

PROJE4L –ISTANBUL MUSEUM OF CONTEMPORARY ART

THE FIRST CONTEMPORARY ART MUSEUM IN TURKEY

- The first contemporary art museum in Turkey, Proje4L was opened in September 2001, with the exhibition “Becoming a Place” curated by Vasif Kortun.

EXHIBITIONS, CONFERENCES, ART EVENTS

- Since its founding, Proje4L has brought together art lovers at 11 exhibitions, 27 conferences and 7 art events.

A SOCIAL BRIDGE BETWEEN GÜLTEPE AND BÜYÜKDERE AVENUE

- Proje4L, based on 1600 m² of closed space, occupies a special position with respect to its relation to the city and its social layers. At the front, it faces the new financial and business center of Istanbul along the Büyükdere Avenue while at the back, it faces Gültepe, one of Istanbul’s gigantic quarters that emerged in the last 20 years parallel to the phenomenon of immigration. Located on the entrance floor of an officetower where private companies’ offices hold rooms, Proje4L brings these two socially and economically detached zones together at a public space reserved for art.

A CONTEMPORARY APPROACH IN MUSEOLOGY

- Proje4L supports new and contemporary approaches in styles of artistic production and exhibition, while standing against the judgemental and dogmatic understanding of museums. Proje4L aims to exhibit the best examples of contemporary art without discriminating the national/international, local/global.
- Parallel to its exhibition policy based on the promotion of a critically assessed dialogue between the world of art and the audience, Proje4L projects the heterogeneous structure of contemporary art through the exhibitions of both Turkish and foreign curators and engages in partnerships and cooperation with other institutions of art, in the form of conferences, exhibitions and various programs.

NEW PROJECTS AT PROJE4L

- Besides conferences and discussions by artists, curators and art professionals alike, Proje4L organizes guided exhibition tours and is at the stage of creating projects for other social and educational programs.

Infotheque

- First of all, the aim is to establish the much-needed archives and an infothèque, which will be comprised of documentation regarding the foremost examples of contemporary art as well as of exhibitions held at the museum.

Curatorship Programs and Workshops

- Curatorship programs and workshops for students are also among the museum's future plans.

Art Publications and Catalogues

- Renewing its publications policy, Proje4L is also planning to produce publications related to curatorship programs and conferences in addition to exhibition catalogues.

Mobile Museum

- Being one of the reference points of contemporary art, Proje4L, while aiming to carry the best examples of contemporary art to the spectators all over Turkey with its "mobile museum" approach, also aims to carry the works of Turkish artists to various locations throughout the world.

EVENTS AT PROJE4L

EXHIBITIONS

- **Becoming a Place (September 21– November 24, 2001)**

Artists:

Hüseyin Alptekin

Can Altay

Halil Altındere

Tina Carlsson

Esra Ersen

Erik Göngrich

Hakan Gürsoytrak
Gölsün Karamustafa
Aydan Murtezaoğlu
Bölent Şangar
Oda Projesi

Curator:

Vasıf Kortun

- **Look Again (December 21, 2001 – February 23, 2002)**

Artists:

Gölçin Aksoy
Nancy Atakan
Ergin Çavuşoğlu
Cengiz Çekil
Kutlu Gürelli
Borga Kantürk
Servet Koçyiğit
Hakan Onur
Serkan Özkaya
Şener Özmen
Neriman Polat
Hale Tenger
Erdem Yücel
Oda Projesi

Curator:

Vasıf Kortun

- **Women Who Wear Wigs (March 1 – March 28, 2002)**

Artist: Kutluğ Ataman

- **Stop for a Moment: Painting as Narrative (April 5 – June 15, 2002)**

Artists:

Vanessa Baird (Norway)
Birgir S. Birgisson (Iceland)
Niklas Engvall (Sweden)
Robert Lucander (Finland)
Elina Merenmies (Finland)
Milla Toivanen (Finland)
Lene Væring Jensen (Norway)

Curators:

Mika Hannula
Kari Immonen

- **Arne Jacobsen (June 19 – August 10, 2002)**
- **Coming Under Light (September 19 – November 9, 2002)**
Collection: Çağa Koleksiyonu
Curator: Haldun Dostoglu
- **Under the Beach: The Pavement (November 22, 2002 – January 17, 2003)**
Artists:
Nevin Aladağ
Fikret Atay
Seyhun Babaç
Yetkin Başarır
Başir Borlakov
Ali Demirel
Karolin Fişekçi
Şinasi Güneş
Ahmet Öğüt
Fahrettin Örenli
Erkan Özgen
Ferhat Özgür
Erinç Seymen
Aslı Sungu
Cengiz Tekin

Nasan Tur
Seçil Yersel
Demet Yoruç

Group Projects:

KUTU:

Ali Batı
Gökçen Cabadan
Elmas Deniz
Borga Kantürk
Gökçe Süvari
Evrin Yiğit

ODA PROJESİ:

Özge Açikkol
Güneş Savaş
Seçil Yersel

Curator:

Vasıf Kortun

- **Entre (April 26 – June 14, 2003)**

Artists:

David Michael Clarke
Dr. François Courbe
Christelle Familiari
Chiara Gallerani
Charles-Edmond Henry
Anabelle Hulaut
Seza Parker
Agnès Pezeu-Villard

Curator: Ali Akay

- **I'm Too Sad to Kill you! (July 10 – August 16, 2003)**

Artists:

2/5 BZ

Ozan Adam

Ali Aksakal

Fatman Akıncı

Nevin Aladağ

Fikret Atay

Vahap Avşar

Cem Aydoğan

Seyhun Babaç

Ramazan Bayrakoğlu

Osman Bingöl

Başir Borlakov

Hakan Cingöz

Gökçen Çabadan

Burak Delier

Emre Doğru

Extramücadele

Zeynep Erpolat

Cem Gencer

Berat Işık

Borga Kantürk

Gülşah Kılıç

Nihal Martlı

Sefer Memişoğlu

Ahmet Öğüt

Birol Özer

Erkan Özgen

Ferhat Özgür

Şener Özmen

Erinç Seymen

Gökçe Süvari

Canan Şenol

Cengiz Tekin

Nasan Tur

Nalan Yırtmaç

Demet Yoruç

Curator:

Halil Altındere

- **Organized Conflict (September 22 – November 22, 2003)**

Artists:

Haluk Akakçe

Sami Baydar

Lukas Duwenhögger

Leyla Gediz

Gün

Yalçın Karayağız

Aydan Murtezaoğlu ve Bülent Şangar

Fusun Onur

Kemal Önsoy

Murat Şahinler

Canan Tolon

Elif Uras

Ufuk Üsterman

Curator: Fulya Erdemci

LECTURES

Since its founding, Proje4L has organized 24 lectures:

Network North, NIFCA Lectures

- Erden Kosova; Critic and PhD candidate Goldsmiths College, London, July 31, 2002.
- Ayşe Erkmen; Artist, July 2, 2002.
- Şener Özmen; Artist, December 7, 2001.

Curator Lectures

- Jonathan Watkins; 'Let's Go Outside,' Director of Ikon Gallery, April 25, 2003.

- Marta Kuzma; Co-curator 'Manifesta 5,' March 8, 2003.
- Harald Szeemann; Curator and director of 'Factory,' February 20, 2003.
- Edi Muka; Curator 'National Gallery,' Director of Tirana Biennale, January 3, 2003.
- Jérôme Sans; Co-director Palais Tokyo, Paris, July 23, 2002.
- Francesco Bonami; Artistic Director of the 2003 Venice Biennale, July 17, 2002.
- Dan Cameron; Chief Curator, New Museum of Contemporary Art, New York, March 23, 2002.
- Chris Dercon; "You can be a Museum or you can be modern, but you can't be both (after Gertrude Stein)" Director, Museum Boymans Van Beuningen, Rotterdam, September 7, 2001.
- Hans Ulrich Obrist; Curator, Musée de l'art Moderne de la Ville de Paris, "Rumour City, Sonic City, Invisible City;" May 10, 2001.
- Charles Esche; Director Rooseum, Malmo, "After the Planners;" May 16 2001.

Exhibition Talks

- "Organized Conflict"
"Organized Conflict;" Curator Fulya Erdemci and Artists; October 25, 2003
- "I'm Too Sad to Kill You!"
"I'm Too Sad to Kill You!;" Curator Halil Altindere, Fulya Erdemci, Vasif Kortun and Artists; July 11, 2003.
- "ENTRE"
"About the Exhibition 'Entre;'" Ali Akay; May 17, 2002.
- "Stop for a Moment: with Curators and Artists;" Mika Hannula, Robert Lucander, Milla Toivanen, Şebnem Soner ve Leyla Gediz; April 6, 2002.
- "Women Who Wear Wigs"
"Video Art: Documentary or Mockumentary;" Vasif Kortun, Tuna Erdem, Erden Kosova; March 26, 2002.
- "Oral History / Official History and a Panaroma of Turkey;" Ayşe Durakbaşa, Nevval Sevindi; March 19, 2002.
- "When Subjects Speak;" Ruşen Çakır, Melek Ulagay, Demet Demir; March 12, 2002.
- "Artist and his Viewer;" Kutluğ Ataman, Fatih Özgüven; March 5, 2002.

Other Lectures:

- "New Countries – New Identity – New Art;" Nigora Akhmetova, Muattarhon Bashirova, Valeria Ibraeva, Muratbek Djumaliev, Sabine Vogel, September 22, 2003.
- Erden Kosova; Critic and PhD candidate Goldsmiths College, London, April 4, 2003.

- Nermin Saybaşılı; Critic and PhD candidate Goldsmiths College, March 29, 2003.
- Aydan Murtezaoğlu; artist, March 15, 2003.
- “Charles Merewether; Researcher Getty Center, Los Angeles, From Fact to Fiction: Counter Archival Projects in Contemporary Art;” November 17, 2001.

EVENTS AND PERFORMANCES

- “No Turistik No Egzotik”, 2/5 BZ, music and multimedia performance; July 10, 2003
- Sıfır; music and video performance; March 1, 2003.
- “Vertigo;” Tuğçe Tuna; dance performance; May 16 – 25, 2002.
- “Gift to Oda Projesi;” January 19 – February 16, 2002.
- “NetArt in Proje4L;” seminars; January 10 – 11 – 12, 2002.
- “Resonance, Rythm, Eco, Sıfır+Kör;” music & video performance; November 24, 2001.
“From Taksim to Taksim Unlicensed Performance”; Orhan Esen; November 24, 2001.