



MOTHERLAND

documentary feature film by vic gerami

**'The Most Anticipated
Documentary Film 2022'**

Thom Senzee, HuffPost

CONTACT

Vic Gerami
310.880.8563
vic@thebluntpost.com
MotherlandDoc.com



OVERVIEW

Genre: Documentary Feature

Running Time: 115 Minutes

Languages: English, Armenian, Turkish, French (With English Subtitles)

Format:

Writer, Producer & Director: Vic Gerami

Narrator: Vic Gerami

Production Company: The Blunt Post Media

Growing up in Los Angeles, I felt different, an outsider, due to my Armenian ethnicity, national origin, and sexual orientation. These factors made it challenging to have a clear identity, as I was keenly aware of being a minority on many levels, marginalized, and felt at a disadvantage from my community and from my peers.

When I turned three years old, my parents took me to visit Armenia, and remarkably those early memories and images remained embedded in my heart from our three-month trip. It was a life-altering experience that instilled a love for my motherland. When you feel you don't belong, you hold on to your roots tightly.



I spent years learning about the 1915 Armenian Genocide, when 1.5 million Armenians were exterminated from their historic homeland by the Ottoman Turks. This ancient land, Armenia, is historically where Noah's Ark landed on Mount Ararat, was the first nation to adopt Christianity as a State religion, and the beautiful Armenian highlands were famously memorialized by William Saroyan in his iconic novels.

It was a shock when on September 27, 2020, Azerbaijan and Turkey unleashed an unprovoked genocidal assault and ethnic cleansing on the Armenians of Artsakh (Nagorno-Karabakh) and massacred 5,000+ people in 44 days. It triggered and awakened deep wounds in Armenian communities worldwide and ignited new trauma. I watched the horrors of Armenians being slaughtered, beheaded, and violated in unimaginable ways while witnessing the international community's deafening silence. Truth was not being reported.

It became clear that this 21st-century slaughter taking place needed to be properly documented and accurately reported. Without hesitation, I packed up and flew to my embattled motherland to personally interview officials, veterans, experts, and journalists. I documented precisely how Azerbaijan's president, Aliyev, and Turkish President Erdoğan – a pair of dictators and self-professed "brothers" – are pulling the wool over the world's eyes, and in the process, getting away with mass murder.

I was determined to make a documentary film aimed toward a worldwide audience so that international viewers would see and experience the extraordinary beauty of Armenia and Artsakh, understand the context of the unprovoked attack, and be eyewitnesses to the humanitarian catastrophe. 'Motherland' is raw, unfiltered, and without compromise.

'Motherland' is dedicated to the bright memory of the 5,000+ Armenian martyrs in 2020.

SYNOPSIS

It took 106 years before the United States formally recognized the Armenian Genocide of 1915 at the hands of the Ottoman Turks. On April 24, 2021, President Joe Biden became the first US president to officially recognize the Armenian genocide and to recommit preventing such an atrocity from occurring again. Tragically, history is repeating itself with Turkey's ongoing genocidal attack and ethnic cleansing against Armenians as we've witnessed recently in Artsakh. "Motherland" tells the story of this ongoing tragic chapter through the lens of Armenian-American journalist and LGBTQ+ activist, Vic Gerami.

MOTHERLAND is a 120-minute documentary feature film about Azerbaijan's, Turkey's unprovoked genocidal attack and ethnic cleansing against Armenians of Artsakh, also known as Nagorno-Karabakh, starting on September 27, 2020. Azerbaijan with the declared assistance from Turkey reawakened the conflict from dormancy by launching a large-scale offensive against Artsakh. In its war effort, Azerbaijan relied on thousands of Turkish-paid jihadist mercenaries airlifted from terrorist camps in Syria, Libya, and Pakistan, and brought to fight alongside the Azerbaijani Army. The 2020 invasion opened a new chapter in the history of regional warfare and involved unmatched suffering of the civilian population. For 44 days, the world largely watched in deafening silence as over 5,000 Armenians were massacred.

With illegal and banned weapons, including cluster bombs and white phosphorus munitions, the aggressors destroyed towns and villages, indiscriminately killed people mainly between the ages of 18-21, and occupied approximately 80% of Artsakh.

By November 9, 2020, when a new ceasefire was declared, 100,000 people, 2/3 of Artsakh's population was driven out of their ancestral land and made refugees. Despite calls from bipartisan Congress members to intervene, most of the world stayed silent. Many nations, mainly in Europe, are heavily invested in Azerbaijan's oil and gas and the Caspian pipeline that delivers it to Europe.

Through a journalist and activist's lens, Motherland focuses the world's attention on the atrocities, war crimes, and crimes against humanity committed by Azerbaijan and Turkey against Artsakh and Armenia. It chronicles the struggle of the Armenian people to come to terms with its fate, mourn the loss more than 5,000 people, and pick up the pieces and carry on as they have for millennia. It includes interviews with war heroes, displaced refugees, American and Armenian high-profile elected officials, and ordinary people.

The film also accounts for the apathy of the greater world community, the hypocrisy of public figures who preach about human rights but show inaction when reality hits, and how the press is easily manipulated by a rogue nation's campaign of hate, disinformation, and propaganda.

Vic Gerami

Filmmaker + Journalist + Activist

Senator Bob Menendez

United States Senate (D-NJ)

Rep. Adam Schiff

United States Congressman (D-CA)

Rep. Frank Pallone

United States Congressman (D-NJ)

Baroness Caroline Cox

Crossbench Life Peer, British House of Lords

Rep. Brad Sherman

United States Congressman (D-CA)

Dr. Irina Ghaplanyan

Political Scientist

Rep. Jackie Speier

United States Congresswoman (D-CA)

Alexander Lapshin

Israeli-Russian Travel Blogger

Mahammad Mirzali

Azerbaijani Blogger + Activist

Zareh Sinanyan

High Commissioner of Diaspora Affairs, Republic of Armenia

Rep. Barbara Lee

United States Congresswoman (D-CA)

Rep. Katie Porter

United States Congresswoman (D-CA)

Councilmember Paul Koretz

City of Los Angeles

Dr. Khatchig Mouradian

Professor Columbia University

Professor Barlow Der Mugrdchian

Berberian Coordinator of Armenian Studies CSUF

Nicholas Aznavour

Co-Founder Aznavour Foundation

Kristina Aznavour

CE Aznavour Foundation

[Vic Gerami](#) is an award-winning journalist and the editor + publisher of [The Blunt Post](#). Gerami is also the host and co-producer of the national headline news + politics program, [THE BLUNT POST with VIC](#) on [KPFK 90.7 FM](#) ([Pacifica Network](#)).

Today reaching national and international audiences, Gerami first built a foundation of knowledge and skills by learning the media industry during his years at **Frontiers Magazine**, followed by positions at LA Weekly and **Voice Media Group**.

Gerami's radio program, TBPV, covers national, regional, and local headline news, politics, and current events, and Gerami offers analysis and commentary. His guests include members of Congress, local & regional elected official, and other high-profile public figures.

Gerami is also a contributor to some of the most prominent publications in the nation, including Windy City Times, Bay Area Reporter, Armenian Mirror-Spectator, The Advocate, The Immigrant Magazine, GoWeHo, Destination Luxury, OUT Traveler, The Fight, and among others.

The Wall Street Journal featured Gerami as a "[leading gay activist](#)" in its landmark 2008 coverage of opposition to **Proposition 8**, the ballot measure that for years denied same-sex couples in California the freedom to marry. In addition to his years of volunteer work as a leading advocate for marriage equality, Gerami served as a Planning Committee member for the historic [Resist March](#) in 2017.

In 2015, Gerami was referenced in the landmark Supreme Court civil rights case, [Obergefell v. Hodges](#), in which the Court held in a 5–4 decision that the fundamental right to marry is guaranteed to same-sex couples by both the Due Process and the Equal Protection Clauses of the Fourteenth Amendment to the United States Constitution.



TEAM




HENRICK VARTANIAN **PRODUCER**

Henrick Vartanian is a prolific producer with a comprehensive film, TV, and journalism background. He has produced numerous projects and multimedia assets for top international clients and interviewed countless Hollywood A-listers. Henrick's work has aired on Reuters News Television (USA), Canal+ (France), Channel 4, ITV, and BBC (United Kingdom), ORF (Austria), and TNTV (Tahiti). He is the founder of Brave New Hollywood, an entertainment website and YouTube channel that focuses on indie films, rising stars, and emerging filmmakers.



CHRIS DAMADYAN **EDITOR**

Born in Burbank, California, Chris Damadyan was raised in the heart of the film industry. Growing up in a studio where his father was an executive producer, Chris would often sit next to the editors for hours watching and learning how movies, music videos, and commercials came together. His passion for filmmaking was born at this young age, so going to film school after high school was easy. Today, Chris has edited numerous feature films starring Malin Akerman, Luke Goss, & Bokeem Woodbine, to name a few. In addition, he has also been involved in the post-production of over a hundred music videos and commercials.



TEAM

EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS

MARK GERAGOS

SAM KBUSHYAN

LILIT DOLKARIAN ODABASHIAN

DR. NISHAN ODABASHIAN

DEVELOPMENT PRODUCERS

JUDY SARYAN

DR. ARMEN VARTANY

PETER ABAJIAN

ASSOCIATE PRODUCER

OSHIN HAROOTONIAN

CONTRIBUTING PRODUCERS

JACOB BOURNAZIAN

PROFESSOR JOHN DENNEM

LINKS + CONTACT INFO

Website

MotherlandDoc.com

[Trailer](#)

[Sizzle](#)

[IMDB](#)

[Photos](#)

Contact

Vic Gerami

310.880.8563

vic@thebluntpost.com

Facebook

[Facebook.com/MotherlandDocFilm](https://www.facebook.com/MotherlandDocFilm)

Instagram

[@MotherlandDocFilm](https://www.instagram.com/MotherlandDocFilm)

Twitter

[@MotherlandDoc](https://twitter.com/MotherlandDoc)