PROGRAM

LIGHTING THE WAY: THE MUSEUM AS A CULTURAL SANCTUARY

Welcome
A Conversation with Henry Kim and Ulrike Al-Khamis
Special remarks by Prince Amyn Aga Khan

Performance

CONVERSATION – RECLAIMING: CULTURAL MEMORY

Ariel Nasr
Dayo Ogunyemi
MG Vassanji

Performance

CONVERSATION – REBUILDING: GENERATIONAL CHANGE

Radha Chaddah
Jamelie Hassan
Chúk Odenigbo

Performance

CONVERSATION – REIMAGINING: THE ARTS LIGHTING THE WAY

Ekow Nimako
Sundus Abdul Hadi
Yassin "Narcy" Alsalman

Performance

Performances will feature Moe Clark and Cris Derksen, Maneli Jamal, Suba and Trichy Sankaran and Sashar Zarif

To make a donation during the broadcast, please visit agakhanmuseum.org/lapis

The renowned Canadian comedian, actor, and radio personality, Ali Hassan will emcee the evening’s broadcast.

Award-winning broadcaster Ziya Tong will host and moderate each of the three conversations with leading artists and thinkers.
We are honoured to present a wide array of artists and speakers whose perspectives can reflect on tonight’s theme of “Lighting the Way: The Museum as a Cultural Sanctuary.”

**PANELISTS AND PERFORMERS**

Yassin “Narcy” Alsalman is a multimedia artist who is recognized as a pioneer of the Arab Hip-Hop movement. He teaches music at Concordia University and is releasing his first book, *Text Messages or How I found myself Time Travelling* via Haymarket Books/Roseway Publishing.

Cris Derksen is an internationally respected Indigenous cellist and composer who creates genre-defying music. As a composer, she works in choral, symphonic, film, theatre and dance, and has a new commission from the Calgary Philharmonic Symphony Orchestra premiering in 2020.

Radha Chaddah is a Canadian visual artist and scientist whose practice explores invisible realities like the microscopic realm and electromagnetic energy. She has exhibited and lectured on her artistic process and microbiology at universities and museums across Canada.

Sundus Abdul Hadi is a globally-acclaimed artist who has published a book for children titled “Shams” about trauma, transformation and healing. Her upcoming book titled “Take Care of Your Self: The Art and Cultures of Care and Liberation” explores care, curation and community.

Moe Clark is a âpihtawikosisâniskwêw artist who fuses together vocal improvisation with multilingual lyricism to create meaning that is rooted in personal legacy and ancestral memory. Clark’s work has been featured in multiple countries around the world.

Manei Jamal is a widely-respected guitar virtuoso who was named one of the world’s top 30 guitarists under 30 by Acoustic Guitar Magazine and has performed in 17 countries as a soloist. His accomplishments include winning numerous music competitions across the world.

Jamelie Hassan is a visual artist, lecturer, writer, and curator and for more than 30 years has been recognized as a leader and community builder in the Canadian art world. Her multidisciplinary practice explores questions of colonialism and cultural identity, amongst other themes.
Ariel Nasr is the award-winning director of the 2019 documentary, *The Forbidden Reel*, which follows a group of Afghan filmmakers who risked their lives to save the country’s cinematic heritage. His acclaimed films have been featured on over a dozen global networks.

Chúk Odenigbo’s passion lies in the intersection between culture, health and the environment. He is recognised as an expert in the Healthy Parks, Healthy People movement and was named Top 30 Albertans Under 30 (Alberta Council for Global Cooperation) and Top 10 young Franco-Albertan leaders (Radio-Canada).

Dayo Ogunyemi is a producer and entrepreneur with two decades of experience championing underrepresented voices in African film and media. He has been a presenter at the world’s most prestigious film festivals and served as an advisor on government policy and regulation.

Suba Sankaran is an award-winning world/fusion vocalist who has performed in every continent with Autorickshaw, master drummer Trichy Sankaran and other musical acts. Sankaran is in demand as a choral director, arranger, educator and composer.

Trichy Sankaran is a world-renowned percussion virtuoso in the Carnatic music genre, Indian music scholar and composer, and the founding director of Indian music studies at York University. Maestro Sankaran has performed at major global festivals and received numerous accolades and honours.

MG Vassanji is an internationally recognized author, recipient of many of the literary world’s top prizes and a Member of the Order of Canada. His work often explores issues of migration, diaspora, history, and identity.

Sashar Zarif is an internationally renowned performing artist, educator, and researcher whose practice converges traditional and contemporary dance and musical traditions of the Near Eastern and Central Asian regions. He has toured in over 40 countries across the world.

Ekow Nimako is a Ghanaian-Canadian, internationally exhibiting LEGO artist. Combining a multidisciplinary and formal arts program, Nimako explores Afroturism and Black narratives through an unmistakable figurative aesthetic. Nimako has exhibited in Canada, Germany, Korea and the United Kingdom.