



**California State University, Fresno  
Armenian Studies Program  
5245 N. Backer Ave. M/S PB 4  
Fresno, California 93740-8001**

## **Armenian Studies Program News Service**

**CSU Fresno Armenian Studies Program activities as reported in local,  
national, and international media.**

**Fall 2005**

**Vol. 21 Release #83  
August 2005-December 2005**



## ARCHIVE

SOURCE: The Armenian Observer: Los Angeles, CADATE: August 17, 2005SUBJECT: Pianist Mardirossian will Perform at CSUFPAGE: 1 of 1**Pianist Vahan Mardirossian in Concert at Fresno State**

FRESNO - Award winning pianist Vahan Mardirossian will perform in the opening recital of this year's Philip Lorenz Memorial Keyboard Concert Series at California State University, Fresno. The concert will be held at 3:00 PM on Sunday, September 11 in the Concert Hall on the Fresno State campus. The concert is co-sponsored by the University's Armenian Studies Program.

Vahan Mardirossian was born in Yerevan, Armenia in 1975. In 1993, he entered the Paris Conservatoire (CNSM) in Jacques Rouvier's piano class and was also admitted to Jean Mouillière's chamber music class along with Nicolas Baldeyrou (clarinet) and Renaud Dejardin (cello), with whom he formed the Mardirossian Trio.

In 1996, Mardirossian was awarded the first prize for piano, the chamber music prize, and the Conservatoire's higher diploma, enabling him to go on to postgraduate studies.

Mardirossian has given recitals in many countries (Austria, Belgium, Canada, Croatia, England, France, Germany, Greece, Ireland, Italy, Israel, Lithuania, Morocco, Netherlands, Portugal, Romania, Russia, Spain, Switzerland, Ukraine and the USA). This spring he performed in Carnegie Hall with Nicolas Baldeyrou. His concerts are regularly broadcast on *France musique* and elsewhere. His partners in chamber music include such fine musicians as Nicolas Baldeyrou, Marina Chiche, Jean-Marc Phillips-Varjabedian, Xavier Phillips, Renaud, and Gautier Capuçon, Gérard Caussé, Thierry, and Henri DeMarquette.

Recently Mardirossian has been performing the classical repertoire with renowned violinist Ivry Gitlis, and this summer he collaborated with Richard Galliano on the tangos of Piazzola. He has also worked with Mstislav Rostropovich in the world premier of his friend Eric Tanguy's Cello Concerto No.2, and composer Henri Dutilleux on the latter's monumental piano sonata.

Since his debut as a pianist, he has regularly been invited to appear with orchestras including the Orchestra National de France, Yerevan Chamber Orchestra, the Armenian Philharmonic, the Paris International Orchestra, the Bienne Symphonic Orchestra, the Portugal Symphonic Orchestra, and the Lebanon National Orchestra. This year, he performed the Khatchadourian piano concert under both Kurt Mazur and Yutaka Sado.

Mardirossian recently made recordings of works of



Schubert, Händel and Brahms for the INTRADA label. He also made live recordings devoted to piano works of Eric Tanguy, including Tanguy's second sonata dedicated to Mardirossian, and more recently J.S.Bach Transcriptions recorded for TransArt Live label.

The critics have always been superlative about his concerts and his CDs, comparing his facility and clarity to the great virtuosos of our time: "Phenomenal. Mardirossian's powerful virtuosity has no equal except for the finesse of his touch." (*Le Monde*, April 2001); "What factors bring together Vahan Mardirossian, Sviatoslav Richter, Jorge Bolet, Clara Haskil et Robert Casadesus? A talent which transcends the generations. Mardirossian's interpretation of Schubert's Sonata D. 664, the Impromptus D. 899, and the Wanderer Fantasy is a miracle." (*Le Monde*, November 2001); "From the first cord, one is riveted. ...Mardirossian is sort of midway between Richter and Kempff. From the first he has control, premeditation, power, from the second, radiant colors.

tenderness, a luminous sound, and what's more, [he has] a sophistication hidden under the appearance of ease." (*Diapason*, 2002)

For the Fresno program Mardirossian will be performing Chopin's Ballads 1 and 2 (op. 38 & 79) and a Polonaise (op. 53), two Rhapsodies by Brahms (op. 79), the Passacaglia, a work of 1999, by his close friend Eric Tanguy, and Schumann's Kreisleriana op. 16.

General tickets for the concert are available for \$12.50 per person, for seniors tickets are \$7.00, and tickets for students are \$5.00 per person. Ticket reservations for the concert may be made by calling 278-2337. Relaxed parking will be available on Sunday in Lot C. For more information on the concert please contact the Armenian Studies Program at 278-2669.



## ARCHIVE

SOURCE: California Courier: Glendale, CADATE: August 18, 2005SUBJECT: Pianist Mardirossian will Perform at CSUFPAGE: 1 of 1

## Pianist Vahan Mardirossian Performs At Fresno State Concert on Sept. 11

FRESNO – Award-winning pianist Vahan Mardirossian will perform in the opening recital of this year's Philip Lorenz Memorial Keyboard Concert Series at California State University, Fresno. The concert will be held at 3 PM on September 11 in the Concert Hall on the Fresno State campus. The concert is co-sponsored by the University's Armenian Studies Program.

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Since his debut as a pianist, he has regularly been invited to appear with orchestras including the Orchestra National de France, Yerevan Chamber Orchestra, the Armenian Philharmonic, the Paris International Orchestra, the Bienne Symphonic Orchestra, the Portugal Symphonic Orchestra, and the Lebanon National Orchestra. This year, he performed the Khatchadourian piano concert under both Kurt Mazur and Yutaka Sado.

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ARCHIVE

SOURCE: The Armenian Reporter Int'l: Paramus, NJ

DATE: Aug. 27, 2005

SUBJECT: Mardirossian to Perform in Concert Sept. 11

PAGE: 1 of 1

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**Pianist Vahan Mardirossian**

cert Hall on the Fresno State campus. The concert is co-sponsored by the University's Armenian Studies Program.

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Mardirossian recently made recordings of works of Schubert, Händel and Brahms for the INTRADA label. He also made live recordings devoted to piano works of Eric Tanguy, including Tanguy's second sonata dedicated to Mardirossian, and, more recently, J.S.Bach Transcriptions for TransArt Live label.

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## ARMENIAN STUDIES PROGRAM

California State University, Fresno • 5245 N Backer Ave PB4 • Fresno, CA 93740-8001

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### ARCHIVE

SOURCE: The Collegian: Fresno, CA

DATE: September, 2005

SUBJECT: Kouymjian Participates in Genocide Conference

PAGE: 1 of 1

**Dickran Kouymjian** (Armenian Studies) was invited by the foreign minister of Armenia to participate in a conference on the 90th anniversary of the Armenian genocide, held in Yerevan last April. Genocide and holocaust scholars from around the world discussed the consequences of the Armenian Genocide of 1915 and its continual denial by the Turkish government. Kouymjian was chair of a session entitled "The Ultimate Crime."

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**ARCHIVE****SOURCE:** The Fresno Bee: Fresno, CA**DATE:** Sept. 4, 2005**SUBJECT:** Mardirossian to Perform for CSUF Keyboard Concert**PAGE:** 1 of 1**SEPT. 11**

## Keyboard to the city

If you have a taste for classical piano music, the Philip Lorenz Memorial Keyboard Concerts series is for you. With eight pianists coming to California State University, Fresno, this year to perform, chances are there will be at least one who will play something to your liking.

First up is Vahan Mardiros-

sian, from Yerevan, Armenia, who is considered one of Armenia's leading pianists of the younger generation. He will perform two ballades by Chopin, Ballade in G Minor, Op. 23, and Ballade in F Major, Op. 38; Brahms' Two Rhapsodies, Op. 79; Tanguy's Passacaglia (1999); Schumann's Kriesleriana, Op. 16; and Chopin's Polonaise in A-flat Major, Op. 53.

The concert will be held at 3 p.m. Sept. 11. Individual tickets cost \$12.50, \$7 for seniors and \$5 for students —

still the best bargain in town. Season tickets cost \$80 general, \$50 for seniors and \$30 for students. For more info, call (559) 278-2337 or go to [www.keyboardconcerts.com](http://www.keyboardconcerts.com).

Mardirossian's performance is co-sponsored by Fresno State's Armenian Studies Program.

— Marty Berry

Armenian Vahan Mardirossian will play piano at Fresno State.

**SPECIAL TO THE BEE**





ARCHIVE

SOURCE: The Armenian Observer: Los Angeles, CA

DATE: Sept. 14, 2005

SUBJECT: Deadline for Film Festival

PAGE: 1 of 1

## **Fresno Annual Armenian Film Festival Entry Deadline is January 15, 2006**

FRESNO - 7th Annual Armenian Film Festival will be held Friday, February 10 2006 sponsored by the Armenian Students Organization Armenian Studies Program California State University, Fresno.

It is partially funded by the Diversity Awareness Program of the University Student Union, CSU Fresno

### **First Call for Entries**

Entries are being sought for the 7th Annual Armenian Film Festival to be held on the California State University, Fresno campus.

Films made by Armenian directors/writers, or films with an Armenian theme are being sought.

Films up to 1 hour in length

Films may be in any language. English preferred

Films may be on any topic. Armenian theme preferred

Film must be in video (NTSC)/DVD format

**Deadline for entries to be received is January 15, 2006.**

Please send the video/DVD to: Armenian Film Festival  
c/o Armenian Studies Program, 5245 N Backer Ave. PB4  
Fresno, CA 93740-8001

Entries should be accompanied by a CV of the director/writer and a synopsis of the film.

Telephone 559-278-2669

Email: [barlowd@csufresno.edu](mailto:barlowd@csufresno.edu)

The Festival Committee will meet to view and judge which entries will be accepted for the Film Festival. Entrants will be contacted by email with the decisions.



ARCHIVE

SOURCE: California Courier: Glendale, CA

DATE: Sept. 15, 2005

SUBJECT: Deadline for ASP Film Festival

PAGE: 1 of 1

## Deadline for Entries to CSUF 7<sup>th</sup> Annual Armenian Film Festival Set for Jan. 15, 2006

FRESNO – The 7th Annual Armenian Film Festival at California State University, Fresno will take place Feb. 10, 2006, sponsored by the Armenian Students Organization, the Armenian Studies Program at CSUF, and partially funded by the Diversity Awareness program of the University Student Union, CSU, Fresno.

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Requirements include:  
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## ARCHIVE

SOURCE: California Courier: Glendale, CADATE: October 13, 2005SUBJECT: Cowe Will Speak at CSUFPAGE: 1 of 1

## UCLA's Prof. Cowe Will Speak on Origins Of Armenian Alphabet at CSUF, Oct. 21

FRESNO - Dr. Peter Cowe of UCLA will speak on "The Origins of the Armenian Alphabet and Its Cultural Impact" Oct. 21, at 7:30 p.m., in the Alice Peters Auditorium, Rm. 191 of the University Business Center on the Fresno State campus.

The presentation is part of the Armenian Studies Program Fall 2005 Lecture Series and is co-sponsored by the Armenian Students Organization.

Joining Dr. Cowe will be Prof. Barlow Der Mugrdechian of the ASP who will speak on "The Political Situation in Armenia on the Eve of the Invention of the Armenian Alphabet."

This year marks the 1600th anniversary of the invention of the Armenian Alphabet. Der Mugrdechian's presentation will explore the political situation of the time, while Dr. Cowe will focus on the Armenian sources for the invention and also discuss the impact on the Armenian culture, especially in art.

Dr. Cowe is Naregatsi Professor of Armenian Language and

Culture at UCLA and is an internationally recognized authority on the Armenian language. He is a founding member of the Association Internationale des Etudes Arméniennes (1983). Dr. Cowe received his PhD in Armenology from Hebrew University and has taught at Columbia University (1984-1996) and at UCLA since 1996. Dr. Cowe is the author of *Commentary on the Divine Liturgy* by Xosrov Anjewatsi (1991), *The Armenian Version of Daniel* (1992), and *Modern Armenian Drama: An Anthology* (2001), among other books.

Der Mugrdechian has been teaching for more than 10 years in the Armenian Studies Program at CSUF. He has served as the President of the Society for Armenian Studies (2000-2004) and currently is the SAS Treasurer.

Relaxed parking will be available in Lots A and J after 7:00 PM the night of the lecture. For more information on the presentations, contact the Armenian Studies Program at 278-2669.

**ARCHIVE**SOURCE: The Armenian Reporter Int'l: Paramus, NJDATE: October 15, 2005SUBJECT: Cowe Will Speak at CSUFPAGE: 1 of 1

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## ARCHIVE

SOURCE: The Armenian Observer: Los Angeles, CADATE: November 30, 2005SUBJECT: James Reid Named Kazan Visiting ProfessorPAGE: 1 of 1

## James Reid Named Henry S. Khanzadian Kazan Visiting Professor at Fresno State

FRESNO - Dr. James Reid has been appointed the fifth Henry S. Khanzadian Kazan Visiting Professor in Armenian Studies at Fresno State for the Spring 2006 semester.

Dr. Reid will be teaching a three-unit course, Armenian Studies 120T, "The Armenian Genocide in History and through Eyewitness Accounts," which will be offered on Wednesday afternoons from 2:00-4:50 PM. The Spring 2006 semester and Dr. Reid's course begin on Wednesday, January 18.

Armenian Studies 120T examines the historical context that led to the Armenian genocide. The course looks at the Armenians and other Christian groups living in the Ottoman Empire. Emphasis will be placed on understanding events that occurred from the mid-1870s to 1920 through eyewitness narratives. A part of the course will study Ottoman perpetrators and why they engaged in genocide and massacre.

The appointment of Dr. Reid as Kazan Visiting Professor, follows that of Dr. Richard Hovannisian, AEF Professor of Modern Armenian history, UCLA, (Fall 2000), Dr. Robert Hewsen, Rowan University (Fall 2001), Dr. Barbara Merguerian (Fall 2002), and Dr. Ara Sanjian (Fall 2003).

Dr. Reid holds a B.A. from the University of California at Berkeley and a Ph.D. from UCLA and is the author of several books, including *Crisis of the Ottoman Empire: Prelude to Collapse, 1839-1878*; *Studies in Safavid Mind Society and Culture*, Costa Mesa, Ca.: Mazda Publishers, 2000; *Tribalism and Society in Islamic Iran, 1500-1629*, Malibu, Ca.: Undena Publications, 1983; and *Archilocus' Shield: A Psychohistorical Study of War and Massacre, 1878-1914* [Macedonian Conflict, Greco-Turkish War of 1897, Armenian Massacres of 1894-96, Balkan Wars of 1911-1913] [in progress, researching and writing].

Dr. Reid is currently Tsakopoulos Hellenic Fellow at CSU Sacramento; from 2001-2003 he was the director of the Vryonis Center, and from 1991-2001 he was a senior research fellow at the Center. He has written extensively on the Ottoman Empire and modern Greece.

Community members are invited to enroll in the three unit course by calling the Armenian Studies Program office. There is a \$50 fee to enroll.

For more information on the course please contact the Armenian Studies Program at 278-2669.



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SOURCE: California Courier: Glendale, CADATE: December 1, 2005SUBJECT: James Reid Named Kazan Visiting ProfessorPAGE: 1 of 1

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### ARCHIVE

SOURCE: The Fresno Bee: Fresno, CA

DATE: December 2005

SUBJECT: Armenian Course Offered

PAGE: 1 of 1

#### **Armenian course offered**

The Armenian Studies Program at California State University, Fresno, will offer a new course, Armenian Studies 102T: The Armenian Genocide in History and Through Eyewitness Accounts, in spring 2006.

Dr. James Reid will be the visiting professor. Classes will be from 2 to 4:50 p.m. Wednesdays beginning Jan. 18.

Preregistration is encouraged. There are no prerequisites for the course.

Cost is a \$50 registration fee for non-Fresno State students.

Details: Armenian Studies Program, (559) 278-2669.

**ARCHIVE**SOURCE: California Courier: Glendale, CADATE: December 29, 2005SUBJECT: ASP Hosts 2006 Semester Program at Yerevan StatePAGE: 1 of 1

## CSUF's Armenian Studies Program Hosts 2006 Semester Program at Yerevan State

FRESNO - The Armenian Studies Program at California State University, Fresno has organized a one-semester program designed to introduce students to Armenian language, history, art, and contemporary events. The semester schedule is composed of five courses: Armenian language (4 units); Armenian art and architecture (3 units); Armenia today (3 units); Armenian studies (3 units); and Independent study (2 units).

Courses, based on curriculum used by the Armenian Studies Program at California State University, Fresno, will be taught by faculty from Yerevan State University. Orientation will be held Aug. 27-31 in Armenia. Semester begins Sept. 3, 2006.

The academic committee in charge of curriculum is composed of Dr. Dickran Kouymjian, Haig and Isabel Berberian Professor of Armenian Studies and Director of the Armenian Studies Program at Fresno State, Dr. Tom Samuelian of Arlex International, and Barlow Der Mugrdechian of the Armenian Studies Program at Fresno State.

Full information on the program is available at the following web site: [http://](http://armenianstudies.csufresno.edu/Armenia%20Semester%20Abroad/information.htm)

[armenianstudies.csufresno.edu/Armenia%20Semester%20Abroad/information.htm](http://armenianstudies.csufresno.edu/Armenia%20Semester%20Abroad/information.htm)

**Eligibility:** The program is open to all high school graduates, ages 18-32, who have maintained a minimum 2.75 GPA in college.

**Fees:** Fees for the program are \$2,625 per person (for 15 units of courses) and an additional fee of approximately of \$160 for health insurance. Room and board, airfare, and transportation and any additional costs are the responsibility of the student. (The Program will assist in finding living arrangements)

**Deadline:** Students are required to fill in an application form and return it to the Armenian Studies Program by April 10, 2006 for study abroad in Armenia in the Fall semester 2006.

A minimum of five students must be successfully admitted to the program for the Fall 2006 program to take place.

**Required information for application:** Official college transcript; One page essay on why you would like to participate in the Armenia Study Abroad Program, what has prepared you for study in such a Program, and why you are qualified to participate; One

passport sized color photo; Names and telephone numbers of two references (non-related). In addition please submit Name, Address, City, State, Zip, Telephone number, Email address, Date of birth. (Please clearly print all information and make sure that the telephone number and email address are current). Send the application form, and all requested material to: Barlow Der Mugrdechian, Armenian Studies Program, 5245 N Backer Ave. PB4. Fresno, CA 93740-8001

If you have any questions contact: Barlow Der Mugrdechian office telephone: 559-278-4930 • email: [barlowd@csufresno.edu](mailto:barlowd@csufresno.edu)

**Travel fellowship:** Travel fellowships are available to qualified applicants who are accepted into the Fresno State Armenia Semester Abroad Program through Birthright Armenia/Depi Hayk (BR/DH). (Visit [www.birtherightarmenia.org](http://www.birtherightarmenia.org) to learn more about eligibility criteria). The travel fellowship covers full reimbursement of roundtrip economy class airfare at the average price for that period upon successful completion of the CSUF/YSU program and BR/DH requirements. The application form is posted on the [www.birtherightarmenia.org/opps\\_application.html](http://www.birtherightarmenia.org/opps_application.html).