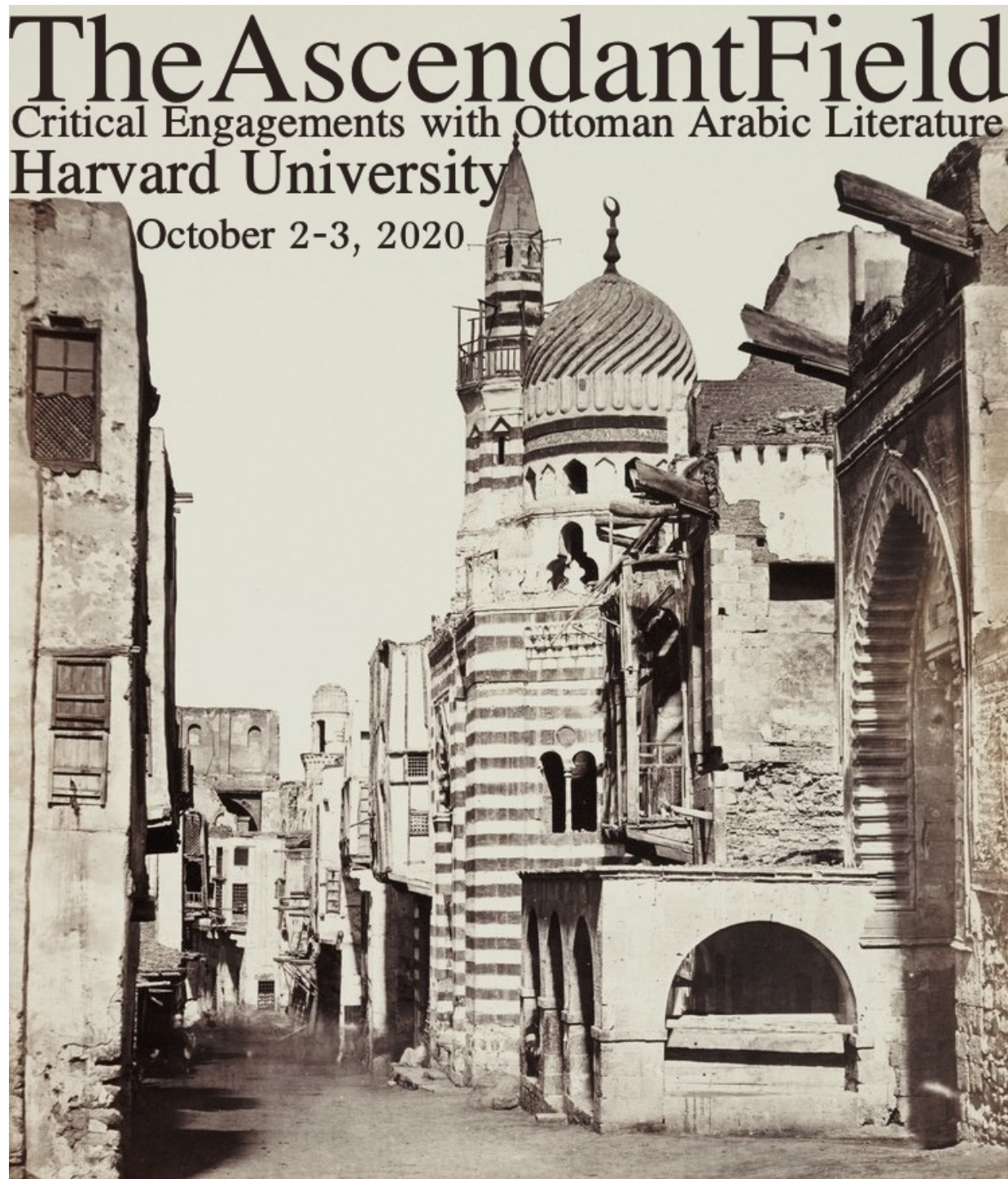


# The Ascendant Field: Critical Engagements with Ottoman Arabic Literature



PRINCE ALWALEED BIN TALAL  
ISLAMIC STUDIES PROGRAM  
AT HARVARD UNIVERSITY



THE CENTER FOR  
MIDDLE EASTERN STUDIES  
HARVARD UNIVERSITY

DEPARTMENT OF  
NEAR EASTERN  
LANGUAGES &  
CIVILIZATIONS  
AT HARVARD UNIVERSITY



The Department of Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations (NELC), the Prince Alwaleed Bin Talal Islamic Studies Program, and the Center for Middle Eastern Studies (CMES) present a workshop on:

THE ASCENDANT FIELD: CRITICAL ENGAGEMENTS WITH OTTOMAN ARABIC  
LITERATURE

October 2-3, 2020

Over Zoom

**Friday October 2, 2020**

**9:00 AM EST/1:00 PM GMT**

KEYNOTE ADDRESS

“Patriarchs, Poets and the Tihāma Connection: Methodological Challenges and Thematic Innovation in Ottoman Arabic Literature”

*Hilary Kilpatrick*

Introduction by *Khaled El-Rouayheb* (Harvard University)

**11:00 AM EST/3:00 PM GMT**

PANEL I: History and Literature

“A Republic of Arabic Letters? The Epistolary Network of a Sixteenth-Century Syrian Scholar”

*Helen Pfeifer* (Cambridge University)

“Losing the Plot in Seventeenth-Century Istanbul: The Poetics of the Maqāma Rūmiyya within the Breakdown of Pan-Ottoman Sociability”

*Ghayde Ghraoui* (Yale University)

“Familiarity with Persian among Early Modern Arabic Anthologists”

*Theodore Beers* (University of Chicago)

Moderator: *William Granara* (Harvard University)

**Saturday October 3, 2020**

**9:30 AM EST/1:30 PM GMT**

PANEL II: Ottoman Arabic Mystical Literature

“Prophetic Piety and Mysticism in Pre-Modern Arabic Devotional Literature”

*Rachida Chih* (Ehess-Cnrs, Paris)

“The evolution of the Sufic zajal from its beginnings through the Ottoman period”

*Hakan Özkan* (University of Muenster)

Moderator: *Shady Nasser* (Harvard University)

**11:00 AM EST/3:00 PM GMT**

PANEL III: Single Author Studies: Māmayya al-Rūmī's (d. 1577/9)

“Between Lamenting Vicissitudes of Life and Celebrating Ottoman Authority:  
Māmayya al-Rūmī's (d. 1577/9) Times and Poetry”

*Hacı Osman “Ozzy” Gündüz* (Harvard University)

“Memory, Mimesis and the Modern: The Literary Heritage in Māmayya's Poetry”  
*Alev Masarwa* (University of Münster)

Moderator: *Justine Landau* (Harvard University)

For more information: Hacı Osman “Ozzy” Gündüz, [hgunduz@g.harvard.edu](mailto:hgunduz@g.harvard.edu)