

**International Conference and Cultural Events**  
**Looking at Iran: Perspectives on Contemporary Iran and Iranian**  
**Culture in Germany and Israel**  
**March 28-31, 2009**

**University of Haifa and Haifa Cinemateque**

**Organized by:**

Bucerius Institute for Research of Contemporary German History and Society  
Posen Forum for Jewish European and Israeli Political Thought  
The Ezri Center for Iran & Persian Gulf Studies  
Haifa Cinemateque

**Saturday, March 28, 2009**

**Opening of the Film festival and Conference**

Haifa Cinemateque, Carmel Center, Haifa

18:30 Reception

19:00 Greetings:

Nissim Ben Joya Director, Haifa Cinemateque

Soli Shavar Director, The Ezri Center for Iran & Persian Gulf Studies, University of Haifa

Ambassador Kindermann, His Excellency the Ambassador of Germany in Israel

Yossi Ben-Artzi Rector, University of Haifa

Majid Al-Haj Vice President and Dean of Research, University of Haifa

Speaker: **Ayatollah Mehdi Haeri Khorshidi**

*The Situation of Exiled and Dissident Iranians in Germany* (In German with Hebrew Translation)

20:30 Film screening: **Bright Days**

Israel 2007 David Ofek Director , 70 min., Hebrew/Dutch/Persian/Kurdish/Arabic, English Subtitles

21:10 Questions and Answers with the Director and Scriptwriter

**Sunday, March 29, 2009**

**International Conference**

Rabin Observatory, Rabin Building, University of Haifa

The conference is held in English

8:30 - 9:00 Registration

9:00 - 9:15 Greetings

Aaron Ben Ze'ev President, University of Haifa

Majid Al-Haj Vice President and Dean of Research, University of Haifa

Amos Morris-Reich Director, Bucerius Institute for Research of Contemporary German History and Society, University of Haifa

Eli Salzberger Dean of Faculty of Law, University of Haifa

9:15 - 11:45 **Iran in Israeli, Palestinian and German Eyes**

**Panel 1**

Chair: Fania Oz-Salzberger Director, The Posen Forum for Jewish European and Israeli Political Thought, University of Haifa

9:25 - 9:45 Soli Shavar Director, The Ezri Center for Iran & Persian Gulf Studies ,



University of Haifa

*Past Friends and Present Foes?: Images and Perceptions of Iran and Iranians in Israel*

9:45 - 10:05 Menashe Amir Chief Editor of Hamdami Website, the Persian website of Israel Ministry of Foreign Affairs

*Iranian voices in Israel*

10:05 – 10:25 Ido Zelkovitz The Ezri Center for Iran & Persian Gulf Studies ,  
University of Haifa

*Exporting the revolution?: The Symbolic Presence of Iran in the Palestinian Political Strife*

10:40 - 11:00 Sabine Schiffer Director, Media Responsibility Institute, *Germany*  
*Perception of Iran in German News and Media Debates (Cultural and Ethnical Aspects)*

11:00 - 11:20 Stephan Grigat Department of Political Science, University of Vienna  
*The Iranian Threat and its Perception in Germany and Austria*

11:20 - 11:45 Discussion

12:00 - 13:30 " **Homeward Gaze": Iran and Iranian Exiles in German and Israeli Culture**

**Panel 2** Chair: Ofer Ashkenazy The Koebner-Minerva Center for German History, The Hebrew University, Jerusalem

12:10 - 12:30 Sheila Moussaiey Department for Middle Eastern Studies, University of Haifa

*Iranian Cinema and its Perception in Israel*

12:30 - 12:50 Tobias Ebbrecht, Film & Television Academy "Konrad Wolf", Potsdam-Babelsberg

*Cultural Exchange between Iran and Germany: Art and Cinema*

12:50 - 13:20 Arman Nadjm, Film Maker, Berlin

*What Kind of Cultural Dialogue? Perspectives of Critical Iranian Artists in Exile*

13:20 - 13:30 Discussion

15:00 - 17:00 "**Dark Prisms": Anti-Semitism, the Holocaust and its Denial**

**Panel 3**

Chair: Amos Morris-Reich Director, Bucerius Institute for Research of Contemporary German History and Society, University of Haifa

15:10 - 15:30 Yaniv Levyatan The Ezri Center for Iran & Persian Gulf Studies,  
University of Haifa

*Holocaust Denial and Anti-Semitism in Iran*

15:30 - 15:50 Julius Schoeps Director, Moses Mendelssohn Center for European Jewish Studies, Potsdam

*Iran's Holocaust Denial and its Perception in Germany*

15:50 - 16:10 Miriam Nissimov Center of Iranian Studies, Tel Aviv University Iran  
*Western Cinema, and the "Zionist Scheme"*

16:10 - 16:30 Discussion

17:00 - 17:40 Concluding Speech:

**Ayatollah Mehdi Haeri Khorshidi**

*A Look towards Iran of the Future A Personal Vision*

**(In German with Hebrew translation)**

17:40 - 19:15 **People, Politics & Protest - Presentation of Experimental Short Films**

**Panel 4** Tobias Ebbrecht Film & Television Academy "Konrad Wolf", Potsdam-Babelsberg

*Introduction and Commentary*

17:55 - 18:15 [Iranian Women's Liberation Movement in the Year Zero](#) Iran/France  
1979, Des Femmes Filment, 12 minutes, Persian/French, German Subtitles, English

translation

18:15 - 18:35 [Vali-'AsR](#) – July 2006 Germany/Iran 2007, Norman Richter, 14 minutes, silent, English titles

18:35 - 18:55 Returning Home Germany/France 2004, Arman Nadjm, 12 minutes, Persian, English subtitles The film represents the story of the Iranian-Canadian Journalist Ziba Kazemi. While doing her job in Teheran in June 2003 she was arrested, abused and killed.

18:40 - 19:00 Discussion

**Monday, March 30, 2009**

**Cultural Events**

Haifa Cinemateque, Carmel Center, Haifa

17:30 [Benedictus](#) Play by Motti Lerner, directed by Peter Sinai (In Hebrew, English Script Available) Staged Reading of the Play

A political thriller whose action takes place in a Benedictine monastery in Rome on the eve of an American attack on the Iranian nuclear facilities.

Discussion at the end of the play in English

21:30 [Unveiled](#), a film by Angelina Maccarone, Germany/Austria 2005, , 97 minutes, German/Persian/English, English subtitles

**Tuesday March 31, 2009**

**Cultural Events**

Haifa Cinemateque, Carmel Center, Haifa Tuesday,

16:00 **Panel discussion: Looking at Iran through the eyes of a filmmaker** (In English)

Chair: Tobias Ebbrecht, Film & Television Academy “Konrad Wolf”, Potsdam-Babelsberg, Germany

Participants: Arman Nadjm, Iranian Filmmaker, France/Germany, director of “Returning Home”

Marlene Assmann, Filmmaker, Germany, protagonist of “Football under Cover”

Idan Regev, Filmmaker, Israel, Producer of [“Bright Days”](#)

18:00 [Exile Family Movie](#) Austria 2006

Arash T. Riahi, 93 minutes, Persian/German/English, English & Hebrew subtitles

20:00 [Football under Cover](#)

Germany/Iran 2008, Ayat Najafi, David Assmann, 86 minutes,

English/German/Persian, English and Hebrew subtitles

21:30 Questions and Answers (in English)

**The public is invited but seats must be reserved by 21.3.09 for the following events:**

**1. The Opening Ceremony(28.3.09), Conference(29.3.09), the Reading of the Play(30.03) and thePanel Discussion (31.1.09) are free of charge. Reservation through Bucerius Institute (Tel: 04-8288232 Fax:04-8288282 bucerius@univ.haifa.ac.il).**

**2. Tickets for the movies (including “Bright Days”) can be acquired at the Haifa Cinematheque Box Office 04-8353521 or 04-8353519. There will be a reduced charge for the films (23 Shekel) gor Bucerius Institute friends (04-8288232 Fax:04-8288282 bucerius@univ.haifa.ac.il).**