Middle Eastern Music Ensemble Archive

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Middle Eastern Music Ensemble’

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W&M Middle Eastern Music Ensemble in Concert

April 11, 2015 • 7:30pm • Kimball Theatre

For tickets, call 1-800-HISTORY. Adults/$10, Seniors/$5, Students/Free with ID.

Featuring

Kareem Roustom - Artist-in-Residence, composer and instrumentalist

Dr. Nizar Fares - Guest vocal soloist and scholar

In a concert of Lebanese, Syrian, Palestinian, and Egyptian music

For more information, please contact Prof. Anne Rasmussen at akrasm@wm.edu or (757) 221-1097.
Musicians.....Save your Thursdays!

If you are registering for classes now, save your Thursday evenings for rehearsal with the W&M Middle Eastern Music Ensemble. We will be recruiting a number of new members – both singers and players -- next fall on all instruments:

Violin, Viola, 'Cello, Bass

‘Ud (lute), Qanun (zither), Nay (flute)

Percussion: Tablah/Darbukah (drum), Daff (frame drum), Riqq (tambourine)

even....Accordion!

Auditions/Interviews will be held in the fall semester during the first week of class.

Questions: See Anne Rasmussen (akrasm@wm.edu) or John Loughton (jtloughton@email.wm.edu)

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Curious? Come Hear Us Play!

**Tuesday, April 8, 2014 -- Kimball Theater at 7:30 p.m. with Guest Artist, Howard Levy**

**Saturday, April 19, 2014 -- AMES Music Festival, Lake Matoka Amphitheater 12-4 p.m.**

With music from India, the Middle East, China and the thundering Taiko drums of Japan! Don’t miss it.
Upcoming Programs

October 15  Works for Solo Violin: from Bach to Ysaye
Wanchi Huang, violin

November 19  Bach & Liszt Piano Concert
Kyong Jorrell, piano

December 17  Warhill High School Choir
Lisa Stone, Director

January 21  A Tribute to Classic Ragtime’s Big Three:
Scott Joplin, James Scott, & Joseph Lamb
Kathy Teck, piano

February 18  Classical Piano Trio: Anna Lai, violin;
Marina Hayes, cello; Natalia Ilyushko, piano

March 14  Grants-in-Aid Scholarship Auditions
Ewell Hall, College of William and Mary

March 18  Charles City Spiritual Ensemble
Sommie Catman, Directress

April 15  Flute, Whistles and Pipes
Chris Norman, traditional flutist

May 20  Annual Luncheon featuring winners of GIA Auditions
The Williamsburg Music Club is a nonprofit, educational organization
under Section 501(c)(3) of the IRS code. It supports the development
of young musicians through its Grants-in-Aid Fund.

Activities of the Williamsburg Music Club are supported in part by
grants from the Williamsburg Area Arts Commission, The Williamsburg
Community Foundation and The York County Arts Commission.

You can help in this effort by sending your tax-deductible contributions
to the address below or by joining the WMC by sending your name,
address and phone number and $30 (singles) or $55 (couples) to the
same address.

The Williamsburg Music Club
P. O. Box 1808, Williamsburg VA 23187-1808
www.williamsburgmusicclub.org
Established in 1994, the William and Mary Middle Eastern Music Ensemble welcomes students, faculty, and community musicians who are interested in exploring the styles and repertoires of Arab, Turkish, Persian, Armenian, and Greek musical traditions that comprise the music of the Middle East. Through the continuous study of new and different repertoires of music, the ensemble has become an exemplar of the student/faculty research that characterizes the College of William & Mary. Over the years, the group has presented numerous formal concerts featuring guest artists from a variety of Arab and Middle Eastern music traditions. Through education and outreach, this ensemble has enriched campus and community life with its many concerts, guest artists, and scholars. The group generally gives one or two formal full-length concerts per semester, usually with a guest artist, and several shorter performances at events on campus and in the community.

About the Ensemble

Established in 1994, the William and Mary Middle Eastern Music Ensemble (MEME) was founded by Anne K. Rasmussen. The ensemble has presented numerous formal concerts featuring guest artists from a variety of Arab and Middle Eastern music traditions. Through education and outreach, this ensemble has enriched campus and community life with its many concerts, guest artists, and scholars. The group generally gives one or two formal full-length concerts per semester, usually with a guest artist, and several shorter performances at events on campus and in the community.

About the Director

Dr. Anne K. Rasmussen joined the faculty of the College of William and Mary in 1993. She is professor of music and ethnomusicology as well as faculty for Asian and Middle East Studies, and she has directed the William and Mary Middle Eastern Music Ensemble since 1994.

Rasmussen’s broad research interests include music of the Arab world, the Middle East and the Islamicate world, music and multiculturalism in the United States, music patronage and politics, issues of orientalism, nationalism, and gender in music, and fieldwork, music performance, and the ethnographic method. She teaches a family of courses in ethnomusicology and music research at William and Mary and has mentored a number of William and Mary students toward graduate study in ethnomusicology and careers in music and academia.

Rasmussen has authored several books and articles. Her book, Women, the Recited Qur’an, and Islamic Music in Indonesia, was a recipient of the Alan Merriam Prize Honorable Mention for 2011. She is the 2001 winner of the Joop Kunst Prize for the best article in the field of Ethnomusicology. During her most recent sabbatical leave (2010-2011) Rasmussen pursued new work in the Persian Gulf Nation of Oman supported by a fellowship from the Omani Government and the Sultan Qaboos Cultural Center. Most recently she served as guest editor for a special issue of the journal The World of Music: New Series titled “Music in Oman: Politics, Identity, Time and Space in the Sultanate.”

The William and Mary Middle Eastern Music Ensemble needs your support! Please visit our web page where you can learn more about our music and our activities. We invite you to attend our concerts and feel welcome at our rehearsals on Thursday evenings in the Department of Music (room 207).

http://www.wm.edu/os/music/ensembles/nontraditional/meme/index.php

Traditional Roots: Contemporary Shoots

The William and Mary Middle Eastern Music Ensemble

Anne Rasmussen, Director

Walsh in Maqam Hijaz

Dulab Hijaz • Ah Ya Zayn • Ayyub

The ensemble presents a brief example of the suite principle of musical organization in Arab music, something that is common in many kinds of Middle Eastern and Arab influenced music from Central Asia through North Africa. We begin with a short prelude, called dulab, that sets the musical mode, or maqam. In this case the maqam is Hijaz, a very Middle Eastern sounding scale due to the augmented second in the lower tetrachord: D Eb F G. Solo non-metric improvisations, called taqasim, are interspersed between repetitions of the dulab. The suite, or waslah, continues with two lively pieces from the folk dance repertoire. Rhythms featured include waslah, maqam, and ayyub.

Sama’i Hijazkar Kurd


We perform a section of the classical composition called sama’i with its typical rondo form (you will hear the recurring “refrain”) and its distinctive sama’i rhythmic pattern in 10/8: D x x T x D T x x. Aleppo, Syria is known as among the richest musical regions of the Arab world and this ensemble is always studying and practicing something from this region.

Wain ‘A-Ramallah • ‘Ala Daloona

featuring Arianna Roumeliotis

The Palestinian folk song Wain ‘A-Ramallah has been in the traditional repertoire for decades, particularly in the beldish board, the area formerly known as Greater Syria or, the Levant. We adapt our performance from that of the beloved Beldish Singer, Samira Touliq who concertized many songs that had been circulating in the vernacular repertoire. The song asks “Where is Ramallah?” (the famous Palestinian city in the West Bank) and continues to mention love, longing, gossip, love, jealousy, dedication, God, and more love. ‘Ala Daloona is the song that accompanies the dulab line dance.

Upcoming W&M Middle Eastern Music Ensemble Concerts

September 20, 2014, 4 p.m., The Great Hall, College of William and Mary
February 20, 2015, 7:30 p.m., Williamsburg Library Theater
A side-by-side concert with the Gallery Players, directed by Susan Via, featuring compositions by Kareem Roustem.
April 11, 2015, 7:30, The Kimball Theater, MEME Spring Gala Concert, featuring Artist in Residence, Kareem Roustem, in an eclectic program of traditional and contemporary music.
W&M Middle Eastern Music Ensemble

Featuring guest artist Jamal Sinno on Qanun (Arabic zither)

November 20, 2015 • 7:30 pm • Ewell Recital
KAREEM ROUSTOM
W&M Gallery Players
W&M Middle Eastern Music Ensemble
IN CONCERT

FEB 20TH, 7:30PM
Williamsburg Regional Library
515 Scotland Street, Williamsburg 23188
with the William & Mary
MIDDLE EASTERN MUSIC ENSEMBLE
Cameo appearance by Harris Simon

April 8, 2014 • 7:30pm
Kimball Theatre • Williamsburg, VA

W&M’s versatile and adventuresome Middle Eastern Music Ensemble charts new territory from traditional Andalouisi to North African chanson to Egyptian Cabaret. Join us for our international tour fundraiser with world class harmonica virtuoso Howard Levy.

For information email: akrasm@wm.edu; jtloughton@email.wm.edu