

## TURKISH EMBASSY

WASHINGTON, D. C.

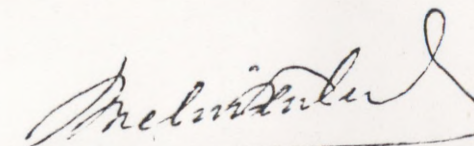
History of human civilization is the total of a process in which institutions are created, modified, destroyed and recreated to meet the requirements of mankind's survival and progress. I venture to say that the most significant and enduring element of this historical process is man's artistic creation.

Art reflects man's awe and reaction when exposed to the majesty of nature. It is also the expression of his attempts at portraying, through visual aesthetic means, his inner thoughts and emotions.

The cultural diversity of our world creates a richness in the different mediums and methods through which different nations express their own view of life. It may then be said that Art is culturally unique according to its specific tradition but also universal in the expression of human experience. This thought may have relevance to the exhibition of contemporary Turkish Paintings.

I believe that the works of Turkish artists will succeed in transmitting to all the attributes of Art in its individuality and universality.

My warmest thanks go to the organizers of this exhibition which, I am sure, will play a most effective role in bringing together our two nations while contributing to international understanding.



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