Day 1: Friday, April 19 - Faculty House/Garden Room 2, 1st Floor

8:45 - 9:20am  Refreshment

9:20-9:25     Mamadou Diouf/ Chair MESAAS : Welcome

9:25-9:50am   Opening Remarks
              Mushin J. al-Musawi, Columbia University

9:50 - 11:45am  Panel 1: Mapping Arabic Literature as World Literature

Chairperson: Elizabeth M. Holt, Bard College

- “Worlding Arabic: Cultural Criticism, Philology and Weltliteratur”
  Wail S. Hassan, University of Illinois

- “Is there a Canon in this Corpus? Or What ‘belongs’ in the Library of Arabic Literature?”
  Shawkat M. Toorawa, Yale University
• “Comparativism and the Foundations of World Literature”
  Yaseen A. Noorani, University of Arizona

• “Between the Twilight of Empire and the Dawn of Decolonization: Arabic Literature, World Literature, Comparative Literature”
  Shaden M. Tageldin, University of Minnesota

Respondent: David Damrosch

11:45 – 11:55am Coffee/Tea Break

  Chairperson: Lydia Liu, Columbia University
  • “Mapping the Evolution of Nahdawi Literary Production about China”
    Peiyu Yang, McGill University
  • “Taha Husayn and The Days in China Across the 1949 Divide”
    Michael Gibbs, College of William & Mary
  • “Artistic Encounters between Baghdad and Beijing after the 1958 Iraq Revolution”
    Sonja Mejcher-Atassi, American University of Beirut

13:15 - 2:30pm Lunch Break at Faculty House

2:30 – 4:15pm Panel 3: Exile, Identity, and Engagement in Arabic Literature
  Chairperson: Shaden M. Tageldin, University of Minnesota
  • “Impossible Exiles: Palestinians in Arab Culture”
    Ahmad Diab, UC Berkeley
  • “Twists, Turns and Trajectories of Palestinian Literary Production”
    Refqa Abu-Remaileh, Freie Universität
  • “Al-Ādāb and its ilitizām,”
    Qussay Al-Attabi, Kenyon College
  • “The Future Can’t Breathe in a Refugee Camp: Reading Taḏāmūn and Iltizām in Women’s Novels of War”
    Michelle Hartman, McGill University

4:15 – 4:25pm Coffee/Tea Break

4:25 – 6:15pm Panel 4: The Islamic and the Secular Turn in Arabic Literary Production
  Chairperson: Suzanne Pinckney Stetkevych, Georgetown University
  • “The Secularization of Islamic Symbols and Figures in the Poetry of ‘Abd al-Wahhāb al-Bayātī and Badr Shākir al-Sayyāb”
Ruwa Alhayek, Columbia University

- “The Cultural Translatability of Taqwā in the Early Sources”
  Erin Atwell, University of Chicago

- “Exploring the Conceptual Relation Between al-Ījāz (Brachylogy) and Balāghah (Eloquence)”
  Hany Rashwan, Birmingham University

- “Pre-Modern Arabic Literary Anthologies and the Social Imaginary: The Construction of Social, Cultural, and Political Paradigms,”
  Nuha Alshaar, American University of Sharjah

- “Telling Time: using clocks and poetry to periodize Islamic history c. 1200–1700,”
  Adam Talib, University of Durham

6:15 – 7:00pm  Keynote Address: Nadia al-Bagdadi, Central European University
7:00 – 9:00pm  Dinner – Faculty House

Day 2: Saturday, April 20 – Knox Hall Room 509

9:30 - 11:15am  Panel 5: The Comparative/Transnational Poetics and Politics of Literature I
Chairperson: Wail S. Hassan, University of Illinois

- “The Perception of Chekhov in the Arabic World and His Impact on Its Modern Literary Tradition”
  Maria Swanson, United States Naval Academy

- “Magical Realism and the Specters of Postcolonial Present: Alejo Carpentier’s The Kingdom of This World and Hoda Barakat’s The Kingdom of this Earth”
  Philip Raad, American University of Beirut

- “From Istanbul to Baghdad: Engagements with Arabic Literature in the Ottoman World, 1500-1700”
  Murat Umut Inan, Social Sciences University of Ankara

- “Arabic Poetry in the 21st Century: A Poetics of Translation and Exophony”
  Huda Fakhreddine, University of Pennsylvania

11:15 - 11:25am  Coffee/Tea Break
11:25 – 13:20pm  Panel 6 Managing/Publishing Arabic Literature (in Arabic)
Chairperson: Anna Ziajka-Stanton, Penn State University

- Belal Fadl, Asir al-kutub
- Abdo Wazen, Al-Hayat and Independentarabia
- Yassin Adnan, Macharif
The Cultural Turn in Arabic Literary Production – Columbia University- April 19-21 2019

- Nouri al-Jarrah, Al-Markaz al-Arabi lil-Adab al-Jughraphi
- Samuel Shimon, Banipal
- Mbarek Sryfi, University of Pennsylvania

13:20 - 2:30pm  Lunch Break

2:30 – 4:20pm  Panel 7: The Multi-thematic Configuration of Classical Poetry and Poetics
Chairperson: Shawkat M. Toorawa, Yale University
- “The Achievement of Classical Arabic Allegorical Form: The ‘Ayniyyah of Abū Dhu’ayb al-Hudhalī”
  Jaroslav Stetkevych, University of Chicago
- “Harb al-Basus as Mythic Matrix in Arabic Culture: Towards A Theory of Cultural (re)Production”
  Clarissa Burt, United States Naval Academy
- “Labīd and Lubad: Lexical Excavation and the Reclamation of Myth in al-Ma‘arī’s Luzūmiyyāt”
  Suzanne Pinckney Stetkevych, Georgetown University
- “Mourning over Algerian Palatial Ruins: Ibn Ḥammād al-Ṣanhājī (d. 1230) on Qal‘at Banī Ḥammād”
  Nizar F. Hermes, University of Virginia

4:20 – 4:30pm  Coffee/Tea Break

4:30 – 6:5pm  Panel 8: The Comparative/Transnational Poetics and Politics of Arabic Literature II
Chairperson: Yaseen Noorani, University of Arizona
- “The Maqāmah Turn in West African Literary Tradition”
  Sulaiman Adewale Alagunfon, Freie Universität
- “Between Cultural Appropriation and Literary Crossing: The Arabic Literature of ‘Europeans’ in Protectorate Tunisia”
  Benjamin Koerber, Rutgers University
- “Towards an Arab Transnational Poetics of the New World”
  Ahmed Idrissi Alami, Purdue University.
- “Words across genres and histories: Zaynab Fawwaz's feminist locutions”
  Marilyn Booth, University of Oxford
- “In medio stat virtus’: On Hybridity, or the Rebellion Against Labels: Reconsidering Some Aspects of Modern and Contemporary Arabic Literature”
  Ada Barbaro, University of Naples “L’Orientale”

6:5 - 6:15pm  Coffee/Tea Break

Chairperson: Tarek El-Ariss, Dartmouth College

- “War and Displacement”
  Hoda Barakat, Visiting Professor at Dartmouth College

- “Khitab al-Takfir”
  Chokri Mabkhout, University of Manouba, Tunis

- “Writing the Political”
  Ezzedine C. Fishere, Dartmouth College

- “Literature and Perception”
  Aziz Shaibani, Baylor College of Medicine/Arab-American Educational Foundation

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**Day 3: Sunday, April 21 – Knox Hall Room 509**

**Panel 10: Revisiting the Modern(ist) and the Post-Colonial in Arabic Literature**
Chairperson: Joelle Abi Rachid, SoF-Heyman Center, Columbia Univ.

- “Passionate Confessions: Sex, Sin, and Autobiography in Nineteenth-Century Aleppo”
  Peter Hill, Oxford University

- “Medicine in Literature”
  Mònica Rius Piniés, University of Barcelona

- “Invisible Hands: Crime, Fiction, and the Arabic Typewriter, 1890-1920”
  Hannah Scott Deuchar, New York University

- “Housewife Novels, Everyday Life, and the Postcolonial State in Egypt”
  Shir Alon, University of Oklahoma

- “All that Remains: Ruins as Sites of Becoming”
  Alexa Firat, Temple University

**Coffee/Tea Break**

**Panel 11: The Contemporary and Techno-Digital Turn in Arabic Literary Production**
Chairperson: Michelle Hartman, McGill University

- “Zakariyya Tamir and Khalid Khalifa: Political Dissent as Affiliation and Marginality in Syria after 2011”
  Alessandro Columbu, Manchester University

- “Transmission and Transit in Contemporary Arabic Literature: Naql and Its Limits”
Drew Paul, University of Tennessee
- “Glossing the Glossary: Digital Approaches to Paratexts and Power in Arabic Literature”
  Dima Ayoub, Middlebury College
- “Cultural Disbelief & New Narratives: Contemporary Arabic Fiction (Re)Writing the Old Tale”
  Hanan Jasim Khammas, Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona

1:40 – 2:25pm  **Keynote Address: Mahdi Arar, Birzeit University *in Arabic*  
2:25pm  **Closing Remarks**  
Muhsin J. al-Musawi, Columbia University

**Organizers:**  Muhsin al-Musawi (Columbia University), Elizabeth Holt (Bard College), Tarek El-Ariss (Dartmouth College), Nizar F. Hermes (University of Virginia), and Anna Ziajka-Stanton (Penn State University)