



Kelsey Diary, December 20, 1919
(Bentley Historical Library,
University of Michigan.)
Credit: Kathryn Babayan



2014-15 Event Calendar

Manoogian Simone Foundation Fellow Lectures

Wed, Sep 17, 6:30-8 pm An Armenian American Artist— Back to the Front

Eric Bogosian, Manoogian Simone Foundation Fellow; and Artist in Residence, Institute for Humanities. Helmut Stern Auditorium, University of Michigan Museum of Art, 525 S. State.

Eric Bogosian is best known as a playwright, novelist and actor. He will discuss the evolution of his life as an artist and as an Armenian-American.



Wed, Oct 15, 4-5:30 pm

The Ever-Wandering Stranger: Community Formation and Cosmopolitan Poetics in Middle Armenian Literature

Michael Pifer, Manoogian Simone Foundation Post-doctoral Fellow. 1636 International Institute, 1080 S. University.

Pifer asks how and why Armenians came to adapt a vast and multilingual discourse on strangers, rooted in the figure of the *gharib*, which spanned from the western Mediterranean to the Indian subcontinent. In so doing, the talk seeks to address a much larger question: how and why literary conventions traveled beyond the orbit of any single language before our own globally interconnected age.

Wed, Nov 19, 4-5:30 pm

The Legacy of Time, The Time of Bequest: Armenian Afterlives in a Kurdish Diyarbakir

Serap Ruken Sengul, Manoogian Simone Foundation Post-doctoral Fellow. 1636 International Institute, 1080 S. University.

Sengul explores popular narratives on the historical Armenian experiences of violence and suffering that inscribes Kurdish negotiations of identity, history, and experience in the present-day city of Diyarbakir. While the imprint of the Armenian past on the Kurdish present is the orienting theme of the talk, the larger focus is on temporal orientations of ethics and justice that structure these narratives.



The State of Armenian Studies

Workshops, Lectures, and Exhibit

Jan 14-Apr 24

Francis W. Kelsey Exhibit

'Now or Never': Collecting, Documenting, and Photographing the Aftermath of World War I in the Middle East

Organizers: Kathryn Babayan, associate professor of history and Near Eastern studies, U-M; and Melanie Tanielian, assistant professor of history, U-M. Audubon Room, Hatcher Graduate Library, 913 S. University.

World War I was far from over in the Middle East when Germany officially surrendered to the Entente forces on November 11, 1918. It was in the context of continued conflict that U-M professor of archaeology Francis Willey Kelsey (1858-1927) and U-M staff photographer George Robert Swain (1866–1947) traveled to the Near East. The initial mission was to collect ancient manuscripts that were destined to disappear in the post war chaos. Kelsey writes, "unless peace comes soon enough to save the remnants" of Greek and Armenian society, who have "been practically exterminated in certain large regions of Asia Minor" no record of these Christian communities would remain. Kelsey's diaries and Swain's photographs are an important historical record that links them personally and the University of Michigan—to one of the largest humanitarian efforts in history.

Wed, Jan 14, 4-7:30 pm

Exhibit Opening Reception and Lecture

Art, Heritage, and the Armenian Genocide: Toros Roslin's Zeytun Gospels between 1915 and 2015

Heghnar Watenpaugh, associate professor of art history, University of California, Davis. Room 100, Hatcher Graduate Library, 913 S. University.

Watenpaugh traces the path of a single work of art, the Zeytun Gospels, during the 1915 deportations. She reconstructs the way in which Armenians viewed works of art, especially religious manuscripts, as they witnessed their own extermination, the confiscation of their possessions, and the destruction of their cultural heritage.

Gerard Libaridian, Alex Manoogian Chair in Modern Armenian History (2002–12) and former Director of ASP who initiated the State of Armenian Studies Project in 2008 which was supported by the Harry Ardashes Paul Memorial Fund, and by the generous patronage of Ara and Shirley Paul.





Workshop

Armenian History as World History— Approaches to Teaching & Methods

Organizer: **Arsene Saparov**, lecturer in history, U-M. 1644 International Institute, 1080 S. University.

This workshop will explore ways to integrate the teaching of Armenian history within the wider context of world history, and how to make Armenian history relevant to students from a variety of backgrounds and disciplines.

Fri, Mar 13, 7-8:30 pm

Berj H. Haidostian Annual Distinguished Lecture **The State of Armenian Genocide Studies:**

The State of Armenian Genocide Studies: Problems and Challenges

Taner Akcam, Kaloosdian/Mugar Professor of History, Clark University. Forum Hall, Palmer Commons, 100 Washtenaw.

Akcam will address the problems that are endemic to the field of Armenian genocide studies. What challenges do we face? How can we continue to develop an academically rigorous field amidst a toxic and politicized environment resulting from a policy of denial by the Turkish state?

Sat, Mar 14, 9 am-6 pm

Workshop

Teaching about Genocide: Approaches and Challenges.

Organizer: **Melanie Tanielian**, assistant professor of history, U-M. West Conference Room, Rackham Graduate School, 915 E. Washington.

This workshop will invite an interdisciplinary conversation to generate pedagogical methodologies and address difficulties that scholars encounter in teaching beyond paradigmatic frames.

Fri, Apr 3, 9:30 am-5:30 pm Sat, Apr 4, 10 am-4 pm

Workshop

Ronald Sun

From the Armenian Genocide to the Holocaust: The Foundations of Modern Human Rights during the Inter-War Years

Organizers: Ronald Grigor Suny, Charles Tilly Collegiate Professor of Social and Political History, U-M; and Fatma Müge Göçek, professor of sociology, U-M. Great Lakes Room, Palmer Commons, 100 Washtenaw.

The workshop will bring scholars of the Armenian Genocide, the Holocaust, and human rights together in a common discussion of scholarly papers to illuminate the connections between the events of the two world wars and the emerging subject of human rights.

Sixth Annual International Graduate Student Workshop

Fri-Sat, Apr 17-18, 9 am-4 pm Challenging Entrenched Categories: Re-Exploring Approaches to Armenian Literature

Organizer: Tamar Boyadjian, assistant professor of English and medieval literature, Michigan State University. 1644 International Institute, 1080 S. University.

This workshop invites conversations surrounding Armenian literary sources by asking participants to consider, challenge, and offer theoretical and methodological alternatives to frameworks presently utilized in studying Armenian literature from the classical to the contemporary period.

