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inspired for life



Multi-Faith Centre

The Multi-Faith Centre and all co-sponsoring organizations
cordially invite you to a

Celebration of the UNESCO-declared International Year of Rumi in 2007

to commemorate the 800th anniversary of Rumi's birth.

August 21st, 7:15 - 9:30 p.m.

Multi-Faith Centre, Griffith University, Nathan campus

The renowned 13th century Sufi poet and mystic, Rumi has inspired countless peoples across diverse cultures and faiths to build a peaceful world based on mutual respect, understanding and harmony. The celebration will feature a documentary film entitled:

Rumi - Turning Ecstatic

Producer: Tina Petrova, film maker & peace advocate



The 50-minute film includes readings from Rumi's poetry; interviews with leading translators of Rumi's poetry; and scenes of the Mevlana whirling dervishes.

Panel of commentators:

Arsalan Mozaffari Falarti, Nermatollahi Sufi Order (G.A.S.), Brisbane Assoc. Prof. Julia Howell, Griffith Asia Institute, Griffith University

Open forum

Refreshments will be served.

Sponsorship by more organizations and institutions (TBC)

Please RSVP by August 17 to 3735-7052 or mfc@Griffith.edu.au

Free parking after 7:00 pm on Nathan campus.

For MFC location (Bldg. N35), see map at <http://www.griffith.edu.au/ofm/parking/>

Mevlana Jelalludin Rumi

Source: Vision TV (Canada) <http://visiontv.ca/Programs/documentaries_rumi.html>

"Mevlana Jelalludin Rumi was born in 1207 in what is now Afghanistan. His father, Bahauddin Walad, was a renowned scholar. Threatened by European crusaders and the Mongol forces of Genghis Khan, the family fled to the relative safety of Konya, in central Turkey. Rumi became a popular scholar and teacher, but his life was transformed by an encounter with the wild monk Shams of Tabriz, who introduced him to the ways of Sufi mysticism. It was the death of Shams that sparked his pupil's great literary outpouring: when Rumi heard the news, it is said, he began whirling around a pillar in grief, ecstatic poetry pouring from his lips.

Rumi's most significant writings are the seven-volume Divan i Shams, and the Mathnawi, a work of six volumes that is considered today a landmark of Middle Eastern literature, second in importance only to the Qur'an. Rumi also founded the Mevlevi Sufi order, whose members (sometimes referred to as "Whirling Dervishes") use music and dance as part of their spiritual practice.

The order flourishes to this day under the leadership of Shaikh Kabir Helminski. So admired was Rumi that Muslims, Christians, Hindus, Jews and Buddhists all mourned his passing in 1273. The date of his death, December 17, came to be known as his "wedding night" - the occasion of his long awaited union with "the Beloved" (Rumi's inclusive word for God). Rumi's Mathnawi is recited to this day in homes and chai houses all over the Middle East, Central Asia and India, and volumes of his poetry can be found in bookstores around the world. The ecstatic free-form translations by American author Coleman Barks (The Essential Rumi, The Illuminated Rumi) have sold more than 500,000 copies. "

Film - Rumi: Turning Ecstatic

Source: <http://www.rumi-turningecstatic.com/about.html>

A Voice of Peace from Within Islam..." A Voice of Peace from Within Islam..." Mevlana Jelalludin Rumi was a 13th C. Mystic and Poet.

In the West, he has outsold Shakespeare in the English language for 2 decades, becoming the best loved poet in America today.

Canadian filmmaker Tina Petrova shares her extraordinary encounter with Rumi (a true story) as she leads us on a road trip of discovery across America to the shifting sands of the Middle East - seeking out scholars who animate his works in the world today. Featured are: UN award winning architect Nader Khalili, who builds emergency shelters in the Mohave Desert, the world's most popular translator of Rumi - Coleman Barks, activist and author Andrew Harvey, the hypnotic spin of the Whirling Dervishes of Turkey and Shaikh Kabir Helminski, who heads up Rumi's spiritual order today.

To both the initiated and uninitiated alike, Rumi -Turning Ecstatic propels the viewer deep into the heart of Sufi mysticism, with thought provoking and informative interviews, stunning stock footage from around the globe and a haunting soundtrack of ecstatic Sufi Music

Rumi: Turning Ecstatic was written and directed by Stephen Roloff and Tina Petrova. The film was produced by Visionary Media Inc. in association with Radiant Media Inc. and VisionTV. Alberta Nokes was the Executive Producer for VisionTV.....