

Global tribute to Hafez:

Armenia, Iran to commemorate Persian poet



Arts & Culture Desk

A series of events will be held in both Armenia and Iran to mark the occasion of Hafez Shirazi's commemoration day (October 11).

The Cultural Center of Iranian Embassy in Armenia and the Oriental Studies Faculty of Yerevan State University are organizing a joint event, while various programs are also being held across Iran to celebrate Hafez contributions to Persian culture, IRNA reported.

According to ICRO, the main objective of these events is to honor Hafez legacy, explore the depth of his impact on Persian literature and Islamic civilization, and promote a deeper understanding of Iran's rich culture among literature enthusiasts in both countries.

In Armenia, the literary and cultural event will take place on Friday, October 11, at the Oriental Studies Faculty of Yerevan State University. Iranian and Armenian scholars and professors of Persian language will deliver speeches and analyze various aspects of Hafez personality and works. Students of

Persian language from Armenian and Greek universities will also perform traditional music and recite Hafez poems in Persian and Armenian.

In addition, in Iran, various programs are being held to celebrate Hafez contributions to Persian culture. A play titled "Lisān al-Ghayb" will be performed at the Hafez Tomb in Shiraz, while a symphony concert will be held at the newly renovated Hafez Hall, marking its official reopening. Several musical tributes are also planned, including the release of an album titled "Khalvat-Neshin," featuring compositions inspired by Hafez poems. A new board game, "Rendoo," will be unveiled, aiming to introduce children to the poet's works in a fun and educational way.

Academic sessions will be held at the Tomb of Hafez, where scholars will explore the topic "Hafez in the Geographical Landscape of Iran." International academic sessions will also be held virtually in collaboration with universities in Japan, Italy, Turkey, the UAE, and Australia, highlighting Hafez enduring global influence.

IDFA festival to feature films by Kiarostami, other Iranian directors



Iranian cinema will be well-represented at the 37th International Documentary Film Festival Amsterdam (IDFA), with Abbas Kiarostami's critically acclaimed film 'Close-Up' screening as part of the festival's "Top 10" section. The film, released in 1990, tells the true story of a man who imperson-

ates a famous Iranian filmmaker and inserts himself into a family's life under the pretext of making a movie.

Joining 'Close-Up' in the festival lineup are three other Iranian films: 'Home' by Elahe Esmaeili, 'My Stolen Planet' by Farahnaz Sharifi, and 'A Sisters' Tale' by Leila Amini, all of which will be showcased in the "Best of Festivals" section.

Kiarostami discovered the story through a 1989 article in the Soroush magazine and went on to create his own narrative around the events.

'Close-Up' has consistently ranked among the greatest films of all time, often placing within the top 20 in the British Film Institute's list of the 100 greatest films of all time.

Iranian-Belgian film 'Nigeria' to compete in German, American festivals

The Iranian-Belgian short film 'Nigeria' directed by Sabah Gavili will compete in two international film festivals in Germany and the United States.

The short film will be screened at the 14th Kurdish Film Festival in Berlin, Germany, and the 8th Kurdish Film Festival in New York, USA, Mehr News Agency reported.

The Kurdish Film Festival in Berlin, established in 2002, has grown to become a prominent cultural event in the city, showcasing films by Kurdish directors from around the world, including those from the diaspora community. The festival has gained recognition not only among Kurdish communities but also among film enthusiasts and the general public in Berlin. This year's festival will take place from October 9 to 15, 2024.

The New York Kurdish Film Festival, founded in 2017, aims to promote and showcase Kurdish participation in visual and performing arts, cinema, and literature. The festival creates a platform for



Kurdish artists to share their work with a broader audience, fostering connections between Kurdish and non-Kurdish communities. The festival prides itself on being a discrimination-free zone, where everyone can engage in a safe and inclusive environment. The 8th edition of the

festival will run from October 12 to 19, 2024.

'Nigeria' tells the story of two young delinquents who commit murder during a robbery. A street vendor witnesses the crime, setting off a chain of events that unfolds in the film.

Kish Island hosts Int'l expo of sustainable cities, fostering tourism, cultural exchange

Social Desk

The 2nd International Exhibition of Sustainable Cities kicked off at the Kish International Exhibition Center on Kish Island, a popular tourist destination in the Persian Gulf.

The four-day event, running from October 8 to 11, brings together municipalities, government agencies, and private companies from across Iran to showcase the latest innovations and best practices in sustainable urban development.

Organized by the Tehran Munic-

ipality's Social and Cultural Affairs Department, the exhibition aims to promote sustainable tourism, urban management, smart cities, green energy, and eco-friendly infrastructure.

The event provides a platform for city officials, experts, and industry leaders to share knowledge, experiences, and ideas on creating livable and sustainable cities.

Aqil Tohidian, Head of Public Relations at the Tehran Municipality's Social and Cultural Affairs Department, highlighted the significance of the exhibition in



enhancing the quality of life in cities.

"The primary goal of this exhibition is to develop the sustainable city market and promote effective interaction with urban elites, leveraging the existing capacities in various urban areas, including cultural and social capacities, and utilizing the experiences of successful sustainable cities," he stated.

The exhibition features various sections, including sustainable tourism, urban management, smart cities, green energy, eco-friendly transportation,

environmental conservation, sustainable buildings, and innovative technologies.

Tehran Municipality is participating in the exhibition with four deputy mayor offices and several organizations, presenting their accomplishments in various fields. The municipality's Social and Cultural Affairs Department is also promoting its services in developing cultural spaces, introducing the Tehran Tourism Office's services, and showcasing the capabilities of the iconic Milad Tower, a major tourist attraction in Tehran.