THE ARMENIAN GENOCIDE AND ITS AFTERMATH: POETRY, CINEMA, AND A PAINTER’S LIFE

An Illustrated Lecture by

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Knox Hall 403, 606 West 122nd St (Btwn B'day & Claremont), Columbia University Sponsored by the Armenian Center at Columbia University, Armenian Society of Columbia University & National Association for Armenian Studies & Research. Info: am3766@columbia.edu or (212) 854-2556

The Armenian Genocide has engendered complex and conceptually challenging literary and artistic responses because of its unique status as a genocide that was virtually forgotten for fifty years and has been continuously denied by the Turkish state for over 90 years. The on-going denial has meant that the genocide itself has never come to an end and justice has been delayed. The issue of denial raises challenging questions and added burdens for those artists and writers who attempt to portray the aftermath of the genocide itself, especially the continuing trauma that characterizes the lives of the survivors and their descendants. These talks will explore this theme in Atom Egoyan’s film Ararat, Arshile Gorky's life and paintings, and the poetry of Tekeyan, Charents, and others.