

# JUNCTURES

A one-day symposium  
exploring collaboration across the arts and sciences

**March 25<sup>th</sup>: 10am to 8pm at Cambridge Junction, Clifton Way, Cambridge CB1 7GX**  
[www.junction.co.uk](http://www.junction.co.uk)

*Produced by 30 Bird in partnership with the British Council Iran and in collaboration with ZENDEH*



**JUNCTURES: UK - IRAN CULTURAL EXCHANGE** takes place on March 25<sup>th</sup> from 10am to 8pm at Cambridge Junction (left). A one day symposium of lively and engaging debate, talks, presentations and performances, **JUNCTURES** will offer the chance for delegates to explore collaboration in the worlds of arts and sciences across the two nations – UK and Iran. At the extremely reasonable cost of £6 per ticket, everyone is welcome to attend: practitioners, public, performers, presenters – it’s an ideal opportunity to exchange ideas, think ‘out of the box’ and to catch up with some exciting performance work that’s being made in both countries.

At one time art and science seemed diametrically opposite but today some of the most innovative artists are fusing art and science to create a brand new movement inspired by science. **JUNCTURES** will be the perfect opportunity to hear about new work, to find out how science can benefit from art and vice versa and how audiences will be able to appreciate both at the same time.

This exciting day of exchange is produced by 30 Bird, the award-winning performance company based in Cambridge, in partnership with the British Council Iran and in collaboration with ZENDEH. Practitioners in the arts and sciences from both nations will have a unique chance to share ideas and knowledge, view artistic pitches and discuss ways of collaborating.

“Collaboration and exchange, whether it is between sectors or different countries, inspires new ways of working and new ways of seeing and understanding the world we inhabit,” says 30 Bird Producer, Claire Summerfield. “**JUNCTURES** is a laboratory in which to investigate innovation and experimentation in the arts and sciences both at home and in Iran. Artists, for example, often consult with science or academic experts in their research and increasingly the sciences are expected to find a way of telling the story of their research to the wider public...so this will be the perfect one-day way to discover what we can learn from each other’s cultures and working practices.”

As part of our commitment to collaboration and innovation between the arts and sciences 30 Bird and public works will be announcing an exciting new appointment as artists in residence in Cambridge at **JUNCTURES**.

*JUNCTURES is part of the UK - Iran Season of Culture produced by the British Council to explore Iran’s cultural heritage and vibrant contemporary creativity for UK audiences.*

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*Supported by Cambridge Junction, the Iran Heritage Foundation and using public funding by the National Lottery through Arts Council England*

**Timetable for March 25<sup>th</sup>**

<i>10am</i>	Arrival, coffee
<i>10.30am</i>	Welcome from: 30 Bird, British Council Iran, and Cambridge Junction
<i>11.00am</i>	<p>Peachy Coochy – the first of two sessions for artists and scientists to talk about their work. Peachy Coochy is a play on the Japanese-invented PechaKucha 20x20, a simple presentation format where a presenter shows and talks about 20 images, each for 20 seconds.</p> <p>Presenters include:</p> <p>Artist and writer Andy Field whose interactive projects have been presented in spaces across the UK and internationally</p> <p>Independent curator Sara Makari-Aghdam</p> <p>Dr Alexandra Winkels, Academic Director for International Development and Global Change at the University of Cambridge Institute of Continuing Education</p> <p>Choreographer, dancer and artistic director of Sadhana Dance, Subathra Subramaniam</p> <p>Iran-born dancer and choreographer Bahar Fattahi</p> <p>Architect Torange Khonsari</p> <p>Science professional Mehryar Behiazad</p> <p>And more</p>
<i>12noon</i>	break
<i>12.20pm</i>	<p>Speed dating</p> <p>A chance to meet and kickstart conversations with delegates and presenters. 30 x 2 minute one on one conversations. Delegates will be asked to bring a photo of their favourite art or science image as a catalyst for conversation.</p>
<i>1.30pm</i>	Lunch
<i>2.30pm</i>	<p>Discussion: International Exchange, Innovation &amp; Experimentation</p> <p>A conversation between Cambridge and Iran with live link to Parisa Moghtadi, Director at the City Theatre, Tehran and artists Hamid Pourazari, Ali Asgar Dashti and Ide Aboutalebi</p> <p>Chaired by Nelson Fernandez, NFA International Arts &amp; Culture: Nelson is an arts producer and cultural facilitator with worldwide experience; he is a founding member of Circle 10, a group of the 10 most important theatre directors working in Iran today.</p> <p>UK Speakers include:</p> <p>Arvand Dashtaray (Virgule Performing Arts, Iran), designer, actor and director and Artistic Advisor for the Tehran City Theatre.</p> <p>Jon Davis, producer of LIFT</p>

- 4.00pm
- 4.20pm Peachy Coochy 2 – the second session
- 5.20pm break
- 6.00pm NOWRUZ – the Long Table hosted by Claire Summerfield of 30 Bird  
All delegates will be invited to join the Long Table, a dinner party table set with chairs, microphones and delicious Iranian food where everyone is welcome to ask questions, make statements, leave comments, or simply sit, watch and listen.  
Speakers include:  
Stefanie Reichelt the Cambridge-based researcher and photographer  
Artsadmin's Head of Artists' Advisory Services, Manick Govinda  
Italian/Palestinian theatre director Omar Elerian, Associate Director at The Bush  
Ellie Stout of Arts Council England  
Founder of 30Bird (1996) Mehrdad Seyf, writer, director and producer of multi-disciplinary and site-specific performance work  
Founder of Zende (2004) Nazli Tabatabai-Khatambakhsh director and producer of cross art form productions
- And more
- 8.00pm finish

**Aims of JUNCTURES:**

- To bring together practitioners from the worlds of arts and science in the UK and Iran to discuss collaborations and build partnerships
- To give artist the opportunity of presenting their work to an international audience of highly experienced individuals
- To provide a platform for experts in both fields to explore ways of working together
- To present examples of cross cultural exchange and to discuss common language
- To meet in Cambridge, home of Adenbrooke's Hospital, the world-renowned teaching hospital founded in 1766 and based on the Cambridge Biomedical Campus.
- To hear top speakers such as Stefanie Reichelt from Cancer Research UK; Manick Govinda from the UK's top arts producing agency, Artsadmin; the Italian/Palestinian theatre director Omar Elerian; and Arvand Dashtaray, designer, actor and director and Artistic Advisor for the Tehran City Theatre (pictured above) among others.
- To pushing thinking 'out of the box': integrating art and science, embedding technology into art, combining the two disciplines, developing creative training and offering audiences something new and exciting.
- To plan a flow of work between the two countries by engaging with artists, performers, speakers, experts.

The cultural connections between Iran and the UK are rich and deep. Building on long-standing links and contemporary collaborations, the British Council's UK-Iran Season of Culture will strengthen opportunities for greater cultural engagement, improve mutual understanding and increase trust. Working with partners through nationwide exhibitions, performances, discussions, workshops, and seminars, the UK-Iran Season of Culture will explore Iran's cultural heritage and vibrant contemporary creativity, enabling the people of the UK to experience and re-interpret Iran.