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Contact: Marilyn Wilkes (203) 432-3413

marilyn.wilkes@yale.edu

Dorie Baker 203-432-8553 dorie.baker@yale.edu

Discussion of Modern Pakastani Art and Politics to Take Place at Yale

October 11, 2005. New Haven, CT The South Asian Studies Council at the Yale Center for International and Area Studies will host a panel discussion on art and politics in contemporary Pakistan on October 19, 4-6 p.m. at Linsly-Chittenden Hall, 63 High St., Room 102.

Titled "Aesthetics & Politics-Reflections on Image, Power and Modern Pakistan," the event will include a presentation of artwork by the contributing artists and curators of a related exhibition currently at The Aldrich Contemporary Art Museum in Ridgefield, Connecticut, followed by a brief presentation on modern Islamic art by Mahnaz Anwar Fancy, director of Arts of the Islamic World at The New School in New York, and Faisal Devji, also of The New School. A roundtable discussion chaired by Yale professor of history Abbas Amanat will include these panelists also from Yale: Veronique Benei, Shameem Black, Jonathan Katz, Courtney Martin, Dhooleka Sarhadi Raj, Emilie Townes, Farzin Vahdat and Laura Wexler; as well as Devji; Kishwar Rizvi, Barnard College; and Naveeda Khan, Johns Hopkins University. This event is free and open to the public.

"The panel will be a lively, interdisciplinary approach to the subject," said Raj, who is associate chair of the South Asian Studies Council. "Pakistani culture has never been more relevant to modern politics; the panelists will help identify what emerging creative voices can tell us about Pakistan."

The event is the last of three public panels that will consider recent art, writing and film in contemporary Pakistani culture and its political context. The other two panels will take place on October 11, at 8 p.m., at The New School in New York and October 16, at 2 p.m. at The Aldrich Contemporary Museum in Ridgefield, Connecticut. Art AsiaPacific is the media sponsor for all three panels.

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