

CMES CINEMA

SPRING 2013 FILM SERIES



Plastic Flowers Never Die

Directed by Roxanne Varzi (USA, 2008)
in English and Persian with English subtitles

The war with Iraq was the largest mobilization of the Iranian population, achieved primarily by producing and promoting a culture of martyrdom based on religious themes found in Shi'a Islam. Khomeini made it clear the war was a spiritual one that the people, and not a professional army, would fight. It would be a sacred defense; a war of good against evil, of spirit against military might, where a human wave of believers would form a wall of defense against the Iraqis. Over 800,000 people died.

Anthropologist, writer and filmmaker Roxanne Varzi spent twelve years researching and writing about post-Revolution public culture in Iran, she's the author of *Warring Souls, Media, Martyrdom and Youth in Post-Revolution Iran*, Duke 2006.

FOLLOWED BY A DISCUSSION WITH

Roxanne Varzi

ANTHROPOLOGY AND FILM & MEDIA STUDIES

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA-IRVINE

Thursday, April 11 • 6:30pm

LUCE HALL AUDITORIUM, 34 HILLHOUSE AVENUE

SPONSORED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF ANTHROPOLOGY AND
THE COUNCIL ON MIDDLE EAST STUDIES AT THE MACMILLAN CENTER