



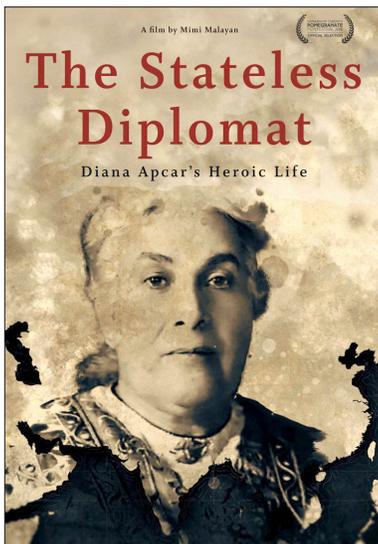
The California State University, Fresno  
**Armenian Studies Program**  
the Armenian National Committee, Central California  
and Hamazkayin Armenian Educational & Cultural Society  
Taniel Varoujan Chapter

present the Fresno screening of the film

# “THE STATELESS DIPLOMAT: DIANA APCAR'S HEROIC LIFE”

PRESENTED BY

**PRODUCER MIMI MALAYAN**



“The Stateless Diplomat” tells the story of Diana Apar, who in 1920 was appointed by Prime Minister Hovhannes Kachaznuni of the Republic of Armenia as Honorary Consul to Japan. Apar worked on behalf of Armenia and genocide survivors her entire life. She committed her passion and idealism to their cause, by writing books and articles, appealing to peace societies, academics, missionaries, and politicians.

Diana Apar and her husband moved to Japan in the 1890's and established their business and family. After the unexpected death of her husband, Apar became the bread-winner for her three children and remained in Japan.

She devoted her energy to her people as well, writing books and articles about the plight of the Armenians in the Ottoman Empire, especially after the 1895-1896 massacres. Apar helped save the lives of hundreds of Armenians fleeing the 1915-23 genocide by the Turkish government, by arranging for refugees to receive asylum in Japan, finding shelter for the refugees, and assisting them to find ultimate refuge in the United States. The movie utilizes Asian-inspired scrolling animation, a moving musical score, and captivating, dramatized readings from Apar's memoirs and letters, and interviews with relatives of those who Apar assisted.

*Mimi Malayan's interest in the Diana Apar film project is very personal: she is Diana Apar's great-granddaughter. Her interest in Apar took hold in 2004, when she “found” the “lost” manuscript, From the Book of One Thousand Tales. Since then she has been researching her great-grandmother's life and works, in an effort to create an extensive archive, including photographs, documents, and memoirs by Armenian refugees in Japan.*

*As a San Francisco native, Malayan has spent many years volunteering with various local Armenian organizations. For ten years she served as a board member for the U.C. Berkeley Armenian Alumni and is currently a board member for Bay Area Friends of Armenian (BAFA).*

**Tuesday, October 8, 2019 • 7:30 PM**

**University Business Center • Alice Peters Auditorium • Fresno State**

**Free Admission. Park in Lot P6 or P5 near the UBC. Free permits are available**

**by contacting the Armenian Studies Program**

For more information about upcoming events contact  
the Armenian Studies Program at 559-278-2669.

<http://fresnostate.edu/armenianstudies>

