

*Free public lecture and demonstration*

*Both sides of the curtain:  
discovering the music of  
Afghanistan*



Hosted by

MONASH ASIA INSTITUTE

SCHOOL OF MUSIC - CONSERVATORIUM, MONASH UNIVERSITY

and

AUSTRALIAN INSTITUTE OF INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS (VICTORIA)

WEDNESDAY 25TH MARCH 2009

5.30pm to 7.30pm

Dyason House

124 Jolimont Road, East Melbourne, 3002

In the 1970s, before the start of the long war in Afghanistan, John Baily and his wife Veronica spent over two years researching music in the historic city of Herat. Together they bridged the gender divide. John studied the music of men's gatherings, concerts and wedding ceremonies, and Veronica frequented the separate world of women's parties and rituals. They also learned to perform the music they were studying. In this talk they describe the challenges and excitement of their work, illustrating their account with their own musical performance, and visual and audio recordings from that time. They provide a refreshing picture of musical life in Afghanistan before the Taliban.

John Baily is Emeritus Professor of Ethnomusicology at Goldsmiths, University of London. He and Veronica Doubleday have numerous publications on the music and culture of Afghanistan. They are currently visiting academics at Monash University.

Admission free but booking (essential): [MAI.Enquiries@adm.monash.edu.au](mailto:MAI.Enquiries@adm.monash.edu.au) with "Afghanistan music lecture" in the subject heading of the email.

This event is part of the Revival of Afghan Music Project (ROAM), initiated and designed by Dr Ahmad Sarmast, a Research Fellow of the Monash Asia Institute and Monash School of Music - Conservatorium. This project involves the rebuilding and promotion of music education in war-torn Afghanistan.

ROAM website: <http://www.arts.monash.edu.au/mai/roam/index.php>