

Open Space Istanbul Istanbul Preview

Press Release Date: June 11, 2015

Location: Suma Han, Bankalar Cad. No:3, Karaköy, Istanbul, Turkey

Time: 17.00-21.00

Following the exhibitions in London, the international art project **Open Space Istanbul**, which aims to bring together the artists, curators and art professionals, launches in Turkey with **Genco Gülan** and **Aslı Dinç**.

The video installation *Newist* that the artist Gülan (known for his multidisciplinary conceptual works) has been working on for more than fourteen years will be exhibited in Suma Han for the first time on the 11th of June. *Newist*, in which the real and fictional events interlock, sets off from a text consisting of the notes taken by Genco Gülan in New York at the end of Summer 2001.

The main headings in the text consists of "writings, readings, recording actions, the city, the underground, museology, New York and Istanbul". The short notes and details, which seemed to be irrelevant with each other at first points out the atmosphere of New York in the month before September 11.

Newist has been shot in New York, Istanbul, Brazil and Russia since 2001. The movie includes the shootings carried out in the construction site of Istanbul Metro and Basilica Cistern. The casting of the movie includes Genco Erkal, Ayça Damgazi and Ulgar Manzakoglu.

Aslı Dinç will meet with the audience in the launching of Open Space Istanbul with her work entitled *Echo of a distant time*. The artist talks about her project as follows: "I came across the Mausoleum at Halicarnassus during the psychogeographic tours that I took during the Casa Dell'Arte Rezidans program. It is a mausoleum built for the King Mausolos by the order of his wife and sister Artemisia. It is an open air museum which is also defined as one of the Seven Wonders of the World and is currently composed of just a great hollow. It is exactly this great ancient hollow where I discovered a time tunnel. There were channels opened to enable the blood to shed and to feed the entire mausoleum and the king in the other dimension in the opening ceremonies organized for the King Mausolos. While walking within the channel, I experienced being the gift offered to the King and making a short journey to a distant time."

Genco Gülan, born in 1969 in Istanbul, is an artist and theorist who describes all of the transdisciplinary conceptual contemporary artworks as the “intellectual art”. He reveals the relationships and crossroads between the social and cultural events by using the new means of media, performances, paintings, sculptures and installations. The works of the artist are exhibited in different countries in the permanent collections of more than six art museums. For detailed information about Genco Gülan, please visit www.gencogulan.com.

Aslı Dinç was born in 1985 in Istanbul. She has graduated from Painting Department, Faculty of Fine Arts, Marmara University. She is a student of the Art and Design Master’s Program in Yıldız Technical University. She lives and works in Istanbul. For more information www.aslidinc.com.

Open Space Istanbul Initiated by Huma Kabakçı and developed together with Billur Tansel, Open Space Istanbul is an international contemporary art project that looks into promoting international cross-cultural dialogue between artists, curators and art practitioners. The first edition took place in London. This particular lively project platform aims to create recognition for and present artists and curators coming from diverse cultural backgrounds, experiences and artistic practices. By calling itself ‘open,’ Open Space Istanbul aims to explore various art media through talks, performances, moving images, screenings and dialogues. One of the key objectives of Open Space Istanbul is to further the curatorial and artistic discourse towards future exhibitions and symposiums.