

Society for History & Graphics + AIGA/Baltimore

Friday, March 27, 7:00pm - 9:00pm

Towson University / Center for the Arts Gallery
(Osler Drive & Cross Campus Drive / Towson)

Free parking off Osler Drive adjacent to Center's main entrance.



Join SHAG and AIGA/Baltimore for a special viewing **beneath the surface: poster exhibition from Iran** led by curator Nahid Tootoonchi

To create a dialog among artists, Assistant Professor Tootoonchi will provide commentary and insights into contemporary Iranian graphic design while elaborating on the posters in this exhibition. Questions and discussion during the curator's talk are encouraged.

Posters have long been the primary medium in which Iranian designers work, and these works have attracted international recognition during the past ten years. Most of that attention has focused on the content of the posters as it often overtly addresses social issues, politics, the environment, and education, and as it clearly reflects the influence of movies, concerts, and other areas of the arts. Few international critics have acknowledged that although this new generation of Iranian designers demonstrates exposure to modern international concepts of design and to contemporary concerns about issues of our time, their design is often grounded in the ancient history of Iran. These modern designers readily borrow the signs, symbols, media, and literature of the past as a language in which to communicate with the present, and their posters can challenge the beliefs and conventions of our day via references to the calligraphy, typography, and other artifacts of their Iranian heritage.