*Armenia. Life and Study of an Enduring Culture*

Armenian General Benevolent Union Lecture Series

in commemoration of the

100th Anniversary of the Armenian Genocide

and in celebration of the

50th Anniversary of the Establishment of the

Calouste Gulbenkian Professorship in Armenian Studies at Pembroke College

in the University of Oxford

Pembroke College, Oxford, Trinity Term 2016

Wk 2 5 May, 7:00-8:30pm (Thursday) Pichette Auditorium

*Armenian Texts in their International Context: the Riches of John Chrysostom*

Dr Emilio Bonfiglio

(British Academy Post-Doctoral Fellow, Pembroke College, University of Oxford)

Wk 3 12 May, 7:00-8:30pm (Thursday) Harold Lee Room

*Imagining Ottoman Armenia. Realism and Allegory in Garabed Nichanian’s Provincial Wedding in Moush*

Vazken Davidian (PhD Candidate, Birkbeck College, London)

Wk 5 23 May, 7:00-8:30pm (Monday) Harold Lee Room

*The Cult of Saints and Memories of the Nation in the Caucasus*

Dr Nikoloz Aleksidze (The Cult of the Saints Project Researcher, University of Oxford)

Wk 6 31 May, 7:00-8:30pm (Tuesday) Pichette Auditorium

*The Armenian Genocide in Kurdish and Turkish Literature*

Dr Özlem Belçim Galip

(Calouste Gulbenkian Foundation Post-Doctoral Fellow, University of Oxford)

Wk 6 2 June, 7:00-8:30 (Thursday) Mary Hyde Eccles Room TBC

*Four Monuments and a Pilgrimage: Wales and the Armenians*

Canon Patrick H.B. Thomas

(Christ Church Carmarthen – Eglwys Crist, Caerfyrddin)

Wk 7 9 June, 7:00-8:30pm (Thursday) Harold Lee Room

*The Silent Books Project: The Armenian Genocide and its Perception*

Suzan Meryem Kalayci (PhD Candidate, European University, Florence)

Wk 8 16 June (Thursday) Pichette Auditorium

5:30-7:00pm Reception in Honour of Robert W. Thomson

7:00-8:30pm Lecture

*The Study of Armenian Historiography and Biblical Commentary by Robert W. Thomson*

Dr Levon Avdoyan

(Armenia and Georgia Area Specialist, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.)

From 1915 a genocide was perpetrated against the Armenians living in the Ottoman Empire. This is commemorated yearly on 24th April, while its 100th anniversary inaugurated a year of commemorations.

The Calouste Gulbenkian Professorship in Armenian Studies, established in 1965 at Pembroke College in the University of Oxford took part in these with the organisation, in collaboration with the Bodleian Library and generously supported by Mr Raffy Manoukian, of the exhibition *Armenia. Masterpieces from an Enduring Culture* which was open between 22 October 2015 and 28 February 2016. By the end of January it had attracted 50000 visitors.

A catalogue accompanied the exhibition, co-edited and co-authored by the incumbent of the Calouste Gulbenkian Professorship, Theo Maarten van Lint with Mr Robin Meyer, Lecturer in Classics at Oxford, with contributions by a group of leading international scholars. It is published by the Bodleian Library and made possible through the generous support of the Calouste Gulbenkian Foundation and the Hagop Kevorkian Fund.

Moreover, combining the Armenian genocide commemorations and the celebration of the 50th anniversary of the Calouste Gulbenkian Professorship in Armenian Studies, the sole chair in the field in the United Kingdom, the Calouste Gulbenkian Foundation awarded grants enabling two workshops to be held at Pembroke college. Professors van Lint, Maranci, Mathews and Elsner organised the first one, dedicated to the *Treatise Against Iconoclasts by Vrt‘anēs Kert‘oł (7th c.)*, held 30-31 October 2015. Dr Hratch Tchilingirian (Faculty Associate, University of Oxford) and Theo van Lint organised the second one, entitled Արեւմտահայերէն 21-րդ դարուն – *Western Armenian in the Twenty-First Century*, which was held 21-23 January 2016.

The final event marking the 100th anniversary commemorations and the 50th anniversary celebrations is the lecture series *Armenia. Life and Study of an Enduring Culture*, made possible through the generosity of the Armenian General Benevolent Union (London), and the Nubar Pasha Fund at the University of Oxford. It is devoted to the memory and meaning of the Armenian genocide a hundred years on, and the study of the Armenian religious and cultural legacy in its international context. The final lecture will be devoted to the ongoing contribution to the field of Armenian Studies and the diffusion of knowledge about Armenians globally being made by Robert W. Thomson, Calouste Gulbenkian Professor of Armenian Studies Emeritus (1992-2001). The lectures are open to the public and will be held in Pembroke, the college to which the Calouste Gulbenkian Professorship is attached.

For more information, please contact Professor Theo Maarten van Lint at: theo.vanlint@orinst.ox.ac.uk