CEDEJ ‘Music in Egypt working group’ conference

Listening in:
Music and Power in Egypt

June 9, 2024; 12 pm, Institut français d’archéologie orientale - IFAO

Organised by Dalia Ibraheem, Kawkab Tawfik, Sophie Frankford
followed by Ahmed Sabry’s ensemble music performance
Organized by Dalia Ibraheem, Kawkab Tawfik and Sophie Frankford

Sunday the 9th of June, 2024, 12-6 PM, with a concert at 7pm
At Ifao (Institut Français d'Archéologie Orientale), Cairo

Description:

This one-day symposium features the work of CEDEJ’s “Music in Egypt Working Group,” a research cluster of graduate students and postdoctoral researchers who are currently undertaking ethnographic, ethnomusicological, humanistic and archival research about music in Egypt. Researchers will present their work, which incorporates a wide variety of case studies, theoretical frameworks, and historical/methodological approaches. By critically engaging with contemporary and historical music genres in Egypt – be it sha’bi, mahraganat, rap, protest songs, Nubian music or orchestral music – this symposium aims to show how music functions as a dynamic force in shaping social landscapes, negotiating power dynamics, and articulating political ideologies within diverse cultural environments and historical frameworks in Egypt.

The symposium will be followed by a musical performance from Ahmed Sabry’s ensemble at 7 pm.

Please RSVP to ktawfik@ifao.egnet.net.
Program

12.00-12.15 welcome coffee

12.15-12.30 opening remarks

12.30-1.30 Panel 1: Salvaged Sounds
Fayrouz Kaddal: Sunken Voices, Sunken Music: Circulating Nubian Sound Archives in Kenya and in Egypt.
Cecilia Conte & Kawkab Tawfik: Pharaohs' Golden Parade: which language for which audience?

1.30-2.30 Lunch

2.30-4.00 Panel 2: Music Politics and Youth Cultures
Amr Abdelrahim: Turning rhymes into dimes: Preliminary reflections on mediators in the Egyptian rap world
Mohammed El-Fekky: Sonic Worldmaking: Satire in Egyptian Radio and mahraganat music
Dalia Ibraheem: Black Geography: Poetics, Informality and Global Blackness in Egypt’s mahraganat music

4.00-4.30 Coffee Break

4.30-6.00 Panel 3: Theorizing Power in/through Music
Kira Weiss: Musical Instrument(ality) and the Global Colonial in Egyptian Arab Music
Kawkab Tawfik: Music YouTube Videos and the use of the shaabi in the Egyptian National Propaganda post-2011
Sophie Frankford: Sheikh Imam and the radio experiment

7.00 Music Performance: Ahmed Sabry’s ensemble

This symposium is made possible thanks to support from CEDEJ