



# Bhatia Lecture

Presented by the Honors College and the Department of Anthropology

## Dr. Kate Franklin

Birkbeck, University of London

Making art and writing history amidst the ruins: perspectives from medieval Armenia



Date: Thursday, March 27th

Time: 4:00 PM – 5:00 PM

Location: Bryan Hall 305



A detail of a fourteenth-century manuscript from Gladzor, Armenia, showing a note added within a painting asking the teacher Esayi to remember the hard-working student Toros.

## Abstract:

In this talk I will explore the world of art and culture at the turn of the fourteenth century in the mountains and canyons of Armenia. Some of the most exquisite art and fascinating historical writing of the medieval Caucasus were produced during a period that was categorized by historians and artists as a time of chaos, of ruinous Mongol invasions, local upheavals and global transformations. I will look closer at the making of art in these difficult years. How did making art and writing history enable medieval people to navigate their world? What might we learn from medieval ways of understanding the world, of looking to the past as well as to the future?