

## GASTVORTRAG

09.12.2014

Orientalisches Seminar der UzK, R. 317, 10:00 - 11:30 Uhr

### **Azadeh Ganjeh: “Beyond Body Boundaries. Performing inside an Islamic frame”**

Persia had been under Islamic dominations since 651. Today the country that is remained from the core of ancient Persia is Islamic Republic of Iran and Islam is the religion of 98% of Iranians. The **Iranian Revolution** in 1979 transformed Iran from a secular monarchy to an Islamic republic based on the doctrine of Islam. The government is run in accordance with traditional Islamic *sharia* and this discipline surely affects the performance of Art and specifically theater in Iran. What are the circumstances of performing in this religious frame and what happens to classical performance elements? How does creativity respond to boundaries?

“Unpermitted Whispers” written and directed by *Azadeh Ganjeh* is a recent site-specific theater production that has been performed in a Taxi in down town streets of Tehran. With watching footage of this production and discussing the backstage facts of it, we try to take a gasp into the different world of theater in contemporary Iran.

**Azadeh Ganjeh** is a translator, playwright, director and Theater Scholar born on 1983 in Tehran (Iran). She is currently a Theater studies PhD candidate in University of Berne (Switzerland). Her special interest in theater for development, Social Theater and Women rights lead to achieving several national and international prizes for her site-specific theater Productions. She is specialized in Iranian Theater History and because of her interest in Cultural mobility topic she is writing her dissertation on Performing Hamlet in Modern Iran (1900-2012); effects of major Iranian revolutions on performing Hamlet. After receiving her Master in Civil Engineering in Isfahan University, She earned a Theater directing M.A degree from Tehran Art University. She teaches directing workshops with concentration on Environmental Theater and Interactive Theater as well as theater therapy workshops for Afghan immigrant children in Iran. She is a member of Iranian Theater directors’ forum as well as the international Society for Iranian Studies (ISIS).