

TINA DEMIRDJIAN
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www.poetryconsults.com

PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY

Dynamic artist exploring the connections between past and present, salvaging individual and collective memory through daily activities and occurrences as well as historical references as an Armenian living in the diaspora. Highlights moments in time that serve to understand the present, but also transcend a future perspective through the art of questions. Arts educator able to motivate poetry workshop participants of all ages in public and private school classrooms, museums, libraries and corporate offices. Skilled builder and sustainer of partnerships. Committed to empower all communities to read, write, edit, and recite poetry.

EXPERIENCE

Owner and Principal

POETRY CONSULTS

March 1991 - Present

- Produced and facilitated creative workshops for medical staff and hospital administration, online and in-person, to engage in writing and team-building activities.
- Designed and facilitated poetry lessons for K-12 students in GUSD and LAUSD, primarily English Language Learners, to increase vocabulary, develop critical thinking skills, and use figurative language to derive deeper understanding of their experiences.
- Produced professional development training and conference for teaching artists and teachers using California standards-based lesson plans as a consultant with Performing Tree and Culver City USD.
- Enhanced visitor engagement using poetry workshops to respond to permanent and traveling art collections at The Getty, MOCA, UCLA Fowler Museum, Brand Library & Art Center.
- Facilitated inter-generational poetry workshop with the Alex Theatre: *Poetic Generations*.
- Performed monologue in group public art installation in DTLA: *iWitness*.
- Created content and managed an experiential social media platform, Bailiwick, to build community with artists at 18th Street Arts Center in Santa Monica.
- Facilitated workshops and served as juror for POETRY OUT LOUD.
- Founded the *Armenian Dress & Textile Project*. Co-produced exhibits at the historic Doctors' House, Pasadena Central Library, CSULA, and Ararat-Eskijian Museum.

- Partnered with the Dana Foundation to develop and design *Let Poetry Light Up Your Brain*, an online poetry lesson that incorporates neuroscience research.
- Collaborated with history and science teachers to develop poetry lessons that address the understanding of subjects or themes using the creative approach of arts integration.
- Commissioned by the Downey Museum of Art to write a poetry performance on the Armenian Genocide.
- Developed poetry program for Glendale Youth Alliance that bridged themes of immigration, family relationships, heritage, and connection to art.

PUBLICATIONS & REVIEWS

SHOUTOUT LA. October 9, 2023 [Meet Tina Demirdjian: Poet, Arts Educators, Culture Bearer.](https://shoutoutla.com/meet-tina-demirdjian-poet-arts-educator-culture-bearer/)

“BEESWAX.” 2020. MORIA. The National Literary Magazine of Woodbury University. <https://www.moriaonline.com/issue-six-640-718/2020/11/30/beeswax-by-tina-dermidjian>

“MEG.” 2019. MORIA. The National Literary Magazine of Woodbury University. <https://www.moriaonline.com/issue-four-9501036/2019/12/2/meg-by-tina-demirdjian>

[Art Inspires Youth Poetry at MOCA](https://highschool.latimes.com/francis-polytechnic-high-school/art-inspires-youth-poetry-at-moca/) Aimee Bonar. Los Angeles Times. High School Insider. July 12, 2019. <https://highschool.latimes.com/francis-polytechnic-high-school/art-inspires-youth-poetry-at-moca/>

[ENDLESS CROSSINGS.](#) Arpi Sarafian. Tekeyan Cultural Center, 2019. Pp. 107-108. The Anthology of Armenian Poets. Compiled by Samvel Mkrtychyan. Third Edition. April 2014. Volume II. https://issuu.com/jassamvel/docs/new_armenian_poetry_v2

Armenian Kesaria/Kayseri and Cappadocia. Mazda Publishers. 2013. Pgs. 313-331.

[Dynamics of a Teaching Artist Residency.](#) Lynn Waldorf. VDM Verlag Dr. Muller GmbH & Co. KG, 2010. Residency I: Poetry Writing & Recitation. Pp. 37-82.

“The Cat that Couldn’t Catch a Fly.” Writers@Work. November, 2009.

[IMPRINT,](#) California. Abril Publishing, 2003.

“COMPACT.” [The Texas Observer.](#) October 26, 2001, pg. 22

Ibid. “Two Dying Bees.” October 26, 2001, pg 22.

“Remedy for Insomnia.” [Midwest Poetry Review,](#) Volume XXII. No. 3. August 2001. P. 4

[Birthmark: A bilingual Anthology of Armenian-American Poetry.](#) California. Open Letter, 1999. pp. 130-147.

POETRY PERFORMANCES

Abril Bookstore
Armenian Radio Hour: Seton Hall University
Beyond Baroque
North Figueroa Bookshop
KPFK, Pacifica Radio
The Bowery in New York

Ararat-Eskijian Museum
Barnsdall Art Park Theatre
Glendale Central Library
Highways Performance Space
Midnight Special Bookstore
UCLA Fowler Museum

AWARDS & GRANTS

- Artist in Residence/Department of Cultural Affairs, Los Angeles, CA
- Individual Artist Grant/Arts & Culture Commission, Glendale, CA
- Durfee Foundation/ARC Grant, Santa Monica, CA
- California Arts Council/Folk Arts Fund, CA
- California Humanities/Humanities for All, CA

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

- Brand Library & Art Center/Brand Associates, Board Member
- Dana Foundation, Partner
- Poetry Society of America
- California for the Arts
- Society of Art Entrepreneurship Education
- Arts Education Partnership, Affiliate

EDUCATION

B.A.: Political Science, Stockton University, NJ, 1985