

## Meet Lucy Janjigian Portrait of an Artist

"Painting is my passion," says Jerusalem-born Lucy Janjigian, the noted and widely traveled painter, muralist and sculptor. Of Armenian descent, she came to the United States in 1952, and received a BA in Biology from Heidelberg University, Tiffin, Ohio, and her MS in Plant Ecology, from Emory University, Atlanta, Georgia. It is her years of study at the Art Students League and the Stacy Studio workshop in New York City that she credits for her development into the award-winning, nationally known artist that she is today.

Listed in "Who's Who in American Art," Lucy's works hang in numerous public, private and corporate collections and she has had many one-person and group exhibitions (see below). Janjigian has also been repeatedly commissioned for paintings, murals, magazine and church bulletin covers, and book-jackets, children's book illustrations, Christmas cards and stamps.



She paints, the artist says, thematically. Abstract works have been inspired by nature and by her travels. Artspeak critic Sean Simon has compared her paintings to the works of Kathe Kolowitz, Max Beckman, and Jose Clemente Orozco. The strength of her expressionistic and cubistic technique and her use of vividly contrasting colors heighten the starkness of her graphic power. Friends and collectors who know her well credit the strong impact her works have on viewers, not only to her background and undeniable gifts, but to her passion for justice, the many years of Bible Study and her personal beliefs.

These inspire and inform her art. She has released three professional DVDs of her paintings—"Journey to Resurrection," "Biblical Parallels," and "Uprooted." Musical selections add to the drama of the DVDs and the artist personally narrates the script she wrote. The Episcopal Church Visual Arts has "Journey to Resurrection" in their archives after displaying it on their website during Lent. Janjigian has also created other series of paintings "Homeless," "On the Edge," "The Story of Eve," and "Creation."

Most personal to her, and to many the most moving, is the "Uprooted" series about the Armenian genocide, the first genocide of other twentieth century, a tragic horror of which most Americans are not aware. Over the years Lucy has heard her parents and their friends relate personal sagas of survival. She has developed a sensitivity to dispersion and homelessness. Lucy has attempted to capture these memories and to express them in bold stark images. Haunted figures are portrayed in dramatic colors on large canvases, enabling the viewer to ponder suffering inflicted on humans because of man's inhumanity to man. Lucy intends this exhibition to touch viewers intimately, in a visual statement on humanity's will to endure. These works communicate a universal plight, that of The Uprooted.

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### **New this year**

A poster featuring the art of Lucy Janjigian: a painter, muralist, and sculptor. Born in Jerusalem and of Armenian descent, Lucy has a passion for justice.

To learn more about the artist, see the opposite side of this flier.

To purchase the poster, visit [presbyterianmission.org/peacemakingoffering](http://presbyterianmission.org/peacemakingoffering).