



Special Lecture

Everyday Art: The Islamic Impact on American Arts

Sunday, September 26, 2010
2:00 p.m.

The Museum of Fine Arts, Houston
Brown Auditorium Theater

Presented by Dr. Hussein Rashid, Professor of Religious Studies, Hofstra University, New York
A reception to meet the speaker follows the program.

American popular culture – the art that surrounds us every day – reflects the tremendous cultural diversity of the American people, and helps to shape the way Americans understand themselves. Perhaps the least understood of these influences is the cultural impact of the various Muslim communities that have settled in the United States.

Starting from the period of slavery and continuing through to the present day, the tapestry of influences that converge in popular music, architecture, and literature – the arts we engage with every day – bears witness to the presence of Muslims in America.

In this richly illustrated talk, Dr. Hussein Rashid explores the Islamic impact on American popular culture using examples from multiple communities and time periods throughout American history.

Dr. Hussein Rashid is a passionate instructor at one of the largest interfaith centers in Manhattan, housed at the Park Avenue Christian Church. He is also an Associate Editor at Religion Dispatches, and has appeared on CBS Evening News, CNN, Russia Today, Channel 4 (UK), and State of Belief – Air America Radio.

This program is generously sponsored by His Highness Prince Aga Khan Shia Imami Ismaili Council for the Southwestern United States. Additional promotional support is provided by the Friends of the Arts of the Islamic World at the MFAH, and the Society of Iranian American Women for Education.

This lecture is free with general museum admission. If you are not a museum member, please be our guest and receive complimentary general admission to the MFAH by presenting this flyer at the admission desk.

Image Credits (above): Comedian Aziz Ansari and Boxer Muhammad Ali, Wikipedia Commons
Cover Art, Domestic Crusaders, McSweeney's Magazine