Fragments of Melancholy from Those Rooms, Those Rooms

You say

you don’t

want to die.

It is the first time

you have said

the word *funeral*.

It is then

that I want

your body

to turn

into

a turquoise sculpture

some sort of god

museum-material

the type of deity

where a passerby utters

how beautiful

but terrifying.

Cobalt Poets Series # 634 ~ October 8, 2024

Lory Bedikian

Lory Bedikian’s Jagadakeer: Apology to the Body won the 2023 Prairie Schooner Raz-Shumaker Poetry Book Prize, now out from the University of Nebraska Press. Her first collection *The Book of Lamenting* won the Philip Levine Prize. Bedikian’s poems received the Neruda Prize for Poetry in the 2022 *Nimrod* Literary Awards. She has been featured on Pádraig Ó Tuama’s *Poetry Unbound* podcast. Her work is included in the anthology *Border Lines: Poems of Migration*, KNOPF, 2020. Bedikian’s manuscript-in-progress received a 2021 grant from the Money for Women/Barbara Deming Memorial Fund. New work appears in *Massachusetts Review’s* “Revisiting WOMAN,” *SWWIM* and is forthcoming in Ploughshares. Bedikian teaches poetry workshops in Los Angeles and elsewhere.