

REMNANTS: EMBODIED ARCHIVES OF THE ARMENIAN GENOCIDE



**Join MEMEAC for the
Second Anny Bakalian
Lecture with Professor
Elyse Semerdjian, who will
be discussing her
forthcoming Stanford
University Press book with
Professor Khatchig
Mouradian.**

5 May 2023
5:00 PM - 7:00 PM

9100: Skylight Room
The Graduate Center
365 5th Ave, New York

With this book, Elyse Semerdjian offers a feminist reading of the Armenian Genocide. She explores how the Ottoman Armenian communal body was dis-membered, disfigured, and later re-membered by the survivor community. Gathering individual memories and archival fragments, she writes a deeply personal history, and issues a call to break open the archival record in order to embrace affect and memory. Traces of women and children rescued during and after the war are reconstructed to center the quietest voices in the historical record. This daring work embraces physical and archival remnants, the imprinted negatives of once living bodies, as a space of radical possibility within Armenian prosthetic memory and a necessary way to recognize the absence that remains.

Elyse Semerdjian is Professor of Islamic World/Middle Eastern History at Whitman College and President of the Syrian Studies Association. A specialist in the history of the Ottoman Empire and Syria, she authored "*Off the Straight Path: Illicit Sex, Law, and Community in Ottoman Aleppo*" (Syracuse University Press, 2008) as well as several articles on gender, law, violence, and Armenians in the Ottoman Empire.

Khatchig Mouradian is a lecturer in Middle Eastern, South Asian, and African Studies at Columbia University, and the Armenian and Georgian Area Specialist at the Library of Congress. He serves as Co-Principal Investigator of the project on Armenian Genocide Denial at the Global Institute for Advanced Studies, New York University. He is the author of *The Resistance Network: The Armenian Genocide and Humanitarianism in Ottoman Syria, 1915-1918*.

Hosted by the Middle East and Middle Eastern American Center - Open to the Public

MEMEAC

