



Jawaz Al-Safar (Passport) Poetry of Mahmoud Darwish Concert by Turath Ensemble

On the occasion of the completion of the sixth edition of the Arab American Almanac, the Arab American Historical Foundation and St. Anselm of Canterbury Episcopal Church (Garden Grove) presented a concert to honor the creative work of the late Palestinian poet Mahmoud Darwish. Turath Ensemble performed a selection of Darwish poems, in addition to other works, in two formats reading in Arabic (by Sami Maalouf) and reading with English translation (by selected community members) accompanied by instrumental taqsim, and singing a few poems popularized by Lebanese singer/composer Marcel Khalife.

Mahmoud Darwish (1941-2008) was an award-winning Palestinian poet who became regarded as the Palestinian national poet who used Palestine as a metaphor for the loss of Eden and the anguish of exile.

The Arab American Historical Foundation's mission is to preserve and dis-

seminate Arab American history. Its Arab American Almanac is a comprehensive reference book about Arab Americans that provides accurate and practical reference sources about Arab Americans, while acknowledging its heritage and perpetuating their culture, history and society.

St. Anselm of Canterbury Episcopal Church in Garden Grove, California, is an Inclusive Spiritual Christian Community Rooted in Faith, Hope, Love, and Justice.

Turath Ensemble specializes in the musical heritage (Turath is Arabic for Heritage) of the Arabic-speaking people of the Levant and Egypt and performs classical and folk composition on traditional instruments.

The concert was dedicated to the memory of the Samira Ayoub Chalala, the departed wife of professor Elie Chalala, who supports the arts.

Two prominent musicians in the community also performed as guest artists in

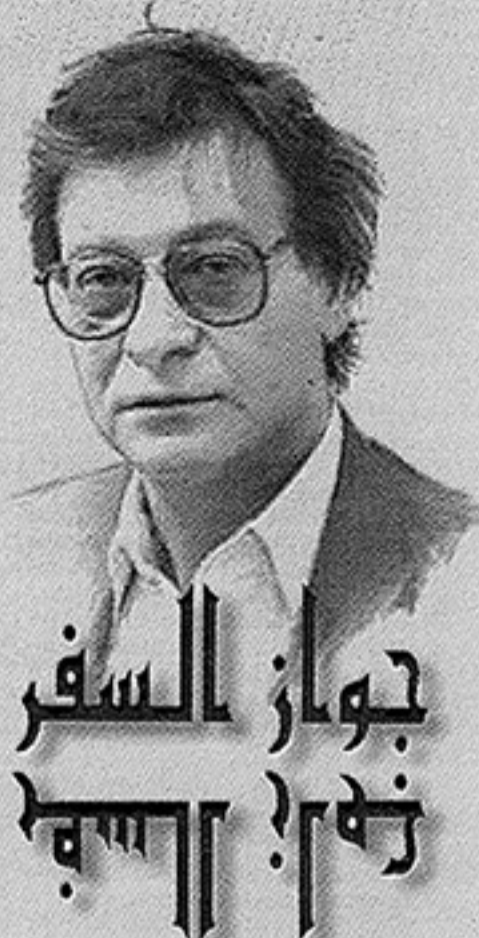
order to commemorate Mahmoud Darwish and support the Arab American Almanac as well as the positive stand in the community of St. Anselm church. They also wanted to support the dedication of the concert to Samira Chalala.

Nay & Director: Sami Asmar
Oud & Vocal: Naser Musa
Vocal: Iyad Wehbe
Vocal: Nagham Wehbe
Qanun: Fahd Shaaban
Nay: Moheb Boules
Flute: Max Bonick
Violin: Maurice Mitri
Violin: Georgia Broughton
Cello: Alyssa Van Thoen
Riqq: Petro Al-Ammar
Bendir: Tony Hampton

Reader of poems in Arabic with music accompaniment: Sami Maalouf

Readers of English translation of Mahmoud Darwish poetry: Vicki Tamoush, Lulu Emery, Sami Mashney, Deanna Asmar, Jim Symons, Deborah Symons Galassi, Hussam Ayloush.

- Instrumental: Ya Dara Duri Fina & Nihna Wil-Amar Jiran
- Poem: Identity Card
- Instrumental: Lamma Bada Yatasana & Ya Lohr Hubbuki
- Poem: Psalm 151
- Vocal Iyad: Hiwar and Biktub Ismak & Bint Ashalabiyya
- Vocal Naser: Rita
- A. J. Racy taqsim buzuk
- Vocal Iyad: Hiwar and Haleh Taabanch Ya Layla
- Poem: In Our Land
- Vocal Iyad: Jawaz al-Safar
- Poem: In Jerusalem



جواز السفر نهم! آجابه

- Instrumental: Saaluni n-Nas & Jaybili Salam
- Vocal Naser: Umri



Petro Al-Ammar, Naser Mousa, Georgia Broughton, Alyssa VanThoen, Fahd Shaaban



Sami Maalouf



Dr. Nabil Azzam



Prof. Ali Jihad Racy



Sami Asmar



Iyad Wehbe



Tony Hampton