

EMU showcased at the 'Promotion Days' event

Joy Ogbimi

The task of finding a good university with a well grounded education system and student orientated social life is sometimes challenging.

It is the second year EMU is organizing the annual mini festival, tagged "Promotion Days", to showcase the university's faculties, departments and other related aspects.

The setting was informal, held at the Lala Mustafa Sport Complex, with a combination of music, dance, and club presentations. Representatives were stationed at stands, attending to high

school pupils as they made inquiries about their future at the University. Food was also provided by the International Center.

The university hosted the pupils for three days, 2,100 final year high school students in North Cyprus attended.

EMU has prided itself as being by far the oldest university in North Cyprus, established in 1979, and of having the most international studentship with over 68 foreign countries represented in admissions. The University's Public Relations Department said effects would be felt later just as it happened the year before with an eventual increase of 40% in Turkish Cypriot admissions to EMU.



More than two thousand students attended the event



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Peace journalism: a better way of reporting the news

Abtin Badie

There was a meeting between the leaders of north and south Cyprus in New York that was intermediated through the United Nations but unfortunately the talks did not bring significant improvement.

Despite of the unsettled disputes, the United Nations claimed that the negotiations had encouraged further talks between the two countries and that the two leaders showed promise by keeping the dialogue open.

Although these talks and negotiations have lasted since 2008 until now, there is always the attempt to bring the leaders or elite groups and the journalists together to help solve the problems that are rooted in deep between the two countries, such as issues with territory, property, and governance.

But achieving peace between two countries is not an easy task and is not eased any by the differences in language, culture, and religion as well the problem of how the two governments interact with each other and deal with their mutual problems.

To broach the issue of solving the Cyprus problem we have to consider not only two majorities of people in Cyprus but also consider other minorities who live on their respective sides. For instance, one of the most important concerns in Cyprus is the gender issue on both sides of the island independent from the border that divides the country into these two

parts.

We need to expand our view because when we look at the issue from an ethnocentric point of view

it is impossible to see the real reason why these problems have occurred and continue to exist. This is a very important task, and as a journalist it

is a real responsibility to the public to explore each aspect of an issue and represent the views of the many different groups and individuals it affects.

To understand the concept of peace we need to try to give it a meaning and this is one of the main tasks involved in achieving positive results in areas of conflict. This means deviating from old, ethnocentric ways of looking at the world. It also means recognizing that peace means different things to different groups and individuals.

Due to the fact that the media has gained much more significance in the world in the past decades, the view of the media as a forth state, the role of a journalist as a watchdog in a society, the profession of journalism and it's subsections like peace journalism are to be taken much more seriously.

In general peace journalism is an alternative to war journalism, but it may be considered not only in war situations and cease fires. The concept of peace journalism works for many different conflicts.

There are many stories about the people of the North and South parts of the island integrating and supporting one another, disregarding the idea that one is more Cypriot than the other. To emphasize and highlight these moments in the media would help promote a more positive view of the issues and encourage other to follow suit.



Nickelodeon : a look at Fellini's scripts



but still there are some elements which never change, there is always something in the essence of oneself like dignity, religious belief, motherhood and so on.

All these internal aspects of humanity come along in a story about a relationship between communists and Catholics.

At the end, what matters is who it left. Death is right in front of us, empty and silent, whether you are a priest, communist, mother, whether you have faith, strong or weak values, doesn't matter at all. It's war! Whoever goes against the logic of war, must be out.

And then, new generation, the young observers of the cruelty of the real world without a safe guard, with or without the same view. Story stays the same, back to Rome to face their own fate.

Paisa is a war portrait of the same trilogy mentioned above in six episodes. The main theme is

communication of people with different languages during wartime with Rossellini's technique, using non-professional actors and real locations. Let's have a glance at each episode.

1st episode, the local girl and the American soldier in the old seaside castle, conjuring the concept of innocence and lost innocence, a paradox found in wartime.

2nd episode, the poor boy and the African-American soldier, so touching, there is a scene where they are in the ruins playing harmonica, still searching for beauty at the wrong time, wrong place. And the tragic final scene, (BOOM BOOM) like children playing a game that's not a game anymore which more seems to be a game for that age, but it's so real.

3rd episode, prostitution, selling the body and soul to survive in wartime, no one is looking for her address so it's better to forget it and

leave it all.

4th episode, like the guy who searches for his family, she is looking for her lover, doesn't matter if he is painter, leader or wolf. She reads the news with a totally different perspective, not like others. But the result is the same, in a war whether you are looking for a leader or a loved one, he is dead.

5th episode, here is Rossellini's obsession of religion, it takes place in a church, safe and peaceful during the war. A Catholic, a Protestant, and Jewish soldiers versus the attempts of monks to persuade the two non-Catholics, which seems to be the only important issue in that church! The last scene reminds us of "the last supper".

6th episode, a very masculine environment, absolutely like a military and war. We see everyone talks and no one listens and finally there is the execution like a slap in the face.

Lida Bonakdar

Federico Fellini, Italian film director and scriptwriter began his career by doing some co-scriptwriting before directing his own feature films. Let's have a short review about two of his experiences with Roberto Rossellini in Roma, citta aperta (1945) and Paisa (1946),

as a co-scriptwriter.

Rome, Open City, a war drama, taking place during Nazi occupation in 1944, one of Rossellini's neorealist War trilogy. Some mentioned it as less neo-realist and more melancholic.

War time, destroys all including childhood, social status, love and marriage, comfort zone and etc.

Smileys Ujnat accessories



Tanju Mesutoglu at work

person like Tanju so dedicated to craft, with just a semester before graduating you should understand how busy she will be but this young woman of extra ordinary talent is not willing to back down one bit, "I do not allow studying to take my movie time, family time, or creative time away, my family means a lot to me" she told me one day with her heavily accented English, "I love to spend my weekends with them, my dad and my two brothers help me with this business, they go to the forest cut down special branches, and smoothen them so I can wrap the twines around them without stress" what I love most about her is how she gets lost in her own world whenever she's asked to describe what she does, "I love what I do, I don't ever want to stop. I feel light and get inspired whenever I'm creating a new piece, I do not get tired or bored, I already have a time table and I follow it" she said with her sparkling eyes.

"Why did you decide to do this?" I enquired one day--we had decided to hangout, she smiled shyly and answered innocently "Tasha, I don't know. All I know is I was born to do this, it gives me life, my creations

are like my babies, I never get bored sometimes I even get emotional when I have to sell any of them, I just take pictures and off they go" (laughs).

Most times I just want her to talk so I can just stare while she chats happily "I've not faced any challenge since I started" she comments, "Do you know recently my uncles, aunts and cousins made demands? They all help me market and sell the accessories." Seeing the surprise on my face she added "yes, I'm lucky it has been a very smooth and encouraging journey for me, everyone is proud of me and I promise not to let them down, my love for Mother Nature and sweet colours has been my source of inspiration"

I should mention how religious she is, a strong believer in Islam; she does everything with faith and belief, it even reflects in her relationships and the words she says, "by God's grace I would be best at anything I do, I would continue with my education, pursue my masters degree, have a bunch of babies (laughing hard) and build a big company that produces beautiful and genuine affordable accessories.



Adedamilola Oluwaseun

Her name is Tanju Mesutoglu, she is a twenty one year old Cypriot studying International Relations at the Eastern Mediterranean University. We met at one of the gatherings the school fashion club hosts, I must confess at first I didn't even know she was seated beside me until she was introduced to us. She smiled and picked up a small shopping bag and as soon as she poured the content out onto the conference table, I knew we were going to be best of friends for a very long time.

I wasted no time in starting our relationship, she needed exposure for her business and I needed advertising for my upcoming fashion magazine, this was an opportunity I didn't want to miss. I made it a habit to call her even when we had nothing to discuss, the truth is it's rare to see a young

The role of the BBC Persian Service



Dr.Majid Tafreshi

Elnaz Nasehi

On 23th of March, Dr. Majid Tafreshi, was the guest of the department of International Relations and the Scientific Society of Iranian Students at E.M.U where he gave a seminar on the topic of "A Review and Analysis of Public Diplomacy of Iran in Great Britain: The BBC Persian Global Service Network".

Presenting his article, Dr. Tafreshi provided a historical background of the BBC Persian network. He then discussed its interaction with Secret Service in Great Britain, and the function of BBC Persian Service.

According to his speech, the BBC Persian Service was established in 1940 after the Second World War with the obvious aim of changing

Reza Shah. It was related, as he mentioned, with non- governmental Iranians especially ethnic and religious minorities who were anti-Reza Shah activists in exile. As Dr. Tafreshi asserted, the BBC Persian network has experienced different eras in its public diplomacy towards Iran which has changed during Pahlavi regime, and also after the Islamic revolution in 1979. At the conclusion of his speech, he put forward an important point that the role of media like BBC will be undermined if people freely have access to the media and can be heard.

The 30 remaining minutes were a free discussion between Dr. Tafreshi and participants who asked more detailed questions.

Dr. Majid Tafreshi was born in Iran, and studied history at the University of Tehran and at London University. Formerly a Researcher at the Iranian National Archive, the Encyclopedia of the Islamic World (Tehran), and the Institute of Iranian Contemporary Historical Studies, he has also done independent research work

for different projects at the British National Archives. His current research interests are: Persian and Shi'i history and politics since the nineteenth century, religion and society in the Pahlavi era, religious leadership in Shi'i Islam, religious seminaries, and oral history of British diplomats in Iran.

Iran: a war waiting to happen?

—**Yazan Albarahma**—

Israel has been threatening Iran for the past few years that if they do not cease with their nuclear program there is a possibility of a conflict with Iran on one side and Israel and the United States with the help of some European countries on the other.

During these years, the Iranian government, under the leadership of President Ahmad Nijad, has been able to start their nuclear program which was first built—according to Iranian officials— for peaceful purposes such as generating electricity. However, according to the western media, the Iranian government soon changed their position to establishing and producing a nuclear war head.

In 2011 the American and the European governments managed to enforce economic and political sanctions against the Iranian government as a measure to cease the continuation of their nuclear program, but this did not achieve its goal.

Political analysts are saying that this year might be the beginning of a war that Israel is going to launch against Iran. The war predicted is not going to be an ordinary one, but a strategic strike by the Israeli government in order to destroy Iranian projects politically and economically, or at least slow it down for a few years ahead.

Analysis has pointed out that the American president has given Israel the green light to bomb Iran during his speech in AIPAC on 4/3/2012. Obama kept repeating his full support

of the Israeli state as well as declaring his commitment to the security of Israel.

Obama discussed his beliefs that the Israeli state shares with the United States its democratic values and belief in freedom. He also awarded Israeli president Shimon Perez the highest Medal of Honor, the “Freedom Medal”.

Obama clearly stated that America is willing to use its military power against any threat to Israel as well as giving his complete agreement that Israel has the right to defend itself against any potential threats.

Three major scenarios were published by Doctor Adam Ruitter, PHD in economics in Yediot Ahronot newspaper about the potential economical and political possibilities that will affect both Israel and Iran.

The first scenario was— comparing the potential conflict to the first Gulf war of 1991: Although Saddam Hussein launched a few missiles, his threats were the same as Ahmad Nijad. Hamas, similarly, will not take a huge part in the war and will only launch tens of missiles as a sign of support to the Iranians while refusing to take Gaza strip to a war like in 2009.

Hizbullah will accordingly because of its fears of dragging the area into a war since its position is not stable due to the Syrian revolution against Bashar Al Assad, and its interior problems in Lebanon because of the Hariri trial.

Fighting will go on for a few days or maybe a week, while the Israeli economy will be reduced by 0.1% of its national production.



IAEA Director General Mohamed ElBaradei at the IAEA General Meeting.

The second scenario, according to the 2006 war in Lebanon, the Israeli army will enter the south of Lebanon, hundreds of Israeli soldiers will be killed and thousands will be injured while 25% of Hizbullah's missiles hit Israeli cities.

Hamas in Gaza will also take part and so the Israeli state will be a target of attack from the north by Hizbullah, from the west by Hamas and in the center by Iran.

The economic damage suffered by Israel will be 20 Billion NIS as well as the economic growth rates affected by 0.5%.

The third scenario is that the Iranian response will last months

with the help of Hizbullah and Hamas. The Israeli people will be uprooted by the launching of hundreds of missiles from Iran everyday, and the Iranian government will use the same tactics that were used during the Iranian- Iraqi war which will cause a psychological affect on the Israeli masses.

This scenario will have a similar effect on the Israeli government as at the first years of the second Intifada, 2001-2003. The Israeli government is going to be forced to invest a huge amount of money to pay for compensation and reconstruction and restorations of buildings which will be destroyed by bombings which

will also affect the state budget significantly.

Iran is going to strike back, that's the only guarantee. But is the Israeli government going to be able to stop the Iranian nuclear program?

The Iranians have tens of nuclear sites that are scattered across the country, and the Israeli missiles are not going to be able to strike them all due to the size of the Iranian state.

The Iranian ambassador in Lebanon, Ghazanfar Rukon Adabai, said to the national media agency that his country “is going to respond to any attack led by the Israeli army by the eleven thousand missiles that are targeted to specific areas.”

114 people killed in Syria and displacement in Homs

—**Hussein Alrajab**—

50 families were driven into Lebanon after hearing of the massacre which killed about 52 women and children in Homs. The General Authority for the Syrian revolution reported that the number of dead rose on Monday to 114, most of them in Homs and Idlib. The representative of Qatar told the United Nations that more than 8000 people have died as a result of repression in Syria.

A spokesman for coordinating Syrian refugees in Lebanon, Ahmed Moussa, said on Monday that the 50 families took refuge from the violence in Syria in Tripoli after fleeing from Homs.

It was reported in the French

press that the families had traveled across the border in the Bekaa Valley in eastern Lebanon and the region of Wadi Khaled, the northern border.

114 people killed

The General Authority for the Syrian revolution reported that 114 people killed on Monday, shot dead by Syrian security forces, mostly in Homs and Idlib, the activists said that the dead included 52 people killed by dawn on Monday.

A member of the General Authority for the Syrian revolution, Hadi al-Abdullah al, found “the bodies of at least 26 children and 21 women in my neighborhood and Adawiya the

grove, some others were stabbed and slaughtered at the hands of Cbihh.” The massacre of Homs killed about 50 children and a woman

Activists broadcast videos and pictures of the victims, showing terrible sights where the heads of children had been mutilated and charred bodies littering the ground. It was reported that the al-Abdullah element of the Syrian army had managed to freely transport the bodies to the Bab al-lions the most secure sector, enabling activists to paint the bodies.

And Al-Abdullah Al-Hadi said, citing witness reports, that elements of the regime's forces “gathered on Sunday dozens of

women and girls in public squares in the grove, and Aröhn, and began to taunt them, and did that before the eyes of their parents.”

He added that “some people who witnessed the humiliation of their daughters told me they could not but cry, because they were



Syrians on protest march.

Ebrahim Haghghi: “Designing a better world”



Haghghi at EMU

Elnaz Nasehi

Ebrahim Haghghi, born in 1949, is a well-known Iranian graphic designer. He graduated from the Art University of Tehran in architecture. However, he preferred to work professionally as a graphic designer. This university lecturer also has professional experience in photography, painting, filmmaking, and costume and stage design. In the current semester he's offering a course as well as an exhibition at the Faculty of Communication and Media Studies. We appreciate having the opportunity to interview him.

Graphics is a new course in this department. I was surprised when I've heard you're going to give a course here. How come do you know our department?

5 years ago, Dr. Senih Çavuşoğlu won the first prize of the International Logo Design Competition of World Olympiad for Urban Design which was held in Tehran in cooperation with UNESCO. I was a member of the jury and the chairman of Iranian Graphic Designers Society. So, we got to know each other and the next year, he invited me for a speech and a workshop in this department. Additionally I organized an exhibition of Iranian selected posters. In the first cooperation between this department and the Graphic School of Vije in Iran, 20 students from here with 20 students from Vije attended the workshop in this department. Our cooperation continued in the form of distance joint project till this year that I was invited by Dr. Senih to give an intensive one-month course in poster designing for master students.

Have you had such an experience before in other countries?

Yes, there were two workshop experiences in Switzerland, Finland, and some other speeches around the world.

What were your expectations before giving the course here and were they met?

I have heard that as well as the graphics students, there are lots of media and communication students here, and that was

so interesting for me. However, facing the real class, I found 50% of students familiar with the field who know graphics, image and visual arts, but the others seem to be here from other fields with no clarified objectives and accordingly not enough knowledge of the field.

What about Cyprus? I mean, you have been here before. So, what do you think about it?

It is a small and safe country; despite all limitations it is encountered as a half occupied country. But having the huge number of students from different countries, the university is extending, and this cultural diversity will certainly influence the people's living space and interactions. Back to my previous experiences in Basel and Helsinki, people were living calm, peaceful and cultured the same as here and in the globalized current world which technology is bringing the world much closer together, they surprisingly know

how to live calmly.

You have had different artistic experiences. How do you identify yourself? A graphic designer or a photographer? I mean do you have any preferences?

I certainly identify myself a graphic designer. Painting and photography are the escapes from the monotony of ordered works. In this way, not only I have the opportunity to share my personal experiences, but also these new interactions influence on my graphic designing.

I have read in another interview that you said “I believe artists' works can lead to a better world”. What do you exactly mean by this better world and how do you expect an artist to assist achieving this goal?

The human beings undoubtedly cannot live without art. I mean aesthetic achievements make the world a better and more tolerable place to live. Actually, I divided people into 3 categories: those who seek war, those who deal, and those who play. Artists are in the third category and they keep their inner child actively alive. I don't understand people in the first category who are craving war in macro or micro level. I don't understand the trade world of the second group as well. With a cursory look at all types of media, you'll find lots of mass products ads persuading people to buy. This common system of capitalism will be cracked down soon. We should consider what happened in New York as a sound of its cracking and the rising demand for change. In this capitalist world, the less artists enter the two other categories, the more successful they will be. However, this entrance is partly inevitable due to our survival needs.

In this sense, graphic designers would be in the category of trading then. Wouldn't they be?

Graphics is in the sphere of visual communication and its primary function is

to communicate. A good graphic designer should design effectively to enhance the communication and distribution process. Certainly and inevitably, as a graphic designer, we cannot survive totally out of this sphere. In designing a box of tissue, there is an order, and a customer who ordered job to a graphic designer to reach his/her target customer of buyers. I may never assume this designing as art. But the cultured part of the society, the intellectuals would judge them during the time as an artistic work or not.

Do you mean that graphic works can be called artistic just through time and lasting impact?

In one hand yes, but on the other hand, I should say that graphic designing consists of wide range of works from designing tickets and packaging to design for artistic products e.g. music album or book cover. The more you get closer to the latter range, the more you have chance of providing a creative artistic works. This part is where the graphic designing alongside industrial design assists the more beautiful form of the world.

Is this more beautiful world the better world you were talking about?

Yes and no. Yes, in formal visual aspect, and no because we need serenity beside comfort. We make our fast food ready, sit on our modern comfortable sofa and watch the greatest movie on our newest model of home cinema, but does this comfort means we have serenity? In my opinion, human being lost the balance between comfort and serenity.

As the last question, are you going to give courses here the next term?

If we can manage time according to students demand and my busy schedule, I am interested in being here next term.

Thank you for your time and hope to see you here next semester at E.M.U.



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