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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**GETTY VILLA PRESENTS A SPECIAL EVENING OF PERSIAN MUSIC BY
INTERNATIONALLY RENOWNED PERFORMERS MAHSA AND MARJAN VAHDAT**



Mahsa (left) and Marjan Vahdat

Saturday, October 19, 7:00 p.m. and Sunday, October 20, 3:00 p.m.

At the J. Paul Getty Museum, the Getty Villa

LOS ANGELES—Next weekend, the Getty Villa will present two musical performances by **Mahsa and Marjan Vahdat**, internationally renowned performers of classical and contemporary Persian music. Part of a new generation of musicians who are university educated and devoted to their artistic cause, the Vahdats uphold a waning tradition in today's Iran. With generous support provided by the J. Paul Getty Museum's Villa Council, these concerts complement the exhibition *The Cyrus Cylinder and Ancient Persia: A New Beginning*, on view at the Getty Villa through December 2, 2013.

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With limited access to public stages in their homeland, Mahsa and Marjan Vahdat often take to the road, bringing with them lush songs of love and loss. With each concert, they embody the promise of artistic expression to illuminate our common humanity. It is this same hopeful vision that has drawn people throughout the ages to the Cyrus Cylinder. On the occasion of this iconic object's visit to the Getty Villa, the sisters have created a special evening of music also featuring respected Tehran-based instrumentalists Pasha Hanjani (ney), Atabak Elyasi (setar), and Ali Rahimi (daf).

The performances will take place in the Auditorium at the Getty Villa on Saturday, October 19 at 7:00 p.m. and on Sunday, October 20 at 3:00 p.m. Tickets are \$25 and are available at www.getty.edu or by calling (310) 440-7300. The Getty Villa will be open Saturday evenings until 9:00 p.m. through November 30. Parking is \$15; \$10 after 5 p.m. on Saturdays. With the Getty's "Pay Once, Park Twice" program, visitors to both the Getty Center and the Getty Villa on the same day pay only one parking fee, using a special coupon obtained at the Information Desk of the first museum visited.

The Los Angeles presentation of *The Cyrus Cylinder and Ancient Persia: A New Beginning* was made possible by the generous support of [Farhang Foundation](#), the Getty's sponsor and community partner. This exhibition was organized by the British Museum in partnership with the Iran Heritage Foundation and the Arthur M. Sackler Gallery, Smithsonian Institution, in collaboration with the J. Paul Getty Museum. This exhibition is supported by an indemnity from the Federal Council on the Arts and Humanities.

Twinklings of Hope: Mahsa and Marjan Vahdat in Concert

Date: Saturday, October 19, and Sunday, October 20, 2013

Time: 7:00 p.m. on Saturday; 3:00 p.m. on Sunday

Location: Getty Villa, Auditorium

Admission: Tickets: \$25. Call (310) 440-7300 or visit the [event website](#).

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The J. Paul Getty Trust is an international cultural and philanthropic institution devoted to the visual arts that includes the J. Paul Getty Museum, the Getty Research Institute, the Getty Conservation Institute, and the Getty Foundation. The J. Paul Getty Trust and Getty programs serve a varied audience from two locations: the Getty Center in Los Angeles and the Getty Villa in Malibu.

The J. Paul Getty Museum collects in seven distinct areas, including Greek and Roman antiquities, European paintings, drawings, manuscripts, sculpture and decorative arts, and photographs gathered internationally. The Museum's mission is to make the collection meaningful and attractive to a broad audience by presenting and interpreting the works of art through educational programs, special exhibitions, publications, conservation, and research.

Visiting the Getty Villa

The Getty Villa is open Wednesday through Monday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., with **special Saturday hours until 9 p.m. October 12–November 30, 2013**. It is closed Tuesday and major holidays. Admission to the Getty Villa is always free. A ticket is required for admission. Tickets can be ordered in advance, or on the day of your visit, at www.getty.edu/visit or at (310) 440-7300. Parking is \$15 per car. Groups of 15 or more must make reservations by phone. For more information, call (310) 440-7300 (English or Spanish); (310) 440-7305 (TTY line for the deaf or hearing impaired). The Getty Villa is at 17985 Pacific Coast Highway, Pacific Palisades, California.

Additional information is available at www.getty.edu.