

2018-19
Annual
Report



UCI Jordan Center for
Persian Studies



مرکز مطالعات ایران شناسی دکتر سمویل جردن



Ameri House, Kashan, Iran. Photo by Ebrahim Safi.

Message from the Director

It is my pleasure to serve as the Director of the Dr. Samuel M. Jordan Center for Persian Studies & Culture for the 2018-2019 academic year. This is the fifth year that I have had the privilege to embark on important activities to study and understand the Iranian world. We had more than 50 events this past year, which included lectures, seminars, conferences, movie showings, musical concerts, and art exhibits. Scholars from Iran, Europe, and the U.S. have come to the center to share their knowledge with the university, and the Iranian community in Orange County and Southern California. I am pleased that we at the center continue to publish book series, in both English and Persian, as well as CD productions. Furthermore, we have continued our work on SASANIKA: Late Antique Iran Project, with new articles and archaeological reports. TEHRAN Project: Water, City, People has added an article and DABIR: Digital Archives of Brief Notes & Iran Review has published its sixth volume. I hope to continue to make the Jordan Center for Persian Studies & Culture thrive and make the history and culture of the Iranian world better understood.



Professor Touraj Daryaei

Staff

[Touraj Daryaei](#)

Director, Jordan Center for Persian Studies & Culture
Maseeh Chair in Persian Studies & Culture

[Amanda Jeanne Swain](#)

Executive Director, Humanities Center

[Saeid Jalalipour](#)

Program Manager,
Jordan Center for Persian Studies & Culture

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[Farinaz Pirshirazi](#), Social Media Coordinator

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[Matthew Philip Canepa](#), Elahe Omidyar Mir-Djalali Presidential Chair in Art History and Archaeology of Ancient Iran

[Simcha Gross](#), Assistant Professor of History

[Soheila Kian](#), Lecturer in Persian Language

[Mark Levine](#), Professor of History

[Hossein Omoumi](#), Maseeh Chair in Persian Performing Arts; Department of Music

[Alka Patel](#), Associate Professor of Art History

[Nasrin Rahimieh](#), Howard Baskerville Professor of Humanities; Department of Comparative Literature

[Catherine Sameh](#), Assistant Professor of Gender and Sexual Studies

[Soorosh Sorooshian](#), Distinguished Professor of Civil and Environmental Engineering

[Roxanne Varzi](#), Professor of Anthropology

Visiting Scholars and Artists

[Arya Moknat](#), Scholar-in-residence

[Mahmoud Omidshahar](#), Scholar-in-residence

[Noureddin Zarrinkelk](#), Artist-in-residence

[Jane Lewisohn](#), Scholar-in-residence

Graphic DESIGNER: [Kourosh Beigpour](#), Graphic Designer

VOLUNTEERS: [Ebrahim Safi](#), Photographer

Campuswide Collaborations



The Jordan Center for Persian Studies & Culture collaborates with departments and centers in the School of Humanities, and across the UC Irvine campus. We were pleased to co-present the movie screening and Q&A of “A Girl Walks Home Alone at Night” written and directed by Ana Amirpour, with UCI Film and Media Studies and UCI Illuminations.

February 5, March 5, April 8, April 9,
April 16, 2019

The Crucible of Empire: The Sasanian World
and its Religious Minorities Lecture Series

Organized by Dr. Simcha Gross (UCI) and Dr. Touraj
Daryaei (UCI)

Co-Sponsored by UCI Humanities Commons

February 13, 2019

Asian Food Week - Persian Tea

with Dr. Nasrin Rahimieh (UCI) and Dr. Touraj Daryaei
(UCI)

Co-Sponsored by UCI Center for Asian Studies

February 14, 2019

“Afghanistan Rising”

A book talk by Dr. Faiz Ahmed, Associate Professor of
History at Brown University

Co-Sponsored by UCI Global Middle Eastern Studies

March 6, 2019

“A Girl Walks Home Alone at Night” directed
by Ana Amirpour

Movie screening and Q&A with the Director

Co-Sponsored by UCI Department of Film and Media
Studies and UCI Illuminations

April 19-20, 2019

Maestro Hossein Omoumi & Friends

Musical Concert

Co-Sponsored by UCI Department of Music

Community Outreach



Docunight Monthly Movie Screening of Iranian Documentaries at UC Irvine

Every first week of the month, Docunight screens a documentary about or around Iran, and or made by Iranian filmmakers. Docunight screenings take place across several cities in North America. Docunight screenings in Irvine are presented by UCI Jordan Center for Persian Studies & Culture with generous support from Saman Foundation. Screenings follow a Q&A with Dr. Deanna Kashani (UC Irvine/CSU Long Beach) leading the discussions. Docunight events are free and open to the public. All films have English subtitles.



Dr. Nouredin Zarrinkelk's Fine Arts Workshops at UC Irvine

Fine arts workshops are offered to UCI students and members of the community by Dr. Nouredin Zarrinkelk, artist-in-residence of Jordan Center for Persian Studies & Culture. Nouredin Zarrinkelk is an Iranian animator, concept artist, editor, graphic designer, illustrator, layout artist, photographer, scriptwriter, and sculptor. Dr. Zarrinkelk is known as the father of animation of Iran. Workshops are held every Sunday in the School of Humanities, UC Irvine. For more information, please contact: (negar.zarrinkelk@gmail.com)



Little Picasso Art Classes for Children by Ms. Maryam Naghshineh at UC Irvine

Painting classes for children (ages 5-11) are offered for members of the community by local artist and painter, Ms. Maryam Naghshineh. She is an abstract artist with a focus on Persian motifs and decorative art. Ms. Naghshineh was one of the participating artists for Farhang Foundation's Gala. She was nominated by their Art Committee as well as "Pasfarda Art and Culture" (Chicago) in 2014. Classes are held every Sunday in the School of Humanities, UC Irvine. For more information, please contact the instructor: (maryamnaghshineh@yahoo.com).

Community Outreach



Farsi Shad: Persian Language Classes for Children at UC Irvine

Weekly Persian language classes for children ages 6 and up were offered by the Farsi Shad group. Students learned to read and write Persian at their own pace in a fun and interactive environment that also provided a sense of community. Classes were held every Sunday in the School of Humanities, UC Irvine. For more information about Farsi Shad, please visit: (www.farsishad.com).



Bahar Kids 2nd Annual Children's Persian Book Festival at UC Irvine

On Sunday, February 24, 2018, Bahar Kids along with UCI Jordan Center for Persian Studies & Culture, held the 2nd Annual Children's Persian Book Festival at UC Irvine's School of Humanities. It was a wonderful half-day program, where attendees had the opportunity to purchase Persian books, CD, and meet with artists and authors, see art exhibitions, participate in children activities and see children's Yalda performance. This festival was attended by members of UCI and the community. For more information about Bahar Kids, please visit: (www.baharkids.org).



UC Irvine Iranian American Alumni Chapter Reception at Newkirk Alumni Center

On Thursday, January 31, 2019, UC Irvine Iranian American Alumni Chapter along with UCI Jordan Center for Persian Studies & Culture, held a chapter reception at UCI Newkirk Alumni Center. Attendees enjoyed heavy Persian hors d'oeuvres and Chai tea while networking with alumni, student leaders and the Iranian American Faculty/Staff Association to bring the UCI Iranian American community together and revitalize the UCI Alumni Chapter. Remarks from featured guest speakers: Dean Rameen Talesh, Niaz Kasravi, and many more.

Graduate Student Spotlight



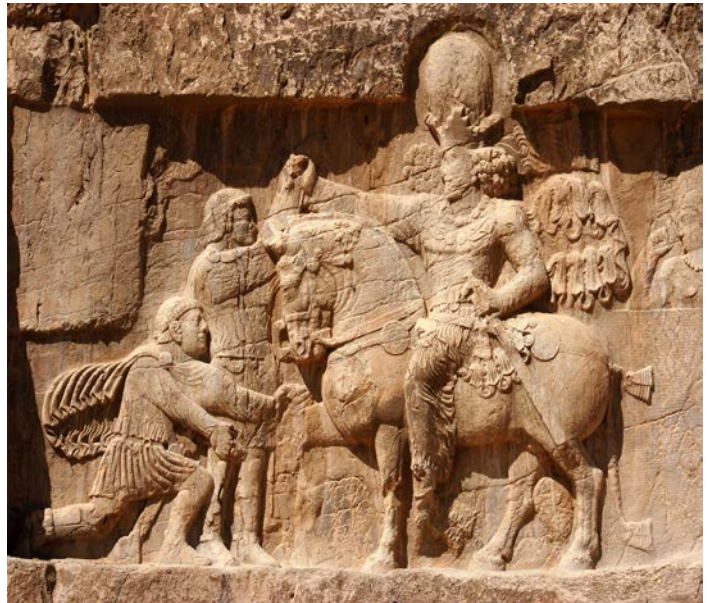
Layah Ziaii-Bigdeli

Layah Ziaii-Bigdeli is a Ph.D. student in Visual Studies program at University of California, Irvine. Her background is in Iranian archaeology and art history.

She earned a B.A. in Art History and archaeology with a concentration in ancient Near Eastern antiquities at Columbia University and an M.A. in Cultural Heritage and Preservation Studies with an emphasis on Islamic art at Rutgers University.

Her master's thesis examines Nishapur figural buff ware with an intention to understand the quality of modern conservation and its effects on scholarship.

Currently, she is interested in problems of transition from Sasanian to Islamic Iran. Her dissertation project focuses on Sasanian politics of the body and identity which closely relates to the construction and performance of femininities and masculinities.



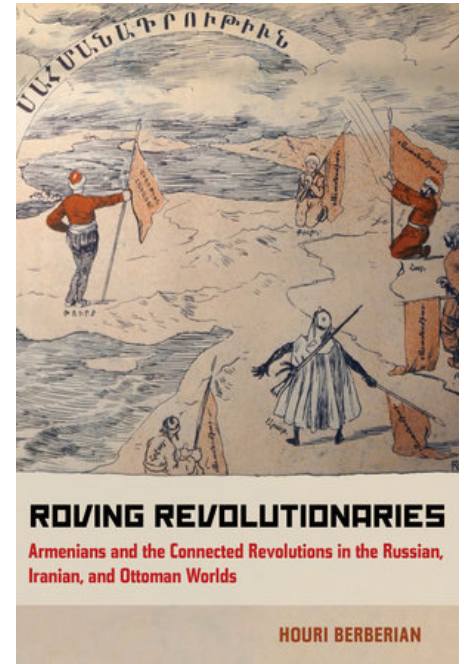
Ms. Ziaii-Bigdeli was the recipient of Farzaneh Family Fellowship in Summer 2019 to support her travel and research on Iranian Studies.

She was also awarded a curatorial internship at the Smithsonian's Freer and Sackler galleries in Summer 2019.

Smithsonian's Freer and Sackler galleries hold one of the world's foremost collections of ancient Iranian art. Generously supported by a gift from Mr. Vincent Steckler to UCI's Department of Art History, this internship will support Ms. Ziaii-Bigdeli cutting-edge technical and provenance research on the Freer | Sackler's holdings of Iranian silver, ceramics and archival material.

Layah's other research interests include: Research Interests: Sasanian Art and Archaeology, Islamic Art and Archaeology, Persian Language and Literature, Numismatics, Museum studies, Cultural Heritage, Gender and Sexuality Studies.

FacultySpotlight



Houri Berberian

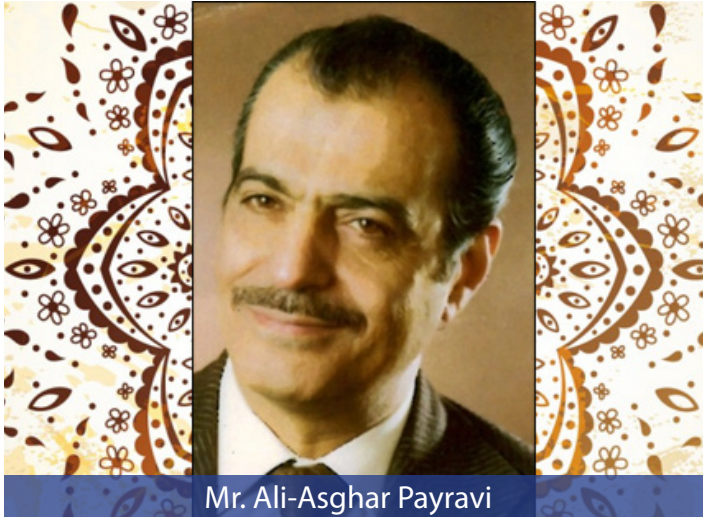
Dr. Houri Berberian, is a Professor of History & Meghrouni Family Presidential Chair in Armenian Studies at UC Irvine, School of Humanities. She is also the Director of the Armenian Studies program. Berberian received her B.A. from UC Berkeley and her M.A. and Ph.D. (1997) from UCLA, where she specialized in modern Middle Eastern history. Her other fields of competence are the comparative history of women, minorities, Armenia and the Caucasus. Her book, *Armenians and the Iranian Constitutional Revolution, 1905-1911: The love for freedom has no fatherland*, came out in 2001 with Westview Press. In 2000, she won the Association of Middle East Women's Studies Prize for Excellence in a Published Article for "Armenian Women in Turn-of-the-Century Iran: Education and activism," which appeared in *Iran and Beyond: Essays in middle eastern history in honor of Nikki R. Keddie* (Costa Mesa: Mazda, 2000). Her other books include; *Reflections of Armenian Identity in History and Historiography* (2018), co-edited with Touraj Daryaee; and the award-winning *Roving Revolutionaries: Armenians and the Connected Revolutions in the Russian, Iranian, and Ottoman Worlds* (2019), co-winner of the Der Mugrdechian SAS Outstanding Book Award.

The Society for Armenian Studies has awarded its Der Mugrdechian SAS Outstanding Book Award for 2018-2019 to Houri Berberian, Meghrouni Family Presidential Chair in Armenian Studies in UCI's Department of History, for her book, *Roving Revolutionaries: Armenians and the Connected Revolutions in the Russian, Iranian, and Ottoman Worlds* (University of California Press, 2019). The SAS bestows this award to a book that best advances knowledge and scholarship on Armenian society, culture and history from ancient times to present. Heghnar Zeitlian Watenpaugh, a professor in UC Davis' Department of Art History, is co-recipient of this award for her book, *The Missing Pages: The Modern Life of a Medieval Manuscript, from Genocide to Justice* (Stanford University Press, 2019).

Through a connected histories method, Berberian's book illustrates how Armenian revolutionaries moved physically and ideologically through the 1905 Russian, 1905-11 Iranian and 1908 Ottoman revolutions. In their press release, SAS notes that the book "provides a novel approach to our understanding of revolutions and revolutionary movements."

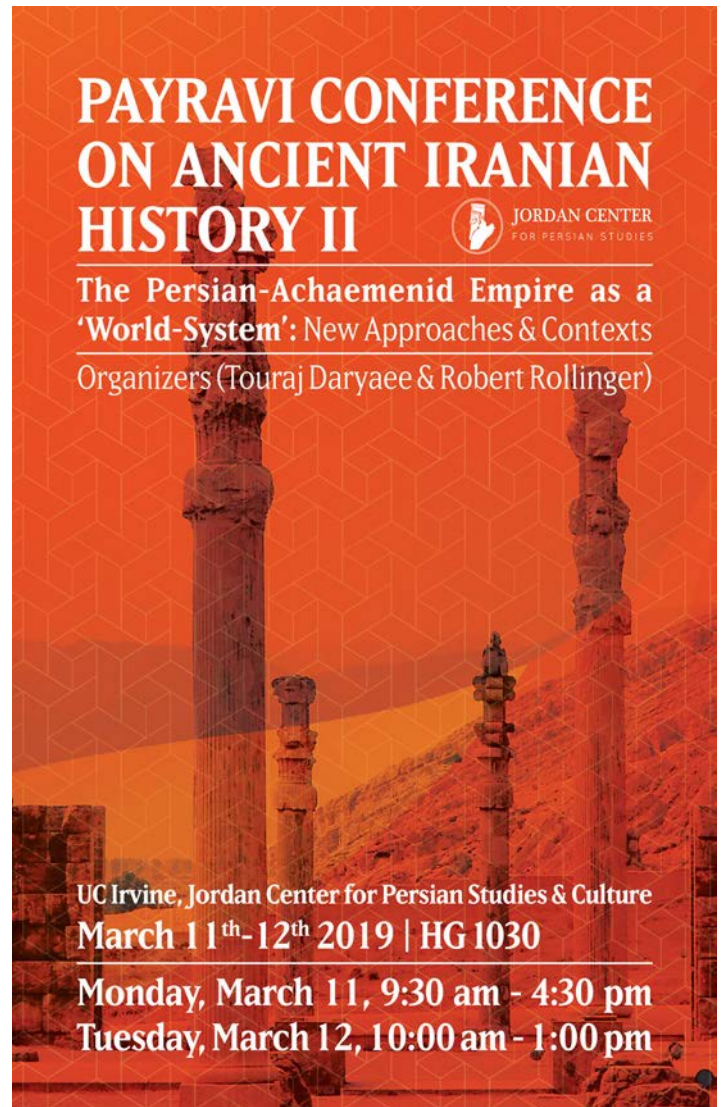
Berberian is director of UCI's Armenian Studies Program, which provides students with a range of Armenian history and language courses and offers the public a variety of free lectures. The program launched a minor in the Fall 2019.

Payravi Conference on Ancient Iranian History II



UC Irvine's Jordan Center for Persian Studies & Culture is proud to hold the second annual Payravi Conference on Ancient Iranian History in memory of the late Mr. Ali-Asghar Payravi. Mr. Payravi was an enthusiast and lover of ancient Iranian history who collected and read many books on ancient Iran. We are grateful to the Payravi family for their generous gift to support five conferences and publications.

This year's all-day conference was held at UC Irvine's School of Humanities on March 11-12, 2019 and it focused on the Persian-Achaemenid Empire as a 'World System': New Approaches & Contexts. This conference was organized by Dr. Touraj Daryaee (UC Irvine) and Dr. Robert Rollinger (University of Innsbruck/Getty Institute).



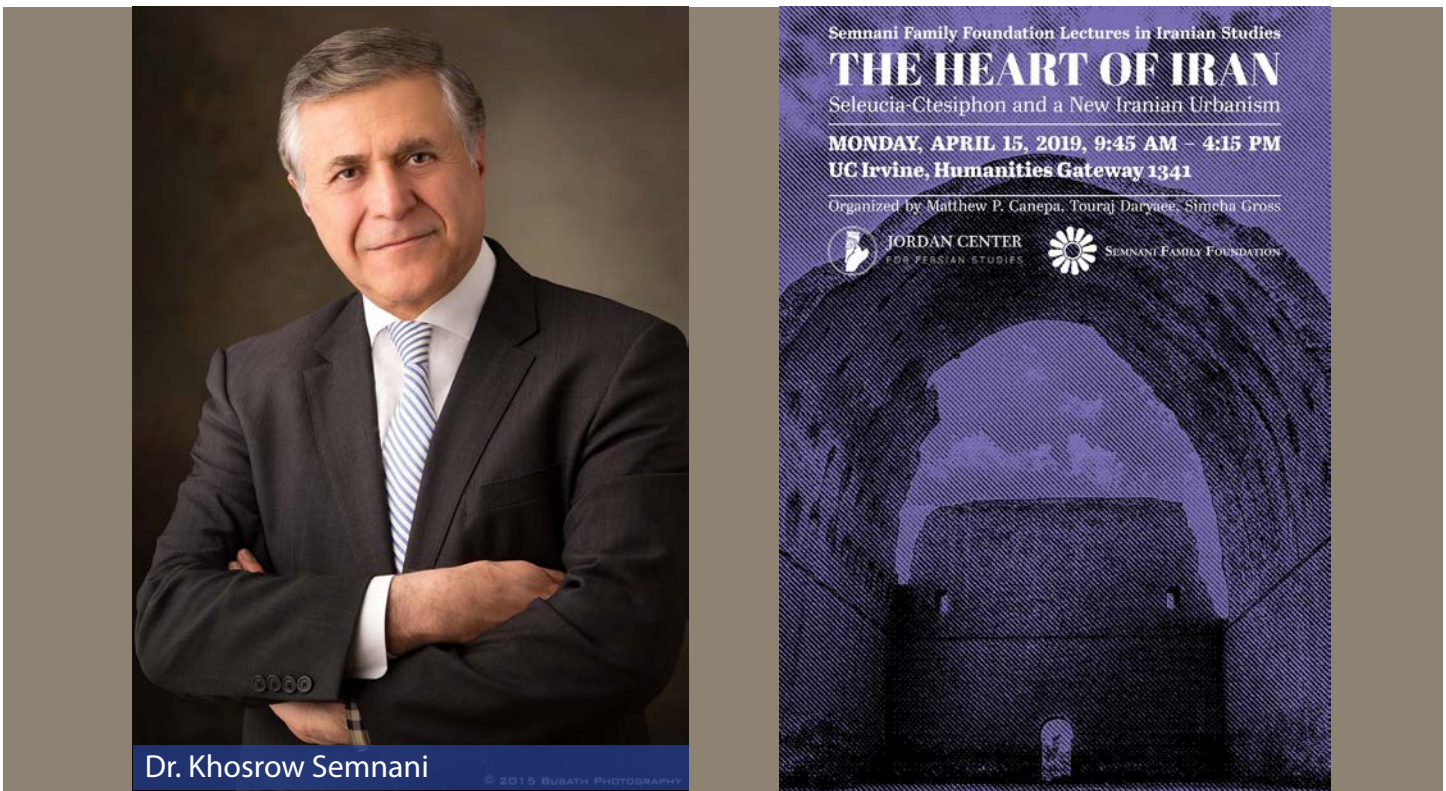
Mr. Bijan Farhad & Mrs. Parichehr Payravi (bottom, 3rd and 4th from the left) along with the conference speakers

Semnani Family Foundation Lectures in Iranian Studies

We are proud to continue the fourth annual Semnani Family Lectures. We are grateful to the Semnani Family Foundation for their generous contribution.

This year's conference was titled "The Heart of Iran: Seleucia-Ctesiphon and a New Iranian Urbanism" and was held at the School of Humanities, UC Irvine on Monday, April 15, 2019. This one-day international conference was organized by Dr. Touraj Daryaee (UC Irvine), Dr. Matthew Canepa (UC Irvine) and Dr. Simcha Gross (UC Irvine). This conference focused on the city of Seleucia-Ctesiphon, the capital of the Sasanian Empire. This event was presented by Semnani Family Foundation, and UCI Jordan Center for Persian Studies & Culture.

We would like to thank Dr. Khosrow Semnani for his support of the Jordan Center for Persian Studies & Culture at UC Irvine.



Mrs. Shirin Kia-Semani & Mr. Khosrow Semnani (at the bottom center) with conference speakers

Celebrating International Women's Day Conference

UC Irvine's Jordan Center for Persian Studies & Culture in collaboration with Iranian American Women Foundation (IAWF) held "Celebrating International Women's Day Celebration" at UC Irvine's School of Humanities on Saturday, March 9, 2019.

IAWF is a non-profit organization, whose mission is to provide a platform for empowerment and networking among Iranian-American Women and to provide mentorship to younger generations of Iranians locally and globally. This year's celebration included screening of an inspirational documentary film by Fery Malek Madani and her team who traveled to provincial cities across Iran to channel the imagination of young girls and ask them to focus on their dreams and aspirations. The event also included a panel discussion of Iranian women entrepreneurs, Monir Jalili, Sunny Nassim, Anoosheh Oskouian, Shirin Zarkesh and a community services award to Shahrzad Ardalan.

We would like to thank Iranian American Women Foundation (IAWF) and its director, Dr. Mariam Khosravani for their support of the Jordan Center for Persian Studies & Culture at UC Irvine.



CELEBRATING INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S MONTH

• PANEL OF IRANIAN AMERICAN ENTREPRENEUR WOMEN
• PHOTO EXHIBIT
• DOCUMENTARY SCREENING:

THE GIRLS
A DOCUMENTARY FILM ABOUT HOPES & DREAMS OF GIRLS IN IRAN

SPEAKERS: Monir Jalili, Sunny Nassim, Anoosheh Oskouian, Shirin Zarkesh
Q&A: Fery Malek Madani

Orange County | March 9th
1:00-4:30 PM

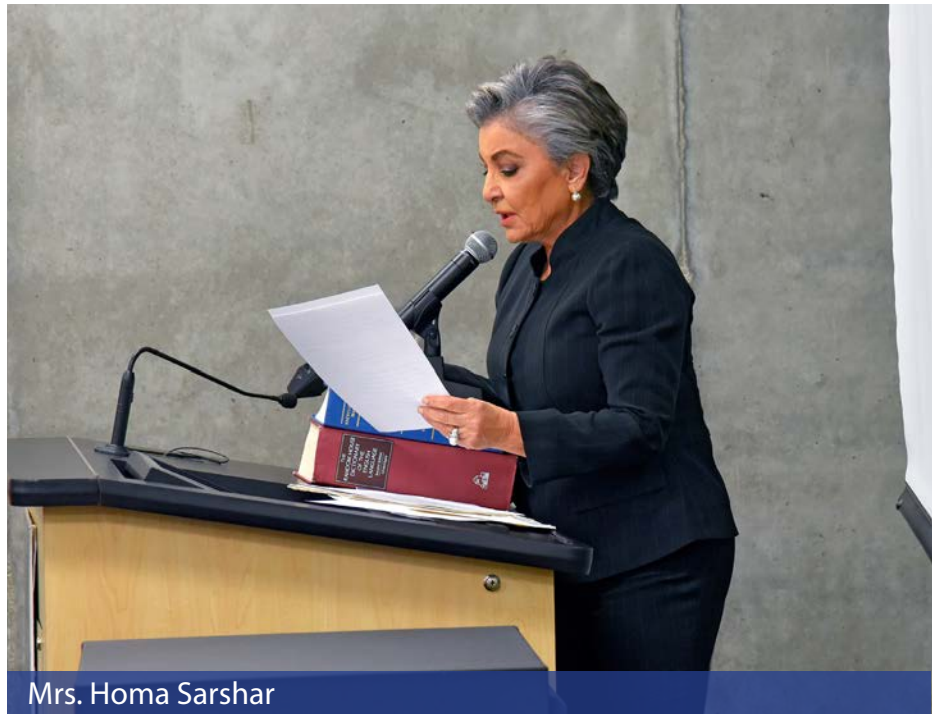
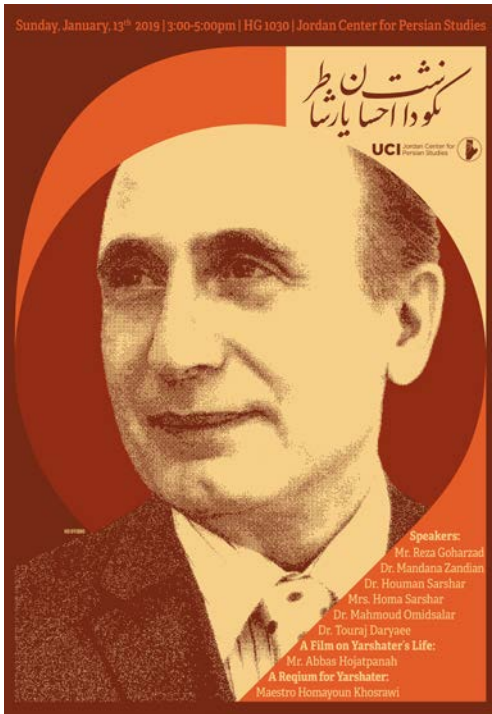
UCI Jordan Center for Persian Studies
ALBORZ AUDITORIUM (ROOM 1800) - HUMANITIES GATEWAY (HG)

[PURCHASE YOUR TICKETS HERE](#)



Celebrating International Women's Day

Honoring The Late Dr. Ehsan Yarshater



Mrs. Homa Sarshar

UC Irvine's Jordan Center for Persian Studies & Culture held a talk and celebration to honor the late Dr. Ehsan Yarshater, renowned Iranian studies professor and scholar at UC Irvine's School of Humanities on Sunday, January 13, 2019. Speakers included Mr. Reza Goharзад, Dr. Mandana Zandian, Dr. Houman Sarshar, Mrs. Homa Sarshar, Dr. Mahmoud Omidshar and Dr. Touraj Daryaei. A film on Dr. Yarshater's life by Mr. Abbas Hojatzpanah followed by a requiem for Dr. Yarshater by Maestro Homayoun Khosravi.



Honoring Dr. Ehsan Yarshater's life and career

Lecture by Mrs. Shahrnush Parsipur



On Sunday, June 9, 2019 in UC Irvine's School of Humanities, renowned Iranian writer, Mrs. Shahrnush Parsipur gave a talk about her life and works and spoke about the past.

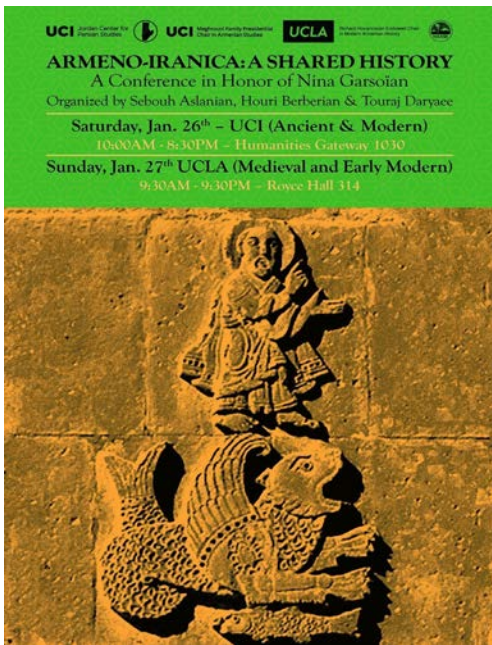
This talk was in Persian/Farsi. This event was free and open to the public.

This event is presented by UCI Jordan Center for Persian Studies & Culture with generous support from Mrs. Homa Sarshar and Dr. Nina Ansary.



Mrs. Homa Sarshar, Mr. Majid Roshangar and Dr. Nehzat Farnoody among the attendees

Armeno-Iranica: A Shared History - UCI/UCLA Joint Conference



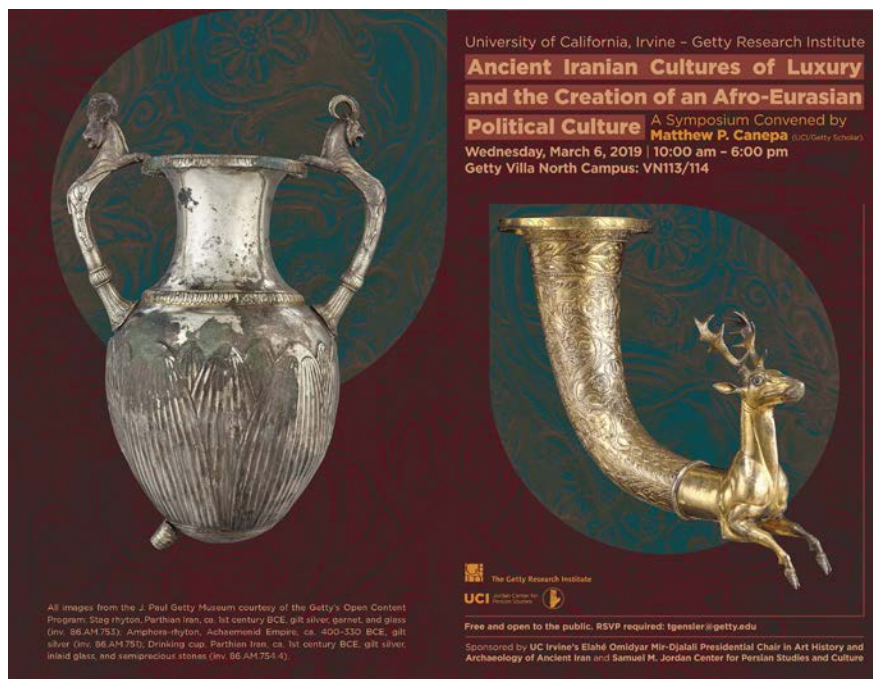
Armeno-Iranica: A Shared History, a two-day international conference in honor of Nina Garsoian, Saturday, January 26, 2019, UC Irvine (Ancient & Modern) & Sunday, January 27, 2019, UCLA (Medieval & Early Modern).

Event highlights included a talk by Levon Avdoyan (Library of Congress, Washington DC) titled "Nina Garsoian's Contribution to Armeno-Iranian Studies". Omar Coloru (Maison de l'Archéologie et de l'Ethnologie René Ginouvés, presented a talk titled "The City of Brotherly Love: The Language of Family Affection in the Artaxiad Dynasty between the Hellenistic and the Parthian Worlds". The Keynote Address was presented by Stephen Rapp (Sam Houston State University) titled "Medieval Caucasasia and the Byzantine Turn: The Fate of a Christianized Persianate Society". Finally, a musical performance by Sibarg Ensemble.

This event was organized by UCI Jordan Center for Persian Studies & Culture (Touraj Daryaei), UCI Meghrouni Family Presidential Chair in Armenian Studies (Houri Berberian), UCLA Richard Hovannisian Endowed Chair in Modern Armenian History (Sebouh Aslanian), and National Association for Armenian Studies and Research (NAASR).



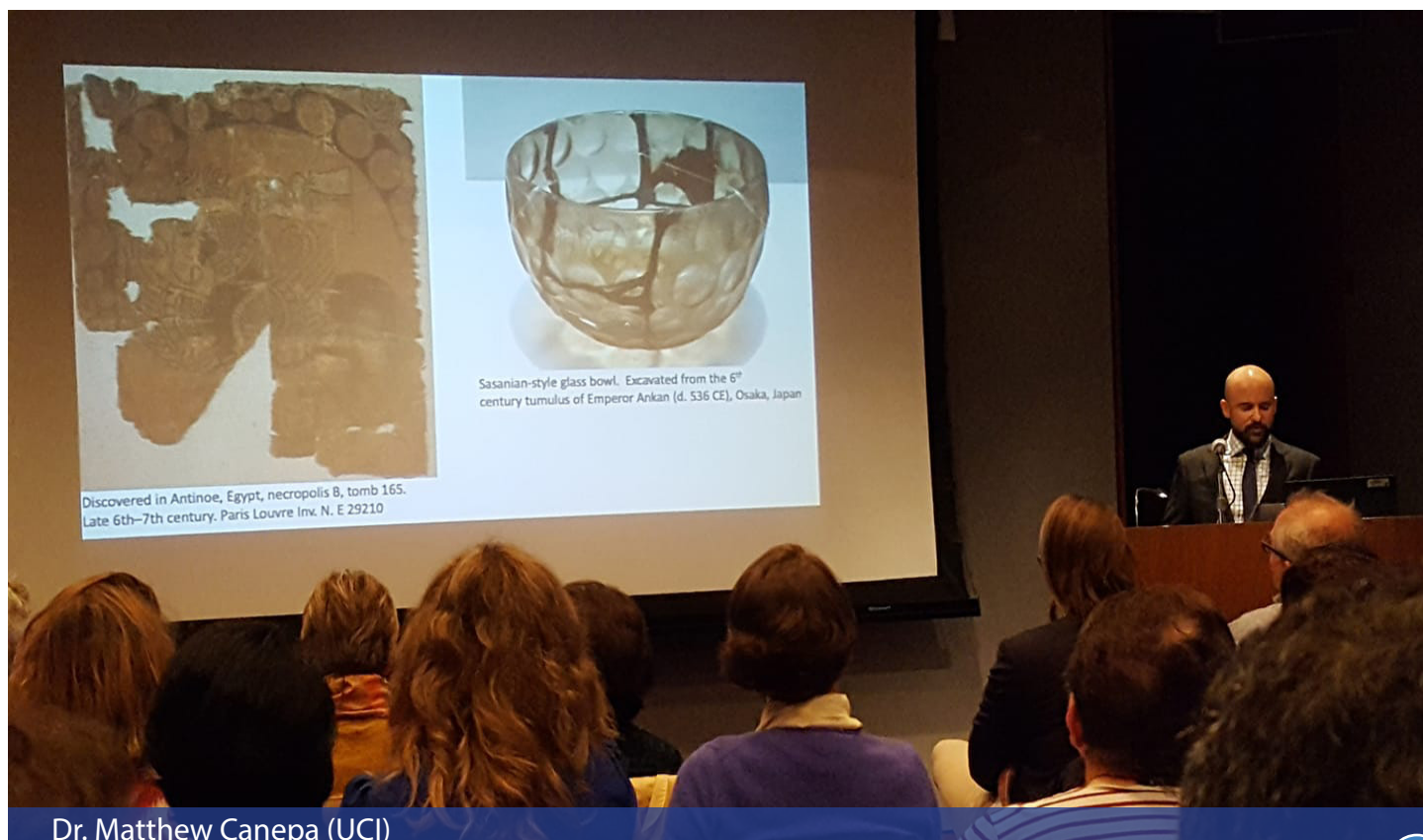
UC Irvine and Getty Research Institute Symposium



"Ancient Iranian Cultures of Luxury and the Creation of an Afro-Eurasian Political Culture" took place on Wednesday, March 6, 2019, at Getty Villa and it was organized by UCI Professor & Getty Scholar, Dr. Matthew Canepa.

Sponsored by UCI Elah Omidyar Mir-Djalali Presidential Chair in Art History and Archaeology of Ancient Iran and UCI Jordan Center for Persian Studies and Culture.

This symposium brought an international group of scholars from around the world to discuss luxury artifacts from the ancient Iranian world.



The Crucible of Empire: UCI-Oxford Lecture Series

The Crucible of Empire: The Sasanian World and its Religious Minorities Lecture Series at UC Irvine, School of Humanities.

These lecture series were organized by Professor Simcha Gross (UC Irvine), Professor Yuhan S.D. Vevaina (Oxford) and Professor Touraj Daryaee (UC Irvine) and were sponsored by UCI Jordan Center for Persian Studies & Culture and UCI Humanities Commons. The lecture at UCI included:

“Devote Yourself to Our Happiness: Christians, Courtiers, and the King of Kings in Sasanian Iran” by Professor Scott McDonough (William Paterson University)

“Religious Heterodoxy and Plurality in Late Antique Georgia” by Professor Stephen Rapp (Sam Houston State University)

“One is the Truth. Those of the Others are All Non-Paths: Disciplining Selves and Critiquing Others in Sasanian Iran” by Professor Yuhan Sohrab-Dinshaw Vevaina (Oxford University)

“Syriac Christians and Zoroastrian Mythology” by Professor Sergey Minov (Oxford University)

“Reflections on Sasanian Religious Policy” by Professor Rahim Shayegan (UCLA)

THE CRUCIBLE OF EMPIRE
THE SASANIAN WORLD AND ITS RELIGIOUS MINORITIES
LECTURE SERIES | UC IRVINE, HUMANITIES GATEWAY (HG) 1010
Organized by Professor Simcha Gross (UCI) & Professor Touraj Daryaee (UCI)

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 5, 2019 | 6:00-8:00 PM
Devote Yourself to Our Happiness: Christians, Courtiers, and the King of Kings in Sasanian Iran
by Professor Scott McDonough (William Paterson University)

TUESDAY, MARCH 5, 2019 | 6:00-8:00 PM
Religious Heterodoxy and Plurality in Late Antique Georgia
by Professor Stephen Rapp (Sam Houston State University)

MONDAY, APRIL 8, 2019 | 6:00-8:00 PM
One is the Path of Truth. Those of the Others are All Non-Paths: Disciplining Selves and Critiquing Others in Sasanian Iran
by Professor Yuhan Sohrab-Dinshaw Vevaina (Oxford University)

TUESDAY, APRIL 9, 2019 | 6:00-8:00 PM
Syriac Christians and Zoroastrian mythology: Between polemic and acculturation
by Professor Sergey Minov (Oxford University)

TUESDAY, APRIL 16, 2019 | 6:00-8:00 PM
Reflections on Sasanian Religious Policy by Professor Rahim Shayegan (UCLA)



Dr. Simcha Gross (UCI) introducing Dr. Scott McDonough (William Paterson University)

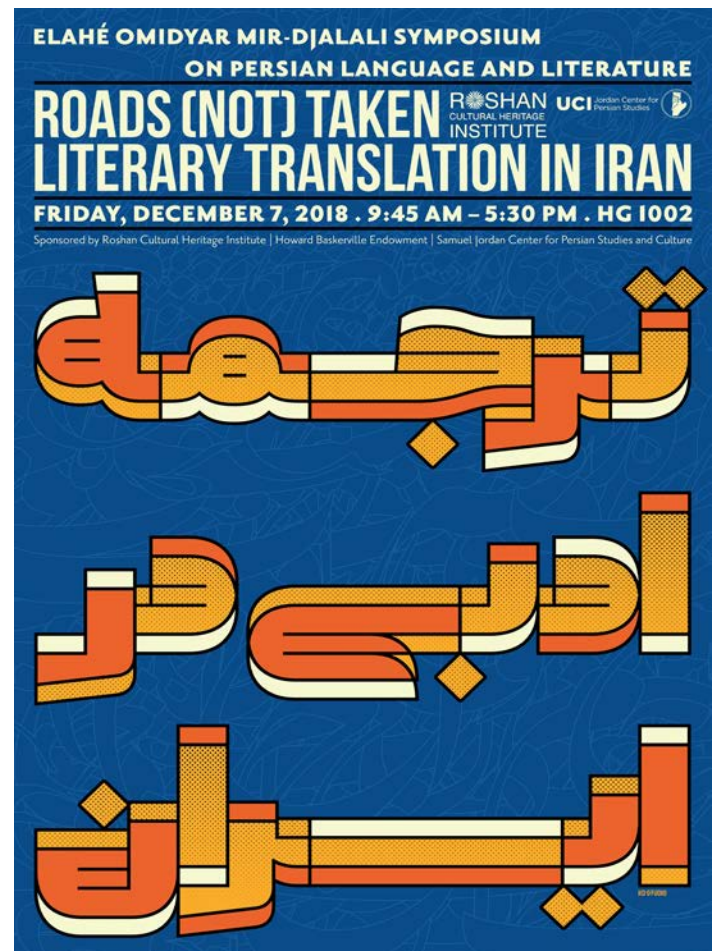
Elahé Omidyar Mir-Djalali Symposium on Persian Language and Literature



With the support of Roshan Cultural Heritage Institute, the Jordan Center for Persian Studies & Culture, held the second Elahé Omidyar Mir-Djalali Symposium on Persian Language and Literature at UC Irvine's School of Humanities on Friday, December 7, 2018.

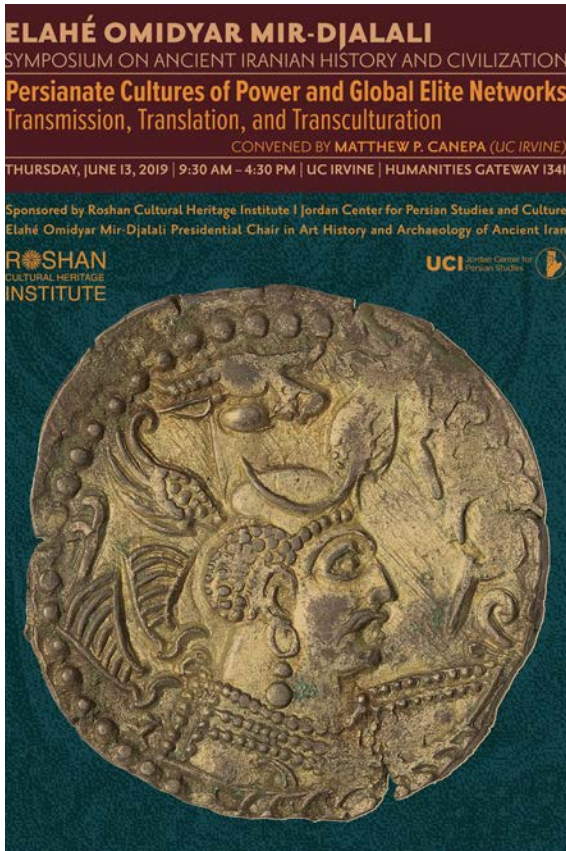
The conference was titled "Roads (Not) Taken: Literary Translation in Iran", which brought professors of Persian from Europe and the United States to discuss various aspects of Persian Literature. This conference was organized by Professor Nasrin Rahimieh, Howard Baskerville Professor of Humanities from Department of Comparative Literature at UC Irvine.

We are thankful to Dr. Elahé Omidyar Mir-Djalali and Roshan Cultural Heritage Institute for their continuous support of the Jordan Center for Persian Studies & Culture.



Dr. Ahamd Karimi-Hakkak, and Babak Mazloumi among the conference speakers and participants

Elahé Omidyar Mir-Djalali Symposium on Ancient Iranian History & Civilization



With the support of Roshan Cultural Heritage Institute, Jordan Center for Persian Studies & Culture held the second Elahé Omidyar Mir-Djalali Symposium on Ancient Iranian History and Civilization at UC Irvine's School of Humanities on Thursday, June 13, 2019. This symposium was organized by Dr. Matthew Canepa (UC Irvine).

The conference was titled "Persianate Cultures of Power and Global Elite Networks: Transmission, Translation, and Transculturation", which brought historians of antiquity to discuss ancient Iranian culture and customs. Scholars such as Touraj Daryaee (UC Irvine), Matthew Canepa (UC Irvine), Robert Rollinger (University of Innsbruck), Antigoni Zournatzi (National Hellenic Research Foundation, Athens), Rachel Mairs (University of Reading), Jake Nabel (Penn State University), Warwick Ball (Journal of Afghanistan Studies), Alka Patel (UC Irvine), Lamia Balafrej (UCLA), and Jenny Rose (Claremont Graduate University) presented their papers.

We are thankful to Dr. Elahé Omidyar Mir-Djalali and Roshan Cultural Heritage Institute for their continuous support of the Jordan Center for Persian Studies & Culture.



Speakers and Conference Participants

Elahé Omidyar Mir-Djalali Lecture

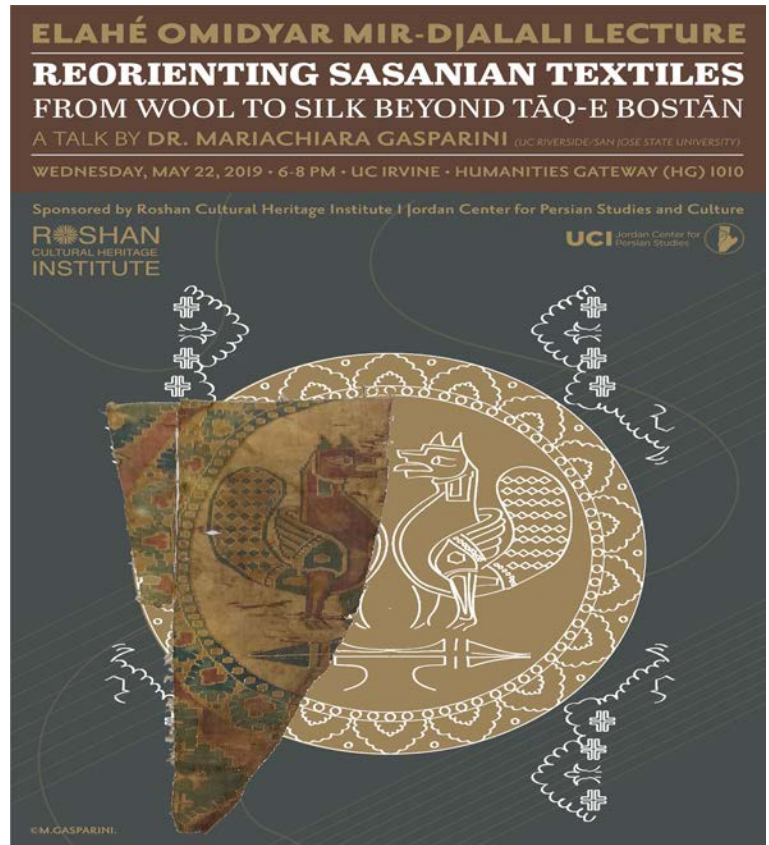


With the support of Roshan Cultural Heritage Institute, the Jordan Center for Persian Studies & Culture, held the second Elahé

Omidyar Mir-Djalali Lecture by Dr. Mariachiara Gasparini at UC Irvine's School of Humanities on Wednesday, May 22, 2019.

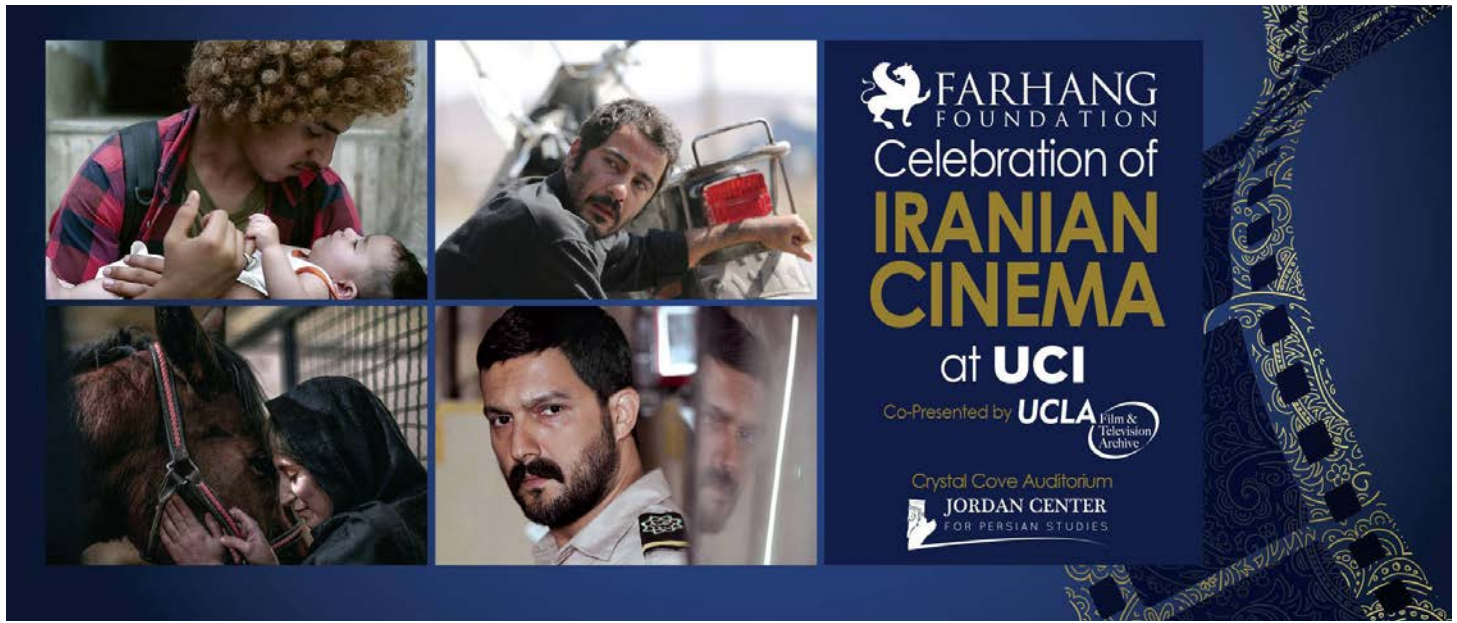
This lecture was titled "Reorienting Sasanian Textiles: From Wool to Silk Beyond Taq-e Bostan". Professor Gasparini spoke about the Sasanian textiles and Sino-Sasanian relations along the historic Silk Road.

We are thankful to Dr. Elahé Omidyar Mir-Djalali and Roshan Cultural Heritage Institute for their continuous support of the Jordan Center for Persian Studies & Culture.



Dr. Mariachiara Gasparini (UC Riverside/San Jose State University)

Farhang Foundation Celebration of Iranian Cinema



Celebration of Iranian Cinema at UC Irvine, Crystal Cove Auditorium

Organized by Farhang Foundation and UCLA Film & Television Archives, in collaboration with UCI Jordan Center for Persian Studies & Culture, Saturday-Sunday, September 15-16, 2018.

The 3rd annual Iranian film festival featured four films shown over two days at UC Irvine's Crystal Cove Auditorium and was attended by UCI community and members of the public.

VALDERAMMA, directed by Abbas Amini.

NO DATE, NO SIGNATURE, directed by Vahid Jalilvand.

NEGAR, directed by Rambod Javan.

BLOCKAGE, directed by Mohsen Gharai.



Farhang Foundation 2018 Mehregan UCI Conference



Mehregan Conference and Celebration at UC Irvine, School of humanities

Organized by Farhang Foundation and UCI Jordan Center for Persian Studies & Culture, Sunday, October 7, 2018.

UCI Jordan Center for Persian Studies & Culture and Farhang Foundation proudly presented the 4th Annual Mehregan Conference. This year's conference was titled IN SEARCH OF ZAKARIYA RAZI and featured talks by Professor Ahmed Alwishah of Pitzer College titled "Razi's Key Philosophical Ideas" and Professor Mahmoud Omidshah of UC Irvine titled "Razi, an Iranian Polymath of the 10th Century". This event also featured a special musical performance by Arezoo Koochakan and Vandad Massahzadeh and Ensemble, with special guests. A reception followed afterwards.



Arezoo Kochakan, Vandad Massahzadeh, and Ensemble

Farhang Foundation Lectures in Iranian Studies



Feasting Iranian Style: A Symposium on Food

An event organized by UCI Jordan Center for Persian Studies & Culture in collaboration with Farhang Foundation, Sunday, May 26, 2019.

This year's Farhang Foundation Annual Lecture Series in Iranian Studies was about the history and tradition of food and dining in Iran from ancient times to the modern period.

The event kicked off with welcoming remarks by Dr. Tyrus Miller (Dean of UCI School of Humanities) followed by a lecture titled "Meat in Ancient Iran: From the Gathas of Zarathushtra to the Shahnameh of Ferdowsi" by Dr. Touraj Daryaee (UC Irvine). Dr. Khodadad Rezakhani (Princeton) then delivered a talk via Skype titled "Scraps from the King's Table: The Invention of the Qajar Cuisine". The last talk was titled "Dining with the King: The Fine Art of Feasting at the Persian Courts" by Dr. Linda Komaroff (LACMA). After the talks a Q&A session followed. Finally, there was a reception with various Qajar themes foods re-created by Chef Parastoo Rezai (Maison de la Fork).



Touraj Daryaee (UCI) & Khodadad Rezakhani (Princeton)



Dean Tyrus Miller (UCI School of Humanities)



Screening of Iranian Documentary Movies “Docunight”



Every first week of the month, Docunight screens a documentary about or around Iran, and or made by Iranian filmmakers. Docunight screenings take place across several cities in North America. Docunight screenings in Irvine are presented by UCI Jordan Center for Persian Studies & Culture with generous support from Saman Foundation.

Screenings follow a Q&A with Dr. Deanna Kashani (UC Irvine/CSU Long Beach) leading the discussions. Docunight events are free and open to the public. All films have English subtitles.

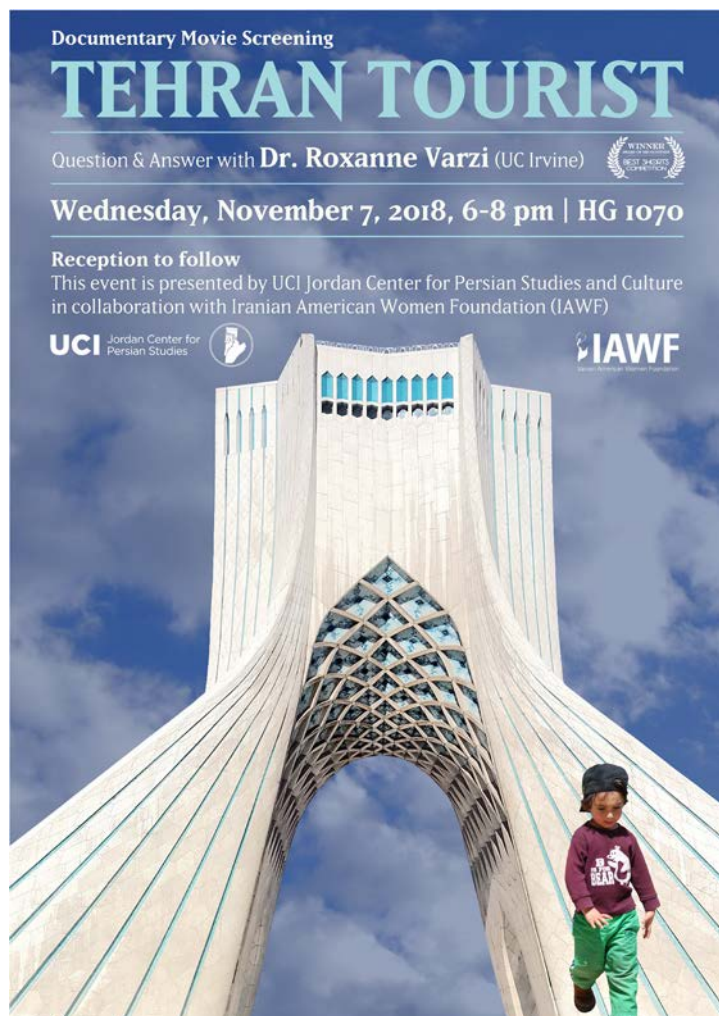


Screening of “Tehran Tourist” by Dr. Roxanne Varzi

The screening of documentary movie titled “Tehran Tourist” directed by UC Irvine’s Professor of Anthropology, Dr. Roxanne Varzi on Wednesday, November 7, 2018 at UCI School of Humanities, McCormick Screening Hall.

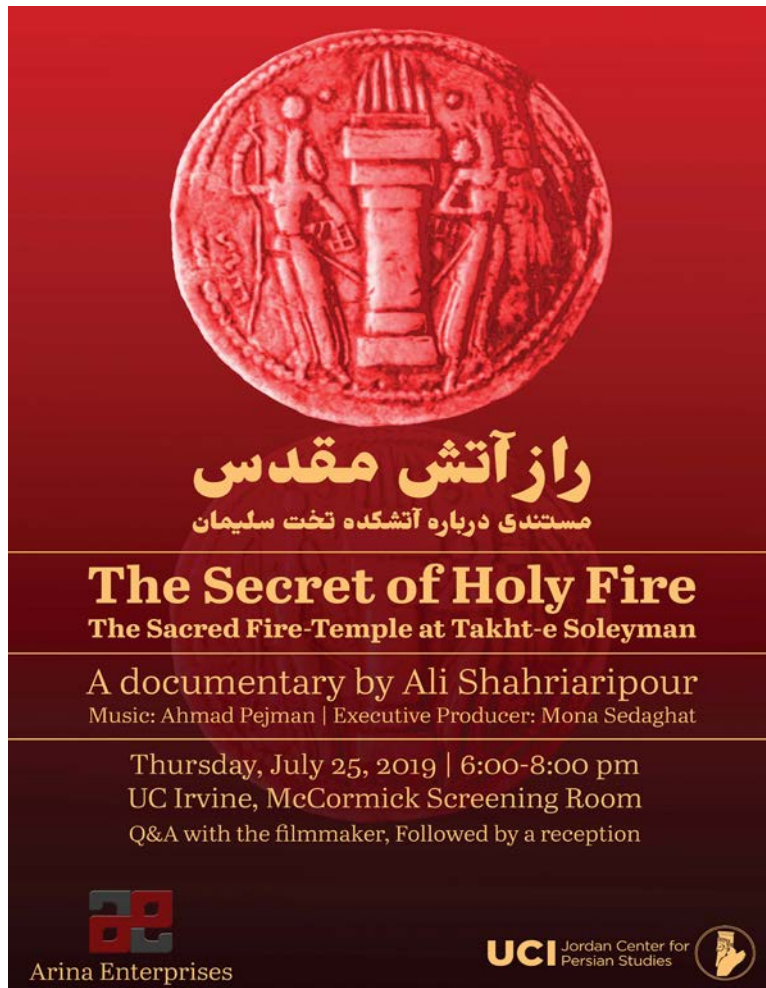
Anthropologist Roxanne Varzi travels back to Iran for her second experimental documentary. *Tehran Tourist* is not a traditional *Safar Nameh*, (classical Iranian travelogue), but a project in guerrilla film-making. The film was shot mostly on an iPhone 4s, handheld and on the fly. It moves from the Archaeology museum in Tehran to a village in Kurdistan (recently devastated by an earthquake) to playgrounds and school rooms -- in and out of political landscapes and allegory to elucidate an Iran that very few are privy to. The film plays with youthful notions of identity and place and belonging as a child tries to make sense of where he is and where he came from while introducing the American viewer to an Iran that very few are privy to. It is also an ode to Abbas Kiarostami who deftly showed us the world through the eyes of a child.

The screening was followed by a discussion and Q&A with the director, Dr. Roxanne Varzi.



Audience watching the “Tehran Tourist” documentary movie

Screening of “The Secret of Holy Fire” by Ali Shahriaripour



The Iranian documentary director, Ali Shahriaripour, attended a showing of his documentary film, “The Secret of Holy Fire: The Sacred Fire Temple at Takht-e Soleyman” at on Thursday, July 25, 2019 at UCI Jordan Center for Persian Studies & Culture.

This documentary depicts the history of the sacred Zoroastrian fire-temple at Takht-e Soleyman archaeological site in West Azarbaijan, Iran from the Sasanian period. This site was recognized as a World Heritage Site in July 2003. The Zoroastrian fire temple was built during the Sassanid period and partially rebuilt (as a mosque) during the Ilkhanid period. This temple housed one of the three “Great Fires” or “Royal Fires” that Sassanid rulers humbled themselves before in order to ascend the throne. The fire at Takht-i Soleiman was called ādur Wishnāsp and was dedicated to the arteshtar or warrior class of the Sasanians.

The screening was followed by a discussion and Q&A with the director, Mr. Ali Shahriaripour and the executive producer, Ms. Mona Sedaghat. A reception followed afterwards.



Ms. Mona Sedaghat (Executive Producer) and Mr. Ali Shahriaripour (Director) discussing the movie

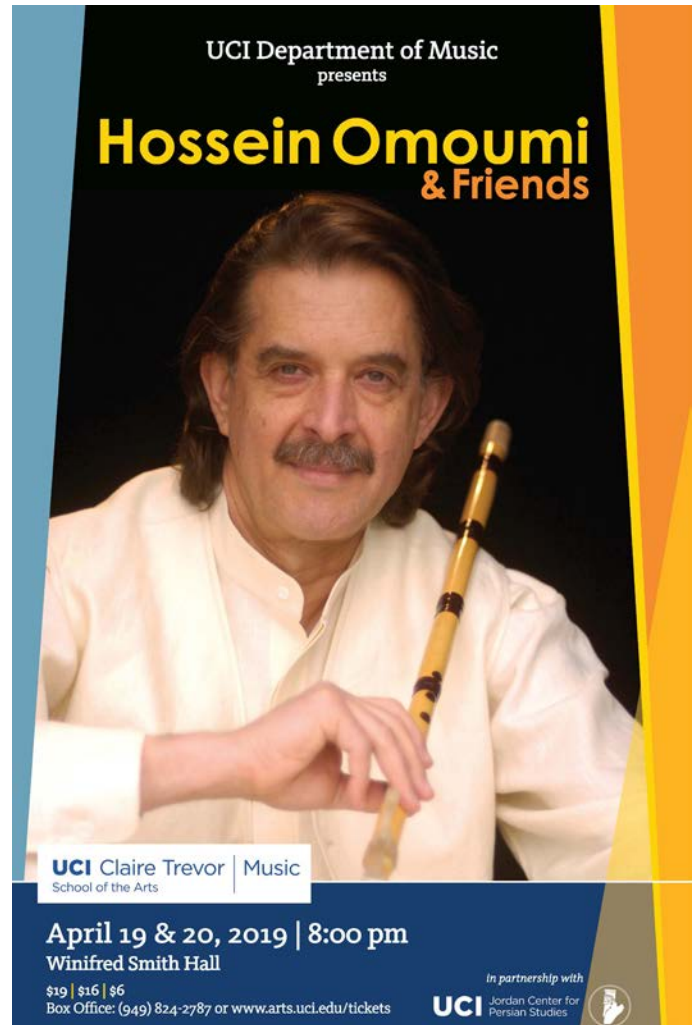
Maestro Hossein Omoumi's Classical Persian Concert

Faculty Artist Series
Hossein Omoumi & Friends
April 19, 2019
Winifred Smith Hall

Classical Persian music is rooted in classical Persian poetry, one of the most ancient bodies of literature in the world. This program explores poems by Rumi, Hâfez and Attâr, which expresses these poets' philosophy and approach to life. The music that arises from this poetry is deeply spiritual and mystical.

Maestro Hossein Omoumi is a scholar and teacher of Persian traditional music, who is Maseeh Professor in Persian Performing Arts in the department of music at the University of California, Irvine Claire Trevor School of the Arts.

This event was presented by UCI Department of Music in collaboration with UCI Jordan Center for Persian Studies & Culture.



Maestro Hossein Omoumi (UC Irvine)

Persian Friends of Humanities Lecture Series

THESE TALKS ARE IN PERSIAN.

Jordan Center for Persian Studies
1st Floor Humanities Gateway, Irvine, CA 92697-3370

UCI Jordan Center for Persian Studies

سخنرانی: دکتر محمود امیدسالار

۲۳ آوریل	تکوین زبان و ادب فارسی در دوران انتقال از عصر ساسانی به عصر اسلامی تا آغاز سامانیان
۳۰ آوریل	ادبیات فارسی در گذار از مرحله ملی به فراملی
۷ می	ادبیات، خاطره، و تاریخ

Tuesday, April 23, 2019 . 6-8 pm . UC Irvine . Humanities Gateway 1010
Tuesday, April 30, 2019 . 6-8 pm . UC Irvine . Humanities Gateway 1010
Tuesday, May 7, 2019 . 6-8 pm . UC Irvine . Humanities Gateway 1010

ساخته شده توسط: دکتر علی گهیساری
سال: ۱۳۹۷
ارائه شده توسط: دکتر محمود امیدسالار
و ده سال و شش ماه پس از آن
در سال ۱۳۹۷
صد سال اندوهناکی بود پس هزاره
ساخته شده توسط: دکتر علی گهیساری
خدای او که در ده سال پس از آن
رام: ۱۳۹۷
که پس از هزاره خدای او

A series of lectures by UCI Jordan Center for Persian Studies' scholar-in-residence, Dr. Mahmoud Omidasalar on the Persian Language and Literature.

"The Creation of Modern Persian Language and Literature from the Sasanians to Samanids"

Tuesday, April 23, 2019, UC Irvine

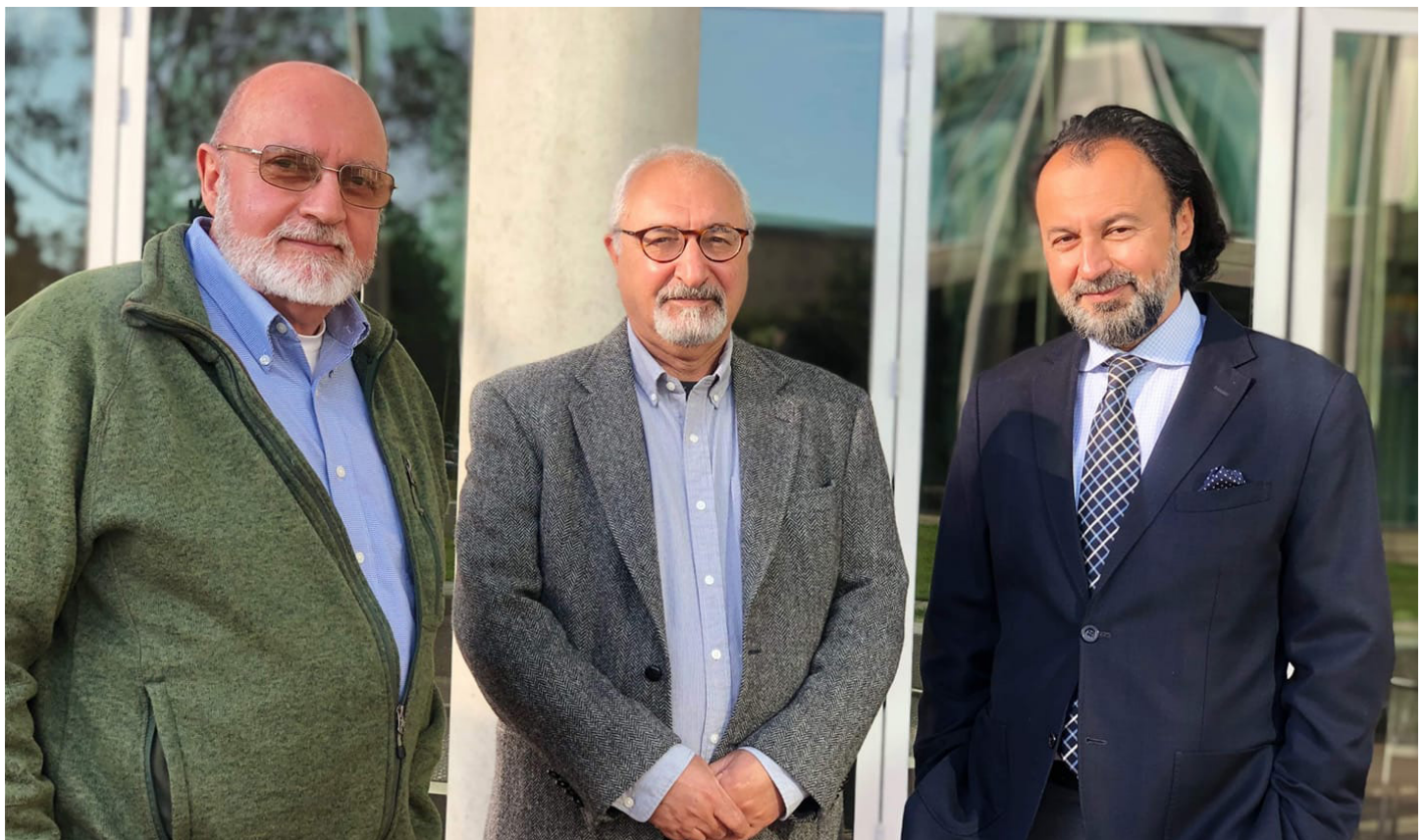
"Persian Literature on the National Stage"

Tuesday, April 30, 2019, UC Irvine

"Literature, Memory and History"

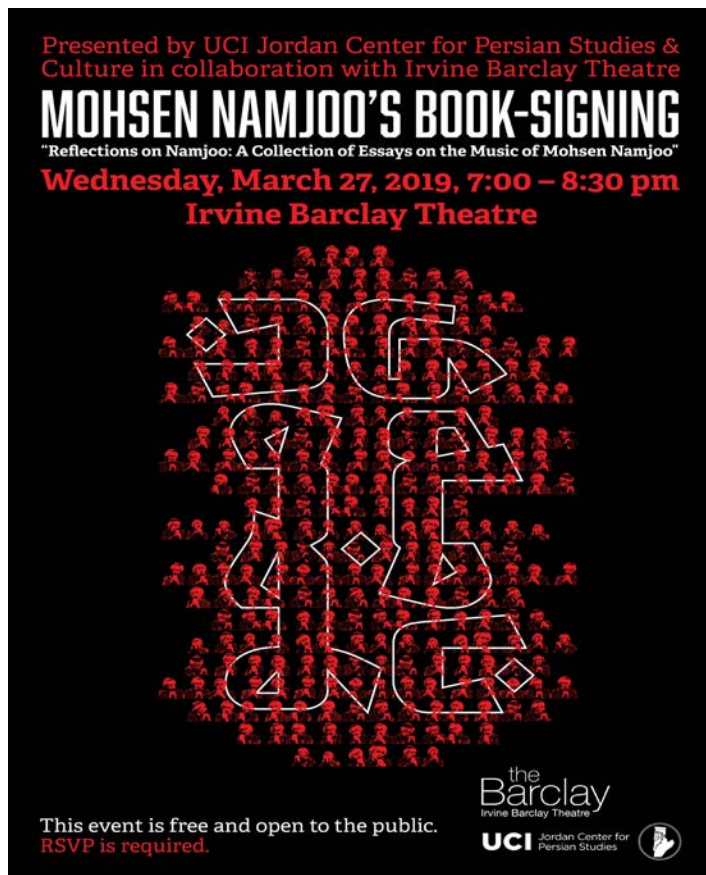
Tuesday, May 7, 2019, UC Irvine

Dr. Omidasalar obtained his Ph.D. in Persian Literature and Folklore from the Department of Near Eastern Studies, University of California, Berkeley. He is the consulting editor for folklore for the Encyclopaedia Iranica and has written many of the entries on the subject. Together with late Iraj Afshar, he is the editor of the series Folia Medica Iranica and Persian Manuscripts in Facsimile. His books include The Shahnameh of Ferdowsi, co-edited with Dr. Djalal Khaleghi-Motlagh, vol. 6, Bibliotheca Persica, 2005 and Poetics and Politics of Iran's National Epic, the Shāhnāme, Palgrave Macmillan; 2011. He is currently working on a new edition of the Garshasb-nāme, an important Persian epic.



Dr. Ali Gheissari, Dr. Mahmoud Omidasalar, Dr. Touraj Daryaei

Mohsen Namjoo's Book Signing at the Barclay Theatre



On Wednesday, March 27, 2019, in Irvine Barclay Theatre, UCI Jordan Center for Persian Studies and Culture in collaboration with Irvine Barclay Theatre presented a book signing and reception regarding Mohsen Namjoo's latest book titled "Reflections on Namjoo: A Collection of Essays on the Music of Mohsen Namjoo".

Mr. Mohsen Namjoo, renowned Iranian singer and songwriter, was present and gave a talk about the book and held a book signing ceremony afterwards.

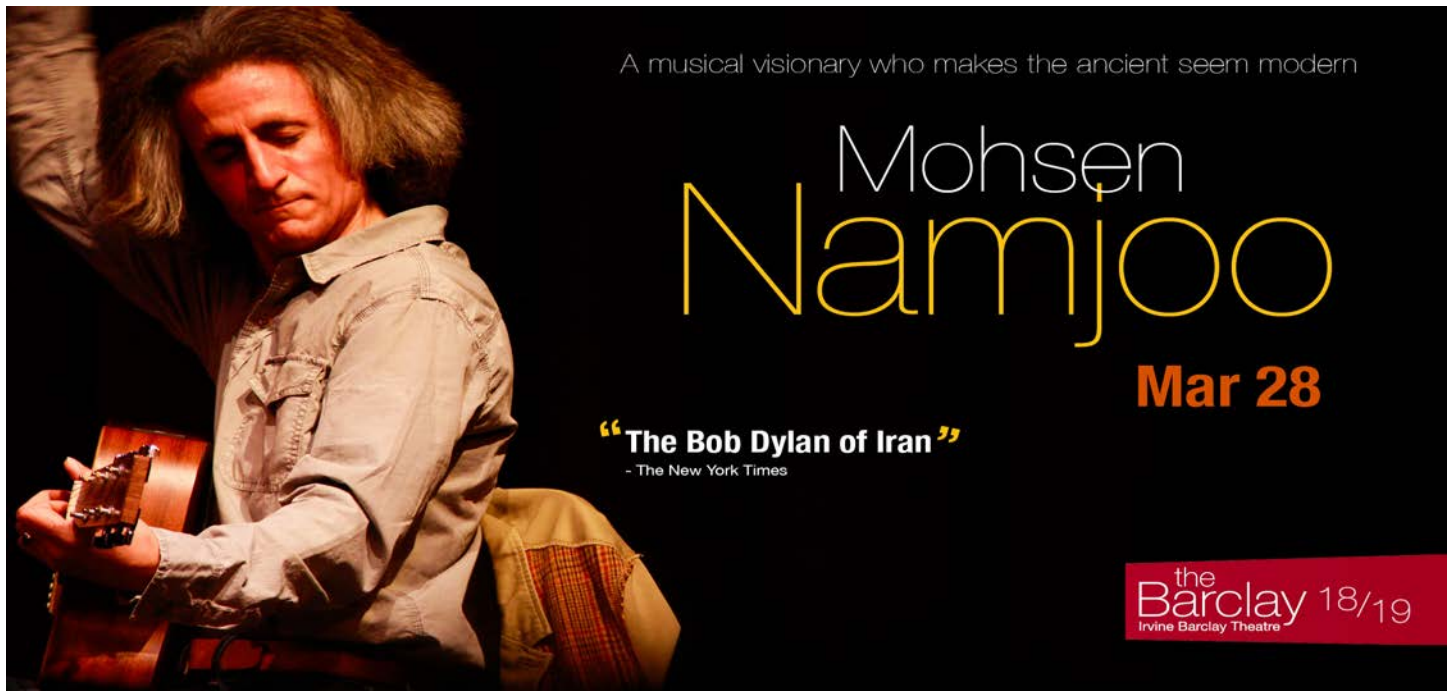
This book was published by UCI Jordan Center for Persian Studies and culture.

This book was designed by Navid Ghaem Maghami.

This event was free and open to the public thanks to the sponsorship by Saman Foundation.



Mohsen Namjoo's Musical Concert



Mohsen Namjoo's Musical Concert
Thursday, March 28, 2019
Irvine Barclay Theatre

Hailed as “the Bob Dylan of Iran” by The New York Times, Mohsen Namjoo is a visionary artist who speaks for and touches the souls of today’s youth. Seamlessly blending the classical with the modern, the ancient with the current, Mohsen Namjoo is a true musical maverick, fusing the centuries-old traditions of Persian music with his own approach to composition, style and sound. This event was presented by Irvine Barclay Theatre in collaboration with UCI Jordan Center for Persian Studies & Culture.



Selected Lectures



"The Literary Biography of Forugh Farrokhzad with Unpublished Letters" a talk by Dr. Farzaneh Milani (University of Virginia)

Wednesday, October 3, 2018, UC Irvine, School of Humanities

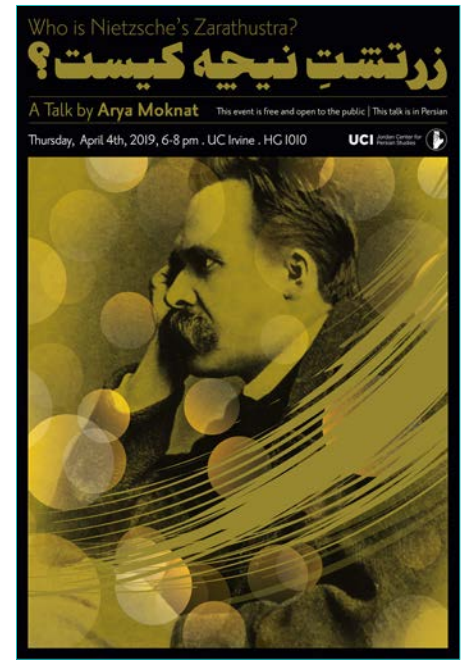
Farzaneh Milani is Raymond J. Nelson Professor of Iranian and Gender Studies at the University of Virginia. Milani has published several books, most recently *The Literary Biography of Forugh Farrokhzad with Unpublished Letters* (in Persian) and *Captive: A Translation of Forugh Farrokhzad's Asir*; as well as over one hundred articles, op-eds, epilogues, forewords, and afterwords in both Persian and English. A past president of the Association of Middle Eastern Women's Studies in America and a Carnegie Fellow, Milani was the recipient of the All University Teaching Award as well as the Zintl Leadership Award (2015). This talk was well attended by UCI students, faculty, and members of the community.



"Trail of Light: Iranian Influences on Mahayana Buddhism" A Talk by Dr. Hamid Sardar

Wednesday, December 12, 2018, UC Irvine, School of Humanities

Hamid Sardar is a documentary film maker and photographer with a Ph.D. from Harvard University in the field of Inner Asian languages and cultures. In the last decades of the 20th century, as Tibet Studies opened up to non-philologists, namely historians, archaeologists and ethnographers, the influences of the Iranian-speaking world on Tibetan culture and Tibetan Buddhism became undeniable. This lecture will briefly review some past research in this area and point to some topics for future study. This talk was well attended by UCI students, faculty, and members of the community.



"Who is Nietzsche's Zarathustra?" A talk by Dr. Arya Moknat (UC Irvine)

Thursday, April 4, 2019, UC Irvine, School of Humanities

Dr. Arya Moknat is the Jordan Center for Persian Studies' new Scholar-in-Residence for the 2018-2019 academic year. Moknat holds a Ph.D. in political science and philosophy from Claremont Graduate University. He specializes in political philosophy and has written his dissertation on the political thought of Friedrich Nietzsche and David Hume. He is currently researching the philosophical interaction between ancient Greece and Persia and will be giving lectures on the Zoroastrian themes in ancient Greek philosophy, as well as lecturing on Iranian political thought. This talk was well attended by UCI students, faculty, and members of the community.

Selected Lectures & Workshops

مرکز ایران‌شناسی سمبول جردن برگزار می‌کند:

کلاس‌های آموزشی در نقاشی کودکان، عکاسی و فلسفه
 UCI Jordan Center Classes: Children's Painting, Photography, and Philosophy
 Humanities Gateway 1341 • Sundays, beginning May 19th, 2019 • 8 Weeks

کلاس نقاشی کودکان • مریم نقشبند
 کلاس نقاشی کودکان با استفاده از مواد رنگین و آبرو، کودکان را به خلق تصاویر و طرح‌ها در مورد موضوعات فلسفی و هنری می‌آموزد. این کلاس به کودکان کمک می‌کند تا با استفاده از رنگ و خط، مفاهیم فلسفی را به تصویر بکشند و با هم‌سالان خود به اشتراک بگذارند. این کلاس به کودکان کمک می‌کند تا با استفاده از رنگ و خط، مفاهیم فلسفی را به تصویر بکشند و با هم‌سالان خود به اشتراک بگذارند.
 10:00 - 11:15 am | marjanmoghshineh@yahoo.com | 949-309-6704

آموزش عکاسی قدم به قدم • ابراهیم صافی
 آموزش عکاسی قدم به قدم به کودکان و نوجوانان می‌آموزد. این کلاس به کودکان کمک می‌کند تا با استفاده از دوربین و لنز، تصاویر و طرح‌ها را به تصویر بکشند و با هم‌سالان خود به اشتراک بگذارند. این کلاس به کودکان کمک می‌کند تا با استفاده از دوربین و لنز، تصاویر و طرح‌ها را به تصویر بکشند و با هم‌سالان خود به اشتراک بگذارند.
 4:30 - 6:00 pm | m.abrahamsafi@gmail.com | 323-309-6627

از سقراط تا نیچه: درس‌گفتاری در فلسفه سیاسی غرب • آریا مکنات
 این کلاس به کودکان و نوجوانان می‌آموزد. این کلاس به کودکان کمک می‌کند تا با استفاده از متن و سخنرانی، مفاهیم فلسفی را به تصویر بکشند و با هم‌سالان خود به اشتراک بگذارند. این کلاس به کودکان کمک می‌کند تا با استفاده از متن و سخنرانی، مفاهیم فلسفی را به تصویر بکشند و با هم‌سالان خود به اشتراک بگذارند.
 6:00 - 7:15 pm | arya.moknat@cgu.edu | 949-599-6078

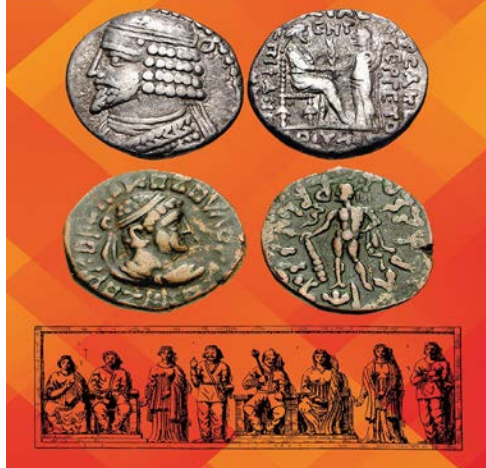


UCI Jordan Center for Persian Studies & Culture Community Outreach Classes

Starting from May 19, 2019 for ten weeks, three workshop classes were presented at UCI School of Humanities. They included Painting Classes for Children by Ms. Maryam Naghshineh. Each week students learned a new style of painting and were introduced to famous artists and their works. Photography Courses were offered by Mr. Ebrahim Safi. Students were introduced to various aspects and techniques of photography and production. Philosophy Classes were offered by Dr. Arya Moknat, the scholar-in-residence at UCI Jordan Center for Persian Studies and Culture. Each week different philosophers and their ideas were introduced to students beginning with Socrates to Nietzsche.

Royal Titles and Political Rhetoric on the Material Culture of the Indo-Iranian Frontier
 A Talk by Dr. Razieh Taasob (Princeton)
 UCI Jordan Center for Persian Studies

Friday, July 26, 2019 • 6-8 pm • UC Irvine • Humanities Gateway (HG) 1341



“Royal Titles and Political Rhetoric on Material Culture of the Indo-Iranian Frontier” by Dr. Razieh Taasob

Friday, July 26, 2019, UC Irvine, School of Humanities

Dr. Taasob received her Ph.D. focused in Numismatics and Archaeology of Kushans from University of Vienna. She was working at University of Princeton as an Associate Professional Specialist focused on Sasanian and Central Asian coins. Dr. Taasob is currently a postdoctoral researcher at Albert-Ludwigs-Universität Freiburg, Germany. Her talk focused on royal titles and political rhetoric on Sasanian coins in the frontier borderlands of Indo-Iran.

This talk was well attended by UCI students, faculty, and members of the community.



Dr. Razieh Taasob giving a talk on early Kushan coinage and history

Musical Performances



Persian Classical Music by Nariman Ensemble & Live Painting by Dr. Nouredin Zarrinkelk

Saturday, October 27, 2018, UCI School of Humanities

At this concert, poems of Mawlana Rumi, "The Story of the Repentant Harper" or "The Story of Hazrat Pir Changi," was sung by Mrs. Shayandokht Abedinimanesh. Mr. Ali Pajooeshgar composed this concert, played the Oud and narrated the poems of Rumi for the audience. Simultaneously, Professor Nouredin Zarrinkelk (the father of Iranian animation) depicted Rumi's poems via his paintings and calligraphy. The special guest artist Mr. Mehrdad Arabifard was the percussionist and Ms. Naghmeh Sarang was the Kamancheh player.

This event was co-sponsored by UCI Jordan Center for Persian Studies.



Del Sol Quartet Concert

Friday, March 1, 2019, UCI Winifred Smith Hall

San Francisco's critically acclaimed Del Sol String Quartet presented a program focusing on young Iranian and Iranian-American composers, including works by Gity Razaz, Elnaz Seyed, Nasim Khorassani, Iman Habibi as well as three UCI graduate students, Niloufar Shiri, Adib Ghorbani, and Hesam Abedini.

This concert was organized by UCI Claire Trevor School of the Arts and was supported by generous grants from UCI Jordan Center for Persian Studies, Saman Foundation, and UCI Illuminations. The CD of this concert will be published with the support of Saman Foundation.



Iranian & Jazz Music Night by Sibarg Ensemble, Mark Dresser, and Hafez Modirzadeh

Saturday, May 11, 2019, Dizzy's in San Diego

MARK DRESSER with HAFEZ MODIRZADEH and SIBARG Ensemble.

Intercultural Creative Music: merging sounds of traditional Iranian Music + Jazz.

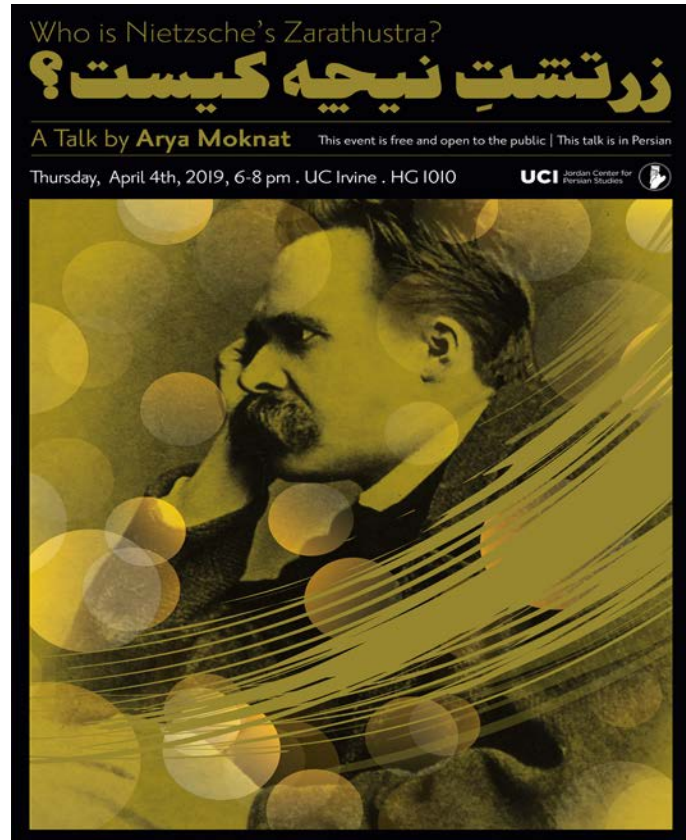
This event is presented by Persian Cultural Center (Kanoon Farhangi Iranian), Sibarg Ensemble and is co-sponsored by UCI Jordan Center for Persian Studies & Culture.

Visiting Research Scholar



Arya Moknat

Dr. Arya Moknat obtained his Ph.D. in Political Science and Philosophy from Claremont Graduate University. He is the newest scholar in residence at The Samuel Jordan Center for Persian Studies at University of California, Irvine. Dr. Moknat's research spans a wide range of topics including western political philosophy, comparative political philosophy, international relations theory as well as Iranian studies. He specializes on Friedrich Nietzsche and David Hume philosophy and wrote his dissertation title reads "Nietzsche, Hume, and the Irrational Roots of the Political." He is currently working on a publication of a book on Nietzsche's political thought. Dr. Moknat recently coauthored a piece on Hannah Arendt's political thought and its significance for international politics. His lecture which he gave at the Jordan Center was entitled, "Who is Nietzsche's Zarathustra?" He has also held two workshops on Western political thought and Nietzsche reading.



مرکز ایران‌شناسی سمونل جردن برگزار می‌کند:

کلاس‌های آموزشی در نقاشی کودکان، عکاسی و فلسفه

UCI Jordan Center Classes: Children's Painting, Photography, and Philosophy
Humanities Gateway 1341 • Sundays, beginning May 19th, 2019 • 8 Weeks

کلاس نقاشی کودکان • مریم نقاشینه

کلاس‌های نقاشی کودکان، کلاس برای کودکان ۵ تا ۱۰ ساله که به وجود آوردن فضایی شاد و سرگرم به همراه آموزش آشنایی کودکان با رنگ‌های مختلف و تکنیک‌های نقاشی و عکاسی و هنرهای دیگر در محیطی جذاب و دوستانه و سرشار از انرژی و خلاقیت برگزار می‌گردد. این کلاس‌ها به صورت گروهی برگزار می‌شود و به کودکان فرصتی برای ابراز خلاقیت و یادگیری مهارت‌های مختلف می‌دهد.

10:00 - 11:15 am | maryamnaghshineh@yahoo.com | 949-309-8704

آموزش عکاسی قدم به قدم • ابراهیم صافی

مختصری از تاریخچه به وجود آمدن عکاسی و پیشرفت آن تا به امروز • فنون و شیوه‌های نور به عنوان عنصر اصلی تشکیل دهنده عکس • اصول ترکیب بندی و زیبایی‌شناسی تصویر • آشنایی با سنسور دوربین‌ها و انتخاب و به کارگیری لنزهای مختلف آن‌ها • آشنایی با انواع لنزها و عمق میدان و سوخ • سرعت شاتر و حساسیت • آشنایی با تجهیزات و ادوات عکاسی • عکاسی با فلاش و استفاده از نورهای مختلف در عکاسی • ویرایش عکس و اصلاح رنگ و آماده سازی تصویر تا مرحله چاپ • تکنیک‌های close up عکاسی • آموزش عکاسی با موبایل • ورت شاپ عکاسی • portrait and family در محیطی باز یا نور محیطی • نورهای مختلف • ورت شاپ عکاسی منظره و طبیعت و close up عکاسی • آموزش عکاسی با موبایل

4:30 - 6:00 pm | m.ebrahimsafi@gmail.com | 323-309-6627

از سقراط تا نیچه: درس‌گفتاری در فلسفه سیاسی غرب • آریا مکنات

بهترین نظام سیاسی کدام است؟ این مهم‌ترین پرسشی است که در فلسفه سیاسی مطرح می‌شود. در طول این درس‌گفتار با نظریه و تحلیل برخی از متون اساسی فیلسوفان سیاسی غرب به بررسی پاسخ‌هایی که تا کنون به این پرسش داده شده است، خواهیم پرداخت. بدین ترتیب، اولین جلسات را به خواندن و تحلیل دیالوگ‌های اولیه افلاطون درباره زندگی و اندیشه سقراط اختصاص خواهیم داد. سپس به اندیشه ارسطو می‌پردازیم. یک جلسه را به اندیشه‌های سیاسی در قرون وسطی و به طور مشخص به نوشته‌های توماس آکویناس اختصاص می‌دهیم. سپس به بیان‌کنندگان اندیشه سیاسی مدرن، یعنی مکتب‌های می‌رسم، پس از مکتب‌های به دوران مدرن اولیه و متعاقباً مدرن می‌رسیم. در طی چند جلسه نوشته‌های توماس هابز، دکارت، جان لاک، دیوید هیوم، و ژان ژاک روسو را مورد تجزیه و تحلیل قرار خواهیم داد. در جلسه آخر به آریا نیچه، خواهیم پرداخت که در واقع نقد خواهد بود بر بنیان‌های فلسفه غرب.

6:00 - 7:15 pm | arya.moknat@cgu.edu | 949-599-6078

UCI Jordan Center for Persian Studies

Student Awards & Fellowships



Zarrinkelk Family Fellowship

[Yassaman Rahimi](#)

Ph.D. Student in Comparative Literature

B.A in English and Cultural Studies, and Gender Studies, University of Western Australia (2016)

Research Interests: 20th Century Persian literature; intersection of Islam and Marxism; exile; diaspora.



Zarrinkelk Family Fellowship

[Adib Ghorbani](#)

Ph.D. Student in Integrated Composition, Improvisation and Technology (ICIT), Music department

MA, Music Composition, University of Tehran (2016)

BA, Piano Performance, Tehran University of Art (2012)

Research Topic:
Interdisciplinary Performance & Music.



Dean's Gateway Fellowship

[Babak Mazloumi](#)

Ph.D. Student in Comparative Literature

M.A. in Humanities & Social Thought, New York University (2015)

Emphasis: Critical Theory

Research Interests: Contemporary Persian literature, literary translation (theory and practice), literature and philosophy.



Dean's Gateway Fellowship

[Mallory Elizabeth Wells](#)

Ph.D. Student in Visual Studies

B.A., Art History, Occidental College

Research Interests: Transcultural exchange and visualities of authority in the late antique Mediterranean, the late antique Near East, and the early European Middle Ages.



Farzaneh Family Fellowship

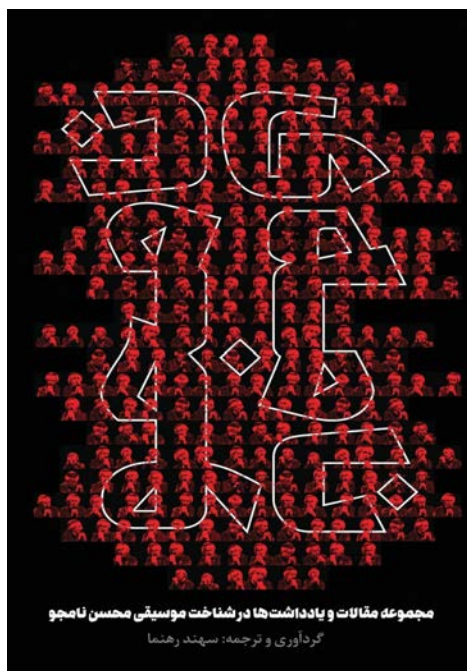
[Layah Ziaii-Bigdeli](#)

Ph.D. Student in Visual Studies

M.A., Art History Concentration in Cultural Heritage and Preservation, Rutgers University–New Brunswick
B.A., Art History & Archeology, Columbia University

Research Interests: Sasanian Art and Archaeology, Islamic Art and Archaeology, Persian Language and Literature, Numismatics, Museum studies, Cultural Heritage, Gender and Sexuality Studies.

UCI Jordan Center's Publications - Books

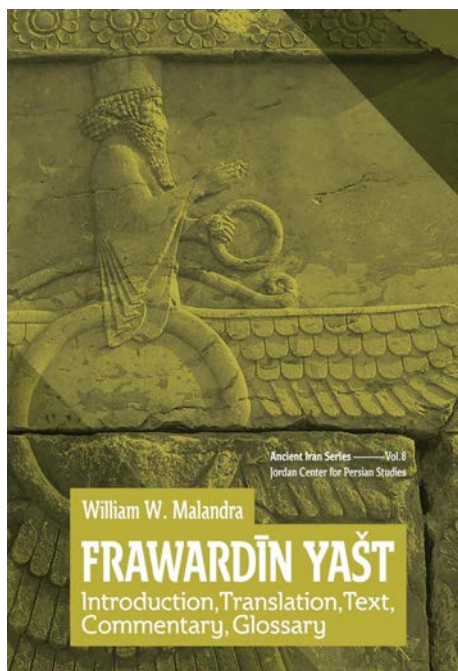


Reflections on Namjoo: A Collection of Essays on the Music of Mohsen Namjoo

Sahand Rahnama

(UC Irvine Jordan Center for Persian Studies & Culture, 2019)

A collection of articles in Persian by various professor and experts on the works of Mohsen Namjoo.

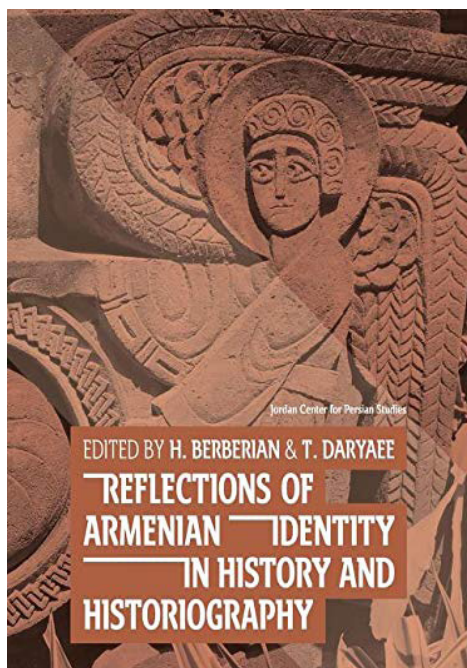


THE FRAWARDĪN YAŠT

William W. Malandra

(UC Irvine Jordan Center for Persian Studies & Culture, 2018)

The Frawaši or Frawardīn Yašt (Yt. 13), so called after the respective Avestan and Middle Persian (Pahlavi) names of the group of deities to whom it is dedicated, forms part of the Avestan literature known as Yašts or Hymns. The Frawardīn Yašt is among the longest Avestan hymns, totaling 158 stanzas.

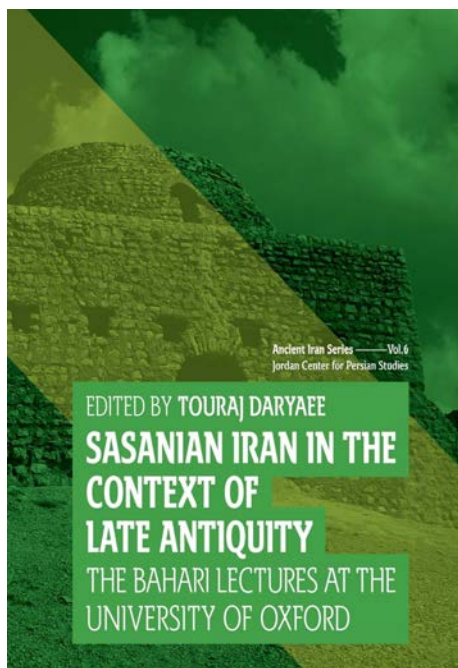


Reflections of Armenian Identity in History and Historiography

Houri Berberian & Touraj Daryae

(UC Irvine Jordan Center for Persian Studies & Culture, 2018)

This collection of essays, originally presented at a conference on Armenian identity held at UC Irvine, span a period between the ancient and the present and indicate the continuing relevance of the broad and complex concept and study of identity.



Sasanian Iran in the Context of Late Antiquity: The Bahari Lecture Series at the University of Oxford

Touraj Daryae

(UC Irvine Jordan Center for Persian Studies & Culture, 2018)

This volume is a collection of papers on the various aspects of Sasanian world which were delivered at the University of Oxford in 2014 in such fields as numismatics, history, art history, Pahlavi and Zoroastrian Studies.

Middle Persian (Pahlavi) Summer School



Middle Persian (Pahlavi) Summer School, July 22-26, 2019

Lectures by Professor Yuhan Sohrab-Dinshaw Vevaina (University of Oxford)

The Jordan Center for Persian Studies & Culture held its third annual Pahlavi (Middle Persian) Summer School, from July 22-26, 2019, taught by Professor Vevaina. He is the Bahari Associate Professor of Sasanian Studies in the Faculty of Oriental Studies at the University of Oxford in the United Kingdom. Dr. Vevaina received his Ph.D. from the Department of Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations, Harvard University. He specializes in the history of Ancient and Late Antique Iran with a general interest in theoretical approaches to the study of Zoroastrianism; the history and development of Zoroastrian hermeneutics; and the insider-outsider dynamic in the study of religion. The one-week intensive course was designed to provide an introduction to Pahlavi literature. In this course, students learned the script, ideograms, and grammar and they read Zoroastrian Pahlavi texts.

UCI Jordan Center for Persian Studies

Pahlavi Summer School

at the Dr. Samuel M. Jordan Center for Persian Studies at UC Irvine

Professor Yuhan Sohrab-Dinshaw Vevaina (University of Oxford)

Mon-Fri, July 22nd to July 26th | 10:00 am - 3:00 pm

UCI Humanities Gateway (HG) 1022

For registration and more information, please contact (sjaalip@uci.edu)

Tehran Project: Water, City, People



The Tehran project aims to look at Tehran from the point of view of the spaces that it occupies, both physical and metaphorical. This will allow the project to change focus, at times concentrating on micro studies of language and religion, and at others, zooming away to consider urban occupation and city planning. In between the two, matters of ethno-linguistic make up and their relations to the occupation patterns, as well as specialized topics such as health and the environment can be studied in the city, based on their framing on a macro level and their studies on a micro one. This project is supervised by Dr. Narciss Sohrabi (Paris).



Dr. Narciss Sohrabi

www.sites.uci.edu/tehranproject

In 2018-2019, UCI Jordan Center for Persian Studies & Culture published the following articles:

[Shahram Abadie](#) (National School of Architecture of Clermont-Ferrand): "Architectures on Banknotes: A Century of Iranian History in Pictures"

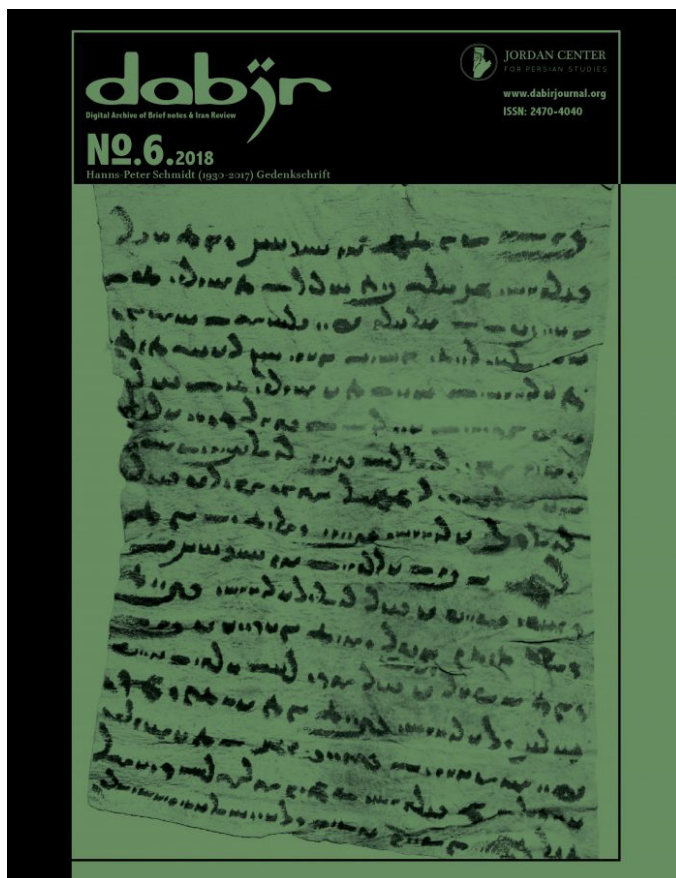
[Kianoosh Motaghedi](#): "The Gates of Old Tehran"

[Susan Habib](#), [Navid Jamali](#), and [Shaghayegh Shahhosseini](#): "Saving Oudlajan as a Museum Without Walls"

[Baharak Mahmoudi](#): "Imagining Tehran: Tehran's Image in Modern Iranian Cinema"

[Hassan Fazeli Nashli](#) (Tehran University): "History of Tehran from 6,000 B.C. to the Iron Age"

Digital Archive or Brief Notes & Iran Review (DABIR) Journal



The Digital Archive of Brief Notes & Iran Review (DABIR) is an open access, peer-reviewed online journal published by the Jordan Center for Persian Studies & Culture at the University of California, Irvine. DABIR aims to quickly and efficiently publish brief notes and reviews relating to the pre-modern world in contact with Iran and Persianate cultures.

www.sites.uci.edu/dabirjournal



Prof. Hanns-Peter Schmidt

Volume V, 2018 (Hanns-Peter Schmidt Gedenkschrift)

Articles

- A Third Exegesis of the Avesta? New Observations on the Middle Persian Word *ayārdag* - Samra Azarnouche
- Textual performative variation in the Long Liturgy: the ceremonies of the last ten days of the year - Alberto Cantera
- Keresāspa's Wet Dream - Touraj Daryaee
- A Golden Amulet in Vedic and Avestan - Stephanie W. Jamison
- Artaxerxes' 'paradise' - William W. Malandra
- Temper and self-control in the Persian King's ideal Portrait - Antonio Panaino
- The Avestan Priestly College and its Installation - Antonio Panaino
- Arboriculture in ancient Iran: Walnut (*Juglans regia*), plane (*Platanus orientalis*) and the "Radde dictum" - Daniel T. Potts
- A Newly Identified Sogdian Fragment from the Legend of Saint George - Nicholas Sims-Williams
- A Preliterate Acrostic in the Gathas: Cross-textual and Compositional Evidence - Martin Schwartz
- The Zoroastrian Nīrangdīn Ritual and an Old Pahlavi Text with Transcription - Dastur Firoze M. Kotwal
- (On) The reimport of Veda traditions to Kashmir in the early 15th century - Michael Witzel
- The Middle Persian Inscription from a Shipwreck in Thailand: Merchants, Containers, and Commodities - Jamsheed K. Choksy and Narges Nematollahi
- Of Teeth, Ribs, and Reproduction in Classical Persian - Mahmoud Omidshar
- Nominalkomposita, Neowurzelbildungen und zugrundeliegende syntaktische Konstruktionen im Veda und dem Avesta - Velizar Sadovski

Sponsorship of Iranian Summit 2020 at Harvard University



Dr. Fariborz Maseeh

UCI Jordan Center for Persian Studies & Culture sponsored the Iranian Summit 2020 at Harvard University

The Iranian Summit at Harvard, co-presented by the Harvard College Iranian Association (HCIA) and Harvard Iranian Alumni (HIA), is comprised of the Iranian Gala at Harvard and the Iranian Conference at Harvard.

The Iranian Gala at Harvard is a black-tie evening that honors leading community members. The Gala strives to bring together leading professionals, artists, and academics who have dedicated themselves to furthering the study, understanding, and appreciation of Iranian culture, history, and society. The vision of the Gala is to mobilize and empower the next generation of leaders in the Iranian community. To that end, proceeds from the Gala will go to the Harvard College Iranian Association and toward the advancement of Iranian studies at Harvard University.

The Iranian Conference at Harvard brings together influential leaders with common interests and provides an open forum for the discussion of issues such as the role of Iranian Americans in space, the impact Iranian Americans have had on investing, the art of Iranian storytelling and music, and the evolving role of fashion in Iran. The Conference also serves as a forum to honor leaders in these and other fields for their contributions to the community.

HCIA is a Harvard College student group dedicated to promoting cross-cultural understanding, and HIA is a Harvard University Shared Interest Group (SIG) dedicated to developing a network among current and future Harvard alumni from all backgrounds with an interest in Iranian culture and areas of common interest. Both organizations are non-profit and apolitical.

Dr. Fariborz Maseeh, the benefactor of UCI Jordan Center for Persian Studies & Culture, was the keynote speaker at the 2019 Iranian Gala at Harvard.

UCI Jordan Center's Fundraiser at Dr. Soheila Hosseini's Residence

On Saturday, December 1, 2018, UCI Jordan Center for Persian Studies and Culture held its first fundraiser. We are grateful to Dr. Soheila Hosseini, who kindly offered her home for a gathering to support Iranian Studies and the Jordan Center at UC Irvine. Guests and supporters were entertained by Sibarg Ensemble. UCI Jordan Center for Persian Studies affiliated graduate student, Dr. Deanna Kashani and Jordan Center's research scholar, Dr. Arya Moknat talked about the Center. The Center's publications were displayed at the event. Dinner and reception followed, and a cake was served to celebrate the event.



UCI Jordan Center's Fundraiser at Dr. Soheila Hosseini's Residence



Dr. Touraj Daryaei acknowledging Dr. Soheila Hosseini for her generosity.



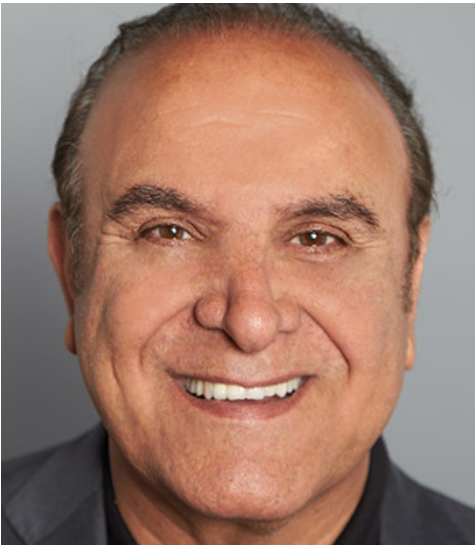
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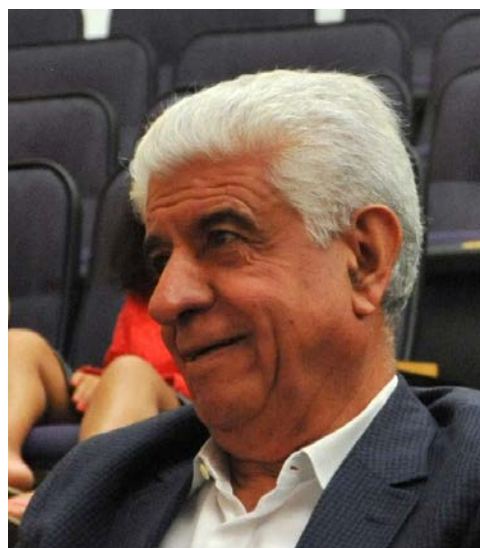
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