

WINTER JAN–APRIL 2020

EXPLORE

AGA KHAN MUSEUM PROGRAM GUIDE

NO WALLS

(you belong everywhere)



AGA KHAN MUSEUM



EXHIBITION

DON'T ASK ME WHERE I'M FROM

February 25–April 19, 2020

See how artists from around the world are navigating their cultural and ethnic heritages. The 15 artists in this revelatory exhibition represent 26 countries. Some migrated as children, others are part of the second and third generation. All are using their art — from painting to textiles and multimedia to calligraffiti — as a way to reconcile the deep ties and painful breaks that come with complex cross-cultural identities.

Presented in partnership with the Fondazione Imago Mundi



Supported by

Mohammad and Najla Al Zaibak
(Bay Tree Foundation)

EXHIBITION

SANCTUARY

March 21–August 23, 2020

What does sanctuary mean to you?

Explore the idea of safe haven through 36 spectacular woven rugs designed by leading artists from around the world to reflect their personal responses to the word sanctuary — whether that means refuge, sacred space, place of beauty, or something entirely unique.

Organized by the FOR-SITE Foundation with the support of ALRUG



Supported by



Mohammad and Najla Al Zaibak
(Bay Tree Foundation)

NO WALLS

Breaking the barriers that divide cultures, the Aga Khan Museum launches into a season of provocative exhibitions, performances, and programming for the new decade.



LISTEN AND CONNECT

Feed your soul with our exciting Performing Arts season, *Listening to Each Other*. We bring you global artists on the cutting edge of music, film, dance, and spoken word, along with those who are sharing centuries-old traditions with new audiences. From Jeremy Dutcher and the Dakh Daughters to our 2020 Comedy Series and Kinan Azmeh's CityBand, our thought-provoking lineup will connect you to the world.

Inaugural Family Sponsor



2020 Performing Arts programs supported by



UNLEASH YOUR INNER PEACE

FEBRUARY 17 – MARCH 20

Take an artistic journey to beat the winter blues. We're offering free workshops in dance, music, and storytelling designed to help you find tranquility and feel your best during these cold, dark days.

A FEAST FOR THE MIND

Let the power of learning brighten your winter. Our Education programs are a feast for the mind this season with workshops in poetry, calligraphy, and textiles; a course on magnificent Islamic architecture; thought-provoking tours of our exhibitions; and the *Caravans of Gold Talk Series* exploring the impact of African cultures and diasporas on art through the ages.



GENTLE YOGA AT THE MUSEUM

WEDNESDAYS, APRIL 8 – JUNE 24, 8 AM

Strengthen your body and relax your mind with an hour of gentle, mindful yoga. Walk-ins are welcome.

Single class: \$16, \$13.50 Friends
12-session package: \$160, \$135 Friends



COMFORT. BEAUTY. INSPIRATION.

The comfort of a delicious meal is waiting for you at our Diwan restaurant. Reserve at opentable.com.

Find beautiful one-of-a-kind treasures at the Aga Khan Museum Shop and online at shop.agakhanmuseum.org.

Our memorable space will make your next event an inspiring one. To book weddings, parties, conferences, concerts, contact us at: private.events@agakhanmuseum.org or 416.646.4671



#youbelongeverywhere



ENJOY FREE MUSEUM ADMISSION!

When you purchase a ticket to a performance, talk, or workshop, you get to explore the Museum for free, including our Museum Collection and special exhibitions.



CARAVANS OF GOLD, FRAGMENTS IN TIME & BUILDING BLACK: CIVILIZATIONS

On now until February 23, 2020

Challenge what you know about the past, present, and future. *Caravans of Gold* spotlights western Africa's role at the heart of the medieval world, featuring works never before seen in Canada. *Building Black* presents Afrofuturist sculptures made of LEGO® pieces by Ekow Nimako, connecting western Africa's remarkable past with a powerful future.



THE STORY OF BLUE

On now until May 18, 2020

Discover the story of the colour blue in our Museum Collection – from nature, to pigment, to paintings, ceramics, and glass objects. Our themed installations present a fresh rotation of works, offering you new perspectives on our Collection.



LET'S BE FRIENDS!

Join as a Friend today and receive exclusive benefits that offer a deeper connection to the Museum.

Benefits include free admission, special exhibition previews, and discounts on performances, workshops, lectures, dining, parking, and shopping.

To learn more, call 416.646.4667 or visit agakhanmuseum.org/support/friends

JANUARY 23

INSIGHT TOUR

Saharan Pathways of Islamic Art with Dr. Michael Chagnon

Travel across the Sahara Desert, gaining insight into masterpieces from medieval African empires. Thursday, 6:30 pm \$20, \$18 Friends, \$12 students and seniors

JANUARY 31

COMEDY SERIES

Jokes Among Friends featuring Nour Hadidi + Leonard Chan + Arthur Simeon + host Ali Hassan

Laugh it up as Toronto's top rising comics deliver salty observations on today's hot topics.

Friday, 8 pm \$30, \$27 Friends, \$22.50 students and seniors Buy 2 shows at full price and save 10% Buy 3 shows at full price and save 15%

FEBRUARY 2

WORKSHOP

African Vegan Art with Toronto Ward Museum

Create stunning textiles with bogòlanfini, a Malian dye technique using plants and fermented mud. Sunday, 11 am–4 pm \$50, \$45 Friends, \$40 students and seniors (+\$25 materials fee)

FEBRUARY 6

INSIGHT TOUR

On Blue with Bitá Pourvash

Discover why the colour blue is a symbol for mystics and lovers in Islamic art. Thursday, 6:30 pm \$20, \$18 Friends, \$12 students and seniors

FEBRUARY 8

PERFORMANCE

Jeremy Dutcher: Unplugged

Witness and influence the making of new music from the Juno Award-winning tenor/composer in a very special public rehearsal. Saturday, 8 pm \$40, \$36 Friends, \$30 students and seniors

JANUARY 30

LUNCHTIME TALK

An Elephant Comes to London with Adam Harris Levine

Find out how the African elephant captured the imagination of medieval European society. Thursday, 1 pm Free with Museum admission

FEBRUARY 1

COMEDY SERIES

Jokes Among Friends featuring Hisham Kelati + Nick Reynoldson + Martha Chaves + host Ali Hassan

Find the funny in identity and cultural heritage with some of Toronto's top emerging comedians.

Saturday, 8 pm \$30, \$27 Friends, \$22.50 students and seniors Buy 2 shows at full price and save 10% Buy 3 shows at full price and save 15%

FEBRUARY 5

CARAVANS OF GOLD TALK SERIES

Contemporary African Art Practices in a Globalized World with Dr. Julie Crooks, Ekow Nimako & Chiedza Pasipanodya

Curators and artists explore how Africa's cultures and diaspora have impacted contemporary art. Wednesday, 7 pm \$20, \$18 Friends, \$12 students and seniors



EXHIBITION PARADISE GARDEN

The Wagner Garden Carpet from the Burrell Collection, Glasgow

FEBRUARY 11–AUGUST 16

On display in Canada for the first time, this spectacular masterpiece from 17th-century Iran is one of the oldest and most unique carpets of its kind. Catch this once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to discover the story behind the word "paradise."

FEBRUARY 11

INSIGHT TOUR

Pattern, Power, and Paradise: Carpets with Dr. Filiz Çakır Phillip

Join a curator's tour exploring the rich patterns of luxury carpets and the concept of paradise in the Wagner Garden Carpet. Tuesday, 6:30 pm \$20, \$18 Friends, \$12 students and seniors

FEBRUARY 13

LUNCHTIME TALK

The Bride under the Lemon Tree with Dr. Judith Cohen

From wedding songs to royal ballads, discover the music of Moroccan Jews and their Canadian diaspora. Thursday, 1 pm Free with Museum admission



FAMILY DAY

FEBRUARY 17 Make memories with special family tours of our galleries and fun art activities for kids and adults alike.

MARCH 6

PERFORMANCE

AMATA SIRIA: Stories Through Music

Composed by Nahel Al Halabi, this chamber concert translates stories of hope from Syria's war survivors into symphonic form. Friday, 8 pm \$40, \$36 Friends, \$30 students and seniors

Presented by Mohammad and Najla Al Zaibak (Bay Tree Foundation) and Radwan Khawattmi

MARCH 7

COMEDY SERIES

Muslim Interrupted by Ali Hassan

A hilarious take on flunking out of Sunday school, ingesting forbidden fruits, and becoming a cultural Muslim. Saturday, 8 pm \$35, \$31.50 Friends, \$26.25 students and seniors Buy 2 shows at full price and save 10% Buy 3 shows at full price and save 15%

FEBRUARY 12

CARAVANS OF GOLD TALK SERIES

Poetry and the Subliminal Meaning of Colours with George Elliott Clarke

The celebrated Canadian poet illuminates black and gold in his poetry and in our exhibitions. Wednesday, 7 pm \$20, \$18 Friends, \$12 students and seniors

FEBRUARY 15

PERFORMANCE

Hayiran Ensemble by Rumi Canada

Shaho Andalibi, Amir Koushkani, and Farzad AttarJafari lead a night of reimagined Persian music and Sufi whirling. Saturday, 7:30 pm \$40, \$36 Friends, \$30 students and seniors

Presented in collaboration with Rumi Canada

FEBRUARY 19

CARAVANS OF GOLD TALK SERIES

Africa Connected with Professor François-Xavier Fauvelle

An eye-opening discussion about Africa's unsung golden age, covering the birth of Islam to the arrival of Europeans. Wednesday, 7 pm \$20, \$18 Friends, \$12 students and seniors



MARCH BREAK FUN

MARCH 14 – 22, 2020

Bring the family for some fun during March Break!

Every day, from 12 to 4 pm, explore the art of carpets and textiles inspired by our exhibition *Sanctuary*, and enjoy hands-on Art Cart activities in the galleries. Then make artworks of your own to take home!

MARCH 12

LUNCHTIME TALK

Don't Ask Me Where I'm From with Marianne Fenton

The exhibition's curator discusses how today's diverse artists are navigating cultural heritage. Thursday, 1 pm Free with Museum admission

MARCH 21

TALK

Creating Sanctuary with Dr. Azra Akšamija, Dr. Michael Chagnon, and Cheryl Haines

Hear how the art, space, and design in our *Sanctuary* exhibition offer layers of insight into the concept of safe haven. Saturday, 2 pm \$20, \$18 Friends, \$12 students and seniors

MARCH 29

SPRING FILM SERIES

The Farewell (2019)

Cultural clashes arise when an American writer returns to China to say goodbye to her ill grandmother. Sunday, 3 pm \$12, \$10 Friends, \$9 students and seniors

APRIL 4

INSIGHT TOUR

The Poetry of Blue with Laboni Islam

Indigo, Cobalt, Lapis Lazuli. Get a closer look at blue objects in our Collection, pausing for poetry along the way. Saturday, 2 pm \$20, \$18 Friends, \$12 students and seniors

APRIL 5

SPRING FILM SERIES

Song of God (2018) with Director Talkback and Performance by Wen Zhao

A soulful search into the mysterious Persian tanbur instrument and its connection to spiritual awakening. Sunday, 3 pm \$12, \$10 Friends, \$9 students and seniors

MARCH 15

PERFORMANCE

Fareed Ayaz & Abu Muhammad Qawwali Ensemble

The legendary Pakistani group returns to Toronto for a profound evening of devotional Sufi music. Sunday, 7 pm \$55, \$49.50 Friends, \$41.25 students and seniors

A co-production with the Kabir Cultural Centre

MARCH 25

SPRING FILM SERIES

Shorts from the National Film Board of Canada

A window into the lives of artists who use their work to promote understanding and sanctuary. Wednesday, 6 pm Free

Presented in collaboration with the National Film Board of Canada



PERFORMANCE SANCTUARY SERIES

EVERY WEDNESDAY IN APRIL AT 5 PM

Spoken word, storytelling, music, dance, and poetry shine a light on the sometimes difficult terrain of migration, identity, and belonging.

APRIL 5

WORKSHOP

Intergenerational Poetry & Calligraphy with Laboni Islam and Soheila Esfahani

Bring a friend to experiment with reed pens and transform your poetry into calligraphy art. Sunday, 11–4 pm \$50, \$45 Friends, \$40 students and seniors (+\$25 materials fee)

APRIL 8

COURSE

Islamic Architecture Past and Present with Dr. Marika Sardar & Shermeen Beg

From Sinan's magnificent mosques to Zaha Hadid's futuristic façades, this 6-week course explores groundbreaking buildings. Wednesdays, 6:30–8:30 pm, Apr 8–May 13 \$210, \$180 Friends, \$150 students and seniors

APRIL 21

INSIGHT TOUR

Sanctuary with Dr. Michael Chagnon

Find out what personal experiences motivated the artists in *Sanctuary* to create their unique and striking rug designs. Tuesday, 6 pm \$20, \$18 Friends, \$12 students and seniors

APRIL 26

PERFORMANCE

Luminous Kaushiki Chakraborty

One of India's brightest classical stars performs khayal, thumri, and other lighter genres. Sunday, 6 pm \$40 orchestra, \$30 balcony, 10% off for Friends and Raag Mala members

An associate partnership with Raag-Mala Music Society of Toronto

APRIL 18

PERFORMANCE

Tanya Evanson's Bothism - A Sufi Experiment and Jason Sharp + Kaie Kellough

Sufi whirling and poetry combine with contemporary spoken word, music, and film to examine the spaces between worlds. Saturday, 8 pm \$35, \$31.50 Friends, \$26.25 students and seniors

APRIL 23

LUNCHTIME TALK

If Museum Objects Could Speak with Dr. Ulrike Al-Khamis

Hear fascinating, yet little-known, stories of pluralism behind the making, use, and meaning of a selection of Islamic art objects. Thursday, 1 pm Free with Museum admission



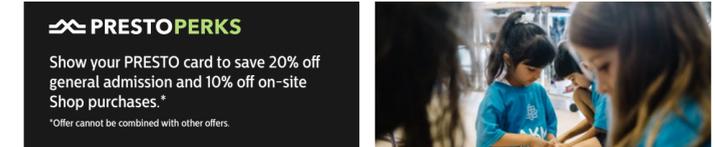
FREE POP-UP PERFORMANCES

Enjoy intimate performances from a diverse lineup of talented local artists in the Museum's public spaces and galleries.

Wednesdays: 5, 6, 7 pm

Saturday & Sundays: 12, 1, 3 pm

Generously supported by



PRESTOPERKS

Show your PRESTO card to save 20% off general admission and 10% off on-site Shop purchases.*

*Offer cannot be combined with other offers.



tpl: toronto public library

The Museum + Arts Pass Program

Borrow a free family pass to the Museum with your Toronto Public Library Card! Passes are available at 50 branches. To learn more visit: tpl.ca/mappass



CAA Rewards

Present your CAA Membership Card and save 10% off general admission.*

*Offer cannot be combined with other offers.

Programming subject to change. For a complete and up-to-date listing of our events, visit agakhanmuseum.org



FAMILY PROGRAMMING

Bring the kids and enjoy fun hands-on activities for the whole family!

Family Sundays

Sundays, 12–4 pm Make art and memories in our Education Centre. Free with Museum admission.

Family Exploration Activities

Pick up a complimentary activity guide at the Ticket Desk and take your family on an exploration of the galleries.



TEACHERS, BRING YOUR CLASS!

Get in for free with your OCT card and plan your students' trip to the Museum. Customize your class visit, or choose from a roster of school programs for Pre-K to Grade 12.

For curriculum links and booking details, visit agakhanmuseum.org/schools or email learn@agakhanmuseum.org.



GAIN NEW KNOWLEDGE ON OUR TOURS

Museum Collection, Special Exhibitions, and Architecture

Enrich your experience at the Aga Khan Museum by taking a tour with a knowledgeable guide. Tours are offered daily at various times.

\$10 adults, \$5 students and seniors. Museum admission required

AGA KHAN MUSEUM

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Credits Cover: Detail of CHEZ NOUS, LA-BASI (2019) by eL Seed. Photo by Marco Pavan

Don't Ask Me Where I'm From: Detail of For Sitara Hamza (2019) by Jeanno Gaussi. Photo by Alyssa Faoro

Sanctuary: Detail of The Only Way Out Is Through (2017) designed by Jeffrey Gibson. Wool, 192x29.5 cm. Image provided by the FOR-SITE Foundation with the support of ALRUG.

Listen and Connect (clockwise): Photo by Vanessa Heins; photo by Glenn Lowson; and photo by Temmuz Arslray. Photo for A Feast for the Mind by Connie Tsang. Photo for Gentle Yoga by Aly Manji. Comfort, Beauty, Inspiration (clockwise from the top): Photo by Andrea Marvan; photo by Mango Studios www.mangostudios.com; photo by PBDen Graphics.

Building Black: Civilizations: Ekow Nimako, *World on a Camel's Back*, 2019, Lego®. Photo by Samuel Engelking

Enjoy Free Museum Admission and Gain New Knowledge on Our Tours: Photos by Alyssa Faoro

Family Programming, March Break Fun, Teachers Bring Your Class, Free Pop-Up Performances, Let's Be Friends, and Summer Camps: Photos by Connie Tsang

Detail of Wagner Garden Carpet, Iran, 17th century. Cotton warp; wool, cotton, and silk wefts; and wool pile © The Burrell Collection, CSG CIC Glasgow Museums Collection.

The Story of Blue: Detail of a folio from *The Lights of Canopus (Anvar-i Suhayli)*, Iran, 1593. Opaque watercolour, ink, and gold on paper. Copyright © Aga Khan Museum Collection, AKM289

AGAKHANMUSEUM.ORG

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ABOUT THE AGA KHAN MUSEUM

The Aga Khan Museum is a centre for innovation and creativity dedicated to connecting cultures through the arts. With exhibitions, performing arts, films, talks, workshops, and more, the Museum showcases the contributions of Islamic civilizations and serves as a catalyst for intercultural dialogue.



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Sign up for our e-Newsletter at agakhanmuseum.org and receive the latest news about our events and exhibitions!

HOURS

Monday: Closed*

Tuesday: 10 am–6 pm

Wednesday: 10 am–8 pm

Thursday–Sunday: 10 am–6 pm

Museum admission is free every Wednesday from 4–8 pm.

*Open on select Mondays, 10 am–6 pm: February 17 (Family Day)

March 16

April 13 (Easter Monday)

May 18 (Victoria Day)

For up-to-date information about modified hours, please visit agakhanmuseum.org/hours.