



NEW YORK UNIVERSITY

The Alliance for Pakistan and Urdu Studies at NYU  
and  
the South Asian Language Programs at NYU  
present

# AMIR KHUSRAU

## A BARD OF THE KINGS AND THE PEOPLE

*A Lecture and Film Presentation by Yousuf Saeed*

02:00pm – 05:00pm

March 09, 2019

Hagop Kevorkian Center for Near Eastern Studies  
50 Washington Square South, New York, NY 10012

Yousuf Saeed, a filmmaker, author and designer from New Delhi, India, has been producing documentaries, writings and online media about South Asian culture, history and art. He is the author of the illustrated volume *Muslim Devotional Art in India* and the director of acclaimed films like *Basant*, *Khayal Darpan*, *Making of the Taj*, and *Campus Rising*. Yousuf Saeed is also the co-founder and project director of *Tasveer Ghar*, an archive of popular Indian art.

RSVP

Tahira Naqvi (tn9@nyu.edu)

Light refreshments will be served

## Amir Khusrau, a Bard of the Kings and the People

### Program

#### Session I

Lecture and Presentation: *Amir Khusrau and the Indo-Muslim Identity in the Arts and Music Practices of India and Pakistan.*

Followed by a 12 minute video titled: 'Basant' about the spring festival celebrated at the shrine of Nizamuddin Aulia and Amir Khusrau in Delhi.

#### Session II

Screening of the film: *Khusrau Darya Prem Ka* (40 mins)

*Khusrau Darya Prem Ka* is a modern-day docu-drama where two artists try to understand the 14th century poet-composer, Amir Khusrau Dehlavi. The film uses a dramatic **dastan goi** (traditional storytelling in Urdu) to tell the narrative of Amir Khusrau in the voices of Ankit Chadha (a **dastan goi** artist preparing a stage presentation on Amir Khusrau) and Rene Singh (a musician preparing a musical rendering of Khusrau's poetry). The film also uses some renderings of Khusrau's popular poetry in the voices of traditional qawwals (such as Mohammad Ahmed Warsi and Farid Ayaz qawwals). Film produced by Aga Khan Trust for Culture, New Delhi.

Film will be followed by a discussion with the filmmaker.

### Refreshments