

SVENSKA FORSKNING SINSTITUTET I ISTANBUL
FORSKARKOLLEGIET



inbjuder till

FORSKNINGSSEMINARIUM

Jonas Otterbeck, Aga Khan University

”Instil The Love Of The Beloved”:
om en engelsk rockmusikers sufilyrik

Moderation: Ann-Kristin Jonasson

Seminarietext erhålles vid anmälan



Tid: 9 september 2021, 19:00

Plats: Zoom. Länk och seminarietext erhålles vid anmälan

Anmälan: till sfii@medelhavsinstitutet.se

Abstract följer på nästa sida

Peter Murphy – iconic rock legend dubbed the (grand-, god-) father of goth, a title he is proud of, if somewhat ironic about – has for more than three decades written highly original Sufi lyrics to his music. Most of this time, he has lived in Turkey. Although he is very open about his attachment to Sufism in interviews – it is even noted in the English Wikipedia article on him – I have failed to find one single scholarly article on this influence on his work. This article explores and interprets his lyrics with reference to his biography and to Sufi tropes. The main material is Peter Murphy's nine solo albums starting with *Should the world fail to fall apart* (1986).

The article is part of a larger project focusing on creativity and Islam in different forms of popular culture. The main idea is to conduct a number of case studies of individual artists. By engaging with each artists' output and then interviewing them about it, especially focusing on their understanding of ethics and aesthetics in relation to Islam, I hope to be able to both make visible the many contributions by Muslims to popular culture and to contribute with an original meta-analysis focusing on creative processes in relation to religion.

The text at hand is not finished even though it may look like an article. Yet, it has no real analysis attached to it, it lacks meta-communication etc. It is written without knowing if this is meant as a chapter or an article, thus still struggling to find its form. It has proven difficult to get in contact with Peter Murphy, if you have an idea how to, please share. I would also like to know if anyone knows of good studies of Ahmet Kayhan Dede (d. 1998) in any language. I have found some text written from pious perspectives. FINALLY, as the lyrics take some space there is not as much text as the number of pages imply.