



Smithsonian
National Museum of Natural History

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Mrs. Keya Bayramova
Durdy Bayramov Art Foundation
Toronto, Ontario, CANADA

Dear Mrs. Bayramova,

Thank you so much for visiting us at the Smithsonian's Asian Cultural History Program here in Washington this past week. It was a great pleasure to meet you in person, and to see more images of your father's wonderful photography and paintings.

I am writing now to say again that I would very much look forward to working with you to make the incredible artwork of your late father, Durdy Bayramov, better known and understood in North America and around the world. I enjoyed hearing about his life and work; his passion for art was undeniable. I really appreciate your enthusiasm and vision for the study, interpretation, and dissemination of this incredible collection, which is a lasting testament to his artistic breadth and vision.

I believe your father truly left behind an amazing legacy. His paintings and photographs have made a heartfelt and lasting impression, especially on all of us here who have visited or worked in Turkmenistan. His artworks are not only profoundly beautiful, but also rich in cultural history; grounded in the aesthetics and history of that remarkable place, yet of universal appeal.

We all look forward to your father's forthcoming exhibition at the prestigious Meridian International Center here in Washington, D.C. Surely this is only one step in the important work of introducing his legacy to a broad audience everywhere. I am confident that many other museums, art galleries, and photography exhibition spaces will similarly recognize the uniqueness and the quality of his work.

Sincerely,

Paul Michael Taylor, Ph.D.
Director, Asian Cultural History Program
(and) Curator of Asian, European, and
Middle Eastern Ethnology
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