

## THE JAMES K. BINDER LECTURE IN LITERATURE PRESENTS

AMIR ISSAA

### «RAP MUSIC CHANGED MY LIFE»: THE PEDAGOGICAL IMPORTANCE OF RAP

There are many ways to tell our stories, to respond to discrimination in an Italy that still considers itself “white.” Rap is a global storytelling language that reaches from the Bronx to the peripheries of the world. It is an activist tool, accessible to all, that works to liberate us from stereotypes and prejudices, to clarify issues of identity and citizenship, and to make change. It is a therapeutic tool that helps us to work through anger, frustration, and personal family traumas. And it is an inclusive pedagogical voice in struggles for justice and equality.

Friday, November 3, 2023  
6:00 p.m.  
The Atkinson Pavilion at  
the Faculty Club UC San Diego

*A reception will follow the lecture*

*Free and open to the public*



**Amir Issaa** is an internationally renowned Italo-Egyptian hip-hop artist and a passionate social activist and educator. As part of his activist work, Amir regularly holds rap writing workshops in schools, prisons, and colleges throughout the world. *Vivo per questo* (in a bilingual translation with SDSU Press, *This is What I Live For* [https://sdsupress.sdsu.edu/amirISSAA\\_preorder.html](https://sdsupress.sdsu.edu/amirISSAA_preorder.html)) is Amir’s personal and artistic autobiography and a testament to the challenges and imagination of second generation immigrants in Italy. His second book, *Educazione Rap* (2021), looks at rap as a poetic linguistic exercise as well as a shared experience of social impact across borders.



**BINDER**  
LECTURE SERIES

*The James K. Binder Lectureship in Literature is made possible by Mr. Binder's generous bequest and honors his wishes that we bring leading European intellectuals to UC San Diego to provide a forum for rigorous discussions of literary topics.*



Contact Derrick Chin for reasonable accommodations to enable your access and participation- [derrickchin@ucsd.edu](mailto:derrickchin@ucsd.edu)