

WINDOWS ON THE CULTURAL HERITAGE OF YEMEN

A SYMPOSIUM

OBJECTIVES

Yemen has an extraordinarily long and richly diverse cultural heritage. Through the programs associated with the symposium *Windows on the Cultural Heritage of Yemen* we seek to:

☞ introduce Yemen and its rich culture to the U.S. public through a rich variety of presentations; ☞ give a better understanding of the people and culture of Yemen; ☞ foster and improve existing dialogue, exchange, and cooperation between the United States and Yemen, especially through culture, education, and development programs; ☞ promote joint strategies for preserving and promoting Yemen's cultural heritage.

EUGENE AND AGNES E. MEYER AUDITORIUM, SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION, FREER GALLERY OF ART, INDEPENDENCE AVENUE AT 12TH STREET, SW, WASHINGTON D.C. 20560

PHOTOGRAPHY cover panel: Hervé Champollion; second panel, left to right: Pascal and Maria Maréchaux, Hervé Champollion, Hervé Champollion, Pascal and Maria Maréchaux, Hervé Champollion, and Pascal and Maria Maréchaux.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 5, 2003

9:00 A.M.

Registration for the Symposium and coffee in the courtyard of the Freer Gallery of Art.

10:00

OPENING CEREMONY

Welcoming address by the Director of the Freer Gallery of Art, Dr. Julian Raby.

Welcoming address by H.E. Abdulwahab A. Al-Hajiri, Ambassador of the Republic of Yemen to the United States, introducing H.E. Khalid Al-Rowaishan, the Minister of Culture and Tourism of Yemen.

10:30

Dr. Abdulkarim Al-Iryani (*Senior Advisor to the President of Yemen and Secretary General, GPC, Yemen, and one of the founders of the American Institute for Yemeni Studies*), "Islam and Cultural Heritage."

11:00

BREAK

11:15

Dr. Maria Ellis (*Executive Director of the American Institute for Yemeni Studies*), "AIYS and Cultural Heritage Projects."

11:30

Dr. Selma Al-Radi (*AIYS Board member and Research Associate, Institute of Fine Arts, New York University*), "The Restoration of Al-Amiriyah Mosque and Madrasa in Rada'."

12:00 P.M.

Dr. Ricardo Eichmann (*Director of the Orient Department of the German Archaeological Institute, Berlin*), "Ma'rib and the Queen of Sheba."

12:30

Dr. Yusuf Mohammed Abdullah (*Deputy Minister of Culture*), "Newly-discovered Inscriptions from Mahram Bilqis, Ma'rib."

1:00

LUNCH BREAK

2:30

"Music from the Roof of Arabia," Dr. Jean Lambert (*ethnomusicologist*), introducing Sana'a classical music: Mr. Hassan Al-Ajami playing the lute and Mr. Mohammed Al-Khamisi playing the copper plate (*sahn*).

3:15

Dr. Edward Keall (*Curator of Islamic Art and Archaeology at the Royal Ontario Museum in Toronto*), "A Thousand Years of History in Twenty Years of Investigating the Historic City of Zabid."

3:45

BREAK

4:00

Mr. Abdullah Hadrami (*architect and architectural restoration expert*), "The Walled City of Sana'a."

4:30

Prof. Pamela Jerome (*Columbia University Graduate School of Architecture and Preservation Planning*), "The Palaces of Tarim" Presented with the assistance of James Conlon (*Columbia University's Visual Media Center*).

5:00

The Sacred Cantors of Yemen: Vocal performance by Jamiyat Al-Mounchidin al-Yamaniyine, led by Ali Alaqwah and introduced by Dr. Jean Lambert (*ethnomusicologist*)

5:45

Reception in the courtyard of the Freer Gallery of Art.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 6, 2003

9:00 A.M.

Registration for the Symposium and coffee in the courtyard of the Freer Gallery of Art.

10:00

Ms. Carol Bier, (*Research Associate, The Textile Museum, Washington, D.C.*), "Calligraphy and Cloth: Inscribed Textiles of Yemen at the Time of the Abbasids."

10:30

Mr. Arnaud Maurières, "A Geography of Traditional Dresses and Textiles of Yemen in the 20th Century."

11:00

BREAK

11:15

Ms. Marjorie Ransom (*retired U.S. diplomat and one of the founders of the American Institute for Yemeni Studies*), "Discarded Beauty: Traditional Yemeni Silver Jewelry."

11:45

Ms. Suad Raja (*a Yemeni jewelry designer*), "Sheba Jewelry: Yemeni Inspirations in Contemporary Designs."

12:15

The Sacred Cantors of Yemen: Vocal performance by Jamiyat Al-Mounchidin al-Yamaniyine, led by Ali Alaqwah and introduced by Dr. Jean Lambert (*ethnomusicologist*)

12:30 P.M.

LUNCH BREAK

2:00

Mr. Pascal Maréchaux (*Architect and Photographer, Paris*), "Under the Skies of Yemen: The Relationship between Man and his Environment."

2:30

Ms. Samia Melhem (*Senior Information Technology Officer at the World Bank*), "New Technologies for an Ancient Culture."

2:45

BREAK

3:00

Mr. Abdelwahab Thabet (*Chairman of the Foundation for the Protection of Antiquities and Cultural Heritage, Sana'a*), "The Involvement of the Yemeni Private Sector in Cultural Heritage."

3:15

Concluding remarks by H.E. Edmund Hull, Ambassador of the United States to Yemen.

3:30

Concluding symposium with Yemeni Music: Mr. Hassan Al-Ajami playing the lute and Mr. Mohammed Al-Khamisi playing the copper plate (*sahn*).

The Symposium is **SPONSORED** by the Embassy of Yemen in the U.S.; the Freer Gallery of Art, Smithsonian Institution; the American Institute for Yemeni Studies; the Foundation for the Protection of Antiquities and Cultural Heritage (*Yemen*); the U.S. Embassy in Yemen; and the Royal Netherlands Embassy in Yemen, with **COOPERATION** from the Bead Museum, Washington D.C.; the Center for Contemporary Arab Studies, Georgetown University; the Council of American Overseas Research Centers; the French Embassy in the U.S.; the German Archaeological Institute (*Berlin*); the Textile Museum; Washington World Group International Consultants; and the World Bank InfoShop. **FINANCIAL SUPPORT** is provided by the Government of the Republic of Yemen, the U.S. Department of State, Board members of the Foundation for the Protection of Antiquities and Cultural Heritage (*Sana'a*), Consolidated Contractors International Company SAL, Hunt Oil Company, Occidental Petroleum and Gas Corporation, the Social Fund for Development (*Sana'a*), the World Bank (*Sana'a*), Yemenia Yemen Airlines, and Contrack International.

REGISTRATION FORM

NAME OF REGISTRANT

COMPANY OR ORGANIZATION

MAILING ADDRESS

CITY / STATE / COUNTRY / ZIP CODE

DAYTIME TELEPHONE / FAX

EMAIL

SPECIAL ACCESSIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

There is no fee for the symposium. Registrations will be accepted on a first-come, first-served basis. **ALL REGISTRATION FORMS SHOULD BE RECEIVED NO LATER THAN AUGUST 20, 2003.**

Please check one of the boxes below to show which session(s) you will be attending.
 Friday, September 5th Saturday, September 6th Both days

You may register using the following:

MAIL: complete this postcard or a separate sheet giving the information requested on this postcard, and send it, stamped, to the address on this card; **FAX:** copy form, complete and fax to 202-337-2017; **ONLINE:** access our Web site <http://www.yemenembassy.org/symposium>; **VOICE MAIL:** 1-800-366-4281.

Each registrant must complete a separate form. Please duplicate this form as needed. If you receive more than one copy of this invitation, please pass it on to a friend.

For further information about the Symposium and about related off-site events see <http://www.yemenembassy.org/symposium> or <http://www.aiys.org/YemenSymposium.html>

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