

# AGBU

ARMENIAN GENERAL BENEVOLENT UNION

SEPTEMBER 1997

## AGBU CHAPTERS, PEOPLE & PROGRAMS

### KALINIAN EUROPEAN TOUR

#### KALINIAN STIRS EXCITEMENT IN SEVEN WEEK EUROPEAN TOUR

Writer, producer, director Paul Kalinian has taken audiences by storm in the most recent European tour of his award winning documentary *William Saroyan, the Man, the Writer*. Since December 1995, under the exclusive sponsorship of AGBU, the film has been screened 32 times in 22 cities in 9 countries including the United States, Canada, Australia, Switzerland, Italy, Austria, England, Belgium and France. To date, over 10,000 people have seen the documentary during its tours. Among the 1,500 guests in Europe that attended the screenings were the Armenian Ambassador to Switzerland, the Armenian Ambassador to Belgium, the Mayor of Marseilles and French government officials. While in Marseilles Mr. Kalinian and his family were invited for a two-hour French radio talk show interview on "Radio Dialogue" where issues related to the making of the documentary and Mr. Kalinian's relationship with Saroyan were discussed.

After its world premiere at Fresno's William Saroyan Theater in 1991, the documentary won five international film awards including the Leigh Whipper Gold Award for Best Documentary at the 18th Annual Philadelphia International Film Festival. Director/photographer Kalinian is also known for his portrait of Saroyan which was selected jointly by the U.S. and the USSR postal services for their 1991 commemorative postal stamps.



Milano Committee members: standing - Aline Alexanian, Susie & Araxie Kalinian, Vera Astourian and far right Gueguel Khatchadourian. Sitting - Marie Mendikian, Sona Ibishian and far right Paul Kalinian with Past Chair Dicran Alexanian.



Kalinians with Armenia Ambassador to Belgium Viken Chetichian, Chair Vartkess Knadjian and wife Sylvia.



Paul, Araxie & Susie Kalinian with, from left, Paris Chapter Chairman Arsen Kantarci and District of France Chairman Edouard Attamian and Mrs. Attamian.

AGBU Hall: Marseilles Committee with Kalinians and Chair Jean Melkonian.



AGBU Swiss Chapter members Ani Selian, Ani Barsoumian, Araxie and Paul Kalinian, Chairlady Taline Avakian, and Secretary Jacqueline Yeterian.

