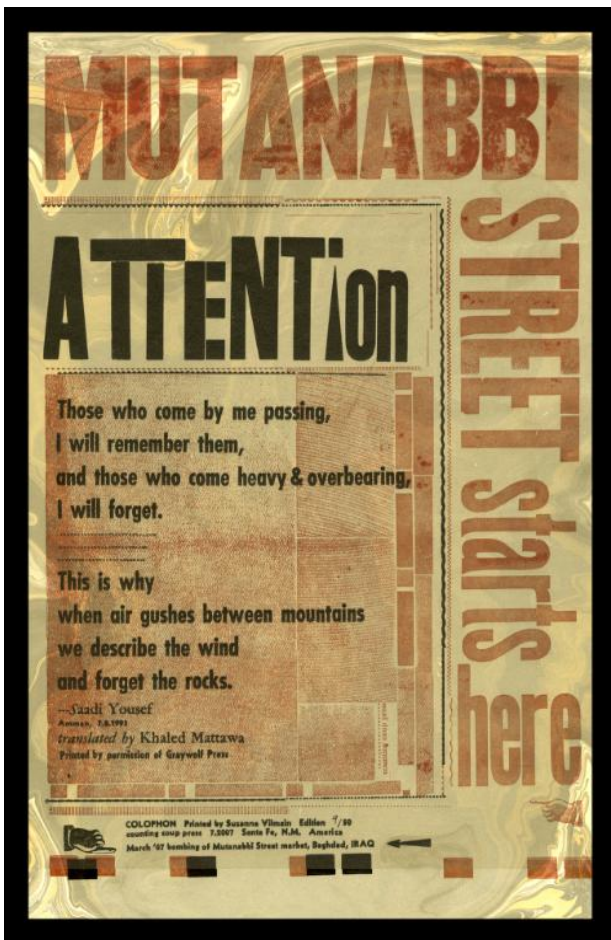


March 5, 2007: A car bomb exploded on Mutanabbi Street in Baghdad, killing and injuring more than 130 people. The historic center of Baghdad bookselling, literary, & intellectual community for hundreds of years was left devastated.

The Al-Mutanabbi Street Coalition has been organizing readings and other events since April 2007. Over 130 letterpress printers & poets have contributed broadsides that speak to the necessity of intellectual freedom and the enduring power of art & poetry.

A silent auction of a selection of the broadsides (starting at \$75) will benefit the work of Doctors Without Borders (MSF).



Poem by Saadi Yousef, Print by Suzanne Vilmain

Q: Casey Smith at csmith@corcoran.org
<http://www.bookarts.uwe.ac.uk/mutan209.htm>

Civilian Art Projects 1019 7th St, NW, DC Wednesday, March 10 7:30 pm

FEATURED READERS

- **AZAR NAFISI** is best known for *Reading Lolita in Tehran: A Memoir in Books*. She is currently a Visiting Professor and Director of Cultural Conversations at the Foreign Policy Institute of Johns Hopkins' School of Advanced International Studies. Her most recent book is *Things I've Been Silent About*.
- **PERSIS M. KARIM** is a contributing poet and editor of *Let Me Tell You Where I've Been: New Writing by Women of the Iranian Diaspora*, and co-editor of *A World Between: Poems, Short Stories and Essays by Iranian-Americans*.
- **ZAID SHLAH** was awarded the American Academy of Poets Award in 2005. His collection *Taqsim*, is currently in its second printing (Frontenac House, 2006). Most recently, his poetry has appeared in *Inclined to Speak: Arab American Poetry*.
- **SHOLEH WOLPE** is the author of two collections of poetry, *Rooftops of Tehran* and *The Scar Saloon*, a book of translations, *Sin—Selected Poems of Forugh Farrokhzad*, a play, *Shame*, and a poetry/music CD. She is the associate editor of *Tablet & Pen: Literary Landscapes from the Modern Middle East* (Norton 2010).
- **FRANK SMYTH** is the Washington representative for the Committee to Protect Journalists. His articles and opinion pieces have appeared in *The Village Voice*, *The New Republic*, *The Washington Post*, *The Wall Street Journal*, *The New York Times*, *Foreign Affairs* and many other newspapers, magazines, and journals.

Students from the Corcoran College of Art + Design will read excerpts from the project's forthcoming anthology.

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