By Jyotirmoy Datta

Muslim Voices: Arts & Ideas

New York to host 10-day, multi-venue, many-gender arts fest

Asia Society's Lila Acheson Wallace Auditorium - Acclaimed Pakistan singer Faiz Ali Faiz and his Ensemble will be featured in Qawwal Gospel Creation, Saturday, June 13 at 9:30 p.m. at BAM Harvey Theater. (Photo as it appears on the page)

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Asia Society was brought in as a partner for its Arts, and beyond. 'Muslim Voices: Arts & Ideas' originated in Asia Society, Brooklyns' Brooklyn Academy of Music (BAM) and New York University Center for Dialogues unveiled an unprecedented 10-day, multi-venue, many-gender arts festival, 'Muslim Voices: Arts & Ideas.'

Set for this summer, June 5-14, the festival celebrates the extraordinary range of artistic expressions throughout the Muslim world, including India and Afghanistan.

One of the highlights of the festival will be a revival of the lost art of Urdu storytelling, Dhaniya: The Adventures of Amir Hamza, which has supported this complex and worthwhile endeavor.

Dialogues would like to thank the many donors who have supported this effort. Most non-Muslim Americans have very limited exposure to -- and even misconceptions about -- Islam, the world's second-largest religion.

More than 100 artists and speakers from as far away as South Asia, the Middle East, and Africa and as near as Brooklyn, will gather for performances, films, exhibitions, talks, and other events, ranging from the traditional (calligraphy, storytelling) to the contemporary (video installations and Arabic hip-hop).

In addition to the mainstream offerings and complementary education and humanities events from Asia Society, BAM, and NYU Center for Dialogues, programs associated with the 'Muslim Voices: Arts & Ideas' festival will take place at locations including: Austrian Cultural Forum, Asia Society's Center for McCracken, and BAM's Howard Gilman Opera House.

The Metropolitan Museum of Art, and The New York Public Library.

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