Yelena Aydinyan
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EDUCATION

- Brown University, PhD in Slavic Studies, 2021-present
- State Academy of Fine Arts of Armenia (formerly Yerevan State Academy of Fine Arts), MA in History and Theory of Fine Arts, 2011
- State Academy of Fine Arts of Armenia (formerly Yerevan State Academy of Fine Arts), BA in Design, 2009

DISSERTATION

The Left as the Center: Artistic and Literary Debates in Periodicals of the First Five-Year Plan in Moscow and Yerevan, Brown University

Expected completion: May 2027

Advisor: Professor Maria Taroutina

Committee: Professor Svetlana Evdokimova, Professor Fabrizio Fenghi

Research Interests: Russian and Armenian avant-garde, Russian and Armenian Cinema and Animation, relationships between realism and the avant-garde, central and local Soviet cultures, Soviet and post-Soviet constructions of cultural and national identity

SELECTED PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

- Brown University, Teaching Assistant, 2022-present
- State Academy of Fine Arts of Armenia, Head of the Research Center, 2021
- State Academy of Fine Arts of Armenia, Lecturer, 2013-2021
- "Ayb" High School, Teacher, 2019-2020
- "Medialab" educational program, *Focus* NGO, Lecturer, 2016-2017, 2019
- Online journal of art criticism *Critical Review* (www.criticalreview.am), Editor in chief, 2018
- Online journal *Arteria* (www.arteria.am), Journalist and Art Critic, 2011-2017

- Institute for Contemporary Art, Armenia (ICA Yerevan), Lecturer, 2014, 2016

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

- "'Where the Wee Bit Begins': Tolstoy's Approach to Visual Art in *What is Art?*," *Tolstoy Studies Journal*, revise and resubmit
- "In Search of the Inextinguishable Flame: Power, Resistance, and the Gaze in Valentin Podpomogov's Animated Films of the Late 1960s and Early 1970s," *Studies in Russian and Soviet Cinema*, under review
- "Dasavandelu arvesty: '3-rd harki' razmavarakan motetsumneri ardzaganknery Ara Hovsepyani mankavarzhakan gortsuneutyan mej" ("The Art of Teaching: the Echoes of the Strategic Attitudes of the '3rd Floor' Artistic Movement in the Teaching Activity of Ara Hovsepyan") in Astghik Marabyan (ed.), *Dialogue as a Deed: the Claim and Urgency of the "3rd Floor" Artistic Movement 30 years later* (Yerevan: Cafesjian Center for the Arts, 2020), pp.48-55
- ""Antesvats irakany" tsutsahandesy Kalentz tangaranum" ("The Exhibiton "Ignored Reality" at the "Kalentz" Museum"), *Yearbook of Academy of Fine Arts,* vol. 4, 2016, pp.23-32
- "Stepan Taryani arvesty 1920-akan tt. verjin yev 1930-akan tt. skzbin" ("Stepan Taryan's Art in the Late 1920s and Early 1930s") in *Yearbook of Yerevan State Academy of Fine Arts*, vol. 2-3, 2015, pp.123-138
- "Grki dzevavorumy, plakaty yev tsaghrankary 1910-30-akanneri hay arvestum"("Book Designs, Posters and Caricatures in the Armenian Art of the 1910-30s") in *Yerb girky gtnum e nkarchin* (*When the Book Finds the Artist)* (Yerevan: Voskan Yerevantsy Printing and Publishing House, 2013), pp. 30-43, in co-authorship with Hasmik Tangyan

Reviews

- Sonia Karpunina: *Desperate for Marriage* (*Khochu zamuzh)*, *KinoKultura*, 2024

SELECTED CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

- "Modernism or Realism? Parallels and Distinctions between Figurative Painting in Armenia (Late 1920s–Early 1930s) and the Russian Group OST," *Critical Approaches to Russia's Engagement with the Caucasus*, Yerevan, Armenia, June 2025

- "The Influence of the Lack of Privacy on Shaping of Womanhood in Pichul's 'Little Vera' and Balagov's 'Closeness,' *56th ASEEES Annual Convention 2024*, Boston, Massachusetts, November 2024
- "Contemporary Art Practices in Armenia in the Late Soviet Context," *55th ASEEES Annual Convention 2023*, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, December 2023.
- "Institutionalization of the Artistic Activities of Anatoly Osmolovsky and Avdey Ter-Oganyan: Exhibiting, Education, Theory," *54th ASEEES Annual Convention 2022*, Chicago, Illinois, November 2022
- "The Traumatic Experience of Serving a Sentence in Prison, Stalin's Labor Camps, and Exile in Yevgenia Ginzburg's *Journey into the Whirlwind*," *53rd ASEEES Annual Convention 2021*, New Orleans, Louisiana, November 2021
- "Dasavandelu arvesty: "3-rd harki razmavarakan motetsumneri ardzaganknery Ara Hovsepyani mankavarzhakan gortsuneutyan mej" ("The Art of Teaching: the Echoes of the Strategic Attitudes of the "3rd Floor" Artistic Movement in the Teaching Activity of Ara Hovsepyan"), *Dialogue as a Deed: the Claim and Urgency of the "3rd Floor" Artistic Movement 30 years later*, Cafesjian Center for the Arts, Yerevan, Armenia, 2018

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Brown University

Russian and Soviet Animation, Spring 2027, Instructor (syllabus approved by the Department)
RUSS 0320A: *Dostoevsky's "The Brothers Karamazov" – The Art of the Novel*, Fall 2026, TA
RUSS 1200/ HIAA 1200: *Russian and Soviet Art 1757 to Present,* Spring 2025, TA
RUSS 1050/ HIAA 1060: *Russian Culture from Peter the Great to Putin*, Fall 2024, TA
RUSS 0200: *Introductory Russian*, Spring 2024, TA
RUSS 1250: *Russian Cinema*, Fall 2023, TA
RUSS 0200: *Introductory Russian*, Spring 2023, TA
RUSS 0100: *Introductory Russian*, Fall 2022, TA

State Academy of Fine Arts of Armenia

History of Art History, Spring 2021, Spring 2020, Spring 2019, Spring 2018, Spring 2017, Spring 2016
Analysis of Work of Art, Spring 2021, Spring 2020, Spring 2019, Spring 2018, Spring 2017, Spring 2016

Introduction to Art History, Fall 2020, Fall 2019, Fall 2018, Fall 2017, Fall 2016, Fall 2015, Fall 2014
Problems of Contemporary Art History, Fall 2020, Fall 2019, Fall 2018, Fall 2017, Fall 2016, Fall 2015, Fall 2014
Contemporary Art Theories, Fall 2020, Fall 2019, Fall 2018, Fall 2017, Fall 2016, Fall 2015, Fall 2014
Armenian Art of the Period of Independence, Fall 2020, Fall 2019, Fall 2018
Armenian Artists and the Artistic Environment, Fall 2019, Fall 2018, Fall 2017, Fall 2016
History of Modern and Contemporary Art, Spring 2018, Spring 2015, Fall 2015, Fall 2013
History of Armenian Art of the XX-XXI centuries, Fall 2018, Fall 2017, Fall 2016

Institute for Contemporary Art (ICA Yerevan)

What is New Art History, Spring 2016
History of Modern and Contemporary Art, Fall 2014

"Medialab" educational program of *Focus* NGO

History of Contemporary Art, Fall 2019, Fall 2017, Fall 2016

CURATED EXHIBITIONS

- Lead curator for *And What's Under Your Skin?* Henrik Igityan National Center for Aesthetics, Yerevan, 2023
- Lead curator for *From Avant-Garde to Avant-Garde*, Sargis Muradyan Gallery, Yerevan, 2016

ADDITIONAL TRAINING

- Summer School "Societies and Cultures Torn Apart: Conflict and Cohesion" at the Yerevan Center for International Education, 2024
- Seminar "A Toolkit for Accountability and Transparency in Curriculum Development and Student Assessment," organized by Council of Europe Office in Yerevan, 2017
- Workshop "Is there a Dramatic Theory of the 21st Century?" at the triennial festival *Ruhrtriennale* (Germany), 2014

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

- Peer reviewer for *European Journal of Cultural Studies,* 2025
- Introduced Sergei Parajanov's *Shadows of Forgotten Ancestors* at *Il Cinema Ritrovato on Tour* film festival at Brown University, 2025
- Organizer and instructor for annual workshop "Learn Cyrillic in 30 Minutes" for undergraduate students at Brown University, 2023-2025
- Member of a working group for the institution-wide revision of the curriculum at the State Academy of Fine Arts of Armenia, 2019-2020
- Member of the working group contributing to the structural development of graduate degree at the State Academy of Fine Arts of Armenia within the VERITAS Program ("Structural Development of the Third Cycle Based on Salzburg Principles"), 2017

MEMBERSHIPS

- Member of the Association for Slavic, East European, and Eurasian Studies (ASEEES), 2021-present
- Member of the National Association of Art Critics (AICA-Armenia), 2016-present

LANGUAGES

Russian (native)

Armenian (native)

English (fluent)

French (reading knowledge)

Italian (reading knowledge)

German (reading knowledge)