DISSIDENT SUBJECTS:
A conference in honor of miriam cooke

DUKE UNIVERSITY
Thursday, April 6–Saturday, April 8, 2017
### Thursday, April 6
**John Hope Franklin Center Gallery**

#### RECEPTION
4:30 PM – 6:00 PM
*Creative Memory: The Creative Memory of the Syrian Revolution*

### Friday, April 7
**Holsti-Anderson Family Assembly Room, Rubenstein Library Room 153**

#### INTRODUCTORY REMARKS
9:00 AM
- Sally Kornbluth  
  Provost, Duke University
- Gennifer Weisenfeld  
  Dean of Humanities, Duke University
- Hae-Young Kim  
  Chair of the Department of Asian & Middle Eastern Studies, Duke University
- Erdağ Göknar  
  Director of the Duke University Middle East Studies Center
- Bruce Lawrence  
  Professor Emeritus, Duke University

#### PANEL 1: WOMEN CLAIM ISLAM
9:45 AM
*Facilitator: Ellen McLarney, Duke University*
- Evelyne Accad, Lebanese American University  
  *Reciprocal Transmission: My 'Women and War' Journey with miriam cooke*
- Hina Azam, University of Texas-Austin  
  *Islamic Feminism between Islam and Islamophobia*
- Judith Tucker, Georgetown University  
  *Muslim Women’s Claims on World History*
- Margot Badran, Wilson Center  
  *Keeping the Gates Open*
- Banu Gökarkinçel, University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill  
  *‘Women Claim Islam’ in Turkey: Bodies, Subjectivities, and Challenging Cultural Hegemony in Public Space*

#### LUNCH
12:00 PM

#### AFTERNOON INTRODUCTORY REMARKS
1:00 PM
- Shai Ginsburg  
  Department of Asian & Middle Eastern Studies, Duke University
- Mbaye Lo  
  Department of Asian & Middle Eastern Studies, Duke University

#### PANEL 2: MEDITERRANEAN PASSAGES
1:30 PM
*Facilitator: Charles Wilkins, Wake Forest University*
- Susan Slyomovics, University of California, Los Angeles  
  *The Mediterranean Passages of the Virgin Mary of Oran, Algeria*
- Roberto Dainotto, Duke University  
  *The Land of Remorse: Between Subalternity and Wretchedness*
- Erdağ Göknar, Duke University  
  *Navigating Mediterranean Passages: Objects and Itineraries*

#### COFFEE BREAK
2:45 PM

#### PANEL 3: DISSIDENT ARTS
3:00 PM
*Facilitator: Nancy Armstrong, Duke University*
- Muhsin al-Musawi, Columbia University  
  *Narrative Women*
- Fırat Oruç, Georgetown University-Qatar  
  *Petromodernity and Film in the Arabian Gulf*
- Ranjana Khanna, Duke University  
  *Psychoanalysis and the Middle East*
- Farzaneh Milani, University of Virginia  
  *Another Pioneer: The Life and Poetry of Forugh Farrokhzad*
- Negar Mottahedeh, Duke University  
  *Reel Evil: Films from the Axis of Evil*
miriam cooke is Braxton Craven Professor of Arab Cultures at Duke University and founding director of the Duke University Middle East Studies Center. She has been a visiting professor in Tunisia, Romania, Indonesia, Qatar, and Turkey. She serves on several international advisory boards, including academic journals and institutions. Since coming to Duke University she has taught Arabic language and a wide variety of courses on Arabic literature, war and gender, the Palestine-Israel conflict, and postcolonial theory. She has directed several study abroad courses in Morocco, Tunisia, Cairo, and Istanbul.

Her writings have focused on the intersection of gender and war in modern Arabic literature and on Arab women writers’ constructions of Islamic feminism. Her more recent interests have turned to Arab cultural studies with a concentration on Syria, and to the networked connections among Arabs and Muslims around the world.

She is the author of several monographs that include The Anatomy of an Egyptian Intellectual: Yahya Haqqi (Three Continents Press, 1984); War’s Other Voices: Women Writers on the Lebanese Civil War (Cambridge Middle East Library, 1988); Women and the War Story (University of California Press, 1997); Women Claim Islam: Creating Islamic Feminism through Literature (Taylor & Francis, 2001); Dissident Syria: Making Oppositional Arts Official (Duke University Press, 2007), Nazira Zeineddine: A Pioneer of Islamic Feminism (Oneworld, 2010), and Tribal Modern: Branding New Nations in the Arab Gulf (University of California Press, 2014). Her latest book, Dancing in Damascus: Creativity, Resilience, and the Syrian Revolution, was released by Routledge in 2016.

She has co-edited several volumes, including Opening the Gates: A Century of Arab Feminist Writing (Indiana University Press, 1990 with Margot Badran); Gendering War Talk (Princeton University Press, 1993 with Angela Woollacott); Blood into Ink: 20th Century South Asian and Middle Eastern Women Write War (Avalon Publishing, 1994 with Roshni Rustomji); Muslim Networks from Hajj to Hip Hop (University of North Carolina Press, 2005 with Bruce Lawrence); and Mediterranean Passages: Readings from Dido to Derrida (University of North Carolina Press, 2008 with Erdağ Göknar and Grant Parker).
Evelyne Accad is Professor Emerita at the University of Illinois-Lebanese American University. She published her first novel L’Excisée (The Excised) in 1982. Her other publications include Femmes du Crépuscule (Women of the Twilight) (L’Harmattan, 2008), Wounding Words: A Woman’s Journal in Tunisia (Heinemann, 1996), and Sexuality and War: Literary Masks of the Middle East (New York University Press, 1990).

Nancy Armstrong is the Gilbert, Louis, and Edward Lehrman Professor of English at Duke University. Her scholarship explains how novels imagine a world that can be inhabited (or not) by historically and culturally variable readerships. Currently focused on the contemporary novel, she continues to address questions of how modern cultures imagine themselves as a political society. She recently co-authored The Conversion Effect: Aspects of the American Network Novel (University of Pennsylvania Press, 2016) with Leonard Tennenhouse.

Hina Azam is Associate Professor of Islamic Studies in the Department of Middle Eastern Studies at the University of Texas at Austin. She is Associate Book Review Editor for the Journal of Law and Religion, and is on the Series Editorial Board for the Modern Muslim World series at Gorgias Press. Her book, Sexual Violation in Islamic Law (Cambridge University Press, 2015), centers on questions of women, gender, and sexuality in the Islamic tradition.

Margot Badran is a Fellow at the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars and a Senior Fellow at the Center for Muslim-Christian Understanding at Georgetown University. A historian of the Middle East and Islamic societies and a specialist in gender studies, her latest publications include Feminism in Islam: Secular and Religious Convergences (Oxford University Press, 2009) and Feminism beyond East and West: New Gender Talk and Practice in Global Islam (Global Media, 2007).

Leo Ching is Associate Professor of Asian and African Languages and Literature at Duke University. His research revolves around two major themes: Japanese empire studies and popular culture studies. His publications include Becoming Japanese: The Politics of Identity Formation in Colonial Taiwan (University of California Press, 2000) and Anti-Japanism: The Politics of Sentimentality in Postcolonial East Asia (forthcoming).

Roberto Dainotto is Professor of Romance Studies at Duke University, and teaches courses on contemporary Italian culture. In 2010, he was awarded the Shannon Prize for Best Book in European Studies. His publications include Place in Literature: Regions, Cultures, Communities (Cornell University Press, 2000), Europe (in Theory) (Duke University Press, 2007), The Mafia: A Cultural History (Reaction Books, 2015), and the edited volume Racconti Americani del ‘900 (Einaudi, 1999).
Carl Ernst is William R. Kenan, Jr., Distinguished Professor in the University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill’s Department of Religious Studies. He is a specialist in Islamic studies. His research focuses on general and critical issues of Islamic studies, premodern and contemporary Sufism, and Indo-Muslim culture. He is the author of *How to Read the Qur’an: A New Guide with Select Translations* (University of North Carolina Press, 2011) and *Following Muhammad: Rethinking Islam in the Contemporary World* (University of North Carolina Press, 2003).

Shai Ginsburg is Associate Professor in the Department of Asian and Middle Eastern Studies at Duke University. His work focuses on Israel and its culture in relation to Jewish nationalism and its variants. He is interested in the way works of culture shape the political imagination and vice versa. He is the author of *Rhetoric and Nation: The Formation of Hebrew National Culture, 1880–1990* (Syracuse University Press, 2014) and the co-editor of *Bounded Mind and Soul: Russia and Israel, 1880–2010* (Slavica Publishers, 2013).

Banu Gökarıksel is Associate Professor of Geography and Global Studies at the University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill and the co-editor of the *Journal of Middle East Women’s Studies*. Her work engages feminist geography and geopolitics with a focus on gender, bodies, and public space. Her projects include research on the production and consumption of veiling fashion in Turkey, the renewed role of religion in the public sphere of Turkey, and social justice, art, and activism at UNC-Chapel Hill.

Erdağ Göknar is Associate Professor at Duke University and the Director of the Middle East Studies Center (DUMESC). He was the translator for the award-winning Orhan Pamuk novel, *My Name is Red* (Knopf, 2001). He is also the author of *Orhan Pamuk, Secularism and Blasphemy: The Politics of the Turkish Novel* (Routledge, 2013) and the recently released book of poetry, *Nomadologies* (Turtle Point Press, 2017).

Zeina G. Halabi is Assistant Professor of Modern Arabic Literature and Culture at the University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill. Halabi’s teaching and research interests revolve around questions of loss, mourning, and disidence in contemporary literature and visual culture. She is the author of *The Unmaking of the Arab Intellectual: Prophecy, Exile, and the Nation* (Edinburgh University Press, 2017). Her current project, *Excavating the Present: History, Power, and the Arab Archive*, explores archival practices in the contemporary Arab world.

Suad Joseph is Distinguished Professor of Anthropology and Gender, Sexuality, and Women’s Studies at the University of California, Davis. Joseph is the founder of the Middle East Research Group in Anthropology and the Association for Middle East Women’s Studies. She was also the president of the Middle East Studies Association (2010–2011). She is the author of *Gender and Citizenship in the Middle East* (Syracuse University Press, 2000) and the co-author of *Women and Power in the Middle East* (University of Pennsylvania Press, 2001).
Ranjana Khanna is Professor of English, Women’s Studies, and the Literature Program at Duke University. She works on postcolonial theory, literature, film, psychoanalysis, and feminist theory. She is the author of *Dark Continents: Psychoanalysis and Colonialism* (Duke University Press, 2003) and *Algeria Cuts: Women and Representation 1830 to the Present* (Stanford University Press, 2008). Her current book manuscripts in progress are *Asylum: The Concept and the Practice and Technologies of Unbelonging.*

Hae-Young Kim is Chair of the Department of Asian and Middle Eastern Studies at Duke University. Her research and teaching interests include L2 Korean morpho-syntactic development, bilingualism, heritage language development and maintenance, and content-based instruction of language with focus on history, literature and cultural studies. She has published on tense/aspect morphology and relative clause construction in L2 Korean, and Korean heritage language students in the U.S.

Sally Kornbluth is Provost of Duke University after having served as Vice Dean for Basic Science at Duke University School of Medicine from 2006–2014. In this role, she had oversight of the biomedical graduate programs in the School of Medicine, implementation of programs to support the research mission of the basic science faculty, and oversight of new and existing core laboratories. Kornbluth’s research interests include the study of cell proliferation and programmed cell death, areas of central importance for understanding both carcinogenesis and degenerative disorders.


Mbaye Lo is Associate Professor of the Practice of Asian and Middle Eastern Studies at Duke University. His areas of research include the sociology of Islam, theories of civil society, the development of Arabic language, and culture in Africa. He is the co-editor of *Muslim Institutions of Higher Education in Postcolonial Africa* (Palgrave, 2015) and is currently working on *Justice versus Freedom,* a book project looking at the global conflict with militant Islam as manifested in two divergent visions of human values.

Ellen McLarney is Associate Professor of Asian and Middle Eastern Studies at Duke University. She was named a Fellow of the National Humanities Center in 2011. McLarney’s studies are currently in the fields of Arabic literature, Islamic studies, and gender studies in the Middle East. Her publications include *Soft Force: Women in Egypt’s Islamic Revival* (Princeton University Press, 2015) and *Middle East in Latin America: Media, Migration, and Muslims* (in preparation).
Farzaneh Milani is Raymond J. Nelson Professor and Chair of the Department of Middle Eastern and South Asian Languages and Cultures at the University of Virginia. She has published several books, most recently *Forugh Farrokhzad: A Literary Biography with Unpublished Letters* (Persian Circle, 2016) and *Words, not Swords: Iranian Women Writers and the Freedom of Movement* (Syracuse University Press, 2011). She was past president of the Association of Middle Eastern Women’s Studies in America and a Carnegie Fellow.

Negar Mottahedeh is Associate Professor of Literature at Duke University. She is a cultural critic and film theorist specializing in interdisciplinary and feminist contributions to the fields of Middle Eastern Studies and Film Studies. She also looks at the history of reform, revolution, and the uses of social media in protest. Her publications include *#iranelection: Hashtag Solidarity and the Transformation of Online Life* (Stanford University Press, 2015) and *Displaced Allegories: Post-Revolutionary Iranian Cinema* (Duke University Press, 2008).

Muhsin al-Musawi is Professor of Arabic Literature at Columbia University. He is a literary critic and a scholar of classical and modern Arabic literature and comparative cultural studies. He has been the editor of the *Journal of Arabic Literature* since 2000. His most recent books are *The Medieval Islamic Republic of Letters: Arabic Knowledge Construction* (University of Notre Dame Press, 2015) and *The Islamic Context of the Thousand and One Nights* (Columbia University Press, 2009).

Fırat Oruç is an Assistant Professor of English and Humanities at the Georgetown University School of Foreign Service in Qatar. His scholarly interests center on the intersections of cultural globalization and transnationalism, postcolonial studies, world literature theory, and translation studies. His current book project is a comparative study of world literature and institutions of translation in Turkey, Egypt, and Iran.

Susan Slyomovics is Distinguished Professor of Anthropology and Near Eastern Languages and Cultures at the University of California, Los Angeles. Her research concerns gender, human rights, folklore, material culture, and visual anthropology in the Middle East and North Africa. She is the author of *How to Accept German Reparations* (University of Pennsylvania Press, 2014) and the co-editor of *The Anthropology of the Middle East and North Africa: Into the New Millenium* (Indiana University Press, 2013).

Rebecca Stein is Nicholas J. and Theresa M. Leonardy Associate Professor of Cultural Anthropology at Duke. Her research studies linkages between cultural and political processes in Israel in relation to its military occupation and the history of Palestinian dispossession. She is the author of *Itineraries in Conflict: Israelis, Palestinians, and the Political Lives of Tourism* (Duke University Press, 2008) and the co-author of *Digital Militarism: Israel’s Occupation in the Social Media Age* (Stanford University Press, 2015).
Judith Tucker is Professor of History at Georgetown University. She is the author of *Women, Family, and Gender in Islamic Law* (Cambridge University Press, 2008) and the co-author of *Women in the Middle East and North Africa: Restoring Women to History* (Indiana University Press, 1999). Currently, she is working on the history of piracy in the Mediterranean in the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries.

Gennifer Weisenfeld is Dean of Humanities within Trinity College of Arts & Sciences at Duke. Her field of research is modern and contemporary Japanese art history, design, and visual culture. She is the author of *Imaging Disaster: Tokyo and the Visual Culture of Japan’s Great Earthquake of 1923* (University of California Press, 2012) and *The Fine Art of Persuasion: Corporate Advertising Design, Nation, and Empire in Modern Japan* (forthcoming).

Charles Wilkins is Professor of History at Wake Forest University. He specializes in the history of the Arab Provinces of the Ottoman Empire, with a particular focus on the sixteenth through eighteenth centuries. He is the author of *Urban Solidaries: Ottoman Aleppo, 1640–1700* (Brill Publishing, 2010), which examined how constant warfare challenged and reshaped one city’s social and political order.

Nadia Yaqub is Chair of the Department of Asian Studies at the University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill. Her research has dealt with Arab cultural texts ranging from medieval literature and contemporary oral poetry to modern prose fiction and visual culture. She is the author of *Pens, Swords, and the Springs of Art: The Oral Poetry Dueling of Palestinian Weddings in the Galilee* (Brill Publishers, 2006). She is currently completing a study of Palestinian cinema of the 1970s titled *Palestinian Cinema in the Days of Revolution*.

Eric Zakim is Associate Professor at the University of Maryland. He also serves as a core faculty member at the Meyerhof Center for Jewish Studies and the Gildenhorn Institute for Israel Studies. He has published essays on Israeli popular culture, Hebrew poetry, and Marxist and post-structural theory in the study of modernist music. He is the author of *To Build and Be Built: Landscape, Literature, and the Construction of Zionist Identity* (University of Pennsylvania Press, 2005) and *Mediterranean Studies* (forthcoming).
Sponsored by the Department of Asian and Middle Eastern Studies, the Office of the Provost, the Office of the Deans, Franklin Humanities Institute – Humanities Futures, Duke University Middle East Studies Center & the Duke Islamic Studies Center