

# ARMENIA: LIFE AND STUDY OF AN ENDURING CULTURE

Thursday 9 June 7:00 PM – Harold Lee Room

Pembroke College University of Oxford

*Silence can be full of words  
and words full of silence*

**Suzan Meryem Kalayci**

(PhD Candidate, European University, Florence)

Reminiscent of John Cage's 4'33, Suzan Meryem Rosita will read a blank book in complete silence for 19 Minutes and 15 Seconds (19'15). We will be reminded that sometimes silence speaks louder than words. After the reading, the book will be passed around and the audience will be able to fill its pages, or leave them as empty and silent as they are.

Suzan Meryem Rosita will also tell us about her *The Silent Book* initiative which revolves around the premise that "silence can be full of words, but words can be full of silence." She believes that the absence of voices can offer a powerful space for atonement, redemption and grief in the context of national trauma.

This is the sixth lecture in a series sponsored by the Armenian General Benevolent Union, London Branch. The series commemorates the Armenian Genocide begun in 1915 and celebrates the 50th Anniversary of the establishment of the Calouste Gulbenkian Professorship in Armenian Studies at Pembroke College, University of Oxford in 1965.