



**THE HIRAIR AND ANNA
HOVNANIAN FOUNDATION**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
March 20, 2015

GRANT FOR MELCHER MEDIA

“THERE IS ONLY THE EARTH”

Tinton Falls, New Jersey March 20, 2015– The Hirair and Anna Hovnanian Foundation made a generous contribution to Melcher Media for the publication of *“There Is Only the Earth”* which is a beautiful book of images from The Armenian Diaspora Project with Photographs by Scout Tufankjian and as well as a written Introduction by Atom Egoyan of how this project came about. The Armenian Diaspora Project aims to tell the story of a people largely known only for their role as the victims in one of the first genocides of the 20th century. This project is not, however, about victimhood. It is a portrait of survival. The Book’s dedications reads as follows:

Dedication - This book would not have been possible without the generosity of the Hirair and Anna Hovnanian Foundation.

Founded by Hirair and Anna Hovnanian Foundation in 1986 as the culmination of a lifetime of philanthropy and dedication to the Armenian community, the foundation focuses on assisting Armenian communities worldwide. Exemplifying the spirit of our Armenian diaspora, Hirair Hovnanian is the classic self-made man, coming to the United States from Baghdad in his early twenties with twenty-five dollars and the dream, self-confidence, and a strong work ethic that drove him to achieve great financial success. One fateful weekend in Asbury Park, Hirair attended an Armenian dance where he met Anna Hamparian, a beautiful artist, marking the beginning of a love story that continues to this day. After raising their family in New Jersey with an intense Armenian spirit and pride, Hirair and Anna now live in Yerevan full-time, where they continue to support Armenian causes and institutions, both within their Diasporan community and within the homeland, including the Armenian Assembly of America, Armenia Fund, the AGBU, the Armenian Sisters Academy, Land and Culture Organization and Birthright Armenia, which this year will bring its one thousandth young volunteer to Armenia.

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