

**Listings Release**  
**March—April 2014**

**VISUAL ART**



**Mogadishu— Lost Moderns**  
**Rashid Ali & Andrew Cross**  
**07/03/14—26/04/14**

The Mosaic Rooms are pleased to present Mogadishu – Lost Moderns, the first exhibition to explore Mogadishu through its architecture and urban environment, narrating the story of Somalia's journey from traditional African nation via colonisation and post colonialism to emergent independent state. This trajectory may be familiar to Africa but its manifestations are not: how was Mogadishu created as a modern African capital? Architect Rashid Ali and photographer Andrew Cross offer a unique account of what remains of the city's urban fabric and key modernist symbols after two decades of civil conflict. These specially commissioned photographs are presented alongside rare archival photographs, not yet presented to the public, which document the city's architecture under Italian colonial rule.

Tuesday—Saturday, 11am–6pm

**FREE** rsvp@mosaicrooms.org

**TALKS**

**Mogadishu—Making of a Modern African City**  
**Thursday 13 March, 7pm**

Architect and urbanist Rashid Ali explores the changing urban fabric of Somalia's capital city, Mogadishu, from the early 20th Century until present day.

**FREE** rsvp@mosaicrooms.org

**Mogadishu—Heritage and Preservation**  
**Wednesday 19 March, 7pm**

Archaeologist Dr Sada Mire is one of the only active archaeologists working in Somalia today. Join her as she discusses the historical significance of Mogadishu and its ancient and multicultural heritage.

**FREE** rsvp@mosaicrooms.org

**As Seen From Here**  
**Wednesday 26 March, 7pm**

Reflecting on his experience of travelling to Mogadishu in July 2013 to create the photographs for the exhibition Mogadishu—Lost Moderns, artist Andrew Cross talks about the issues of visual representation of sites of conflict with Michaela Crimmin (Director of Culture+Conflict).

**FREE** rsvp@mosaicrooms.org

**2014 Edward W. Said London Lecture**  
**Friday 28 March, 7pm, at the British Museum**

Palestinian lawyer, award-winning writer and political activist Raja Shehadeh poses the question, "Is there a Language of Peace?", at this annual lecture.

**Tickets £12/£8 conc**, buy online or email rsvp@mosaicrooms.org

**Contemporary Somali Culture**  
**Thursday 24 April, 7pm**

Panel discussion on current issues in Somali culture with Somali-British novelist Nadifa Mohamed, Somali-British journalist Ismail Einashe, architect Rashid Ali and guests.

**FREE** rsvp@mosaicrooms.org

## MUSIC

### Somali Sunrise

**Thursday 20 March, 7pm**

Performance from Somali hip hop group and peace activists Waayaha Cusub with preview screening of *Live From Mogadishu*.

**FREE** rsvp@mosaicrooms.org

## LITERATURE

### Mail Box

**Thursday 10 April, 7pm**

Somali-Italian novelist and poet, Ubah Cristina Ali Farah will discuss her experiences of growing up in Mogadishu and how this has come to influence her writings. She will read from her latest novel *Madre Piccola (Little Mother)* and discuss her work with Somali British poet, Elmi Ali.

**FREE** rsvp@mosaicrooms.org

## FILM

### Sea Shell/Tree of Life

**Wednesday 2 April, 7.30pm**

Award-winning shorts by Somali film director and writer Abdulkadir Ahmed Said. Screenings and Q&A.

*Sea Shell* (1990, 23 min) A woman finds a sea shell along the beach. It has a story to tell ... the spirit of a small child speaks through the shell telling of the devastation of her home and village as a result of toxic waste dumping on their shores.

*Tree of Life* (1988, 23 min) In a small town, a nomad cuts down a tree he needs to use. However, he accidentally chops down the wrong tree, felling the tree that sustains life itself. When the latter tree falls, all life disappears. The nomad then finds himself in the middle of a desert that he does not recognize.

**Tickets £5**, buy online or email

rsvp@mosaicrooms.org

### Notes for an African Oresteia

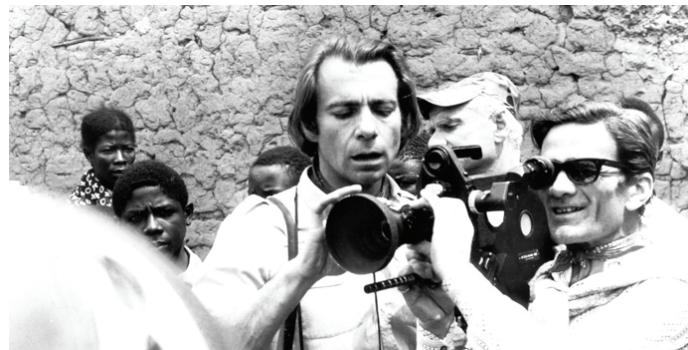
**Wednesday 16 April, 7.30pm**

Pier Paolo Pasolini's lyrical reflections on myth, colonialism and modernity.

In *Notes for an African Oresteia*, Pasolini documents on film his 1970 location hunting and local casting tour of Tanzania and Uganda for a never-realized feature adaptation of the Greek tragedy *The Oresteia*.

**Tickets £5**, buy online or email

rsvp@mosaicrooms.org



### Notes to Editors

- Interviews with the artists and speakers available on request, email press@mosaicrooms.org
- Images from the exhibitions are available via The Mosaic Rooms, email press@mosaicrooms.org
- Entry to the exhibitions are free. The Mosaic Rooms are open 11am-6pm Tuesday-Saturday
- The Mosaic Rooms, a leading independent cultural space in west London, deliver a high quality, contemporary and progressive cultural programme from the Arab world and internationally. They are managed by the A.M. Qattan Foundation, a UK charity dedicated to the support of culture and education in Palestine and the Arab world. The Mosaic Rooms' programme is run by Rachael Jarvis, Head Curator. The Mosaic Rooms are part of the Foundation's Culture and Arts Programme
- The Mosaic Rooms is situated on the corner of the Cromwell Road and Earl's Court Road in Kensington, London, a short walk from Earl's Court Underground Station and Exhibition Centre.
- For information about The Mosaic Rooms and the A.M. Qattan Foundation visit [www.mosaicrooms.org](http://www.mosaicrooms.org)