

2011 FALL FOCUS

The Individual in Global Society – Decision & Destiny

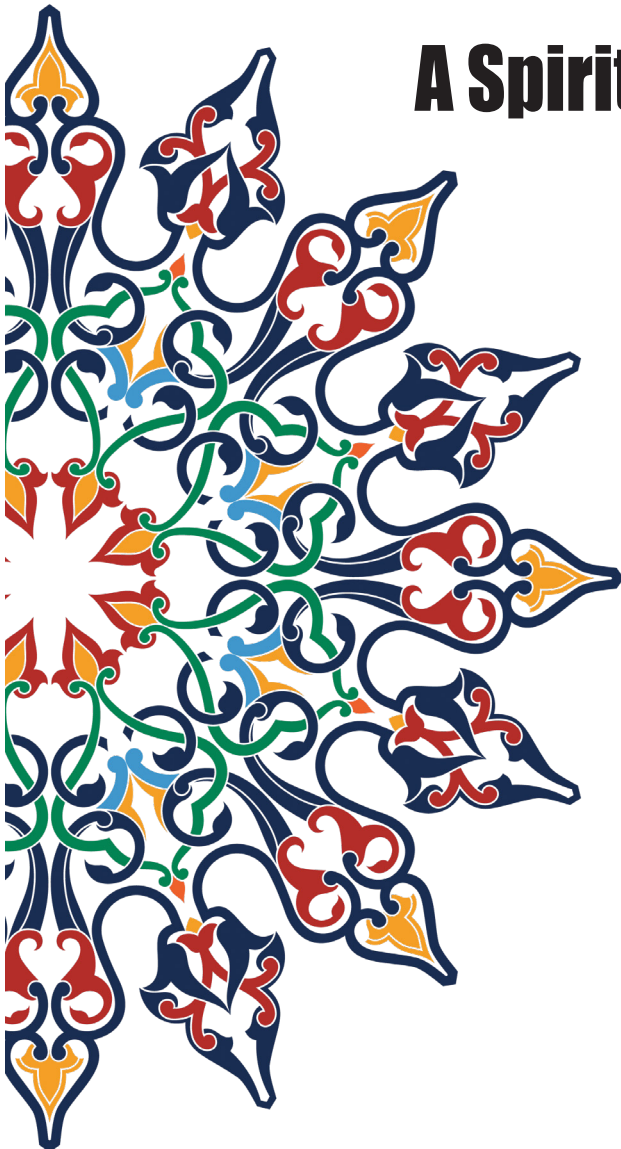
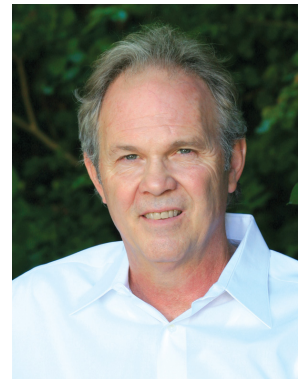
First Annual Raana Akbar Memorial Lecture on Islam & Culture

The Hajj to Mecca: A Spiritual Pilgrimage for Our Time

Michael Wolfe

Friday, September 30
5:00 p.m.

Malcolm Field Theatre
for Performing Arts
(on the campus of SVSU)



Michael Wolfe is co-founder of Unity Productions Foundation and Executive Producer for UPF Films. For fifteen years, he was publisher of Tombouctou Books, a small press that published poetry and avant garde prose including *The Basketball Diaries* by Jim Carroll and Paul Bowles' final collection of short stories, *Unwelcome Words: Seven Stories*. Michael Wolfe has authored several books of poetry and prose but since 1993 has written almost exclusively on Islam. Following a pilgrimage to Mecca, he published *The Hajj*, a first-person travel account and later published *One Thousand Roads to Mecca* in 1997, an anthology of ten centuries of travel writing.

After September 11, 2001, Michael Wolfe edited a collection of essays by American Muslims, *Taking Back Islam: American Muslims Reclaim Their Faith*, a work which won the 2003 Wilber Award for "Best Book of the Year on a Religious Theme." As a film-maker, Michael Wolfe has produced numerous documentaries including "Cities of Light: The Rise and Fall of Islamic Spain," "Talking Through Walls: How the Struggle to Build a Mosque United a Community," and "Treasures of Islam: Celebrating Art and Architecture from the Muslim World." His televised account of the Hadj from Mecca was nominated for Peabody, Emmy, George Polk, and National Press Club Awards, and won the Muslim Public Affairs Council Media Award.

This event is named in memory of Dr. Raana W. Akbar, who served on the SVSU Board of Control from 2002-2003.



For more information, contact the
SVSU Box Office at (989) 964-4261