

Boston Experimental Theatre Presents:

# BLIND OWL

Based on the Novel by Sadegh Hedayat

Adapted and Directed by Vahdat Yeganeh

Cast: Jared Wright, Deniz Khateri, Rick Chason

Music by Bahar Royaei

Art Director: Jared Wright

Dramaturgy by Dr. Robert Lublin



October 9th-10th 2015 at 7pm  
Stone Science Auditorium (CAS B50), Boston University  
675 Commonwealth Ave, Boston MA  
for more information please visit [bostonexperimentaltheatre.com](http://bostonexperimentaltheatre.com)



Boston Experimental  
Theatre Company™

Sponsored by Modern Languages and Comparative Literature,  
Institute for the Study of Muslim Societies and Civilizations,  
Middle East and North Africa Studies, The Core Curriculum,  
Dr. Sunil Sharma, Dr. Sassan Tabatabai, Boston University.

Poster by Deniz Khateri  
Arvin Fouladi

This October, Boston's preeminent Grotowskian artist collective, the Boston Experimental Theatre Company (BETC), will present the premiere of a newly devised play. After two years of more traditional storytelling with our acclaimed adaptations of the Persian epic *Shahnameh* and our immersive, site-adaptive series, *The Apartment*, we are returning to our surrealist roots with an adaptation of the most celebrated and controversial masterpiece of 20<sup>th</sup> century Iranian literature, *The Blind Owl* by Sadegh Hedayat.

A portrait of an isolated artist's tormented, sexually frustrated, Opium – induced mind, the novel confronts the lowest reaches of human depression and lures us into a raw, ethereal world of psychological despair.

Iranian artistic director Vahdat Yeganeh leads the company through a highly improvisational rehearsal process informed by the antirealistic dramatic philosophy of Antonin Artaud and the organic, minimalist directorial techniques of Jerry Grotowski. With intensely physical body work, composition of original music, and an earnest exploration of the novel's impact on our collective psyche, we strive to transform the solitary despair of the novel into a communal celebration of a living experience.

On a political level, the company continues our past efforts in striving to emulate Dariush Shayegan's philosophy of "Dialogue Among Civilizations", a set

of ideals that encourage creating an environment for Iranian and American artists and thinkers to explore dynamics of interplay between our cultures. As a company of Iranian and American artists with Islamic, Jewish, and Christian backgrounds, we will converge our own experiences and perspectives on the novel and the state of the contemporary world while we transform the language and medium of the text for a new audience, creating a theatrical experience full of love for the classic novel but with its own identity and spirit.

This production is made possible by the kind support of our sponsors at Boston University: the department of Modern Languages and Comparative Literature, the Institute for the Study of Muslim Societies and Civilization, the department of Middle East and North Africa Studies, Dr. Sunil Sharma, Dr. Sassan Tabatabai, and the Core Curriculum. If you would like a press pass to our performances on October 9 or 10 please reply to this email and we will gladly reserve tickets for you. Interviews with the director and creative team are also available. For more information, visit our website at [bostonexperimentaltheatre.com](http://bostonexperimentaltheatre.com). Thank you!

**Press Contact:**

**Rick Chason, Company Dramaturg/ Publicist**

**339-788-7692, [richardchason@gmail.com](mailto:richardchason@gmail.com)**