

IRAJ ANVAR

Visiting Lecturer in Persian, CLS
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EDUCATION

February 1991
1978-1980
June 1984
1977
1964

Ph.D. in Near Eastern Studies, GSAS-NELL, NYU.
Graduate studies at the Performing Arts Department,
NYU.
M.A., in Near Eastern studies, NYU.
B.A. in translation, at the College of Translation
(Tehran, Iran)
Degree, acting and directing, "Studio di Arti
Sceniche", Alessandro Fersen, Director (Rome, Italy).

Dissertation topic: "A Study of Peripheral Ta'ziyeh in Iran"

PROFESSIONAL APPOINTMENTS:**a) Academic:**

Fall 2009
Spring 2009
Fall 2008
Summer 2008
Summer 2007
Summer 2006
Spring 2006
Summer 2005
Fall 1992 -Fall 1997
Fall 1992 -Fall 1997
Summer 1989
Summer 1987
Summer 1986
Spring 1986- Fall 1989

Visiting Lecturer at Brown University, Center for
Language Studies.
Visiting Lecturer at Brown University, Center for
Language Studies.
Visiting Lecturer at Brown University, Center for
Language Studies.
Director and instructor of Persian Immersion Program
at University of Wisconsin.
Director and instructor of Persian Immersion Program
at University of Wisconsin.
Director and instructor of Persian Immersion Program
at University of Wisconsin.
Persian instructor, NYU. Middle Eastern and Islamic
Studies Department.
Director and instructor of Persian Immersion Program
at University of Wisconsin.
Instructor, New York University, Department of
Middle Eastern Studies. Teaching Persian literature
and language.
Instructor, New York University, Department of
Middle Eastern Studies. Teaching Persian literature
and language.
Taught Persian at the Summer Language Consortium
in Turkish and Persian, Columbia University.
Taught Persian at the Summer Language Consortium
in Turkish and Persian, Harvard University.
Taught Persian at the Summer Language Consortium
in Turkish and Persian, University of Pennsylvania.
Instructor. New York University.

Summer 1985	Department of Near Eastern Languages and Literatures. Teaching Persian literature and language. Taught Persian at the Summer Language Consortium in Turkish and Persian, NYU.
Fall 1984- Spring 1986	Adjunct instructor. New York University Department of Near Eastern Languages and Literatures. Teaching Persian literature and language.
Spring 1981- Spring 1983	Graduate Assistant. New York University Department of Near Eastern Languages and Literatures. Teaching Persian .
1974-1977	Instructor. Tehran University, Faculty of Fine Arts, Department of Dramatic Arts. Teaching Acting and Diction.

b) Administrative:

February 1997	Organization and participation in a Conference entitled: "A Tribute to Hafez" at Hafez School, Bayside, New York.
1990 – 1996	Director of the Board of Trustees - Nour Foundation (A non-profit cultural foundation), New York. Organized numerous lectures, concerts and exhibitions on behalf of Nour Foundation.
January 1996	Organization and participation in a Conference entitled: "Rediscovering Rumi" at Hafez School, Bayside, New York.
1995	Organization of a series of conferences on Persian Sufi literature by Professor Peter Chelkowski at the Nour Foundation, New York.
1995	Member of the Organizing Committee for the Symposium Commemorating the Centennial of Ostad Elahi - New York University.
February 1994	Organization of a Conference entitled: "Kurdish Sacred Music" at New York University, New York, with the participation of Professor Jean During, the famous French ethnomusicologist.
December 1994	Organization of a Conference entitled: "Persian Music and Mysticism" at Columbia University, New York, with the participation of Professor Jean During.
1989	Organization of a series of conferences on Persian music by Dr. Dariush Safvat, the renowned Persian music scholar, at New York University, Columbia University, Princeton University, Boston University and UCLA.
1976-1978	The Niavaran Cultural Center. Director of Theatre Workshop. Chairman of Theatre Program.
1968	Co-founder of Tehran Theater Workshop.
1968-1973	Tehran Theatre Workshop, sponsored by National Iranian Radio and Television Network, and the Festival of Shiraz. Founder, member of the Board of Directors, producer and acting instructor.
1967-1972	Center for the Preservation and Propagation of Iranian Music, Assistant Director.

c) Theatre/Directing:

Spring 2008	Recording Director and Voice Coach for Rosetta Stone for production of a new CD to study Persian language.
1980	NYU Theatre Program.
Spring 1978	"The Two Executioners" by: Fernando Arabal.
Summer 1978	Iran America Society, Tehran "Ma non é una cosa seria" by: Luigi Pirandello.
Spring 1977	Tus Festival, Iran. "Gilgamesh", adapted from Asiro-Babylonian mythology.
Fall 1976	Tus Festival, Iran. "The Test of Keykhosrow", by: J. Taheri, based on Iranian mythology.
Spring 1976	The City Theatre, Tehran. "Rostam and Sohrab?", adapted from Shahnameh of Ferdowsi.
Fall 1974	Tus Festival, Iran. "Sudabeh and Siavash", Adapted from Shahnameh of Ferdowsi.
1967-1973	Iran America Society, Tehran "The Watchmaker Taus", by: Gelu Naum.
	Tehran Theatre Workshop. Repertory theatre. "The Death Watch", by: J. Genet. Also at the Iran America Society in 1966.
	"The Man With Two Trays", by: M. Navidi.
	"Oedip, Oedip", adapted from Oedipus Rex, by: Sophocles.
	"Prometheus 1" by: Aesquillus.
	"Prometheus 2", by: Aesquillus.
	"Fando and Liz", by: Fernando Arabal.
	"The Two Executioners", and "Oratorio" by: Fernando Arabal. (These last three plays were also performed in the City Theatre of Tehran).
	"A tout a l'heure", by: Janine Worms.
	"The Seven Parables of Barsissa the Monk", adapted from ancient Persian literature. ("Barsissa" was also performed at Iran America Society).
1963	"Le Mur", by J. P. Sartre at Studio di Arti Sceniche, Rome, Italy.

d) Directing film and Television:

2000	"From Kaf Mountain to Vernon", a 42 minute documentary film about an Abkazian community in Vernon, British Columbia.
1978	"Ma non é una cosa seria", by: L. Pirandello. Videotaped for N.I.R.T.
1977	"The Test of Keykhosrow", Videotaped for N.I.R.T.
1977	"The City of Tempest", a 30-minute documentary film about the Philippines.
1973-1974	"The Hook", a TV serial (film)
1969	Saz Saz (The Setar maker), a 30-minute documentary film.
1967	"The Death Watch", by: J. Genet. Video taped for N.I.R.T.

e) Acting:

Spring 2009	"Rumi/in the Blink of the Eye", a theatrical work by Robert Wilson and Kudsi Erguner. Recited Rumi's
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	poetry in The Festival of Ravenna, Italy, at “ <i>Theatro Dante Alighieri</i> ”
Summer 2008	“Intoxicating Rhymes & Sobering Wine”, A documentary about the life and times of Omar Khayyam, directed by Majeed Beenteha.
February 2008	“Rumi/in the Blink of the Eye”, a theatrical work by Robert Wilson and Kudsi Erguner. Recited Rumi’s poetry in Warsaw Opera House, Poland.
May 2007	“Rumi/in the Blink of the Eye”, a theatrical work by Robert Wilson and Kudsi Erguner. Recited Rumi’s poetry in Athens, Greece .
Winter 2006	“Cirque De Nuit”, A film directed by Majeed Beenteha.
January 2004	“Law and Order”, TV series. “Bizhan and Manizheh” of Ferdowsi. Asia Society, New York. A one-man show.
December 2003	“Who Gives Kisses Feely fro her Lips”, film. Dir. Simin Farkhondeh, NY.
June 2003	“The World-Part IV: a game in 26 parts”, play. Whitney Museum of American Art at Atria, NY.
1983-1986	"Jerusalem, Jerusalem", a musical play by Elizabeth Swados at La Mama Theatre, Lincoln Center, and West Beth Theatre, NYC.
1982	"Jan Nesar", play by: Bijan Mofid. Teacher's College, Columbia University, NYC.
1966-1978	"Barsissa", play. "Gilgamesh", play. "The Test of Keykhosrow" play. "Sudabeh and Siavash", play. "The Hook", a TV serial (film). "The Story", a TV Serial (film).
1961-1965	"Le Mur", by: J. P. Sartre. Studio di Arti Sceniche, Rome. "All the King's Men", Rome. "Oro di Roma", film. Dir. Carlo Lizzani. "Il Sorpasso", film. Dir. Nanni Loy. "La situazione", film. Dir. Gianni Amico "Il Vangelo Secondo Matteo" film. Dir. P. P. Pasolini, and other films.

PUBLICATIONS:

1) Completed Research:

Summer 2008	“Say Nothing” translation of Poems of Jala al-Din Rumi, Morning Light Press. 2008. p. 133.
2002	“Divan-i Shams-i Tabriz – forty eight ghazals” of Rumi, translation, Semar publishers, Rome, 2002, accompanied with a CD. p. 141
1998	Translation of subtitles for the foreign film Oscar nominee, “Children of heaven”.
1995	“The Green Sea of Heaven, Fifty Ghazals from the Diwan of Hafez” Co-translation with Elizabeth T. Gray. White Cloud Press. P. 170, 1995.

- 1982 "Facciamo Insieme Teatro ". By Emanuele Luzzati and Tonino Conte. Translation, published by Soroush Publication, Tehran. 144 p. 1982.
- 1967 Three plays by Fernando Arrabal: "Fando and Liz", "The Two Executioners", "Oratorio". Translation into Persian. Tehran, Tehran Theatre Workshop Press. 214 p. 1967
- 1966 "La Haute Surveillance (The Death Watch)", by Jean Genet. Translation into Persian. Tehran, Tehran Theatre Workshop Press. 127 p. 1966.

Chapters in books:

- 2008 "From Rumi's *Mathnawi* to the Popular stage", a paper with Dr. Peter Chelkowsky, read in occasion of Rumi's 800th birth anniversary in Konya. To be published in "*Philosophy of Ecstasy: Rumi and the Sufi Tradition*", edited by Dr. Leonard Lewisohn and published by the Rumi Institute, Near East University, in Cyprus in association with I.B. Tauris is in press.
- 1994 "If you are Merciful, O Bounteous One, full of Compassion, why make Hell, punishment, and the need to account for each action?". Chapter with Peter J. Chelkowsky in "God is beautiful and He loves beauty", Festschrift in honor of Annemarie Schimmel. Published by Peter Lang, p.18. 1994.

Journal Articles:

- 2005 "Peripheral Ta'ziyeh: The Transformation of Ta'ziyeh from Muharram Mourning Ritual to Secular and Comical Theater", article in *The Drama Review (TDR)*. Winter 2005. p. 7.
- 2005 "A View from the Inside, The anatomy of the Persian ta'ziyeh plays", translation of article by Sadegh Homayouni in *The Drama Review (TDR)*. Winter 2005. p. 5.

Interview:

- 2005 "The Fragrance of the Friend", interview in *Parabola Magazine*, Body and Soul issue. Fall 2005. p. 9.

Invited Lectures:

- September 2009 "Persian Poetry: Origins, Translations, and Influences", poetry reading and discussion. The Philoctetes Center for the Multidisciplinary Study of Imagination. New York, NY.
- 2008 "Iran: New Voices Symposium", Lecture on Iranian modern theater. Barbican Centre, London, November, 29, 2008
- November 2006 IAMA Texas, Tenth Annual Gala. Key note speaker on Rumi and his poetry.

Musical Performances, Story-Telling and Poetry readings:

November 2009	“A Poetry Evening in Honor of Yiannis Ritsos”. Reading the poetry of Ritsos in Persian and English at Alumnae Hall, Brown.
October 2009	“Hafiz of Shiraz and Rumi of Balkh”. Reading and singing the poetry of Hafiz and Rumi at Rochambeau House, Brown University.
April 2009	“Sant Jordi at Brown”, Machado Spanish House. Reading poetry of Saadi, celebrating San Jordi’s day.
December 2007	Rumi Day, Celebration of Light. Sufi Circle
September 2007	Hafez of Shiraz at Cornelia Street Café. Reading and singing poetry of Hafez.
September 2007	Wondrous Words: The Poetic Mastery of Jalal Al-Din Rumi. Iran Heritage Foundation, British Museum. Read and sang the poetry of Rumi.
June 2007	United Nations, New York. Read Rumi’s poetry on the occasion of 800 th Anniversary of Jalaladdin Rumi.
May 2007	Rumi/in the Blink of the Eye, a theatrical work by Robert Wilson and Kudsi Erguner. Recited Rumi’s poetry.
December 2005	Center for Hellenic Studies of Harvard University. Washington, D.C. Naqqali, the Story of Bizhan and Manizheh from The Book of the Kings of Ferdowsi.
December 2005	Boston Iranian Association. Naqqali, the Story of Bizhan and Manizheh from The Book of the Kings of Ferdowsi.
October 2005	Columbia University, New York. Naqqali, the Story of Bizhan and Manizheh from The Book of the Kings of Ferdowsi.
September 2005	The Dorothy and Lillian Gish Prize. Read and sang Rumi’s poetry in honor of Peter Sellars award.
February 2005	Nour va Danesh, Iranian Cultural Center, NJ. Read and sang Rumi’s poetry.
November 2004	Rutgers University, Newark, NJ. Sufi Music and Poetry of Rumi and Hafez.
October 2004	Columbia University, New York. Naqqali, the Story of Bizhan and Manizheh from The Book of the Kings of Ferdowsi.
September 2004	The Queens International Poetry Festival. Read and sang Rumi and Saadi.
September 2004	Tree of Life Studio, New York. Naqqali, the Story of Bizhan and Manizheh from The Book of the Kings of Ferdowsi.
September 2004	Bowery Poetry Club, New York. Naqqali, the Story of Bizhan and Manizheh from The Book of the Kings of Ferdowsi.
June 2004	Joyce Theater, New York. Narrator for Jennifer Muller/The Works, reading Hafez in English and Persian.
May 2004	Saint Mark’s Place Theater, New York. Narrator for Zohreh and Manoochehr of Iraj Mirza, directed by Shah Moshkin.
March 2004	Bowery Poetry Club, New York. Reading and singing of Sufi poetry of Rumi in Persian and English.

January 2004	Asia Society, New York. Naqqali, premier of the Story of Bizhan and Manizheh from The Book of the Kings of Ferdowsi.
January 2004	Genesis Center for East-West Studies, New York. Read and sang his translation of Rumi's poetry.
January 2004	Saint John the Devine, New York. Read my translation of Rumi's poetry for the Bam earthquake fund raising.
January 2004	Bowery poetry Club, New York. Read my translation of Rumi's poetry for the Bam earthquake fund raising.
December 2003	Sufi Books, New York. Read and sang Elizabeth Gray's translation of Hafez poetry and my translation of Rumi.
October 2003	Genesis Center for East-West Studies, New York. Read and sang his translation of Rumi's poetry for Daniel Pearl's Memorial. Bowery poetry Club, New York. Read and sang my translation of Rumi's poetry.
July 2000	Persian Fete, Tribute to Rumi. Long House Preserve Garden, East Hampton, NY. Read and sang Rumi's work with Coleman Barcks and other artists.
August 1998	Saint Bartholomew's Church, New York City. Appeared as main vocalist with the "Ava Ensemble", performing sacred Persian music
November 1997	Sackler Gallery/Smithsonian, Washington D.C. Read and sang poetry of Hafez with Liz Gray.
February 1997	Stony Brook University, Stony Brook, New York. Appeared as main vocalist with the "Ava Ensemble", performing sacred Persian music
December 1997	NYU, Ethinghousen Library. Read and sang Rumi and Hafez with "Ava Ensemble".
1996	Reading of the poetry of Rumi at a lecture entitled Rumi, The Culture of Rapture? - New York University Law School.
December 1985	Manhattan Community College. Played Daf and sang in a Persian traditional music concert with Dariush Safvat.
August 1983	Cathedral House of Saint John the Divine. Sang in a Traditional Persian Music Concert with Jean During.
Spring 1983	Boston University. Sang Spiritual Persian music with Rumi's poetry in a cultural event including lecture and film about esoteric Islam. Sponsored by Parabola Magazine.

Translations/Adaptations for Stage:

1966-1978	"La Haute Surveillance (The Death Watch)", by Jean Genet. "Oedip, Oedip", translation and adaptation. "Barsissa", adaptation from ancient Persian literature. "Fando and Liz", "The Two Executioners", "Oratorio" by Fernando Arrabal. Translation. "A Tout a l'Heure" by Janin Worms. Translation. "The Watchmaker Taus" by Gelu Naum. Translation. "Rostam and Sohrab" of Ferdowsi. Adaptation. "Sudabeh and Siavash" of Ferdowsi. Adaptation. "Gilgamesh". Adaptation.
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"Ma non é una cosa seria" by Luigi Pirandello.

Translation.

"L'Uomo, la Bestia e la Virtú" by L. Pirandello.

Translation.

"Cecé" by Luigi Pirandello. Translation.

"I Giganti della Montagna" by L. Pirandello.

Translation.

Most of the above plays were published by the Tehran Theatre Workshop Press.

During the period between 1960 and 1978 I have translated and dubbed into Persian more than 150 feature and documentary films in Italy and in Iran.

2) Research in Progress:

1- Study of conceptual similarities between the poetries of Hafez and Rumi.

2- Translation of "Discourses of Shams Tabrizi".

3- Translation of the Luigi Pirandello's Plays, from Italian into Persian.

Service:

Membership in CLS Programs and Events Committees
Since Fall 2008.

TEACHING:

Fall 2009	Visiting Lecturer at Brown University, Center for Language Studies. PRSN 0100, PRSN 0300, PRSN 0500 and PRSN 1200, "Iranian Cinema: Before and After Islamic Revolution".
Spring 2009	Visiting Lecturer at Brown University, Center for Language Studies. PRSN 0200, PRSN 0400 and PRSN 1200, "Iranian Cinema: Before and After Islamic Revolution".
Fall 2008	Visiting Lecturer at Brown University, Center for Language Studies. PRSN 0100 and PRSN 0300.
Summer 2008	Director and instructor of Persian Immersion Program at University of Wisconsin. Intermediate and advanced Persian.
Summer 2007	Director and instructor of Persian Immersion Program at University of Wisconsin. Intermediate and advanced Persian.
Summer 2006	Director and instructor of Persian Immersion Program at University of Wisconsin. Intermediate and advanced Persian.
Spring 2006	Persian instructor, NYU. Middle Eastern and Islamic Studies Department. Intermediate Persian.
Summer 2005	Director and instructor of Persian Immersion Program at University of Wisconsin. Intermediate and advanced Persian.