

Aga Khan Museum's Performing Arts Season Explores *The Other Side of Fear* *Artists, Musicians, Dancers Confront and Conquer Fear through their Art*

Toronto, September 17, 2018 — The Aga Khan Museum is delighted to present its 2018 fall Performing Arts season featuring programming under the banner *The Other Side of Fear*. The performers explore the definition of fear, what it means to face fear, and how we attempt to define, confront and conquer fear in ourselves and others. *The Other Side of Fear* features multidisciplinary performances with daring and inventive local and international artists.

The season launches on **Thursday, September 20** with world-renowned Kurdish singer **Aynur Doğan**, who has performed with the Silk Road Ensemble and who Yo-Yo Ma describes as “unforgettable”. Doğan’s voice he says, “reaches so deep into our soul, tears into our hearts, and then we are for one moment, joined as one.”

Fall season highlights:

- October 2 to October 12: A theatre residency in the Museum’s Mongolian yurt. Museum visitors are invited to watch open rehearsals of **Noor**, a Rumi-inspired play that examines a young Muslim woman’s complex journey to adulthood. The open rehearsals will culminate in a nine-show run from October 13–21.
- October 13: British-Bahraini trumpet player and composer **Yazz Ahmed** pushes boundaries to create “psychedelic Arabic jazz, intoxicating, and compelling.” Special guest **Kamancello** open the evening.
- November 3 to November 11: The Museum’s fourth annual **Duende: Flamenco Festival** includes film plus mesmerizing and groundbreaking Arabic-Andalusian dance and music by Canadian, Spanish, and Syrian artists.
- December 1: **The World of Jahanara** showcases the brief life of a fearless Kathak dancer who envisioned a life in Canada.

“The season’s performances showcase exciting and diverse artists from home and abroad who address women’s issues, political exile, diversity, stereotypes, overcoming fear onstage, and much more,” says Amirali Alibhai, Head of Performing Arts at the Aga Khan Museum. “The range of works remind us how art sparks conversations, dissolves borders, and ultimately helps us face and conquer our fears.”

The Aga Khan Museum in Toronto, Canada, has been established and developed by the Aga Khan Trust for Culture (AKTC), which is an agency of the Aga Khan Development Network (AKDN). The Museum’s mission is to foster a greater understanding and appreciation of the contribution that Muslim civilizations have made to world heritage while often reflecting, through both its permanent and temporary exhibitions, how cultures connect with one another. A centre for innovation and creativity, the Museum offers unique insights and new perspectives into the potential of art and culture to act as a catalyst for intercultural dialogue, engaged global citizenship, and social change.

Designed by architect Fumihiko Maki, the Museum shares a 6.8-hectare site with Toronto’s Ismaili Centre, which was designed by architect Charles Correa. The surrounding landscaped park was designed by landscape architect Vladimir Djurovic.

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