

# Armenian Jewellers Foundation

Geneva, Switzerland

## Advancing the Heritage of Armenians in Jewellery

### MILLER COLLECTION CATALOGUE AND EXHIBIT LAUNCH ON APRIL 21, 2015



Aza Babayan, Dr. Mikhail Piotrovski

The joint project with the Museum of Ethnography is well underway. Regional Director Aza Babayan visited Saint Petersburg to meet with the Museum's management and hold discussions with AJF Gold Patrons and Saint Petersburg's Armenian community leaders Karen Mkrtchyan and Armen Mkrtchyan. Stakeholders decided to organize the launching event of Alexander Miller's 1916 Western Armenia collection catalogue and full exhibit on April 21, 2015. Similar events are also planned in Moscow and Yerevan throughout the year.

Ms. Babayan also met with the director of the world-renowned Hermitage Museum, Dr. Mikhail Piotrovski, who expressed interest in joining the effort and reviewing the catalogue. Dr. Piotrovski will also participate in the launching ceremony.

### SEMINAR ORGANIZED WITH THE GOVERNMENT OF ARMENIA



Minister Hranush Hakopyan delivering opening remarks, Dr. Lusine Ghushyan (left), Pierre Akkelian (right)

During Yerevan Show 2014, AJF and the Ministry of Diaspora held a seminar to present Miller's Armenian Jewellery Collection and the catalogue project to the jewellery community and the media. Minister Hranush Hakopyan opened the event outlining plans for 2015 and the great value of AJF's project for all Armenians on the eve of the 100th Anniversary. AJF Chairman Pierre Akkelian also offered remarks on the foundation's mission, stating that the initiative was being realized on the behalf of all Armenian jewellers as a collective tribute to the 100th Anniversary commemoration.

As the project curator, Dr. Lusine Ghushyan from Saint

Petersburg's Museum of Ethnography, was the keynote speaker at the seminar. Dr. Ghusyan gave an audiovisual presentation of the jewellery artifacts acquired by Alexander Miller and his expedition team in Van, Mush, and Bitlis in 1916. Some of the authentic Armenian items date back to the 13th century and represent historical, as well as artistic value.



**St. Petersburg Ethnography Museum Receptions Hall  
where the inauguration ceremonies will be held  
on April 21, 2015**



**Pierre Akkelian discussing AJF and the museum project  
(watch the Armenpress [interview](#))**