

SUMMER 2016

ON STAGE

AGA KHAN MUSEUM PERFORMANCES



AGA KHAN MUSEUM



Umrao Jaan



Pop-up Performance by Brooke Scholl



Abida Parveen

WELCOME

Late spring and summer usually mark the winding down of most performing arts seasons — but not here at the Aga Khan Museum. In this May to August edition of *On Stage*, I am proud to announce an exciting and eclectic mix of programming featuring music, dance, and film.

Our **Great Poets Series** culminates May 15 at Roy Thomson Hall with a performance by the legendary Sufi singer **Abida Parveen**. We are pleased to partner with Roy Thomson Hall on this extraordinary event.

Launching in May, our new **Bollywood Classics Series** gives Toronto audiences the chance to see films — including **Mughal-e-Azam** and **Pakeezah** — rarely shown on large screens. Themes from Mughal India inspire the content of this series, and each of the films has profoundly affected subsequent musical, technical, and aesthetic directions in Bollywood film.

We have also developed a new partnership with Montreal's Kabir Centre to present two performances this summer. In June, we welcome to our stage the recognized maestro of *Kathak* dance, **Pandit Birju Maharaj**. In August, we present **Fannah-fi-Allah Sufi Qawwali Party**, a groundbreaking ensemble that, for over a decade, has brought Sufi devotional music to new audiences.

Our **World Music Series** continues with an August concert by the acclaimed **Mehmet Polat Trio**. Joining instruments and artists from different regions of Turkey and the Dutch Antilles, the trio presents a mesmerizing musical dialogue between traditions and cultures.

We hope you will join us!

Amirali Alibhai
Head of Performing Arts

GREAT POETS SERIES

Our **Great Poets Series** culminates with a rare **North American performance by legendary Pakistani Sufi singer Abida Parveen**.

Abida Parveen
Sunday, May 15, 8 pm
Roy Thomson Hall
Tickets starting at \$50
To purchase, visit roythomson.com

A master musician described by the *Guardian* as “the greatest female Sufi singer in history,” Abida Parveen has made waves in a musical form traditionally performed by men. She has amassed legions of fans — including Icelandic sensation Björk — in a career spanning more than four decades.

Don't miss your chance to see this legend in action!

In partnership with



POP-UP PERFORMANCES

On your next visit, keep your eyes and ears open for performances by emerging and local musicians in unusual settings!

Doors Open Weekend

May 28 and May 29
Times variable

Summer

Saturdays and Sundays
11 am, 1 pm, and 3 pm

*Only gallery performances require Museum admission.

Supported by





Pakeezah

BOLLYWOOD CLASSICS SERIES

You're invited to experience the best of Bollywood Cinema in two unique environments: the Aga Khan Museum auditorium and Aga Khan Park. If you're already a Bollywood fan, enjoy seeing these classics again on the big screen. If you're new to the genre, what better way to get acquainted? Our series presents films that influenced the genre as it developed from the 1960s to the present day. Beginning and ending in the golden age of Mughal emperor Akbar, it also showcases the arts and histories of Muslim civilizations.

Mughal-e-Azam **(K. Asif, 1960, 197 min.)**

Sunday, May 22, 2 pm

Auditorium

Adults \$10, students and seniors \$8, Friends \$9

At its premiere in 1960, this landmark film broke box office records in India, and went on to become the highest-grossing Bollywood film for another 15 years. Experience its cinematic grandeur at our series launch!

Pakeezah **(Kamal Amrohi, 1972, 126 min.)**

Saturday, June 11, 9:30 pm

Aga Khan Park

FREE

Will love conquer all in this Bollywood story about a Lucknowi courtesan longing to change her life? Find out at this screening under the stars.

Umrao Jaan **(Muzaffar Ali, 1981, 145 min.)**

Sunday, July 17, 2 pm

Auditorium

Adults \$10, students and seniors \$8, Friends \$9

Discover why Bollywood actress Rekha won accolades for her performance in this classic adaptation of Mirza Hadi Ruswa's 1905 novel!

Jodhaa Akbar **(Ashutosh Gowariker, 2008, 213 min.)**

Saturday, August 13, 9 pm

Aga Khan Park

FREE

The most contemporary of our films returns to the 16th century. Here, Emperor Akbar takes the romantic lead in a spectacular production that includes politics, religion, and love in its vast reach.

In partnership with





Fannah-fi-Allah Sufi Qawwali Party



Pandit Birju Maharaj



Mehmet Polat Trio

WORLD MUSIC SERIES

Our World Music Series continues with music and dance from the Indian subcontinent, ancient Anatolia and present-day Turkey, the Balkans, and West Africa. Discover unexpected connections between diverse musical cultures in these summer performances.

Dusk to Dawn featuring Pandit Birju Maharaj

Sunday, June 12, 6 pm
 Tickets starting at \$55
 10% off for Friends

Enjoy a program featuring dance and musical forms developed in the Mughal courts. Pandit Birju Maharaj, a living legend of *Kathak* dance and descendant of the acclaimed Maharaj family of *Kathak* dancers, shares the stage with accomplished dance artists and musicians.

Co-presented with



Fannah-fi-Allah Sufi Qawwali Party

Thursday, August 4, 8 pm
 Tickets starting at \$45
 10% off for Friends

This second co-presentation brings the spotlight on *qawwali*, a dynamic form of Sufi devotional music from the Indian subcontinent. Featuring Tahir Hussain Faridi on lead vocals and harmonium with an ensemble of talented musicians, Fannah-fi-Allah Sufi Qawwali Party merges heavy rhythmic grooves with passionate vocals that have already captivated audiences from Africa to Europe, Indonesia to the US.

Co-presented with



Mehmet Polat Trio

Thursday, August 11, 8 pm
 Tickets starting at \$40
 10% off for Friends

Have you heard the *ngoni*, *oud*, and *ney*? The Mehmet Polat Trio invites you to join a musical adventure. Presenting original compositions with roots in the Ottoman, ancient Anatolian, Balkan, and West African musical traditions, the trio – featuring Victor Sams (the Dutch Antilles), Mehmet Polat (Turkey), and Pelin Başar (Turkey) – will open your ears and imaginations.



DOORS OPEN TORONTO 2016

Saturday, May 28 and Sunday, May 29, 10 am–6 pm
Aga Khan Museum

We're participating again this year in Doors Open, the popular city-wide event. Take a free architecturally-inspired tour, be creative in our classrooms, or attend a lively auditorium talk! During your visit, enjoy free pop-up performances and half-price admission to the Museum Collections gallery and special exhibitions.



Is Architecture Art?

Saturday, May 28, 2 pm
Free tickets available day-of on first-come, first-served basis

Top local architects share their thought-provoking responses in this panel discussion co-produced by the Toronto Society of Architects.

The Madman (*majnun*): Courtly Love in Medieval Islam and Christendom

Sunday, May 29, 2 pm

Free tickets available day-of on first-come, first-served basis

Join Dr. Michael Barry, celebrated author and professor in Princeton University's Near Eastern Studies Department, as he explores love in centuries past!

FESTIVAL OF FLIGHT

Saturday, July 16 and Sunday, July 17, 10 am–6 pm
Aga Khan Park

Be sure to bring the entire family for this festival inspired by flight, flying, the skies, and the heavens. Throughout the weekend, the Aga Khan Park will be animated with family programming that ignites all the senses: pop-up musical performances; hands-on art workshops (including drawing, origami, and birdhouse-making); and readings and talks by children's writers and illustrators who share a fascination with flight.

A Signature project of the Cultural Hotspot produced in partnership with the City of Toronto.



Marvellous Creatures: Animals in Islamic Art

Continues to September 11, 2016
Aga Khan Museum

Dragons, unicorns, *simurghs*, and more take centre stage in this family-friendly exhibition!

In Association with Supported by



AMIR RUPANI
AND FAMILY

This exhibition has been produced in partnership with the Museum of Islamic Art, Doha, Qatar.

21st Century Renaissance

January 1 to December 31, 2016
Ismaili Centre, Toronto

This year-long, curated program explores historical and contemporary engagements between art, science, technology, religion, philosophy, and ethics. Learn more at the21st.ca.

DINE

It's Patio Season at Diwan! Relax at lunch, or enjoy a post-work cocktail or mocktail with friends. Sample a tantalizing array of grilled dishes and summer drinks from our new patio menu.

BBQ patio hours: 11:30 am–6 pm, Thursday to Sunday, and a mezes-only menu is served 6–8 pm, Thursday to Saturday. Weather permitting. To reserve, call 416.646.4670.

Summerlicious 2016 at Diwan is coming! For details: agakhanmuseum.org.



HOURS AND TICKETS

Monday: Closed (except holiday Mondays)
Tuesday: 10 am–6 pm
Wednesday: 10 am–8 pm
Thursday–Sunday: 10 am–6 pm

HOLIDAY HOURS

Victoria Day: May 23, 10 am–6 pm
Canada Day: July 1, 10 am–6 pm
Civic Holiday: August 1, 10 am–6 pm

GENERAL ADMISSION

Friends: Free
Adults: \$20
Seniors (65+): \$15
Students:* \$12
Children & Youth (6–13): \$10
Children (under 6): Free
Family Package:* \$50

*For more information, please visit agakhanmuseum.org.

HOW TO GET HERE

The Aga Khan Museum is located at 77 Wynford Drive, close to Don Mills Road and Eglinton Avenue East in Toronto, Ontario, Canada. Please visit agakhanmuseum.org for directions, parking information, and TTC routes.

TOURS

Offered Tuesday to Sunday. Adults admission plus \$10, students and seniors admission plus \$5.

Gallery Tour:

11 am and 3 pm, with extra 6:30 pm tour on Wednesdays.

Architecture Tour:

12:30 pm

Special Exhibitions Tour:

1:30 pm

Aga Khan Park Tour:

10:30 am and 4 pm on Saturdays and Sundays; 4 pm only Tuesday to Friday (weather permitting). Adults \$10, students and seniors \$5. Museum Admission not required.

GROUP TOURS

Interested in booking a tour for 10 or more people? Please call Group Reservations at 416.646.4678 to discuss special group rates and options for your visit.

FREE WEDNESDAYS!

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

ACCESSIBILITY

The Aga Khan Museum is wheelchair-accessible. Drop-offs at the street-level entrance can be made prior to parking.

A limited number of wheelchairs are available on a first-come, first-served basis. For more information about accessibility, please call 416.646.4677 ext. 7700.

CONTACT US

General Information:

416.646.4677

Friends of the Museum:

416.646.4667

Diwan Restaurant:

416.646.4670

Museum Shop:

416.646.4677 ext. 7805

Private Events:

416.646.4671

Group Reservations:

416.646.4678

Education Bookings:

416.646.4677 ext. 7726

SHOP

Looking for a special gift? A host of treasures is yours to discover at the Museum Shop. You'll find the perfect way to say "thank you" this Father's Day!

Don't forget: the Museum Shop is now online at shop.agakhanmuseum.org.



JOIN TODAY!

Friends of the Museum are the first to experience exhibitions, and always visit for free. Enjoy discounts, invitations to exhibition previews, and more!

EXPERIENCE MORE

Experience a greater level of engagement as part of our Patrons' Circle! Benefits include exclusive preview receptions, access to the Patrons' Lounge, and invitations to behind-the-scenes events.

To join or to learn more:

416.646.4667 or

agakhanmuseum.org/join-and-support



agakhanmuseum.org
77 Wynford Drive, Toronto, Ontario, M3C 1K1
416.646.4677 info@agakhanmuseum.org



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and receive the latest news about our events and exhibitions!

Media Partner



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Credits:

Cover: Film still from *Mughal-e-Azam*.

Page 3: "Abida Parveen" by Mobeen Ansari.

Page 6: "Fannah-fi-Allah Sufi Qawwali Party" by Marc Abba.

Pages 8, 9, 10 ("Shop"), and 11: Photos by Janet Kimber.