

For Immediate Release



Upcoming events at the American University of Beirut

Beirut, Lebanon- 22/03/2013 - The American University of Beirut will be organizing the following events in the coming days:

- **Lecture: ‘The Role of Civil Society in a Weak Arab State: Analyzing the *Mujtama Ahli* and *Mujtama Madani* in Lebanon’**

The Department of Political Studies and Public Administration at the American University of Beirut is organizing a lecture entitled: “The Role of Civil Society in a Weak Arab State: Analyzing the *Mujtama Ahli* and *Mujtama Madani* in Lebanon”, by Tania Haddad on Tuesday, March 26, 2013 at 2:00 pm in College Hall, Room 310.

This lecture will trace the historical development of Lebanese civil society and the extent to which civil society can affect public policy process within the Lebanese state. The presentation begins with an analysis of the relationship between the Arabic language and contemporary understandings of civil society in the Arab world, which can be categorized as the *Mujtama Ahli* and the *Mujtama Madani*. Building upon this analysis, part two will trace the role of the *Mujtama Ahli* in Lebanon. In doing so, this part argues that the *Mujtama Ahli* has become the most effective and efficient service provider in Lebanon. Part three will then trace the role of the “*Mujtama Madani*,” as a set of actors that seek to influence the public policy-making process in Lebanon. The presentation concludes with recommendations on how civil society might better impact the development and implementation of public policy in Lebanon.

A faculty candidate for the Department of Political Studies and Public Administration, Tania Haddad is a part-time lecturer at the American University of Beirut and Notre Dame University in Lebanon. Her teaching expertise and research interests include civil society, nonprofit management and the role of public policy in a globalized society. Haddad earned her PhD from LUISS University in 2012. During her PhD studies, she was a visiting scholar at the center for Civil Society at Johns Hopkins University.

- **Book launch and panel discussion: ‘Torture: A Sociology of Violence and Human Rights’**

The Issam Fares Institute for Public Policy and International Affairs at the American University of Beirut is holding a book launch and a panel discussion entitled: “Torture: A Sociology of Violence and Human Rights” with Lisa Hajjar on Tuesday, March 26, 2013 at 5:00pm in West Hall, Auditorium A.

Lisa Hajjar is a Visiting Associate Professor from the University of California - Santa Barbara. She is teaching Sociology of Human Rights, in which students will discuss the social and political pressures that led to the creation of human rights, global human rights activism, and the relationships between rights and war and law. She is also teaching "Law, Politics, and the US."

"War on Terror", which will focus on the legal and political implications of policies instituted by the Bush and Obama administrations, specifically in regards to torture, targeted killing, military occupation, and litigation that challenges the government's treatment of prisoners.

The panel discussion will be moderated by Patrick McGreevy, dean of the Faculty of Arts and Sciences at AUB.

Interlocutors include Jasbir Puar, Edward Said Chair of American Studies (Fall & Spring 2012-2013) at AUB, Associate Professor of Women's and Gender Studies at Rutgers University, Elena Glasberg, visiting lecturer (fall and spring 2012-2013) from the Writing Program at NYU, is teaching CASAR's Introduction to American Studies, Omar Dewachi, assistant professor at the Faculty of Health Sciences at AUB, Fateh Azzam, IFI Scholar in Residence at AUB, France Winddance Twine, professor of sociology at the University of California.

Note: Lecture will be in English

- **Concert: 'Duo concert by Mike Turnbull and Reinhold Westerheide'**

Kulturzentrum German Cultural Center is organizing a Duo concert by Mike Turnbull (Percussions) and Reinhold Westerheide (Guitar) on Tuesday, March 26, 2013, at 8:00 pm, in Assembly Hall.

Songs and dance: Pieces for guitar solo, from the European Renaissance and South America: poetic folklore (Zambas and Chacareras from A. Yupanqui), Milongas and Tangos (Y. Cardoso, A. Piazzolla), Choros and Sambas (H. Villa-Lobos, B. Powell), contemporary arrangements (L. Brouwer, Ralph Towner), music from the Spanish Renaissance (G. Saviz, A. Mudarra) et compositions by Reinhold Westerheide.

The percussionist Mike Turnbull, born in Liverpool, plays a wide range of percussion instruments from Latin America, Africa and the Orient.

He is known for his groovy but nonetheless sensitive style and has played with many renowned musicians and ensembles in Germany where he has been living since the middle 1980s.

Reinhold Westerheide studied the guitar (with Antonio Pereira Arias) and percussion at the Royal Conservatory The Hague, graduating as a performer on both.

Prominent Dutch composers Roderik de Man en Michel van der Aa as well as foreign composers have dedicated works to Reinhold Westerheide, many of which he has recorded on CD.

Lecture: 'As You Get Older There Is No Time For Architectural Diversion'

The AREEN Architecture Series at the Department of Architecture and Design at the American University of Beirut is organizing a lecture entitled "As You Get Older There Is No Time for Architectural Diversion," by Will Alsop on Wednesday, March 27, 2013 at 6:30 pm in the Maamari Auditorium, at the Olayan School of Business.

A London-based [British architect](#), Alsop is known for his signature distinctive and controversial [modernist](#) buildings, most in the [United Kingdom](#). Alsop's buildings are usually distinguished by their use of bright colour and unusual forms. Alsop has won praise from some critics and fans of [avant-garde architecture](#), but has also garnered criticism from fellow architects and some segments of the general public.

Alsop was awarded the the [Stirling Prize](#) in 2000, a prize for excellence in architecture granted by the Royal Institute of British Architects. He also received the [RIBA](#) Worldwide Award (2004); [Civic Trust](#) Award (2003, 2006); and RIBA Regional Award (London) (2006).

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For more information please contact:

Maha Al-Azar, Associate Director for Media Relations, ma110@aub.edu.lb, 01-759685

Note to Editors

About AUB

Founded in 1866, the American University of Beirut bases its educational philosophy, standards, and practices on the American liberal arts model of higher education. A teaching-centered research university, AUB has more than 600 full-time faculty members and a student body of about 8,000 students. AUB currently offers more than 100 programs leading to the bachelor's, master's, MD, and PhD degrees. It provides medical education and training to students from throughout the region at its Medical Center that includes a full service 420-bed hospital.

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