

Chapter 13 – *Āvāz*: The Art of Persian Traditional Singing (Behzad Namazi)

Abdollah Davami: “Bahar-e Delkash”

Year composed: 1915
Era: Qajar dynasty
Style: traditional
Form: *taṣnif*
Mode: *abū ‘atā*
Composer: Gholamhossein Darvish (“Darvish Khan”)
Poet: Mohammad Taghi Bahar (“Malekoshora”)

Gholamhossein Banan: “Ey Iran”

Year composed: 1944
Era: Pahlavi dynasty
Style: traditional/orchestral
Form: *soroud-e melli* (patriotic anthem)
Mode: *dashṭī*
Composer: Ruhollah Khaleghi
Poet: Hossein Gol-e Golab

Mohammad Reza Shajarian: “Morgh-e Sahar”

Year composed: 1925
Era: Pahlavi dynasty
Style: traditional
Form: *taṣnif*
Mode: *māhur*
Composer: Morteza Neydavood
Poet: Mohammad Taghi Bahar (“Malekoshora”)

Shahram Nazeri: “Gol-e Sad Barg”

Year released: 1984
Style: traditional
Instruments: setar ensemble and *daf*
Form: full album
Mode: *bayāt-e tork*
Composers: Jalal Zolfonoun, Reza Ghassemi, Shahram Nazeri
Poets: Ḥāfez and Jalāl ad-Dīn ar-Rūmī

Homayoun Shajarian: “Chera Rafti?”

Year released: 2014
Album: *Beyond Any Form*
Style: contemporary classical/traditional
Instruments: string orchestra, piano, choir, setar
Form: *taṣnif*
Mode: pseudo-*navā* (Aeolian)
Composer: Tahmoures Pournazeri
Poet: Simin Behbahani

[Homayoun Shajarian: “Ba Man Sanama”](#)

Year released: 2014
Album: *Arayesh-e Ghaliz* (“Heavy Makeup”)
Style: modern rock/traditional fusion
Instruments: electric guitar, drum-set, keyboard, bass guitar
Form: *tasnif*
Mode: *homāyun*
Composer: Sohrab Pournazeri
Poet: Jalāl ad-Dīn ar-Rūmī

[Bamdad Falahati: “Saz-o āvāz”](#)

Year performed: 2013
Live Performance: Nafir Ensemble concert in Iran
Style: traditional
Instrument: nay (accompaniment)
Form: *saz-o avaz* (vocal improvisation section)
Mode: *shūr*
Poet: Hafez
Poem: Qazal #53

[Akbar Golpayegani: *Tahrir* \(traditional vocal technique\)](#)

*Compilation of “Golpa” performing *tahrir-e chakkoshi* and *tahrir-e bolboli* techniques.

[Rastak Ensemble: “Biu Barimesh”](#)

Style: folk song from Khuzestan region
Form: strophic folk song + *āvāz* interlude/postlude
Mode: *abū ‘atā* (also performed in *shushtari*)
Composer/Lyricist: Unknown (folklore)
*Year released: 2016
*Album: *Miyane Khorshidhaye Hamishe* (“Among Eternal Suns”)
*Arrangement: Rastak Ensemble (vocalist: Behzad Moradi)

[Hossein Hamedanian: “Mobarak Baad”](#)

Year composed: ca. 1955
Era: Pahlavi dynasty
Style: *koocheh bazari* wedding song
Form: *taraneh*
Mode: *chāhārgāh*
Composer and Lyricist: Hossein Hamedanian

[Viguen: “Mahtab”](#)

Year premiered: ca. 1950
Era: Pahlavi dynasty
Style: pop song (considered the first-ever Persian pop song)
Instruments: electric guitar, bass guitar, drum set, violin, accordion
Form: verse-chorus song form (ABAB)
Songwriter: Viguen Derderian

Moein: “Man Az Rah Omadam”

Year released: ca. 1990

Album: *Khatereh*

Instruments: violin, flute, *tombak*, drum set, bass guitar, keyboard

Style: Persian pop-*sonnati*

Form: traditional *āvāz* introduction, followed by *taraneh*

Mode: *shūr*

Composer: Sadegh Nojouki

Lyricist: Masoud Fardmanesh

Mohsen Namjoo: “Sanama”

Year performed: 2016

Live performance: Mohsen Namjoo and the Nederlands Blazers Ensemble

Location: Concertgebouw in Amsterdam

Style: Persian fusion (blues, traditional, folk, and experimental vocal styles)

Form: traditional *āvāz* introduction, followed by song

Mode: *bayāt-e esfāhān*

Composer: Mohsen Namjoo

Poet: Jalāl ad-Dīn ar-Rūmī

Poem: *Ghazal* No. 767

Darya Davdar: “Mah Pishanoo”

Year performed: 2004

Location: Berlin (live performance)

Style: Persian folk/operatic fusion

Form: strophic song

Mode: *māhur*

Ensemble: solo soprano, violin, piano

Chartaar: “Dar Hasrate Maah”

Year released: 2012 (single track)

Album: *Baaraan Toee* (“You Are the Rain”) [2014]

Style: traditional/electronic fusion

Form: verse-chorus song form (ABCABCC)

Mode: pseudo-*dashtī*

Vocalist: Arman Garshasbi

Composer: Arash Fathi

Arranger: Aeen Ahmadifar

Lyricist: Ehsan Haeri

* = specific to this particular rendition