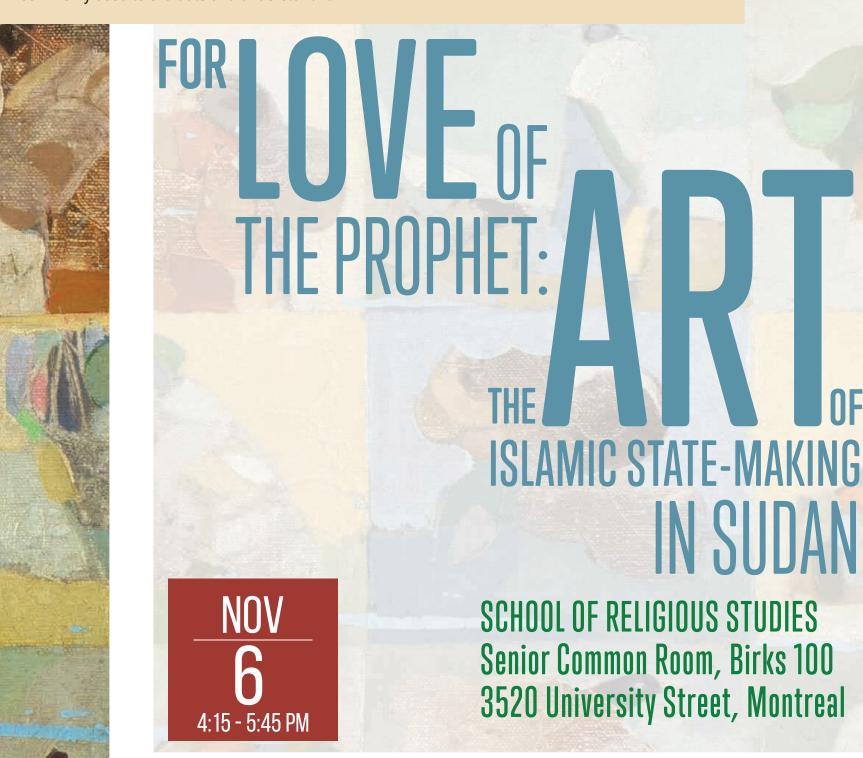
ISLAMIC ENCOUNTERS LECTURE SERIES

NOAH SALOMON

CARLETON COLLEGE

This talk will reflect on Salomon's recent book, telling the story of a mystery that surrounded the painting that graces its cover. The painting is an example of a trend in "Islamic fine arts" in Sudan that came to prominence in the early 1990s. The School of the One (*madrasat al-wahid*), as its most well-known instantiation was called, was an ambitious project that aimed to bring art back to Islam and Islam back to art, after what its founders understood as a lengthy period of estrangement. In doing so, the school sat in a symbiotic (if not unproblematic) relationship with a much larger project in Islamic artistry produced by the Sudanese state in its effort to stoke desire for and attachment to its political project. The painting serves as a site to interrogate our scholarly understanding of Islamic politics, reassessing the categories commonly used to evaluate and understand it.







School of Religious Studies

