

The Muslim Protagonist

art as protest

Columbia University's third annual symposium of Muslim and minority writers, artists and scholars on literature and art as agents of social, intellectual and spiritual change — hosted by the Columbia Muslim Students Association and its student allies in the pursuit of challenging and reimagining protagonists and their narratives.



Fri
2.27

Performances & Open Mic

Broadway Room, 2nd Floor Lerner Hall | 115th & Broadway

7:00 PM

DOORS OPEN

7:15 PM

Speaker Performances

Michael Muhammad Knight
Bushra Rehman
Sohail Daultazai
Dana Dajani

8:15 PM

Columbia University Dabke

8:30 PM

Open Mic

10:30 PM

DOORS CLOSE

Sat
2.28

Symposium

Altschul Auditorium, 417 International Affairs Building, SIPA | 117th & Amsterdam

9:30 AM

DOORS OPEN

Light breakfast, beverages

10:00 AM

Opening Remarks

Doors close
Qur'an recitation: Yours Shaltout
Welcome from The Muslim Protagonist Committee: Sauleha Kamal

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- 10:30 AM **Narrative in Action**
Amy Goodman
- 11:00 AM **Muslims in the Black Arts Movement: Then & Now**
Su'ad Abdul Khabeer & Rashidah Abubakr
- 11:45 AM **Hip Hop & Protest**
Su'ad Abdul Khabeer, Sohail Daulatzai, Youssef Kromah, & Heems
- 12:45 PM **MIDDAY BREAK**
Remarks from the Office of the University Chaplain
Dhuhr (12:22 PM)
Lunch (free of charge)
Books sold by McNally Jackson, signings begin
- 2:00 PM **Between Fiction & Non-Fiction**
Part I: Haris Durrani moderates Michael Muhammad Knight & Sahar Ullah
Part II: Sauleha Kamal moderates Susan Abulhawa & Mohsin Hamid
- 3:45 PM **AFTERNOON BREAK**
Asr (4:02 PM)
Snacks, beverages
Book signings continue
- 4:20 PM **Narratives of Muslim Women**
Sahar Ullah moderates Bushra Rehman, Nzinga Knight & Dana Dajani
- 5:20 PM **Art & Literature as Catalysts for Social Change**
Chris Emdin moderates Sohail Daulatzai, Justin Mashouf & Bushra Rehman
- 6:15 PM **Concluding Remarks**
The Muslim Protagonist Committee
- 6:20 PM **EVENING BREAK**
Maghrib (6:02 PM)
Snacks, beverages
Book signings continue
- 8:00 PM **DOORS CLOSE**

**Sun
3.1**

Seminars & Workshops

Barnard Hall | 117th & Broadway

RSVP required – email protagsponsors@gmail.com to do so.

10:00 AM Michael Muhammad Knight

11:00 AM Sohail Daulatzai: On Chapel Hill

12:00 PM Coming of Faith Part I – Pitch Perfect: The Written Edition

Laila Alawa & Najira Ahmed

Being able to write and be heard by mainstream media outlets is integral for ethnic and faith minority communities - but many times, the chance to pitch is shrouded in misinformation and mystery. Unsure of whether you have authority to write? Getting ready to approach the media but nervous about what to say? Worried if your pitch is right for the publications you're approaching? This hands-on workshop will take you through the steps of identifying your voice, figuring out how to pitch and tailor your words for the right publication. Along the way, we'll talk about what most annoys editors, how to avoid that, what to write in order to grab attention, and how to follow up with those you're trying to be placed with. You'll leave with the tools to get your voice and story out there, and it'll be (almost) painless.

1:00 PM Coming of Faith Part II – Writing My Revolution

Najira Ahmed & Rubayya Hoque

Exploring the relationship between self and revolution (because there is no doubt now, the revolution is happening), this workshop offers a number of techniques to writers developing or experimenting with voice. Particularly, we seek a voice that engages the theme of social change, engages other voices having the same conversation, and understands shared and unique experiences. Participants will leave knowing the power of interpretive transformation and the experience of having begun by applying it where it must first be applied - to the self.

2:00 PM Muslim Writers Workshop – Free Write Workshops

Journalism: Juli Chiaet

Haris Durrani: Literary Fiction

Shahana Hanif: First Person Narratives

Each session will be 30 minutes, consisting of 20 minutes of free writing guided by a prompt and 10 minutes of discussion. The last 30 minutes will be open for broad discussion.

4:00 PM DOORS CLOSE