

# SPRING 2013 FILM SERIES



# Plastic Flowers Never Die

**Directed by Roxanne Varzi (USA, 2008)**  
**in English and Persian with English subtitles**

The war with Iraq was the largest mobilization of the Iranian population, achieved primarily by producing and promoting a culture of martyrdom based on religious themes found in Shi'a Islam. Khomeini made it clear the war was a spiritual one that the people, and not a professional army, would fight. It would be a sacred defense; a war of good against evil, of spirit against military might, where a human wave of believers would form a wall of defense against the Iraqis. Over 800,000 people died.

**Anthropologist, writer and filmmaker Roxanne Varzi spent twelve years researching and writing about post-Revolution public culture in Iran, she's the author of *Warring Souls, Media, Martyrdom and Youth in Post-Revolution Iran*, Duke 2006.**

**FOLLOWED BY A DISCUSSION WITH**

# Roxanne Varzi

**ANTHROPOLOGY AND FILM & MEDIA STUDIES**  
**UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA-IRVINE**

**Thursday, April 11 • 6:30pm**

**LUCE HALL AUDITORIUM, 34 HILLHOUSE AVENUE**

SPONSORED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF ANTHROPOLOGY AND  
THE COUNCIL ON MIDDLE EAST STUDIES AT THE MACMILLAN CENTER