

FALL SEPT–DEC 2016

EXPLORE

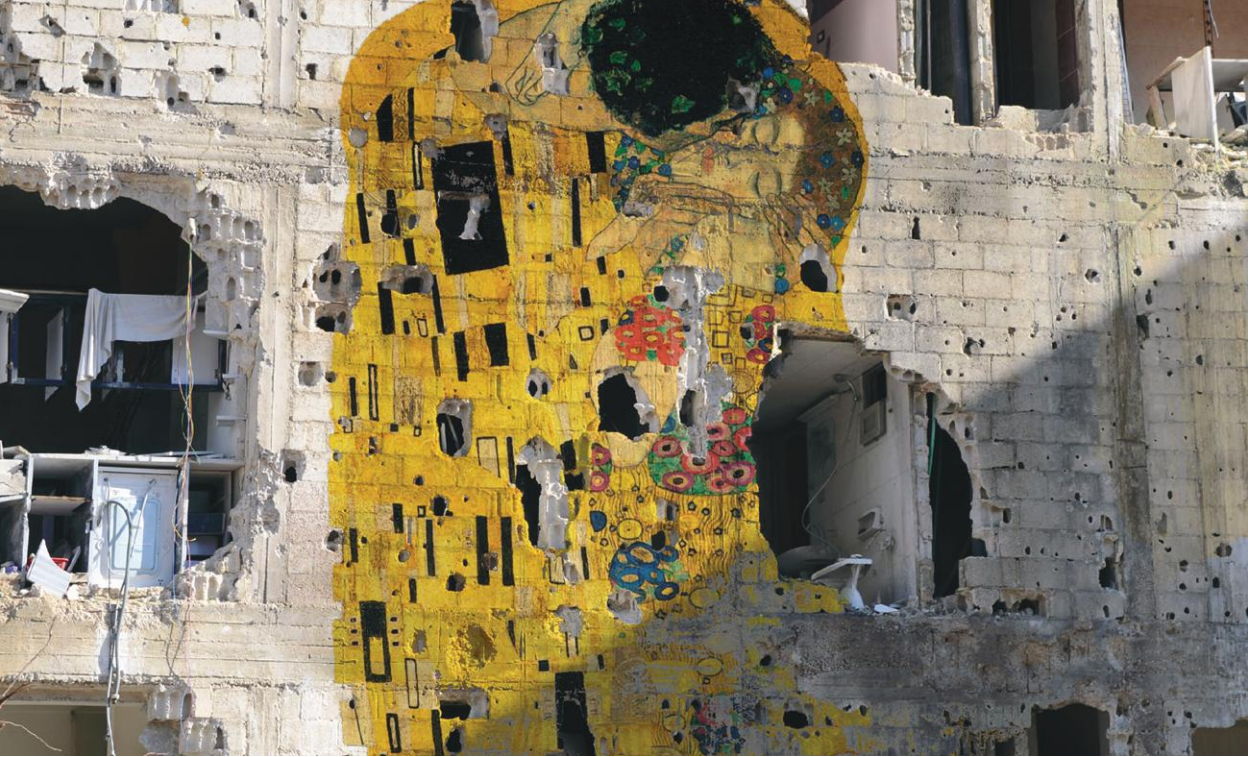
AGA KHAN MUSEUM PROGRAM GUIDE



SYRIA



AGA KHAN MUSEUM



SYRIA

A LIVING HISTORY

October 15, 2016 to February 26, 2017

Five thousand years, one unprecedented partnership: the Aga Khan Museum joins leading private collectors and renowned public institutions in North America, Europe, and the Middle East to present Syria's rich cultural heritage from 3,200 BC to the 21st century. Don't miss this world premiere exhibition that goes beyond the headlines to honour the artistic achievements of Syria's diverse peoples — and enjoy a wealth of related programming exploring Syria through many arts and perspectives.

In partnership with



United Nations
Educational, Scientific and
Cultural Organization

Organisation
des Nations Unies
pour l'éducation,
la science et la culture



Canadian
Commission
for UNESCO

Commission
canadienne
pour l'UNESCO



Few countries have captured the world's attention like Syria has today. Stories of conflict and displacement dominate international media and define perceptions.

Syria: A Living History brings together artifacts and artworks that tell a different story — one of cultural diversity, ingenuity, and resilience. For over five millennia, this region perched on the eastern Mediterranean has welcomed great civilizations. Strongly informed by human and animal imagery and by a distinctive landscape, Syrian artists have made priceless contributions to world heritage.

Examine an eye idol from Tell Brak carved thousands of years ago. Consider how contemporary works by Elias Zayat (b. 1935) merge personal experiences with reflections on modern-day Syria. Experience a digital recreation of an “Aleppo room,” where coffee and conversation were once shared.

Syria: A Living History inspires new thinking about Syria's past and present, and invites new ways of understanding its future.

Co-Curators

Dr. Filiz Çakır Phillip,
Aga Khan Museum

Professor Nasser Rabbat,
Aga Khan Program for Islamic Architecture, MIT

Historian

Dr. Ross Burns, Sydney, Australia



FOCUS ON SYRIA

This season, Museum-wide programming complements our exhibition *Syria: A Living History*. See Syria through many lenses and many centuries!

CURATOR'S TOUR

Syria: A Living History

Tuesday, October 18, 6:30–7:30 pm

\$20, \$18 Friends, \$12 students

Discover artistic connections between Syria's diverse cultures with Dr. Filiz Çakır Phillip.

LECTURES

Modern History: Syria

Thursday, November 10, 1–2 pm

Free with Museum Admission

Join Jens Hanssen (University of Toronto) as he explores Syria's first newspapers, examining the impact of press culture on 20th-century Syria.

Aleppo: A City and Its Architecture

Sunday, November 13, 2–4 pm

\$50, \$45 Friends, \$25 students and seniors

Historian Dr. Ross Burns shares his insights about this storied city, located at the crossroads of ancient trade routes and at the centre of modern conflict.

WORKSHOP

Writing at the Aga Khan Museum

Sunday, October 23, 11 am–4 pm

\$50, \$45 Friends, \$25 students and seniors

Spend an afternoon with Kelly Aitken and Laboni Islam in this creative writing workshop exploring the themes of identity, home, and belonging. Take *Syria: A Living History* and Canadian writing as your points of departure.

ANNUAL LECTURE

Heritage and Conflict: Syria's Battle to Save its Past

Sunday, October 16, 2 pm

\$40, \$36 Friends, \$20 students and seniors

How has Syria's exceptional architecture weathered the 21st century? Professor Maamoun Abdulkarim, Director-General of Antiquities and Museums, Arab Republic of Syria, delivers our second Annual Lecture.

SYMPOSIUM

Syria's Art and Architecture: A Multicultural History

Saturday, October 29, 9:30 am–4 pm

Sunday, October 30, 10 am–12 pm

\$75, \$68 Friends, \$35 students and seniors

Special offer!

Symposium + Lubana Al Quntar concert \$90.

Hear international speakers engage with Syria's historic monuments and archaeological sites, tracing the influence of landscape and location on its art and architecture.

Co-organized with Professor Nasser Rabbat, Aga Khan Program for Islamic Architecture, MIT

SHOWCASE PERFORMANCES

Arias and Maqams with Lubana Al Quntar

Saturday, October 29, 8 pm

Tickets starting at \$40, 10% off for Friends

Special offer!

Symposium + Lubana Al Quntar concert \$90.

Enjoy the magic when Lubana Al Quntar, Syria's first opera singer, and oud virtuoso/composer Issam Rafea present Western classical and Arabic *Maqam* traditions.

Supported by

HJF HAL JACKMAN
FOUNDATION

Home Within with Kinan Azmeh and Kevork Mourad

Saturday, November 26, 8 pm

and Sunday, November 27, 2 pm

Tickets starting at \$40, 10% off for Friends

Don't miss this powerful reflection on the Syrian revolution and its aftermath with Syrian composer/clarinetist Kinan Azmeh and Syrian-Armenian visual artist Kevork Mourad.

Supported by Hal Jackman Foundation

Arabica Coffee House Concert with the Al Qahwa Ensemble

Sunday, December 11, 6 pm

\$40, \$36 Friends (in Diwan)

Experience the premiere performance of the newly formed Al Qahwa Ensemble featuring Maryem Tollar, performing traditional songs from Syria's Arabic classical and popular repertoire — all in the setting of a traditional coffee house. Coffee included in ticket price.

DRAMA

Oh My Sweet Land by Amir Nizar Zuabi

Friday, November 18–Sunday, November 20, 6 pm

\$60, \$54 Friends (in Diwan)

Silk Road Rising presents live theatre in Diwan! In this compelling drama, a Syrian woman prepares *kibbeh* in her kitchen while recounting tales of her vanished lover. Her stories bring to life a land torn apart by war. *Supported by Hal Jackman Foundation*

FILMS

50 Feet from Syria (Skye Fitzgerald, 2015, 39 min.)

Sunday, November 6, 2 pm

\$12, \$10 Friends

Shortlisted for the 2016 Academy Award for Short Nonfiction, this film follows Syrian-American doctor Hisham Bismar as he travels to work at a Turkish field hospital on the Syrian border. Presented in English with some Arabic (subtitled).

Return to Homs (Talal Derki, 2013, 94 min.)

Sunday, December 4, 2 pm

\$12, \$10 Friends

Be immersed in the harrowing vision of director Talal Derki in this documentary about two close friends living through the hard first years of Syria's civil war. Presented in Arabic with English subtitles.

50 Feet from Syria and Return to Homs presented in partnership with the Syria Film Festival (SYFF)





SPECIAL PROGRAMMING

ÁLVARO SIZA

GATEWAY TO THE ALHAMBRA

Closing January 8, 2017

Enter the mind of an architectural master!

Through sketches, models, and 14th-century artifacts, understand the creative process behind Álvaro Siza's "Puerta Nueva" – and the challenges of designing a visitors' centre for the legendary Alhambra, Spain's magnificent gateway to Muslim civilizations in Europe.

In cooperation with

Aedes
Architecture Forum



Patronato de la Alhambra y Generalife
CONSEJERÍA DE CULTURA

Supported by



SHOWCASE PERFORMANCES

Duende: Flamenco Festival

Friday, October 14–Sunday, October 16

Details on page 12.

COURSE

Drawing at the Aga Khan Museum with Kelly Aitken

Wednesdays, October 19–November 23, 6–8 pm

Details on page 9.

WORKSHOP

Geometric Patterns from the Alhambra with Aneesa Patel

Sunday, November 20, 10 am–3 pm

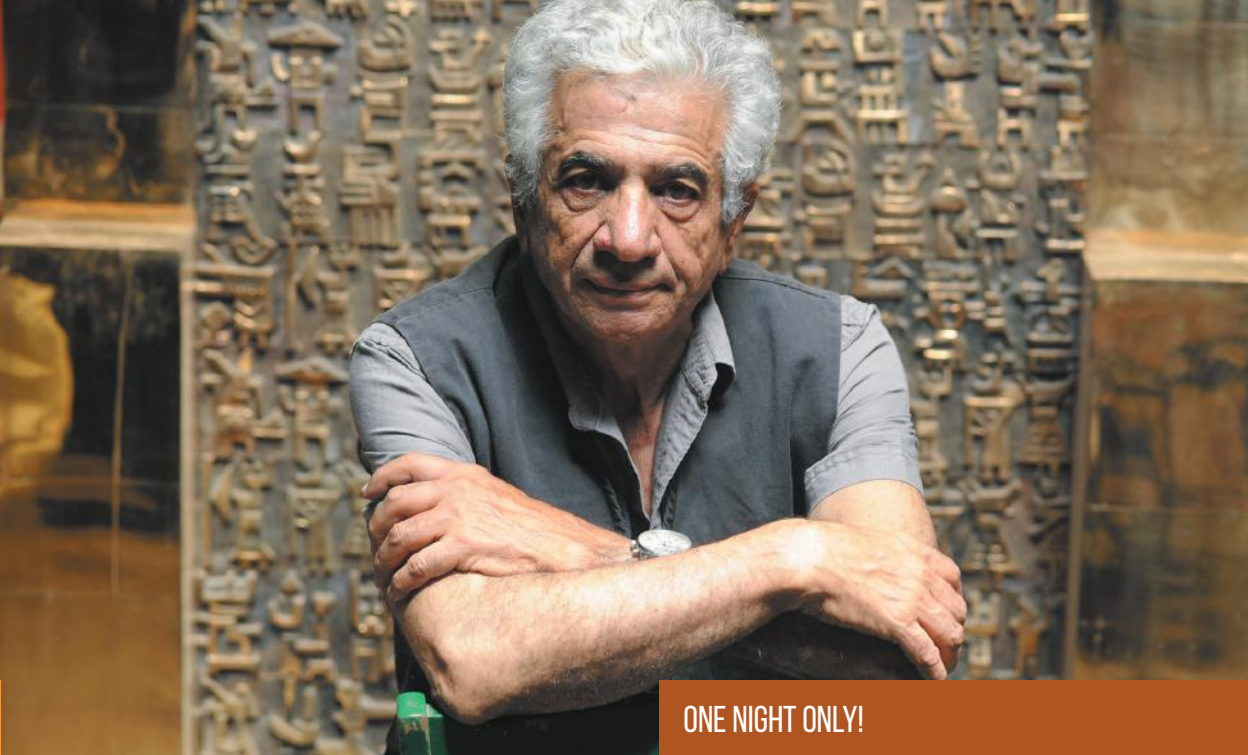
Details on page 9.

LECTURE

Restoring and Reimagining Architectural Heritage with Aziza Chaoui

Thursday, December 8, 1–2 pm

Details on page 8.



ONE NIGHT ONLY!

PARVIZ TANAVOLI

**This fall, art moves outdoors!
Watch for an exciting transformation
with the arrival of bronze and stainless
steel sculptures by Parviz Tanavoli —
an artist widely known as “the father
of Iranian sculpture.”**

Tanavoli has influenced generations of Iranian artists since the 1960s, when he helped found the modern art movement *Saqqakhaneh* with fellow artists Charles Hossein Zenderoudi, Sadeq Tabrizi, and Masoud Arabshahi.

Come enjoy Tanavoli’s sculptures in an incomparable setting, and take part in September programming with the artist! Learn more at agakhanmuseum.org.

Presented by

WYNFORD  GREEN

NUIT BLANCHE

Sensational Words

Curated by Zulfikar Hirji

Saturday, October 1, dusk to dawn

Free

For the first time, Nuit Blanche, Toronto’s celebration of contemporary art, comes to the Aga Khan Park and Ismaili Centre, Toronto!

Experience with all your senses *Sensational Words*, a unique art event combining installations, an artist’s talk, and a lecture/conversation probing the status of words in our digital age. For full programming details visit agakhanpark.org.

**Free bus shuttle service to and from
the Art Gallery of Ontario and Aga Khan Park
available every 40 minutes from 6 pm to 1 am.**

**PLUS: Enjoy free admission to the Museum
galleries 6–11 pm!**

In collaboration with

**NUIT BLANCHE
TORONTO**

Presented by

WYNFORD  GREEN



LEARNING AT THE AGA KHAN MUSEUM

In addition to exhibition-related programming, our education programs offer worlds of discovery. Explore the arts of Muslim civilizations through studio workshops, courses, and talks!

ANNUAL LECTURE

Heritage and Conflict: Syria's Battle to Save its Past

Sunday, October 16, 2 pm

\$40, \$36 Friends, \$20 students and seniors
How has Syria's exceptional architecture weathered the 21st century? Professor Maamoun Abdulkarim, Director-General of Antiquities and Museums, Arab Republic of Syria, delivers our second Annual Lecture.

AFTERNOON LECTURES

Free with Museum Admission

An Evolving Collection

Thursday, October 20, 1–2 pm

Turning a manuscript page, introducing new objects, or returning others to storage: with each change in our Museum Collections gallery, we can tell new stories. Head of Education Dr. Ruba Kana'an reflects on some of the most significant changes since 2014.

Modern History: Syria

Thursday, November 10, 1–2 pm

Join Jens Hanssen (University of Toronto) as he explores Syria's first newspapers, examining the impact of press culture on 20th-century Syria.

Restoring and Reimagining Architectural Heritage

Thursday, December 8, 1–2 pm

Wander the streets of the beautifully conserved Medina of Fez, Morocco! Aziza Chaoui (Daniels Faculty of Architecture, Landscape, and Design) explores the influence of Muslim dynasties on this UNESCO World Heritage Site.

LECTURES

Aleppo: A City and Its Architecture

Sunday, November 13, 2–4 pm

\$50, \$45 Friends, \$25 students and seniors
Historian Dr. Ross Burns shares his insights about this storied city, located at the crossroads of ancient trade routes and at the centre of modern conflict.

Clothing and the Debate on Secular National Identity in Turkey

November 23, 6:30 pm

\$20, \$18 Friends, \$12 students and seniors
How can fashion be a battleground? Follow the politics of Turkish fashion from the 1920s to the present day with Dr. Sevgi Adak. *Co-presented with the Aga Khan University, Institute for the Study of Muslim Civilisations*



Look for us at the Toronto Public Library!

Enjoy free art activities at branches across the city on three Saturday afternoons: October 22, November 12, and November 26. For locations and times, visit agakhanmuseum.org.

Family Sundays

Drop into our Education Centre every Sunday between 12–4 pm for art activities themed to our current exhibitions! Free with Museum admission and designed for children aged 5–12. Adult accompaniment required.

The Aga Khan Museum Welcomes Teachers

Teachers, did you know we offer school programs for Grades K–12? For curriculum links and booking details, visit our Learn pages at agakhanmuseum.org or email learn@agakhanmuseum.org.

SYMPOSIUM

Syria's Art and Architecture: A Multicultural History

Saturday, October 29, 9:30 am–4 pm

Sunday, October 30, 10 am–12 pm

\$75, \$68 Friends, \$35 students and seniors

Special offer!

Symposium + Lubana Al Quntar concert \$90.

Hear international speakers engage with Syria's historic monuments and archaeological sites, tracing the influence of landscape and location on its art and architecture.

Co-organized with Professor Nasser Rabbat, Aga Khan Program for Islamic Architecture, MIT

COURSES

Drawing at the Aga Khan Museum

Wednesdays, October 19–November 23, 6–8 pm

\$210, \$180 Friends, \$150 students and seniors

50% discount on parking available during the course

With artist Kelly Aitken as your guide, learn key lessons in contour, geometry, perspective, and pattern through sketching inside and outside the galleries.

Lasting Impact: The Art of the Silk Routes

Wednesdays, October 19–December 7, 6–8 pm

\$280, \$240 Friends, \$200 students and seniors

50% discount on parking available during the course

The Tang dynasty ushered in the golden age of Chinese culture, economy, and trade. Sudharshan Durayappah leads this eight-week course exploring how cultural exchange along land and naval trade routes influenced art produced in West Asia, Europe, South Asia, and South East Asia.

WORKSHOPS

Writing at the Aga Khan Museum

Sunday, October 23, 11 am–4 pm

\$50, \$45 Friends, \$40 students and seniors

Spend an afternoon with Kelly Aitken and Laboni Islam in this creative writing workshop exploring the themes of identity, home, and belonging.

Geometric Patterns from the Alhambra

Sunday, November 20, 10 am–3 pm

\$50, \$45 Friends, \$40 students and seniors

Learn what inspired Álvaro Siza, MC Escher, and countless other artists and architects. With Aneesa Patel, create your own geometrical composition in watercolour.

PERFORMANCES

A Classical Music Series, World Music Series, and Flamenco Festival are just some of the surprises offered in our fall performing arts season. Join us as we host new and returning artists, and introduce an unusual performance space — Diwan — for live music and drama!



CLASSICAL MUSIC SERIES

Enchanting Sitar

with Pandit Budhaditya Mukherjee

Saturday, September 24, 7 pm

Single tickets starting at \$40, 10% off for Friends

Add Warren Senders' performance on September 25 and save! For details, visit agakhanmuseum.org.

Redefine what you think "classical music" is! In this first performance presented in partnership with the Raag Mala Music Society of Toronto, Pandit Budhaditya Mukherjee, master of the *gayaki ang* (singing style) made famous by the Imdadkhani Gharana, presents evening *raags*.

Singing from the Heart with Warren Senders

Sunday, September 25, 3 pm

Single tickets starting at \$40, 10% off for Friends

Treat yourself to a unique lecture-demonstration featuring live performance, archival recordings, and opportunities for you to participate! Presented in partnership with the Raag Mala Music Society of Toronto.

Arias and Maqams with Lubana Al Quntar

Saturday, October 29, 8 pm

Tickets starting at \$40, 10% off for Friends

Part of our Syria exhibition programming!

See page 5 for details and more listings.

Evergreen Club Contemporary Gamelan

Saturday, December 3, 8 pm

Tickets starting at \$35, 10% off for Friends

Meet ECCG, a group of eight Toronto-based musicians who commission new works while keeping classical Indonesian music alive. Collectively known as a "gamelan" orchestra, they expertly move between traditional Indonesian and Western repertoires.

Vesuvius Ensemble

Saturday, December 10, 8 pm

Tickets starting at \$35, 10% off for Friends

Francesco Pellegrino, Romina Di Gasbarro, Marco Cera, and Lucas Harris perform southern Italian music influenced by Arabic traditions.

Community Partner





WORLD MUSIC SERIES

Huun Huur Tu

Saturday, October 1, 8 pm

Tickets starting at \$40, 10% off for Friends

Prepare yourself for another mesmerizing performance by throat-singer Radik Tyulyush — and a wholly original blend of electronica, funk, and the ancient songs of south central Siberia.

Taksim Trio

Thursday, October 6, 8 pm

Tickets starting at \$45, 10% off for Friends

Taksim means “improvisation,” and this trio featuring master instrumentalists (Hüsni Senlendirici on the clarinet, Ismail Tunçbilek on the *baglama* and Aytaç Dogan on the *qanun*) revels in surprising encounters between jazz, classical, and traditional Turkish music.

Presented by

Istanbullive

FILM

Nari

(Gingger Shankar, 2015, 60 min.)

Thursday, November 17, 8 pm

\$30, 10% off for Friends

Enjoy a screening of *Nari* (Gingger Shankar and Mridu Chandra, 2015), which follows the trials and triumphs of Lakshmi Shankar and her daughter Viji. The duo’s close collaborations with Ravi Shankar and George Harrison helped bring Indian music to the West in the 1970s.

Then immerse yourself in a multimedia tribute to these extraordinary women via imagery, live vocals, Indian percussion, hip-hop, and electronica!

In partnership with Reel Asian Film Festival

DUENDE: FLAMENCO FESTIVAL

Friday, October 14–Sunday, October 16

Festival pass available: see all three performances for \$100 plus \$10 parking (3 evenings included)!

Focusing on Granada, Spain, our second flamenco festival complements the exhibition *Álvaro Siza: Gateway to the Alhambra*.

Two Views of the Alhambra

Friday, October 14, 8 pm, \$40, \$36 Friends

Learn the basics of the flamenco art form in a brief presentation by Justine Bayod Espoz (ToritoMedia) before a Granada-inspired performance by Pablo Gimenez (guitar) and Sara Jiménez (dance).

Mi Flamenco

Saturday, October 15, 8 pm, \$50, \$45 Friends

Enjoy a flamenco double bill! Accompanied by vocals and guitar, dancer/choreographer Cristian Perez performs two works that push traditional flamenco into new territory.

From Granada to the Generalife Palace

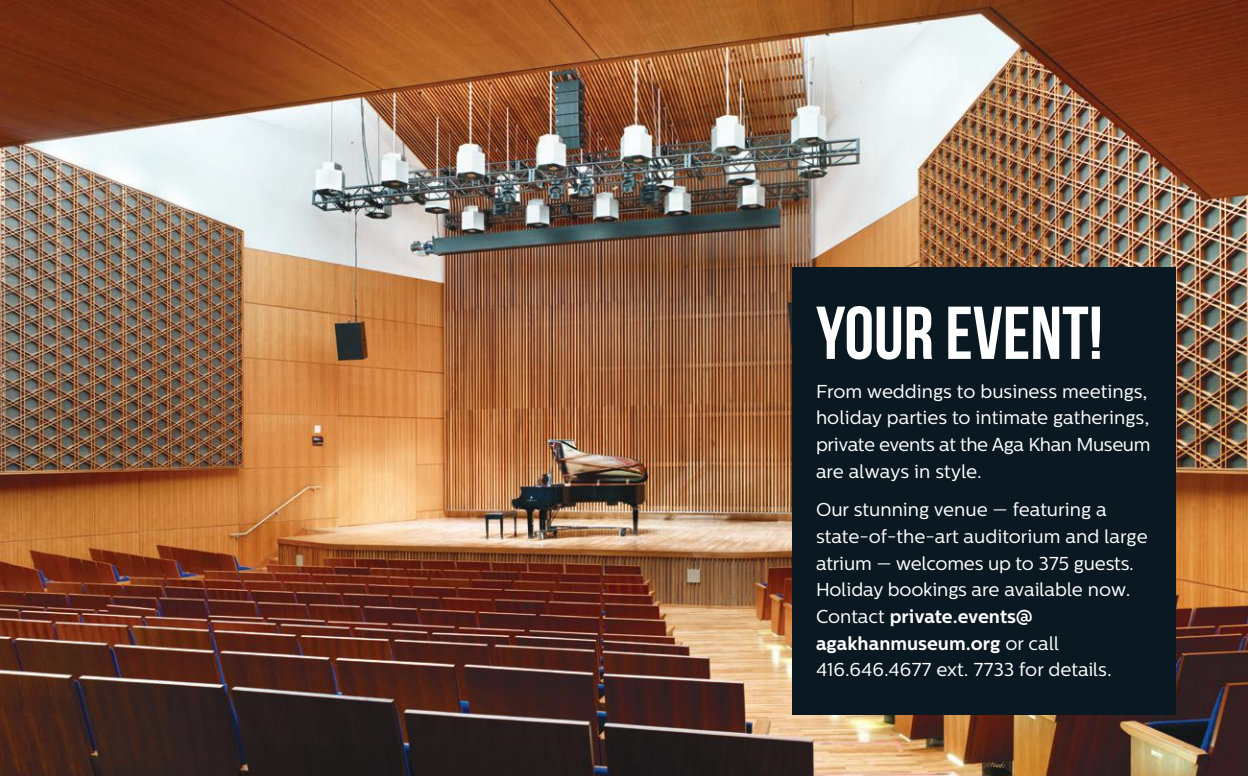
Sunday, October 16, 6 pm, \$40, \$36 Friends

Experience through *cante* (flamenco song) some of Granada's most famous sites with singer Alfredo Tejada and guitarist Patrocinio Hijo.



BOOK A GROUP VISIT

Interested in booking a Museum experience for 10 or more people? Ask about group rates for admissions, tours, and programs inspired by our current exhibitions and Permanent Collection. Contact groupreservations@agakhanmuseum.org or call 416.646.4677 ext. 7730 for details.



YOUR EVENT!

From weddings to business meetings, holiday parties to intimate gatherings, private events at the Aga Khan Museum are always in style.

Our stunning venue — featuring a state-of-the-art auditorium and large atrium — welcomes up to 375 guests. Holiday bookings are available now. Contact private.events@agakhanmuseum.org or call 416.646.4677 ext. 7733 for details.



DINE

Just in time for fall, Chef Mark McEwan unveils new menu items at Diwan. Savour them at lunch in an elegant setting Tuesday to Sunday, 11:30 am to 2:30 pm. For reservations, visit opentable.com.

Thinking of a special dinner? Diwan is also available for private bookings for up to 85 guests. Contact private.events@agakhanmuseum.org or call 416.646.4677 ext. 7733 for details.

SHOP

One-of-a-kind treasures are yours to discover at the Museum Shop. Whether you're looking to enhance your home, give the perfect gift, or treat yourself, you'll find something for every occasion.

Make the Museum Shop an essential destination on your next visit, or browse our e-Shop online at shop.agakhanmuseum.org. Personal shopping services are also available. Contact 416.646.4677 ext. 7805.





JOIN TODAY!

Friends of the Museum are the first to experience exhibitions, and always visit for free. Enjoy special discounts on dining and shopping, 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

HOURS AND TICKETS

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

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

HOLIDAY HOURS

October 10: 10 am–6 pm
December 24 & 26: 10 am–6 pm
Closed December 25
January 1: 10 am–6 pm

General Admission*

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

Enrich your experience at the Museum by taking a tour with a knowledgeable Museum guide: \$10 adults, \$5 students and seniors plus admission. Simply book these tours at the Tickets Desk when you arrive at the Museum. Tour offerings vary per season.

To book tours for more than 10 people, please contact 416.646.4677 ext. 7730.

Group Sales

Are you a hotel, professional meeting planner, or tour operator? Call Group Reservations at 416.646.4677 ext. 7730 to discuss special rates and options or visit agakhanmuseum.org/visit/tours for more details.

School Visits

Teachers, bring your students to the Museum for a fun, Ontario Curriculum-driven session of exploring and creating. Customize your own visit, or choose from a roster of School Programs. A two-hour program includes discovery in the Museum's exhibitions and an activity in the Education Centre. Contact 416.646.4677 ext. 7726 or learn@agakhanmuseum.org for details.

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:
416.646.4677 ext. 7733

Group Reservations:
416.646.4677 ext. 7730

Education Bookings:
416.646.4677 ext. 7726

agakhanmuseum.org

77 Wynford Drive, Toronto, Ontario, M3C 1K1

416.646.4677 info@agakhanmuseum.org



Follow us on

facebook.com/agakhanmuseumtoronto

twitter.com/agakhanmuseum

instagram.com/agakhanmuseum

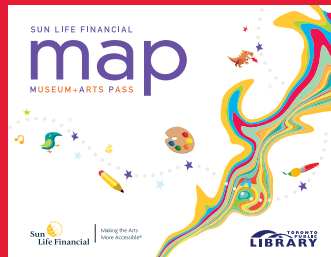
Sign up for our e-Newsletter at agakhanmuseum.org

and receive the latest news about our events and exhibitions!

The Aga Khan Museum is a proud participant in:

Sun Life Financial Museum + Arts Pass Program at 50 Toronto Public Library branches. Borrow a free family pass with your library card! To learn more, visit torontopubliclibrary.ca/mappass.

The Institute for Canadian Citizenship's Cultural Access Pass, granting new Canadians free admission to national parks and cultural attractions for one year. Visit culturalaccesspass.ca.



Copyright © The Aga Khan Museum, 2016.

Credits:

Cover: Lion's Head, historic Syria, 9th–8th centuries BCE © The Royal Ontario Museum, Toronto.

Page 2: Tammam Azzam's *Kfss*, image courtesy of the artist and the Ayyam Gallery.

Page 3: Incense burner, Syria, 13th century © Staatliche Museen zu Berlin, Museum für Islamische Kunst.

Page 4: Photo by Michael Greenhalgh, courtesy of Ross Burns.

Pages 6, 8, 9, 14, and 15: Photos by Janet Kimber.

Page 7: Photo by Kaveh Kazemi © Getty Images.

Page 10: Photo by Piotr Połoczański, courtesy of The Festival of World Cultures in Gdańsk.

Page 11: Photo by Eyad Elbayoumi.

Page 12: Photo by Rafael Estévez.

Page 13: Photos by Connie Tsang (top) and Tom Arban Photography (bottom).