



University
of Victoria



Unresolved Matters: Contemporary Islamic Architecture in Turkey

Angela Andersen

Thursday, October 11

5:00-6:00 p.m.

Clearihue, Room C112

The Turkish state has adopted a forceful architectural policy that excludes the ceremonial architecture of marginalized Muslim groups from the constitutional definition of a “place of worship.” This talk will address Turkish policies, civil society, foreign investing, media control and intra-Islamic relationships through an architectural case study of a combined Sunni mosque and *cemevi* for the assemblies of the Alevi Muslim minority. Planned for a single, shared site and begun in 2013 in the capital of Ankara, the fate of the mosque-*cemevi* tells us much about shifting political and religious tensions in contemporary Turkish society.

Angela Andersen holds a PhD in the History of Art from The Ohio State University. Her work examines the inter- and intra-religious interactions that take place via the built environment, with a focus on the architecture of minority Muslim groups in the Islamic world. Her current research looks at Alevi Muslim communities in Turkey and in the European diaspora, and the role of their ceremonial sites, known as *cemevis*.

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