian text Ardaviraf travels to paradise, purgatory and inferno where he meets the pantheon of characters from Persian history and mythology.

The play is a brilliant poetic dramatization of tales from the other world. A reckoning with Persian mytho-history at the hands of a master playwright.

Bahram Beyzaie is one of Iran's most acclaimed filmmakers, playwrights, and scholars of the history of Iranian theater, both secular and religious. He was a leader of the generation of filmmakers' known as the Iranian New Wave, beginning in the late 1960s, and has since directed more than a dozen prize-winning films. He has also conducted pioneering research into the roots of ancient legends derived from Indo-Iranian mythology and known collectively as A Thousand and One Nights. He is that rare artist who is also an erudite critic and scholar of his myriad crafts. Born in Tehran, Beyzaie was for many years the head of the Theater Arts Department at Tehran University. His two-volume study of the history of Iranian theater is still considered the authoritative account of this history. Since his arrival at Stanford he has staged several of his plays and given workshops on Iranian mythology and cinema. He currently teaches courses on Iranian theater and cinema.





