



Middle East Studies Center-Lecture Series, 2009-2010

What is Middle Eastern Cinema?

Dr. Hamid Dabashi

*Hagop Kervorkian Professor of Iranian Studies and
Comparative Literature, Columbia University*

Time: 2:00 PM

Friday, February 5th, 2010

GC 243 (Graham Center)

Modesto A. Maidique Campus



Hamid Dabashi received a dual Ph.D. in Sociology of Culture and Islamic Studies from the University of Pennsylvania in 1984, followed by a postdoctoral fellowship at Harvard University. He is the Hagop Kevorkian Professor of Iranian Studies and Comparative Literature at Columbia University in New York, the oldest and most prestigious Chair in Iranian Studies. He has also taught and delivered lectures in many North American, European, Arab and Iranian universities.

Professor Dabashi has written 16 books, edited 4, and contributed chapters to many more. He is also the author of over 100 essays, articles and book reviews

in major scholarly and peer reviewed journals on subjects ranging from Iranian Studies, medieval and modern Islam, comparative literature, world cinema, and the philosophy of art (trans-aesthetics). An internationally renowned cultural critic and award-winning author, his books and articles have been translated into numerous languages, including Japanese, German, French, Spanish, Danish, Russian, Hebrew, Italian, Arabic, Korean, Persian, Portuguese, Polish, Turkish, Urdu and Catalan.

Among his best-known books are his *Authority in Islam; Theology of Discontent; Truth and Narrative; Close Up: Iranian Cinema, Past, Present, Future; Staging a Revolution: The Art of Persuasion in the Islamic Republic of Iran; Masters and Masterpieces of Iranian Cinema; Iran: A People Interrupted*, and an edited volume, *Dreams of a Nation: On Palestinian Cinema*. His most recent work includes an Introduction to the Random House Modern Library edition of *The Adventures of Amir Hamza* as well as a book, *Makhmalbaf at Large: The Making of a Rebel Filmmaker* (I. B. Tauris, 2007) and *Islamic Liberation Theology: Resisting the Empire* (Routledge, 2008).