Narrating the Arab Spring
New questions, New modes of resistance and activism, and New politics.
About the Conference:

The Arab Spring continues to inspire and energize movements and peoples both inside and outside the region, despite the many setbacks, the challenges, and the loud trumpets of the prophets of doom and gloom. The success of the Tunisian people in forcing Ben Ali to flee the country in January 2011 sent powerful tremors of hope and empowerment to millions of Arabs. The rapid success of unarmed, peaceful Egyptian protesters in ousting a formidable dictator, Mubarak, in 18 days created an unprecedented sense of euphoria in the region and beyond.

Uprisings erupted across the region, sending strong messages to old authoritarian rulers. The specificities of each country have chartered different trajectories and consequences for protesters and the regimes in power: what is shared is the regained belief in power of the Arab people, in the agency of Arabs and their ability to forge their futures. Narratives of the Arab Spring are not uniform: they range from idealistic celebration to dark pessimism. This is understandable considering the vastness and magnitude of the events, the dominant paradigms that have traditionally been used to understand and predict events in the Arab world, as well as the mounting pressures and difficulties that continue to arise.

Notwithstanding, the Arab Spring has also resulted in raising new questions and elaborating new narratives about the power and authority of modern states, initiating novel forms of resistance and new modes of activism; in connecting with global movements; in raising issues of gender and citizenship; in promoting the culture of revolutions; and in asserting people’s power.

The aim of this international conference is to consider and shed light on the new narratives emerging from and about the Arab Spring. It will bring together participants from the Arab world, the UK, and beyond to reflect on the momentous events of 2011 and exchange views and experiences.

The conference is organized by The Centre for the Advanced Study of the Arab World (CASAW) in the University of Manchester in cooperation with The Department of English at Cairo University and The Women and Memory Forum.

It will be held in Cairo in February 18th-20th 2012, marking the first anniversary of the ousting of Mubarak on the 11th of February 2011. It will run for three days, and will consist of panels, roundtable discussions, as well as invited testimonials by activists and artists.
Narrating the Arab Spring Conference Program Outlines
18th – 20 February 2012
Department of English, Faculty of Arts, Cairo University

Day I: Saturday 18th February 2011

9:00 – 10:00 Registration

10:00 – 10:30 **Opening:** Loubna Youssef (Cairo University)
               Hoda Elsadda (Cairo University)

10:30 – 12:00 **Keynote Speaker:** Radwa Ashour

12:00 – 1:00 Reception

1:00 – 2:30 Parallel Sessions (Page 5)

2:30 – 3:00 Tea Break

3:00 – 4:30 Parallel Sessions (Page 6)

4:30 – 5:00 Tea Break

5:00 – 7:00 Mosireen Group (Testimonies, Short Documentaries)

Day II: Sunday 19th February 2011

10:00 -11:30 Parallel Sessions (Page 7)

11:30 - 12:00 Tea Break

12:00 -1:30 Parallel Sessions (Page 8)

1:30 - 3:30 Lunch Break

3:30 - 5:00 Parallel Sessions (Page 9)

5:00 - 5:30 Tea Break

5:30 - 7:00 **Film Premiere:** ½ Revolution (Q&A with director K.Elhakim)
Day III: Monday 20th February 2011

10:00 – 11:30  Plenary:
Arab Revolutions: Conflicting Narratives
Chair: Hoda Elsadda (Cairo University)
Speakers:
Rabab El-Mahdy (AUC), Mona Abaza (AUC), Jean Makdisi (Writer), and Tamim El-Barghouti (Poet, UN Consultant)

11:30 – 12:00  Tea Break

12:00 – 1:30  Parallel Sessions (Page 10)

1:30 – 3:30  Lunch Break

3:30 – 5:00  Parallel Sessions (Page 11)

5:00 – 5:30  Tea Break

5:30 – 7:00  Music Concert: Amin Haddad and Eskenderella

Parallel Activities:

Film Showings: Lab of the Department of English
Book Exhibition
Session # 1
Room : 15
Chair : Loubna Youssef (Cairo University)

Ewan Stein (Edinburgh University)

Emily Golson (University of Northern Colorado)
“The Impact of the Arab Spring on a Medium-Size City Located at the Foot of the Colorado Rockies”

Anna Bernard (University of York)
“The Travelling Arab Spring”

Session # 2
Room: 14
Chair: Mounira Soliman (Cairo University)

Maha El Said, (Cairo University)
“Poeticizing The Revolution: The Role of Spoken word in the Egyptian

Dina Heshmat (University of Leiden)
“Novels of Anger and Revolution: Egyptian Narratives of the Past Decade”

Mona Radwan (Cairo University)
“Wings of the Butterfly and H.Elkheshen’s 7 Days in Tahrir”

Ilka Eickhof (Free University of Berlin)
“Popular protest and political arts: neo-orientalist representation of creative resistance in the West?”

Session # 3
Room : 16
Chair : Mona Halawany (Cairo University)

Marwan Kraidy, The Annenberg School for Communication, University of Pennsylvania
“Media and Modernity in the Arab Uprising”

Rabie Barakat (Today TV, Palestine)
“Satellite Media”

Rasha Ahmed (MADA for Media Development) “Tahrir Narratives .. The Little Ones”

Session # 4
Room: 13
Chair: Mona Baker (University of Manchester)

Heba El-Abbadi and Sally Hammouda,
(Cairo University)
“From Spectators to Spect-Actors: All Tahrir’s a Stage”

Walid El-Hamamsy, (Cairo University)
“Egypt .. Isn’t that in Switzerland?” American Cartoons and the Egyptian Revolution”

Ghada Al-Akhdar
“Revolution 3.0: User-led democracy”

Yasmin Moll (New York University)
“Images that Don’t Move: Visual Politics on the Egyptian Revolution”
Saturday 18th February 2012/ 3:00 – 4:30 PM

Session # 5
Room: 15
Chair: Heba El-Abbadi (Cairo University)

Paolo d’ Urbano (SOAS)
“The Revolution will be Archived: The Role of New Media in the Egyptian Revolution”

Lobna Ismail (Cairo University)
“The Square as Locus of Control in Specters by Radwa Ashour”

Maha Hassan (Cairo University)
“Seven Days in Tahrir”

Tahia Khaled Abdel Nasser (AUC)
“Literature of the Revolution: The Archive, the Square, and Social Networks in Egypt”

Session # 6
Room: 16
Chair: Mona Moones (Cairo University)

Randa Aboubakr (Cairo University)
“The Role of the Image in New and Social Media in the Egyptian Revolution”

Peter Limbrick (University of California, Santa Cruz)
“Teaching the Arab Spring: Critical Resistance in the Arab Film and Video”

David Prochaska (University of Illinois)
“In Plain Sight: Images from and about the Arab Spring”

Session # 7
Room: 14
Chair: Sally Hammouda (Cairo University)

Hoda Baraka (Freelance consultant and journalist at Egypt Independent)
“Egypt seeks to Enshrine Environmental Human Rights”

Kayode Animasun (Adeleke University)
“From Tahrir Square to Eagle Square”

Kareem Ibrahim (Egyptian Artist)
“Everything is Exceptional: Voicing Solidarity and the Arab Spring”

Session # 8
Room: 13
Chair: Maha El-Said (Cairo University)

Emad Abu - Ghazi (Cairo University)
"مواقع التواصل ووسائل الشهورة
سيرة ذاتية "الписание الحداثية وتوصيات الشهورة متنازعة"

Abeer Abdel Hafez (Cairo University)
سرديلات –"السيرة ذاتية الحداثية وتوصيات الشهورة متنازعة"

Nahawand Kaderi (Lebanese University)
"النساء في فضاءات التشاغبات العربية
"مواقف مضادة"

Kamal Mougheeth (Independent Researcher)
"قراءة أولية لدراسات شهورة بيروت"
Session # 1
Room: 15
Chair: Amani Badawi (Cairo University)

Solomiya Zinko (National Institute for Strategic Studies, Ukraine)
“Anonymous Involvement in the Arab Spring”

Gennaro Gervasio (British University in Egypt)
“Egyptian Perspectives of Western Democracy”

Sara D. Meyer (Researcher and art curator)
“Waiting for spring. On longing, art, and global storytelling after postmodernism”

Soha Farouk
النشوة مرتيدة: من الشارع إلى الشجاعة

Session # 2
Room: 16
Chair: Barbra Ibrahim (AUC)
Hania Aswad (Naseej Foundation)
“Planning for Human Beings”

Naira Antoun,
“To those who ask who we are: We are the Youth of January 25”

Zina Sawaf (PHD Candidate)
“Youth and the Revolution in Egypt: What Kinship tells us”

Nadine Kreitmeyr (MA Candidate, University of Tubingen)
“Young Social Entrepreneurs and Youth empowerment”

Session # 3
Room: 13
CASAW Round Table
“The Implications of the Arab Spring on Teaching Arabic Studies in the UK”

Chair: Michelle Obeid (University of Manchester)

Marilyn Booth (Edinburgh University)
Yasir Suleiman (Cambridge University)
Ewan Stein (Edinburgh University)
Paul Starkey (Durham University)
Nadje Al-Ali (SOAS)

Session # 4
Room: 14
Chair: Nahla Helmy (Cairo University)

Doaa Embabi (Ain-Shams University)
“Revolutionary Image, Music and Text: Reclaiming Egyptian Public Space”

Alia Mossallam (PHD Candidate, LSE)
“All the Voices of the Battle”

Sarah Al-Mojaddadi (Freelance journalist)
“To Tweet or not to Tweet”

Nadia Shalaby (Ain-Shams University)
“Songs of Celebration and Resistance”
Session # 5  
Room: 13  
Chair: Nadje Al-Ali (SOAS)  
Panel Sponsored By: AMEWS  
Nicola Pratt (University of Warwick)  
“Gender and Citizenship in the Aftermath of Hosni Mubarak”  
Nadje Al-Ali  
“Gender and Citizenship in the Aftermath of the Revolution”  
Amy Kallender (Syracuse University)  
“Problems of Representation of Tunisian Women at the Prospects of Post Revolutionary Citizenship”  
Riham Sheble (AUC)  
“No Country for Old Men? (De) Constructing the Concept of Citizenship”

Session # 6  
Room: 16  
Chair: Sahar Sobhi (Cairo University)  
Mustapha Al-Sayyid (Cairo University)  
“Modes and Strategies of Action of Social Movement”  
Alexander Kazamias (Edinburgh University)  
“Contesting the Post Colonial State: the Political Significance of the Egyptian Revolution”  
Ahmed Abd Rabboh (Cairo University)  
“Challenges and Prospects for State and Society Relations”  
Amro Aly (Independent Scholar)  
“Exporting Tahrir Square”

Session # 7  
Room: 14  
Chair: Omaima Abou Bakr (Cairo University)  
Noha Abou El-Dahab (PhD Candidate and UN Consultant)  
“The Arab Spring and Justice”  
Laszlo Csicsmann (Corvinus University of Budapest)  
“Islamist Parties or Civil Parties”  
Aymar Pirzada, (MA candidate, University of London)  
“Progressive Muslim Thinkers in Context: Obstacles and Opportunities in the Wake of Arab Spring”  
Monika Lindberk (Fellow, University of Oslo)  
“Two Draft Laws of Personal Status in the Grip of Social and Political Unrest”

Session # 8  
Room: 15  
Chair: Amal Mazhar (Cairo University)  
Fowziyah Abu-Khalid (Poet, Independent Researcher)  
“Graffiti of the Egyptian Revolution”  
Emad Abdullatif (Cairo University)  
الخطاب والسلطة في ساحة تحرير الثوره”  
Omnia Amer (Cairo University)  
آشر تأثير السور: الصراعات تحت أعين آلاف الناشطات”  
Heba Helmy (Artist)  
“Graffiti of the Egyptian Revolution”
Session # 9
Room: 15
Chair: Michelle Obeid (University of Manchester)
Sara Salem (MA Candidate, ISS, The Hague)
“Egyptian Revolution through the Lens of Dignity”
Khadija Omar (Freelance writer at Google)
“The Egyptian Revolution: The Young, the Old and the Future”
James Thurlow (University of Technology, Estonia)
“Youth and Revolt”
Sarah Wessel (PhD Candidate, University of Hamburg and Cairo University)
“Narratives of Political Representation: Egyptian Youth and Parties during Parliamentary Elections”

Session # 10
Room: 14
Chair: Dora Carpenter – Latiri (Brighton University)
Pervine Elrefaei (Cairo University)
“The Prison as a Dual Space of Repression and Resistance”
Khalid Amine (Abdelmalek Essaadi University, Morocco)
“Egypt occupy Protests and the new Public Sphere”
Amal Hamada (Cairo University)
“Reclaiming the Public Sphere: The Ultras and Street Politics”

Session # 11
Room: 16
Chair: Marilyn Booth (Edinburgh University)
Mariam Waheed (Cairo University)
“المرأة المصرية في ميدان التحرير”
Azza Basarudin (Harvard University)
“Imperialism, Islam and Sexual Politics in the Egyptian Revolution”
Maria Holt (University of Westminster)
“Making the Nation: Women, Islam and the Arab Revolution”
Maissan Hassan & May El-Sallab (Women and Memory Forum)
“HERstory: Women voices of the revolution”

Session # 12
Room: 13
Chair: Ola Hafez (Cairo University)
Nahla Helmy Nadeem (Cairo University)
“Identity Markers, Face Attacks and Solidarity in Online News Commentaries before the Tunisian Revolution”
Fatma Benslamia (University of Sousse, Tunisia)
“Verbal and Non-Verbal Cues of Resistance during the Tunisian revolution”
Souad Belhorma (PhD Candidate)
“Spotlight on the Impact of the Arab Spring on Women’s Future in Morocco”
Monday 20th February / 12:00 – 1:30 PM Parallel Sessions

Session # 1
Room : 15
Chair : Azza Basarudin (Harvard University)

Maggie Nassif (Brigham Young University)
“The Appeal of Diversity in Tahrir”

Mariz Tadros (IDS, University of Sussex)

Roman Stadnicki (Researcher at CEDEJ)
“‘Urbanity’ of the Arab protests in question”

Rania Abdelrahman (Cairo University)
“Your Flag Is In My Hand, and My Name Is A Martyr” The Subversiveness of the ‘Living Martyr’ in Martyr Songs of the 25th of January Revolution”

Session # 2
Room: 16
Chair: Feisal Yunis (Cairo University)

Dora Carpenter – Latiri
“Languages in Post Revolution Tunisia: Linguistic Diversity”

Engy Osama Mito (MA Student - Cairo University)
“The Pathology of Evil: The Case of Qaddafi”

Hela Yousfi (Dauphine University)
“Narratives of UGTT Tunisian General Labor Union”

Samuli Schlieke (ZMO)
“Fantasy, Action, and the Possible in 2011”

Session # 3
Room : 14
Chair : Shereen Aboul Naga (Cairo University)

Paul Starkey (Durham University)
“The Eloquent Egyptian’s Complaints Revisited”

Mayy ElHayawi (Ain-Shams University)
“In Alliance or in Defiance: Egyptian Women Navigating a Nation”

Becky Lee Katz (Program Officer, NDI)
“When the Phoenix Rises: Women in the 25 January Revolution and Transition to Democracy”

Session # 4
Room: 13
Chair: Walid El-Hamamsy (Cairo University)

Teresa Pepe (University of Oslo)
“Narratives of the Egyptian Revolution in Egyptian Personal Blogs”

Ahmed Abdulhameed (Ain-Shams University)
“News Discourse of the Independent Newspapers in the Revolution”

Elske Rosenfeld (Academy of Fine Arts, Vienna)
“Welcome to the Perpetual Revolution”
Monday 20th February / 3:30 – 5:00 PM Parallel Sessions

Session # 5
Room : 15
Chair : Maggie Nassif (Brigham Young University)

Yasmeen El-Khoudam
“The Fading of our Nights”

Catherine Cornet (PhD Candidate, University of Rome II)
“The Agency of Art through new Media and its new Impact on the Middle East”

Karina Eileraas (Wesleyan University)
“Aliaa Mahdy: Nude Egyptian Blogger”

Mona Elnamoury (Tanta University)
“Mother of the Martyr as a Revolution-Stimulating Figure: Radwa Ashour’s Siraaj”

Session # 6
Room: 16
Chair: Lobna Ismail (Cairo University)

Enrico De Angelis (University of Alerno)
“A Wikipedia Revolution: The Internet and the Syrian Uprising”

Kristian Coates (LSE)
“Revisiting the Arab Spring in the Gulf”

Delphine El-Karoui
“The Territories of Arab Uprising”

Session # 7
Room : 14
Chair : Abeer Abdel Hafez (Cairo University)

Sherif Al-Ghannam,
المحمرة”-"أحداث 25 يناير في مدينة دمياط

Najoua Rayahi
استاذ تشتيط عالي"الثورة العربية”

Mohamed Salah
"الثورة .. لابق كنزيه الميدان والدرة"،

Nadia Abou Ghazi and Nihal Hisham
"ال أغنية والثورة"،

Session # 8
Room: 13

Beyond Cairo and Tahrir: Empire and Subaltern Revolt in Upper Egypt”

Nancy Gallagher (AUC)
Zeinab Aboulmagd (AUC)
Judith Barsalou (AUC)
Khaled Fahmy (AUC)