

WILLIAM PATERSON UNIVERSITY

Please join the William Paterson University Center for Holocaust and Genocide Studies and the University Galleries during the 2024-25 academic year for two exhibitions exploring the cultural and artistic impact of the Armenian Genocide:



The Zakarian Family at an Armenian Picnic in Philadelphia

The Armenian Genocide: One Family's Story

August 27, 2024 – May 14, 2025

First Floor Reference Area, Cheng Library

One Family's Story traces the journey of Arek and Moses Zakarian from the turn of the 20th century during the Ottoman Empire through genocide, survival, migration, and reemergence in the United States. Visitors will engage with the family's personal photos, memoirs, musical instruments, artifacts, and artwork which serve as a backdrop to the broader history of the Armenian Genocide. The exhibition is made possible by the Zakarian grandchildren, led by Susan Arpajian Jolley and Allan Arpajian.



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Jackie Kazarian, *Armenia (Hayasdan)*, 2015, archival pigment print, courtesy of the artist.

Before, After: Reflections on the Armenian Genocide
September 9 – December 4, 2024

South Gallery and East Gallery, Ben Shahn Center for the
Visual Arts

Before, After examines the connections passed down through blood, migration, and history; from genocide to diaspora to belonging. Artists John Avakian, Silvina Der-Meguerditchian, Vahagn Ghukasyan, Jackie Kazarian, Diana Markosian, Talin Megherian, Marsha Nouritza Odabashian, Ara Oshagan and Levon Parian, Jessica Sperandio, and Mary Zakarian integrate artifact with abstraction, witness accounts with recreation, old materials reused, and new molds made. The Armenian experience—both past and present, before and after—is showcased through a range of mediums and practices, reflecting the repeating patterns of grief, healing and reflection.

For additional information or to be added to a mailing list for the welcome reception and other related programming including teacher workshops, guest scholars, artist talks, and more, please contact Dr. Alison Dobrick, Director of the Center for Holocaust and Genocide Studies, at dobricka@wpunj.edu; or Casey Mathern, Director of the University Galleries at mathernc@wpunj.edu.



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