

EM Grant Project

*Music of the Iranian Diaspora*  
An evening of Persian traditional  
and contemporary music

Curated by Sepehr Davallou and Kimia Rafieian

with

Alexandra Henderson, soprano

Vanessa Naghdi, soprano

Ali Kadivar, voice

Mehrpouya Daneshvar, kamancheh

David Macchione, double bass

Sepehr Davallou, piano

Kimia Rafieian, piano

Tuesday, December 17, 2024

8:30 p.m.

Burnes Hall

PROGRAM

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**Golnoush Khaleghi**  
(1941–2021)

*In Exile*

*Kouhestan*

Kimia Rafieian, piano

**Golfam Khayam**  
(b. 1982)

*Noor*

**Reza Vali**  
(b. 1952)

from *Four Persian Folk Songs (Set 1)*

- I.
- II.
- III.

Alexandra Henderson, soprano  
Sepehr Davallou, piano

**Mojgan Misaghi**  
(b. 1991)

*Being*

Sepehr Davallou, piano

*Intermission*

Poems by Hafez

*Saz & Avaz in Māhūr & Rāk*

Ali Kadivar, vocal

Mehrpouya Daneshvar, kamancheh

**Reza Vali**

*Nine Persian Folk Songs (Set No. 2)*

Vanessa Naghdi, soprano

Sepehr Davallou, piano

**Amir Eslami**

(b. 1971)

*Sallaneh*

David Macchione, double bass

Kimia Rafieian, piano

## Noor

A window to see  
A window to hear  
A window as a well's circle  
Reaching earth's heart  
Opens to the broad repeated kindness of blue

A window filling small hands of loneliness  
From the scent of the generous stars

One window is all for me  
One window is all for me

I come from the homeland of dolls  
Under the shadows of paper trees  
In the garden of picture book

Are the back to back explosions  
Are the poisonous clouds  
Echoes of the holy verses?

You! Comrade, brother, soulmate  
Ask the mirror the savior's name  
When you reach the moon  
Write down the date of the flowers' massacre  
One window is all for me

When my trust was hanged from justice's loose rope  
When they blindfold my lover's childlike eyes  
With dark veil of law

When my lights' hearts were chopped around the town

When my life had become nothing nothing but the tictac of a clock  
I realized  
I must  
Must  
Must  
Love  
Insanely.

*Forough Farokhzad*

I.  
Rain, rain  
Rain, rain on the valleys and mountains  
Rain, rain on the plain fields and meadows  
My heart is filled with sadness,  
ay lover, when are you returning?  
Rain, rain on the mountains.

بارون بارون  
بارون ببار بر سر کوه و دمن  
بارون بارون بارون ببار بر سر دشت و دمن  
دل من غم زده است ای بار من کی میایی؟  
دل من غم زده است ای بار ای بار کی میایی؟  
بارون بارون بر سر کوه و دمن  
بارون بارون بارون ببار، بارون

II.  
(syllables)

III.  
Lullaby humming,  
Sleep calmly, my dear, sleep well, my dear  
My sweet, my light, sleep well,  
My flower, your father has gone,  
and my heart is sad.  
Sleep well, my sweetheart,  
Your father has got chains on his ankles,  
Sleep well, my sunflower,  
Your dad asked about you.  
-Lullaby-  
Sleep calmly  
My light, my hope.

لای لای  
بخواب آرام، عزیز من، بخواب آرام عزیز من  
نیات من، چراغ من، بخواب آرام  
گل پونه، بابات رفته دلم خونه  
بخواب آرام، گل انجیر  
بابات داره به پاش زنجیر  
بخواب آرام گل خورشید،  
بابات از حال تو پرسید.  
لای لای  
بخواب آرام  
چراغ من، امید من

It is morning, and dewdrops fall from the  
wintry cloud,  
Prepare the dawn wine, and offer a goblet full  
to the brim.

صبح است و ژاله می‌چکد از ابر بهمنی  
برگ صبح ساز و بده جام یک منی

I have fallen in the sea of egotism, bring forth  
The wine to release me from this egotism.

در بحر مایی و منی افتاده‌ام، بیار  
می تا خلاص بخشدم از مایی و منی

Drink the blood of the goblet, for its blood is pure,  
Be devoted to the beloved, for this is a task to do.

خون پیاله خور که حلال است خون او  
در کار یار باش که کاریست کردنی

O cupbearer, be ready, for sorrow lies in wait  
for us,  
O minstrel, keep playing the tune you now  
strike.

ساقی به دست باش که غم در کمین ماست  
مطرب نگاه دار همین ره که می‌زنی

Give wine, for the harp whispered in my ear  
and said:  
"Enjoy yourself and listen to this bent old  
man."

می ده که سر به گوش من آورد چنگ و گفت  
«خوش بگنران و بشنو از این پیر منحنی»

O cupbearer, pour the wine for the carefree  
lovers,  
So you may hear from the singer's voice, "God  
is the Self-Sufficient."

ساقی به بی‌نیازی رندان که می بده  
«تا بشنوی ز صوت معنی» «هو الغنی»

*Hafez*

I.  
For others, destiny decided on happiness;  
Our heart decided on sadness.

دیگران قرعه قسمت همه بر عیش زدند  
دل ما بود که هم بر غم زد

II.  
Ah sky is cloudy, my lover has not yet  
returned, what should I do?  
Our pain, is the pain of love, lover has not yet  
returned, what shall I do?  
Ey holder of my heart when are you returning,  
Lover, lover, lover...

های آسمون ابری شده یارم نیامده چه کنم  
درد ما درد عشقه یارم نیامده چه کنم  
ای آتشین دل دارم کی میایی تو  
یارم یارم یارم

III.  
What to do, what to do?  
Not remember my lover? If you don't love her,  
Why do you always think about her?  
Beautiful girl, you took my heart  
What can I do to open my heart, my heart  
won't become happy  
I can't stop thinking about you,  
Why did you take my heart  
You!

چه کنیم، آخ چه کنیم؟  
دلبر خود رو یاد نکنیم، اگه تو اونو دوست نداری،  
اونو چرا تو یاد میاری،  
خانم قزی دختر قزی دل منو تو بردی همه، دختر قزی  
چه کنیم آخ دل ما وا نمیشد، چرا که خوشحال نمیشد  
ز فکر تو در نمیام،  
خانم قزی، دختر قزی،  
دل منو تو  
بردی چرا  
خانم قزی  
تورو

IV.  
(*humming*)

V.  
(*syllables*)

VI.

You are the light of my house,  
You are the light of my eyes,  
You are my life, my tranquil partner, my love,  
You have made me insane, I'm broken since  
You were light of this house, and you are so  
gone.

ای که نوری و تو ایمن منی،  
ای که تو نور دو چشمون منی  
ای که جون منی بار آروم منی، عشق منی تو  
کرده دیوونه مرا، خرده و بیروونه مرا، غم به دل دارم اگر خرد و  
نزارم،  
نور این خانه تو بودی و چو رفتی

VII.

A burning love in my heart, yet sadness ready  
to strike,  
Sorrow has come to my heart like a fire.  
What shall I do? I have a great sorrow,  
Which burns my souls, and breaks me,  
And sets my heart aflame.

من و عشق آتشین غم به دل در کمین  
آتش سوزانی، سوزانی  
چه کنم در دل دارم آه غم یک دل نالانی  
آتش بر جانم، کرده ویرانم، غم بر دل، آتش سوزانی، سوزانی  
غم در دل دارم، کرده بیمارم، آتش زد بر جانم

VIII.

Shirazian girl,  
Put your lips on mine, so I am happy

دختر شیرازی، جونم، دختر شیرازی  
لباتو بذار رو لبام تا شوم راضی

Why do you want my lips, you shameless boy!  
These are precious, come in the morning, I am  
not home at night!

لبامو میخوای چه کنی بی حیا پسر  
این لبها نرخش گروونه، صبح بیا شب نیستم خونه

IX.

A flower has bloomed on a tree.  
I cannot reach it, and it does not fall by itself.  
I am drunk, love drunk, love drunk, your  
thorn has torn my hand.

یک گل گوشه ی چمن گوشه ی چمن، تازه شکفته تازه شکفته  
نه دستم بش میرسه، بش میرسه، نه خوش میفته، نه خوش میفته  
یار  
مستم مستم مستم تیغت بریده دستم  
مستم مستم مستم...

Let's go to the Shah-e-Cheragh (A sacred  
place)

بیا بریم شاه چراغ عهدی ببندیم عهدی ببندیم  
هر کسی عهد بشکنه عهد بشکنه، کمر نبندیم، کمر نبندیم یار.

And make a promise of love.  
We will not be engaged with someone who  
breaks a promise.  
I am love drunk, drunk, drunk, your thorn has  
torn my hand.

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