

FRIDAY, 24 NOVEMBER 2017

13:00-13:30 | REGISTRATION

13:30-14:00 | WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION

14:00-15:30 | PANEL I: ORAL AND WRITTEN TRANSMISSION OF PREMODERN ARABIC LITERATURE

HATIM EL-HIBRI

(George Mason University)

"Mediation, Mediatization, and Historical Change in Arab Societies"

BEATRICE GRÜNDLER

(Freie Universität Berlin)

"(In)conveniences of Book Usage and Possession in the Ninth Century"

SALIM OMRI

(University of Gabes)

"The Takhmis in the Post-Classical Period: Its Ritual and Semiotic Aspects, and the Transformations of Orality and Literacy"

15:30-16:00 | COFFEE BREAK

16:00-17:30 | PANEL II: MEDIA PRACTICES IN THE NAHDA PERIOD

MAHA ABDELMAGEED

(Cairo)

"Mišbāḥ al-Sharq: Print Media and 19th Century Literary Objects of Truth"

BARBARA WINCKLER

(University of Münster)

"Orality in Print: The Representation of Speeches, Orations and Cultural Events in Arabic Magazines of the 1920s"

TERESA PEPE

(University of Oslo)

"Fictionalizing the Self and Building Communities: The Ancestral Genres of the Autofictional Blog"

17:30-18:00 | COFFEE BREAK

18:00 | KEYNOTE LECTURE

WALTER ARMBRUST

(University of Oxford)

"Meandering Through the Magazine: New Media in Interwar Egypt"

19:30 | DINNER RECEPTION, BEIT AL-HIKMA

SATURDAY, 25 NOVEMBER 2017

09:30-11:00 | PANEL III: ARABIC CULTURE FOR THE MASSES

ZIAD FAHMY

(Cornell University)

"Media-Capitalism: A Historical Perspective on Media and Society in Early Twentieth Century Egypt"

ANDREW SIMON

(Dartmouth College)

"Censuring Sounds: Tapes, Taste, and the Creation of Egyptian Culture"

INES BRAUNE

(University of Marburg)

"Uneven Contemporaneity in Contemporary Youth Cultures: Parkour in Morocco"

11:00-11:30 | COFFEE BREAK

11:30-13:00 | PANEL IV: CULTURAL DEBATES AND THE AVANTGARDE

YVONNE ALBERS

UNIVERSITY OF MARBURG/ORIENT-INITIUT BEIRUT

"Re-Launching the Arab Intellectual: Mawaqif and Levantine Periodical Culture around 1967"

MONIQUE BELLAN

(Orient-Institut Beirut)

"Exhibition as a Medium and the Emergence of an 'Art System'? Contact Art Gallery in Beirut in the Early 1970s"

13:00-14:00

14:00-15:30

15:30-16:00

16:00-18:00

19:30

DIANA EL RICHANI

(University of Ottawa)

"Electro Tarab and the Emerging Sounds of the Arab World"

| LUNCH BREAK

PANEL V: ARABIC CULTURE AND WEB 2.0

MARIE-THERESE ABDEL-MESSIH

(Kuwait University)

"Intermedial and Multimodal Crossings: Re/Siting Cultural Processes"

AMAL HASSAN

(Lebanese University)

"Arabic Literary Books in Digital Libraries' Websites: Availability and Use"

MUJTABA ISANI

(University of Münster)

"The Potential of an Emerging Arab 'Blogosphere' in Shaping the Future Cultural Agenda"

| COFFEE BREAK

MEDIA AND/IN REVOLUTION: NEW OPPORTUNITIES AND CHALLENGES IN TIMES OF POLITICAL, SOCIAL AND TECHNOLOGICAL CHANGE

PANEL DISCUSSION WITH PRACTITIONERS IN THE CULTURAL FIELD

SAMUEL SHIMON (London)

AYOUB EL MOUZAINI (Fes)

MERIAM MECHTI (Tunis)

ABDELHAK TARCHOUNI (Tunis)

CHAIR: CAROLA RICHTER

(Freie Universität Berlin)

| DINNER IN THE MEDINA OF TUNIS (ONLY BY INVITATION)

▼ SUNDAY, 26 NOVEMBER 2017

09:30-11:00

**PANEL VI: VISUAL AND PERFORMATIVE CULTURES**

**AMMEKE KATEMAN**

(University of Amsterdam)

"Historical hajj-Selfies? Portraits of Authors in hajj-Travelogues in the First Half of the 20th Century"

**KHADEEJA AMENDA**

(Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi)

"The Arabia of Hyderabad: Photographs as Media and Mediations Among the Hadramis of Barkas"

**JAN SCHOLZ**

(Heidelberg University)

"Modern Islamic Preaching Manuals and New Communicative Technologies in the Arabic Context"

11:00-11:30

**I COFFEE BREAK**

11:30-13:00

**PANEL VII: CULTURAL DEBATES AND DEBATE CULTURES ACROSS MEDIA**

**KHAWLA AL-SHUWAIHI**

(Zayed University, UAE)

"Social Media and Cultural Authority: What Can We Learn from the Arabian Gulf?"

**OMAR AL-GHAZZI**

(London School of Economics and Political Science)

"Al-Andalus 2.0: Reimagining Arab Collective Memory on Social Media"

**MAGDALENA KAROLAK**

(Zayed University, UAE)

"Music for Thought: Investigating the Role of Social Media in Saudi Arabia"

13:00-13:30

**FINAL DISCUSSION: MEDIA TRANSITIONS AND CULTURAL DEBATES / CLOSING WORDS**

14:00

**I LUNCH IN SIDI BOU SAID (ONLY BY INVITATION)**

▼ **About the conference**

In the last decades, the Arab world has witnessed the emergence and broad diffusion of 'new' media, most prominently the Internet. However, the adoption of digital technologies is not the first media transition to occur. It could be compared to the transition from oral to script culture, from manuscript to print culture, or the emergence of audio-visual media, such as radio, TV, photography and film.

Applying a transhistorical perspective (9<sup>th</sup>-21<sup>st</sup> century), the conference aims at exploring how the emergence and diffusion of new communication technologies have affected the conditions of cultural production, distribution, and reception and how cultural debates are shaped by the use of different media.

▼ **Conference Organizers:**

**Barbara Winckler**

Junior Professor for Modern Arabic Literature, University of Münster / AGYA  
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**Carola Richter**

Professor for International Communication, Freie Universität Berlin / AGYA  
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**Teresa Pepe**

Associate Professor at the Institute for Culture Studies and Oriental Languages, University of Oslo  
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**Bilal Orfali**

Associate Professor for Arabic Studies, American University of Beirut / AGYA  
bilal.orfali@aub.edu.lb

▼ **Conference Venue:**

Beit al-Hikma  
25, Avenue de la République, Site archéologique de Carthage, Tunis

Twitter: [@AGYA\\_events](#)

Facebook: [www.facebook.com/agya.info](#)

[www.agya.info](#)

The title collage was compiled by Tasnim Baghdadi,  
[www.tasnimbaghdadi.com](#)



International Conference of the Arab-German Young Academy of Sciences and Humanities (AGYA)

# Media Transitions and Cultural Debates in Arab Societies

Transhistorical Perspectives on the Impact of Communication Technologies

24-26 November 2017

Beit al-Hikma / The Tunisian Academy of Sciences, Letters and Arts, Tunis



The conference is a project of the AGYA Working Group *Common Heritage and Common Challenges*.