

Genres of the *Imaginaire*:
How Creativity Mediates Islam through Local Vernaculars
SARRATT STUDENT CENTER, ROOM 216-220

THURSDAY 13 FEBRUARY 2014

09:00-09:30 INTRODUCTIONS AND THE MAPPING OF THE INTELLECTUAL PROJECT

Tony K. Stewart, Gertrude Conaway Vanderbilt Chair in Humanities, Professor and Chair, Department of Religious Studies, and Project Convener, Vanderbilt University
Carolyn Dever, Dean of the College of Arts and Science, Professor of English, Vanderbilt University

09:30-12:30 WRITING AND NOVELTY

Gabeba Baderoon, Assistant Professor of Women's Studies and African Studies, Pennsylvania State University
"Demotic Expressions: Writing Islam and the Everyday in Post-Apartheid South Africa"
Sadaf Jaffer, PhD Candidate, Department of Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations, Harvard University
"Social Justice in Islamicate South Asia: Ismat Chughtai and Cosmopolitan Urdu Literature, 1911-1991"
Benjamin Gatling, Lecturing Fellow, Thompson Writing Program and Duke Islamic Studies Center, Duke University
"Post-Soviet Tajik Hagiography in Performance and Print"
Respondent: *Anand V. Taneja*, Assistant Professor, Department of Religious Studies, Vanderbilt University

13:15-14:30 PLENARY SESSION

Lenn E. Goodman, Andrew W. Mellon Professor in the Humanities, Professor, Department of Philosophy, Vanderbilt University
"The Satiric Flights of al-Hamadhani or Islam is Not Necessarily What You Thought"
Chair: *Richard McGregor*, Associate Professor, Department of Religious Studies, Vanderbilt University

15:00-17:00 LITERARY EXPLORATIONS OF THE IMAGINAIRE

Tony K. Stewart, Gertrude Conaway Vanderbilt Chair in Humanities, Professor and Chair, Department of Religious Studies, Vanderbilt University
"Subjunctive Explorations: How Fictive Discourse Habituates Islam to Bengal"
Syed Akbar Hyder, Associate Professor, Department of Asian Studies, University of Texas–Austin
"Escaping the Prison of Prose: Aesthetics of Mourning and the Story of Hind"
Respondent: *David J. Wasserstein*, Eugene Greener, Jr. Professor of Jewish Studies, Professor of History, Vanderbilt University

FRIDAY 14 FEBRUARY 2014

08:30-12:30 MATERIALITY AND PERFORMANCE

Owen Cornwall, PhD Candidate, Department of Middle Eastern, South Asian, and African Studies, Columbia University
"Alexander and the Astrolabe in India"
Lisa Homann, Mellon Postdoctoral Fellow, Penn Humanities Forum, University of Pennsylvania
"Being Muslim Made Visible: Dancing White Masks in Bobo-Dioulasso, Burkina Faso"

FRIDAY 14 FEBRUARY 2014 [continued]

Karen Ruffle, Assistant Professor, Department of Historical Studies and Department of Religion,
University of Toronto

“Meditations on a Water-skin: Lingayat Influences on the Development of Somatic Ritual in Deccani
Shi`ism”

Joseph Hellweg, Associate Professor, Department of Religion, Florida State University

“‘The Harp is the Dozo’s Qur’an’: Islam, Hunting, and Performance in Northwestern Côte d’Ivoire”

Respondent: *Samira Sheikh*, Associate Professor, Department of History, Vanderbilt University

13:30-16:30 MANAGING MEMORY

Maria Packman, MA Candidate, South and Southeast Asian Studies, University of California–Berkeley
“Fencing Off the Precious Plant: *Sīra* and *Purāṇam* in Tamil Nadu”

Jeanine Dagyeli, Postdoctoral Fellow, Berlin Graduate School Muslim Cultures and Societies, Freie
Universität–Berlin

“Folkloristic Literary Genres and their Importance in Shaping Islamic Knowledge in Central Asia”

Jessica Chen, PhD Candidate, Department of Religious Studies, Stanford University

“Prophets and Sages: Chinese Muslim Narratives of Early Human History”

Respondent: *Tony K. Stewart*, Gertrude Conaway Vanderbilt Chair in Humanities, Professor and Chair,
Department of Religious Studies, Vanderbilt University

SATURDAY 15 FEBRUARY 2014

09:00-12:00 LOCALS, LOCALITY, LANDSCAPE

Razak Khan, PhD Candidate, Berlin Graduate School Muslim Cultures and Societies, Freie Universität–
Berlin

“Local Pasts: Locality, Histories, and Vernacular *Imaginaire* in Urdu Literary Culture”

Radhika Gupta, Postdoctoral Fellow, Centre for Modern Indian Studies, Georg-August University

“Buddhist Past and Islamic Present: An Exploration of Genres of the *Imaginaire* in Kargil, India”

Anand V. Taneja, Assistant Professor, Department of Religious Studies, Vanderbilt University

“Of Stones, Birds and Other Muslim Saints: The Shifting Moral and Ecological Landscapes of Urban
North India.”

Respondent: *Dianna Bell*, Mellon Assistant Professor, Department of Religious Studies, Vanderbilt
University

12:00-12:30 CLOSING REMARKS