

## **Istanbul Under the Changing Skies**

Presentation by Fulya Erdemci for the “Here as the Center of the World” : Istanbul Pedestrian Exhibitions 2: Tunel-Karakoy

The decline of the authority of nation-states along with the phenomenon of globalization has led to the emergence of cities as centers of the new world order and their rising autonomy. “Global Cities” like New York, Tokyo, Sao Paulo, Caracas and London have surpassed their geography and nation-state and have become the heart of a new commercial and financial geography realized by the digitalization of knowledge and the information revolution and became centers of arts and culture as well.

The beginning of the transformation of Istanbul to take its place in this new geography corresponds to the 1980s during which a liberal economic model was adopted in Turkey. The relocations within the present urban structure, re-placement and the development of new areas (especially aimed to meet the new functions emerging in the finance, service and consulting sectors) changed the balances significantly.

Istanbul Pedestrian Exhibitions 2: Tunel-Karakoy as an art initiative, aims to open up a platform for discussion on the transformation of Karaköy that has functioned for centuries as a port and a trade center for Istanbul and its future identity through spatial and cultural proposals of the artists and architects.

In this presentation, we will focus at how the Yaya/Pedestrian exhibition challenged the peripheral position of art in terms of urban development and planning, and the process of organizing such an urban public art exhibition where only the traditional monuments are considered as public art.