



IN PARTNERSHIP WITH



ColumbusPublicArt2012

Presents:

ROYA HAKAKIAN

Journey from the Land of No:
A Girlhood Caught in Revolutionary Iran

APRIL 9, 2013

11:30–12:30 P.M.
RILEY AUDITORIUM AT
OTTERBEIN UNIVERSITY

6:30–7:30 P.M.
COURTRIGHT MEMORIAL
LIBRARY AT OTTERBEIN
UNIVERSITY

Otterbein's Humanities programming began in 1984 when we were one of thirteen colleges and universities, nationwide, to receive a 1984 Challenge Grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH). Our Humanities Advisory Committee (HAC) allocates the income from this endowment to supporting activities and publications in the area of humanities through classes, speakers, awards, and more. Roya Hakakian's visit is made possible in large part by this generous endowment.

PRESENTING

Roya Hakakian

ROYA HAKAKIAN—poet, writer, producer, and human rights activist—is a fellow at the Whitney Humanities Center, Yale University, and the author, most recently, of *Assassins of the Turquoise Palace*, a study of the 1992 Mykonos killings of Iranian dissidents in Berlin. She is a founding member of the Iran Human Rights Documentation Center and serves on the board of Refugees International. She is a contributor to the *Persian Literary Review* and the weekend edition of *All Things Considered*. Her op-eds, essays, and reviews have appeared in the *New York Times*, *Washington Post*, and *Wall Street Journal*. Her memoir of growing up a Jewish teenager in post-revolutionary Iran, *Journey from the Land of No: A Girlhood Caught in Revolutionary Iran*, was *Publishers Weekly's* Best Book of the Year and *Elle* magazine's Best Nonfiction Book of 2004. She is also a recipient of the 2008 Guggenheim fellowship in nonfiction. Born and raised in a Jewish family in Tehran, Hakakian came to the United States in 1985 on political asylum.



ROYA HAKAKIAN'S visit is part of a community conversation sparked by artist Jon Rubin's temporary work *The Time and The Temperature*, which is installed in downtown Columbus as part of *Finding Time: ColumbusPublicArt2012*. The work simply displays the current time and temperature of Tehran, Iran, allowing numerous interpretations about the artist's intent and, ultimately, connecting us to the reality of life in a country whose name often ignites controversy in the U.S.

For more information about Ms. Hakakian, see royahakakian.com.



ColumbusPublicArt2012

“*Finding Time: ColumbusPublicArt2012* speaks volumes about the importance, value and potential of public spaces to connect and elevate Columbus, us, others and new ideas when viewed through the aesthetic vision of artists. This is a shining example of how all the arts can play a prominent role.”

—Barbara Nicholson

COLUMBUS ART COMMISSION

Finding Time: ColumbusPublicArt2012 is a temporary public art project that explores the physical and philosophical measurement of time. More than 50 artists are represented in the thirteen projects that comprise the *Finding Time* program. The works range from the familiar—sculpture, drawing, and painting—to forms that may raise eyebrows or cause viewers to wonder, “Why is this art?” Public art need not be relegated to decoration: some projects are readily understood; others inspire wonder and raise questions. They require reflection—and time—to be appreciated.

Finding Time was conceived in conjunction with the celebration of the city’s bicentennial. Several projects have come and gone, many remain on view, and some, such as Jon Rubin’s *The Time and The Temperature*, are being realized in 2013. For complete information about the program, visit **ColumbusPublicArt.com**.



JON RUBIN
The Time and The Temperature

PHOTOGRAPH:
Malcolm Cochran

Jon Rubin

The Time and The Temperature

JON RUBIN responded directly to the curatorial premise that *Finding Time* presented to participating artists: to make "...the City of Columbus aware of the passing of time, the use of time, measurement of time, the chronology of a life, world time, and the notion of temporality and permanent."

His project consists of a custom-made sign, similar to ones commonly seen in front of businesses, churches, and schools throughout the U.S. that give the exact time and temperature of the location where they are installed. Rubin's sign, however, tells the current time and temperature in Tehran, Iran—a city that is geographically distant, yet is in our news on a daily basis.

The Time and The Temperature presents a moment in the city where the space between here and there is collapsed and the citizens of Columbus can temporarily project themselves into a foreign place and circumstance.

Throughout the run of the project, there will be open public forums with cultural, religious, academic, and political leaders discussing some of the complicated issues at stake in U.S. and Iranian relations.

Corner of South Lazelle & East
Broad streets

January–June 2013



ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Otterbein University

Humanities Advisory Committee

Courtright Memorial Library

Department of Modern Languages
& Cultures

Friends of the Courtright
Memorial Library

Graduate School

Integrative Studies Program

Otterbein Bookstore

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Professor Shirine Mafi

Diane Nance,
Director of Sponsored Programs

Finding Time: ColumbusPublicArt2012

Malcolm Cochran

Columbus Council on World Affairs
