

# *Williams College Department of Music*



## Middle Eastern Music Ensemble

Rami El-Aasser, Nicholas Mangialardi, co-directors

Baligh Hamdi  
(1931 – 1993, Egypt)

*Alf Layla wa Layla*

Nadim al-Darwish  
(1926 – 1988, Syria)

*Ya Malikan Minni Fu'adi*

Sultan Abdulaziz  
(1830 – 1876, Turkey)

*Hicaz Mandira*

Demetrius Cantemir  
(1673 – 1723, Romania)

*Pesrev Buzurk*

Muhammad Abd al-Wahab  
(1902 – 1991, Egypt)

*Aziza*

Amir ElSaffar  
(b. 1977, USA)

*al-Badia*

Rami El-Aasser, arr.

Percussion Solo

Asi Rahbani and Mansur Rahbani  
(1923 – 1986, Lebanon; 1925 – 2009, Lebanon)

*Raji'in Ya Hawa*

**Thursday, November 21, 2024**

**7:30 p.m.**

*Brooks-Rogers Recital Hall  
Williamstown, Massachusetts*

*Please turn off cell phones.  
No photography or recording is permitted.*

## Middle Eastern Music Ensemble

Madeline Birknes '25 – vocals  
Chase Bradshaw '25 – guitar, percussion  
Artie Carpenter '25 – trumpet  
Bob Davis – oud  
Rami El-Aasser – percussion, vocals  
Herbert Ferreira '27 – percussion  
Chris Gontarek '25 – percussion, vocals  
Emily Gubin '25 – percussion  
Sarah Hartman '25 – violin, vocals  
Peter Deegan-Krause '28 – percussion, vocals, mandolin  
Harry Letterman '26 – percussion  
Austin Lin '27 – flute  
Lana Mahbouba '26 – vocals  
Nicholas Mangialardi – nay, vocals  
Dalilah Montesino '25 – percussion, vocals  
Shiori Ono '28 – viola, vocals, percussion  
Leila Ruser '27 – bass  
Laura Salas '27 – percussion  
Talia Sanders '25 – percussion

The **Middle Eastern Music Ensemble**, sponsored by the Williams College Department of Music, explores vocal and instrumental traditions rooted in centuries of musical practice. The group meets weekly to play repertoire that spans a wide geographic, historical, and cultural terrain including folk, classical, and popular styles from around the Middle East.

Ensemble members learn *maqamat* (modes) and *iqa'at* (rhythms), the musical systems shared among musical traditions of the region.