

# MEHDI REZANIA

Curriculum Vitae

## CONTACT

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## EDUCATION

### University of Alberta

- 2025 Doctor of Philosophy in Music (Ethnomusicology)  
Ph.D. Dissertation: “Persian Classical Music of Post-revolutionary Iran”  
Supervisor: Dr. Michael Frishkopf
- 2018 Master of Arts in Music (Ethnomusicology)  
Master’s Thesis: “Contemporary Persian Classical Music: Beyond Tradition and Modernity.”  
Supervisor: Dr. Michael Frishkopf

### York University

- 2013 Master of Arts in Music (Composition)  
Master’s Thesis: “Various Approaches in Composition Based on Integrating Persian Classical Music with Western Classical Music.”  
Supervisor: Dr. Michael Coghlan.
- 2011 Bachelor of Fine Arts in Music  
Honor’s Thesis: “Contemporary Santur Playing in Iran” Honors Thesis Supervisor: Dr. Michael Coghlan.

## RESEARCH INTEREST

- Persian classical music (theory, analysis, creativity, conflict, religiosity)
- Music and modernity in post-revolutionary Iran
- Diasporic and transnational performance practices
- Music and identity politics in the Middle East
- Composition and performance of Persian music in diaspora
- Ethnographic and practice-based methods in music research

## EMPLOYMENT

### Edmonton Arts Council

Fall 2021 *Grant Assessor*, Stream 3: Artist-driven Major Projects

- Reading and evaluating over 140 applications requesting grants from EAC for art projects.
- Several meetings with other assessors and the director for final evaluation of applications and allocating the budget accordingly.

### University of Alberta, Faculty of Music

Fall 2019 *Teaching Assistant*, “Introduction to Western Art Music.” Dr. Gregory Kokorz

- Giving lectures on contemporary Western music, assisted in proctoring and marking exams; graded final essay assignments; held office hours, advised undergraduates on papers and course content; negotiated conflicts with grades.

Fall 2018 *Teaching Assistant*, “Introduction to Western Art Music.” Dr. Gregory Kokorz

Fall 2017 *Teaching Assistant*, “Introduction to Popular Music.” Daniel Akira Stadnicki

Winter 2017 *Teaching Assistant*, “Music Theory.” Dr. Andriy Talpash.

Fall 2016 *Teaching Assistant*, “Music Theory.” Dr. Andriy Talpash. *Teaching Assistant*, “Music for Global Human Development.” Dr. Michael Frishkopf.

### Iranian Heritage Society of Edmonton

2021-2023 *Artistic Director*

- Curated and developed the overall artistic vision and theme for the Edmonton Heritage Festival, ensuring alignment with organizational mission and audience engagement.
- Selected and contracted local artists, performers, and presenters across diverse genres and disciplines.
- Programmed and scheduled performances, exhibitions, workshops, and panel discussions, balancing innovation with accessibility.
- Directed all aspects of artistic planning, including commissioning new works and developing collaborative projects with partner organizations.
- Managed artistic budget allocations and ensured financial sustainability in collaboration with the executive and production teams.
- Supervised a creative team of curators, production staff, and volunteers to execute high-quality festival programming.
- Built and maintained relationships with cultural institutions, embassies, artists, and funders to enhance festival profile and funding opportunities.

- Contributed to marketing, grant-writing, and press campaigns by articulating the artistic vision through statements, interviews, and public appearances.
- Oversaw the documentation and evaluation of artistic programs to inform future planning and stakeholder reporting.

### **Iranian Heritage Day at the Royal Ontario Museum**

2011-2014 *Music Director*

- Curating the lineup of artists and ensembles that perform at the festival; maintaining a balance of genres, styles, and musical diversity to appeal to the festival's target audience; ensuring that the programming reflects the festival's mission and values while also pushing artistic boundaries and showcasing emerging talent.
- Negotiating contracts with individuals and ensembles, discuss repertoire
- They negotiate contracts, discuss repertoire, ensure logistical arrangements are in place for rehearsals and performances.
- Working closely with the festival's production team to coordinate technical requirements, stage setups, sound and lighting design, and other production elements.
- Engaging with the local community through outreach programs, educational workshops, masterclasses, and lectures to complement the festival's main performances.
- Assessing the overall success of the event, gathering feedback from artists and audience members, and evaluating the artistic and logistical aspects to inform future programming and improvements.
- Contributing to long-term strategic planning for the festival, identifying trends in the music industry, exploring new artistic directions, and ensuring the festival remains relevant and innovative.

### **Baarbad Music Ensemble**

2004-2016 *Music Director*

- Led artistic direction and programming for annual concert seasons, selecting repertoire and designing concert programs that showcased a diverse range of musical genres and styles.
- Conducted rehearsals and performances with precision and creativity, achieving a high standard of musical excellence and fostering a collaborative environment among musicians.
- Collaborated with guest artists, composers, and soloists to create memorable and innovative concert experiences.

- Developed and implemented educational outreach programs, engaging with local schools and community organizations to promote music appreciation and literacy.
- Managed administrative tasks such as concert scheduling, venue bookings, and budget monitoring, ensuring smooth operations of the orchestra.

### **York University, Faculty of Music**

2012 *Teaching Assistant*, “Music Theory.” Dr. Dorothy de Val.

2011 *Teaching Assistant*, “Digital Music.” Ed Wilson.

### **SCHOLARSHIPS AND AWARDS**

2023 Robert M. Stevenson Prize for composition “From Abadeh to Tehran, From Tehran to Toronto,” Society for Ethnomusicology (\$1000).

2023 Emerging Scholar Award for the Eighteenth International Conference on the Arts in Society (\$150).

2022 Second Prize in Rethinking MENA and the Muslim World Symposium (\$300).

2020 Michael Smith Foreign Study Supplement SSHRC (\$6,000).

2020 University of Alberta, President’s Doctoral Prize of Distinction (\$10,000).

2020 Social Science and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC) Doctoral Award (\$105,000).

2019 University of Alberta, Pamela Farmer Graduate Scholarship (\$1,300).

2018 University of Alberta, Jean Isabel Soper Memorial Graduate Scholarship (\$8,100).

2018 University of Alberta Doctoral Recruitment Scholarship (\$5,000).

2018 University of Alberta, Department of Music Travel Award (\$500).

2017 University of Alberta, State of Kuwait Master’s Award in Islamic Studies (\$7,000).

2017 University of Alberta, FGSR Graduate Student Travel Award (\$1,300).

2016 University of Alberta, Harry Farmer Graduate Scholarship in Music (\$5,200).

2016 University of Alberta, Alwaez Hasan and Rashida Nazarali Scholarship in Ethnomusicology (\$600).

2012 York University, York Graduate Scholarship (\$2,000).

2012 York University, The Franc and Mary Joublin Bursary Fund (\$1,500).

2011 York University, Dr. Peter Zaporinuk Memorial Scholarship (\$1,500).

2010 York University, Continuing Student Scholarship (\$1,000).

### **PROFESSIONAL AWARDS AND HONORS**

2024 Alberta Foundations for Arts - Music Individual Project Funding (\$7,500).

2023 Edmonton Arts Council – Individuals & Collectives (Stream 3). *Composition in Persian Classical Music* (\$18100).

2023 Edmonton Artists’ Trust Funds (\$15,000).

2023 Residency at Leighton Studios, Banff Centre for Arts and Creativity, 11-22 Sep.

- 2022 Alberta Foundations for Arts - Music Individual Project Funding (\$8000).
- 2022 Edmonton Arts Council - Individuals & Collectives (Stream 3): Major Artist-Driven Projects. *Majles: 14 Programs of Music & Poetry* (\$18,890).
- 2021 Edmonton Arts Council's Equity & Access in the Arts – Exploration and Experiment (\$5,000).
- 2018 Edmonton Arts Council's Cultural Diversity in the Arts Project Grant (\$3,700).
- 2015 Canada Council for the Arts, Music Production Grant (\$2,600).
- 2015 Ontario Arts Council, Classical Music Recording Grant (\$4,000).
- 2014 Toronto Arts Council, Music Project Funding (\$4,300).
- 2013 Canada Art Council for the Arts, Grants for Professional Artists (\$4,000).
- 2012 Ontario Arts Council, Presenter/Producer Projects Grant (\$4,000).

## REVIEWS

- 2017 “Musiqi Dar Tirgan va Tarh-e Yek Pishnahad” (“Music in Tirgan Festival: Review and Suggesting a Project,”) Review of Tirgan Festival Music. *Shahrvand Weekly Publications*. 3-5. 24 August.

## PUBLICATIONS

- 2026 *Beyond Politics: A Century of Persian Classical Music*. Jenny Stanford Publishing [accepted].
- 2026 “Guardians of the Unwritten: Oral Transmission, Institutionalization, and the Shaping of Music Education in Iran.” *Asian Music*. University of Texas Press. [submitted].
- 2026 “Archiving of Persian Classical Music in the Past Century.” *Pioneer Libraries, Archives, and Bibliographic Figures in Middle East Studies* [accepted].
- 2025 “[A Century of Iranian Music: A Historical Survey](#).” *Arab Center for Research & Policy Studies, The Iranian Studies Unit* (January): 1-24.
- 2024 “Yādi Az Hormoz Farhat va Nokteh-hā-yi Az Ketābash, Mafhum-e Dastgāh Dar Musiqi-ye Irāni (‘In Memory of Hormoz Farhat and a Review of His Book, The Concept of Dastgah in Persian Music’).” *Mahoor Music Quarterly* 2nd Period (1): 219–49.
- 2024 “Chālesh-hā-ye Musiqidān-e Irāni Dar Mohājerat (‘Challenges of Iranian Musicians in Diaspora’).” *Haftah Journal* 6 (January): 117–36.
- 2024 *Birds and the Garden Are Listening to You* for String Quartet. Mahoor Institute for Arts and Culture.
- 2024 *Fields of Abadeh: Compositions for String Quartet*. 2024. Tehran: Mahoor Institute of Culture and Arts.
- 2021 “Sad Sāl Musiqi-ye Kelāsik-e Irāni az Manzar-e Āfarinesh va Gostaresh” (“Hundred Years of Persian Classical Music from Creation and Development Perspective”) In *Maktab Saba Journal*, Summer Issue. <https://maktabsaba.com/content/501>.

- 2021 Michael Frishkopf collectively prepared by members of the TranceCultural Orchestra: Allison Sokil, Ari Mastoras, Arsh Khaira, Behrang Nikaeen, Donna Dawson, Jane Zaïane, Jillian Fulton-Melanson, Matt Love, Mehdi Rezania, Michael Frishkopf, More J, Morteza Abedinifard, Nasim Ahmadian, Olga Zaitseva-Herz, Shruti Nair, Tuğrul Özer, and Vahid Macvandi. *“TranceCultural Music: Forging Social Resonance Through Asynchronous Virtual Musical Interaction During the COVID-19 Pandemic”* In Journal of Music, Health, and Wellbeing, Autumn Issue.
- 2021 [“One Hundred Years of Persian Classical Music.”](#) *Iran 1400.*
- 2014 “Mafhum-e Gusheh Dar Musiqi Kelasik-e Irani” (“Concept of Gusheh in Persian Classical Music”). Harmony Talk. [www.harmonytalk.com](http://www.harmonytalk.com).

## MUSIC ALBUMS

- 2024 “Summer, A Suite for Santur.” Sponsored by the Edmonton Arts Council and the Alberta Foundation for the Arts.
- 2023 “From Abadeh to Tehran, From Tehran to Toronto” for string quartet (Compact disc). Mahoor Institute of Arts and Culture.
- 2023 “Summer.” Solo santur (video recording). Supported by the Alberta Foundation for the Arts.
- 2020 “Gems of Radif” (compact disc). Supported by the Canada Council for the Arts, the Ontario Arts Council, and the Edmonton Arts Council.
- 2014 “Gathas: The Message of Zarathustra.” (Compact disc). Commissioned by the Zoroastrian Society of Ontario.
- 2011 “Salute to Sun” (compact disc). A suite for santur and voice.

## CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS & LECTURE DEMONSTRATIONS

- 2024 “A Monumental History of Iran’s Century of Music,” International Council for Traditional Music and Dance, Victoria University of Wellington, New Zealand, 13 January.
- 2024 “First Night in Tehranto: The Silent Nowruz,” First Night in Tehranto: Memories and Reflections of Toronto’s Iranian Immigrants, Toronto, Toronto Metropolitan University, 23 May.
- 2023 “Aesthetic of Persian Classical Music,” PACSO Iranian Arts and Cultural Society, Ottawa, 21 October.
- 2023 “Fetishizing the Tradition: The Ultra-conservative Style of Iranian Santur Playing,” Society for Ethnomusicology, Carlton University, 19 October.
- 2023 “Fetishizing the Tradition: The Ultra-conservative Style of Iranian Santur Playing,” Eighteenth International Conference on the Arts in Society, Krakow, Poland, 7 July.
- 2023 “Fetishizing the Tradition: The Ultra-conservative Style of Iranian Santur Playing,” Dialogues—International Music Research Conference, Université Laval, 19 May.

- 2022 “*Sarā tā Sorayā: A Hundred Years of Development of Iranian Art*”, Middle East Studies Association, Denver, 11 December.
- 2022 “Contemporary Practice and Performance of Persian Classical Music: Toward a New Theory,” Society for Ethnomusicology, Louisiana, 11 November.
- 2022 “The Contemporary Santur Playing of Iran: Beyond Tradition and Modernity,” International Council for Traditional Music, Lisbon, 22 July.
- 2022 “Beyond Politics: Iran’s Century of Classical Music and Multiple Modernities,” University of Alberta, 31 May.
- 2022 “*Tarab and/or Toqyān: Music, Politics and [Western] Media in the Context of Contemporary Iranian Society*,” Canadian Association for the Study of Islam and Muslims, McMaster University, 26 May.
- 2022 “Gems of Radif: A New Rendition of Performing the Radif of Persian Music,” University of Calgary, 9 May.
- 2022 “One Hundred of Persian Classical Music,” Iranian Student Association of the University of Alberta, 26 April.
- 2022 “For Elite or Ordinary? The Dynamic of ‘Classical’ and ‘Popular’ Music in Contemporary Iran, Annual Conference of the British Forum for Ethnomusicology, Open University, 7-10 April.
- 2022 “Gems of Radif: A New Rendition of Performing the Radif of Persian Music,” York University, Toronto, 25 March.
- 2022 “Gems of Radif: A New Rendition of Performing the Radif of Persian Music,” McGill University, 20 March.
- 2022 “Beyond Politics: Iran’s Century of Classical Music and Multiple-Modernities,” University of Alberta, 17 March.
- 2022 “Gems of Radif: New Perspectives on Persian Art Music,” Sound Studies Institute, University of Alberta. 7 January.
- 2021 "Mohammad Reza Shajarian: The Voice of a Nation and Over-politicization by the Media," 66<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the Society for Ethnomusicology. 31 October.
- 2021 "Mohammad Reza Shajarian: The Voice of a Nation and Over-politicization by the Media," Sixth International Conference on Communication & Media Studies, University of Toronto. 7 October.
- 2021 “Who Gets to Sing the Song: The Status of Iranian Singers Who Became the Echo of People’s Resistance,” Music & ... Nationalism: 3<sup>rd</sup> Global Interdisciplinary Conference, Progressive Connexions, Vienna. 13 June.
- 2021 “Contemporary Santur Playing in Iran: Beyond Tradition and Modernity,” Sixth International Conference on Analytical Approach to World Music, Paris. 12 June.
- 2021 "Mohammad Reza Shajarian: The Voice of a Nation and Over-politicization by the Media." Northwest Chapter of the Society for Ethnomusicology, Western Washington University. 27 February.
- 2020 “Contemporary Santur Playing of Iran,” Saba Centre for Culture and Arts, 14 February.

- 2020 "Gems of Radif: A New Approach to the Performance of Radif," Andishe Association, University of Alberta. 9 December.
- 2020 "In Memory of Mohammad Reza Shajarian," Middle Eastern and Islamic Studies, University of Alberta. 5 December.
- 2020 "Shajarian: The Balance of Art and *Adab*," Hamandishi Association, University of Calgary. 14 November.
- 2019 "Gems of Radif: A New Approach to the Performance of Radif," Parya Foundation, Thornhill, Ontario. 14 November.
- 2019 "Composing Persian Music in Diaspora: Music Identity, Authenticity, and Universals," International Conference on Iranian Diaspora Studies, San Francisco State University. 28-30 March.
- 2019 "Grind Fine Diamonds Floating in Turbulent Sea: The Music of Ardavan Kamkar," Agora Philosophical Forum, University of Toronto. 25 May.
- 2019 "Who Gets to Sing the Song: The Status of Classical and Popular Musicians in Contemporary Iran," International Council for Traditional Music Conference, Chulalongkorn University, Bangkok. 11-17 July.
- 2018 "Composing Persian Music in Diaspora: Music Identity, Authenticity, and Universals," Annual Conference of the Canadian Society for Traditional Music, Mâdawêyatitân Centre, Regina. 25-27 May.
- 2017 "The Contemporary Santur Playing of Iranian Musician Ardavan Kamkar," The Annual Conference of the Canadian Society for Traditional Music, University of Toronto. 25-27 May.
- 2017 "Tradition and Modernity in Persian Classical Music," Sohrevardi Foundation, Toronto. 19 May.
- 2017 "Salute to Sun: Conceptual Composition in Persian Music," Partov Cultural Club, University of Waterloo. 22 March.
- 2017 "Payvar in 7 Perspectives: Santur Recital and Lecture," Andishe Association, University of Alberta. 10 February.
- 2016 "Persian Classical Music: What It Is Now," Folkways Alive; Noon Series Event, University of Alberta. 24 October.
- 2016 "Music in Islam," Saba Conservatory of Music, Toronto. 7 February.
- 2016 "Song Singing in Persian Music: A Brief History," Saba Conservatory of Music, Toronto. 14 February.
- 2016 "Rhythmic Forms in Persian Classical Music," Saba Conservatory of Music, Toronto. 27 November.
- 2015 "Persian Music During the Pahlavi Period," Saba Conservatory of Music, Toronto. 25 October.
- 2015 "Challenges of Music in Modern Iran," Saba Conservatory of Music, Toronto. 13 September.
- 2010 "Tradition in Music of 20th Century Iran," Iranian Association of University of Toronto,

University of Toronto. 9 October.

## CONFERENCE & MUSIC SERIES PROGRAMMING

2022 “**Persianate Majles**” organized by Mehdi Rezania, Edmonton.

- “Majles 1: Hafez & Nur-Ali Borumand” with Sajad Soleymani, Mehdi Rezania, and Reza Mirzaei, 5 June.
- “Majles 2: From Khorasan to Ukraine,” with Nataliya Gryssiv, Viktoria Grynenko, Mehdi Rezania, Sajad Soleymani, and Harvey Spak, 12 June.
- “Majles 3: From Iran to South America” with Svitlana Remniakova, Renee Prez, Mehdi Rezania, Sajad Soleymani, and Abtin Ghaffari, 19 June.
- “Majles 4: From Dastgāh to Maqām” with Mark Segger, Ahmad al-Bader, Mehdi Rezania, Sajad Soleymani, and Morteza Abedinifard, 8 July.
- “Majles 5: From Tabriz to Africa” with Sajad Soleymani, Mehdi Rezania, Behrang Nikaeen, and Uche Peter Umez, 15 July.
- “Majles 6: Female Poets of Iran” with Sajad Soleymani, Mehdi Rezania, and Mahdi Modirzadeh, 22 July.
- “Majles 7: From Isfahan to Canada” with Sajad Soleymani, Allison Balcetus, Mehdi Rezania, and Abtin Ghaffari, 12 August.
- “Majles 8: The Night of Chahārmezrāb” with Sajad Soleymani, Morteza Abedinifard, Mehdi Rezania, Mark Segger, and Abtin Ghaffari, 19 August.
- “Majles 9: In Memory of Sayeh [Houshang Ebtehaj]” with Katy Pezeshki, Toloe Roushenas, Mehdi Rezania, Sajad Soleymani, Abtin Ghaffari, Farshad Tavakoli, Reza Mirzaei, 31 August.
- “Majles 10: Music and Literature of Iranian Constitutional Revolution” with Mehdi Rezania, and Sajad Soleymani, 20 November.
- “Majles 11: From Kerman to Cairo” with Iman Mersal, Ahmed al-Badr, Sajad Soleymani, and Mehdi Rezania, 18 December.
- “Majles 12: Music and Literature of the 1979 Revolution 1” with Sajad Soleymani, and Mehdi Rezania, 1 January.
- “Majles 13: Music and Literature of 1979 Revolution 2” with Sajad Soleymani, and Mehdi Rezania, 15 January.
- “Majles 14: From Shushtar to Kanata with Sajad Soleymani, and Mehdi Rezania.

“**A Year with Iranian Art**” (online series organized by Mehdi Rezania)

2020. “Abbas Kiarostami.” (presenter: Khatereh Sheybani), 20 September.

2020. “Mohammad Reza Lotfi” (presenter: Mohammad Jamal Samavati). 10 October.

2020. “Mohammad Reza Shajarian.” (presenter: Mohammad Jamal Samavati). 15 November.

2020. “Houshang Golshiri, Qolam-Hoseyn Saedi, Bahram Sadeghi, Sadegh Hedayat

(Presenters: Mehdi Ganjavi, Kara Abdolmaleki, Sasan Ghahreman, Hossein Atashparvar, and Mehrak Kamali). 20, 23, and 27 December.

2021. "Contemporary Iranian Theatre." (Presenters: Amin Azimi, Majan Mousavi). 10, 17, 24, 31 January.
2021. "February: Contemporary Santur." (Presenter: Mehdi Rezaia). 14 February.
2021. "Gholam-Hossein Nami, Kambiz Derambakhsh, Alijan Alijanpour, Yari Ostovani." 14, 29 March.
2021. "April: Mowlana [Rumi]." (Presenters: Amir Artaban Sedaghat, Farzad Khalvati). 18, 25 April.
2021. "May: Challenges of Iranian Art Studies in the West." (Presenters: Amir Artaban Sedaghat, Kara Abdolmaleki, Marjan Mousavi, and Khatereh Sheybani). 23 May.
2021. "June: Bahram Beyzai." (Presenters: Kara Abdolmaleki, and Marjan Mousavi). 20 June.
2021. "Contemporary Tombak." (Presenters: Navid Afghah, Arash Farhangfar, and Ali Mousavi). 18, 28 July.
2021. "Ebrahim Golestan." (Presenter: Kara Abdolmaleki). 15 August.

2018 **"Two Weeks with Iranian Art"** organized by Mehdi Rezaia (12-20 May), Toronto.

20 May. Moosavi, Marjan. "Iranian or Canadian? Diasporic Encounters in Toronto Theatres."

20 May. Milanloo, Hadi. "Kept in a Jewellery Box: Iranian Women in Canada, Narratives of Loss, Quests for Spirituality, and the Practice of Rare Listening."

19 May. Rezaia, Mehdi. "Composing Persian Music in Diaspora: Music Identity, Authenticity, and Universals."

19 May. Sedaghat, Amir Artaban. "Persian Poetry between Language and Music."

18 May. Amoui, Kurosh. "Buenos Aires-Isfahan: The Esoteric and the Islamicate in Works of Jorge Luis Borges."

18 May. Ganjavi, Mehdi. "Rostam in the Twenty-Second Century: The Genealogy of Science Fiction Genre in Modern Persian Literature."

13 May. "Blind Owl." Discussion with the director Mazdak Taebi.

13 May. Moosavi, Marjan. "(B)othering the Sacred and Countering the Canonized in the Iranian Theatre of War."

12 May. Salehyar, Hamidreza. "The Revival of the Iranian Classical Music during the Second Pahlavi Period: The Role of Modernist Musicians."

12 May. Masoudi, Ali. "Rhythm in Persian Art Music."

## COMPOSITIONS

2023 ***Jina's Dream (in memory of Mahsa Jina Amini)***. A Suite for Solo Santur [40 min]

2021 ***Summer: A Suite for Santur***. A suite of seven compositions for solo santur. [45 min]

2020 ***Shaded***. Santur Quintet (based on a poem by Sa'di Shirazi), commissioned by C'mon Festival, Edmonton. [13 min]

- 2019 *All the Places I Was Lost*. Santur, double bass. [6 min]
- 2018 *For My Friend*. Solo santur [7 min]
- 2018 *In the Morning*. Solo santur [5 min]
- 2017 *Wind and Ice (No. 2 of Arctic Series)*. Piano, percussion, trumpet, tenor saxophone, and trombone. Convocation Hall, University of Alberta. 19 April. [12 min]
- 2017 *Everywhere I Went, I Saw Horror (No. 2 of Ghazal Series)*. Solo santur [5 min]
- 2017 *Before the Fall of Leaves*. Solo santur. [6 min]
- 2016 *Āsude cho Pargār (No. 1 of Ghazal Series)*, Solo santur [8 min]
- 2016 *Khorāsān*, Solo santur [13 min]
- 2015 *Blind Owl*. Santur, violin, piano, and violoncello (11 compositions for Blind Owl, a featured film by Mazdak Taebi. [26 min]
- 2014 *Chāpār*. Orchestra and String Quartet. Commissioned by the Iranian National Orchestra in Toronto. [25 min]
- 2014 *Ghazal in Three Eras*. Santur, piano, string quartet, tenor, mezzo soprano
- 2013 *Birds and the Garden Are Listening to You*. String quartet. Commissioned by the Iranian Art Council. Royal Ontario Museum. 24 May. [14 min]
- 2013 *Motreb-e Mahtābru (Oh! You Moonlit Musician)*. Choir, mezzo-soprano, and santur [8 min]
- 2013 *Cold Coffee*. Piano and two violins. [4 min]
- 2013 *An Incident in Two Words*. Santur, violoncello, dohol, tenor, and mezzo-soprano [7 min]
- 2013 *Tamanna*. A suite for solo santur (1. Sign of Remembrance 2. Longing 3. Geraniums 4. A Dance of Little Fountain 5. Sweet Breath of Sāqi 6. Nowruz 7. Fiery Heart) [38 min]
- 2013 *Today You Came Laughing*. Santur, violoncello, tombak, and tenor [6 min]
- 2013 *Lover Departed, and We Did Not Kiss*. Santur, violoncello, tenor, mezzo-soprano, and poem by Hafez [9 min]
- 2012 *Flames in the Heart*. Santur, barbat, tenor, and poem by Ahmad Shamlu. Glenn Gould Studio, Toronto. 15 April. [7 min]
- 2012 *Fields of Abadeh*. Strings and euphonium. Glenn Gould Studio, Toronto. 15 April. [4 min]
- 2012 *Little Breath of Wind*. Santur, viola, violoncello, mezzo-soprano, and poem by Ahmad Shamlu. Glenn Gould Studio, Toronto, 15 April. [4 min]
- 2012 *Moments of Solitude; 3 Miniatures for Piano* [7 min]
- 2012 *A Dance in a Persian Garden*. Solo santur [8 min]
- 2011 *Ashur*. Santur, tar, violin, and violoncello based on Assyrian folk song [4 min]
- 2011 *Naaz*. String orchestra, santur, tar, barbat, and percussion [4 min]
- 2011 *Tears of Her Mother*. Violin, viola, and violoncello [6 min]
- 2010 *Salute to Sun*. A suite for solo santur and voice (1. Dew in the Morning, 2. A Child in a Garden 3. Drinking to Toos 4. Khavaran 5. Absence of Beloved 6. Lightning 7. Salute to Sun 8. Sarkhosh 9. Prelude to Freedom 10. Freedom) [42 min]

- 2010 *Fall of Cypress*. Two violins, two violoncellos. York University Recital Hall. 23 October. [6 min]
- 2009 *Afghan Girl Skateboarding*. Santur and string orchestra. Glenn Gould Studio, Toronto. 8 November. [4 min]
- 2009 *Shred of Hope in Absolute Darkness*. Santur and string orchestra. Glenn Gould Studio, Toronto. 8 November. [5 min]
- 2006 *In the Offing*. Santur and piano [5 min]
- 2005 *Ghazel in Cage*. Solo santur [7 min]

## PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

- 2015-2022 Director of Saba Conservatory of Music, Toronto.
- 2021-2022 Artist Director for Iranian Heritage Society of Edmonton
- 2018-2020 Artist Consultant of Tirgan Festival
- 2011-2014 Music Director of Annual Iranian Heritage Day at the Royal Ontario Museum
- 2004-2016 Music Director of Baarbad Music, Toronto.

## MEMBERSHIP

- Association for Iranian Studies  
 Canadian Society for Traditional Music  
 International Centre for Traditional Music  
 Society of Ethnomusicology

## SELECT PROFESSIONAL PERFORMANCES

- 2023 “Flight 752 Elegies” composed by John Burge, Con. Tim Shants, University of Alberta, 11 February.
- 2022 “Persian Classical Music,” University of Alberta’s Botanical Garden, 19 July.
- 2022 “Summer: A Suite for Santur,” Now Hear This Festival of New Edmonton Music, 24 June.
- 2021 “Conversations—still—silent...,” online sponsored by New Edmonton Music, 28 June.
- 2020 “In Memory of Ostad Shajarian,” online, sponsored by MEIS Centre at the University of Alberta, 9 December.
- 2018 “Boustan: In a Fragrant Garden,” Convocation Hall, University of Alberta, Edmonton. 18 October.
- 2018 “Presenting Diwan,” Aga Khan Garden, University of Alberta Botanic Garden. 26 September.
- 2018 “Iranian Diva,” Richmond Hill Centre for Performing Arts, Toronto. 26 August.
- 2018 “Fire in the Heart: Santur Recital,” University of Alberta, Edmonton. 27 January.
- 2017 “Salute to Sun: Santur Recital,” Tirgan Festival, Toronto. 29 July.

- 2017 “Persian Classical Music,” Shenkman Arts Centre, Ottawa. 27 March.
- 2017 “Payvar in 7 Renditions; Santur Recital,” University of Alberta, 01 February.
- 2016 “A Night of Persian Music,” Toronto Jazz Festival. 23 June.
- 2015 “Birds and the Garden Are Listening to You,” Tirgan Festival, Toronto. 20 May.
- 2014 “Keivan Saket, Salar Aghili & Baarbad Ensemble,” Toronto, Ottawa, and Montreal. 12-14 December.
- 2014 “Persian Classical Music,” Royal Ontario Museum, Toronto. 25 May.
- 2014 “Tamanna,” Richmond Hill Centre for Performing Arts, Toronto. 15 May.
- 2014 “A Tribute to Ostad Faramarz Payvar,” Zangooleh Music School, Toronto. 22 February.
- 2013 “Lover Departed and We Did Not Kiss,” Royal Ontario Museum. 26 May.
- 2013 “Longing for Freedom,” Royal Ontario Museum, Toronto. 25 May.
- 2012 “Santur Recital,” University of Western, London. 11 September.
- 2012 “Balouch,” Brock University, St. Catherines. 8 September.
- 2012 “A Night of Persian Music,” Toronto Jazz Festival. 26 June.
- 2012 “Persian Classical Music,” Royal Ontario Museum, Toronto. 26 May.
- 2012 “The Wayfarers of This Long Pilgrimage,” Glenn Gould Studio, Toronto. 15 April.
- 2011 “Zagros: Music from Mountains of Hawraman to Persian Gulf,” York University, Toronto. 1 October.
- 2011 “Persian Classical Music,” Royal Ontario Museum, Toronto. 14 May.
- 2011 “Iranian Folklore Festival,” Markham Centre for Arts, Toronto. 11 March.
- 2010 “Double Recital of Santur & Violin,” Toronto, London, Ottawa. August-December.
- 2010 “In Memory of Ostad Faramarz Payvar,” Robert Gill Theatre, University of Toronto. 1 May.
- 2009 “Meditation In Mahur,” Glenn Gould Studio, CBC, Toronto. 8 November.
- 2008 “Kurdish Folklore Music,” Toronto Centre for the Arts. 16 February.
- 2006 “In Search of Baarbad,” North York Library, Toronto. 6 May.

## **VOLUNTEER EXPERIENCE & SERVICE TO COMMUNITY**

- 2020-21 VP Culture, Iranian Heritage Society of Edmonton
- 2018-19 VP Performance, GMSA (University of Alberta).
- 2017-18 VP Performance, GMSA (University of Alberta).
- 2016-17 VP Performance, GMSA (University of Alberta).
- 2016-21 *In tonations*, University of Alberta Graduate Music Student Journal. Member of editorial board.

## **PUBLIC INTERVIEWS**

- 2020 Saeed Moghadam, Persian Awards Toronto. 29 December.
- 2020 Erfaneh, Iran Star Weekly, 14 December.
- 2016 Mayank Bhatt. Living Multiculturalism on TAG TV. 5 July.

- 2014 Shiva Zarrinmehr. Pre-Concert Interview. ITCTV, Toronto. 8 March.
- 2012 Hossein Kaji. Iranian Music in North America. Radio Voice of Iranians, Toronto. 10 August.
- 2012 Amir Mahim. Dariche Haye Robero in ITCTV, Toronto. 5 April.
- 2011 Sima Sahar Zerehi. Countdown to Tirgan Festival: Easy on the Ears. 21 July.