

پانزدهمین کنفرانس دوسالانه انجمن ایران پژوهی

## The Fifteenth Biennial Iranian Studies Conference

Program Committee co-chairs: **Professor Dominic Parviz Brookshaw** (Oxford)  
and **Professor Asghar Seyed-Gohrab** (Utrecht)

**5-8 August 2026, Utrecht University** *Utrecht, The Netherlands*



Organized by The Association for Iranian Studies in collaboration with The Department of Philosophy and Religious Studies at Utrecht University



Association for  
Iranian Studies  
انجمن ایران پژوهی



Universiteit  
Utrecht



erc



*Fifteenth Biennial*

**Iranian Studies Conference**

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5-8 August 2026, Utrecht University



Association for  
**Iranian Studies**  
انجمن ایران پژوهی



**Utrecht  
University**



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the European Union**



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The research project *Beyond Sharia* has received funding from the European Research Council (ERC) under the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme (Grant agreement No. 101020403). This international conference is organized in collaboration with the Association for Iranian Studies and the Department of Philosophy and Religious Studies.

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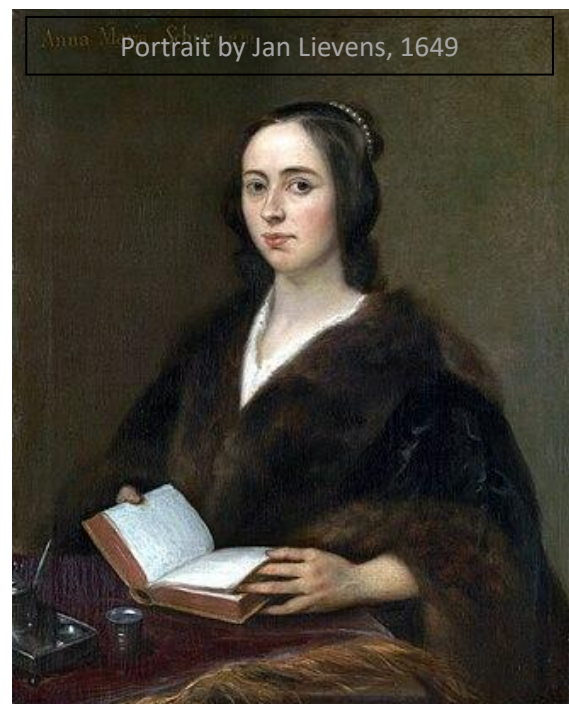
## Introduction

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Persian culture has shared a historical bond with the Netherlands for at least four centuries, dating back to the seventeenth century. The relationship was shaped not only by artistic and cultural exchanges, but also by commercial and religious interests, which encouraged the expansion of Dutch contacts with Persia. The religious motivations were closely connected to Biblical Studies, as scholars searched for a deeper understanding of the cultural world in which the Holy Book was created. It was in this context that scholars such as Franciscus Raphelengius (1539–1597) discovered that the Persian language differed from Arabic and Hebrew, and that it showed more similarities to Dutch and Latin. Although these early observations were not made systematically, they anticipated later linguistic discoveries. But it was not until the 19<sup>th</sup> century that the theory of the Indo-European language family was conceptualised and it was established that Persian belonged to that Indo-European family. This linguistic kinship can be seen in semantic, syntactic and morphological structures, especially in cognate words shared with Dutch such as *dochter* (*dochter*), *pedar* (*vader*), *madar* (*moeder*), etc.

The masterpieces of Persian literature such as Sa‘di’s *Rose-Garden* (*Gulistān*) were translated several times in the 17<sup>th</sup> century in the Netherlands, and later inspired European intellectuals such as François-Marie Arouet Voltaire (1694–1778) and Denis Diderot (1713–1784). Sa‘di’s *Orchard* (*Būstān*) was partly translated by Daniel Harvart (ca. 1656, d. between 1702 and 1718) and was entitled *De Persiaansche Boomgaard* (published in Amsterdam in 1688). Harvart worked for the Dutch East India Company (*Vereenigde Oostindische Compagnie*, V.O.C.), founded in 1602. The year 1623 marked the start of the

commercial and political relationship between Persia and the Netherlands. The company became the most important single foreign trading firm in Persia (Floor, *Elr*, s.v. Dutch-Persian Relations; Floor 2009). There are also works in the field of exact sciences such as mathematics. Jacobus Golius (1596–1667), who focused mainly on medieval Persian literature, was also active in studying and translating treatises in the fields of mathematics and astronomy. As Jan Hogendijk states, Golius published a Latin translation of a book about the construction of the universe by the Persian astronomer al-Fargani [Abu al-‘Abbās Aḥmad ibn Muḥammad ibn Kathīr al-Faraghānī] (who flourished ca. 850), as well as a text by Ibn al-Haytham (who flourished ca. 1040) concerning the determination of the celestial north pole (Hogendijk 2009, 161). He also engaged with the mathematics of the Persian sage, Omar Khayyam (ca. 1048–1131), and in particular his cubic equations.



During the 17<sup>th</sup> century, Dutch interest in the Persian language became increasingly

obvious, as evidenced by several publications. Mention should be made of Louis de Dieu's (1590–1642) Persian Grammar entitled *Rudimenta linguae persicae*, which was published in 1639. In that same era, Jacobus Golius in 1643 completed what was probably the first Persian-Latin Lexicon. These scholarly efforts, together with other activities, stimulated a growing interest among students and scholars.

A remarkable example of such interests is the first female Dutch student from Utrecht, Anna Maria Schurman (1607–1678), who is described as “very experienced in Persian, to which she began to apply herself especially when Louis de Dieu had published” his grammar (Schotel 1855, 35).

Although a number of studies have examined Dutch-Persian relations throughout history, many such relations remain to be explored, and many aspects of this long-standing relationship remains a desideratum. By hosting the Fifteenth Biennial of Iranian Studies in the Netherlands for the first time in the historic city of Utrecht in August 2026, we will add a new chapter to this enduring and rich relationship. I warmly hope that the colleagues, participants and all those interested in this scholarly meeting will enjoy not only the lectures and discussions, but also the vibrant cultural life of the city of Utrecht. On behalf of my colleagues and the organising committee, I wish you a very inspiring, informative, and enjoyable stay at Utrecht University.

**Asghar Seyed-Gohrab**  
Utrecht University

This piece is based on my chapter, “Teaching Persian Literature in Europe: A Case from the Netherlands”, in *The Art of Teaching Persian Literature from Theory to Practice*, eds., Franklin Lewis, Asghar Seyed-Gohrab, Pouneh Shabani-Jadidi, Leiden / Boston: Brill, 2024, pp. 74-101.

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## Welcome to Utrecht University

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Utrecht is a historical city with deep roots. Utrecht University, founded in 1636, celebrates its 390th anniversary this year. The ties between Iran and the Netherlands roughly cover the same timespan and stretch back at least four centuries.

From 1623 onwards, the Dutch East India Company (*Vereenigde Oostindische Compagnie*, V.O.C.) intensified its trading activities with Persia. Simultaneously, Persian culture captivated Dutch scholars, who translated and studied a wide range of texts spanning mathematics, astronomy, literature, poetry and philosophy. That tradition of exchange lives on in Utrecht today.

The broader Iranian world has given us a remarkable heritage. Iran's robust scientific tradition dates back to the Middle Ages, combining astronomy and mathematics with philosophy and poetry. This is embodied by individuals such as Omar Khayyam, who was both mathematician and poet. Iranian languages were and are spoken in a vast region, from Tajikistan and Afghanistan to the Caucasus and beyond. This is a civilisation that rewards every discipline it touches.

At Utrecht University, the study of the Persian and Iranian world consolidates our understanding of culture, religion, history, and the geopolitics of a region that matters greatly to global security and the world economy.

That scholarly work can also be deeply personal. For months now, and also in the years before, people in Iran and across the region have been living through extremely difficult and uncertain times and worse. This reality is closely felt by many students

and colleagues within our own community and beyond. As Dean and members of the Executive Board, we try to stand beside them and offer our support as much as we can. One specific gathering in March 2026 - where voices from Iran were shared through music, art, and poetry - was a moving reminder of what a university community can be: not only a place of knowledge, but of solidarity and care.

We welcome everyone to the Fifteenth Biennial Iranian Studies Conference in Utrecht, and hope it does justice to the richness of the field.



**Thomas Vaessens**

Dean of the Faculty of Humanities



**Hans Brug**

President of the Executive Board



**Wilco Hazeleger**

Rector Magnificus

## Welcome Address from AIS President

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پایان شب سیه سپید است

نظامی گنجوی، لیلی و مجنون

To all those attending the Fifteenth Biennial of Iranian Studies,

Dear Friends and Colleagues,

These are testing times in which to gather for a scholarly conference on Iranian Studies. Just in these past few months, as the preparations for this international gathering were intensifying, we witnessed the massacre of thousands of peaceful protesters by government forces on the streets of Iran; the US/Israeli war on Iran and the loss of civilian life, damage to educational institutions, and destruction of public infrastructure it caused; the economically and socially crippling internet blackout imposed by the Iranian government on its own citizens; and a massive surge in executions, detention of dissidents, and persecution of minorities by the Islamic Republic. We are witnesses to one of Iran's darkest nights, in which hope is perhaps opaquer than ever and yet, in the consoling words of Nizami (d.ca. 1209) cited above, there is much hope in amongst the despair, and we must have faith that this gloom will be followed by the brightest of lights.

As we come together to share our passion for Iran and the broader Persophone / Persianate world, I hope that, in the words of Hafiz, we will seek to plant the tree of true friendship. If we abide by the principles that inform the AIS Code of Conduct, this

در نومییدی بسی امید است

year's biennial will be a welcoming scholarly gathering, in which we will inspire each other through presenting our current research, exploring future collaborations, and renewing our friendships. AIS honours the diversity in our field in the broadest sense, and our conferences must manifest the highest professional standards. The current political situation has created a context which makes it hard for all of us to agree, but we owe it to one another to interact with all those participating in our Fifteenth Biennial with kindness, civility, and courtesy.



With my best wishes for a fantastic conference,

**Dominic Parviz Brookshaw,**  
AIS President (2024-26)

## Conference and Programme Co-Chairs' Welcome

---

کرم نما و فرود آ که خانه خانه توست

رواق منظر چشم من آشیانه توست

My mind's eye, an open window: you flew in and nested there.  
Do me a favour: stop a while. This house is your home.

(Hafez of Shiraz, 1315-1390, free adaptation)



It is my great pleasure and privilege to welcome colleagues in Persian and Iranian Studies and related fields to the Fifteenth Biennial Iranian Studies Conference at Utrecht University's Department of Philosophy and Religious Studies, during 5th to 8th August 2026. This year has been heartrending and painful due to the bloodbath of 8 and 9 January in which thousands (possibly more than 30,000) were killed, followed by arrests, executions, and then the US-Israeli war against Iran, which killed more than 3,000 people. The Iranians are having to process the traumatic impact of this unprecedented violence, inflicted on a people who have been suffering under the totalitarian Islamist regime for 47 years. The situation is so fragile and changing. As I am writing these words of welcome, I am hoping that the situation will have improved by August, so

that we can celebrate and cherish the same freedom and dignity for Iran that we have in Europe.

One reason for the heartrending situation in Iran is the lack of freedom, a treasure that the Faculties of Humanities and Social Sciences can safeguard. The decline of these faculties in recent decades, in Iran, has been accompanied by crumbling national institutions, lack of freedom, and disregard for human dignity. Censoring Humanities and Social Sciences in Iran has led to the exclusion of critical minds, creative artists and engaged intellectuals. Several uprisings in the last 20 years illustrate how people have wished to move the political situation towards democracy. The 2022 revolutionary movement "Woman, Life, Freedom," which started after the killing of the young girl Mahsa Jina Amini, was met with violent repression. It represented one of the most powerful recent expressions of the demand for the rule of law in Iran. The harsh crackdown on this movement foreshadowed subsequent waves of protests, the most dramatic of which culminated in the demonstration of 8 and 9 January, whose suppression has made a profound, and probably enduring, impact on Iranian society.

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Utrecht is a lovely city, and an old city, rich in historical buildings, museums, churches, cafés, and restaurants located along cobblestone streets and charming canals. It was known to Islamic scholars such as al-Iḍrīsī (d. 1165), who alludes to Utrecht as Ustrīt, describing many of her beautiful vineyards, meadows, horses, and rivers. Al-Iḍrīsī says that its people are noble, brave, and proud.

Utrecht University was founded 390 years ago, in 1636. It is the largest university in the Netherlands with a rich tradition, 39,000 students, and 12 Nobel Prize winners. The University's influential tradition of Oriental Studies goes back to the 17th century, with luminaries such as Adriaan Reland (d. 1718). Reland's inaugural lecture in 1701 was entitled *Oratio pro Lingua Persica et Cognatis Literis Orientalibus* ("Discourse in Defence of the Persian Language and Related Oriental Scripts"). He emphasized the importance of studying eastern languages, especially Persian, to understand the intellectual traditions, cultural history, and religious beliefs of other peoples. Reland's masterpiece *De religione mohammedica* helped launching the academic study of Islamic culture. A best-selling book, it was translated into several European languages in the 18th century but was banned under Papal censorship in 1725.

Another celebrated figure was Martinus Houtsma (1851-1943), a historian of the Seljuk period and the editor of the first edition of the prestigious *Encyclopaedia of Islam*. The author of a well-known handbook on Islamic law, Theodoor Willem Juynboll (1866-1948), also hails from

Utrecht. Today, Persian and Iranian Studies is embedded in the Department of Philosophy and Religious Studies of the Faculty of the Humanities, whose premises cluster around the magnificent Utrecht Cathedral in the city centre.

In recent years, Utrecht University have been promoting the study of Islamic world, including Persian culture and Iranian history. In 2022, our Department hosted the 30th UEAI-congress Union Européenne des Arabisants et Islamisants (UEAI) at Utrecht. In addition, we have been



inv.nr. 10801; Pieter Stevensz. van Gunst ( 1659-1724); Portret van Adriaan Reland (1676-1718) ca. 1712; kopergravure op papier; Collectie Centraal Museum, Utrecht/aankoop 1951 © Centraal Museum Utrecht

organising conferences, workshops, and lectures to inform students, scholars and interested people about developments in the Islamic world. The project team of the ERC Advanced Grant *Beyond Sharia: The Role of Sufism in Shaping Islam* ([www.beyondsharia.nl](http://www.beyondsharia.nl)) has contributed by

initiating regular conferences, symposia and workshops, hosting young scholars as well as eminent established scholars from around the globe.

I would like to express my gratitude to the previous President, Professor Firoozeh Kashan-Sabet (University of Pennsylvania), the present President, Professor Dominic Parviz Brookshaw (Oxford University), and the President-Elect, Professor Claudia Yaghoobi (University of North Carolina), as well as to the Council and Board of the Association of Iranian Studies for their trust in our team, giving us the opportunity to organize this international conference this year, the 390th anniversary of Utrecht University. I would like to express my sincere gratitude to individual members of the Board, particularly Hamoun Hayati, who has handled hundreds of emails relating to this conference.

The work of organising this conference would have been impossible without the invaluable support of my colleagues, with whom I initially developed our application

to be conference hosts. I would, therefore, like to thank Dr Diede Farhosh-van Loon, dr Zhinia Noorian and Dr Arash Ghajarjazi. I would also like to thank the many colleagues at our university whose unabated support has helped us to organise this event. My gratitude goes to Marijke Bakker and to the Board of our Department: Professor Annemarie Kalis, Katie Smith, Dr Christoph Baumgartner, Dr Katja Rakow and Dr Rianne van Lambalgen. I would also like to warmly thank the people of the Beyond Sharia team, especially Dr Bodil Ponte-Kok, whose enthusiasm and tremendous contribution have been indispensable. My sincere thanks also go to our student assistant Rojin Sorouri, who has shown dedication in various ways to make the programme book take shape in the best possible fashion.

**Asghar Seyed-Gohrab**

Professor of Iranian and Persian Studies,  
Department of Philosophy and Religious  
Studies

Utrecht University  
Utrecht, April 2026

## Statement from Editor-in-Chief of Iranian Studies

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I am honored to serve as the Editor-in-Chief of Iranian Studies, a quarterly journal published by Cambridge University Press. The journal receives submissions that reflect our commitment to a diverse range of disciplinary and scholarly fields of inquiry from antiquity to the present. Along with articles, book reviews, special issues, and special sections, the journal also publishes roundtables on topical issues.

Iranian Studies follows a rigorous anonymous review process: all submissions are sent to at least two reviewers. We use the electronic platform ScholarOne, which facilitates timely assignment of submissions to reviewers and adherence to prescribed deadlines. The production turnaround times have steadily improved.

In addition to the Deputy Editor, Farshad Sonboldel, I have the pleasure of working

with eight subject area Associate Editors: Habib Borjian (linguistics), Cameron Cross (classical literature), Sheragim Jenabzadeh (History), Hamid Keshmirshakan (art and architecture), Norma Claire Moruzzi (social sciences), Laetitia Nanquette (modern literature), Khodadad Rezakhani (antiquity and late antiquity), Paola Rivetti (social sciences), and Deborah Tor (medieval history). We are capably assisted by our book review editors: Shervin Farrinejad (antiquity and late antiquity), Maziyar Ghiabi (social Sciences), Jane Mikkelson (classical literature), Amy Motlagh (literature and cultural studies), and Leila Pourtavaf (History).

I am honored to have the support of Dr. Dominic Parviz Brookshaw, the President of the Association for Iranian Studies, and I look forward to serving our scholarly community across the globe. I am hopeful that the biennial conference in Utrecht will provide an occasion for more scholars to become acquainted with Iranian Studies and submit their work to our journal.

I invite you all to visit the journal's website: <https://associationforiranianstudies.org/Journal>.

**Nasrin Rahimieh**

Editor-in-Chief, Iranian Studies

## **AIS Executive Director's Statement**

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As Executive Director, I make it my responsibility to respond daily to members' emails, using both my own account and the Executive Director's inbox. I either respond directly or forward messages to the appropriate officers of the AIS Executive Committee. A biennial year is always a peak year for correspondence, and 2026 has been particularly busy. This is due in large part to a new approach to managing conference presentations, which will become evident to attendees of Biennial26. In addition to conference-related matters, I communicate regularly with a broad audience—primarily AIS members—through the Listserv, providing updates and information about ongoing activities and developments. Taken together, this volume and variety of communication make it clear that AIS is moving in a new direction,



characterized by increased engagement, transparency, and responsiveness.

**Rivanne Sandler**  
AIS Executive Director

## **AIS Treasurer's Statement**

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Welcome to the 15th Biennial Conference of the Association for Iranian Studies in Utrecht, Netherlands!

Every two years, scholars of Iranian Studies writ large come together to share research, collaborate, and reconnect with colleagues. AIS has long been at the forefront of public discourse surrounding Iran. We all recognize that this year's event is taking place in the midst of warfare and crisis in Iran. The importance of scholarship, creative work, and ethical engagement within our discipline is more important today than ever.

It has been my honor to serve as the Treasurer of AIS since 2019. Over the past seven years, I have worked to make AIS a more inclusive organization, professionalize our operations, and grow the Association's general fund to help support programs that directly benefit our members. AIS is in a strong financial position today. We have passed that along directly to you. While inflation is rising at historic rates, we have once again held our conference without any increase to our low membership and registration rates to allow everyone to participate in our academic programs and professional activities.

We are grateful for the support of two major sponsors who have helped to put on a wonderful event for you this year. The Iran Heritage Foundation has provided funding for our opening reception, during which time we will welcome members from around the world and present our biennial awards. The ILEX Foundation has provided direct financial support for up to ten graduate students to help offset the cost of airfare and accommodations to ensure



equitable access to our conference this year. We are extremely thankful for their support and are fortunate to have partners committed to our vision of AIS as an inclusive space for all members.

A special thank you to AIS President Dominic Parviz Brookshaw, President-elect Claudia Yaghoubi, Executive Director Rivanne Sandler, editor-in-chief of the journal Iranian Studies Nasrin Rahimieh, members of the AIS Council, and above all our conference chair Asghar Seyed-Gohrab. These individuals have worked tirelessly for months to make this conference a success. Above all, we have worked to put on a world class event that highlights the diversity and vitality of Iranian Studies. We sincerely hope you enjoy this event and find it to be an enriching and rewarding academic experience.

**Prof. James Gustafson,**  
Professor of History, Indiana State  
University Treasurer, Association for  
Iranian Studies

## **AIS Governance and Committees, 2026**

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### **Executive Committee 2026**

- Dominic Parviz Brookshaw, University of Oxford, President (2024-2026)
- Claudia Yaghoobi, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, President-Elect (2025-2026)
- Nasrin Rahimieh, Journal Editor, University of California, Irvine (2023-2028)
- Rivanne Sandler, Executive Director, University of Toronto (2008- )
- James Gustafson, Treasurer, Secretary for Financial Affairs, Indiana State University (2021- )

### **AIS Council 2026**

- Dominic Parviz Brookshaw, University of Oxford, President (2024-2026)
- Claudia Yaghoobi, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, President-Elect (2025-2026)
- Rivanne Sandler, University of Toronto, Executive Director (2008- )
- James Gustafson, Treasurer, Secretary for Financial Affairs, Indiana State University (2021- )
- Nasrin Rahimieh, Editor-in-Chief Iranian Studies, University of California, Irvine (2023-2028)
- Negar Habibi, University of Geneva (2025-2028)
- Anousha Sedighi, Portland State University (2025-2028)
- Mejgan Massoumi, Carnegie Mellon University (2026-2029)
- Laetitia Nanquette, University of New South Wales (2026-2029)
- Denis Hermann, Centre de Recherche sur le Monde Iranien (2026-2027)
- Domenico Ingenito, University of California, Los Angeles (2023-2026)
- Bahar Abdi, University of California-San Diego (2024-2026)

- Hannah Hassani, University of St Andrews (2025-2027)

### **AIS 2026 Biennial Conference Scientific Programme Committee**

- Niki Akhavan, Catholic University
- Assef Ashraf, Cambridge University
- Behzad Borhan, McGill University
- Dominic Parviz Brookshaw, Oxford University
- Arash Ghajarjazi, Utrecht University
- Negar Habibi, Geneva University
- Edmund Herzig, Oxford University
- Christian Lange, Utrecht University
- Amir Moosavi, Rutgers University
- Zhinia Noorian, Utrecht University
- Zuzanna Olszewska, Oxford University
- Leila Rahimi Bahmany, Ludwig Maximilian University of Munich
- Anousha Sedighi, Portland State University
- Asghar Seyed-Gohrab, Utrecht University
- Rolf Strootman, Utrecht University
- Pooyan Tamimi Arab, Utrecht University

## **Utrecht University Organising Committee**

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- Mira de Boose
- Diede Farhosh-Van Loon
- Arash Ghajarjazi
- Bodil Ponte-Kok
- Christian Lange
- Fatemeh Naghshvarian
- Zhinia Noorian
- Asghar Seyed-Gohrab
- Pooyan Tamimi Arab
- Nilou Yekta

## **Volunteers and student assistants**

To be announced

## **AIS Code of Conduct**

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The Association for Iranian Studies (AIS) encompasses a global community of scholars committed to producing well-grounded and high-quality academic work related to Iran and its historical dimensions. It nurtures a supportive and inclusive environment for its organizational participants and prohibits any form of prejudice or harassment, including misconduct stemming from discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation, ability, age, gender, national, ethnic, religious, or racial identity. AIS honors the diversity in the field, including political diversity, and welcomes different scholarly perspectives, approaches, and engagements with a range of subjects. All our scholarly conferences, symposia, and related activities and events adhere to these ethical and professional principles. Organizational participants in the Association must abide by this policy and adhere to a code of conduct that requires all its participants and partners (including vendors and audience members) to interact with others in a civil, courteous, and professional manner.

## In collaboration with

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Department of Philosophy and Religious Studies,

<https://www.uu.nl/en/organisation/departement-of-philosophy-and-religious-studies>



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Promoting study of Mediterranean & Near Eastern Civilizations, and Beyond

<https://ilexproject.org/>



## **Institutional Members**

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The Association for Iranian Studies would like to thank its institutional members:

- Brown University Center for Middle Eastern Studies
- Center for Middle Eastern and North African Studies, University of Michigan- LSA
- Center for Middle Eastern Studies, University of Texas- Austin
- Crown Center for Middle East Studies
- Elahé Omidyar Mir-Djalali Institute of Iranian Studies
- Farzaneh Family Center for Iranian and Persian Gulf Studies, University of Oklahoma
- Hagop Kevorkian Center for Near Eastern Studies and the Iranian Studies Initiative, New York University
- Hamid and Christina Moghadam Program in Iranian Studies, Stanford University
- Iranian and Persian Gulf Studies, Oklahoma State University
- King Fahd Center for Middle East Studies, University of Arkansas
- Middle East Institute, Columbia University
- North Carolina Consortium for Middle East Studies
- Roshan Institute for Persian Studies, University of Maryland
- Sharmin and Bijan Mossavar-Rahmani Center for Iran and Persian Gulf Studies
- South Asia Center, University of Pennsylvania
- The Alliance Center for Iranian Studies, Tel Aviv University
- The Center for Middle Eastern Studies – University of Arizona
- The Paul H. Nitze School of Advanced International Studies, Johns Hopkins University
- UCLA Program of Iranian Studies
- Yale Program in Iranian Studies
- University of Southern California
- University of Maryland/SLLC

## Book Exhibit

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The book exhibit will be held on Thursday, August 6, and Friday, August 7, at the Sacristie in the Dom Church from 9:00 to 17:00. We hope you will stop by to browse the books on display and meet the publishers in attendance.

Location: Dom Church (Domkerk), Domplein 31, Utrecht 





# Encyclopædia Iranica



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FOR PERSIAN STUDIES

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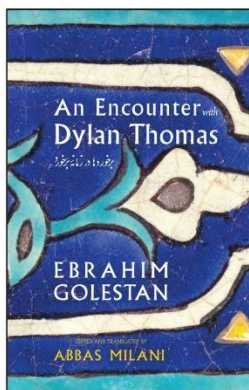
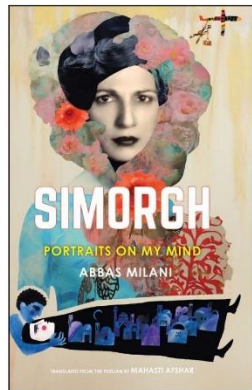
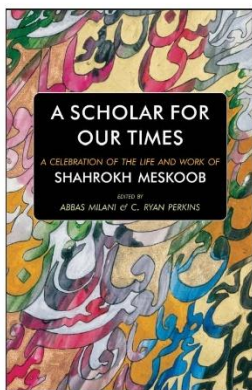
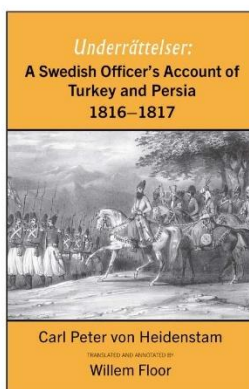
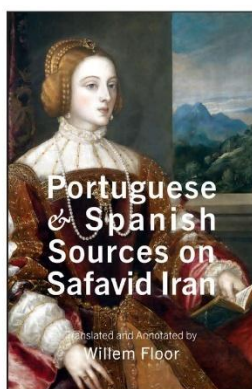
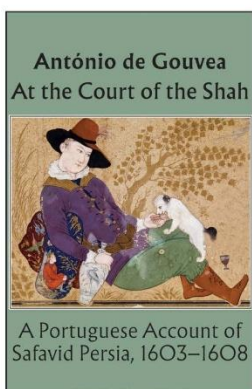
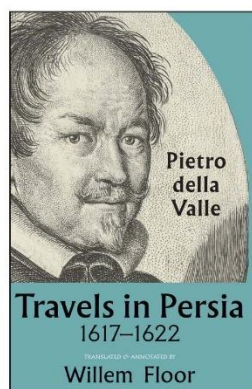
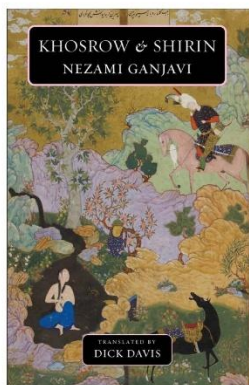
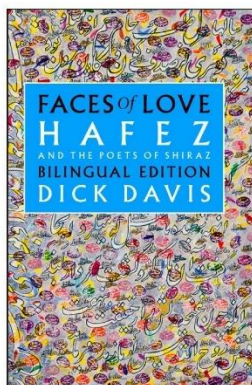
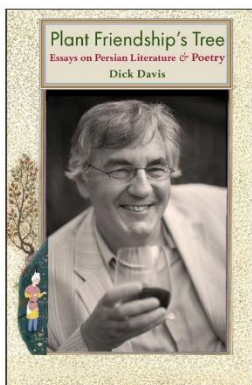
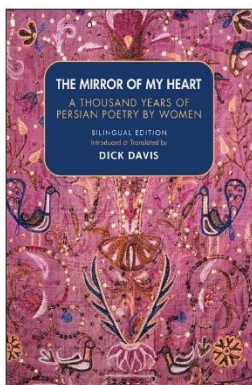
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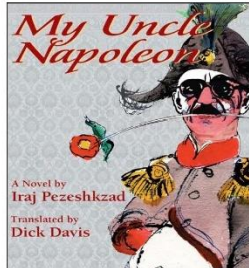
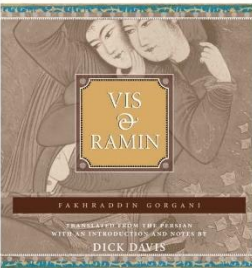
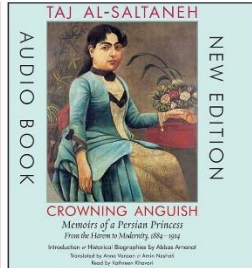
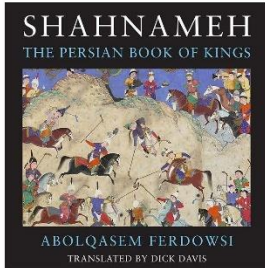
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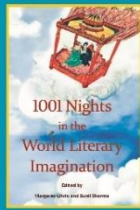


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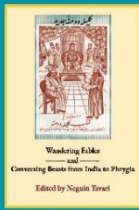


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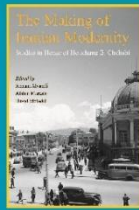
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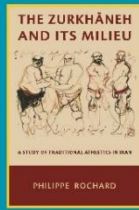
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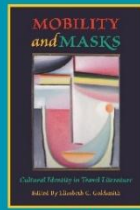
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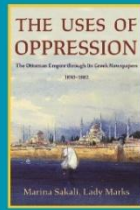
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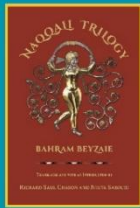
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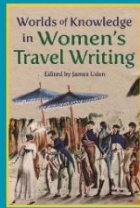
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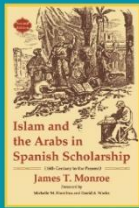
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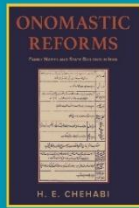
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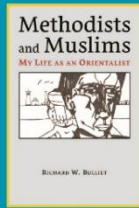
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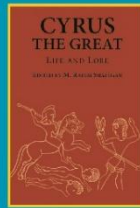
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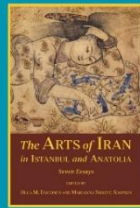
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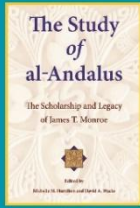
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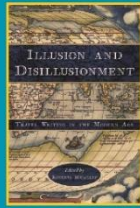
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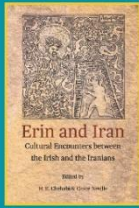
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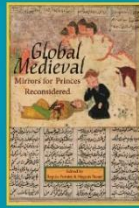
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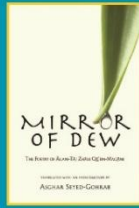
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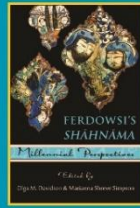
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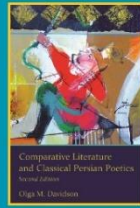
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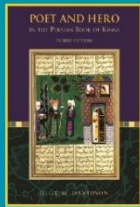
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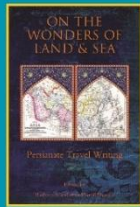
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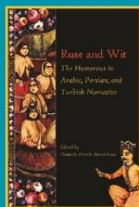
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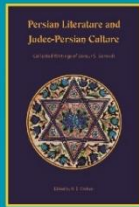
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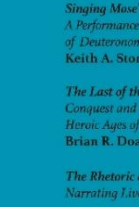
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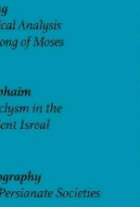
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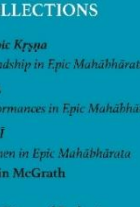
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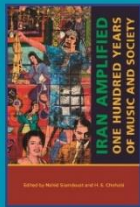


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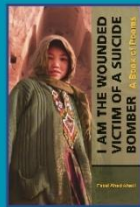
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The IHF Modern Iran Series publishes innovative Open Access books in partnership with Bloomsbury Academic with a broad thematic focus that covers the period from the late nineteenth century to the present day. Areas covered include cultural and social as well as political and economic issues.

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### **Restoration of Classic Iranian Films**

In 2025 we launched a major initiative to restore classic Iranian films in partnership with Cineteca di Bologna, one of the world's leading film archives and restoration laboratories, internationally recognised for its work in preserving and promoting global film heritage.

The IHF's first restoration project was *Secrets of the Jinn Valley Treasure* (1974), directed by Ebrahim Golestan and starring Parviz Sayyad and Mary Apick. The restored film was screened at the Barbican Centre, London, as part of its "Masterpieces of the Iranian New Wave" series in February 2026.

The Barbican granted IHF partnership status for its "Masterpieces" series.

### **Duty to Protect Sites of Cultural Heritage in Times of War Under International Law**

In 2026 the IHF launched a significant initiative to draw attention to the damage caused to Iran's sites of cultural heritage in recent military conflicts.

In May 2026, in partnership with The Courtauld Institute, we organised a highly significant conference under the title 'Iran: International Law and the Protection of Cultural Heritage in Times of War' to draw attention to the legal duty of combatants under international law to avoid damage to and protect sites of historic and cultural significance.

### **Utrecht Conference**

The IHF is pleased to support this important gathering of Iranian Studies academics in Utrecht. We are represented at the event by Professor Hassan Hakimian.

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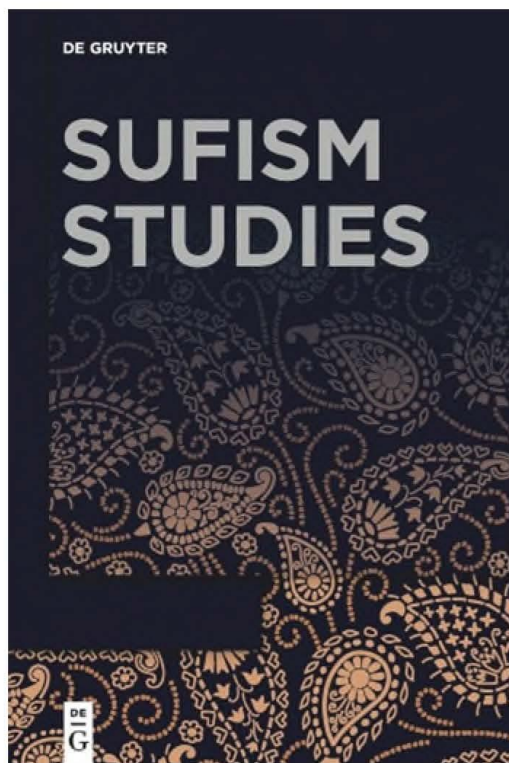
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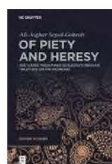
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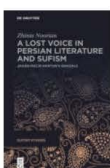
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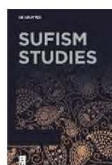
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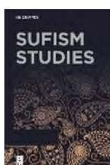
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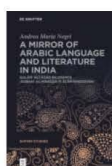
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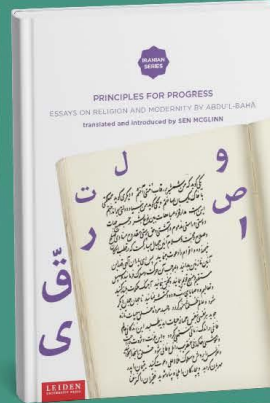
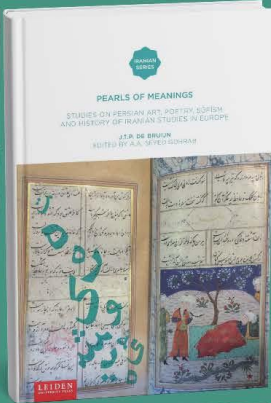
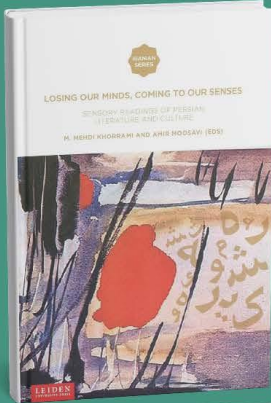
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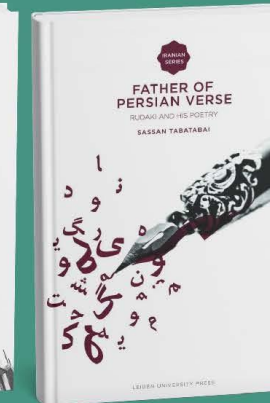
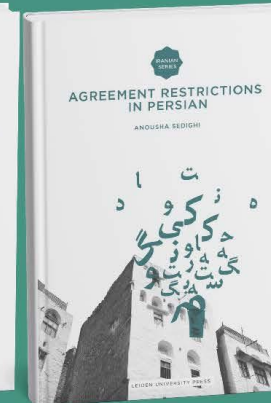
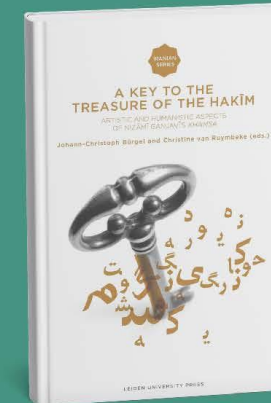
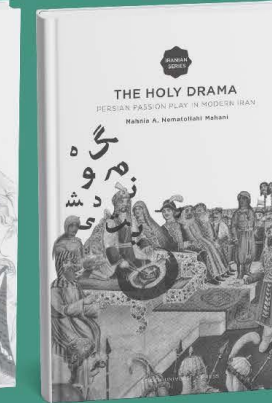
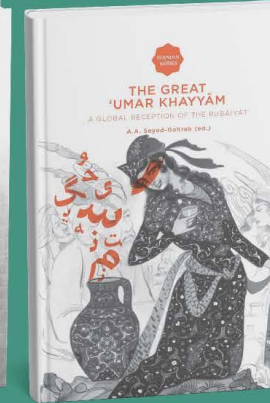
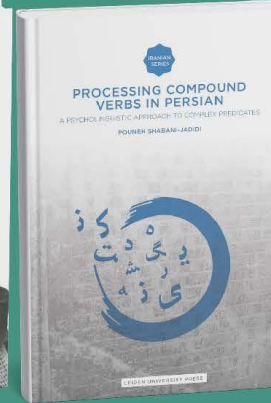
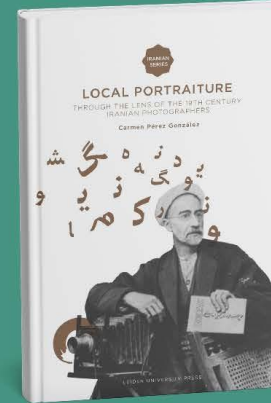
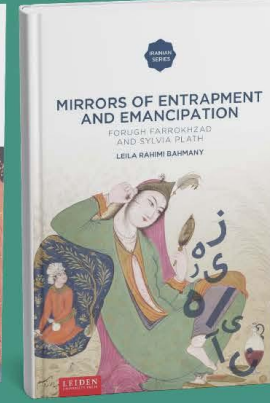
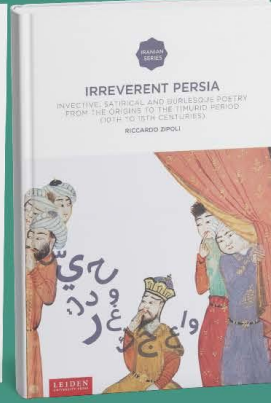
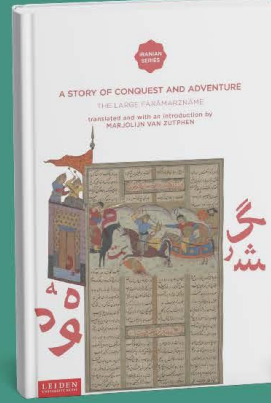
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## Musical Performances

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### Rokus de Groot, musical composition

#### "The Excuse of the Nightingale"

William Knight (tenor)

Marieke Franssen (flute)

Eduard van Regteren Altena (violoncello)



Based on Faridoddin Attar, "The Conference of the Birds", in the English translation by Dick Davis, and Afkham Darbandi, *Farid ud-din Attar: The Conference of the Birds*, Penguin Classics, 1984, reprint 2011)

This parable is about a group of birds which sets out to find their king (their true nature) which will lead them through seven valleys with all kinds of challenges. Initially most birds are not attracted to engage in this endeavour and raise all kinds of objections. One of them is the nightingale (*bulbul*). His argument for not joining the group is that he cannot leave his great love, the rose (*gul*), even for a single night. And she cannot accompany him, since she is bound to a fixed place in her garden. The leader of the birds, the hoopoe, points to the fact that the rose is not a trustworthy orientation for one's life: today she blooms, tomorrow she has withered. And while she seems to laugh to you, she may be actually laughing at you. The composition ends with an abundant vocalise, without disclosing whether it is in defiance to, or in surrender to the hoopoe's address.



"The Concourse of the Birds", Folio 11r from a *Mantiq al-Tayr* (Language of the Birds), Metropolitan Museum of Art, objectnr. 63.210.11

## Persian Music Sepideh Ensemble

Maryam Imanizadeh (vocals & *daff / tanboor*), Mehmet Polat (oud), Milad Ahmadi (vocals), Karvan Mustafa (*kamanche*), Arman Kavian (*tombak*), Ali Soltaninejad (*santur*), Pouria Jabbari (*daff*)



*Fifteenth Biennial*


**Iranian Studies Conference**

5-8 August 2026, Utrecht University

**CONFERENCE**

**PROGRAMME**

## Wednesday, August 5<sup>th</sup> – Schedule

Dom Church (Domkerk),  
Domplein 31, Utrecht 

13:00-17:00	<b>Registration</b>	Dom Church (Noordertransept)
14:00-14:30	<b>Opening Remarks</b> Asghar Seyed-Gohrab, co-chair of programme committee Dominic Parviz Brookshaw, president of AIS and co-chair of programme committee	Dom Church
14:30-14:45	<b>Rokus de Groot, musical composition "The Excuse of the Nightingale"</b> William Knight (tenor) Marieke Franssen (flute) Eduard van Regteren Altena (violoncello)	
14:45-16:25	<b>Awards Ceremony</b>	Dom Church
16:25-16:45	<b>Sepideh Ensemble</b> Maryam Imanizadeh (vocals & <i>daff / tanboor</i> ), Mehmet Polat (oud), Milad Ahmadi (vocals), Karvan Mustafa ( <i>kamanche</i> ), Arman Kavian ( <i>tombak</i> ), Ali Soltaninejad ( <i>santur</i> ), Pouria Jabbari ( <i>daff</i> )	

University Museum (UMU),  
Lange Nieuwstraat 106, Utrecht 

17:00-18:30	<b>Opening Reception</b> Opening Reception with drinks and light refreshments at the Historic Botanical Garden <i>Oude Hortus</i> (Sponsored by Iran Heritage Foundation)	UMU   Oude Hortus
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## Thursday, August 6<sup>th</sup> – Schedule

Janskerkhof 2/3, Utrecht 

8:30-10:30	<b>Panels 1-15</b>	Janskerkhof 2/3
1. Social Sciences in and of Iran: Between Detachment and Presentness		Room 0.13
2. Architectural Technology Transfer on the Silk Road: Iranian Double-Shell Domes and the West		Room 0.17
3. Techno-politics in Iran across the Twentieth and Twenty-First centuries		Room 0.19
4. Entangled Histories: Ottoman-Iranian Encounters across Centuries		Room 0.21
5. The Emancipatory Aesthetics of Contemporary Iranian Theatre		Room 0.22
6. Tehranto: Beyond Tehran and Toronto - Iranians in Canada		Room 1.09
7. Histories of Circulation: People, Books, and Ideas between Iran and India (1500–1800)		Room 1.10
8. From the Alborz to the Caspian: Environmental Histories of Northern Iran		Room 1.11
9. Patronage and Governance in Medieval Azerbaijan		Room 1.15
10. Authorship, Desire, and Authority in Persian Literary Traditions		Room 1.16
11. Persian Sufi Poetics: Perspectives from within the Tradition		Room 1.17
12. Iranian Studies in Korea		Room 1.18
13. Economic and Social Policies and Institutions in Iran, 1920s–1970s		Room 2.17
14. Discourse, Narrative, and Global Frames of the 1979 Iranian Revolution		Room 2.18
15. Transregional intellectual and literary links within the Persian-speaking world in the 19th-20th centuries		Room 2.19
10:30-10:45	<b>Coffee Break</b>	Janskerkhof 2/3
10:45-12:45	<b>Panels 16-30</b>	Janskerkhof 2/3
16. Revisiting Reza Shah's Rule at the Centennial of the Pahlavi Monarchy		Room 0.13
17. Iranian Art and Material Culture in Switzerland: Toward a New Perspective		Room 0.17
18. Innovations and Challenges in Teaching Persian Language and Culture: Interdisciplinary Approaches in Persian Studies		Room 0.19
19. Constructors of an Image		Room 0.21
20. Gendered Constraints and Aesthetic Expression in Iranian Film and Visual Production		Room 0.22
21. The Politics of Positionality: Critique and Self-Critique in the Study of the Iranian Diaspora in Western Europe, Turkey and Canada		Room 1.09
22. The Letter and the Spirit: Law, Legal Norms, and the Making of Modern Iran, 1919-1979		Room 1.10
23. Unpackaging Modernisation: the Manifestations of Reform in Iran, 1900-79		Room 1.11
24. New approaches and methods in the study of modern Iranian history		Room 1.15
25. Iran's Layered Temporality in European Women's Travel-Writing (1888-1936)		Room 1.16
26. Language, Power, and Resistance: The Kurdish Struggle Through Translation		Room 1.17
27. Critical Approaches to Sensory Histories of Iran		Room 1.18
28. Iranian Politics and International Relations (20th–21st Century)		Room 2.17
29. Resurrections of Kings and Heroes: Epic Narratives, Transmediality, and Cultural Memory Across Media		Room 2.18
30. Zoroastrianism: contacts and interchange between India and Iran		Room 2.19
12:45-13:45	<b>Lunch Break</b>	

13:45-15:45	<b>Panels 31-45</b>	Janskerkhof 2/3
31.	Indo-Persianate Wisdom and Esoteric Zoroastrianism in Modern Iran and India	Room 0.13
32.	Panel: Navigating the Margins: A Transnational Perspective on Iranian Women's Music-Making	Room 0.17
33.	Creative, Tenacious Lion Women of Iran (SHIR ZANAN-E IRAN)	Room 0.19
34.	Roundtable - Iranian Masculinities Across Time - Part I	Room 0.21
35.	Mapping the Imaginary of the Iranian World in Spain: Space, Borders, and Ethnicities	Room 0.22
36.	The Iranian diaspora: Intersections, Dialogues, and Perspectives from Spain	Room 1.09
37.	Transfer of Knowledge in Indo-Persian Sources I	Room 1.10
38.	The Transnational Fabric of the Iranian Revolution: Micro-Historical Perspectives	Room 1.11
39.	Circulation of Knowledge in Persian between Anatolia and China	Room 1.15
40.	The Many Faces of Kaveh: Power, Myth and Resistance Across Borders	Room 1.16
41.	"Citizens of the World": Modern Kurdish Literature Between Different Languages, Genres and Countries	Room 1.17
42.	Learning Across Borders: Activism, Family, and Knowledge in the Iranian Diaspora	Room 1.18
43.	Zoroastrianism and Iranian Literary Traditions: Continuity, Transformation, and Memory	Room 2.17
44.	Diversity and Modernity in Contemporary Shi'i Iranian Thought and Practice	Room 2.18
45.	Bridging Scholarship and Devotion: The Twelver Shi'i Supplication (du'ā) Corpus in its Persianate Context	Room 2.19
15:45-16:00	<b>Coffee Break</b>	Janskerkhof 2/3
16:00-18:00	<b>Panels 46-60</b>	Janskerkhof 2/3
46.	Israel-US War against Iran	Room 0.13
47.	Sensuous Sheets: Decorated Papers in Premodern Manuscript Cultures	Room 0.17
48.	Iranian Queer Imaginaries Across Media	Room 0.19
49.	Roundtable - Iranian Masculinities Across Time - Part II	Room 0.21
50.	Cultural Psychopathology: Negotiating with Power and the Unconscious Structures of Social Order in Iran	Room 0.22
51.	Diasporic Revolutionary Imaginaries and Woman Life Freedom Uprising	Room 1.09
52.	Transfer of Knowledge in Indo-Persian Sources II	Room 1.10
53.	Persian literature of the early Ilkhanate: stories of rebellion and poems of decline	Room 1.11
54.	Dimensions of the Iran-Iraq War and Its Extensions: Bottom-up Perspectives on Unintended Consequences of Strategic Decisions and Encounters	Room 1.15
55.	Persian Manuscripts under the Microscope: Problems of Identification, Transmission, and Interpretation	Room 1.16
56.	Idols, Lovers, and Manuscripts: Reassessing the Early Persian Romance Tradition	Room 1.17
57.	Shahnameh Beyond Borders	Room 1.18
58.	Connectivity and Mobility in the Premodern Iranian World	Room 2.17
59.	Challenges in Studying Religions of Modern Iran	Room 2.18
60.	Popular Shi'i Observances: Narrative, Ritual, and Identity in Early Modern and Contemporary Iran	Room 2.19

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18:15-18:30

**Persian Music**

Leeuwenbergh

18:30-19:30

**Keynote Session**

Leeuwenbergh

**Christine van Ruymbeke**

"Changes, challenges and opportunities. Persian literary studies in this second quarter of the 21st century."

## Friday, August 7<sup>th</sup> – Schedule

Janskerkhof 2/3, Utrecht

8:30-10:30	<b>Panels 61-75</b>	Janskerkhof 2/3
61. Enduring Signs: Text, Image, and the Afterlives of the Ancient Iranian World		Room 0.13
62. Negotiating Modernity through Space: Reform, Gender, Perception, and Representation in Nineteenth-Century Qajar Iran		Room 0.17
63. Short Story as Material for Teaching Persian as a Foreign Language		Room 0.19
64. Iran in the Second World War		Room 0.21
65. Navigating the Persianate Cosmopolis: Pre-modern and Modern Ottoman Intellectuals in the Face of Persian Cultural and Scientific Heritage		Room 0.22
66. The Constitutional Revolution (1906–11) and Beyond – Spatial, Temporal, and Relational Dimensions		Room 1.09
67. Broadening histories of Iran in the long nineteenth century through the study of commodities		Room 1.10
68. Translating Identities: Iranian Jews Between Community, Nation, and Diaspora		Room 1.11
69. New Perspectives on Endangered Iranian Languages of Eastern Transcaucasia and Central Asia		Room 1.15
70. The Eloquent Body: Rewriting Love, Gender, and Eroticism in Indo-Persian Narratives		Room 1.16
71. Persian Literary Domination and Vernacular Resistance: Case Studies from Kurdish, Baluchi, Pashto and Shughni		Room 1.17
72. Speculative Iran: Between haunting and futurity		Room 1.18
73. Working Around the Sanctions in and Around Iran		Room 2.17
74. Reason, Revelation, and Revival: Esoteric Hermeneutics from Nāṣir i Khusraw to Rūmī and the Present		Room 2.18
75. Between Conformity and Resistance: Cultural and Institutional Performances of Power in Post-Revolutionary Iran		Room 2.19
10:30-10:45	<b>Coffee Break</b>	Janskerkhof 2/3
10:45-12:45	<b>Panels 76-90</b>	Janskerkhof 2/3
76. Revisiting Hedayat 1: His Drawings, and Art in his Fiction		Room 0.13
77. Concepts and Narratives in the Historiography of Iranian Art and Architecture		Room 0.17
78. Roundtable Festschrift in honour of Houchang Chehabi		Room 0.19
79. Social Histories of Technology and the Environment		Room 0.21
80. The Afterlife of Sadi Shirazi’s Legacy in the Persianate World: Print Culture in the 19th and Early 20th Centuries		Room 0.22
81. Landscapes of Transition: Routes, Landscapes, and Cultural Interaction in the Zagros in the First Millennium CE		Room 1.09
82. The Many Worlds of Tārīkh-i Qum: Local Governance, Urban Growth, and Shi‘i Identity in Tārīkh-i Qum		Room 1.10
83. Media, Modernity, and Public Life in Iran, in the Late nineteenth to mid-twentieth centuries		Room 1.11
84. Tracking the Indo-Iranian Origin: Syntactical and Etymological Discussions		Room 1.15
85. Global Afterlives: Contemporary Translations of Persian Literature		Room 1.16
86. Negotiating Worlds: Adaptation and Interpretation in Indo-Persian Literary Thought		Room 1.17
87. War and Polyphony: Representing and Remembering the Iran-Iraq War in Contemporary Cultural Production		Room 1.18
88. Beyond Political Fragmentation: Diasporic Collective Memory and Reenactment of the Constitutional Past after Woman, Life, Freedom		Room 2.17
89. Rethinking Political Islam in Revolutionary and Post-revolutionary Iran: Apparatus of Control,		

90. Embodied Cosmologies: Devotion, Knowledge, and Esoteric Traditions in the Premodern Islamicate World	Room 2.18 Room 2.19
12:45-13:45	<b>Lunch Break</b>
13:45-15:45	<b>Panels 91-105</b> Janskerkhof 2/3
91. Revisiting Hedayat 2: The Blind Owl - Interpretations and Translations	Room 0.13
92. Law, Space and Subjectivity: Institutional Regulation and the Reconfiguration of Urban Space in Tehran (1850s–1940s)	Room 0.17
93. Teaching Persian in a Changing World Order: Language Education, Cultural Understanding, and Strategic Role of Language	Room 0.19
94. Past and Present: Revisiting the 1979 Iranian Revolution through the Lens of Iran’s Current Sociopolitical Dynamics	Room 0.21
95. Texts of Dominion, Acts of Dissent: Iranian Gender Politics from Andarz to Instagram Title	Room 0.22
96. The Legacy of the Sasanian Empire in Contemporary Iran Through the Perspectives of Language, Art, and Culture	Room 1.09
97. State, Society and Religion under Reza Shah	Room 1.10
98. The 1979 Revolution: Historical Contingencies, Unrealized Possibilities, and Imagined Futures	Room 1.11
99a. Conversation analytic studies of Persian talk-in-interaction: Making visible jointly accomplished practices	Room 1.15
99b. Disinformation and misinformation on social media in Iran	
100. Circuits of Persian Publishing: Materiality, Networks, and Canon Formation	Room 1.16
101. Philology I: Persian and the Critique of Philology	Room 1.17
102. Evolving Traditions: Creativity, Memory, and Musical Agency in the Global Iranian Soundscape	Room 1.18
103. Reimagining Freedom: Gender, Myth, and the Narrative Politics of the “Woman, Life, Freedom” Movement	Room 2.17
104. Beyond Sharia: The role of Sufism in Shaping Islam I	Room 2.18
105. Roundtable: Israel’s June 2025 War on Iran: Reflections on Contested Publics and Media	Room 2.19
15:45-16:00	<b>Coffee Break</b> Janskerkhof 2/3
16:00-18:00	<b>Panels 106-120</b> Janskerkhof 2/3
106. Revisiting Hedayat 3: His Works in Cultural Context	Room 0.13
107. Calligraphy and the Collective Consciousness: Reimagining the Nasta‘īq script as a Cultural Vector	Room 0.17
108. Studies in Early Modern Persian Literature	Room 0.19
109. Propaganda and Cultural Diplomacy in Pahlavi and Post-Revolutionary Iran	Room 0.21
110. Persianate Women in Unexpected Spaces: Sensing Presence and Power	Room 0.22
111. Translation and Multilingualism in the Jewish-Iranian World	Room 1.09
112. Persianate Banaras: An Untold Story of Early Modern Multilingualism	Room 1.10
113. New Approaches to the Persian Majmū‘a(s) and Jung(s) [book compilations]	Room 1.11
114. The Familiar Stranger. Encounters with the Iranian and non-Iranian ‘Other’ in Persian Literature	Room 1.15
115. Persian and German Literary Encounters	Room 1.16
116. Philology II: “World Philology” and the Adab Disciplines	Room 1.17
117. Thinking Farsi-zaban Geographies through Afghanistan: Knowledge Production, Archives, and Politics in Transnational Perspective	Room 1.18
118. Iranian Encounters: Americans with and in Iran, Iranians with America and in the Region	Room 2.17
119. Beyond Sharia: The Role of Sufism in Shaping Islam II	Room 2.18

120. Faith, Culture, and Their Interplay in Iranian Artistic and Literary Traditions

Room 2.19

[Leeuwenbergh, Servaasbolwerk 1a, Utrecht](#) 

18:30-19:30

**Keynote Session**

Leeuwenbergh

**Janet Afary**

“On the 120th Anniversary of the Iranian Constitutional Revolution:  
Reflections from Diaspora”

## Saturday, August 8<sup>th</sup> – Schedule

### Janskerkhof 2/3, Utrecht

8:30-10:30	<b>Panels 121-132</b>	Janskerkhof 2/3
121. Iranian Engagement with Asia and Latin America in Late Qajar and Early Pahlavi Times		Room 0.13
122. On Consumption Across Persian & Arabic Sources		Room 0.17
123. Constraint and Creation: Contemporary Persian Literature and Iranian Cinema as Sites of Social Transformation		Room 0.19
124a. Modern Iranian Intellectual History in an Age of Global History		Room 0.21
124b. Hidden Voices, Veiled Desires: Gender and Eroticism in Early Modern Persian Poetry		
125. Echoes Across Borders: Persian Literature in Comparative Perspective		Room 0.22
126. The Role of Education in the Modernization Project of the Reza Shah Government		Room 1.09
127. New Perspectives on the Iranian Revolution		Room 1.10
128. Unions with the Supernatural in Popular Persian Literature and Devotional Drama		Room 1.17
129. Itinerant Voices: Musico-Poetic Performance On the Borders of Iran		Room 1.18
10:30-10:45	<b>Coffee Break</b>	Janskerkhof 2/3

### Leeuwenbergh, Servaasbolwerk 1a, Utrecht

11:00-12:30	<b>Annual General Meeting</b>	Leeuwenbergh
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## Thursday, August 6<sup>th</sup> – Panel sessions

8:30-10:30

Janskerkhof 2/3

Room 0.13

### 1. Social Sciences in and of Iran: Between Detachment and Presentness

Chair: Asef Bayat,

#### **Overcoming Detachment through Dialogue: The Legacies of the Journal Goftogu**

Kaveh Ehsani

#### **The travels of Frankfurt School Theory in Iran Social Science**

Abbas Verij Kazemi

Room 0.17

### 2. Architectural Technology Transfer on the Silk Road: Iranian Double-Shell Domes and the West

Chair: Hadi Safaeipour

#### **Revisiting the Mausoleum of Oljaytu's Structural System within the Iranian Dome-Making Tradition**

Hadi Safaeipour

#### **From Soltaniyeh to Florence: Historical Contexts for the Transmission of Dome-Building Knowledge**

Lorenzo Vigotti

#### **The Mausoleum of Oljaytu through the Lens of Archival Resources**

Farzad Zerehdaran

#### **The Mausoleum of Oljaytu through the Lens of Scientific Surveys**

by Manizheh Khademi

Room 0.19

### 3. Techno-politics in Iran across the Twentieth and Twenty-First centuries

Chair: Farzin Vejdani, Gunha Kim | Discussant: Mikiya Koyagi

#### **Politics of Suicide Science in Pahlavi Iran**

Gunha Kim

#### **Digital Panopticon and Everyday Resistance : The Hijab Politics of Iranian Women**

Gi Yeon Koo

#### **"We do have engineers": Building the state and technological trust through small technologies in the early-20th century Iran**

Ata Heshmati

#### **Borders of Plunder: Environmental Miscontrol and Infrastructural Violence in Iran**

Rouzbeh Akhbari

Room 0.21

### 4. Entangled Histories: Ottoman-Iranian Encounters across Centuries

Chair: Rudi Matthee, Ayşe Baltacıoğlu-Brammer

#### **"I Am Shah Ismail!": The Pseudo-Shah Ismail Incidents of the Late Sixteenth Century and the Entangled Histories of Anatolia and Iran**

Ayşe Baltacıoğlu-Brammer

#### **Symmetrical Diplomacy: New Gifts between Ottoman-Safavid Courts in a Trade-Oriented Global World**

Sinem Arcak Casale

## **Ottoman Eastern Policy within Sectarian Dynamics in the Early Modern Era**

Habib Saçmalı

## **Constituting Change: Women in the Ottoman and Iranian Constitutional Revolutions**

Serpil Atamaz

Room 0.22

## **5. The Emancipatory Aesthetics of Contemporary Iranian Theatre**

Chair: Saeed Talajooy

### **Staging the Forbidden: Theatre as an Emancipatory Space for Dance, Women's Voice, and Popular Music in Post Revolutionary Iran**

Saeed Talajooy

### **The Syntactic and Lexical Errors in the Persian Media**

Parmis Mozafari

### **From Text to Process: The Politics of Dramaturgy in Contemporary Iranian Theatre (2009–2024)**

Amin Azimi

### **All Languages are one: Linguistic Hybridity, Identity, and Culture in Three Iranian Plays**

Naghmeh Samini

Room 1.09

## **6. Tehranto: Beyond Tehran and Toronto - Iranians in Canada**

Chair: Amin Moghadam, Nima Naghibi

### **Bala shahr ya Paeen shahr? (Uptown or Downtown?): Stories of Iranian Settlement in Tehranto**

Amin Moghadam and Nima Naghibi

### **Healing in fragments: 1.5-generation Iranians' well-being trajectories in diaspora**

Shiva Mazrouei

### **From Kharej to Ghorbat: Migration Dreams and Diasporic Experiences of Iranians in Canada**

Sara Hormozinejad

### **Diaspora politics in Tehranto: an urban analysis of Woman, Life, Freedom movement**

Maryam Lashkari

Room 1.10

## **7. Histories of Circulation: People, Books, and Ideas between Iran and India (1500–1800)**

Chair: Mahdieh Tavakol | Discussant: Sholeh Quinn

### **Eighteenth-Century Circulations: Imprint of the times on manuscripts and its marks in texts**

Mana Kia

### **Collecting Islamic knowledge across seventeenth century western Asia – Muhadhdhib al-Dīn Aḥmad al-Ḥillī al-Baṣrī (d. 1084/1673) and his Majmū'a**

Christopher Bahl

### **Circulating Devotion: Manuscript Endowments across Iran and India (16th–17th c.)**

Mahdieh Tavakol

Room 1.11

## **8. From the Alborz to the Caspian: Environmental Histories of Northern Iran**

Chair: Amit Sadan, Saghar Sadeghian | Discussant: James Gustafson

### **Forestry, Global Scientific Expertise, and State Power during the 1950s and 1960s**

Amit Sadan

**Forests Before Decline: Visual and Textual Traces of the Caspian Forests in Qajar Iran**

Saghar Sadeghian

**The Making of Shomal: Filmfarsi's Role in Crafting a Site of Memory**

Arash M. Avvali

**How can chronicles allow an environmental history of medieval Iran? The example of Ṭabarī's text (839-923)**

Camille Rhoné-Quer

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Room 1.15

**9. Patronage and Governance in Medieval Azerbaijan**

Chair: Colin Mitchell

**The Eldiguzids in the Shaykh Safi al-Din Ardabili Archives**

David Durand-Guédy

**Rehabilitating A Frontier Military Governorship: the Eldiguzids of Azerbaijan**

Colin Mitchell

**Persian Prose at the Eldiguzid Court: Literary Style, Education, and Patronage**

Nasrin Askari

**Reconfiguring Power in Medieval Iran: Gender, Governance, and the Seljuq–Atabeg Transition**

Amin Mahini

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Room 1.16

**10. Authorship, Desire, and Authority in Persian Literary Traditions**

Chair: Abolfazl Moshiri

**Constructing Authorship in Pseudo-Ferdowsi's Yusof and Zolaykhā**

Austin O'Malley

**Authority and the Poetics of Desire in Sanā'ī's Qaṣīdas**

Parisa Zahiremami

**Feminine Desire and Authority in Rumi's Poetics of Love**

Mahdieh Vali Zadeh

**The Third Lion: 'Ārif Chalabī and the Making of Heterodox Authority in the Mevlevi Tradition**

Abolfazl Moshiri

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Room 1.17

**11. Persian Sufi Poetics: Perspectives from within the Tradition**

Chair: Fateme Montazeri

**The Poetics of Piety – 'Ayn al-Qoṣāt Hamadānī and The Sacralization of Persian**

Ahmad Rashid Salim

**Persian verse or Divine names? Forgotten Functions of Abu Said's Quatrains**

Fateme Montazeri

**Keys to the Meanings: Reading the Poetry of Shīrīn Maghribī in Light of His Prose**

Arjun Nair

**Pearls of Meaning, Words of Wonder: Reading the 'Depth Dimension' of Early Persian Sufi Poetry**

Nicholas Boylston

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Room 1.18

## 12. Iranian Studies in Korea

Chair: Yongjeong Kim; Saera Kwak

### **Phonological and Semantic Shifts in Persian–Urdu Vocabulary: An Exploratory Study Conducted as Part of Ongoing Persian Research in Korea**

Taejin Koh

### **Trends in Iranian Studies in Korea: A Quantitative Analysis of Academic Publications**

Dayeon Chu

### **Persian language education in Korea**

Saera Kwak

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Room 2.17

## 13. Economic and Social Policies and Institutions in Iran, 1920s–1970s

Chair: Mary Yoshinari

### **Iran's Postwar Economic Development and the Czech Connection, 1950s–70s**

Mary Yoshinari

### **The Rise of Social Insurance in Iran and the Trans-Iranian Railway's Role, 1920–1940**

Reza Omidi

### **Institutional Weakness and Economic Representation: The Chamber of Commerce in Pahlavi Iran**

Ali Saeidi

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Room 2.18

## 14. Discourse, Narrative, and Global Frames of the 1979 Iranian Revolution

Chair: Claudia Yaghoobi

Discussant: Mehdi Ganjavi

### **The Construction of Revolutionary Discourse in Iranian Press: A Diachronic Discourse Analysis**

Masoumeh Rahimi

### **The Iranian Revolution as a Global Event of Multiplicities (with Niloofer Hooman)**

Dilyana Mincheva

### **From Throne to Theory: Beyond Foucault's Framework in Iranian Revolution Studies**

Kamran Talattof

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Room 2.19

## 15. Transregional intellectual and literary links within the Persian-speaking world in the 19th-20th centuries

Chair: Edmund Herzig, Kamila Akhmedjanova

### **The Concept of Persian Reciprocity in Muhammadjon Shakuri's and Muhammad Osimi's Thought**

Martin Dixon

### **Gharbzadegi and the Decline of Persian Civilization: Jalal Al-e Ahmad's Critique in the Context of Iranian Intellectual Thought**

Iqan Shahidi

### **The legacy of Dilshād Barnā and Ahmad Dānish within the context of 19th-Century Persian-speaking literary and intellectual trends.**

Kamila Akhmedjanova

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10:30 – 10:45

## Coffee Break

10:45-12:45

Janskerkhof 2/3

Room 0.13

### 16. Revisiting Reza Shah's Rule at the Centennial of the Pahlavi Monarchy

Chair: Afshin Matin-Asgari

#### **The First Pahlavi Era: Intended & Unintended Consequences of Social and Religious Reforms**

Janet Afary

#### **State Transition in Iran from the late Qajar to early Pahlavi Periods: Constitutional Experience, Parliamentarism, and Governance**

Ali Gheissari

#### **Significance of Reza Shah?**

Ervand Abrahamian

#### **Understanding Reza Shah through his opponents**

Stephanie Cronin

Room 0.17

### 17. Iranian Art and Material Culture in Switzerland: Toward a New Perspective

Chair: Negar Habibi

#### **Iranian Heritage in Geneva: From Collection to Exhibition**

Negar Habibi

#### **The Transnational Carpets of Ziegler & Co.: Rolling between Tehran and Zürich**

Kimia Maleki

#### **Understanding Museum Representation: Toward a Better Accessibility of Persian Art in Geneva**

Quentin Arnoux

#### **Iranian Art Revisited at the Museum Rietberg**

Axel Langer

Room 0.19

### 18. Innovations and Challenges in Teaching Persian Language and Culture: Interdisciplinary Approaches in Persian Studies

Chair: Azita Taleghani, Mahbod Ghaffari

#### **International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme and Persian Diaspora Students: Preserving or Losing the Mother Tongue**

Fatemeh Faroughi

#### **Using Contemporary Persian Films in Language Teaching: Bridging Linguistic Competence and Cultural Literacy**

Mahbod Ghaffari

#### **Persian Performed: Performance Pedagogies across Song and Stage**

Behzad Borhan

#### **Teaching Cultural Narratives through Women-Centered Iranian Films: A Cultural Semiotic Approach for Course Content Design**

Shadi Shajiei

**19. Constructors of an Image**

Chair: Juan Cole

**Algernon Swinburne's Rubáiyát: Sexual Liberation and Political Liberty**

Juan Cole

**Threshold Goddesses: Climbing the gates of Tehran University, March '79**

Negar Mottahedeh

**Western Travelers to the Court of Timur**

Sholeh Quinn

**Dutch Perspectives on Safavid Iran**

Rudi Matthee

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**20. Gendered Constraints and Aesthetic Expression in Iranian Film and Visual Production**

Chair: Adela Chiru

**Gendered Expressions in Music Videos by Payam Ghorbani**

Siavash Rokni

**Touch without Touching: Poetic Resistance and the Aesthetics of the Unseen in Maryam Tafakory's Films**

Adela Nicoleta Chiru

**Aesthetics of Metareflexivity, Deliberation, and Affective Liminality as Forms of Expression under Gendered Censorship**

Maryam Kolly

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**21. The Politics of Positionality: Critique and Self-Critique in the Study of the Iranian Diaspora in Western Europe, Turkey and Canada**

Chair: Rasmus Christian Elling

**Honorary Insider, Emphatically Outsider: Positionality and Ethnography in the Iranian Diaspora in Denmark**

Rasmus Christian Elling

**"Open to Work": Iranian Women Activists Facing Defunding Measures under Trump 2.0**

Kristin Soraya Batmanghelichi

**How Universal Are Research Ethics?**

Minoo Mirshahvalad

**Building Trust and Conducting Critical Research in Polarized Diaspora Communities: Navigating Iranian Identity Politics in Canada**

Ehsan Kashfi

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**22. The Letter and the Spirit: Law, Legal Norms, and the Making of Modern Iran, 1919-1979**

Chair: Peyman Jafari, Bitá Mousavi

**The Legal Life of Land**

Bitá Mousavi

**Swinging like a State: the International Labor Organization and Iran's Quest for Sovereignty, 1919-75**

Zep Kalb

**Human Rights Tribunals**

Arash Davari

**The Constitutional Struggle over the Economy in Post-Revolutionary Iran**

Vahid Mazdeh

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Room 1.11

**23. Unpackaging Modernisation: the Manifestations of Reform in Iran, 1900-79**

Chair: Siavush Randjbar-Daemi, Guan Kiong Teh

**The gender politics of British and US relations with Iran during the Constitutional Revolution, 1905-11.**

Jan-Willem Gray

**The 'national car' and its discontents: Mohammad Reza Shah's development of the Iran National Peykan, 1965-79.**

Guan Kiong Teh

**From Mostofi to Ebtehaj: The Changing Face of the Iranian Bureaucrat, 1900-1966**

Hannah Hassani

**Myth, Meaning, and Future: Pahlavi's Iconography and Persian Revivalism in Times of Crisis**

Bitá Nienhaus - Naghashian

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Room 1.15

**24. New approaches and methods in the study of modern Iranian history**

Chair: Khosrow Tousi, Robert Steele

**Writing or re-writing history? Revisionism in the historiography of Pahlavi Iran and the Iranian Revolution**

Robert Steele

**Iran Air and Aviation Diplomacy: Rewriting Iran Cold War History**

Golbarg Rekabtalaei

**Performing the Past: The (Auto)Biographical Construction of Theatre History**

Anna Dorothee Heller

**Iran and Global Environmental History: Past, Present and Future Trajectories**

Mattin Biglari

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Room 1.16

**25. Iran's Layered Temporality in European Women's Travel-Writing (1888-1936)**

Chair: Julia Hartley, Firoozeh Kashani-Sabet

**The Temporality of Archaeology according to Jane Dieulafoy**

Julia Hartley

**Time and space, antiquity and modernity in Vita Sackville-West's Iran**

Lindsay Allen

**Everyday Modernity: Freya Stark, Visual Politics, and the Edges of Empire in Iran**

Michelle Clement

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Room 1.17

## 26. Language, Power, and Resistance: The Kurdish Struggle Through Translation

Chair: Farangis Ghaderi

### Reading Franz Kafka in Kurdistan

Haidar Khezri

### Politics of translation from Kurdish: challenges and opportunities of translating from under-represented languages

Kareem Abdulrahman

### Ulysses in Kurdish: Kawa Nemir's Kurmanji Translation of James Joyce's Novel: Linguistic strategies, Language Revitalization, Political Resistance

Margreet Dorleijn

### Translation as Political Agency in Multicultural Contexts: Rethinking Power and Voice in Contemporary Iran

Azad Rahim Hajiagha

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Room 1.18

## 27. Critical Approaches to Sensory Histories of Iran

Chair: Laudan Nooshin | Discussant: Amir Moosavi

### Embodies Verses: A Sensory Exploration of the Exilic Mode in Afghan and Iranian Exile Poetry

Fatemeh Shams

### The Sounds and Silences of Qajar-era Executions

Farzin Vejdani

### Listening Iran: Radio and the Aural Social Life of Pahlavi Iran, 1930s-1940s

Babak Rahimi

### Petrosonic Modernity: Cinema, Sound, and Everyday Life in Abadan (1920s–1979)

Armaghan Fakhraeirad

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Room 2.17

## 28. Iranian Politics and International Relations (20th–21st Century)

Chair: Neda Jahanbani

### Mixed Messages: The United States and Iran's Framing of Sanctions During Trump's Maximum Pressure Campaign

Neda Jahanbani

### Modernizing the Orient: Iran, the United States, and the Politics of Development, 1960–1979

Reza H. Akbari

### Sanctions and the Political Economy of Disillusionment: Iran's Student Movement in Retrospect

Vahid Abedini

### The emerging Iranian-Israeli conflict and the GCC

Arash Azizi

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Room 2.18

## 29. Resurrections of Kings and Heroes: Epic Narratives, Transmediality, and Cultural Memory Across Media

Chair: Naghmeh Esmaeilpour

### Transmediality and Resurrections of Kings and Heroes in Video Games

Naghmeh Esmaeilpour

**Chupā Rostam: 'The Hidden Rostam' in South Asian Cultural Imagination**

Fatima Fayyaz

Room 2.19

**30. Zoroastrianism: contacts and interchange between India and Iran**

Chair: Jaime Martínez Porro

**The Persian Revāyāt: Names, Letters, and Networks**

Niloofer Homayoonzad

**Avestan manuscript contacts between India and Iran**

Jaime Martínez Porro

**The Peri (Fairy) Women's Ritual Tables: Folk Practice in Zoroastrian Communities of Iran and India**

Ramin Shahzadi

12:45 – 13:45

Lunch Break

13:45-15:45

Janskerkhof 2/3

Room 0.13

**31. Indo-Persianate Wisdom and Esoteric Zoroastrianism in Modern Iran and India**

Chair: Mohamad Tavakoli, Delbar Khakzad

**Illuminating Modern Science: The Legacy of Azar Kayvan and Indo-Persian Wisdom in Revisiting Islamic Cosmology**

Delbar Khakzad

**Masters of the Unseen: Religious Revelation and Social Recognition of Minocher Pundol**

Mariano Errichiello

**The Sound of Silence: Meher Baba's Doctrine of Language between Zoroastrianism and Universal Religion**

Afshin Marashi

**On Illumination and Transcendence: Suhrawardi in 19th-Century America**

Daniel Sheffield

Room 0.17

**32. Navigating the Margins: A Transnational Perspective on Iranian Women's Music-Making**

Chair: Hadi Milanloo

**Transnational Transformations: Women and Iranian Classical Music in Canada**

Hadi Milanloo

**Singing Under Surveillance: Women's Music Education and Resistance in Post-Revolutionary Iran**

Sepideh Raissadat

**The Politics of Musical Participation: An Ethnographic Research on the situation of Female Singers in Post-Revolutionary Iran**

Yalda Yazdani

**Creating from the Margin: A Feminist Reading of Limitation and Possibility in Iranian Music**

Solmaz Shakerifard

Room 0.19

### **33. Creative, Tenacious Lion Women of Iran (SHIR ZANAN-E IRAN)**

Chair: Mary Elaine Hegland

#### **Gender Dynamics in Traditional and Cross-Border Kurdish Music**

Parang Farazmand

#### **From Safe Space to Stronger Together: The Story of an Iranian Women's Activist Network**

Jamileh Davoudi

#### **The Subtle Struggles of Ordinary Baluch Women**

Azadeh Kian

#### **From Village Circles to Digital Streets: Translocal Iranian Feminism in the Vernacular**

Janet Bauer

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Room 0.21

### **34. Roundtable: Iranian Masculinities Across Time - Part I**

Chair: John W.I. Lee

#### **Negotiating Patriarchy, Performing Masculinity: Reconstructing Male Body and Identity in the Art of Khosrow Hassanzādeh and Fereydoun Ave**

Delaram Hosseinioun

#### **Patriarchal Masculinity, Iranian Fatherhood, and the Challenge of Modern Education**

Sivan Balslev

#### **The Gender-benders of Samak-e 'Ayyār: Cross-dressing, Female Masculinity, and Transgender Capacity in a Premodern Persian Prose Romance**

Alexandra Hoffmann

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Room 0.22

### **35. Mapping the Imaginary of the Iranian World in Spain: Space, Borders, and Ethnicities**

Chair: Farshad Zahedi, Fernando Camacho Padilla

#### **Ethnic and Religious Minorities from the Iranian World in Spain: Making Perceptions and Visibility Count**

Fernando Camacho Padilla

#### **Visualizing Borders on the Spanish Screen: Human and Political Frontiers in Ghobadi's *Turtles Can Fly* (2005)**

Farshad Zahedi

#### **Iraqi Kurds, the Curse of Borders in Middle East**

Yashmina María Shawki-Aziz Gómez

#### **Imaginary of the Kurdistan Region of Iraq in Spain in the 21st Century**

Darya Monastyrskaya

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Room 1.09

### **36. The Iranian diaspora: Intersections, Dialogues, and Perspectives from Spain**

Chair: Sheida Besozzi

#### **"Persian Sevillanas": Music as an Archive of Iranian Transgenerational Diasporic Trauma in Spain**

Leila Marandi Lopez

#### **Iranian Diaspora Non-Activism: an intersectional reading of human rights activism from Spain**

Sheida Besozzi

#### **From Page to Stage: Iranian Cultural Production and Diasporic Belonging in Spain**

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**37. Transfer of Knowledge in Indo-Persian Sources I**

Chair: Alberto Tiburcio

**Reading Shi'i Akhlaq in the Deccan: The Translation of the Makārim al-akhlāq in the Jung-i Quṭub-Shāhī**

Alberto Tiburcio

**The Nujūm al-'ulūm: translation and compilation in an encyclopedia from the Deccan**

Eva Orthmann

**Reading Ibn Khallikān's Wafayāt al-A'yān in Persian: Translation Practices in Late Fifteenth-Century Western India**

Philip Bockholt

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Room 1.11

**38. The Transnational Fabric of the Iranian Revolution: Micro-Historical Perspectives**

Chair: Kamila Akhmedjanova, Ashkan Hashemipour

**Revolutionaries without Borders: A Transnational History of the Iranian Guerrilla Movement (1963-1979)**

Ashkan Hashemipour

**The Transnational Foundations of the Islamic Republic of Iran's Bureaucracy**

Guillaume Beaud

**Between Boroujerdi and Khomeini: Institutional Developments and Revolutionary Formation in the Qom Seminary, 1961–1979**

Abid Zaidi

**The Tudeh Party in 1970s Britain: Comrades from Afar**

Rowena Abdul Razak

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Room 1.15

**39. Circulation of Knowledge in Persian between Anatolia and China**

Chair: Iskandar Ding, Aslisho Qurboniev

**Figures of Speech in the Khatāynāmeḥ**

Ruinong Yin

**Persian Texts from Alamut: Reconsidering Narratives of Loss and Evidence of Survival**

Aslisho Qurboniev

**Persianizing Encyclopedic Knowledge: Quṭb al-Dīn al-Shīrāzī's Durrat al-Tāj's from the Ilkhanate to the Persianate World**

Carina Dreyer

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Room 1.16

**40. The Many Faces of Kaveh: Power, Myth and Resistance Across Borders**

Chair: Alyssa Gabbay

**Kaveh and Kurdish Horror**

Edith Szanto

**Who Empowers Kaveh? The Popular Reception of Kaveh the Blacksmith in Naqqāli**

Kumiko Yamamoto

**Reforging myth: The After-lives of Kāveh the Blacksmith in Iranian, Kurdish, and Tajik nationalisms**

D Gershon Lewental

**Zhan Zhian Azadi: The Revival of an Ancient Myth**

Sara Molaie

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Room 1.17

**41. “Citizens of the World”: Modern Kurdish Literature Between Different Languages, Genres and Countries**

Chair: Joanna Bocheńska

**Enacting Kurdish Poetry in Kurdish Cinema: Arjen Arî’s Poems and Bilal Korkut’s Film Bîraxane as Examples of Interrelated Heritage-Making**

Joanna Bochenska

**From Love Quest to World Map: Literary Cartography in Bakhtiar Ali’s Mansion of the Sad Birds**

Ebrahim Barzegar

**A Kurdish Poetics of Witnessing Catastrophe with Sultan Yaray, Choman Hardi, and Ronya Othmann**

Hevin Karakurt

**“Erased from the margins”: Reclaiming Kurdish Women’s Place in the Canon**

Farangis Ghaderi

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Room 1.18

**42. Learning Across Borders: Activism, Family, and Knowledge in the Iranian Diaspora**

Chair: Shirin Vossoughi

**Pedagogies of Political Life: Leftist Families and Intergenerational Learning in the Iranian Diaspora**

Mona Hajnaghizadeh, Shirin Vossoughi, and Mahdi Ganjavi

**Ordinary Women and Dominant Diasporic Narratives: Voices from the Zan, Zendegi, Azadi Movement**

Shima Tadrissi

**Becoming and Being an Activist: Stories of Exile and In-Between Belonging among Iranian Women**

Azadeh Pourzand

**Iranian Families Navigating Language, Identity, and Belonging in the United States**

Yalda M. Kaveh

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Room 2.17

**43. Zoroastrianism and Iranian Literary Traditions: Continuity, Transformation, and Memory**

Chair: Manya Saadi-Nejad

**Zarathustra Across Time: Tradition, Adaptation, and Narrative**

Massimiliano Vassalli

**The Legacy of Miθra for the Iranian Nationalist Sentiment**

Nina Mazhjo

**Ancient Iranian Mythological and Religious Reminiscences in the Medieval Georgian Chronicle “Life of Kartli”**

Helen Giunashvili

**The Primal Man and the Dragon: Zoroastrian Mythological Motifs in the Šāh-nāme**

Manya Saadi-Nejad

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**44. Diversity and Modernity in Contemporary Shi'i Iranian Thought and Practice**

Chair: Meir Litvak

**Apostasy in Modern Iranian-Shi'i Discourse**

Meir Litvak

**Beyond the Epic of Karbala: The Political Myth of Imam Hasan's Peace as a Vehicle for Justifying Compromise in the Islamic Republic of Iran**

Omer Carmi

**"Resisting and Embracing Existence and Historicity: Contemporary Iranian Intellectuals and the Lessons of Heidegger"**

Ezra Tzfadya

**"Tradition, Belonging, and Cultural Agency: Voices from Azeri Iran"**

Elisheva Machlis

Room 2.19

**45. Bridging Scholarship and Devotion: The Twelver Shi'i Supplication (du'ā) Corpus in its Persianate Context**

Chair: Sarah Aziz

**Transforming Prayer: An Inquiry into Quṭbuddīn Nayrīzī's (d. 1173/ 1760) Poetic Reconfiguration of Du'ā-yi Ṣabāḥ**

Sarah Aziz

**Technologies of Du'ā': Bilingualism and the Aesthetics of Supplication**

Rana Ghuloom

**The devotional confessions of an Infallible Imam: A Study of Safavid Era Du'ā' Commentary**

Vinay Khetia

**Guiding Spirits, Guarding Doctrine: Reading Muḥammad Karīm Khān Kirmānī's (d. 1288/1871) 'Ilāj al-arwāḥ in Qajar Iran**

Gianni Izzo

**15:45 – 16:00****Coffee Break****16:00-18:00****Janskerkhof 2/3**

Room 0.13

**46. Israel-US War against Iran**

Chair: Dominic Parviz Brookshaw &amp; Asghar Seyed-Gohrab

Speakers and titles will be announced later

Room 0.17

**47. Sensuous Sheets: Decorated Papers in Premodern Manuscript Cultures**

Chair: Ilse Sturkenboom

**Motifs in Motion: Stencilled Designs in Persianate Manuscripts**

Theresa Zischkin

**Silhouetted Paper: A Lost Tradition of Royally Favoured Decoration**

Negar Kazemipourleilabadi

**Turco-Persian Masked Marbling and Its Impact**

Jake Benson

**Meanings of 'Chinese' paper in Timurid-era manuscripts and in Ming China**

Ilse Sturkenboom (co-authored with Yih-chuen Liao)

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Room 0.19

**48. Iranian Queer Imaginaries Across Media**

Chair: Ladan Rahbari

**Scripts from the Foyer: Deferred Liberation of queer and trans Iranians**

Faezeh Daemi

**From Visibility to Care: The Emergence of a Queer Iranian Counterpublic through Early Queer Magazines (1990s–2000s)**

Meraj Sharifi

**"Persistent Moves: Trans\* Narratives on Iranian Screen"**

Shekoufeh Behbehani

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Room 0.21

**49. Roundtable: Iranian Masculinities Across Time - Part II**

Chair: Haleh Emrani

**Mainstream Masculinities in 1990s Iranian Popular Cinema and Society**

Nacim Pak

**Recasting Heroes: The Shāhnāmeḥ and Emerging Iranian Masculinities**

Karolina Rakowiecka-Asgari

**Who is my desired man in intellectual cinema?**

Khatereh Sheibani

**Ekhraghi-ha (The Outcasts): The Role of the 'Lat' in Constructing the 'Ideal Man' of the Islamic Republic's Discourse**

Ali Papolizyazdi

**Governable Masculinities: Iranian Cinema Between Neoliberalism and State Ideology**

Mozhgan Fazli

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Room 0.22

**50. Cultural Psychopathology: Negotiating with Power and the Unconscious Structures of Social Order in Iran**

Chair: Mahrou Zhaf

**Obedience and Defiance in the Consulting Room: The Politics of Authority in the Iranian Therapeutic Relationship**

Fatemeh Hosseini Ghaffari

**Intergenerational Transmission of Hierarchical Dynamics: Mothers' Emotion Socialization Practices in a Collectivist Context**

Fateme Aghaie

**The Pedagogy of Humiliation: Shame, Authority, and the Colonial Unconscious in Psychoanalytic Training in Iran**

Arash Mohagheghi

**The Pleasure of Power: Cultural Sadomasochism and the Iranian Social Unconscious"**

Mahrou Zhaf

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Room 1.09

**51. Diasporic Revolutionary Imaginaries and Woman Life Freedom Uprising**

Chair: Nader Talebi

**Jina Revolutionary Momentum and the Question of (Transnational) Solidarity**

Nader Talebi

**Regressive Imaginaries of Return: Iranian Nationalism, Iranian Diaspora, and the Rupture of Woman, Life, Freedom**

Ali Niroumand

**Willful Self-Exile as Feminist Resistance in the Iranian Diaspora**

Bahar Oghalai

**Hip-hop, Revolution and Diaspora**

Aryasp Delvarani

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Room 1.10

**52. Transfer of Knowledge in Indo-Persian Sources II**

Chair: Alberto Tiburcio

**First Organ of Life: Indo-Persian Medical Science on Embryogenesis**

Mohammad Golshan

**Sanskrit Nights: The Fourth Chapter of Kalyāṇamalla's *Sulaimaccaritra* and Its Sources**

Fabio Pagliani

**The Rise and Fall of the Barmakids: Humour, Statecraft, and Memory in a Forgotten Indo-Persian Manuscript**

Arezou Azad

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Room 1.11

**53. Persian literature of the early Ilkhanate: stories of rebellion and poems of decline**

Chair: Stefan Kamola

**Jūzjānī and his Mongol Sources. On Some Mongol Narratives from the *Ṭabaqāt-i Nāṣirī***

Simon Berger

**Astrological visions of Chinggis Khan from the margins of the Ilkhanate**

Stefan Kamola

**Religious Revolt in the Mongol Empire: The Cases of Maḥmūd Tārābī and Sharaf al-Dīn Ibrāhīm**

Tobias Jones

**Spring and Upheaval: Politics and Poetic Voice in Vaṣṣāf's *Bahār-nāma***

Sara Mirahmadi

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Room 1.15

**54. Dimensions of the Iran-Iraq War and Its Extensions: Bottom-up Perspectives on Unintended Consequences of Strategic Decisions and Encounters**

Chair: Yasuyuki Matsunaga

**Khormashahr, Khomeini, and His Forever War**

Mateo Mohammad Farzaneh

**Revisiting the 1988 Halabja Attack: How the Activities of the Qarargah Ramazan Inadvertently Helped to Cause It**

Yasuyuki Matsunaga

**Beyond the Trigger: Iraqi Soldiers, Civilian Networks, and the Unfolding of the 1991 Uprising**

Amir Taha

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Room 1.16

**55. Persian Manuscripts under the Microscope: Problems of Identification, Transmission, and Interpretation**

Chair: Shiva Mihan, Maria Subtelny

**The Problem of the Unicum: A Manuscript of the Persian Translation of the Pseudo-Aristotelian Kitāb al-siyāsa fī tadbīr al-riyāsa, known as Sīr al-asrār, from the Ottoman Palace Library**

Maria Subtelny

**Marginal Designs as Liminal Bodies in the "World" of the Persian Illustrated Manuscript**

Michael Chagnon

**A 'period's Eye': An Early Safavid Manuscript of Aḥsan al-kibār and its Paintings**

Ruba Kana'an

**Timurid Historiography: Ḥāfiẓ Abrū and the Chronicles of Bāysunghur**

Shiva Mihan

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Room 1.17

**56. Idols, Lovers, and Manuscripts: Reassessing the Early Persian Romance Tradition**

Chair: Kristof Szitar

**How to Be a Non-Man? Constructions of Masculinity and Gender in the Pornographic Mathnawī Alfiyya u Shalfiyya**

Kristof Szitar

**An early Persian verse narrative in mutaḳārib - the Humāynāma**

Gabrielle Van den Berg

**Paronomasia in the Narrative Poem of 'Ayyūqī: Stylistic Reflections and Reconsiderations**

Dario Mazzocchi

**'Unṣurī at the Border: Reappraising His Project as a Writer of Romance**

Cameron Cross

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Room 1.18

**57. Shahnameh Beyond Borders**

Chair: Noonik Darbinian

**On Kurdish Narratives of Rostam Zal**

Tereza Amryan

**Armenian versions of "Shahnameh"**

Arpine Arushanyan

**"Reinterpreting the Shahnameh in the Contemporary Global Political and Cultural Sphere"**

Noonik Darbinian

**Naqqāli, narrating or acting?**

Mohammadali Mirzaee Jadideslami

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Room 2.17

## 58. Connectivity and Mobility in the Premodern Iranian World

Chair: Olga M. Davidson, Ilex Project

**Achilles, Hector and the Wooden Horse in Rāy: The Account of the Siege of Troy in al-Ḥaṭīb al-Iskāfī's Luṭf al-tadbīr**

Marianna Zarantonello

**Reception Histories Compared II: 'Life of Ferdowsi' and 'Life of Homer' Narratives**

Gregory Nagy

**Reception Histories Compared I: 'Life of Ferdowsi' and 'Life of Homer' Narratives**

Olga Davidson

**The Works of Ibn al-Muqaffa' and the Book Pahlavi Corpus**

Thomas Benfey

Room 2.18

## 59. Challenges in Studying Religions of Modern Iran

Chair: Marcin Rzepka, Paulina Niechciał

**Reconceptualizing Religion: Introducing the Themes of the Báb's Persian Bayan**

Navid Fozi

**Challenges in Studying Modern Zoroastrianism**

Paulina Niechciał

**The Oxford Handbook of Modern Iranian Religions – Editorial Reflections on a Work in Progress**

Benedikt Römer

Room 2.19

## 60. Popular Shi'i Observances: Narrative, Ritual, and Identity in Early Modern and Contemporary Iran

Chair: Najm Yousefi

**Rowḍeh as Social Commentary and Dissent**

Najm Yousefi

**Amīr Pāzvārī: Memory, Identity, and Vernacular Shi'ism in Mazandaran**

Nazak Birjandifar

**Contesting Twelver Shii Devotional Practices in Contemporary Iran**

Oliver Scharbrodt

**From Martyrdom to Mystical Manifestation**

Reza Tabandeh

18:15 – 19:15

**Keynote Christine van Ruymbeke**

"Changes, challenges and opportunities. Persian literary studies in this second quarter of the 21st century."

Leeuwenbergh

Servaasbolwerk  
1a, Utrecht 

## Friday, August 7<sup>th</sup> – Panel sessions

8:30-10:30

Janskerkhof 2/3

Room 0.13

### 61. Enduring Signs: Text, Image, and the Afterlives of the Ancient Iranian World

Chair: Touraj Daryaee

#### The “Eyes of the King” in Late Antique Iran

Touraj Daryaee

#### Recasting Antiquity: Visual Mediation and the National Imagination in Iran, 1900–1925

Amirali Ardekanian

#### The Magical Function of Nishapur Ceramics in Relation to Zoroastrian and Jewish Healing Bowls

Simin Amini

#### From Ornament to Sign: The Sasanian Diadem and the Semiotics of Kingship

Layah ZiaiiBigdeli

Room 0.17

### 62. Negotiating Modernity through Space: Reform, Gender, Perception, and Representation in Nineteenth-Century Qajar Iran

Chair: Robert Steele

#### Women and the Quiet Reformation of Qajar Madrasas

Maryam Heydarkhani

#### Mapping Modernity: Cartography, Power, and the Representation of Urban Space in Qajar Tehran

Boshra Moossavi

#### Architecture and the Desire for Political Reform: Sepahsalar’s Architectural Ideas

Mahnam Najafi

#### The Relationship with the West, the Transformation of Spatial Perception, and Its Manifestation in Architecture

Sahra Aberi Zahed

Room 0.19

### 63. Short Story as Material for Teaching Persian as a Foreign Language

Chair: Mahdi Touraj, Pouneh Shabani-Jadidi

#### The Persian Short Story and Translation: Journey to course development

Pouneh Shabani-Jadidi

#### Improving Language Skills and Enriching Literature Learning through Short Stories: A Data-Driven Strategy for Persian Second Language and Contemporary Literature Classes

Azita H. Taleghani

#### Teaching Persian through Short Stories: When Worlds of Words Collide

Yass Alizadeh

#### Harnessing the Power of Short Stories in the Persian Language Classroom: Strategies for Maximized Student Engagement and Proficiency Development

Nahal Akbari

Room 0.21

#### **64. Iran in the Second World War**

Chair: Rudi Matthee, Elena Andreeva

##### **The “Persian corridor” in photographs made by Western Allies**

Elena Andreeva

##### **A Path Dependent Perspective on Occupation and Famine in Wartime Iran: The Roots of Delayed Development, Aspirational Independence, and Anti-Imperialist Ideology**

Eric Lob

##### **Peering Through the Cracks. Polish Musicians in Tehran 1942 to 1945: The Case of Irena Valdi-Gołębiowska**

Laudan Nooshin

##### **The battle that never was: Iran in the British and German grand strategy, 1939-1943**

Roman Siebertz

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Room 0.22

#### **65. Navigating the Persianate Cosmopolis: Pre-modern and Modern Ottoman Intellectuals in the Face of Persian Cultural and Scientific Heritage**

Chair: Ahmet Baris Ekiz

##### **Philosophy and Empire: Ottoman Engagements with Persian Metaphysics in the Age of Rival Sovereignties**

Ahmet Baris Ekiz

##### **Late Ottoman Persophilia: The Case of Feylesof Rıza Tevfik (Bölükbaşı)**

Mert Aydemir

##### **Redrawing the Border: Diplomatic and Historiographic Developments in Mehmed Tahir Münif Pasha’s Iranian Epistle**

Kyle Capps

##### **War, Diplomacy, and Hostility: Ottoman Perceptions of Iran in Mehmed Refi Efendi’s Sefâretnâme**

Gul Banu Kayir Ucsu

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Room 1.09

#### **66. The Constitutional Revolution (1906–11) and Beyond – Spatial, Temporal, and Relational Dimensions**

Chair: Salomé Michel, Anja Pistor-Hatam

##### **Advocates from afar? Iranians in Egypt and the Constitutional Revolution (1906-1911)**

Sara Zanotta

##### **The Legacy of Anti-Constitutionalism in the Twentieth-Century Iranian Discourse on Islamic Council (showra)**

Alisa Shablovskaia

##### **The constitutional movement from below: the case of Khurasan**

Nader Sohrabi

##### **Between Tolerance and Intolerance: Heterodox Intellectuals and the Constitutional Movement in Iran**

Anja Pistor-Hatam

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Room 1.10

#### **67. Broadening histories of Iran in the long nineteenth century through the study of commodities**

Chair: Joanna de Groot

**Threading gender with 'history from below': textile histories as pathways to gendered social histories of nineteenth century Iran**

Joanna de Groot

**The Rise of Qajar Rule in Gilan: A Merchants' Revolt?**

Kevin Gledhill

**Peasants, Peddlers, and Purveyors in the Social History of Opium in Qajar Iran**

Ranin Kazemi

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Room 1.11

**68. Translating Identities: Iranian Jews Between Community, Nation, and Diaspora**

Chair: Lior Sternfeld, Isabelle Headrick

**Cultural Friction and Mutual Support in Wartime: Iranian Jews and the Alliance Israélite Universelle During World War I**

Isabelle Headrick

**The Iranian Jewish Journalist between the Communal, National, and Ideological**

Daniel Amir

**Judeo-Persian Translations of the Bible from the Vecchiotti Collection at the Bibliothèque nationale de France**

Jason Mokhtarian

**The Question of Jewish Iranian Zionist Identity in Iran, 1944–1947**

Sarah Nehzati

**Iranian Jews and the Making of Tehrangeles**

Lior Sternfeld

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Room 1.15

**69. New Perspectives on Endangered Iranian Languages of Eastern Transcaucasia and Central Asia**

Chair: Hakob Avchyan

**Who Owns What? Possessive Constructions in Northern Talyshi (Anbarāni and Lankarani Dialects)**

Hakob Avchyan

**The Yaghnobi Mirror to the Sogdian 'Have-Perfect': Preliminary Observations**

Iskandar Ding

**Tracing the origins of the different converb systems in the dialects of Caucasian Tat**

Artyom Tonoyan

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Room 1.16

**70. The Eloquent Body: Rewriting Love, Gender, and Eroticism in Indo-Persian Narratives**

Chair: Mehdi Sham Roshan

**In Between Problem and Protest: Employing Sexually Reductive Language against an Authoritarian Regime**

Shubham Goswami

**Pedagogy of the Body and Polity of the Soul: The Female Figure in Jāmī's Haft Awrang**

Farinaz Kavianifar

**The Body as a Political Text: Sovereignty and Suffering in Amir Khusraw's Deval Rānī Khizr Khān**

Mehdi Sham Roshan

**Feminine Wiles, Authorial Hands: Gender Dialectics in Nakhshabi's Ṭuṭīnāma**

Sajedah Hosseini

Room 1.17

**71. Persian Literary Domination and Vernacular Resistance: Case Studies from Kurdish, Baluchi, Pashto and Shughni**

Chair: Michiel Leezenberg

**The process of standardizing the Shughni language and the policy towards minority languages in Tajikistan**

Zuzanna Blajet

**Beyond Persian: Reclaiming Afghanistan's Vernacular Histories.**

Mateusz Klagisz

**Classical Kurdish Poetry as Subaltern World Literature: The Case of Ehmedê Xanî's Mem û Zîn**

M.M. Leezenberg

Room 1.18

**72. Speculative Iran: Between haunting and futurity**

Chair: Babak Rahimi

**Haunting Futures: Folk Horror and Collective Paranoia in Arsalan Amiri's Zalava (2021)**

Maryam Ghorbankarimi

**Uprising of the Thirsty: Speculative Mourning and the Afterlives of Water in Iran's Environmental Protests**

Bahar Abdi

**Chronic Refusal: Chronic Bodies as Transnational Figures of Resistance across 19th Century Iran and the Americas**

Nilufar Karimi

Room 2.17

**73. Working Around the Sanctions in and Around Iran**

Chair: Moslem Ghomashlouyan

**Workarounds: Cryptocurrencies, Trade, and Leapfrogging in and around Sanctioned Iran**

Moslem Ghomashlouyan

**Lingering hopes; Iranian women's multi-entrepreneurship and their negotiations of boundaries set by sanctions**

Elaheh Eslami

Room 2.18

**74. Reason, Revelation, and Revival: Esoteric Hermeneutics from Nāṣir-i Khusraw to Rūmī and the Present**

Chair: Daryoush Mohammad Poor, Rahim Gholami

**Striking with Part of It: Rūmī's Re-readings of Qur'ān 2:67–73 in the Mathnawī**

Rahim Gholami

**Empowerment under Constraint: Ismaili Women's Responses to Educational Barriers in Iran**

Maryam Rezaee

**"Are you in obeisance or not?" Navigating Egyptian Politics with Nāṣir-i Khusraw.**

Alice Hunsberger

**Reconciling Faith and Intellect: Nāṣir-i Khusraw's Rationalism**

Daryoush Mohammad Poor

Room 2.19

**75. Between Conformity and Resistance: Cultural and Institutional Performances of Power in Post-Revolutionary Iran**

Chair: Nima Rahmani

**Social Resistance Patterns in Kurdistan: A Historical Reappraisal of Social Struggle and Cultural Resistance in Kurdistan after the 1979 Revolution**

Mohammadreza Rahimi

**Aesthetics of Resistance and Reaction: Protest Music in the Woman, Life, Freedom Movement and the Twelve-Day Iran–Israel War**

Melika Moghaddam

**Reflection of Iranian Women's Issues in the Mirror of Scientific Articles from the 2010s : A Critical Review of Sociological Studies in the Field of Women and Its Relation to the University Institution.**

Sepideh Rasekhan

**Performing Hypocrisy: Cultural and Institutional Dimensions of Taqiyya in Iran's Political Modernity**

Nima Rahmani Ghanavizbaf

10:30 – 10:45

Coffee Break

10:45-12:45

Janskerkhof 2/3

Room 0.13

**76. Revisiting Hedayat 1: His Drawings, and Art in his Fiction**

Chair: Nasrin Rahimieh

**The Writer as a Painter: Sadeq Hedayat's Drawings During His Sojourn in France (1928–30)**

Marta Simidchieva

**The Lonely Gazelle: Visual Experimentation of Sadegh Hedayat**

Marziyeh Kameli

**Persian Visual Motifs Translated in The Blind Owl**

Shafiqeh Keivan

Room 0.17

**77. Concepts and Narratives in the Historiography of Iranian Art and Architecture**

Chair: Reza Masoudi Nejad, Haleh Hajyasini

**Rereading Sarāmadān-e Honar; Uncovering the Hidden Logic of the First Modern Historiography of Iranian Art and Architecture**

Shima Boka

**Key Notions of "Iranian Architecture" in Twentieth-Century Scholarship**

Haleh Hajyasini

**Conceptualizing the White Revolution in Iranian Architectural Historiography**

Marziyeh Bazyar

Room 0.19

## **78. Roundtable Festschrift in honour of Houchang Chehabi**

**Chair:** Roham Alvandi

**Participants:** Afshin Marashi, David Motadel, Olga Davidson, Babak Fozoon, Afshin Matin-Asgari, Nahid Siamdoust, Robert Steele, Lior Sternfeld, Farzin Vejdani

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Room 0.21

## **79. Social Histories of Technology and the Environment**

**Chair:** James M. Gustafson

**Environmental Engineering as Anti-Colonial Resistance: Mirza Riza Muhandis' 1904 Report on the Newcomen Mission**

James M. Gustafson

**The German Factory Persische Teppich-Gesellschaft (PETAG): A laboratory for Technological Intervention in Early Twentieth Century Iran**

Fatemeh Masjedi

**Synthetic Society: PVC Production and the Promotion of Plastics in Iran**

Ciruce Movahedi-Lankarani

**"The Amsterdam of Iran": The Provincial and National Politics of Cycling in Isfahan**

Mikiya Koyagi

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Room 0.22

## **80. The Afterlife of Sadi Shirazi's Legacy in the Persianate World: Print Culture in the 19th and Early 20th Centuries**

**Chair:** Roxana Zenhari

**Commentaries on the Gulistan: Print Culture and Interpretation in Colonial India**

Zahra Shah

**Reproducing Sa'di Shirazi in Lithographed Artifacts of the Persianate World: Tehran, Tashkent and Lucknow**

Roxana Zenhari

**The Ethics of Erotics: Reading the Gulistan in Colonial India**

Hasan Hameed

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Room 1.09

## **81. Landscapes of Transition: Routes, Landscapes, and Cultural Interaction in the Zagros in the First Millennium CE**

**Chair:** Touraj Daryaee

**Across the Border of Āsōrestān: Imperial Itineraries and Territorial Strategies in Sasanian Garmēgān and Syārazūr**

Carlo Giovanni Cereti and Gianfilippo Terribili

**From Syarazur to Garmegan: archeological landscapes of Sasanian period in the upper Diyala region**

Giulio Maresca and Luca Colliva

**Yasin Tepe and Neighboring Sites in the 1st Millenium CE: A Historical and Archaeological Archetype for Agrarian Landscapes under Iranian Empires?**

Mark K. Gradoni, Giulio Maresca and Jacopo Bruno

**Straddling Qaradagh and the Lower Zagros: Routes Connecting Sharazur to Garmian**

Melissa DePierro and Camilla Insom

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**82. The Many Worlds of Tārīkh-i Qum: Local Governance, Urban Growth, and Shi'i Identity in Tārīkh-i Qum**

Chair: Zahra Azhar

**Unmarried Daughters? Marriage, Inheritance, and the 'Alid Family in Ta'rīkh-i Qum**

Zahra Azhar

**History and Historiography of the Age of Transition in Central Iran: Evidence from Tarikh-e Qom Reconsidered**

Khodadad Rezakhani

**[title unknown]**

Ed Hayes

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**83. Media, Modernity, and Public Life in Iran, in the Late nineteenth to mid-twentieth centuries**

Chair: Hanieh Bakhtiari

**Women, Sexuality, and the Public Sphere: Negotiating Modernity in the Iranian Women's Press (1925–1941)**

Hanieh Bakhtiari

**Visual Public Sphere and Iranian Women, late 19th and early 20th century**

Leila Moslemi Mehnni

**A Media Archaeology between Paper and Air: Wireless Media and the Transformation of the Public Sphere in Early Pahlavi Iran, 1922–1939**

Arash Ghajarjazi

**The Cinematic Laboratory of Intimacy in Mid-20th Century Iran**

Negar Banisafar

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**84. Tracking the Indo-Iranian Origin: Syntactical and Etymological Discussions**

Chair: Yuchen Hu

**Case Theory Illustrated: the Development of Split Ergativity in Indo-Iranian Languages**

Yuchen Hu

**Gods of the Other: Re-examining the Vedic Counterparts of Avestan Daēvas**

Nezih Seven

**Hypotaxis with subordinating conjunctions in Avestan**

Myriadne Wang

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**85. Global Afterlives: Contemporary Translations of Persian Literature**

Chair: Laetitia Nanquette, Samad Alavi

**Translation as Social Integration: Persian Poetry Commissioned for Norwegian Publics**

Samad Alavi

**Afghan Women's Literature in English Translation: Contemporary Anglophone Literary Politics**

Anna Learn

**New Pathways for Persian Literary Translation in Italy: Ponte33, Brioschi, and the Making of a Market**

**86. Negotiating Worlds: Adaptation and Interpretation in Indo-Persian Literary Thought**

Chair: Zakir Hussein

**Between Epic and History: The Shāhnāmaic Imagination in Indo-Persian Literature**

Zakir Hussein Gul

**Seven Faces in a Mirror: Amīr Khusraw and The Poetics of Knowing**

Ilma Qureshi

**Transmigrating Meanings: The Poetics of Tanāsukh in Bēdil's Masnavi 'Irfān**

Hajnalka Kovacs

**Reading a Saint: Text, Body, and Sanctity in Ḥaḡīqat al-Fuḡarā'**

Ilgin Nas

**87. War and Polyphony: Representing and Remembering the Iran-Iraq War in Contemporary Cultural Production**

Chair: Nahid Siamdoust, Amir Moosavi

**Who Cares about a "Forgotten War?": The Iran-Iraq War in recent works of English language literature.**

Amir Moosavi

**Tactile Memories: Objects of the Iran-Iraq War in the Work of Contemporary Iranian Artists**

Hoda Nedaeifar

**Hunting the Serial Killer: War Story, Crime Fiction, or Human Rights Manifesto?**

Goulia Ghardashkhani

**Dead Men Make Good Heroes: Biography and the Cinema of the Iran-Iraq War**

Niki Akhavan

**88. Beyond Political Fragmentation: Diasporic Collective Memory and Reenactment of the Constitutional Past after Woman, Life, Freedom**

Chair: Ladan Rahbari

**Anti-Colonial Rhetoric, (Neo)colonial Violence: "Woman, Life, Freedom" and Unmasking Political Myths through a Gendered Lens**

Ladan Rahbari

**Beyond Political Fragmentation: Diasporic Collective Memory and Reenactment of the Constitutional Past after Woman, Life, Freedom**

Somita Sabeti

**Visualizing a New Martyrdom: Who Becomes a Hero in Post-WLF Iran?**

Nilou Yekta

**89. Rethinking Political Islam in Revolutionary and Post-revolutionary Iran: Apparatus of Control, Embodied Resistance, and Languages of Liberation**

Chair: Ehsan Kashfi

**From Liberation Theology to Clerical Hegemony: Progressive Muslims and the 1979 Revolution**

Mojtaba Mahdavi

**Political Islam and Progressive Politics: Post-Islamist Muslim Left à la Habibollah Peyman**

Siavash Saffari

**The Female Body and the Subject of Resistance: Beyond the Reductionist Logics of "Islamic Authenticity" and "Islamic Oppression"**

Azadeh Shabani

Room 2.19

**90. Embodied Cosmologies: Devotion, Knowledge, and Esoteric Traditions in the Premodern Islamicate World**

Chair: Laura Tribuzio

**Semen as Frot: Occult and Living Cosmologies of Political Power in the Mujmal al-ḥikma**

Laura Tribuzio

**Political Sovereignty and Cosmic Power in Fakhr al-Dīn al-Rāzī's Jāmi' al-'ulūm**

Dominique Sirgy

**Wondrous Ways of Worldmaking: Magic, Marvel, and Miracle in the Miftāḥ al-sa'āda**

Ahmed Tahir Nur

**Connecting Hindu-Muslim cosmology: Creator, creation and Hindu Gods in the world of Malik Muhammad Jayasi**

Anwasha Sengupta

12:45 – 13:45

Lunch Break

13:45-15:45

Janskerkhof 2/3

Room 0.13

**91. Revisiting Hedayat 2: The Blind Owl - Interpretations and Translations**

Chair: Saeed Talajooy, Nasrin Rahimieh

**The Irrational Miracle of the Imagination: A Key to Reading the Surreal Works of Sadegh Hedayat**

Zeynab Sadeghi

**Abraded or burnt eyes in Hedāyat's fiction**

Julie Duvigneau

**The Underlying Mechanism of Forgetting: A Stylistic Feature of The Blind Owl**

Ali Rahmani Ghanavizbaf

**The Blind Owl in a Blind Alley of Translations: A Case Study**

Rouhollah Zarei

Room 0.17

**92. Law, Space and Subjectivity: Institutional Regulation and the Reconfiguration of Urban Space in Tehran (1850s–1940s)**

Chair: Zahra Ahari, Fatemeh Tavanaei Marvi

**Baladiyeh and the Formation of the Form and Identity of Modern Urban Streets in Tehran (1920–1930)**

Fatemeh Ahmadi

**Architecturalizing Hygiene: The Shift from Medical to Technical Surveillance in Residential Construction in Iran(1850s–1942)**

Fatemeh Tavanaei Marvi

**Instituting Spatial Order: Ehtesabyeh, Baladiyeh, and the Gendered Regulation of Space in Modernising Tehran**

Sadaf Tabatabaei

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Room 0.19

**93. Teaching Persian in a Changing World Order: Language Education, Cultural Understanding, and Strategic Role of Language**

Chair: Dr. Nahal Akbari

**Persian as a Strategic Language in the Age of Immersive Technology: Building Cultural Diplomacy and Educational Resilience**

Peyman Nojournian

**Sustaining Persian Language Programs: Addressing Students' Needs, Advocacy and Institutional Challenges**

Anousha Sedighi

**Reimagining Persian Language Teaching: Technology, Multimodal Pedagogy, and Cultural Engagement in a Changing World**

Neda Sahranavard

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Room 0.21

**94. Past and Present: Revisiting the 1979 Iranian Revolution through the Lens of Iran's Current Sociopolitical Dynamics**

Chair: Shahab Daneshvar

**Islam and Socialism in Global Perspective: The Tudeh Party of Iran and the Politics of Alliance in Iran 1979 Revolution**

Shahab Daneshvar

**Islamic Socialists and Secular Marxists: Relationship and interplay on the Eve of Iran's 1979 Revolution**

Alirez Behtoui

**Leftist intellectuals and the concept of democracy in the 1979 Revolution**

Saeed Paivandi

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Room 0.22

**95. Texts of Dominion, Acts of Dissent: Iranian Gender Politics from Andarz to Instagram**

Chair: Mostafa Abedinifard

**Advice on Trial: Bibi Khanom Astarabadi and the Forensic Turn in Late Qajar Andarz**

Mostafa Abedinifard

**Women who own women: African slavery and legacies of Iranian feminism**

Wendy DeSouza

**My Act Belongs to Me and You: Rethinking Body Performance in the Context of Oppression**

Morteza Farhadytooli

**Digital Activism and Women's Rights: A Critical Discourse Analysis of the Social Movements in Iran**

Rahil Golgiri

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Room 1.09

**96. The Legacy of the Sasanian Empire in Contemporary Iran Through the Perspectives of Language, Art, and Culture**

Chair: Pouran Lashini

**Echoes of Divine Water in Aesthetic Symbolism From Antiquity to Pre-Modern Art**

Pouran Lashini

**Sassanian Artistic Heritage in the Visual Arts of Iran, Case Study: The Use of Symbolic Motifs of the Sassanian Era in Contemporary Iranian Graphic Design**

Farzaneh Farrokhfar

**The Sasanian Legacy in Post-Islamic Persian Literature: Cultural Continuities and the Reinvention of Iranian Identity**

Seyedeh Fatemeh Hosseini Mighan

**The Role of Mediators in the Linguistic Transmission of the Sasanian Legacy**

Neda Sharifi Oroumi

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Room 1.10

**97. State, Society and Religion under Reza Shah**

Chair: Anna Heller, Elyas Pirasteh

**Reading Order: Police, Pedagogy, and Ideology in Reza Shah's Iran**

Elyas Pirasteh

**From Justice to Repression: Reza Shah's Shifting Treatment of the Baha'is of Iran**

Mina Yazdani

**Faith, Faithfulness, and Loyalty: The Formation of Iranian Protestantism during the Reign of Reza Pahlavi**

Marcin Rzepka

**The Ravanduz Route: The failed attempt of the opening of a commercial road from Tabriz to Mediterranean Sea (1923-1939).**

Thomas Bedrede

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Room 1.11

**98. The 1979 Revolution: Historical Contingencies, Unrealized Possibilities, and Imagined Futures**

Chair: Kevan Harris, Peyman Jafari

**The Strength of Weak Organizations: How Radicals Captured the State in 1979 Iran**

Maryam Alemzadeh

**Year One of the Iranian Revolution**

Afshin Matin-Asgari

**Workers' showras: a revolution within the revolution**

Peyman Jafari

**The Year of Imagination and Action: Turkmen Council Movement and Beyond**

Peyman Vahabzadeh

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Room 1.15

**99a. Conversation analytic studies of Persian talk-in-interaction: Making visible jointly accomplished practices**

Chair: Ali R. Abasi

**Describing discourse markers: The affordances of conversation analysis**

Ali R. Abasi

**On the interface of social cognition and interaction: Face in Persian medical interactions**

Ahmad Izadi

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**99b. Disinformation and misinformation on social media in Iran**

Chair: Hossein Kermani

**Killing #MahsaAmini on Twitter: An analysis of the dark side of disinformation on Persian Twitter**

Hossein Kermani

**Rallying around the Flag: Imperial Nostalgia and the Spectacle of Monarchy**

Hoornaz Keshavarzian

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Room 1.16

**100. Circuits of Persian Publishing: Materiality, Networks, and Canon Formation**

Chair: Laetitia Nanquette

**Informal book circulation in 21st century Iran**

Laetitia Nanquette

**Visualizing Literary Affiliation, Bad Poetry, and Shadow Canons in 18th- and 19th-Century Persian Manuscripts**

Farshad Sonboldel

**Purveyors and Pundits: Persian Publishing in the Ottoman Empire and Beyond**

Firoozeh Kashani-Sabet

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Room 1.17

**101. Philology I: Persian and the Critique of Philology**

Chair: Mohammad Tavakoli-Targhi, Erik Blackthorne-O'Barr

**'Its Very Perfection a Danger: Persian and the Deconstruction of Language**

Erik Blackthorne-O'Barr

**Against Nativist History: Houshang Golshiri's Prince Ehtejab**

Atefeh Akbari Shahmirzadi

**The Caucasian Talk Circle: Persian Philology between Klaproth and Akhundzadeh**

Amir Izadpanah

**Muallim Naci (1850-1893) and The Philological Ends of World Literature**

Mehtap Ozdemir

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Room 1.18

**102. Evolving Traditions: Creativity, Memory, and Musical Agency in the Global Iranian Soundscape**

Chair: Hesam Abedini

**Ghazal as Formal Structure in Music: The Poetic Architecture Underlying Classical Persian Music in Hossein Omoumi's Voices of Spring**

Hesam Abedini

**Beyond the Radif: Innovation, Identity, and Instrumental Agency in Ardavan Kamkar's Santur Playing**

Mehdi Rezaia

**Echoes of Home: Nostalgia and Musical Memory in the Works of Sadegh Nojouki**

Behzad Namazi

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**103. Reimagining Freedom: Gender, Myth, and the Narrative Politics of the “Woman, Life, Freedom” Movement**

Chair: Azadeh Momeni

**Narrating “Woman, Life, Freedom”: Literary Forms, Diasporic Storytelling, and the Narrative Memory of a Movement**

Bahar Momeni

**Woman, Life, Freedom: Taboos of sexual freedom and queerness**

Shirin Khayambashi

**“From Myth to Movement: The Simurgh and the ‘Woman, Life, Freedom’ in Iran”**

Azadeh Momeni

**Materials of Resistance: Female Hair in Contemporary Iranian Art**

Yasaman Bathaee

**104. Beyond Sharia: The role of Sufism in Shaping Islam**

Chair: Asghar Seyed-Gohrab

**Literary Qalandars: Ḥakīm Sanā’ī’s Qalandariyyāt Poetry and Society**

Alexandra Nieweg

**Who was Threatened by Jahān-Malik Khātun’s Ghazals?**

Zhinia Noorian

**Antinomian poetics and the Mughal Aesthetics of Unbelief: the Case of Feyzī Fayyāzī**

Fatemeh Naghshvarian

**Searching for God in the Tavern (Kharābat): The Appeal of Rūmī’s Qalandarī Motifs in the Modern World**

Maarten Holtzapffel

**105. Roundtable: Israel’s June 2025 War on Iran: Reflections on Contested Publics and Media**

Chair: Nahid Siamdoust

**Messaging Iran: Israeli Propaganda in Persian During the 12-Day War**

Rasmus Christian Elling

**“Not in Our Name”: Insights from an Archive on Iran’s Women’s (Rights) Advocates**

Kristin Soraya Batmanghelichi

**The Israeli media and the public perspectives on the war and Iran**

Lior Sternfeld

**Current and Former Iranian Political Prisoners’ Perspectives Regarding Israel and the June 2025 War**

Alborz Ghandehari

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**15:45 – 16:00**

**Coffee Break**

**106. Revisiting Hedayat 3: His Works in Cultural Context**

Chair: Michael Beard, Nasrin Rahimieh

**Historicizing Hedayat: Archaeotopia to Shitopia**

Mohamd Tavakoli-Targhi

**Revisiting Realism: Hedayat and the Anthropological Orientation of Persian Fiction**

Amy Motlagh

**The Formal Aestheticization of Peripheral Modernity Hedayat's Fiction**

Omid Azadibougar

**Weaving Indian Cultural Nuances into Persian Modernism in Sadegh Hedayat's Works**

Nadeem Akhtar

Room 0.17

**107. Calligraphy and the Collective Consciousness: Reimagining the Nasta'liq script as a Cultural Vector**

Chair: Pouya Jahanshahi

**Form, Language, and Identity: Nasta'liq and the Eastern Tradition of Arabic Script**

Amirmahdi Moslehi

**Performing Beauty: A Filmmaker's Journey with Nasta'liq**

Mehran Haghighi

**Nasta'liq and Persianate Consciousness? Evidence and Narratives**

Seyed Abdolreza Hosseini

**Typographic Poetics: Nastalique and the aesthetics Iranian Graphic Design**

Pouya Jahanshahi

Room 0.19

**108. Studies in Early Modern Persian Literature**

Chair: Shaahin Pishbin

**The School of Astonishment: Ḥayrat in the Seventeenth-Century Persian ghazal**

Shaahin Pishbin

**The Mutable Ghazal: Qahramān's Edition of Divān-e Sā'eb and the Manuscript Archive**

Paul E. Losensky

**Holi in Safavid Verse: Ashraf-i Māzandarānī's Poetic Negotiation of Cultural Encounter**

Shahla Farghadani

**The dawn of Fayḍī's dīwān: The making of Tabāshīr al-ṣubḥ**

Thibaut D. Hubert

Room 0.21

**109. Propaganda and Cultural Diplomacy in Pahlavi and Post-Revolutionary Iran**

Chair: Firoozeh Kashani-Sabet, Dmitry Asinovskiy

**Failing Attempts at Fixing Iranian Anti-Imperialism. Soviet Cultural Diplomacy and Propaganda Efforts in the Islamic Republic (1979-1983).**

Dmitry Asinovskiy

**Politics of Iranian Folklore: From Molla Nasreddin to the USIA**

Perin Gurel

**The USSR and the Islamic “Cultural Revolution” in Iran: Exporting Anti-Imperialism**

Siarhei Bohdan

**Capturing the Conference Circuit, Translating the Revolution: The Role of Iranian Arabic Language Journals in Promoting the Islamic Republic in the Early 1980s**

Simon Wolfgang Fuchs

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Room 0.22

**110. Persianate Women in Unexpected Spaces: Sensing Presence and Power**

Chair: Amanda Leong

**“Interfering in Men’s Affairs:” A Qajar Queen Mother and Her Affective Power**

Belle Cheves

**“Do they have such umbrella-shaped tents and arches?”: Recovering and Teaching Early Mughal Women’s Architectural Accomplishments**

Amanda Leong

**The Androgyny of my Soul – Transcending Limitations in Afghanistan’s Sufi Practice**

Annika Schmeding

**The Bibi of Pentacles: Playing Cards, Touch, and the Erotic Female Body in Qajar Visual Culture**

Natasha Morris

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Room 1.09

**111. Translation and Multilingualism in the Jewish-Iranian World**

Chair: Jonathan Brack

**Writing Persian Jerusalem: Language in the Memoirs of Rafael Haim Hacohen**

Eirik Kvindesland

**Writings of the Illiterate: Women as Creators of Judeo-Persian texts**

Ariane Sadjed

**Judeo-Persian Bible Translations and the Early Modern Jewish-Iranian World**

Dennis Halft

**Aramaic Targumim and Judeo-Persian Bible**

Ali B. Langroudi

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Room 1.10

**112. Persianate Banaras: An Untold Story of Early Modern Multilingualism**

Chair: Ojaswini Shekawat

**“The Perfect Place for Flirting and Lovemaking”: Unexpected Narratives about Banaras in Seventeenth Century Persian Mathnawīs**

Ojaswini Shekawat

**“If There is a Paradise on Earth”: Praising Banaras in Eighteenth-Century Persian Translations from Sanskrit**

Ayelet Kotler

**Persian literacy and cultural brokerage in the city of pandits**

Jean Arzoumanov

**A theatre on the Ganges: water and the ascetic body in and around Matan Lal Afarin's Kashi-stut.**  
Stefano Pello

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Room 1.11

**113. New Approaches to the Persian Majmū'a(s) and Jung(s) [book compilations]**

Chair: Mahroo Moosavi

**Early Modern Persian Majmū'a(s) as Devised Topographies of Sub-texts: The Case of MS. or. fol. 209 in the State Library of Berlin**

Mahroo Moosavi

**Documentation or Evocation?, Compiled Landscapes and other Nature Images**

Margaret Shortle

**Majmū'as as Pedagogical Archives: The Kāteb Stemma and the Didactic Function of Safavid Compilations**

Gennady Kurin

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Room 1.15

**114. The Familiar Stranger. Encounters with the Iranian and non-Iranian 'Other' in Persian Literature**

Chair: Renata Rusek-Kowalska

**Shahrnush Parsipur and Her Prison Archipelagos**

Renata Rusek-Kowalska

**Familiarized strangers – Polish 2<sup>nd</sup> World War women in the Iranian society**

Anna Krasnowolska

**Meeting the 'Other': Linguistic and Narrative Strategies in Farhād Ja'fari's "Café Piano"**

Katarzyna Wąsala

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Room 1.16

**115. Persian and German Literary Encounters**

Chair: Annie Pfeifer

**Writing Kabul in Berlin After 2021**

Michael Swellander

**Speaking for Zarathustra: Nietzsche's Encounter with Zoroastrianism**

Annie Pfeifer

**Form as Desire: Rückert's Ghazals between Hafez and Rumi**

Yarden Yosef Ben Zur

**The Hafez in Platen's Mirror**

Amir Irani-Tehrani

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Room 1.17

**116. Philology II: "World Philology" and the Adab Disciplines**

Chair: Samuel Hodgkin

**Learning, Translation, and Mystical Imagination: Kurdish Engagements within the Persianate Intellectual Geography**

Serdar Şengül

**Remembering Adab as Discipline and Profession**

Samuel Hodgkin

**Grammar and Rhetoric in Persianate Islam**

Alexander Jabbari

**A Mughal Farhang (1608) and a British Colonial Grammar (1771): A Comparative Analysis**

Rajeev Kinra

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Room 1.18

**117. Thinking Farsi-zaban Geographies through Afghanistan: Knowledge Production, Archives, and Politics in Transnational Perspective**

Chair: Ahmad Rashid Salim, Paniz Musawi Natanzi

**Feeling Blackness in Persian-speaking Afghanistan: Masculinity, Politics and the Intellectual in the Dari Underground Rap of Soaban**

Paniz Musawi Natanzi

**Women, Translation and Farsi-zabān Geographies of Reform**

Marya Hannun

**Translating Afghanistan: Jonas Hanway Sexualizes the Siege of Isfahan**

Mursal Sidiqi

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Room 2.17

**118. Iranian Encounters: Americans with and in Iran, Iranians with America and in the Region**

Chair: Norma Claire Moruzzi

**The Ties That Bind: U.S.-Iran Relations, 1905-1953**

Kelly Shannon

**Tied Up in Tehran: Perspectives on Women, Social Change, and Politics of Daily Life**

Norma Claire Moruzzi

**Mission Manifest: American Evangelicals and Iran in the Twentieth Century**

Matthew Shannon

**Iran's Rise in the Middle East and its Ramifications**

Mohsen Milani

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Room 2.18

**119. Beyond Sharia: The Role of Sufism in Shaping Islam II**

Chair: Asghar Seyed-Gohrab

**Crafting Sufi Authority: Kaygusuz Abdal in the Mirror of the Menâkibnâme**

Leila Rahimi Bahmany

**Shams-i Tabrīzī and the Medieval Culture of Listening: Majlis-gūī and Oral Transmission**

Kourosh Beigpour

**‘Aṭṭār and the role of the Wise-Fools in his works**

Amin Ghodrätzadeh

**Normativity in Islamic Studies and the Paradoxes of the Persianate**

Matthew Lynch

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Room 2.19

**120. Faith, Culture, and Their Interplay in Iranian Artistic and Literary Traditions**

Chair: Shekoufeh Mohammadi Shirmahaleh

**From kīš to dād: reflections on a religious conflict in Ferdowsi's Shahnameh**

Shekoufeh Mohammadi Shirmahaleh

**Ta'ziyeh Beyond Faith: The Theatrical Body and the Transformation of Ritual in Iranian Cultural Memory**

Maryam Palizban

**Twilight of Tales: The Real and the Imaginary in Iran, 1850s–1920s**

Jaleh Ebrahimi

**Five Prominent Archetypes in Persian Folktales Present in Modern Beliefs of Iranian People**

Mahboubeh Khorasani

<b>18:15 – 19:15</b>	Leeuwenbergh
<b>Keynote Janet Afary</b>	Servaasbolwerk
“On the 120th Anniversary of the Iranian Constitutional Revolution: Reflections from Diaspora”	1a, Utrecht 📍

**Saturday, August 8<sup>th</sup> – Panel sessions**

<b>8:30-10:30</b>	Janskerkhof 2/3 📍
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Room 0.13

**121. Iranian Engagement with Asia and Latin America in Late Qajar and Early Pahlavi Times**

Chair: Houchang Chehabi

**Revolutionary Mexico in the Eyes of Post-Constitutional Iran**

Leonardo Alaghband

**Mirrors in the East and West: Competitive Solidarities of Iran in the Global 1919**

Khosrow Tousi

**Iran and the Far Eastern Countries at the League of Nations: An Asian Solidarity?**

Leila Koochakzadeh

**China Through Iranian Eyes: Looking East in the Constitutional Era, 1901-1911**

William Figueroa

Room 0.17

**122. On Consumption Across Persian & Arabic Sources**

Chair: Ammar Farra, Riwa Roukoz

**Alcohol bans, fermentation, and addiction in Safavid Iran**

Indran Fernando

**Consuming Passion: The Persian Wise Woman in Arabic Erotic Texts**

Riwa Roukoz

**Poetics of the Sasanian History as Depicted in Arabic historical chronicles: The Reign of Yazdegerd III**

Ammar Farra

Room 0.19

**123. Constraint and Creation: Contemporary Persian Literature and Iranian Cinema as Sites of Social Transformation**

Chair: Kamran Talattof, Mehrak Kamali Sarvestani

**Eight Stories and the Power of Detail: How Descriptive Realism Reshaped Iranian Literary Resistance**

Mehrak Kamali Sarvestani

**“I Untie the Knot of Fate from My Hair”: Gendered Poetic and Revolutionary Agency in Batul ‘Azizpur’s Revolutionary Poetry**

Eszter Melitta Szabo

**From Homeland to Exile: Negotiating Identity, Belonging, and Home in the Novels of Simin Daneshvar, Zoya Pirzad, and Hamed Esmaeilion**

Parvaneh Hosseini

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Room 0.21

**124a. Modern Iranian Intellectual History in an Age of Global History**

Chair: Negin Nabavi, Assef Ashraf

**Economic Thinking in Qajar-Era Political Thought**

Assef Ashraf

**Portrait of a Perso-Ottoman Intellectual at the ‘Edge’ of Empire: Hüseyin Daniş**

Tanya Lawrence

**Translation of Philosophy into Persian: Scholarship as Activism**

Roman Seidel

**124b. Hidden Voices, Veiled Desires: Gender and Eroticism in Early Modern Persian Poetry**

Chair: Paul E. Losensky

**Crossing Borders and Boundaries: Shahrībānū Begum and the Gendered Experience of Sacred Travel**

Maryam Moazzen

**A Prince, a Sufi, and the Polysemous Eroticism of Hilālī’s Shāh va Darvīsh**

Chad Lingwood

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Room 0.22

**125. Echoes Across Borders: Persian Literature in Comparative Perspective**

Chair: Ankur Desval Fehrani

**Recognising Plato’s Kingdom in the Cataclysm of Greece episode in Amir Khusrau Dehalvi’s Āīna-ye Sikandarī?**

Ankur Desval Fehrani

**Polyphonic Histories: Narrative Fragmentation, Collective Memory, and National Decline in Abbas Maroufi’s Symphony of the Dead and William Faulkner’s The Sound and the Fury**

Farahnaz Orandi

**Irony and Modern Consciousness in Franz Kafka’s A Hunger Artist and Bahram Sadeghi’s Mr. Novelist Is a Beginner**

Nadere Jaladat

**Echoes of a Fractured Home: A Computational Study of Hybrid Identity in Diasporic and Domestic Novels by Iranian women writers**

Elham Vatankhahan Esfahani

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Room 1.09

**126. The Role of Education in the Modernization Project of the Reza Shah Government**

Chair: Saeede Soltanimoghadam

**Theatre and Politics under Reza Shah**

Hasan Noori

**Literary Reflections on Modern Educational Discourse in Reza Shah's Iran**

Sara Shafieezadeh Garousi

**Negotiating Tradition and Modernity: Women's Education Policies During Reza Shah Pahlavi's Era**

Hamideh Mohammadi

Room 1.10

**127. New Perspectives on the Iranian Revolution**

Chair: Siavush Randjbar-Daemi

**Actors, Classes, and Provincial Divergence: Revolutionary Mobilization in Gilan, 1978–79**

Misagh Javadpour

**The Gathering Storm: The Rastakhiz Party Facing Revolutionary Turmoil (November 1977–October 1978)**

Salomé Michel

**The Ettihad-e Demokratik-e Mardom-e Iran and the Iranian Revolution, 1978-79**

Siavush Randjbar-Daemi

**From Comintern To Qom: Stalinist Political Thought And The Strategic Orientation Of Iranian Communism In The Revolution Of 1979**

Touraj Atabaki

Room 1.17

**128. Unions with the Supernatural in Popular Persian Literature and Devotional Drama**

Chair: Babak Rahimi, Sara Khalili Jahromi

**Cain's Appointed Wife: Human or Pari?**

Sara Khalili Jahromi

**An Entrance from the Divine: Tavalod-e Isa (The Birth of Jesus) a Shi'i Devotional Drama**

E. Lucy Deacon

**From Fairy Tale to Legend: The Pari–Human Marriage Motif in Persian Fairy Tales**

Davood Khazaie

Room 1.18

**129. Itinerant Voices: Musico-Poetic Performance On the Borders of Iran**

Chair: Marie Huber

**Sounding Time: Musico-Poetic Devotion among the Mojaddedi Naqshbandis of Torbat-e Jām**

Marie Huber

**Afghan Rubab in the Herat–Khorasan Frontier**

Miguel Ángel Gasco Rodríguez

**Sounds of a thousand hills: Making music in and around Sanandaj**

Gay Jennifer Breyley


**Preserving Memory in Motion: The Status of Balochi Pahlawāns in Contemporary Iran**

Maryam Nourzaei

**10:30 – 10:45**

**Coffee Break**

**11:00 – 12:30**  
**Annual General Meeting**

Leeuwenbergh  
Servaasbolwerk  
1a, Utrecht 

## List of Participants AIS Utrecht 2026

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Abasi, Ali R.	Azhar, Zahra	Chagnon, Michael
Abdi, Bahar	Azimi, Amin	Chehabi, Houchang
Abdul Razak, Rowena	Aziz, Sarah	Cheves, Belle
Abdulrahman, Kareem	Azizi, Arash	Chiru, Adela Nicoleta
Abedini, Hesam	Bahl, Christopher	Chu, Dayeon
Abedini, Vahid	Bakhtiari, Hanieh	Clement, Michelle
Abedinifard, Mostafa	Banisafar, Negar	Cole, Juan
Aberi Zahed, Sahra	Balslev, Sivan	Colliva, Luca
Abrahamian, Ervand	Baltacioglu-Brammer, Ayse	Cronin, Stephanie
Afary, Janet	Barzegar, Ebrahim	Cross, Cameron
Aghaie, Fateme	Bathae, Yasaman	Daemi, Faezeh
Ahari, Zahra	Batmanghelichi, Kristin	Daneshvar, Shahab
Ahmadi, Fatemeh	Soraya	Darbinian, Noonik
Akbari Shahmirzadi, Atefeh	Bauer, Janet	Daryae, Touraj
Akbari, Nahal	Bayat, Asef	Davari, Arash
Akbari, Reza H.	Bazyar, Marziyeh	Davidson, M. Olga
Akhavan, Niki	Beard, Michael	Davoudi, Jamileh
Akhbari, Rouzbeh	Beaud, Guillaume	De Groot, Joanna
Akhmedjanova, Kamila	Bedrede, Thomas	Deacon, Lucy
Akhtar, Nadeem	Behbehani, Shekoufeh	Delshad, Parisa
Alaghsband, Leonardo	Behtoui, Alirez	Delvarani, Aryasp
Alavi, Samad	Beigpour, Kourosh	DePierro, Melissa
Alemzadeh, Maryam	Ben Zur, Yarden Yosef	DeSouza, Wendy
Alizadeh, Yass	Benfey, Thomas	Desval Fehrani, Ankur
Allen, Lindsay	Benson, Jake	Ding, Iskandar
Alvandi, Roham	Berger, Simon	Dixon, Martin
Amini, Simin	Besozzi, Sheida	Dorleijn, Margreet
Amir, Daniel	Biglari, Mattin	Dreyer, Carina
Amryan, Tereza	Birjandifar, Nazak	Durand-Guédy, David
Andreeva, Elena	Blackthorne-O'Barr, Erik	Duvigneau, Julie
Arcak Casale, Sinem	Blajet, Zuzanna	Ebrahimi, Jaleh
Ardekanian, Amirali	Bochenska, Joanna	Eghbalizarch,
Arnoux, Quentin	Bockholt, Philip	Mohammadreza
Arushanyan, Arpine	Bohdan, Siarhei	Ehsani, Kaveh
Arzoumanov, Jean	Boka, Shima	Ekiz, Ahmet Baris
Ashraf, Assef	Borhan, Behzad	Elling, Rasmus Christian
Asinovskiy, Dmitry	Boylston, Nicholas	Emrani, Haleh
Askari, Nasrin	Brack, Jonathan	Errichiello, Mariano
Atabaki, Touraj	Breyley, Gay	Eslami, Elaheh
Atamaz, Serpil	Brookshaw, Dominic Parviz	Esmaeilpour, Naghmeh
Avchyan, Hakob	Bruno, Jacopo	Fakhraeirad, Armaghan
Avvali, Arash M.	Camacho Padilla, Fernando	Farazmand, Parang
Aydemir, Mert	Capps, Kyle	Farghadani, Shahla
Azad, Arezou	Carmi, Omer	Farhadytooli, Morteza
Azadibougar, Omid	Cereti, Carlo Giovanni	Faroughi, Fatemeh

Farra, Ammar	Herzig, Edmund	Keshavarzian, Hoornaz
Farrokhfar, Farzaneh	Heshmati, Ata	Khademi, Manizheh
Farzaneh, Mateo	Heydarkhani, Maryam	Khalili Jahromi, Sara
Mohammad	Hodgkin, Samuel	Khayambashi, Shirin
Fayyaz, Fatima	Hoffmann, Alexandra	Khazaie, Davood
Fazli, Mozghan	Holtzapffel, Maarten	Khetia, Vinay
Fernando, Indran	Homayoonzad, Niloofar	Khezri, Haidar
Figueroa, William	Hoodfar, Homa	Khorasani, Mahboubeh
Fozi, Navid	Hooman, Niloofar	Kia, Mana
Fozoon, Babak	Hormozinejad, Sara	Kian, Azadeh
Fuchs, Simon Wolfgang	Hosseini Ghaffari, Fatemeh	Kim, Gunha
Gabbay, Alyssa	Hosseini, Parvaneh	Kinra, Rajeev
Ghaderi, Farangis	Hosseini, Sajede	Kiong Teh, Guan
Ghaffari, Mahbod	Hosseini, Seyed Abdolreza	Kjaran, Jon
Ghajarjazi, Arash	Hosseinioun, Delaram	Kłagisz, Mateusz
Ghandehari, Alborz	Hu, Yuchen	Koh, Taejin
Ghardashkhani, Goulia	Huber, Marie	Kolly, Maryam
Gheissari, Ali	Hubert, Thibaut D.	Koo, Gi Yeon
Ghodratzadeh, Amin	Hunsberger, Alice	Koochakzadeh, Leila
Gholami, Rahim	Hussein Gul, Zakir	Kotler, Ayelet
Ghomashlouyan, Moslem	Insom, Camilla	Kovacs, Hajnalka
Ghorbankarimi, Maryam	Irani-Tehrani, Amir	Kowalska, Renata Rusek
Ghuloom, Rana	Izadi, Ahmad	Koyagi, Mikiya
Giunashvili, Helen	Izadpanah, Amir	Krasnowolska, Anna
Gledhill, Kevin	Izzo, Gianni	Kurin, Gennady
Golgiri, Rahil	Jabbari, Alexander	Kvindesland, Eirik
Golshan, Mohammad	Jafari, Peyman	Kwak, Saera
Goswami, Shubham	Jahanbani, Neda	Langer, Axel
Gradoni, Mark	Jahanshahi, Pouya	Langroudi, Ali B.
Gray, Jan-Willem	Jaladat, Nadere	Lashini, Pouran
Gurel, Perin	Javadpour, Misagh	Lashkari, Maryam
Gustafson, James	Jones, Tobias	Lawrence, Tanya
Habibi, Negar	Kalb, Zep	Learn, Anna
Haghighi, Mehran	Kamali Sarvestani, Mehrak	Lee, John W.I.
Hajiagha, Azad Rahim	Kameli, Marziyeh	Leezenberg, Michiel
Hajyasini, Haleh	Kamola, Stefan	Leong, Amanda
Halft, Dennis	Kana'an, Ruba	Lewental, D Gershon
Hameed, Hasan	Karakurt, Hevin	Lingwood, Chad
Hannun, Marya	Karimi, Nilufar	Litvak, Meir
Hart, Fuchsia	Kashani-Sabet, Firoozeh	Lob, Eric
Hartley, Julia	Kashfi, Ehsan	Longhi, Giacomo
Hashemipour, Ashkan	Kaveh, Yalda	Losensky, Paul E.
Hassani, Hannah	Kavianifar, Farinaz	Lynch, Matthew
Hayes, Ed	Kayir Ucsu, Gul Banu	Mahdavi, Mojtaba
Headrick, Isabelle	Kazemi, Ranin	Maleki, Kimia
Hegland, Mary Elaine	Kazemipourleilabadi, Negar	Marandi Lopez, Leila
Heller, Anna	Keivan, Shafigheh	Marashi, Afshin
Heller, Anna Dorothee	Kermani, Hossein	Maresca, Giulio

Martínez Porro, Jaime	Musawi Natanzi, Paniz	Rahmani Ghanavizbaf, Ali
Masjedi, Fatemeh	Nabavi, Negin	Rahmani Ghanavizbaf, Nima
Masoudi Nejad, Reza	Naghibi, Nima	Raissadat, Sepideh
Matin-Asgari, Afshin	Naghshvarian, Fatemeh	Rakowiecka-Asgari, Karolina
Matsunaga, Yasuyuki	Nagy, Gregory	Randjbar-Daemi, Siavush
Matthee, Rudi	Nair, Arjun	Rasekhian, Sepideh
Mazdeh, Vahid	Najafi, Mahnam	Rashid Salim, Ahmad
Mazhjoo, Nina	Namazi, Behzad	Rekabtalaei, Golbarg
Mazrouei, Shiva	Nanquette, Laetitia	Rezaee, Maryam
Mazzocchi, Dario	Nas, Ilgin	Rezakhani, Khodadad
Michel, Salomé	Nedaeifar, Hoda	Rezania, Mehdi
Mihan, Shiva	Nehzati, Sarah	Rhoné-Quer, Camille
Milani, Mohsen	Niechciał, Paulina	Rodriguez, Miguel Angel
Milanloo, Hadi	Nienhaus–Naghashian, Bitá	Gasco
Mincheva, Dilyana	Nieweg, Alexandra	Rokni, Siavash
Mirahmadi, Sara	Niroumand, Ali	Römer, Benedikt
Mirshahvalad, Minoo	Nojournian, Peyman	Roukoz, Riwa
Mirzaee Jadideslami,	Noori, Hasan	Rzepka, Marcin
Mohammadali	Noorian, Zhinia	Saadi-Nejad, Manya
Mitchell, Colin	Nooshin, Laudan	Sabeti, Somita
Moazzen, Maryam	Nourzaei, Maryam	Saçmalı, Habib
Moghadam, Amin	O'Malley, Austin	Sadan, Amit
Moghaddam, Melika	Oghalai, Bahar	Sadeghi, Zeynab
Mohagheghi, Arash	Omidi, Reza	Sadeghian, Saghar
Mohammadi Shirmahaleh,	Orandi, Farahnaz	Sadjed, Ariane
Shekoufeh	Orthmann, Eva	Saeidi, Ali
Mohammadi, Hamideh	Ozdemir, Mehtap	Safaeipour, Hadi
Mokhtarian, Jason	Pagliani, Fabio	Saffari, Siavash
Molaie, Sara	Paivandi, Saeed	Sahranavard, Neda
Momeni, Azadeh	Pak, Nacim	Salim, Ahmad Rashid
Momeni, Bahar	Palizban, Maryam	Salmasi, Aysa
Monastyrskaya, Darya	Papoliyazdi, Ali	Samini, Naghmeh
Montazeri, Fateme	Pello, Stefano	Scharbrodt, Oliver
Moosavi, Amir	Pfeifer, Annie	Schmeding, Annika
Moosavi, Mahroo	Pirasteh, Elyas	Sedighi, Anousha
Moossavi, Boshra	Pishbin, Shaahin	Seidel, Roman
Morris, Natasha	Pistor-Hatam, Anja	Şengül, Serdar
Moruzzi, Norma	Poor, Daryoush	Sengupta, Anwasha
Moshiri, Abolfazl	Pourzand, Azadeh	Seven, Nezh
Moslehi, Amirmahdi	Quinn, Sholeh	Seyed-Gohrab, Asghar
Moslemi Mehnni, Leila	Qurboniev, Aslisho	Shabani, Azadeh
Motadel, David	Qureshi, Ilma	Shabani-Jadidi, Pouneh
Motlagh, Amy	Rahbari, Ladan	Shablovskaya, Alisa
Mottahedeh, Negar	Rahimi Bahmany, Leila	Shafiezadeh Garousi, Sara
Mousavi, Bitá	Rahimi, Babak	Shah, Zahra
Mousavi, Razieh S.	Rahimi, Masoumeh	Shahidi, Iqan
Movahedi-Lankarani, Ciruce	Rahimi, Mohammadreza	Shahzadi, Ramin
Mozafari, Parmis	Rahimieh, Nasrin	Shajiei, Shadi

Shakerifard, Solmaz  
Sham Roshan, Mehdi  
Shams, Fatemeh  
Shannon, Kelly  
Shannon, Matthew  
Sharifi Oroumi, Neda  
Sharifi, Meraj  
Shawki-Aziz Gómez,  
Yashmina María  
Sheffield, Daniel  
Sheibani, Khatereh  
Shekhawat, Ojaswini  
Shortle, Margaret  
Siamdoust, Nahid  
Sidiqi, Mursal  
Siebertz, Roman  
Simidchieva, Marta  
Sirgy, Dominique  
Sohrabi, Nader  
Soltanimoghadam, Saeede  
Sonboldel, Farshad  
Steele, Robert  
Sternfeld, Lior  
Sturkenboom, Ilse  
Subtelny, Maria  
Swellander, Michael  
Szabo, Eszter Mlitta  
Szanto, Edith

Szitar, Kristof  
Tabandeh, Reza  
Tabatabaei, Sadaf  
Tadrisi, Shima  
Taha, Amir  
Tahir Nur, Ahmed  
Talajooy, Saeed  
Talattof, Kamran  
Talebi, Nader  
Taleghani, Azita  
Tavakol, Mahdieh  
Tavakoli, Mohamad  
Tavakoli-Targhi, Mohamad  
Tavanaei Marvi, Fatemeh  
Terribili, Gianfilippo  
Tiburcio, Alberto  
Tonoyan, Artyom  
Touraj, Mahdi  
Tousi, Khosrow  
Tribuzio, Laura  
Tzfadya, Ezra  
Vahabzadeh, Peyman  
Vali Zadeh, Mahdieh  
Van den Berg, Gabrielle  
Vassalli, Massimiliano  
Vatankhahan Esfahani,  
Elham  
Vejdani, Farzin


Verij Kazemi, Abbas  
Vigotti, Lorenzo  
Vossoughi, Shirin  
Wang, Myriadne  
Wąsala, Katarzyna  
Yaghoobi, Claudia  
Yamamoto, Kumiko  
Yazdani, Mina  
Yazdani, Yalda  
Yekta, Nilou  
Yin, Ruinong  
Yoshinari, Mary  
Yousefi, Najm  
Zahedi, Farshad  
Zahiremami, Parisa  
Zaidi, Abid  
Zanotta, Sara  
Zarantonello, Marianna  
Zarei, Rouhollah  
Zenhari, Roxana  
Zerehdaran, Farzad  
Zhaf, Mahrou  
ZiaiiBigdeli, Layah  
Zischkin, Theresa

## List of Spaces and Events

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### REGISTRATION

August 5<sup>th</sup>: **Domkerk** - Domplein 31, 3512 JE Utrecht. (Click  to see location on Google Maps)

August 6-8<sup>th</sup>: **Domkerk, Sacristie** - Domplein 31, 3512 JE Utrecht. (Click  to see location on Google Maps)

On **Wednesday 5 August**, registration will be open from **13:00 – 17:00** in the **Domkerk** (Dom Church). Please follow the signs to 'Registration' when entering the building. This is where we will be ready to hand out your badge to you. The registration desk will be available prior to the opening ceremony, which will also take place in the Domkerk.

On **Thursday 6 and Friday 7** badges can be collected at **Domkerk, Sacristie** - Domplein 31, between 9:00 and 17:00. Please note that badge pickup will **not be available on Saturday 8 August**.


### CONFERENCE BADGE

On Saturday, Utrecht University is open to AIS participants and visitors only, not to students. Please wear your badges at all times, to ensure that security will recognize you and allow you to enter the conference buildings.

### CONFERENCE LOCATIONS

Utrecht University is not located on a single campus; instead, its faculties and departments are spread throughout the city of Utrecht.

All panel sessions will take place at:

- Janskerkhof 2/3 (3512 BK Utrecht), a historic building in the city centre. 
- Keynotes will take place at Leeuwenbergh, Servaasbolwerk 1a, Utrecht

Below you will find pictures of the different panel rooms. For more information, you can also visit this album: <https://myalbum.com/album/pEhuzTZZbyV7>



Room 0.13 (150 people)

Room 0.17 (26 people)



Room 0.19 (50 people)



Room 0.21 (50 people)



Room 0.22 (26 people)



Room 1.09 (26 people)



Room 1.10 (26 people)



Room 1.11 (26 people)



Room 1.15 (26 people)



Room 1.16 (26 people)



Room 1.17 (26 people)



Room 1.18 (26 people)



Room 2.17 (26 people)



Room 2.18 (26 people)



Room 2.19 (26 people)



Most plenary sessions will be held at other venues, all within walking distance of Janskerkhof:

- Domkerk Utrecht – Domplein 31, 3512 JE Utrecht, a medieval church and iconic city landmark. 📍
- Utrecht University Museum – Oude Hortus, Lange Nieuwstraat 106, 3512 PN Utrecht, a historic botanical garden and museum of science. 📍
- Leeuwenbergh – Servaasbolwerk 1A, 3512 NK Utrecht, a historic former church now hosting cultural events. 📍

Scan the blue QR code to access the interactive map with all conference venues. (Or click [here](#))



Scan the orange QR code to access the interactive map with all the conference hotels. (Or click [here](#))



#### **ACCESSIBILITY OF CONFERENCE BUILDINGS**

Nearly all conference areas are accessible to wheelchairs. Janskerkhof 2-3 and 15A have a special side door.

Please ask one of the volunteers if you need help accessing one of our buildings.

#### **CONFERENCE SCHEDULE ONLINE**

The entire conference schedule is also to be found at <https://associationforiranianstudies.org/conferences/2026> and <https://beyondsharia.nl/>

#### **AV AND MEDIA NEEDS**

All rooms are equipped with a computer and a projector. All rooms are Windows orientated, so if you plan on using a Mac computer, please make sure you bring the right cables and/or adapters (also, most rooms do not have international sockets).

AIS staff and volunteers are present in each building in case assistance is required. Below you will find pictures of the different panel rooms. For more information about the different panel rooms, please visit <https://myalbum.com/album/pEhuzTZZbyV7>.

## **WIFI**

**Eduroam Wi-Fi** is available in all Utrecht University buildings. Log in with your personal user account from your own institution.

Guests who do not have access to eduroam can use eduroam **Visitor Access (eVA)**, the guest network of eduroam. Access can be obtained as follows: several screens at UU display a **daily code** (keyword) and a phone number for accessing eduroam. When you text the daily code (keyword) from your mobile phone to the displayed phone number, you will receive a username and password by text message to log in. Access remains valid for the entire day.

## **BOOK EXHIBIT**

The book Exhibit will take place in the Sacristie of the Domkerk, on Thursday and Friday between 9:00 en 17:00.

## **REFRESHMENT AREAS**

Coffee, tea and water will be available at regular intervals throughout the conference.

Note that in the Netherlands, it is totally safe (and delicious) to drink water from the tap. In order to reduce waste, please bring your own water bottle with you.

## **WHERE TO EAT**

Utrecht has a vibrant selection of restaurants, cafés, and bars offering cuisines from around the world. Since Utrecht is a relatively small city and many restaurants can become busy in the evenings, we recommend making reservations in advance whenever possible. Please note that most kitchens close around 22:00.

For reservations, you may find the online booking platform [TheFork](#) useful.

**Below is a selection of restaurants located in or near Utrecht's city centre.**

### **International**

- Winkel van Sinkel
- International · Oudegracht 158
- Luc Utrecht
- International · Voor Clarenburg 8
- Restaurant Loof
- International · Domplein 8
- KARAF Food & Drinks
- International · Korte Jansstraat 13–15
- Copper Branch Utrecht
- Plant-based / Vegan · Steenweg 37
- Heaven & Earth
- Fine Dining / International · Keistraat 8

### **Central Asian/ Asian**

- Silk Road Utrecht
- Asian / Central Asian · Oudegracht aan de Werf 159
- Sarban Afghan Restaurant
- Afghan · Oudegracht aan de Werf 161
- Mahanakorn
- Thai · Oudegracht aan de Werf 140
- Konnichiwa
- Japanese · Mariaplaats 9
- Ulu Bar
- Asian · Voorstraat 102
- India Port
- Indian · Oudegracht aan de Werf 144
- Veg Nation
- Indian (Vegetarian) · St Jacobsstraat 323

### **Mediterranean**

- The Qataris
- Mediterranean · Mariaplaats 24
- Restaurant Istanbul
- Turkish · Zadelstraat 26
- Ana's Meze & Mangal
- Turkish · Voorstraat 62
- Greek Restaurant Taverna
- Greek · Oudegracht aan de Werf 101
- **Grill**
- Meat & More
- BBQ / Grill · Mariastraat 8
- Balkangrill Boro
- BBQ / Grill · Oudegracht 63

### **European**

- Ndujame
- Italian · Oudegracht 210
- Florent
- French · Visschersplein 75
- The Mignon
- French · Boterstraat 15
- Koenraad Utrecht
- European · Voorstraat 14
- The Little Chicken
- European · Van Asch van Wijckskade 26
- Zala's
- European Fine Dining · Trans 7
- Mick O'Connells
- Irish / European · Jansdam 3

### **INSURANCE AND LIABILITY**

Participants are advised to ensure that they have appropriate **personal insurance coverage** for their attendance at the conference and their stay in the Netherlands, including travel and health insurance. Utrecht University does not accept responsibility for any loss, injury, damage, or unforeseen circumstances that may occur in connection with participation in the event.

### **IN CASE OF EMERGENCY**

In case of an emergency, always call our university security number: + 3130 253 44 44. The Dutch emergency number in order to directly reach emergency services (ambulance, police, fire and rescue) is 112.

### **TRANSPORT TO, IN AND AROUND UTRECHT**

#### *Public transportation (openbaar vervoer, OV)*

It is easy to get around with public transport in the Netherlands. You can plan your trip using apps like 9292 or Google Maps, which cover all types of public transport.

To use public transport in Utrecht, you'll need to pay with an OV-chipkaart, or use a contactless payment option. You can buy a single use / disposable OV-chip card at the yellow machines at the train station. Visit [www.ns.nl/en](http://www.ns.nl/en) to plan your trip by train from the airport to Utrecht.

#### *By bike*

The fastest way of getting around in the city centre of Utrecht is by bike. There are various places where you can rent a bike. Please be careful to always park your bike in a bicycle stand or shed. Please also make sure to lock your bike whenever you park it, preferably to a physical object.

#### *By foot*

The city centre of Utrecht is quite small and very walkable. If you stay close to the conference locations, you will probably not need to make use of public transportation.

We would recommend downloading the map of Utrecht on your phone before your arrival. That way, you can navigate your way through the city using GPS.

# Venues

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## Domkerk



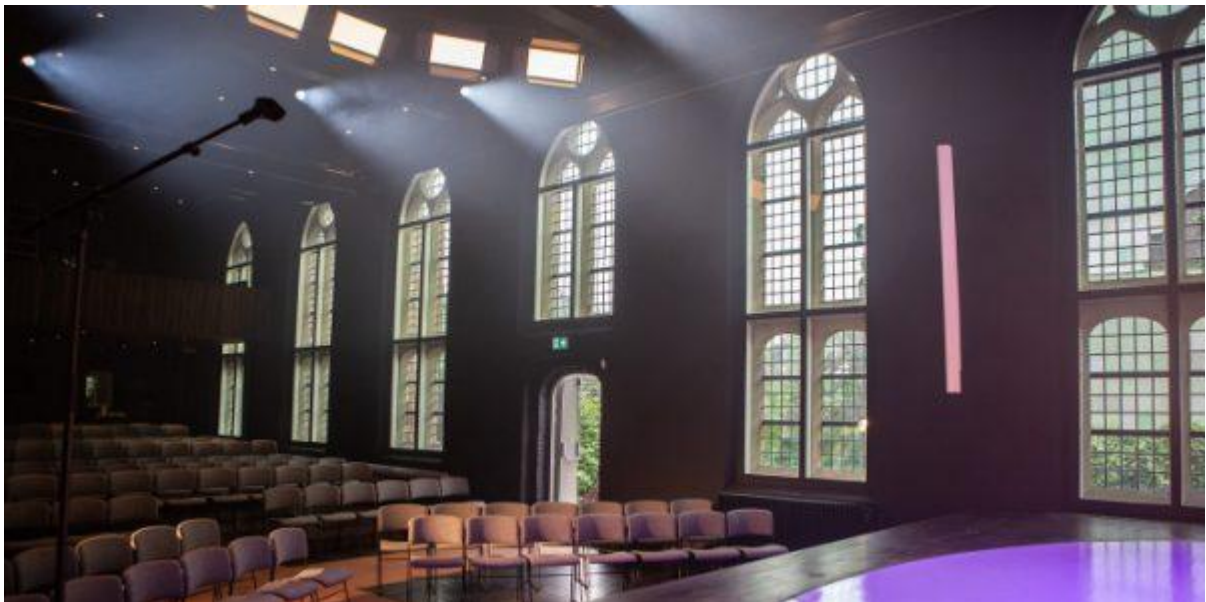
Domkerk, Sacristie



Janskerkhof 2/3



## Leeuwenbergh



Universiteitsmuseum / Oude Hortus

