Mourning Philology (Fordham University Press, 2014) draws on the life and work of Arminian poet Daniel Varuzhan to present a history of the national imagination, which is also a history of national philology, as a reaction to the two main philological inventions of the 19th century: mythological religion and the native. In its first part, the book thus gives an account of the successive stages of orientalist philology. The last episode in this story of national emergence took place in 1914 in Constantinople, when the literary journal Mehyan gathered around Varuzhan the great names to come of Armenian literature in the diaspora.

Marc Nichanian was Professor of Armenian Studies at Columbia University from 1996 to 2007 and is currently Visiting Professor at Sabanci University, Istanbul, in the Department of Cultural Studies. His publications in English include The Historiographic Perversion and Writers of Disaster.

David Kazanjian is Professor of English, at University of Pennsylvania, and Gil Anidjar is Professor in the Departments of Religion and Middle Eastern, South Asian, and African Studies (MESAAS) at Columbia University. Together with Nichanian they have been cooperating for a long time on intellectual issues, including mourning.