Introduction

After the great success of the first conference "Writing the History of ‘Ottoman Music’" held in Istanbul on 25–26 November 2011, the Department of Musicology at the University of Münster in cooperation with the Orient Institute Istanbul is hosting a second conference, quasi "Writing the History of ‘Ottoman Music’ Continued", yet this time on a more specific subject: "Rhythmic Cycles and Structures in the Art Music of the Middle East”.

Along with maqam, which provides the guidelines for melodic structures in the art musics of the Near East, rhythmic cycles usûl and iqā’ are of substantial importance for the whole conception of a musical work. Beyond merely a rhythmic pattern, these cycles do more than just organizing the musical time, and hence play a crucial role in shaping the whole structure of music. However, in contrast to the extensively studied maqam system, this aspect remains mostly neglected.

This second conference focuses on this facet of Ottoman music, together with musics of neighbouring and part cultures (e.g. Arabic, Mediterranean, Central Asian) through different perspectives and aims to offer a platform for discussions on the development of usûls over time up to the 20th century and in different regions.

Conference Venue

Westfälische Wilhelms-Universität Münster
Festsaal
Schlossplatz 5
48149 Münster

The conference is free and open to the public.

Contact

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27th February, Thursday

Opening
09.30–10.00 Prof. Dr. Ralf Martin Jäger (WWU, Institute for Musicology, Münster), Dr. habil. Martin Greve (Orient Institut, Istanbul)

Session 1: Usûl in historical context
Chair: Prof. Dr. John Morgan O’Connell (Cardiff University, School of Music, Cardiff)
10.00–10.20 Prof. Dr. Owen Wright (University of London, SOAS, London): Ottoman Usûl and Their Post-Timurid Predecessors
10.20–10.40 Prof. Yalçın Tura (ITÜ, Conservatory of Turkish Music, Istanbul): Observations on the Use of the Rhythmic Cycle Darb-ı Fethî (Rhythm of Conquest) in Turkish Vocal Music of 17th, 18th, and 19th Centuries
10.40–11.00 Dr. Judith I. Haug (WWU, Institute for Musicology, Münster): Representations of Usûl in the Manuscripts of ‘Alî Ufuk (17th c.)
11.00–11.30 Discussions
11.30–12.00 Coffee break

Session 2: Usûl and musical structure
Chair: Ass. Prof. Dr. Münir Beken (UCLA, Herb Alpert School of Music, Dep. of Ethnomusicology, Los Angeles/CAGA)
12.00–12.20 Jacob Olley (King’s College, Department of Music, London): Rhythmic Structure, Melodic Density and the Transmission of the Ottoman Perpey, 18th–19th Centuries
12.20–12.40 Dr. Mehmet Uğur Ekinci (Ankara): An Investigation of the Transformation and Diversification of Usûl Semâî in Ottoman Music
13.00–13.30 Discussions
13.30–15.00 Lunch break

Session 3: Usûl in written tradition:
Consensus and variation, theory and praxis
Chair: Prof. Dr. Martin Stokes (King’s College, Department of Music, London)
15.00–15.20 Prof. Şehvar Beşiroğlu (ITÜ, Conservatory of Turkish Music, Istanbul): How to transcribe and analyse Cantemir’s Music Collection in Consideration of Usûl and Tempo
15.20–15.40 Prof. Ruhi Ayangil (Fatih University, Conservatory, Istanbul) The Role and Importance of Periods in Understanding Usûl Hâvi and Larger Usûl Structures
15.40–16.00 Prof. Dr. Nilgün Doğrusöz-Dişiaçık (ITÜ, Conservatory of Turkish Music, Istanbul): Usûl Issue in Kırşehri Edvâr of the 15th Century
16.00–16.30 Discussions
16.30–17.00 Coffee break

Ceremonial address
17.00–18.00 Dr. Eckhard Neubauer (Frankfurt): Some Remarks on the History of Ramal/Remel

28th February, Friday

Session 4: Regional traditions and part cultures
Chair: Prof. Dr. Ralf Martin Jäger (WWU, Institute for Musicology, Münster)
10.00–10.20 Dr. des. Salah Eddin Maraqa (JMU, Institute for Music Research, Würzburg): How Turkish are “al-usulat in-turkiyya” in Kubaisî’s Safîna?
10.20–10.40 Mustafa Said (Foundation for Arab Music Archiving and Research, Beirut): The Language Poetic Rhythm and its Influence on Internal and External Rhythms in the Oriental/Mediterranean Music
10.40–11.00 Dr. Angelika Jung (Weimar): The Succession of Pulsating, Limping, Pacing and Dance Inspired Usûl in Bukharian Shâshmaqam as a Metaphor and Possibly a Support for the Sufi Search for Truth?
11.00–11.30 Discussions
11.30–12.00 Coffee break

Session 5: Subsequent developments:
Usûl in music of the Republic
Chair: Prof. Şehvar Beşiroğlu (ITÜ, Conservatory of Turkish Music, Istanbul)
12.00–12.20 Prof. Dr. John Morgan O’Connell (Cardiff University, School of Music): Usûlsüz: A Matter of Meter in the Concerts of Münir Nurettin Selçuk
12.20–12.40 Prof. Dr. Martin Stokes (King’s College, Department of Music, London) Usûl in Fantazi: Some Preliminary Questions
12.40–13.00 Discussions
13.00–14.30 Lunch break

Session 5-II: Subsequent developments:
Usûl in music of the Republic
Chair: Dr. habil. Martin Greve (Orient Institut, Istanbul)
14.30–14.50 Prof. Songül Karahasanoğlu (ITÜ, Conservatory of Turkish Music, Istanbul): Approaches Resulting from Republican Period Music Policies
14.50–15.10 Ass. Prof. Dr. Münir Beken (UCLA, Herb Alpert School of Music, Dep. of Ethnomusicology, Los Angeles, CA): Structural Aspects of Traditional Gazino Program
15.10–15.40 Discussions
15.40–16.00 Coffee break

Roundtable discussion
Chair and Keynote Speaker: Prof. Dr. Walter Feldman (New York University, Abu Dhabi)
16.00–16.30 Keynote speech: The Art of Melodic Extension Within and Beyond the Usûl Compositions in Zencîr Usûl from the 17th to the Early 19th Centuries
16.30–18.00 Discussions