

THE PILL®

LEYLÂ GEDİZ X L'ATLAS

Cosa Mentale

09.11.2022 — 23.12.2022



THE PILL® is pleased to announce Leylâ Gediz's first solo show in Paris at L'Atlas. The exhibition gathers recent works spanning from paintings to video and site-specific interventions and explores the artist's ongoing research on contemporary painting, embracing notions such as displacement by addressing them through the lens of her personal life broadened to collective narratives.

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Intrigued by the shifts of diasporic beings across the world, Leylâ Gediz is devoted to expanding the field of painting, its settings, and its audiences.

On this occasion, Gediz will display a group of new works that reflect on the possibilities of being unrooted stemming from her personal experience of coming from Istanbul and living in Lisbon.

Leylâ Gediz is an archaeologist of every day fragments excavating the emotions they emanate. These fragments are played out by random, found, mundane yet useful objects, humans close to her heart, light and shadow humans and objects cast on each other, their – sometimes awkward – volume in space, memories and stories they trigger. They come from different backgrounds, from different moments in time to be masterfully carved out of their literal and metaphorical backgrounds. How they build each other anew in relation within the particular space of still life painting is humble, precise and magical at the same time. They are too real to be unreal, hovering in that fragile zone between fiction and non-fiction. «Affected perspective» may be a useful term for the humble magic Leylâ Gediz enacts in her new series of paintings realised in her studio in Lisbon; where she relocated together with her family a few years ago. In this exhibition, the artist continues to explore her desire to create a new space for open constellations in her work, to take a serene and critical distance towards what she has produced in Istanbul in two decades and to surprise herself in the first place with new constellations of old and fresh fragments.

A conversation between the artist, independent curator Asli Seven and writer Cristina Sanchez-Kozyreva will take place at 5:30 pm on Tuesday 8, November.
The talk will be held in English and French.

Opening: 8 November 2022
6:30 — 8:30 pm

Venue: L'ATLAS
4 cour de l'île Louviers
75004 Paris

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Leylâ Gediz (b.1974 Istanbul, Turkey) lives and works in Lisbon.

She completed her MA in Visual Arts at Goldsmiths College (London, 1999) and a BA in Fine Art (Painting) at the Slade School of Fine Art, UCL (London, 1998). She had solo exhibitions in Istanbul, Los Angeles, Zurich, Helsinki and Amsterdam. Gediz holds an important place in Turkey for her innovative research into painting as a contemporary practice. Her work has been widely exhibited and is included in prestigious public and private collections such as Istanbul Modern, Arter (Istanbul), ARCO Foundation (Spain) and Van Abbemuseum (Eindhoven).

Asli Seven is an independent curator and writer based between Istanbul and Paris. Her research and projects focus on infrastructural forms of violence embodied within landscape and built environment, with an emphasis on fieldwork, ficto-criticism and collaborative artistic processes. She is the recipient of CNAP & Cité Internationale des Arts grant and residency program (2020-21). She holds a doctoral level degree in Artistic Research from ENSA Bourges and EESI Poitiers-Angouleme in France (2019). She is a member of AICA and a collaborator with Independent Curators International.

Cristina Sanchez-Kozyreva is an art writer recently based in Europe where she recently moved after living in Asia for 12 years. She is the co-founder and editor-in-chief of Pipeline (2011), an independent, thematic, contemporary art magazine based in Hong Kong, as well as the editor of Curtain and Curated! Additionally, she regularly contributes to various other publications in Asia, Europe, and the US.

About THE PILL®

Located in an ancient generator factory, The Pill ® is an international contemporary art gallery based in the historical peninsula of Istanbul by the Golden Horn.

Founded in 2016 by Suela J.Cennet, the gallery operates as a global platform that brings together local and international artists.

Initially imagined as a mobile naval project space by its founder, it aims to create a fertile environment for multi-disciplinary contemporary art, to increase the Turkish scene's visibility and enable a relevant dialog within the local context by multiplying collaborations with other institutions in the region and throughout the world, and by inviting international artists to think their practice or experiment in a new territory.

A publication entitled NEW ART SCALES published by JBE Books in 2022