Hofstra Cultural Center

and the

Departments of Anthropology and Music, and the Asian Studies Program

present

TRADITIONS IN TRANSITION:

Intangible Cultural Heritage in South and Southeast Asia

Symposium

Thursday, November 3, 2016

Multipurpose Room, Sondra and David S. Mack Student Center

North Campus

This symposium unites scholars from the disciplines of anthropology, ethnomusicology, folklore, theater and Asian studies to sacred traditions of South and Southeast Asia. Through the participation in workshops given by scholar-practitioners, performances of a central Javanese Gamelan orchestra, Sundanese rod puppetry theater, Sikh religious hymns, academic lectures, and a one-day installation of an exhibit of puppets, costumes, instruments, and ethnographic photos of healing performances, participants in this symposium gain insight into complex performance forms and explore the paradoxical issues currently facing the traditional arts and their definition as intangible cultural heritage in South and Southeast Asia. UNESCO defines intangible cultural heritage as “the practices, representations, expressions, knowledge, skills — as well as the instruments, objects, artifacts and cultural spaces associated therewith — that communities, groups and, in some cases, individuals recognize as part of their cultural heritage.”

9 a.m. Curatorial Tour of Malay Theater: Intangible Heritage and Islam Curated by Kathy Foley and Patricia Hardwick.

9:35-11 a.m. Visions of the Sacred: Puppet/Mask/Dance-Actor, Character Type and Archetypes in a Southeast Asian Theatre with Kathy Foley Students work with Kathy Foley to explore the characters and performance styles of West and Central Javanese puppetry and dance drama traditions.

11:10 a.m.-12:35 p.m. Academic Discussion of Emotion, Healing, and the Arts

• Timothy Daniels (Hofstra University), Islamic Healing Traditions in Java

• Patricia Hardwick (Hofstra University), Transformative Performance in Malaysian Mak Yong

• Laurie Ross (Independent Scholar), Rasa Aesthetics in a Dynamic World: Flexible Emotions in Indian and Indonesian Arts

• Francesca Cassio (Hofstra University), Intangible Heritage of Sikh Kirtan: Ancient Pedagogy and Modern Strategies of an Oral Tradition

12:45-1:45 p.m. West Javanese Rod Puppet Performance — Sunan Kalijaga: How Islam Came to Java Sundanese Wayang Golek (three-dimensional rod puppet) performance exploring the history of the birth of theater and its role in the spread of Islam in the region as is recounted in the versions of West Java. Featuring dhalang Kathy Foley, accompanied by Undang Sumarna, drum, and the Wesleyan Gamelan Ensemble

1:50-2:10 p.m. Sumarsam Lecture/Demonstration of Wayang Kulit Puppetry


• Sumarsam: Dhalang, Puppeteer (Wesleyan, Yale)

• Gamelan Director: I.M. Harjito (Wesleyan Gamelan and Kusuma Laras, New York)

6:30-7:30 p.m. The Intangible Heritage of Sikh Sacred Music The Helene Fortunoff Theater, Monroe Lecture Center

South Campus

A Sikh kirtan performance by Dr. Francesca Cassio (Sardarni Harbans Kaur Chair in Sikh Musicology, Hofstra University), accompanied by Parminder Singh Bhamra, on jori-pakháwaj and Nirvair Kaur Khalsa, on táus. This concert offers an insight in the performance of Sikh kirtan, a genre of sacred music established in the late 15th century in Northwest India by Guru Nanak, the founder of Sikhism. Dr. Cassio and her accompanists present ancient compositions, as orally transmitted by lineages of professional musicians from the Golden Temple in Amritsar.

Concert sponsored by Hofstra College of Liberal Arts and Sciences and the Sardarni Harbans Kaur Chair in Sikh Musicology.

This event is FREE and open to the public. For more information, please contact the Hofstra Cultural Center at 516-463-5669 or visit hofstra.edu/culture.