

Gender and Art in Muslim Societies
Syllabus: Fall 2012
Readings and other class activities

Important dates for this semester:

- *-First day of the class: August 30th
- *-Last day of the class: December 6th
- *-Thanksgiving Holiday: November 22 to 24 (No class on Thursday November 22nd)
- * First Test
- * Second Test – December 6.

August

Th. 30

Introduction to the course

September

Volume 1

Art / Architecture / Images

Tu. 4

“The Artistic Expression of Tawhid.”

Th. 6

Sheila Blair and Jonathan Bloom-

“The Mirage of Islamic Art: Reflections on the Study of an Unwieldy Field.”

Tu. 11

“Figural Painting.”

Johannes & Baljon. “Indian Muftis and the Prohibition of Images.”

Th. 13

Marshall Hodgson. “Islam and Image.”

Sheila Blair. “Islamic Art as a Source for the Study of Women in Premodern Societies.”

Tu. 18

Lois Beck and Nikki Keddie. "Women as Patrons of Architecture in Turkey."

Th. 20

Howayda Al-Harithy. "Female Patronage of Mamluk Architecture in Cairo."

Tu. 25

Spahic Omaer. "Towards Understanding Islamic Architecture."

Entertainment: Music, Performance

Th. 27

Zulkiple bin and Ghani. "Entertainment in Muslim Media: Unsettled Problem?"

October

Tu. 2

Margaret Serkissian. "Religion Never Had it so Good": Contemporary

Nasyid and the Growth of Islamic Popular Music in Malaysia

Th. 4

Laural Lengel. "Resisting the Historical Locations of Tunisian Women Musicians."

Tu. 9

Laural Lengel. "Performing in/Outside Islam: Music and Gendered Cultural Politics in the Middle East and North Africa."

Th. 11

John Tofik Karam. "Belly Dancing and the (En)Gendering of ethnic sexuality in the Mixed Brazilian Nation."

Oyku Potuoglu-Cook. "Beyond the Glitter: Belly Dance and Neoliberal Gentrification in Istanbul."

Tu. 16

William O. Beeman. “Perfomative Symbols and their relative non-arbitrariness: Representing women in Iranian traditional theater.”

Karin van Nieuwkerk. “Repentant artists in Egypt: debating gender, performing arts and religion.”

Th. 18 – First Test

Tu. 23

Deborah Kapchan. “Moroccan Female Performers Defining the Social Body.”

Volume 2

Literature/ Calligraphy

Farzaneh Milani. “Conformity and Confrontation: A Comparison of Two Iranian Women Poets.”

Th. 25

Jasmin Darznik. “Forough Goes West: The Legacy of Forough Farrokhzad in Iranian Diasporic Art and Literature.”

David Simonowitz. “A Modern Master of Islamic Calligraphy and her Peers.”

Modern Arab Art

Tu. 30

Nada Shabout. “The Polemics of Modern Arab Art.”

Nada Shabout. “Formation and Transformation.”

November

Th.1

Nada Shabout. “Modern Arab Attitude Toward Art.”

Assia Djebar. From: “Contemporary Arab Women’s Art.”

Art / Media / Politics / War on Terror

Tu.6

Bhaskar Mukhopadhyay. “Dream Kitsch –Folk Art, Indigenous Media and ‘9/11’

Th. 8

T. K. Biaya. “Crushing the Pistachio.” Eroticism in Senegal and the Art of Ousmane Ndiaye Dago.”

Tu. 13

Maymanah Farhat. “Imagining the Arab World. The Fashioning of the “War on Terror” through Art.

Th.15

Jessica Winegar. “The Humanity Game: Art, Islam, and the War on Terror.

Tu. 20

Navab, Aphrodite Desiree. “Unsayng Life Stories: The Self-Representational Art of Shirin Neshat and Ghazel.”

*** Th. 22- No class meeting –Thanksgiving Holiday**

Tu.27

Felicia Herrschaft. “Democratic Articulation of Cultural Identity: The Arts in Afghanistan.”

Th.29

Shahla Haeri. “Sacred Canopy: Love and Sex under the Veil.”

Malek Khouri. "Memory and the Reconciliation of Disporas: Cinematic Race of Arab National Identity in the Film *'Forget Baghdad*."

December

Tu. 4

James Hoesterey, and Marshall Clark. "*Film Islami: Gender, Piety and Pop Culture in Post-Authoritarian Indonesia*."

*** Th. 6- Second Test (Last day of our class for this semester)**