

The A. M. Qattan Foundation & I.B.Tauris Publishers
cordially invite you to join them in celebrating the publication of

Raising Dust: A Cultural History of Dance in Palestine

By Nicholas Rowe

The author will be in conversation with Tim Llewellyn, former BBC Middle East Correspondent

**Wednesday 12th May 2010
6:30 for 7:00 start till 8:30pm**

At



The Mosaic Rooms
A. M. Qattan Foundation
Tower House
226 Cromwell Road
London SW5 0SW



Entrance free but booking is essential
Please RSVP to: info@mosaicrooms.org or call 0207 370 9990

Nearest tube: Earl's Court (Earl's Court Road exit)
Buses: 74, 328, C1, C3

Nicholas Rowe graduated from the Australian Ballet School and subsequently worked as a choreographer and dancer with The Australian Ballet, The Sydney Dance Company, The Finnish National Ballet, Ballet Philippines, The West Australian Ballet, The Royal New Zealand Ballet, Modern Dance Turkey and Nomad Dance Theatre. In 2000 he moved to the West Bank city of Ramallah and spent the next eight years working with local dance collectives and arts institutions on dance performance and education projects in cities, villages and refugee camps across the West Bank and Gaza Strip. He completed his PhD on Palestinian dance through the London Contemporary Dance School and is the author of *Art, During Siege: Performing Arts Workshops in Traumatized Communities*. He is currently an Associate Dean at the National Institute of Creative Arts and Industries, University of Auckland.

Raising Dust

Dance in Palestine has a history as complex and contentious as the land itself. Whether dismissed as bacchantic madness by Bible tourists in the 19th Century, revived and glorified by Zionists, Pan-Arabists and Palestinian Nationalists in the 20th Century, or rejected by Islamic Reformists in the 21st Century, dance in Palestine has a rich and elusive story that remains to be told. Through historical archives, the memories of dancers of yesteryear and into today's vibrant performing arts scene, Nicholas Rowe shows how dance has acted as a barometer of social change, a forum for debate and a means of expressing forbidden ideas. Far from apolitical, this most physical of art forms has often defined the political mood of the day.

Tim Llewellyn was BBC Middle East Correspondent for ten years and is a regular commentator on Middle East affairs.