



WOMAN | LIFE | FREEDOM | 2023

An SFSU Campus Initiative to Draw Attention to the Struggle for Freedom in Iran and its Relevance for Our Community

Join us for a campus collaboration between the Center for Iranian Diaspora Studies, The Poetry Center, Tonya M. Foster (George and Judy Marcus Endowed Chair in Poetry), and Hafez Modirzadeh (Professor of Music), as we endeavor to share art, poetry, and music and to draw attention to the WOMAN. LIFE. FREEDOM. Struggle in Iran — and beyond

The ongoing protest movement in Iran that erupted after the fatal beating in police custody of Mahsa Jina Amini, A 22-year-old Kurdish woman, has continued since September 16, 2022. Ignited by Amini's alleged violation of hijab rules, protests have transformed into a nationwide movement that has adopted "Woman. Life. Freedom." as its rallying cry.

With the movement in Iran, led largely by women, youth, and students, people are paying a high price for their unrelenting protest and their calls for regime change, all without the aid of the internet and under severe repression and censorship by the government. To date, more than 580 people have been killed, and among them are more than 60 children under 18. Over 17,000 people have been arrested and, as of December 20th, two people have been executed with hundreds more facing death sentences for their participation in the protests.

Around the globe, women and activists have also responded to the protests in Iran, acting in solidarity by marching in the streets of cities including San Francisco, Berlin, New York, and Paris, calling for an end to the brutality against Iran's citizens. Hundreds of celebrities, activists, and even politicians have cut their hair in public as a show of protest, as well as engaging in other acts of solidarity and activism. Art is one of the crucial ways that this movement has been made visible both in Iran and outside.

What does this moment and this movement mean for the world? How can we learn from the much longer struggle for women's rights, human rights, of those who have been fighting for greater freedom before this most current protest movement? How might the struggle for Iran's freedom also be a rallying cry for democracy and human rights in our own context? How can we understand the desire of women to be freed from patriarchal laws and bodily policing as relevant to a much larger struggle for women's rights and human rights?

We seek to engage the SF State University community to learn more about the struggle for WOMAN. LIFE. FREEDOM. in Iran — but also to find ways to connect it to our own context, including the struggles of women, gay, and trans people to have bodily autonomy here in the US, demands for respect of the rights of immigrants under international law, and everyone's basic right to freedom from unwanted physical and emotional violence. Join us!

This campus collaboration is made possible with the support of College of Liberal and Creative Arts 2023 "Extraordinary Ideas" grant, with additional support from the Center for Iranian Diaspora Studies, the Poetry Center, the Department of History, and the Department of Philosophy, SF State.

SPRING 2023 EVENTS/PROGRAMS - ALL EVENTS ARE FREE AND OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 14 2-4 PM, LECTURE AND CONVERSATION WITH DR. MANIJEH MORADIAN, PROFESSOR, WOMEN & GENDER STUDIES/ASIAN AMERICAN STUDIES, BARNARD COLLEGE
CENTER FOR MIDDLE EASTERN STUDIES, STEPHENS HALL, UC BERKELEY (IN PERSON)
AUTHOR OF *THIS FLAME WITHIN: IRANIAN REVOLUTIONARIES IN THE UNITED STATES (2022)*
CO-SPONSORED BY THE CENTER FOR IRANIAN DIASPORA STUDIES & UC BERKELEY ETHNIC STUDIES

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 12:30-1:45 PM, ZOOM LECTURE WITH DR. MANIJEH MORADIAN
WOMEN AND GENDER STUDIES LECTURE SERIES, MODERATED BY DR. KASTURI RAY
TO REGISTER FOR THIS SF STATE CAMPUS COMMUNITY LECTURE: [BIT.LY/MORADIAN2023](https://bit.ly/moradian2023)
CO-SPONSORED BY WOMEN & GENDER STUDIES AND THE CENTER FOR IRANIAN DIASPORA STUDIES

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 8, 1-2 PM, POETRY & MUSIC FOR "WOMAN. LIFE. FREEDOM."
KNUTH HALL, SF STATE
INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY MUSIC AND POETRY PERFORMANCE WITH MARJAN VAHDAT AND PROFESSOR TONYA FOSTER, CREATIVE WRITING, SF STATE

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 8 2-3 PM, POETRY AND SPOKEN WORD BY SF STUDENTS & FACULTY
KNUTH HALL, SF STATE
IN HONOR OF 'WOMAN. LIFE. FREEDOM.' AND THE STRUGGLE FOR WOMEN'S RIGHTS GLOBALLY
TO SUBMIT YOUR POEM/SPOKEN WORD ENTRY EMAIL: @IRANIANDIASPORASTUDIES.SFSU.EDU

THURSDAY, MARCH 9, 7:30-9:30 PM, MUSICAL PERFORMANCE WITH THE ELECTRIC OUD QUINTET
BIRD & BECKETT BOOKS, 653 CHENERY STREET, SAN FRANCISCO
FEATURING THE MUSIC OF FARHAD BAHRAMI (OUD) WITH HAFEZ MODIRZADEH (SAXOPHONES), JOHN-CARLOS PEREA (ELECTRIC BASS), AMIR ABBAS ETEMADZADEH (TOMBAK & DAF), AND KESHAV BATISH (DRUMS).

MARCH 10, 10-11:15 AM, LECTURE ON CREATIVE PERSIAN MUSIC WITH FARHAD BAHRAMI
CREATIVE ARTS BUILDING, ROOM 152, SF STATE
FARHAD BAHRAMI (SCHOOL OF MUSIC RESIDENCY)
CREATIVE ARTS BUILDING ROOM 152, SF STATE

MARCH 10, 1-2 PM, MUSICAL PERSIAN/JAZZ PERFORMANCE WITH SCHOOL OF MUSIC SF STATE STUDENTS/FACULTY, FEATURING THE ELECTRIC OUD MUSIC OF FARHAD BAHRAMI
KNUTH HALL, SF STATE

MARCH 14- 4 PM, "UN-DISCIPLINING THE FIELDS" WITH AUTHOR/PROFESSOR ABOU FARMAN
THE POETRY CENTER, HUMANITIES 512, SF STATE
IN PERFORMANCE/CONVERSATION WITH PROFESSOR TONYA FOSTER, CREATIVE WRITING, SF STATE

MARCH 16, 7-9:30 PM, "NAVA-E MARDOM: NOROOZ LIBERATION MUSIC FOR IRAN & BEYOND"
CREATIVE ARTS BUILDING, KNUTH HALL, SF STATE
DIRECTED BY DR. HAFEZ MODIRZADEH, SCHOOL OF MUSIC, FEATURING PERFORMANCES BY: PEZHAM AKHAVASS (TOMBAK); BAY AREA PERSIAN MUSIC ENSEMBLE (FARAZ MINOOEI, DIRECTOR); SAMANDAR DEGHANI (TAR, DAF); MIMI GOODARZ (VOICE); NASIM GORGANI (DAF); SIRVAN MANHOobi (OUD); HAFEZ MODIRZADEH (SAXOPONE); JOHN-CARLOS PEREA (CEDAR FLUTE, VOCALS, DRUM, BASS); FARIN SARDARI (TAR); SHAHIN SHAHBAZI (TAR); MONA SHAHNAVAZ (PIANO); RAMIN ZOUFONOUN (PERSIAN-TUNED PIANO). DONATION RECOMMENDED.