

HUMANITIES WEST

Presents

**THE GLORY OF THE OTTOMAN EMPIRE:
SÜLEYMAN THE MAGNIFICENT**

March 5 and 6, 1993
Herbst Theatre
San Francisco



The Sultan's Master of the Turban

HUMANITIES WEST PRESENTS

THE GLORY OF THE OTTOMAN EMPIRE: SÜLEYMAN THE MAGNIFICENT

Herbst Theatre, San Francisco
Richard Reinhardt, Moderator

FRIDAY, MARCH 5 8:00 - 10:30 PM

- LECTURE: Esin Atil (Curator of Islamic Art, The Smithsonian Institution), "The Life of Sultan Süleyman Through the Works of Contemporary Court Painters"
- LECTURE/RECITAL: Münir Nurettin Beken: Music and demonstration of instruments from the Ottoman Court
- RECEPTION: The Green Room, Herbst Theatre

SATURDAY, MARCH 6, 10:00 AM - 4:30 PM

- LECTURE: Alan Fisher, Michigan State University, "The Personal Life of an Ottoman Sultan"
- LECTURE: Gülru Necipoglu, Harvard University, "The Ottoman Imperial Image in Art and Architecture During the Age of Süleyman"

BREAK FOR LUNCH: 12:15 PM - 1:45PM

- LECTURE: Walter B. Denny, University of Massachusetts at Amherst, "Court Design and the Production of Art under Süleyman the Magnificent"
- LECTURE: Talat Halman, Former Turkish Minister of Culture, New York University, "An Empire of Poetry: Süleyman as Poet and Poetry in the Age of Süleyman"

The Glory of the Ottoman Empire: Süleyman the Magnificent is presented in cooperation with the Consul General of Turkey in Los Angeles, the Honorary Consul General of Turkey in San Francisco, the American-Turkish Friendship Council, the Turkish-American Association of California, the World Affairs Council of Northern California, and the Center for Western European Studies of the University of California at Berkeley. It is funded by the National Endowment for the Humanities with additional funding from the Turkish-American Association of California.

LECTURER AND PERFORMER BIOGRAPHIES

ESIN ATIL studied European and Islamic art at the University of Michigan. In 1970, she joined the Freer Gallery of Art of the Smithsonian Institution as Curator of Islamic Art. She has organized numerous exhibitions and published over seventeen books on the artistic traditions of the Islamic world, the subjects of which range from studies on manuscripts, ceramics, and metalworks, to surveys of Mamluk and Ottoman art. Between 1985 and 1987, she was Guest Curator at the National Gallery of Art, and in 1987, she received the Grand Award for Culture and Art from the President of Turkey and the Medal of Honor from the Assembly of Turkish American Associations. Dr. Atil is presently Curator of Islamic Art at the Freer Gallery of Art and the Arthur M. Sackler Gallery, two Smithsonian Institution museums dedicated to Asian Art.

LATIF BOLAT received a B.S. in traditional music of Turkey. In 1985 he founded the Turkish Music Ensemble, YASHA. This group of five plays the music of Turkey, from the folk songs of Anatolia and Azerbaijan to the stately court music of the Ottoman Empire. "Yasha!" is shouted at the height of excitement to encourage and spur on musicians and dancers.

MÜNİR NURETTİN BEKEN started his musical life in the State Conservatory of Istanbul and later earned his Master's Degree in Music from the Technical University of Istanbul. He was one of the founding members of the State Turkish Music Ensemble. He is a doctoral candidate in ethnomusicology at the University of Maryland and has performed at the Smithsonian Institution and the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York.

WALTER B. DENNY studied at Robert College (Istanbul), Grinnell College, the State University of Iowa, Oberlin College, and Harvard University, and is currently Professor of Art History at the University of Massachusetts/Amherst and Honorary Curator of Carpets and Textiles at the Harvard University Art Museums. He has published widely in the field of Islamic art, and includes among his special interests Ottoman Turkish carpets, ceramics, textiles, architecture, and miniature painting.

ALAN FISHER was educated at DePauw and Columbia and studied at Robert College in Istanbul before joining the faculty of Michigan State University where he has taught since 1966. Currently he is serving as Director of the Center for Integrative Studies in the Arts and Humanities. On the basis of research in Turkish, French and British archives and libraries, he has published two books and two dozen articles. He has been president of the Turkish Studies Association, is currently on the Board of the Institute of Turkish Studies, and is an elected Fellow of the Royal Historical Society (U.K.) and the Turkish Historical Society. His current project is a biography of Süleyman Kanuni.

TALAT HALMAN is professor of Turkish language and literature at New York University. He has taught at Columbia, Penn, and Princeton Universities. He is a poet, historian of culture and literature, dramatist, critic, and translator. He has published more than 40 books in English and Turkish, including a volume entitled *Süleyman the Magnificent, Poet*. He was formerly Turkey's Minister of Culture and Ambassador for Cultural Affairs. In 1971 Queen Elizabeth awarded him the Knight Grand Cross. He has been awarded an honorary doctorate by Istanbul Bosphorus University, the Thornton Wilder Prize of Columbia University, many awards in Turkey, and a Rockefeller Fellowship.

GÜLRU NECİPOĞLU studied Islamic art and architecture at Harvard University. After a year of post-doctoral research and teaching at Columbia University as a Mellon Fellow, she started teaching at the Fine Arts Department of Harvard, where she is currently Associate Professor. She has travelled extensively in the Islamic world and has received several prestigious awards, including the Founder's Award of the Society of Architectural Historians, the King Fahd Grand Prize for Excellence of Research in Islamic Architecture, and the Samuel H. Kress Publication Award. She has written on Ottoman art and architecture and has a forthcoming book on the Topkapi Palace.

RICHARD REINHARDT has written and contributed to a dozen books on subjects as diverse as urban planning and transcontinental railroad travel. His novel *The Ashes of Smyrna* set in the Middle East in the early 1920s, has been translated into both Greek and Turkish. A graduate of Stanford, Mr. Reinhardt received a M.S. in journalism from Columbia and did post-graduate study on the Near East at Princeton. He teaches news writing in the Graduate School of Journalism at UC Berkeley.

HUMANITIES WEST

ADVISORY COUNCIL

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Sonia Evers,
Chairman
David Bartlett, *Vice*
Chairman
Fiona Ma,
Secretary/Treasurer
John M. Anderson
Thomas Bassett
Leonard B. Berger

Jeannette A. Bullis
Janice H. Burrows
Posie Joyce Conklin
Stephan H. Cotton
Therese Heyman
A. Kirk McKenzie
Frank Rettenberg
Audrey Richards
Harrison Sheppard

Joan Abrahamson
Agnes Albert
Rand Castile
Peter Donat
Richard Fabian
Peter Fairbanks
Paul Karlstrom
Douglas Lewis
George Livermore
Nicholas McGegan
Kathleen Murray

Judith Nelson
Theresa Nelson
Peter Pierson
Theodore Rabb
Jaap Schroeder
Sally Scully
Eleanor Selfridge-Field
Marc Simpson
Michael Steinberg
Julia Trilling

Ex Officio

Elaine Thornburgh,
President

STAFF

Elaine Thornburgh,
President

Heather Sterner,
Associate Director

*Hospitality for the speakers
is being generously provided by
The Ritz-Carlton Hotel*

SPECIAL THANKS TO

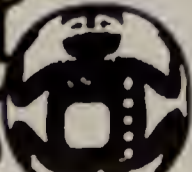
Cal Anderson
Peter Fairbanks
Dr. Laina Farhat
David Fischer
Aileen Friedman
Christine Grabitzky
Signa Houghteling
Sharon Johnson
Bonnie Joy Kaslan,
Honorary Consul General
of Turkey
Diane Mayers
Montgomery Gallery
Lynne Prevot

Judy Rowcliffe,
Ritz Carlton Hotel
Nathan Schafler
Dr. John L. Sommer
Stoyanof's Cafe &
Restaurant
Angel Stoyanov
Ahmet Toprak
John Williams
Ruth Wilson
World Affairs Council
Yuksel Yildirim
Humanities West
Volunteers

Discover Turkiye!

Far Horizons was started in 1983 by archaeologist, Mary Dell Lucas, who has had personal contacts with Turkey since 1951. Led by outstanding specialists, we have scheduled archaeological and historical tours which are limited to a maximum of 12 people. Every year, Mary Dell spends several weeks in Turkey researching new areas, hotels (many of them elegant restored historical buildings which depict the charm of the country) and restaurants in order to prepare up-to-date and unique itineraries for groups and individuals. She personally helps design custom itineraries which highlight the interests of the participants, and arranges crewed yacht charters aboard spectacular wooden sailing yachts. Mary Dell has put together trips for UCLA Extension, Zoo Atlanta, Bucknell University and Princeton University.

Let us show you an intimate view
of our part of the world—all of Turkey!

Far
Horizons 

ARCHAEOLOGICAL &
CULTURAL TRIPS

1-800-552-4575

P.O. Box 91900
Albuquerque, NM 87199-1900

Friends:

Philip Adams
Aaron Adler
John Aird
Agnes Albert
Gertraud Albert
Albert & Barbara Alhadef
Carmelita Alvarez
Judith Anderson
William & Ann Anderson
Mr. & Mrs. Robert O. Appleton
Ingrid & Gary Apter
Mr. & Mrs. John B. Arnold
Elisabeth Arnold
Bonny Atkins
Stephen & Robin Austin
Anita A. Axt
Anne M. Baele
Carla & David Baird
Mary L.P. Bankston
Barbara R. Barkovich
Helen Base
Sharon S. Bass
Corinne Beauvais
Anne & Stephen Beecroft
Ralph Benson
W. Dieter Bergman
Sandra Berrey
Dr. Susan Bertolli
Erin Beynon
Anna Blair
Karen Lesley Blake
Rory Bled
Dix & Marilyn Boring
Ann Gidden Bowman
Stuart Bowyer
Darlene Boyce
Peter Y. Brady
D. R. Bragg
Nancy E. Britton
Anne Marie Brown
George & Phyllis Brown
Priscilla Brown
Susan Brown
Susan & Richard Tibbon Bruni
Marge Bushman
Neill D. Butcher
Virginia Byron
Cathleen Caffrey
Robert B. Cahan, M.D.
Manuel M. Callejas, Jr.
Wayne S. Canterbury
Mary Carrigan
Lucille E. Carson
Nancy M. Chaffin
Daniel M. Champeau
Dr. Arthur Chandler
Marilyn R. Chandler
Marie Chandoha
Mary Chappell
Barry M. Chauser, M.D.
Dr. & Mr. Melvin Cheitlin
Miriam B. Chown
Mary Lou Ciranni
Isabel Clark
Suzanne Clark
Karen Cleek
Patricia H. Cody
Jerry Cole
Dan A. Craddock
William R. Crain, M.D.
Mr. & Mrs. James Crittenden
Ross & Rosalind Crosby
Mr. & Mrs. Michael Curulla
Jacob & Dolores Dana
Ann Davies
Edith Davison
Elisabeth Dean
Serena de Bellis
Novia de Carillo
Carlota del Portillo
James Derbin
Paula Diederich
John & Karen Diefenbach
Eleanor Dignan
John Disbrow
Sally Dommerich
Mr. & Mrs. Robert Donn
Judith Donnelly
Debra Dooley
John Drago
Gloria & Lewis Duckor
Alice M. Duffy
Dr. R. Leslie Dugan
Elaine Smith Dunlap
Joan Dunn
Vernon & Elke Dwelly
Judith Edwards
Lucia Edwards
Josephine Eger
James Ehrhart
Nancy Evans
Diane Fairchild
Viola Falchetti
Dr. Laina Farhat
Ruthanne Farnsworth
Thomas Fawcett
Mrs. A. Barlow Ferguson
Carol H. Field
Mary W. Fitch
Robert Fisher
Jean K. Fitzgerald
Beverly Forster
R.T. Freebairn-Smith
Aileen Friedman
Robert & Linda Fries
Carmel P. Friesen
Susan Hart Fritz
John & Karen Garth
Pamela & Thomas Gerfer
Eleanor F. Gettman
Shirley B. Gillham
Carol H. Goforth
Nancy McAleer Golden
Glenda Goldwater
Lucile Golson
Kay Sprinkel Grace
Miriam & John Graham
Mary Ann Grant
Anne Gregersen
Edna Grenlie
Elaine Griggs
Gregory Gromadzki
Linda Gruber
Barbara Gunderson
Sidney M. Gunther
Patricia J. Guy
Tom Hall
Randall E. Ham
Joseph Hansen
Todd Hansen
Chuck & Susie Hanson
Donald Hanson
Richard & Carol Harris
Lee Hastings
Richard L. Heidelberg
Terry Helm
Alvis E. Hendley
Ginette & Leon Henkin
Cheree F. Hethershaw
Peter Hirsch
Alfred & Marcelle Holck
Eleanor M. Holland
Mildred W. Holliday
Muriel Hoppes
William S. Howe, Jr.
Mayme Hubert
Al & Else Hughes
Carolyn J. Hughes
Myna Hughes
Mrs. Harline Hurst
Joyce Hurwitz
Marilyn Hutt
Dr. Herbert H. Hymans
Elizabeth Ingalls
Barbara Isgur
William Issel
Pamela Jean Jajko
Ellen S. Johnson
Stephen Johnson
Susan B. Johnson
Barbara Jolliffe
Loretta Juhas
Robert & Kathy Kaiser
Paris Kalodimas
Ellis Kaplan
Mr. & Mrs. Paul Karlstrom
Barbara Karoff
Colleen Katzowitz
D. Graeme Keith
Charles M. Kelsea
Marion R. Kenyon
Nancy Kenyon
Gloria King
Pamela Kirkbride
Harold Kirker
Joseph Klammer
Robert R. & Leslie Klotz
Marjorie I. Koenig
Dak Komai
Margot Komarmy
Michael and Jean Kudlick
Leon H. Kuhn
Dr. & Mrs. William Kuzell
Richard W. Lack
Robert & Barbara Lauppe
Patricia Lawler
Mrs. James V. Lawry
Jerry Fox & Hjordis Lee
Virginia G. Lenderking
Richaard Leonards
Nellie W. Leong
Judy Levine
Maureen Levitan
Dr. Helen Lew
Joseph Lifschutz, M.D.
Frances N. Lilienthal
Babette Livingston
Kenneth M. Livingstone
Eleanor G. Locke
Margaret Lockett
Lynne Losh
Carolyn Lougee
Kay Lowney
Carter Lowrie
Mary Dell Lucas
James M. Lucas
Margaret Macdonald
Hugh Maiocco, M.D.
Elinor Mandelson
Joseph Mannion
Monica March
Mr. & Mrs. Robert Marcus

Friends Cont'd.

Ann L. Mariposa
Lindy Li Mark
Joe & Charlotte Marshall
Loretta Marshall
James F. Matthews
David Maul
James O. McCaldin
Sandra McCarthy
Jane McCoy
Barbara McCray
John L. McDonald
Scott McElhinney
Frieda B. McKenzie
W. Lynn McLaughlin
Lee McRae
Mary McVaney
Rudy & Gloria Melone
Mrs. Douglas Merrick
Russell & Karen Merritt
David & Maritza Meskan
Irene Miano
Jean Miller
Ruth F. Miller
Pamela A. Minkler
Mintz & Cohen
Karrin Mis
Dr. & Mrs. James E. Mitchell
Mary Mitchell
Mrs. Nathan Mobley, Jr.
David Montagu
David Morse
Dr. Susan Moulton
Catherine Munson
Mrs. Edgar Munter
Gail Murphy
Madeline Murphy
Norma H. Murphy
Philip & Ann Murphy
Ethel F. Mussen
Gerald & Catherine Mutz
Vicki Muzny
Margaret C. Myers
Ruth Nagler
Donald E. Nelson
Heather Newbold
Dr. & Mrs. William Newmeyer
Paula Nichols
Carla Nicholson
Mr. & Mrs. Henry Niles II
Rosanne E. Noon
Rick & Rosemary O'Connell
Phyllis J. O'Shea
Leana A. Olliffe
Adelaide Paine
Sidney Papkoff
Robin Parer
Heebok & Heo Park
Bruce Parker
Roberta L. Paskos
Virginia Patterson
Otis & Ann Paul
Ann Paulsen, M.D.
John W. Pavlic
Troy Peake
M. Cathy Peek
Suzanne Perkins-Gordon
Claire Perry
Elisabeth T. Peters
Harriet S. Peters
Katherine Petrelis
Mona Picket
Diane Pizzoli
Natalie Podell
Diane O. Post
Lauren A. Post
Ann M. Pougiales
William Powers
Vicky Prager
John R. Pratt
Rose Lou Randolph
Kathleen Ranney
Sandra Raymond
Sylvia Reback
Elizabeth Reece
John Reilly
Stephen W. Reiss
Marion R. Renyon
Walter E. Rex
Dianne Reynolds
Herbert Richards
Francis J. Rigney, M.D.
Nancy Chappel Roberts
Mrs. Ann V. W. Robison
Ruth Hale Roe
Marguerite Romanello
Sally Rooksby
Diane Rooney
Julius Rose
Ellen Rosen
Beatrice Rosenthal
Mr. & Mrs. John Rosston
Mr. & Mrs. Arthur Roth
Joanne S. Roze
Mark & Yvonne LaLann Rubenstein
Martha Rubinson
Ernest & Sonya Ruehl
Margaret Hall Russell
Ruth Russell
Mrs. Otto F. Ruud
Rebekah Sachs
Roger Sack
Louis Saroni II
Mrs. Robert Scavullo
Bret Schaefer
Rose Scherini
F. M. Schildmaker
Eloise H. Schmidt
Shirley Schneider
Dorothy Schoendorf
Marvin Schulman
James Schwabacher
Barbara Scodel
Mrs. Elsie A. Seff
Cynthia Selfridge
Eleanor Selfridge-Field
Molly & Stephen Sestanovich
Deborah Shefler
Mr. & Mrs. Bill Shepard
Nina & Nathan Shoehalter
Marji Showalter
Rebekah M. Shuey
Charlotte Siegel
Bonnie Silverman
Gerald Simon
Carolyn M. Skovbrotten
Dorothy Slaton
John Williams Smith
Julie B. Smith
John Snelsinger
Herschel H. Solomon
Lawrence J. Sovin
Judithe D. Speidel
Curtis Sperling
Lynn Spivack
Dr. & Mrs. Samuel Spivack
Nancy St. John
Jo Anne Stefanska
Margie & Joel Steinberg
John Stephens
Elizabeth Stevenson
Ruth B. Stevenson
Barbara P. Stewart
John A. Stoeller
Jane M. Strothman
Arthur T. Sturgess
Robert & Barbara Sucek
Kaya Sugiyama
Paul M. Sullam
Gordon Taylor
Margaret Taylor
Mary Taylor
Shirley Taylor
John Tennant Jr.
Susan Tevis
Page & Virginia Thibodeaux
Jan Newstrom Thompson
Marie Tilson
Louise C. Torracio
Jill Toth
Marsha Ann Townsend
Elizabeth Tuckwell
Robert & Beverly A. Tuller
James & Gayle Tunnell
Richard W. Van Horn
Dirk Ban Nouhuys
Henri Vandendriessche
Shirley Victor
Christian Von Doepp, M.D.
Beryl M. Vonderheid
Roger Wagner, M.D.
Nancy Wakeman
Maxine Wallace
Judy Wallen
Ben Warwick
Elizabeth F. Warrick
Ralph Watson, M.D.
Wendy Webster
Dr. & Mrs. Harry Weinstein
Kristi Wessenberg
Christopher Westergaard
Joyce Whitney
Nelson Wild
Theodore H. Wildenradt
Stephanie Wilhelm
Dr. Wendell R. Wilkin
Timmie Will
Susan & Michel Willey
Roy Willis
Gillian Wilson
Peter & Martha Wilson
Peter & Barbara Winkelstein
Marty & Barbara Winter
Patricia Fay Woods
Bonnie Woodworth
Mrs. Alexander Yakutis
Betty M. York
Danell Zeavin
Eugene Zubowsky

HUMANITIES WEST

will continue the 1993 year with

May 7-8, 1993: "Shakespeare's England"

This Royal Throne Of Kings, this Sceptered Isle...

This Realm, this England...

King Richard II. Act II. Scene 1, Line 40

Tudor England was a land of political, literary and social ferment. Currents of humanism and scepticism permeated intellectual life; public theatre flourished as both a cultural and commercial phenomenon. Under the reign of Elizabeth I, England took to the world stage.

Explore these tumultuous times with HUMANITIES WEST as we look at Shakespeare's England. Witness, through illustrated lectures, the rich art and architecture of Tudor England as well as the domestic life of ordinary people, so different from that of the Elizabethan court and from our life today.

October 22-23, 1993: "Galileo's Universe: Science, Art and Music in the Renaissance"

For information, please call HUMANITIES WEST at 415-387-8780.

HERBST THEATRE

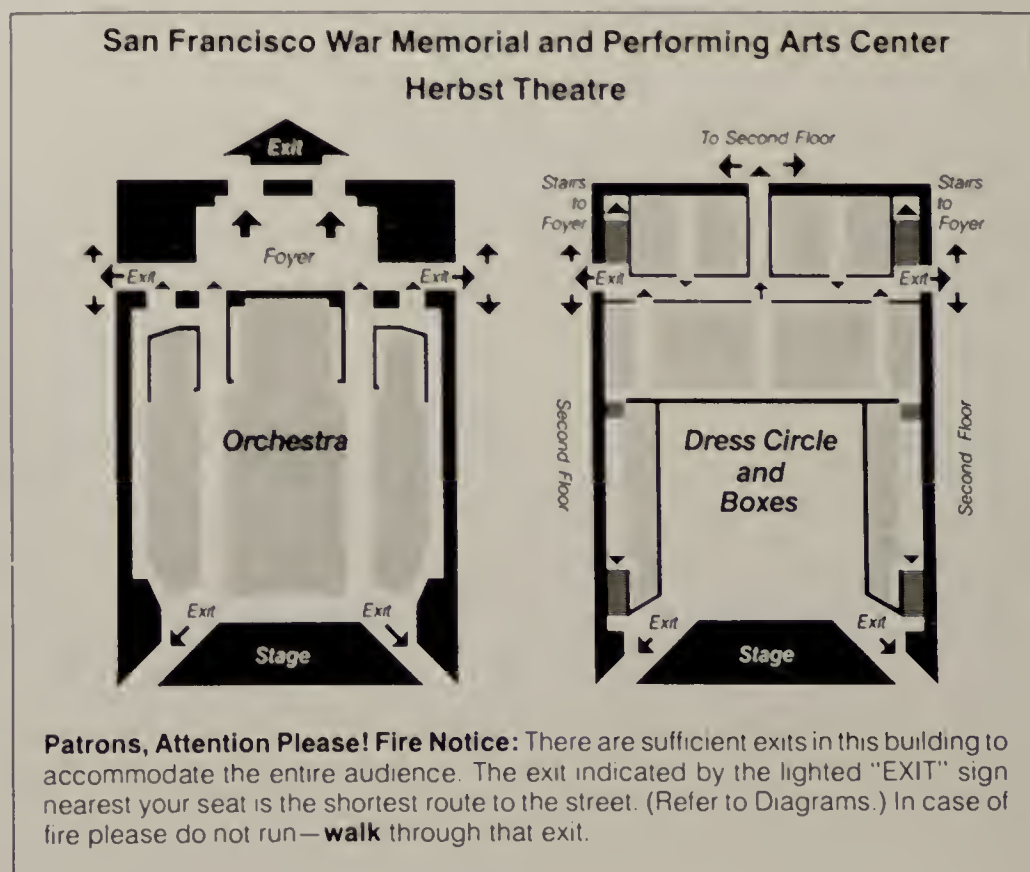
*Owned and operated by the City and County of San Francisco
through the Board of Trustees of the War Memorial*

The Honorable Frank M. Jordan, Mayor
City and County of San Francisco

TRUSTEES

Mrs. Melvin Swig, President
Thomas E. Horn, Vice President
Marie Acosta-Colon
Alan D. Becker
Mrs. Joseph D. Cuneo
Mrs. Mitchell V. Davies
Dr. Zuretti L. Goosby
Mrs. Walter A. Haas, Jr.
Mrs. Anthony J. Leones
Mrs. George R. Moscone
Francesca Naify

Thelma Shelley, *Managing Director*
Elizabeth Murray, *Assistant Managing Director*



BEAUTIFUL
EVIDENCE THAT
SOME THINGS ARE
TIMELESS.

For reservations call
415-296-7465
or 800-241-3333



THE RITZ-CARLTON
SAN FRANCISCO

◆ Süleyman The Magnificent

Süleyman Conquers San Francisco

by Judy Erkanat

Humanities West presented *The Glory of the Ottoman Empire: Süleyman the Magnificent* on March 5 and 6. Richard Reinhardt of Humanities West served as moderator to a packed house at Herbst Theatre.

Friday evening, the 5th, served as an introductory lesson on *The Life of Sultan Süleyman Through the Works of Contemporary Court Painters*, a lecture delivered by Esin Atil, the Smithsonian Institution's eminent Curator of Islamic Art. She dazzled the crowd with her presentation of miniatures representing the myriad themes and styles which characterized the Golden Age of Ottoman Turkey.

After fielding questions from the audience, Esin Hanim gave the floor to Munir Nurettin Beken. The young Turkish musician gave a virtuoso performance of classical Ottoman Court Music on the ud. Munir Bey's gentle demeanor charmed the crowd, as did his seemingly boundless knowledge of Turkish music.

A reception capped off the evening. The new Turkish Consul flew up from Los Angeles for the event and many prominent members of the Turkish-American community were in attendance. Turkish meze, wine and soft drinks were served upstairs in the theatre's Green Ballroom. Attendees were able to express their awe and appreciation in person to the various speakers and performers.

The next day began with a 10:00 am lecture on *The Personal Life of an Ottoman Sultan* by Alan Fisher, Director of the Center for Integrative Studies in the Arts and Humanities, Michigan State University. As Süleyman's modern biographer, Mr. Fisher introduced the audience to the human side of Süleyman the man destined to rule as an imperial autocrat. He traced the great Sultan's alternately peaceful

and warlike personality through the words of contemporary writers.

The originally scheduled speaker on Sinan the Architect was taken ill. His replacement, Terry Allen, a Sebastapol specialist on Islamic Art and Architecture, had only 24 hours to prepare for his lecture. He made excellent use of it, however, and kept the packed auditorium enthralled for almost an hour with his in-depth knowledge of Sinan and a personal slide collection taken throughout Turkey and other parts of Süleyman's Empire.

Court Design and the Production of Art under Süleyman the Magnificent was the topic of Walter B. Denny's entertaining talk. The John L. Loeb Associate Professor of the Humanities at Harvard, Mr. Denny's dramatic approach to lecturing was a treat. As a renowned connoisseur, he offered his unique insights on the superb ceramics, carpets, textiles, and illuminations of historical documents produced under the auspices of Süleyman's court. He delved into the history of Ottoman design and its influence throughout European history to the present day.

Talat Halman, former Turkish Minister of Culture now Professor of Turkish Language and Literature at New York University, brought the event to a close with a touch of humor. As Turkey's foremost cultural authority, he presented a non-visual portrait of the age of Süleyman through poetry. Talat Bey recited passages from the Sultan's own poems, revealing a variety of private royal passions.

This was a two-day event that the Turkish Community had every right to be proud of. More of its kind would be a welcome annual event.

Esin Atil...dazzled the crowd with her presentation of miniatures representing the myriad themes and styles which characterized the Golden Age of Ottoman Turkey."

TIMELINE: Suleyman the Magnificent

1071 -- The Seljuk Emperor Alp Arslan defeats a large Byzantine army at Malazgirt in Eastern Anatolia. Thereafter the Turks are able to settle in Asia Minor undisturbed.

1227 -- The nomad chieftain Ertugrul leads his legendary band of 400 horsemen into Asia Minor. For valuable service to the Seljuk Sultan, he is granted the fiefdom of Sogut, near Bursa.

1288 -- Osman I, founder of the Ottoman dynasty, succeeds Ertugrul. He and his son and successor, Orhan, rapidly expand Ottoman territory. Bursa becomes their capital.

1389 -- Murad I destroys a much larger Serbian army at Kossovo, a defeat the Serbs have never forgotten.

1453 -- Mehmed II, "The Conqueror", overwhelms the remnants of the Byzantine Empire at Constantinople, makes the city his capital and renames it Istanbul.

1514-1517 -- Selim I, "The Grim", reduces Persian and Mameluke opposition to Ottoman hegemony in the East. He captures the Abbaside Caliph (successor to Mohammed as leader of Islam) in Cairo. This made it possible for future Ottoman sultans to claim the title of Caliph.

1520 -- Selim's only son, Suleyman I, "The Magnificent" (in Turkey "The Lawgiver"), becomes Sultan.

1526 -- Suleyman breaks the power of the Hungarians at Mohacs.

1529 -- Suleyman besieges Vienna, but the city's defenses hold.

1534-35 -- Suleyman's eastern campaigns lead to the absorption of Iraq into the empire.

1533-1540 -- The Ottoman Navy, under the command of the former pirate "Barbaros" Hayreddin, captures the last Venetian fortresses in southern Greece and stems Portuguese advances along the Red Sea and the Persian Gulf.

1548 -- Sinan completes his "apprentice work," the Shehzade Mosque, commemorating the death of Suleyman's first son from smallpox.

1550-57 -- Construction of Sinan's masterpiece, the Suleymaniye mosque.