

Center for Global Islamic Studies

Faculty Grant Research Lecture Series

The Influence of Arab Music in Contemporary Composition



Tuesday, March 13, 2012

4:15 PM

Zoellner Arts Center, Room 145

Arab music has a long and complex history, with deep traditions and musical form. For centuries it has developed largely independent from European traditions, and Arab influences in European music were mainly symbolic. But more recent composers have attempted to merge the two traditions into a new and unique form of writing. This lecture looks at some of the musical works being written in this style, with a detailed analysis of the newly commissioned work “Fantasia on lama bada yatathama” by Lehigh composer Steven Sametz.

Timothy Schwarz is currently Head of the String Program and Professor of Practice at Lehigh University, and serves as the Music Director of the Wilmington Community Orchestra (Delaware). He holds degrees from Temple University, the Peabody Conservatory, and the Cincinnati College-Conservatory of Music.

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