

Visiting Speaker Series

The Institute of Arab and Islamic Studies is
pleased to present a talk by esteemed academic

Professor Geert Jan van Gelder Royal Netherlands Academy of Arts and Sciences

'Foul Whisperings: Madness and Poetry in Arabic Literary History'

Wednesday, 23 March 2016, 5.15 pm

LT1, IAIS Building, Streatham Campus, Exeter, EX4 4ND

Tea & Coffee to be served from 4.30 pm in the Common Room,
Institute of Arab and Islamic Studies.

All are welcome



This lecture will focus on a number of minor poets from the first few centuries of Islam, who were said to be insane (*muwaswis*, literally “bewhispered”), even though their poetry was not always mad.

Professor van Gelder was the Laudian Professor of Arabic at the University of Oxford from 1998 to 2012 and Fellow of St John's College, Oxford. He was

previously a Lecturer in Arabic at the University of Groningen and gained his PhD from the University of Leiden. He was appointed as a member of the Royal Netherlands Academy of Arts and Sciences in 1994 and became a Fellow of the British Academy in 2005.