

ANIS MAKDISI MEMORIAL LECTURE 2015

ANGELIKA NEUWIRTH

Scripture, Poetry, and the Making of a Community
Reading the Qur'an as a Literary Text



College Hall B1 / Wednesday May 20, 2015 (6:00 pm)

The Memorial lecture focuses on the evolution of the Qur'an from oral proclamation to becoming a valorized scripture. The interactive communication processes between Prophet Muhammad and the learned Christian and Jewish groups in a local Arabic poetic milieu brought an epistemic turn in Arab late antiquity, with the written Qur'an being established as an ultimate authority in Islam that shaped the emerging Muslim community.

ANGELIKA NEUWIRTH is an eminent Professor of Qur'anic Studies at the Freie Universität Berlin, and Director of the prestigious academic research project, *Corpus Coranicum*. Between 1994 and 1999 she served as the Director of the German Orient-Institut in Beirut and Istanbul. In recognition of her academic authority in Qur'anic and Islamic Studies, she received several awards, including the distinguished *Sigmund Freud Prize*.