

Thursday January 17, 2008

Please save this date and time **7:30 pm**

for a very special, unique Armenian Event, sponsored by
the Tekeyan Cultural Association, **at The Armenian Congregational Church,**
26210 West 12 Mile Rd. (at Franklin Road, near Northwestern Highway, between
Northwestern and Telegraph), Southfield, Michigan 48034-1772 Church T: 248.352.0680

**Our Concert of Armenian music of
Grikor Mirzaian Suni (1876-1939)**

Performed by singers

Maro Partamian, mezzo-soprano and Rubik Mailian, lyric tenor
and pianist Armena Marderosian,

(wife of Grikor Suni's grandson U. Michigan Professor Ronald Grigor Suny)

with great granddaughters of the composer Grikor Mirzaian Suni

Violinist sisters Sevan Siranoush Suni, 25 and Anoush Tamar Suni, 20

Anoush Suni will also play oud

Armenian composer, musicologist, conductor, and teacher

Grikor Mirzaian Suni (1876-1939)

is one of the founders of modern Armenian music. Born east of Lake Sevan in Getabek village, he was raised in the eastern reaches of Historic Armenia, in Shushi (now part of Azerbaijan). Suni's music is beautiful, soulful, lively classical art music based in Armenian folk music of his own collecting, and includes vocal solos and duets, 4-part choral works, orchestral suites, and instrumental pieces. His music is unique and at the same time "Armenian", and like the music of Bach is polyphonic, contrapuntal, and versatile, wonderful on any instruments. From a long line of Armenian *ashough* singers, Mirzaian (Suni) worked with all the Armenian masters of his time, and then at the St. Petersburg Conservatory of Music, Mirzaian Suni studied composition with Rimsky-Korsakov. Suni collected the songs of Armenians during his wide travels in the Caucasus, Anatolia, Egypt, Mesopotamia, Iran, and India. World war, revolution, and the genocide of the Ottoman Armenians caused Suni to flee to the US in 1923, where he conducted church choirs, created Armenian folk choruses, soloists and orchestras, in New York, Boston, Detroit, Chicago and Philadelphia (where he settled in 1925), and supported Armenia from afar. His son Gourgen (George) Suny picked up his father's baton in 1939.

contact: armena1949@gmail.com See our website www.suniproject.org to hear 4 hours of his music, see photos, read about him, see a 2 minute video of old Armenian men from the Armenian city of Van dancing in New York in 1946 "Dancing Vanetsi's", and more!

The Suni Project: Music Preservation is nonprofit 501(c)3 based in Ann Arbor, MI

Please put this concert date onto your calendars: Thursday January 17, 2008 at 7:30 pm

A small admission charge benefits the Tekeyan Cultural Association: \$20, \$10 for students. Audience youngest is age 12.

To go to Armenian Congregational Church from Ann Arbor: Take 23 North to 14 East to 275 North to 696 East to Telegraph Rd = 24 North (OR take 23 North to 14 East to 96 East to Telegraph Road = 24 North) to exit Telegraph Rd = 24 at 12 Mile Rd, go LEFT on 12 Mile Rd, almost to Northwestern Highway to the Armenian Congregational Church. The church is on your right at Franklin Rd. before a bank (north side of 12 Mile Road), set back from the road, parallel to the road, with no visible outside cross: Armenian Congregational Church 26210 West 12 Mile Rd, Southfield, MI.