Trebisonda or Sonia Balassanian in the time of the foxes is a book made by one artist about-for-to another. It takes its subject, Sonia Balassanian both as its point of arrival and departure. Rather than isolating or defining Sonia or her work, the book attempts instead to connect her to the world from which her life and ideas emerge.

Sonia Balassanian is artist and poet, born in Iran in 1942. She lives and works in New York and Yerevan. Her works across a variety of forms and mediums have been exhibited internationally since the 70's. She has also published 2 books of selected poems in Armenian (1982 and 1991, reprinted in 2006) as well as an artist's book entitled Portraits (1983). Since 1992, she has been involved in

Armenia helping advance fine arts and presenting Armenian contemporary art on the international arena. In 1994 her involvement in Armenia culminated in founding the Armenian Center for Contemporary Experimental Art (NPAK in Armenian acronym). NPAK has since become an active center where artists explore new means and forms of expression, thought, and experimen-

tation. She is also an alumnus of the

Whitney Museum Independent Study

Program.

Rene Gabri is an artist, born in Tehran, Iran; lived briefly in Athens; then moved to Glendale, a small suburb of Los Angeles, which is host to the largest density of Armenians outside of Armenia. He now lives and works in New York, His first book Yucatán (Revolver, 2005) was an exploration of the open-ended becoming of the world and the neologism ultimiére, a word which invites thinking about the event in terms of the consequences rather than appearances.

Rene Gabri TREBISONDA or Sonia Balassanian Spumpanti

with additional texts, fragments, and responses FROM: Salar Abdoh Ayreen Anastas onia Balas Enian François Bucher serge Daney
(Former) Ambassador of Armenia
John Evans Jalal Toufic Nina Möntmann

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Additional Contributors:

Salar Abdoh is the author of the Poet Game and Opium. He teaches at the City University of New York.

Avreen Anastas writes in fragments and makes films and videos. She is one of the organizers of 16 Beaver Group (16beavergroup.org). The new shorter Oxford English Dictionary was published in Rethinking Marxism. She has no affection for the proclamation of victory. Troubled by any image of herself, suffers when she is named.

François Bucher is an artist living and working in Berlín and Bogotá. Co-editor of Revista Valdez. His articles and essays have also appeared in various books and journals including The Journal of Visual Culture, Saving The Image: Art after Film, and In The Poem About Love You Don't Write The Word Love (Lukas & Sternberg).

Nina Möntmann is a curator and writer, based in Hamburg. She is correspondent for Artforum and contributes to Le Monde Diplomatique, Frieze, Parachute, Texte zur Kunst. Selected Publications include Art and Its Institutions. Current Conflicts, Critique and Collaborations (Ed.), (Blackdog Publishing); Kunst als sozialer Raum, (Verlag der Buchhandlung Walther König); Mapping a City (Ed. with Yilmaz Dziewior) (Hatje/Cantz).

Ialal Toufic is a writer, thinker, and artist. His books include Distracted, (Vampires): An Uneasy Essay on the Undead in Film, Forthcoming, Undying Love, or Love Dies; Two or Three Things I'm Dying to Tell You, and 'Ashûrâ': This Blood Spilled in My Veins, (jalaltoufic.com)

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At 52nd Biennale of Venice

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Honorary Commissioner: Jean Boghossian

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