Yale MacMillan Center
Program in Iranian Studies

Popular Music & Society in Iran: New Directions

Friday, January 26
9:30 AM - 10:00 AM
Greetings & Introduction

10:00 AM - 11:30 AM
Panel 1: Pop Music & State Policy in Safavid Iran
Anthony Shay, Pomona College: What is Popular Music? What is Popular Iranian Music?

11:30 AM - 1:00 PM
Panel 2: From Musicians in the Qajar Era to the Golha Radio Program
Amir Hosein Pourjavady, UCLA: The Social Organization of Musicians During the Qajar Period
Jane Lewisohn, SOAS: The Importance of Archiving the Performing Arts of Iran

1:00 PM - 3:00 PM
Lunch & Screening of “No Land’s Song”

2:30 PM - 3:30 PM
Artist Session I: Discussion of the Persian Radif & Setar Performance by Amir Hosein Pourjavady

3:30 PM - 4:00 PM
Coffee

4:00 PM - 5:30 PM
Panel 3: From State Policy on the Female Voice to Women Musicians’ Narratives
Nahid Siamdoust, Yale University: The Islamic Republic and Solo Female Singing
Paola Messina, Arab Studies Institute: Reclaiming Stage and Image: Iranian Women Musicians, In Their Own Voices

5:30 PM - 7:00 PM
Artist Session II: Conversation & Performance with Salomeh MC, Iran’s First Female Hip Hop Artist

Saturday, January 27
8:30 AM - 9:00 AM
Coffee & Pastry

9:00 AM - 10:30 AM
Panel 4: From the Sounds of Lalehzar to Emerging Trends in Tehran’s Musical Theaters
Ida Meftahi, University of Maryland: The Soundscape of Lalehzar Tehran: 1941-1953
Erum Naqvi, Pratt Institute: Art Kids of Tehran: Emerging Trends in Musical Theater

10:30 AM - 12:00 PM
Panel 5: From Persian Hip-Hop to Music Education Among Rockers
Theresa Steward, University of Mary Washington: “We Rap for Persia:” The Musical Revolution of Rap-e Farsi
Nasim Niknafs, University of Toronto: Musigh-e-marâmi: How urban Iran reimagines a local & DIY music education

12:00 PM - 1:00 PM
Lunch & Coffee

1:00 PM - 2:00 PM
Artist Session III: Screening & Conversation: Mohsen Namjoo with Salmak Khaledi of 127 On Iran’s Underground Rock Scene

2:00 PM - 3:30 PM
Panel 6: From Diasporic Musical Impiety to New Musical Religiosities in Iran
Farzaneh Hemmasi, University of Toronto: Diasporic Iranian Popular Music & Politics of Impiety
Hamidreza Salehyar, University of Toronto: Mourning Rituals, Popular Music & New Religiosities in Iran

3:30 PM - 4:30 PM
Special Session: Mohsen Namjoo, Musician: Depoliticizing Music

4:30 PM - 5:00 PM
Plenary Session & Farewell