

## Everyday Writers in the Middle East and Asia

Whether an Uzbek author living during the time of Soviet collapse or a poetess in today's Egypt, everyday experiences loom large over the oeuvre of writers, shaping their perceptions, prospects for work, and reception in society. In this series, we meet writers from the Middle East and Asia to discover how the social, economic, and political conditions of everyday life came to not only shape their literary outlook but their own hopes, desires, fears, and worries as well as that of society at-large.

### AUTUMN SCHEDULE

**Wednesday September 14 (7PM)**

**Sarah Rauchfuss:**

**“Storyteller of Old Kabul” - The improbable career of Akram Usman (1937 – 2016)**

Akram Osman spent more than half a century of his life writing short stories and novels, inspired by the everyday life in Kabul. His texts are widely known in Afghanistan and continue to circulate there till today. How did Akram Usman manage to continue writing throughout the political upheavals of the last decades? How did the different political settings affect his depiction of the everyday life? These are the two central questions of this introductory illustration of Akram Usman's life and work.

**This event will take place at Božská Lahvice,  
Bílková 122/6 - 110 00 Praha 1 - Josefov**

**Wednesday October 19 (7PM)**

**Pavel Hons: Od elitářství ke každodennosti: příběh současné tamilské literatury**

Přednáška mapuje vývoj tamilské literatury v posledních zhruba padesáti letech. Všímá si, jak se proměnil její jazyk, obsah, forma, účel, rozšiřování a autorství.

**This event will take place at Božská Lahvice,  
Bílková 122/6 - 110 00 Praha 1 - Josefov**

**Friday November 4 (7PM)**

**Author Roundtable: Being a Writer in late Soviet Uzbekistan.**

Born in Kyrgyzstan in 1954, **Hamid Ismailov** is an Uzbek writer who was forced to flee Uzbekistan in 1992. He has published several books in Uzbek and in Russian, many of them are translated into English and other languages. His works are banned in Uzbekistan. Host: Thomas Loy, Research Fellow at the Oriental Institute. (In English)

**This event will take place at  
the Academy of Sciences, main building, Narodni 3, Room 206**

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