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Anthropologist, Fulbright Scholar, Iran Expert, Filmmaker, Playwright, Novelist & Dyslexia Advocate

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EDUCATION

2002 **Ph.D. Columbia University, New York, NY**
Social Cultural Anthropology
Dissertation: Visionary Terrains of post-Revolution Iran: War, Media, Youth Culture, Religion and Public Space
Supported by **The Fulbright-Hayes Scholarship** (2000, The first Fulbright to Iran since the 1979 Revolution)

1999 **MPhil. Columbia University, New York, NY**
Social Cultural Anthropology

Concentration: Islam and State Formation; Media, Violence and Modernity

1995-97 **The University of Washington, Seattle, WA**
Graduate Coursework in Persian Language, Literature and Anthropology
Concentration: POW accounts and theories of martyrdom in the Iran/Iraq War

1994, 1996 **Teheran University, Deh Kodah Institute, Teheran, Iran**
Persian Language and Literature

1993 **B.A. The American University, Washington D.C.**
International Relations
Concentration: Conflict Resolution & Middle East Studies

1991-92 **American University in Cairo, Cairo, Egypt**
Concentration: Arabic Language and Literature

ACADEMIC POSITIONS

2019-present **University of California, Irvine,** Irvine California, Full Professor
Department of Anthropology
Department of Film and Media Studies 0% WOS
Department of Visual Studies (Until 2022)
Critical Theory Emphasis
Culture and Theory PhD program
Global Middle East Studies
Persian Studies
Religious Studies
Center for Global Peace and Conflict Studies

2025 **Sciences Po Bordeaux**, Bourdeaux, France, Guest Professor

2009-2019 **University of California, Irvine,** Irvine California, Associate Professor

Fall 2017 **University of California, Washington DC Campus**, Visiting Professor

2005-2009 **University of California, Irvine,** Irvine California, Assistant Professor,
Department of Anthropology

2007 **University of Lund**, Sweden, Assistant Professor in the EAP Program for the UC/Lund Summer Exchange

2004-2005 **Oxford University**, *St Antony's College*, Senior Iran Fellow

2004-5 **School of Oriental and African Studies, University of London,** London, UK
Lecturer B of Anthropology and Near Eastern Studies (Assistant Professor)
Department of Anthropology and Sociology

2002-04 **New York University,** New York, NY

Woodrow Wilson Post-Doctoral Fellow and Instructor, Department of Anthropology

PUBLICATIONS

Sole Authored Scholarly Books

2025 B4 *Silent Scream: A Nordic non-Noir*, **Bouncing Box Press**

2023 B3 *Death in a Nutshell: An Anthropology Whodunit*, **Bouncing Box Press**

2023 AB2 *Death in a Nutshell: An Anthropology Whodunit*, **Audible Books Edition**. Narrated by the Author

2016 B2 *Last Scene Underground: An Ethnographic Novel of Iran*, Palo Alto: **Stanford University Press**. *Gold Medalist (in fiction), 2016 Independent Publisher Book Awards (**IPPY**)*

2016 AB1 *Last Scene Underground: An Ethnographic Novel of Iran*, **Audible Books** Edition. Narrated by Author

2006 B1 *Warring Souls: Media, Martyrdom and Youth in post-Revolution Iran*, **Duke University Press.** *Short-listed for Book Prize,* **British Society for Middle Eastern Studies,** *Short-listed for Book Prize,* **British-Kuwait Friendship Book Prize in Middle Eastern Society,** Middle East Center, Cambridge University, *Honorable Mention*, Best Dissertation Award, **Foundation for Iranian Studies**, London

Sole-Authored Journal Articles

2024 JA 26 *Anthropology students present their research in poetry, plays and op-eds in this course*, **The Conversation,** redistributed by **SFGate** and **The Financial Times**

2023 JA 24 *Aristotle's Fieldnotes* Special Edition Honoring Katie Stewart **Anthropology and Humanism**

2023 JA 23 *No Wings to Fly to God*, "Un/tracing Empire: Pollinations between the Poetic and Ethnographic." Edited by Zhou, Grace H., and Jill J. Tan. Visual and New Media Review, ***Fieldsights***, **Cultural Anthropology**

2020 JA 22 *Mother Bard, Fight or Flight? An Ethnography of May* in "Flash Ethnography", Carole McGranahan and Nomi Stone, Editors, **American Ethnologist**

2019 JA 21 *Act One to The End: Ask the Ayatollah,* a One-Act Play with Henri Corbin in Soundproof Room, **Journal of Comparative and Continental Philosophy**

2019 JA 20 *Finding Home,* Special Edition on Moon landing anniversary, **Journal of Humanistic Anthropology**

2018 JA 19 *Hijacking the Elevator,* **Cultural Anthropology**, hotspots

2018 JA 17 *Nicht hier und nicht dort*, **Le Monde Diplomatique**

2018 JA 16 *The Knot in the Wood: The Call to Multimodal Anthropology* **American Anthropologist**

2017 JA 15 *Bin Ich Eine Immigrantin?,* **Le Monde Diplomatique**

2017 JA 14 *Am I an Immigrant?*, **London Review of Books Blog**

2015 JA 13 *Fictive Truths*, **Aeon Magazine of Ideas and Culture**

2014 JA 12 *Ethnographic Fiction: The Space Between,* **Savage Minds**, Anthropology blog.

2014 JA 11 *Pictura Poesis: The interplay of Poetry, Image and Ethnography in Forough Farrokhzad's "The House is Black",* **Off Screen** Volume 18, Issue 9

2014 JA 10 *Keeping it Reel: 'Reality's' Role in the Production and Reception of Independent Iranian Cinema,* **Film International** Volume 12 no. 3

2013 JA 9 *Facing the Future: The Artistic and Diasporic Afterlife of the Iran-Iraq War,* **Anthropology of the Middle East**, 8:1

2013 JA 8 *Whole World Blind*, **Public Books**

2011 JA 7 *Iran's French Revolution: Religion, Philosophy, and Crowds* The **ANNALS** of the **American Academy of Political and Social Science**, Vol. 637 Issue 1 pp. 53 - 63

2008 JA *Miniskirt Democracy: Muslim Women's Memoirs,* A review of **Soft Weapons: Autobiography in Transit** by Gillian Whitlock and **Prisoner of Tehran** by Marina Nemat, **London Review of Books**

2008 JA 6 *Iran's Pieta: Motherhood, Sacrifice and Film in the aftermath of the Iran-Iraq War,* **Feminist Review**, 88:1-13.

2007 JA 5 *Diary: A Visit to the Martyr Museum*, **London Review of Books**, March 8, 2007, pp.1-5.

2005 JA 4 *Pulling Focus on Kiarostami's Iran*, **Eastern Art Report** 5(2):19-24.

2002 JA 3 *Picturing Change: Mohsen Makmalbaf's Kandahar*, **American Anthropologist** 104:931-934.

2000 JA 2 *Iran Gardi,* **Public Culture** 11(3):557-563.

1998 JA 1 *Mercury Rising: Tajik Refugees in Kyrgyzstan,* **Silk Road, Journal of Central Asian Studies** 1(2):48-53.

Sole-authored Scholarly Book Chapters

2021 BC 7 *Performing Iran: Culture, Performance, Theatre*, Babak Rahimi Editor, **Bloomsbury**, London, UK

2020 BC 6 *Mother Bard*, Flash Ethnography, Carole McGranahan & Nomi Stone Editors, **American Ethnological Society**

2020 BC 5 *Ethnographic Fiction: The Space Between*, **Writing Anthropology: Essays on Craft and Commitment**, **Duke University Press**

2020 BC 4 *Am I an Immigrant* in **My Shadow is My Skin: Voices from the Iranian Diaspora**, **University of Texas Press**

2014 BC 3 *A Grave State: Rakhshan Bani-Etemad's "Mainline",* in **Iranian Cinema in a Global Context: Politics, Policy, Form**; Peter Decherney and Blake Attwood Editors, **Routledge Press**

2008 BC 2 *Seeking Martyrdom: Dying for an ideal* in **Tehran Transit**, Maziar Bahari and Malu Halasa Editors. **Trolley Books; Garnet and Salis Verlag**, German language edition, London, 2008.

2002 BC 1 *A Ghost in the Machine: The Cinema of the Iranian Sacred Defense,* **The New Iranian Cinema: Politics, Representation and Identity**, Richard Tapper Editor, p154-166, **IB Tauris**, London

Opinion Guest Essays

2022 Op-Ed4 *Iranian protesters are part of a worldwide fight for women's rights*, **The Guardian**

2020 Op-Ed3 *A Mask In The OC Has Become As Heated AS a Veil in Iran*, **Daily Pilot, LA Times**

2018 Op-Ed2 *Trump and the Protesters: From Iran to Orange County*, **Counterpunch**

2016 Op-Ed1 *Shock and fear, or hope for change?* What a Trump presidency means for Muslim Americans, Middle Eastern Americans and in the Middle East, **Detroit Free Press**

Essays in non-Academic Venues

2025 E 19 Guest Blogger, **Killer Crafts and Crafty Killers**

2023 E 18 Guest Blogger, **Ladies of Mystery**

2021 E 17 *Veiled Performance: The politics of Tehran's Theater Scene*, **Stranger's Guide**

2017 E 2 *The Truths Fiction Tells: What literary invention can reveal about the reality of the Iranian Revolution*, **Stanford University Press Blog**

2016 E 1 *Persia is My Heart*, **Academic Books Combined**

Research Publication

2017 RA 2 Review, Mohammad Malas, *The Dream: The Diary of a Film* (Cairo: American University in Cairo Press, 2016) **Anthropology of the Middle East** 12:1

2011 RA 1 *Youth in Iran*, Background paper and situation analysis for "Research and Policy Forum on Youth in the Arab World" part of publication: "A Generation On the Move: Insights into the conditions, aspirations and activism of Arab Youth." **Issam Fares Institute for Public Policy & International Affairs**, **American University of Beirut Press.**

Encyclopedia Entries

2021 EE 10 "Stan Brakhage and Ethnographic Praxis." In **Oxford Bibliographies in Anthropology**. John Jackson Editor, **Oxford University Press**, Andrew McGrath, (main author)

2003 EE 1-9 Entries: Yusuf Shahin, Nagib Mahfouz, Mohsen Makhmalbaf, Makhmalbaf family, Tahimeh Milani, Persian script, Shiism, Rakhsahan Bani Etemad, Ali Khameini, **Encyclopedia of the Modern Middle East and North Africa**, Second Edition, **Macmillan Reference**.

Multi-Modal: Ethnographic Films, Theater And Sound

2022 MM 9 *Yalda: An Iranian Twelfth Night*, Drama

2022 MM 8 *No Wings to Fly to God*, 8 min. Sound Installation at **SoundPedro,** San Pedro CA, **Ohrenhoch Gallery,** Berlin, Germany, and **Cultural Anthropology,** online

2020 MM 7 *Sidewalk Sale*, **One Minute Play Festival**

2019 MM 6 *Splinters of a Careless Alphabet,* 90 min, Drama.

2018 F2/MM 5
Tehran Tourist, 30 min, Filmed in Iran, Produced in the U.S.A. Writer, Cinematographer, Editor, Producer, and Director, *Winner*, Best Shorts Film Awards, **Women Filmmakers,** Miami FL, *Honorable Mention*, **LA Underground Film Forum**, *Honorable Mention*, **Iranian Film Festival**, San Francisco, CA

2017 MM 4 *Salton Sublime* Video and Sound, commissioned by the **Ohrenhoch Gallery**

2016 MM 3 *Fuzul*, an Ethnograghic sound story in Zoya Sardashti's curated, "collection of singular, interdependent stories" *Magic of Persia Contemporary Art Prize* **The Future of Iranian Theatre**

2011 MM 2 *The Whole World Blind*, 30-minute looped sound installation on the power of war images. 2013 Permanent home at ***Public Books*** at publicbooks.org, a project of **Public Culture Journal**

2009 F1/MM 1
Plastic Flowers Never Die, 35 minutes, Filmed in Iran, Produced in the U.S.A. Writer, producer, director, cinematographer and editor. Experimental ethnographic film on the aftermath of the Iran-Iraq war. Distributed by **Documentary Educational Resources** (DER) 2009, Available on **Kanopy** and **Alexander Street Press**

Ethnographic Short Stories

2007 SS 5 *Mashti*, **Anthropology and Humanism Quarterly**, Vol. 32, 2, p 202-209, *Winner Short Story Award for Fiction, 2007*.

2006 SS 4 "The Witness," in ***Let Me Tell You Where I've Been: New Writing By Women Of The Iranian Diaspora***, edited by Persis Karim, 216-219, Fayetteville: University of Arkansas Press.

2000 SS 3 "The Caravan" Front page, Vol 13:1, ***New York Press***.

1999 SS 2 "The Pelican" ***A World Between: Fiction, Poetry and Essays by Iranian-Americans***, Edited by Persis Karim, 214-227, New York: George Braziller.

1999 SS 1 "Refugee" ***American Magazine***, Washington, D.C.: American University Press, 50:3, 1999.

GRANTS, AWARDS & HONORS

2024 **Visiting Researcher** (non-funded affiliation), Social Anthropology Institute, **Oslo University**

2024/23/22/20/19
Outstanding Teaching Award, School of Social Sciences, **UC Irvine**

2021 **Illuminations Grant**, Chancellor's program to bring the Arts to Campus, for workshop and reading of original play *Shabe-e Yalda*

2019/21 **Deans Workshop Grant** for original play *Splinter of a Careless Alphabet*

2019 **Illuminations Grant**, Chancellor's program to bring the Arts to Campus, for staged reading of play *Splinter of a Careless Alphabet,* **UCI**

2017 **Illuminations Grant**, Chancellor's program to bring the Arts to Campus, for production of Marjan Kamali's *Together Tea*, **UCI**

2017 **UCHRI Conference Award** for *Digital Persianate* with Babak Rahimi, **UCSD**

2016 **Documentary Production Grant**, for film *Tehran Tourist*, Samuel Jordan Center for Persian Studies & Culture, **UCI**

2015 **Teaching and Technology Innovation Award,** to develop an online course, Declined, Social Sciences Department, **UCI**

2015 **Faculty Research Grant** for Documentary production, Samuel Jordan Center for Persian Studies & Culture, **UCI**

2015 **Invited Artist**, Sienna's Bid for **European Capital of Culture**

2013 **Member,** *UCHRI Multi-Campus Working Group on Religion and Public Space*, **UC-wide**

2012/13 **President's Faculty Research Fellowships in the Humanities**, UC Humanities Research Institute, **UC-wide**

2012/13 **Research Fellow**, **IFK Internationales Forschungszentrum Kulturwissenschaften**, Vienna, Austria

2012/12 **Seed Grant**, Center for Global Peace and Citizenship, **UCI**

2007/8 **Fellow**, **Wissenschaftskolleg zu Berlin**, (Institute for Advanced Sciences/Studies), Berlin, Germany

2007/8 **Guest Fellow**, **Zentrum für Literatur- und Kulturforschung** (Center for Culture & Literature), Berlin, Germany

2007/8 **Junior Faculty Career Development Award**, **UCI**

2007 **Winner**, Short Story Award for Ethnographic Fiction, **Society of Humanistic Anthropology**

2004/5 **Distinguished Senior Iranian Visiting Fellow**, St. Antony's College, **Oxford University**

2002/4 **Woodrow Wilson Post-Doctoral Fellowship in the Humanities**, International Center for Advanced Studies, **New York University**.

2003 **Post-production Grant,** Documentary on Iran war propaganda, Department of Middle East Studies, **University of Pennsylvania**

2001/2 **Rockefeller Post-Doctoral Fellow** (Declined), The Kroc Institute for Peace and Conflict Studies, **University of Notre Dame**

2002 **Markle Foundation New Media Fellow** (Hilary Term), Centre for Law, Media and Society, Wolfson College, **Oxford University**,

1997/2 **Presidential Scholarship, Columbia University**

1997/02 **Faculty Fellow**, Anthropology Department, **Columbia University**

1998-99 **Title VI Foreign Language and Area Studies Fellowship**, **Columbia University**

1998 **Scheps Pre-Dissertation Summer Research Award**, Department of Anthropology, **Columbia University**

1996-97 **Title VI Foreign Language and Area Studies Fellowship, University of Washington**, Seattle, WA

1995 **Social Science Research Council Grant**, Summer Institute for the Study of Central Asian Languages, Tajik Language, **University of Washington**, Seattle, WA

1993 **Petra Kelly Memorial Award**, School of International Service, **American University**, Washington, DC

ACADEMIC TALKS

Keynotes, Plenaries and Invited Colloquiums

2026 *Murderous Methods: Multimodal anthropology in story form* CUSAS Workshop with Prof. Roxanne Varzi (University of California, Irvine)
Department of Social Anthropology, **University of Cambridge,** England
https://www.socanth.cam.ac.uk/events/cusas-workshop-prof-roxanne-varzi-university-california-irvine

2026 Roxanne Varzi discusses her Murder Mystery, The Research Programme of Anthropology, Aarhus University, Denmark
https://cas.au.dk/antropologi/forskning

2025 **Wordfest OC**, Armchair Adventures: Roxanne Varzi's Multimodal Anthropology, Saddleback College

2025 *The Magic of Multimodality: Information's Many Guises* Cornell University, Department of Anthropology, Colloquium
https://events.cornell.edu/event/anthropology-colloquium-roxanne-varzi

2025 Presenter, *Ethnographic Expressions: Evaluating Multimodal Forms,* **University of Cambridge,** Centre for Research in the Arts, Social Sciences and Humanities, UK

2025 Talk, PhD seminar on creative scholarship and *Last Scene Underground*, **University of Pittsburgh** (Zoom)

2025 Keynote, *Ed Roberts Day*, Dyslexia Whodunnit, **Chapman University**

2024 Workshop, *Creating Comics*, ***UCI Graphic Narratives Colloquium***, School of Humanities, **UC Irvine**

2024 Armchair Anthropology Dyslexia and Whodunnit, with Helen Taylor, **University of California Trust**, **University of East London**, London, UK

2024 Keynote, *Materiality in the Arts*, Artistic Research Group, **Volda University,** Norway

2024 Talk on Last Scene Underground, Anthropology Seminar, **Emerson College** (Zoom)

2023 Talk, Climate School, Using Multi-Modal Methods, **Columbia University**

2023 Death in a Nutshell, Book Talk **New School for Social Research**

2023 *Thinking about Multimodality*, Department of Anthropology, **Oslo University**

2023 *A State of Their Own*, Film Screening and Discussion, **New School for Social Research,** The Sex Tech Lab and Gender Studies

2023 *The French in Iran*, in conversation with Filmmaker Jasmine Bissete, Maison Francaise, **Columbia University**

2022 *Splinters of a Careless Alphabet and Multi-modality*, **International Communication Association** pre-conference symposium: *Communicating Multi-Modally Research and Expressive Culture*, **American University of Paris**

2022 *Splinters of a Careless Alphabet*, Readings from and talk about my play on Henry Corbin, AND *Adventures in the Imaginal: Henry Corbin in the 21st Century Center,* **Center for the Study of World Religions, Divinity School, Harvard University**

2021 Guest author, Oxford University **Anthropological Society** book club, *Anthropofiction*, **Oxford University**

2021 Near Eastern Languages and Cultures Bilingual Series, *Tehran Tourist*, Film and Talk, **UCLA,** (Canceled due to COVID)

2020 Annual departmental lecture series (Institutskolloquium) Institute Fur Ethnologie, Anthropology Department, **Goethe University**, Frankfurt, Germany

2020 "Tiny Islands: A Workshop in Flash Ethnography with Professor Roxanne Varzi, Workshop Series, Ethnography Beyond the vignette", Anthropology Department, **Stanford University**

2020 Barbara Silver Horowitz Scholars of Distinction Program, Distinguished Speaker, **Barnard College,** NY, NY

2018 Guest Speaker in Peter Sellars' *World Cultures* Course, **UCLA**, Los Angeles, CA

2018 Convener and discussant of *Digital Persianate*, **UC San Diego,** San Diego, CA

2017 Playing with Fire: Iran, Ethnography, and the Question of Genre, **The New School**, Global Studies and Anthropology, New York, NY

2017 Keynote Speaker, *Festival of the Arts*, **California State University**, Sacramento

2017 Peter Sellars and Roxanne Varzi in conversation about *Last Scene Underground*, ***Illuminations*** and ***Anthropology***, **UCI**

2017 On the Psyche and the Boundary of the Political, Screening Scholarship, "Ethnographic Play" **Special Panel, CAMRA**, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA

2016 "Engaging Iran" **San Jose State University**, San Jose, CA

2016 Book Reading, *Last Scene Underground*, ***New Writing Series***, ***Department of Writing***, **UCSD**

2016 "Ethnographic writing, Colloquium, ***Department of Anthropology***, **UCSD**

2015 MRG Working Group on Religion in Public Sphere", **UCHRI, UC Santa Barbara**

2014 "Academia and Activism," Keynote address at **CAMRA**, **University of Pennsylvania,** Philadelphia, PA

2013 "Iran: Art and Discourse", part of *Iran Modern*, **The Asia Society**, New York, NY

2013 "Society of Fellows Meeting", **UCHRI, UCLA**

2012 "Iran's French Revolution," **Internationales Forschungszentrum Kulturwissenschaften**, Vienna, Austria

2011 The Martyrdom Mystique: The Iran-Iraq War and its Artistic Afterlife, *Ritual Dynamics Socio-Cultural Processes from a Historical and Culturally Comparative Perspective,* Lecture and workshop, **The University of Heidelberg**, Germany

2011 "Women and War" Panelist with Geena Davis and Abigail Disney, UCI, **Center for Living Peace** and **UCI**

2011 **Plenary**, Zarrin-Kelk retrospective, **University of Southern California**, Los Angeles

2010 **Plenary**, *Document: Iranian-Americans in Los Angeles*, **Fowler Museum UCLA**

2010 Document/Documenta, Colloquium, Comparative Literature Department, **UCI**

2010 "Reel Life: Experiments in Ethnographic Film-making," Anthropology working group Culture, Power, and Social Change **UCLA**

2009 **Keynote**, *Rethinking Jihad: Ideas, Politics and Conflict in the Arab World* and Beyond, Centre for the Advanced Study of the Arab World, **University of Edinburgh,** Scotland

2008 "Hanna Arendt in Tehran: Performing the Middle East in Berlin" **Wissenschaftskolleg zu Berlin**, (Institute for Advanced Sciences/Studies) Berlin, Germany

2008 "Projecting/re-projecting the Nation During and After war," **Frankfurt University** (Germany), Department of Cultural Anthropology and European Ethnology. Research Group: Transnationalism and Critical Ethnography, Frankfurt, Germany

2008 **Plenary**, *The Cinema of Rakshan Bani-Etemad*, University of London, **School of Oriental and African Studies**, London, UK

2007 "Ethnography to Film," (post-film Colloquium) Anthropology Department, **Pomona College**, Claremont, CA

2007 **Distinguished Lecture**, *Abbasi Program in Islamic Studies Lecture Series*, **Stanford University**

2007 "Mosques and Museums," Anthropology Colloquium, **University of Pennsylvania**

2007 "The Mourning After the Iran Iraq War," Greater Boston Anthropology Consortium Colloquium Series, sponsored by **Wellesley College**, Wellesley, MA

2006 "Reel to Real: War, the visual medium and the channeling of a new Islamic Reality in post-Revolution Iran," Visual Culture Colloquium, **State University of New York**, Binghamton, New York

2006 "Iran, the Censoring Muse," *Mellon Colloquium on Anthropology, History and the Critical Imagination,* **New School University**

2005 "Colloquium and seminar on the Iran-Iraq War," **St Antony's College, Oxford University**

2004 "Dying to be displayed: Post-war Public culture in Tehran," Anthropology Colloquium, **University of Chicago**

2004 "Filming the Iran-Iraq War," Anthropology Colloquium, **Notre Dame University**, South Bend, IN

2003 "Taziyeh and War" *Spectacles of Suffering*, Center for Religion and Media Workshop, **New York University**

2003 "Martyrs and Monuments: The Cultural Aftermath of the Iran-Iraq War," Department of Anthropology Colloquium, **New York University**

2003 "Iranian War Films," *Colloquium Series is Social Construction and Subjectivity,* Institute for the Humanities, **University of Manitoba**, Winnipeg, Canada

2003 "Shooting Soldiers, Shooting Film: The Cinema of the Iranian Sacred Defense," International Center for Advanced Studies*,* **New York University**

2003 "Shooting Soldiers, Shooting Film: The Cinema of the Iranian Sacred Defense," *Area Studies Art Series Lecture*, **University of Pennsylvania**

2002 "Visionary Terrains of post-Revolution Iran," *Clash of Civilizations Lectures*, St. Antony's College, **Oxford University**

1996 "Mercury Rising: Tajik Refugees in Kyrgyzstan," Department of Anthropology Colloquium, **University of Washington**, Seattle, WA

Papers Presented at Conferences and Symposiums

2019 "Henry Corbin Philosopher in Tehran" The International Union of Anthropological and Ethnological Sciences (I U A E S), Commission on the Anthropology of the Middle East Institute of Ethnology and Cultural Anthropology **Jagiellonian University**, Krakow, Poland

2017 "Filming in the Dark: the long exposure and short death of a film soundtrack" "Exposure" ***American Ethnological Society***, Stanford University

2015 "Who Writes Iran," Roundtable, ***Middle East Studies Association Annual Meetings***, Denver, CO

2015 *Last Scene Underground* Book Talk and Launch, Samuel Jordan Center for Persian Studies & Culture, **UCI**

2014 Spiritual Topographies, "Moving Messiahs," **UCHRI MRG,** UC Davis, CA

2014 "Intimacies of War," **University of Colorado**, Boulder, CO

2014 "Being Undisciplined: What Are the Stakes of Interdisciplinary Work Today?" Department of History, **UCI**, Irvine, CA

2014 "Acting Out in Tehran" Performing the Iranian State, **UCSD**, San Diego, CA

2014 "On the Ethnography of Sound," **Le Cube**, **Paris**, Anthropologie Numerique, Paris, France

2013 "Spaced Out: Visual Shifts and Life in Contemporary Tehran," From Tehran to Tahrir, Public Space Redefined, **University of Pennsylvania, Annenberg Center**, Philadelphia, PA

2011 "In between Iran and a Rock Space: Neo-reality and the exportation of performance in No One Knows about Persian Cats," *Cinema in Iran: Circulation, Censorship and Cultural Production,* **Berlin Institute for Cultural Inquiry**, Berlin, Germany

2011 Living Peace Series: Women, War & Peace, Panel member with Geena Davis and Abigail Disney **Center for Living Peace and UCI**,

2011 Invited Speaker, **George Washington University**, *Iran in Transition*, Washington, DC

2011 *Documenting War*, **Cultural Studies Association**, Annual conference, Chicago, IL

2010 "Love and Terror" participant, conference and workshop sponsored by the **Center for Ethnography, UC Irvine**, Irvine, CA

2010 "Portraits," Rethinking Iranian Nationalism, **University of Texas**, Austin, TX

2009 Walls Conference, "Black Walls" German Studies Department Workshop, **UCI**

2008 "Women on the Edge," Visioning the Urban, Gender Studies Workshop at the Cynthia Nelson Institute for Gender and Women's Studies, **American University in Cairo**, Cairo Egypt

2007 "Mothers, martyrdom, memorials and media in the Iran-Iraq War" *Symposium on Middle Eastern Media*, School of Communications, **Northwestern University**, Evanston, Illinois

2006 "Public Space in Tehran" *Middle East Experts Workshop*, **University of Chicago**

2002 "Visionary Terrains: Youth, Identity and Space in post-Revolution Iran," ***Middle East Studies Association 36th Annual Meeting***, Washington D.C.

2002 "Writing and Researching Iran" *Bicultural Ways of Knowing: Iranian-American Narratives,* Teachers College, **Columbia University**, New York, NY

2001 "Neo-realism and Ethnography: a Question of Frame and Focus," ***Critique Journal's Annual Symposium***, St. Paul, MN

2001 "Shifting Subjects: Teens in Tehran," *Cities and Citizenship: Questions of Comparison* sponsored by the **Social Science Research Council and Centre d'Etudes et de Recherches sur le Moyen-Orient Contemporain**, *Beirut, Lebanon*

2000 "Re-forming Religious Identity in Iran," *Public Policy and National Identity in a Comparative Perspective,* **Princeton University**, Princeton, NJ

1999 "A Ghost in the Machine: The Cinema of the Iranian Sacred Defense," *Iranian Cinema Conference and Film Festival*, University of London, **School of Oriental and African Studies**, **National Film Theatre**, London, UK

1998 "The Pelican," *Second Generation Iranian Writers*, Departments of Comparative Literature and Near Eastern Studies, **University of Texas at Austin**, Austin, TX

1997 "Iran Gardi: The Moving Image," *Iranian Studies Conference*, **University of California**, Los Angeles, CA

1996 "Majnun's Mask: Madness and Love in Medieval Islamic Court Poetry," ***JUSUR Conference for Middle East Studies*, University of California**, Los Angeles, CA

1996 "Majnun's Mask: Madness and Love in Medieval Islamic Court Poetry," ***Medievalist Studies Association Annual Conference***, Departments of Comparative Literature and English, University of California Berkeley, CA

Invited Discussant and Respondent

2020 Student Risks and Faculty Responsibilities, Zoom panel with Gregory Shaffer, UCI Law, Jeff Wasserstrom, UCI History and Roxanne Varzi, UCI Anthropology

2019 "Visualizing Toxic Subjects" discussant, UCI, Irvine, CA

2019 Discussion of Sherine Hamdy's Graphic Ethnography *Lissa*, Illuminations, UC, Irvine

2015 "Anthropology in Transit" Graduate conference, discussant, **UCI**, Irvine, CA

2014 "Iranian Rock: Voice of a Generation", Discussion with Musician Arash Sohbani, Samuel Jordan Center for Persian Studies & Culture, **UCI**

2011 Discussant, *Finders/Seekers: Travel Encounters in and Out of Persiante Lands,* **UCLA**, Los Angeles, CA

2010 Discussant, *Engaging Adversarial States Research Project*, funded by the National Science Foundation, **University of Southern California**, Los Angeles, CA

2010 Chair, Panel on Diaspora, ***Annual Iranian Studies Conference***, Los Angeles, CA

2006 Respondent, Center for Ethnography*, Death Penalty Seminar*, **University of California, Irvine**, Irvine, CA

2006 Presented in Persian and English a poem by Saadi on behalf of the Samuel Jordan Center for Persian Studies & Culture, **UCI** at *the* ***Encyclopedia Iranica,*** *Annual Fund-Raising Gala,* Ritz Carlton, San Francisco, CA

2005 Discussant, "*Lively Capitol*," **University of California**, Irvine, Irvine, CA

2005 Discussant, "*Private lives, Public Selves*," **St Antony's College, Oxford University**, Oxford, UK

2003 Documentary, work-in-progress screening, **Duke University**, Durham, NC

2003 Discussant, "*Mystic Iran*," Post-film Panel, **Asia Society**, New York, NY

2002 Chair, "Women in Iranian Cinema" *The Making of Iranian Cinema: Two Decades and a Century*, **Walter Reade Theater Lincoln Center**, New York, NY

PLAY READINGS

2022 PR 8 *Yalda: An Iranian 12th Night*, Reading and Workshop, Directed by Eli Simon, **New Swan Shakespeare Center and Illuminations, UCI**

2022 PR 7 *Splinters of a Careless Alphabet* Readings and Discussion, **Center for the Study of World Religions, Divinity School, Harvard University**

2020 PR 6 *Splinters of a Careless Alphabet*, Zoom Table Reading sponsored by the **Dramatist Guild of America** & **24 Hour Plays**, New York, NY

2020 PR 5 *Sidewalk Sale*, one-minute play, **The One Minute Play Festival**, A COVID-19 Response Project, online

2019 PR 4 *Splinters of a Careless Alphabet*, Stage Reading and Workshop, directed by Elina de Santos, Co-Artistic Director of the **Rogue Machine Theatre** and Resident Director of the **Pacific Resident Theatre**, Winifred Smith Hall, **UCI**

2019 PR 3 *Splinters of a Careless Alphabet*, Reading and Workshop, **Hopscotch Reading Room**, Berlin, Germany

2019 PR 2 *Splinters of a Careless Alphabet*, Reading and Workshop, **Anthropology in Transit**, **UCI**

2018 PR 1 *Splinters of a Careless Alphabet,* Reading and Workshop, **American Anthropological Association Meeting**, hosted by the **Society for Visual Anthropology**, San Jose, CA

FILM SCREENINGS FOR Tehran Tourist

2023 FS 28 Women's History Month Celebration **Laguna Beach Cultural Arts Center**
2020 FS 27 **Frida Cinema,** Santa Ana, CA
2020 Near Eastern Languages & Cultures, **UCLA** (Canceled due to Covid-19)
2018 FS 25 Samuel Jordan Center for Persian Studies & Culture, **UCI**

FILM SCREENINGS FOR *Plastic Flowers Never Die*

2015 Samuel Jordan Center for Persian Studies & Culture, **UCI**
2013 **Noor Film Festival**, Laemmle Theater, Beverly Hills, CA
2013 Center for Middle Eastern Studies and Department of Anthropology & Department of Film, **Yale University**, New Haven, CT
2012/13 **Iranian Film Festival Australia**, Brisbane, Melbourne, Canberra, Sydney, Adelaide
2011 **Intimate Lens Film Festival**, Caserta, Italy
2011 **Visual Methods Research Conference**, The **Open University** Milton Keynes, UK
2011 **Cairo Documentary Festival**, Cairo Egypt
2010 **Iranian International Film Festival**, Art Institute, San Francisco, CA
2010 **NewFilmaker's @ Anthology Film Archives**, New York, NY
2010 **Film & Media Center**, UCI
2010 **Women's Film Festival**, Chennai, India
2010 **5th Annual Women's International Film & Arts Festival**, Miami
2009 **International Festival of Ethnological Film**, Belgrade, Serbia
2009 **Days of Ethnographic Film**, Moscow, Russia
2009 **DocuDays, Beirut International Documentary Festival**, Beirut, Lebanon
2009 **DOCSDF,** Mexico City, Mexico
2008 **Society for Visual Anthropology,** Film, Video & Interactive Media Festival, **American Anthropological Association** Meeting, San Francisco, CA
2008 **Middle East Studies Association Annual Meeting; Film Festival,** Washington, DC
2008 Department of Sociology, **Chapman University,** Orange, CA
2008 **Uqbar Project Space Gallery**, Berlin, Germany
2008 **Boston International Film Festival**, Boston, MA
2008 **NewFilmmaker Series LA**, **Museum of Architecture and Design**, Los Angeles, CA
2008 **Zentrum für Literatur-und Kulturforschung (Center for Culture and Literature)**, Berlin, Germany
2007 Anthropology Department, **Pomona College**, Claremont, CA

EXHIBITIONS & INSTALLATIONS

2024 *Earmeal podcast* became part of the historic LA artists interviews in the Collection of Los Angeles Contemporary Archive (LACA), **Hammer Museum**, Los Angeles, CA

2022 Featured Scholar, *Communicating Multi-Modally* website, **Hong Kong Baptist University,** Hong Kong, People's Republic of China

2022 *No Wings to Fly to God,* 8 min. Sound Installation, **Ohrenhoch Gallery**, Berlin, Germany

2022 *No Wings to Fly to God,* 8 min. Sound Installation **SoundPedro**, San Pedro Angels Gate Cultural Center, Los Angeles CA

2017 *Salton Sublime* **CAMRA**, Off-Screen Festival, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA

2017 *Salton Sublime* ***Miami Independent Film Festival***, (MINDIE) Miami, FL

2017 *Salton Sublime* commissioned by the **Ohrenhoch Gallery**, Berlin, Germany

2017 *Salton Sublime* **SoundPedro**, San Pedro Angels Gate Cultural Center, Los Angeles CA

2015 *The Whole World Blind*, **CAMRA**, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA

2014 *The Whole World Blind,* **Anthropologie Numerique**, Le Cube, Paris, France

2012 *The Whole World Blind*, Ethnographic Terminalia at **SOMArts**, in collaboration with **American Anthropological Association** Annual Meeting, San Francisco, CA & the **Society for Visual Anthropology**

2011 *The Whole World Blind*, **UQBAR Gallery**, Berlin, Germany

2011 *The Whole World Blind*, **Soundwalk**, Long Beach, CA. Premier

MEDIA

2025 *Filmen "En lille bid af kagen" viser, hvordan folk faktisk lever i Iran*, POV International, Roxanne Varzi moderates film at Danish Cinemateket https://pov.international/en-lille-bid-af-kagen-viser-hvordan-folk-lever/

2025 Campus Writing Communication spotlight on Roxanne Varzi's Multimodal Teaching https://writing.uci.edu/2025/02/10/multimodal-anthropology/

2024 *Creating a Dyslexic Mystery Heroine*, **Dyslexic Advantage Magazine & YouTube Channel,** Interview with **Dr. Fernette Eide**

2024 *Mentored Graduating Senior,* Pursuit of Knowledge, by Matthew Margrave, **Social Science News, UCI**

2024 *Understanding Twice Exceptional (2E) Learners: Insights and Inspiration,* 3**D Podcast** with **Jess Arce**

2024 *Anthropology and doing things your own way* with Roxanne Varzi, **Dyslexia Lifehacks Podcast with Mathew Head**, Episode 84

2023 *Death in a Nutshell: An Anthropology Whodunit,* in the Armchair Anthropology Series, National dyslexia Awareness Month, **KUCI**'s *Ask a Leader*

2023 *Death in a Nutshell: An Anthropology Whodunit*, "Members Spotlight," **Authors Guild**, interview

2023 *Featured Filmmaker*, **Stu News**, Laguna Beach, CA

2022 *Featured Article*, UCI Anthropology Professor Roxanne Varzi Presents *Yalda: An Iranian Twelfth Night*, **New University**, **UCI**

2022 Protests in Iran are a reminder: Stop policing what women want — or don't want — to wear," interviewed and quoted in article, **Chicago Sun Times**

2022 UCI professors see enduring unrest in Iran**,"** interviewed and quoted in article, **Spectrum News**

2022 *Poetry Talking Truth with Power*, **KUCI**'s *Ask a Leader*

2021 *Feature Interview* in **Dyslexic Advantage**, "Creative Anthropologist"

2021 Featured Author on social media for ***OC Public Library*** 100th Anniversary Orange County Voices

2020 *Quoted,* The Guardian, *What an Iranian film about a leper colony can teach us about coronavirus*, London, UK

2020 *Featured Article*, **The New University** *PROFESSOR OF CULTURAL ANTHROPOLOGY USES HER WORK FOR IRANIAN ACTIVISM*, Irvine CA

2020 *Profile*, ***LA Times***, **Daily Pilot**, O.C. artist Roxanne Varzi shares her border-crossing work that resists media clichés about Iran

2020 *Profile and Interview*, *Orange County Writers of Color Rise to the Moment*, **Voice of OC**

2018 *Featured Writer,* 5 REASONS WHY A WRITER SHOULD MOVE TO ORANGE COUNTY, **Literary Hub**, Namrata Poddar

2019 *UCI Ethnographer Helps You Pass the Persian Quiz*, KUCI, *Ask a Leader*

2018 *Featured Filmmaker*, **KUCI**, *Film School Radio*, Irvine, CA

2016 Series of Videos: Roxanne Varzi Reads from Her Latest novel *Last Scene Underground,* **YouTube Stanford University**

2016 *Interview* on **Humanities Headlines with Humanities** Dean Georges Van Den Abbeele, **UCI**

2015 *Quoted*, Iran Nuclear Deal Offers Flicker of Hope to Persians in Southern California, **Los Angeles Times** By Saher Baloch and Sara Parvini

2014 *Quoted*, Filmmakers Clash as Rouhani's Agenda Leaves Iranians Divided - **Bloomberg News**, by Ladane Nasseri, Bloomberg News

2015 *Quoted,* in Robertson, Bronwen and Marchant, James (eds.) (2015). *Revolution decoded: Iran's Digital Landscape*, **Arab Media Report**, quoted from *Iran's French Revolution: Religion, Philosophy, And Crowds*

2014 *Quoted,* from Warring Souls in *The Media Claims Iranian Actress Leila Hatami is About to be Flogged, but Here's the Real Story*, By Sasha Von Oldershausen. **Mic Network**

2014 *Interview*, meta-ethno-non/fictional representation of the conversations; a show by John Jackson Jr. and Cora Daniels, **Impolite Conversations**

2013 *Quoted*, Self-storage Industry Keeps on Keeping, **OC Register**

2011 *Guest*, **Earmeal**, "Whole World Blind," evocative interviews with LA's most accomplished contemporary and up and coming artists, LARTstream.

2010 *Guest*, **KCRW** To the Point, Warren Olney on Anniversary of Iranian Revolution

2008 *Quoted*, Treacher, A., Pai, H., Khalili, L, and Alldred, P. (2008). The Gendered Embroilments of War. *Feminist Review,* Vol 88 (1), quoted from: "Iran's Pieta: Motherhood, Sacrifice and Film in the Aftermath of the Iran-Iraq War."

2008 *Quoted* from Plastic Flowers in **The Panther**, *Film depicts Iran-Iraq War,* by Alex Ulsher

2009 *Quoted*, **Epoca weekly magazine Interview** for article on Iran

2009 *Quoted*, **NEW YORK TIMES:** News analysis by NEIL MacFARQUHAR

2009 *Guest*, **KALW 91.7,** Interview with Sandip Roy on "Your Call"

2009 *Guest*, **Storytelling in Tehran,** Featured Profile on UCI Website

2008 *Guest*, **KALW 91.7,** Interview with Sandip Roy on "Your Call"

2007 ***Author's Hour***, Public Television Recording of Varzi Reading at Elliot Bay Books, Seattle WA

2006 **France 2fr** Warring Souls Book reading in L.A by Roxanne Varzi aired on French Television show on Iran: "Doit-on diaboliser l'Iran?"

2006 *Quoted*, **OC Register**, Interview as Iran Expert on Nuclear Issue.

2006 *Guest*, **MSNBC** The *Most with Allison Stewart*, appeared as expert on Iran Nuclear Issue

2006 *Guest*, **UpFront** Interview with Sandip Roy about youth in Iran, San Francisco, CA

2006 *Featured*, **Stopsmilingonline.com** two-part exclusive Interview with Michael Helke, Chicago and London.

2006 *Author's Hour*, **Washington State Television**, Reading at Elliot Bay, Seattle, WA

2006 *Guest*, **KUOW**-Weekday Interview with Steve Scher, "Youth, Media, and Martyrdom in Iran" Seattle, WA.

2006 *Guest*, **BBC** Persian Service –Interview with Sarah Nasarzadeh on Sexuality and youth in Iran, London, UK.

2006 *Guest*, **WUNC** "The Story" –"Modern Iran" Durham, NC.

2006 *Guest*, **Time Warner Cable TV10** "Conversations with Gloria Greer" Palm Springs, CA.

2006 *Guest*, **KIRN** "A night of Insights"- Interview, show on religion and spirituality in Iran, Los Angeles, CA.

2006 *Guest*, **KQED** "The Forum" with Michael Krasny- Interview with authors from *Let Me Tell You Where I Have Been*, San Francisco, CA.

2006 *Guest*, **WBEZ** "Worldview" - Interview about *Warring Souls* Chicago, IL

2006 *Guest*, **KPFK**- Radio Intifada- interview on Iran, Los Angeles, CA

2002 **FRONTLINE** "Muslims", Television Show, May 9th, Translated Persian to English.

2002 **ACLU**, pamphlet, "Know your Rights," Translated English text to Persian.

2000 Ebrahim Hatamikia, Film Voice Over Actor

1999 Guest, **WNYC**, "New York and Company", Iranian-American anthology of creative writings, New York, NY.

1999 Guest, **BBC**, Iranian War Cinema, London, UK.

1995 Guest, **Issues and Opinions**, Political Talk Show on domestic political trends in Iran, Washington D.C.

PUBLIC OUTREACH

2025 Moderated Film discussion of *My Favorite Cake*, Iranian film Festival, Danish Cinemateket, Copenhagen, Denmark https://www.dfi.dk/cinemateket/biograf/alle-film/film/en-lille-bid-af-kagen

2024 Educator Day, Sails and Veils, Talk regarding how to adapt Shakespeare, **New Swan Shakespeare Center, UCI**

2024 Field Trip and Curator lecture, **Museum of Natural History in LA** for UCI Anthropology Students

2024 *Creating New Narrative around Dyslexia and ADHD* with Jonathon Mooney, Sponsored by the Humanities Center, Care and Repair & Medical Humanities, **UCI**

2023 **Hunter College High School**, Book Talk *Death in a Nutshell: An Anthropology Whodunit*, as part of National Dyslexia Awareness Month. New York, NY

2023 ***Avaaz,*** Discussant for talk back with the play's Creator **South Coast Repertory**, Costa Mesa, CA

2020 *Urgent Response: No War In Iran*, Speaker, **LibroMobile**, Santa Ana, CA

2018 ***Iranian American Women Foundation*** Annual Conference, Samuel Jordan Center for Persian Studies & Culture, **UCI**

2018 Discussant and host for play ***Together Tea***, by Marjan Kamali, *Illuminations*, **UCI**

2018 *Hybridity as Resistance: Storytelling Through diverse Arts*, Sponsored by **Poets and Writers** and Hosted by **LibroMobile**, Santa Ana, CA

2017 An Evening with Roxanne Varzi, **Aftab Organization**, Washington DC

2017 **Los Angeles Times Festival of Books**, "Last Scene Underground" Author presentation and book signing, **University of Southern California**

2016 **Book Culture**, *Last Scene Underground* Book Talk and Signing, New York, NY

2016 **Elliot Bay Book Company**, *Last Scene Underground* Book Talk & Signing, Seattle, WA

2016 **Orange County Public Library**, University Park Branch, *Last Scene Underground* Book Talk and Signing, Irvine, CA

2015 **Pages Bookstore**, *Last Scene Underground* Book Talk and Signing, Detroit, MI

2015 **Osher Lifelong Learning**, University of California Woodbridge Annex, Irvine, CA, Two-part class on Underground Art in Iran

2008 **Osher Lifelong Learning**, University of California Faculty Club, Irvine, CA

2006 **ArtEast**, *Warring Souls,* Book Talk & Signing, **Jonathon Shore Gallery** New York, NY

2006 **Elliot Bay Book Company** *Warring Souls,* Book Talk & Signing, Seattle, WA

2006 **Cody's** *Warring Souls,* Book Talk & Signing, San Francisco, CA

2006 **Intersection for the Arts**, Reading from *Let Me Tell You Where I Have Been,* San Francisco, CA

2006 **Pacific Art Center** sponsored by the **Levantine Center,** *Warring Souls,* Book Talk & Signing, Los Angeles, CA

2006 **Beverly Hills Public Library**, Reading from *Let Me Tell You Where I Have Been,* sponsored by the **Levantine Center**, Beverly Hills, CA

2006 **PepperTree Bookstore** *Warring Souls,* Book Talk & Signing, Palm Springs, CA

2006 **Book Soup**, *Warring Souls,* Book Talk & Signing, Costa Mesa, CA

1999 **Asia Society**, Reading from *A World Between: Fiction, Poetry and Essays by Iranian-Americans* New York, NY

1999 **Barnes and Noble, Union Square,** Reading from A *World Between: Fiction, Poetry and Essays by Iranian-Americans* New York, NY

REVIEWS, REFERENCES & BLURBS

Reviews of Silent Scream: A Nordic Non-Noir

2026 ***The Journal of Sonic Studies*** Book Review of Silent Scream: A Nordic Non-Noir by Marcel Cobussen

2025 ***Camp Anthropology Blog*** Roxanne Varzi on her new book, *Silent Scream* interview with Sherine Hamdy, edited by Ilana Gershon

Reviews of Last Scene Underground: An Ethnographic Novel

2019 ***Camp Anthropology*** Blog, Conversation about *Last Scene Underground* with Harvey Stark, edited by Ilana Gershon

2019 ***Journal of Middle East Women's Studies***, volume 15, 1, March 2019 P.98–100, Duke University Press, *Last Scene Underground*, Nima Naghibi

2017 R 1 **Anthropology News**, *Getting Credit,* From the President of the American Anthropological Association, Alisse Waterston

2017 R 2 **3 AM Magazine**, Review of *Last Scene Underground* by Ather Zia

2017 **Stanford University Press**, Video Reading & Interview Series about *Last Scene Underground,* "How Did your background as an anthropologist inspire your creative process?" "Roxanne Varzi Reads from her book…" "What Inspired you to write a novel about underground theater?"

2016 **Qantara** Review of *Last Scene Underground* by Marian Brehmer, "Finding Freedom in the Catacombs"

2016 *Lebensrealitaten Anderer: Jeugendkultur im Iran* Stephanie Majerus, **Woxx**, Luxembourg

Reviews of Death in a Nutshell: An Anthropology Whodunnit

2025 https://campanthropology.org/2025/03/31/roxanne-varzi-on-her-anthropological-novel-death-in-a-nutshell/

2024 **Cozy Mystery Book Reviews**
"This is a first for me .... while you are reading a story about a murder, the author is also educating the reader in between chapters with her Field Notes."

Reviews of Plastic Flowers in Peer-Reviewed Professional Journals

2011 *Ideologues of Martyrdom in Postwar Iran and the Culture of Mourning the Dead (Varzi's Plastic Flowers Never Die)* Plastic Flowers Never Die by Roxanne Varzi
by: Jens Kreinath **Current Anthropology**, Vol. 52, No. 4 (August 2011), pp. 614-615 **The University of Chicago Press**

2011 Plastic Flowers Never Die. Directed by Roxanne Varzi, Maryam Kashani, **Visual Anthropology Review**, Volume 27, Issue 1, pages 111–112, Spring 2011

2011 *Iranian documentaries: Propaganda, revolution, and stereotypes*, By: Mai Elwakil, **Egypt Independent**, Cinema and Television Reviews

2010 Jihadi Videos and the Anthropology of Inaccessibility, **Savage Minds,** Adam Fish
2010 Best Iranian Revolution Titles, (Top Ten) **IMDB**

2009 *Iranian Films to go to International Festivals*, **Press TV**

2009 **National Association of Librarians**

2008 Ideologues of Martyrdom in Postwar Iran and the Culture of Mourning the Dead, Reviewed work(s): *Plastic Flowers Never Die*. Film. Directed by Roxanne Varzi, 35 min. Documentary Educational Resources, Watertown, MA.

2008 Anthropology Review Database by Dr David Eller

Reviews of Warring Souls in Peer-Reviewed Professional Journals

2009 R-13 Jennifer Riggan, **Arab Media and Society** Issue 8, Spring

2009 R-12 Peter Chelkowski, **Comparative Studies of South Asia, Africa and the Middle East** volume 29, Number 2, pp. 343-345

2007 R-11 Vron Ware, **Signs: Journal of Women in Culture & Society**, Vol. 33 p242–246

2007 R-10 Karen Wells, **Visual Communication** 6(3) p 359-362

2007 R-9 Lori Allen, **International Journal of Middle East Studies**, Vol, 39, p 683-685.

2007 R-8 Patricia J Higgins, **American Anthropologist**, SUNY Plattsburgh.

2007 R-7 Alireza Doostar, **American Ethnologist**, Vol. 34, No. 4, pp. 4001-4003, Harvard University

2007 R-6 Courtney Desiree Morris, **aaanet.org** University of Texas, Austin

2007 R-5 Rose Carmen Goldberg in **Journal of International Affairs**; Spring; 60, 2; ABI/INFORM Global Pg. 221

2007 R-4 Faegheh Shirazi, **H-Net Reviews** University of Texas at Austin, March

2007 R-3 Listed as book of critical interest, **Critical Inquiry**, Vol. 33, No. 2, Winter

2007 R-2 Ali Akbar Mahdi, **Middle East Journal**, Ohio Wesleyan University, Vol. 6, No. 1, Winter, Page 158

2007 R-1 Emma Connelly, *M/C Reviews-Cultural Studies,* May 10

Academic Articles about Yalda

2024 Lupton, J.R. (2024). "And what should I do in Islamia?": Shakespeare and the Virtues of Relevance. In: Callaghan, D., Chiari, S. (eds) Shakespeare and the Poetics and Politics of Relevance. Early Modern Cultural Studies 1500–1700. Palgrave Macmillan, Cham. https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-031-66898-2_9

References to Work

2018 Reference to *Warring Souls*. in: Swedenburg, Ted (2018). Imagined Youths.

Middle East Research and Information Project

2016 Reference to *Warring Souls* in, Dominguez, Virginia R. and Metzner, Emily (2016). An interview with Iranian anthropologist Soheila Shashahani. ***American Anthropologist,*** Vol 118 (2)

2013 Reference to Warring Souls in, Olszewska, Zuzanna (2013). Classy Kids and Down-at-Heel Intellectuals: Status Aspiration and Blind Spots in the Contemporary Ethnography of Iran. **Iranian Studies** Vol 46 (6)

2011 Reference to Warring Souls in, Brown, BC (2001). The Amîr ʿAbd Al-Qâdir and the "Good War" in Algeria, 1832-1847. **Studia Islamica**, Vol 106 (2)

2010 *On Ethnographic Sincerity*, John L. Jackson Jr., **Current Anthropology,** Volume 51, Supplement 2, October S284-287

2010 *Let the Swords Encircle Me: Iran--A Journey Behind the Headlines,* Scott Peterson, **Simon and Schuster**, NY

2010 Worthy "Gods" and "Goddesses" The Meaning of Modesty in the Normalization of Latter-day Saint Gender Roles **The Journal of Religion and Society** Volume 12

2009 Reference to *Plastic Flowers*, **The cultural politics of gesture: Reflections on the embodiment of ethnographic practice,** Michael Herzfeld, **Ethnography**; 10; 131

2008 Film directors brawl over the 'system,' **Iran Times**

2008 Quoted from *Warring Souls* in Chehabi, HE and Fotini, Christia, *The Art of State Persuasion: Iran's Post-Revolutionary Murals*. ***Persica***

2007 Quoted from *Warring Souls* in Olszewska, Zuzanna (2007). 'A desolate voice': Poetry and identity among young Afghan refugees in Iran. ***Iranian Studies***, Volume 40 (2)

2008 Ideologues of Martyrdom in Postwar Iran and the Culture of Mourning, Watertown, MA. **Current Anthropology**: Vol 52, No. 4

2008 *From Oil Boom to Youth Boom*, **Brookings Institute**, Washington D.C.

2007 Review of "Warring Souls" in ***Azure (Ideas for the Jewish Nation)*** by Marla Braverman Spring 5767, No. 28

2006 Reference to "Warring Souls" in article *Critical Mass: U.S.-Iranian Relationship,* **The Chronicle of Higher Education**, Vol. 53, Issue 13, Page B4, November 17

2006 Footnoted in, *Manipulating Private Lives and Public Spaces in Qashqa'i Society in Iran,* Lois Beck and Julia Huang, **Comparative Studies of South Asia, Africa and the Middle East** 26.2, 303-325

2006 Quoted in, *A Collision of Prose and Politics: A prominent professor's attack on a best-selling memoir sparks debate among Iranian scholars in the U.S.,* Richard Byrne, **Chronicle of Higher Education**, October 13

2004 Roxanne Varzi's fieldwork is discussed as an example of the new innovative work of the next generation of Iran anthropologists in the editor's introduction to the special issue of **Iranian Studies**, Erika Friedl & Mary Elaine Hegland, Iranian Studies, Volume 37, Number 4, December, pp. 569-573(5), **Routledge**, part of the Taylor & Francis Group

2006 Quoted in photo essay *Young in Every Aspect of Life* on Photographer Nader Davoodi's website, September 4

2006 **Stopsmilingonline.com** two-part exclusive online Interview with Michael Helke, Chicago and London

Book Blurbs for Others

2019 *Strike Patterns: Notes from a Postwar Lao Community* By **Leah Zani, PhD**, author of *Bomb Children: Life in the Former Battlefields of Laos,* Duke University Press

2016 Book Cover blurb for *Reform Cinema in Iran: Film and Political Change in the Islamic Republic,* by **Blake Atwood,** Columbia University Press

Research and Teaching Interests

Multi-modal Anthropology; Visual Anthropology, Experimental Ethnography, Ethnographic Methods; Ethnographic Filmmaking; Sound Ethnography; Iranian & World Cinema; Urban Anthropology; Production of Space (cities, public performance, rituals, memorials) Iran; Islam (mysticism, religion and the state); Cultural production and war (museums, cemeteries, shrines, martyrdom); Anthropology of Performance (Iranian theater and film); Anthropology of Art, Theater.

RESEARCH CONDUCTED

2024 **Oslo, Norway (UC Sabbatical)** *Sound and Attention Studies for Multi-Modal Project*

2021 **Yosemite National Park, CA**, *Climate Crisis Imagery, Sound and Anthropology*

2016 **Salton Sea, CA**, *Climate Crisis Imagery, Sound and Anthropology*

2005-2012 **Tokyo, London, Berlin, New York, Los Angeles,** *War Imagery*

2014 **Sacramento, CA**, UCHRI Multi-Campus *Working Group* on Religion and Public Space, Sacramento Site Visit.

2012/13 **Paris, Tehran, Vienna:** *Research* funded by IFK, Vienna, UCHRI, Center for Global Peace and Citizenship, UCI, on the life and work of Henry Corbin and his influence on Iranian Revolutionaries.

2007/8 **Berlin, Germany:** *Research* funded by the Wissenschaft Collegem zu Berlin on Iranian Performance in Europe, especially theater created for an Islamic Revolutionary stage in Tehran and performed on a secular stage in Berlin.

1999-2000 **Tehran, Iran: Fulbright Hayes Doctoral Dissertation Research Award.** *Research* for Dissertation on Production of Public Space and Culture in post-Revolution Tehran and the effects on secular youth born after the Revolution.

1994, 96, 98 **Tehran, Iran:** Farabi Film Foundation and the National Film Archive, *Interviewed* Film Directors and Producers, Watched and Analyzed Post-Revolution Films, *Visited* Film Shoots, *Interviewed* Actors and Crew, *Performed* English Language Voice Overs.

1998 **Osh, Kyrgyzstan**: *Interviewed* Tajik Refugees and UNHCR Field workers.

1994/1996 **Tehran, Iran:** Museum of Contemporary Art and Tehran University School of Fine Arts, *Interviewed* Professors, Painters, and Art Students.

1991-1992 **Cairo, Egypt:** *Interviewed* Egyptian and Lebanese Women Writers.

COURSES DEVELOPED & TAUGHT

Multi-Modal Anthropology, **UCI**, Spring 2019, Fall 2019, Winter 2021

Anthropology PhD Writing Seminar, **UCI**, Winter 2016, Spring, 2017, Winter 2018, Winter 2020, Spring 2021

Exploring Narrative: Anthropology Writing Seminar, **UCI** *180 Series,* Undergraduate(180W), Fall 2010, Spring 2011, Fall 2012, Spring 2013, Winter 2014, Spring 2017, Fall 2019, Winter 2021

Modern Iran: Cinema and Society **UCI**, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017, 2019

Anthropology of Religion Undergraduate, **UCI** Winter 2015, Winter 2018, Winter 2020

Anthropology of War (updated) **UCDC**, Washington D.C Fall 2017

Visual Anthropology, **UCI** Graduate Seminar*,* Fall 2008, Spring, 2015 Spring 2017

Anthropology PhD Pro-Seminar C, **UCI**, Spring 2015

Visual Anthropology **UCI** Undergraduate, Fall 2008, Winter 2009, Spring 2011

Producing the Middle East, Graduate Seminar, **UCI** Spring 2007, Fall 2010, Winter 2011

Modern Iran **NYU** Spring 2004, **UCI** Winter 2006, Fall 2006, Spring 2010, Winter, 2011

Cinema and the City, **UCI** Graduate and Undergraduate, Fall 2010

Anthropology of Performance **UCI** Graduate Seminar, Spring 2010 (canceled)

Anthropology of War (30A) **UCI** Fall 2005, Fall 2006, **UC-EAP** Program at the University of Lund, Sweden, Summer 2007

Visual Culture and Anthropology of Film, Graduate Seminar, **UCI** Spring 2006

Anthropology of Film **SOAS** Graduate and Undergraduate, Spring 2005
Ethnography of the Near and Middle East **SOAS** Graduate and Undergraduate, Fall 2004

Culture and Media of War **NYU** Spring 2003

SERVICE

AD Hoc Committee Member, **International Communications Association***, Guidelines for Evaluating Research and Creative Expressions*

Ad Hoc Committee Member, **Cambridge Journal of Anthropology***, Guidelines for Evaluating Multimodal Forms and Creative Expressions*

Editorial Board, Anthropology, **Encyclopedia Iranica**, Columbia University & UC Irvine, 2024-present

Area Editor for Visual Anthropology, **Oxford Encyclopedia**, 2018-present

Advisory Board, **Conversation Kitchen**, UCI 2018-2022

Disability Ally, **UCI Faculty,** 2017-present

Faculty Member, **Global Middle East Studies**, 2014-2024

Editorial Board, **The Journal of Media Sociology,** 2007-present

Board Member, **UCI Religious Studies**, 2007-2023

Faculty Board, **Religious Studies,** UCI 2018-2021

Board Member, **Society for Humanistic Anthropology**, 2017-2021

Editorial Board Member, **American Anthropologist,** 2015-2021

Speaker, **Cooking with the Professor:** Spring 2018, Greek and Persian Food, Winter, 2019, Persian Food, Fall, 2019, Sensory Eating (with my multi-modal seminar graduate students), Spring 2020, Ramadan Iftar on Zoom, UCI

Playwright Mentor, Celebrating Voices, A Middle School Student Playwright Program, Created Marni Ayers, **Boys and Girls Clubs**, Los Angeles, 2019

Executive Committee, **Social Sciences,** UCI 2015-2019

Steering Committee, **Religious Studies,** UCI 2015-2018

Member, **Academic Committee on Undergraduate Coursework,** UCI 2013-2017

Selection Board, **Fulbright Hayes Committee,** UCI 2017

Member, **Committee on Middle East Major,** UCI 2014

Member, **Committee on Persian Studies Minor** UCI 2014

Member, **MRG Working Group on Religion in Public Sphere**, UCHRI 2012-2015

Cultural Consultant, In the Garden, **South Coast Reparatory**, Costa Mesa, CA 2012

Executive Committee, **American Anthropological Association Annual Meeting,** 2009

MEMBERSHIPS (Current & Past)

American Anthropological Association
Middle East Studies Association
Society for Humanistic Anthropology
Society for Visual Anthropology
International Society for Iranian Studies
Cultural Studies Association
American Ethnological Society
Dramatists Guild of America
Authors Guild
Sisters in Crime

LANGUAGES

English (fluent), Persian (fluent)

OTHER EXPERIENCES

Luminary: Bright House, Consultant

Intern, *Search for Common Ground*, Washington D.C.
Intern, *Soil Conservation Corp, USDA*, Washington D.C.
Intern, *Middle East Journal*, Washington D.C.