



THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO

## San Diego Public Library

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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### **SAN DIEGO PUBLIC LIBRARY SCREENS “ARUSI PERSIAN WEDDING” IN ITS ITVS COMMUNITY CINEMA SERIES** *Cultural Clash Tests the Limits of a Couple Preparing for their Wedding*

**SAN DIEGO** –The San Diego Public Library, Media Arts Center San Diego and the Persian Cultural Center will host a preview film showing of “Arusi Persian Wedding,” a film by, Iranian-American filmmaker Marjan Tehrani. Dr. Cyrus Nakhshab will facilitate a discussion following the screening, which begins at 6:30 p.m. on Wednesday, February 18, in the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor auditorium of the Central Library, located at 820 E Street in downtown San Diego. This event is FREE to the public.

For filmmaker Marjan Tehrani and her brother Alex, growing up Iranian-American has always meant being caught between two worlds. With unique perspective and intimate storytelling, Tehrani brings to life a compelling examination of U.S. - Iranian relations through the personal journey of her brother Alex and his fiancée Heather’s trip to Iran to hold a traditional Persian wedding—just as the filmmaker’s Iranian father and American mother did at a time when Iran and the US were close allies.

As a tense dinner party between the couple’s families soon illustrates, relations between the U.S. and Iran have changed significantly over the past 50 years, from the CIA-led coup that placed Mohammad Reza Shah Pahlavi in power, to the wary political climate of today. Tehrani sheds light on history largely unknown by her generation, with honesty, care, and a thoughtful collection of archival segments featuring historical footage, intelligence documents, and beautiful photographs taken by Alex himself. A universal love story set against a fascinating history, this heartfelt film offers a rare glimpse of Iran beyond politics, revealing its people and history in a personal, hopeful and human light.

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Community Cinema is affiliated with the independent media organization ITVS or Independent Television Service. ITVS Community Cinema is a monthly screening series that pairs independently produced documentary films with leading organizations working to resolve related social issues in communities across the country. All film content featured in ITVS Community Cinema will broadcast nationally on the Emmy Award-winning PBS series Independent Lens. The national broadcast premiere is Tuesday, February 10, 2009; check listings for the local broadcast date.

The goal of the Persian Cultural Center is to offer presentations of non-biased, non-political and non-religious events, resulting in a blend of harmonious experiences for people of all ethnicities interested in the culture of Iran. Find more information about the Center online at [www.pccsd.org](http://www.pccsd.org).

Learn about other events at the San Diego Public Library's Central Library and 35 branches, find links to numerous additional resources, or search for materials in the Library's catalog online at [www.sandiegolibrary.org](http://www.sandiegolibrary.org).

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