

***ARMENIAN STUDIES AT A THRESHOLD***



Society for Armenian Studies

**35<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Conference**

***March 26-28, 2009***

**University of California, Los Angeles**

## **Thursday, March 26, 2009, 314 Royce Hall, UCLA, 1:00–6:30 P.M.**

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Session 1. Thursday, 1:00-2:30 p.m.

### Medieval Literature and the Arts

**Theo van Lint**, Oxford University, Chair

- **Andrea Scala**, University of Milan, “About the Name of the Latin Language in Classical Armenian”
- **Robert Thomson**, Oxford University, Emeritus, “Armenian Biblical Commentaries: The Present State of Research”
- **Sona Haroutyunian**, Ca’ Foscari University of Venice, “Dante Alighieri and the Mekhitarist School of Translation”

Session 2. Thursday, 2:30-4:00 p.m.

### Medieval History and Culture

**Anne Elizabeth Redgate**, Newcastle University, Chair

- **Sergio La Porta**, Hebrew University of Jerusalem, “Cultural Interaction and Cultural Strategies in Post-Seljuk Armenia”
- **Sara Nur Yıldız**, Bilgi University, Istanbul, “Competing for the Il-Khan's Favor: Seljuk and Armenian Rivalry in Thirteenth Century Mongol-Dominated Anatolia”
- **Tom Sinclair**, University of Cyprus, “Coins, Trade, and Cities in Greater Armenia during the Il-Khanid Period”

Refreshments, 4:00-4:15 p.m.

Session 3. Thursday, 4:15.-6:30 p.m.

### Researching the Contemporary Armenian Diaspora: Consolidating the Past, Situating the Future

**Khachig Tölölyan**, Wesleyan University, Chair

- **Sossie Kasbarian**, Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies, Geneva, “From Exile to Empowerment – Reinigorating the Concept of Diaspora: The Armenian Case”
- **Aida Boudjikianian**, Montreal, “The Literature on the Armenian Diaspora in France and Canada”
- **Susan Pattie**, University College London, “Twenty-First Century Armenians: Is Anyone Paying Attention?”
- **Anny Bakalian**, City University of New York, “Still Alive and Thriving: Assimilation and Identity among Armenian Americans in the 21st Century”
- **Nelida Boulghourdjian**, University of Buenos Aires, “Migration Studies in Argentina: The Armenian Case”
- Discussant: **Aram Yengoyan**, University of California, Davis

## Friday, March 27, 2009, 1200 Rolfe Hall, 9 A.M. – 9 P.M.

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Session 4. Friday, 9-11 a.m.

### Armenian History as Connected History

**Houri Berberian**, California State University-Long Beach, Chair

- **Sebouh Aslanian**, University of Michigan-Ann Arbor, "From 'Autonomous' to 'Interactive' Histories: World History's Challenge to Armenian Studies"
- **Peter Cowe**, UCLA, "The Armenian Oikoumene of the 11th to 14th Century in Search of a Holistic Discourse"
- **Rachel Goshgarian**, Zohrab Center, New York, "The *Futuwwa* and Armenian History in the Late Medieval 'Islamicate' World of Anatolia"
- **Elyse Semerdjian**, Whitman College, "Morality, Communalism, and the Armenians of Ottoman Aleppo"

Refreshments, 11:00-11:15 a.m.

Session 5. Friday, 11:15 a.m.-1:00 p.m.

### Economy, Society, and Culture of Early Modern East Central Europe (14th -19th Centuries)

**George Bournoutian**, Iona College, Chair

- **Andreas Helmedach**, Center for the History and Culture of East Central Europe (GWZO), Leipzig, "Armenian Minorities as Actors in Early Modern Globalization"
- **Bálint Kovács**, Center for the History and Culture of East Central Europe (GWZO), Leipzig, "Interregional Cultural Relations of the Transylvanian Armenians in the 17th and 18th Centuries"
- **Judit Pál**, Babeş-Bolyai-University, Cluj-Napoca, Romania, "The Social and Economic History of the Armenians in Transylvania in the 18th and 19th Centuries"

Lunch Recess, 1:00-1:45 p.m.

Session 6. Friday, 1:45-3:45 p.m.

### Between Perversion and Representation: Sexual Allegories in Armenian Literature

**Rubina Perroomian**, UCLA, Chair and Discussant

- **Tamar Boyadjian**, UCLA, "The Female City and Its Textual Function: Grigor Tghay's *Lament over the City of Jerusalem*"
- **Talar Chahinian**, UCLA, "The Crisis of Incest: Reconfiguring the Catastrophe in Orpuni's 'Vartsu Seniag,' Sarafian's *Ishkhanuhin*, and Shahnur's 'Buynuzlenere'"
- **Myrna Douzjian**, UCLA, "Challenging Social and Literary Norms: Sexual Agency in Violet Grigorian's Poetry"
- **Lilit Keshishyan**, UCLA, "Sexual Perversion as Political Allegory in Gurgen Khanjian's *Hivandanots*"

Refreshments, 3:45-4:00 p.m.

Session 7. Friday, 4:00-6:00 p.m.

*New Perspectives on The Armenian Genocide*

**George Shirinian**, Zoryan Institute, Chair

- **Taner Akçam**, Clark University, "Ottoman Documents and Genocidal Intent of the Union and Progress Party"
- **Janet Klein**, University of Akron, "The Kurds and the Armenian Genocide: Reflections on Historiography"
- **Lerna Ekmekcioğlu**, New York University, "Approaching the Unlucky Sister and Her Child: Sexual Violence as a Marker during and after the Armenian Genocide"
- **Vahram Shemmassian**, California State University-Northridge "The Rescue of Captive Genocide Survivors, 1919-1921"

Light Dinner Recess (on site), 6:00-7:00 p.m.

Session 8. Friday, 7:00-9:00 p.m.

*Contemporary Armenia*

**Hovann Simonian**, University of Southern California, Chair

- **Khatchik Der Ghougassian**, Universidad de San Andrés, Buenos Aires, "Market Fundamentalism, Economic Hardship, and Social Protest in Armenia"
- **Konrad Siekierski**, Adam Mickiewicz University, Poznań, Poland, "Nation and Faith, Past and Present: The Contemporary Discourse of the Armenian Apostolic Church in Armenia"
- **Tamara Tonoyan**, National Institute of Health, Yerevan, "HIV/ AIDS in Armenia: Migration as a Socio-Economic and Cultural Component of Women's Risk Settings"
- **Anahid Keshishian-Aramouni**, UCLA, "*Inknagir* Magazine: Frivolous Iconoclasm or Marker of Artistic Liberty?"
- **Gregory Areshian**, UCLA, **Pavel Avetisyan** and **Armine Hayrapetyan**, Institute of Archaeology and Ethnography, Yerevan, "Archaeology in Post-Soviet Armenia: New Discoveries, Problems, and Perspectives"

## **Saturday, March 28, 2009, 1200 Rolfe Hall, 9 A.M. – 6 P.M.**

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Session 9. Saturday, 9:00-10:30 a.m.

### Discourse and Violence: Revisiting the Adana Massacres of 1909

**Richard Hovannisian**, UCLA, Chair

- **Ohannes Kılıçdağı**, Bilgi University, Istanbul, "Ottomanism among the Anatolian Armenians after the 1908 Revolution"
- **Bedross Der Matossian**, MIT, "From Verbal to Physical Violence: Ihsan Fikri's *Itidal* and the Massacres of Adana in 1909"
- **Rubina Perroomian**, UCLA, "The Poetics of Violence in Literary Responses to the Adana Massacres"

Session 10. Saturday, 10:30 a.m.-12:45 p.m.

### The State of Armenian Studies Chairs and Programs in the United States

**Marc Mamigonian**, NAASR, Chair (with comments on prehistory of Armenian programs)

- **Taner Akçam**, Clark University
- **Kevorg Bardakjian**, University of Michigan-Ann Arbor
- **Peter Cowe**, UCLA
- **Richard Hrair Dekmejian**, USC
- **Barlow Der Mugrdechian**, California State University-Fresno
- **Roberta Ervine**, St. Nersess Seminary
- **Richard Hovannisian**, UCLA
- **Jirair Libaridian**, University of Michigan-Ann Arbor
- **Christina Maranci**, Tufts University
- **Simon Payaslian**, Boston University
- **Ara Sanjian**, Armenian Research Center, UM-Dearborn
- **Vahram Shemmassian**, California State University-Northridge

Lunch Recess, 12:45-1:30 p.m.

Session 11. Saturday, 1:30-3:00 p.m.

### Church Politics and Identity

**Abraham Terian**, St. Nersess Seminary, Chair

- **Paul Werth**, University of Nevada, Las Vegas, "Rumors and Projects of Ecclesiastical Union: Armenians, Orthodoxy, and the Problem of Confessional Distinctions in Imperial Russia"
- **Ara Sanjian**, University of Michigan-Dearborn, "The British Foreign Office, the Church of England, and the Crisis in the Armenian Church at Antelias, 1956-1963"
- **Marlen Eordegian**, Vanderbilt University, "Straddling Religion and Politics: The Case of the Armenian Patriarchate of Jerusalem"

Refreshments, 3:00-3:15 p.m.

Session 12. Saturday, 3:15-5:45 p.m.

*Armenians, World War II, and Repatriation*

**Barbara Merguerian**, Armenian International Women's Association, Chair

- **Vartan Matiossian**, Hovnanian School, New Jersey, "'White' Armenians, 'Aryan' Armenians: Combating Racial Views during the First Half of the 20th Century"
- **Gregory Aftandilian**, Washington, D.C., "World War II as an Enhancer of Armenian-American Second Generation Identity"
- **Levon Thomassian**, California State University-Northridge, "Summer of '42"
- **Astrig Atamian**, National Institute of Oriental Languages and Civilizations, Paris, "Being an Armenian Communist in France during the Cold War"
- **Sevan Yousefian**, UCLA, "The Formation of Soviet Armenian Immigration Policy: Diaspora Networks, Armenian Cadres, and the Postwar Repatriation Campaign"
- **Joanne Laycock**, University of Manchester, "'Belongings': People and Possessions in the Armenian Repatriations, 1947-1949"

Concluding Comments and Discussion, 5:45-6:00 p.m.

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## ARCHITECTURAL EXHIBIT BY US CHAPTER OF ARMENIAN ARCHITECTS ASSOCIATION

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### *Conference Sponsors:*

*Society for Armenian Studies*

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**Thirty-Fifth Anniversary Banquet, Taghlyan Center  
1201 N. Vine Street, Hollywood, California, 7:30 p.m.**

**Banquet Sponsor: Armenian Educational Foundation**

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