

Iranian Late

Thursday 30 April 2009, 18.30–21.00

An evening celebrating Iranian history and culture with music, art workshops, storytelling and talks. The evening is related to the Museum's current special exhibition *Shah ʿAbbas: The Remaking of Iran*. Unless otherwise stated, events are free, just drop in

PERFORMANCES & STORYTELLING

18.30, 19.10, 19.50 & 20.40

The Travels of Three English Brothers

A crusade play written in 1604 by a group of Shakespeare's contemporaries, it tells the true story of the Sherley brothers, who set off across Europe to Persia, where they were welcomed into the court of Shah ʿAbbas. Join the brothers on their journey in this promenade production through the Museum's galleries culminating in the court of Shah ʿAbbas himself. Performed by actors from the RSC and the National Theatre.

Warning: includes live music and swordfights.

Director: Elizabeth Freestone

Limited numbers

Meet by the entrance to the Enlightenment Gallery in the Great Court

18.30 & 20.00

Iranian dance

Dancers perform traditional and contemporary Persian dance.

Great Court

19.00 & 20.30

Simorgh

The London-based Iranian band perform their unique style blending traditional Iranian music with electronic, urban and rock music. Pieces include original material and new interpretations of Iranian traditional and folk melodies.

Great Court

18.40 & 20.10

REVEAL

London-based Iranian musician REVEAL fuses UK hip-hop style with Persian rhythms and has helped to kick-start the burgeoning but underground Iranian hip-hop movement.

Room 4

18.30–18.50

Persian Classical music

Performed in Dastgāh-e Segāh Santur with vocal duet.

Room 2

19.15–19.35

Persian Classical music

Performed in Dastgāh-e Esfehān Santur with vocal duet.

Room 2

20.00–20.20

Kurdish Classical music

Performed in Dastgāh-e Shur and Esfehān Santur, Daff and Avāz Trio.

Room 2

19.00–19.30 & 20.00–20.30

Tales from the *Shahnameh*, The Book of Kings

Stories from myth and history about the first Persian kings. Storyteller Sally Pomme Clayton recounts tales of fathers and sons, of kingship, and the ancient Persian phoenix, the magical Simourgh.

Room 22

WORKSHOPS & DEMONSTRATIONS

18.30–21.00

Persian flower badge making workshop

Paint Persian flower motifs and make them into a badge.

Great Court

18.30–21.00

Geometry in nature

This workshop introduces visitors to the basic principles of geometry in nature focusing on the circle and 'sixness'.

Great Court

18.30–21.00

Shah ʿAbbas: the remaking of his clothes

Design your own Persian pattern and help recreate an image of one of Iran's most influential rulers.

Great Court

18.30–21.00

Calligraphy demonstration

Morteza Salehi, one of the leading calligraphers of Iran, demonstrates the Persian *nastaliq* style.

Great Court

18.50, 19.30 & 20.10

Learn Persian taster sessions

More enjoyable than the lessons you had at school!

15 places per session, 30 minutes per session

Book free tickets at the Iranian Late Reception Desk

Paul Hamlyn Library, next to Room 2

19.30–19.40

Persian dance workshop

Join Sima Mandani, Persian Classical dance tutor and choreographer to learn some steps

Great Court

FILM

18.30–21.00

Prince of Persia

Follows Iranian-born London-raised hip-hop artist REVEAL as he goes through a musical and personal metamorphosis to find out who he is – a rebel with a cause.

8 minutes, screened on a loop

Great Court

19.30

Prince of Persia Q&A

Q&A with REVEAL, the subject of the documentary, the director, Daniel Jewel and producer, Dhiraj Mahey.

Great Court

TALKS

18.30–19.30 – SOLD OUT

Persia in Peckham: talk and food tasting

With Sally Butcher, owner of Persian store Persepolis and author of *Persia in Peckham*.

Sackler Room

19.45–20.30

Mitra Tabrizian: Tehran 2006

Iranian-British artist Mitra Tabrizian discusses her work with particular reference to her acclaimed project *Tehran 2006*.

Sackler Room

Admission free, tickets from the Ticket Desk

RELATED EXHIBITIONS AND DISPLAYS

Shah ʿAbbas: The Remaking of Iran

Until 14 June, Reading Room

Explore the reign and legacy of this influential 17th-century Iranian king.

£12, Members free, concession, family and group tickets available

BOOK NOW at the Ticket Desk

The splendour of Isfahan: coins from Iran

Until 5 July, Room 69a

Coins and other objects illustrate the magnificent city of Isfahan through the ages.

Admission free

The John Addis Gallery of the Islamic World

Visit the John Addis Gallery, Room 34, to find out more about the Museum's Islamic and Iranian collections.

Admission free

EAT

Court Restaurant

Open until 22.00

Enjoy an Iranian-inspired menu.

Court Cafés

Open until 21.00

SHOP

A range of Shah ʿAbbas products, including the catalogue, is available in the Museum shops.