

Pi Artworks London: Nancy Atakan: *Sporting Chances*
Curated by Nat Muller
19 February – 24 March, 2016
Private View: 18 February 2016, 18:30-21:00
Talk and Book Launch 18:00-18:30

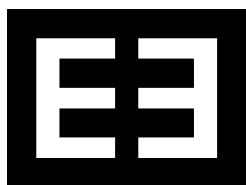
Sporting Chances, a solo exhibition by the American born Istanbul based artist, Nancy Atakan, brings together new embroidered works and drawings. The exhibition, curated by Nat Muller, will be accompanied by the launch of *Passing On*, a full colour monograph on work by the artist edited by Nat Muller and published by Kehrer Verlag, Heidelberg, Berlin, Germany. An artist talk will be moderated by Stephanie Bailey, Senior Editor, Ibraaz Publishing, London, UK.

Atakan has been a fixture of the Istanbul arts scene for over 20 years, as an artist, teacher, art historian, and art critic. Her practice, which spans most possible mediums, investigates the relationship between orient and occident, the meaning of belonging, gender politics, and different concepts of femininity. These subjects are relevant to her personally as an American relocated to a city at the centre of the East-West axis, and her works often contain autobiographical elements. By doing this, the historical narratives and weighty issues within her work are permeated with touches of lightness as they are brought closer to the realm of the everyday.

For *Sporting Chances* Atakan brings to life Azade, her former exercise therapist. Azade was born during the Ottoman Empire but matured and worked during the nascent Turkish Republic, an era of transition that exemplifies one of Nancy's core interests: the shifting sands of cultural norms between the East and the West. In line with her usual methodology, Atakan conducted research, collected relevant documents, and met with her subject's relatives. From this she has produced works that tell a story, neither wholly fictional nor factual, but which is a refreshing tale of female empowerment. Turkish sound artist Cevdet Erek will contribute a new rhythm piece that responds to Atakan's exhibited works and the historical context they address.

Nancy Atakan, b. 1946. Her work has been included in Little Faces, Big Bodies, Elgiz Museum of Contemporary Art, Istanbul, Turkey (2015); Moving Image, Art International Fair, Istanbul, Turkey (2014); Places of Memory-Fields of Vision, Invisible Cities Festival, Contemporary Art Center of Thessaloniki, Thessaloniki, Greece (2012); Dream and Reality-Modern and Contemporary Women Artists from Turkey, Istanbul Modern Museum, Istanbul, Turkey (2012); and Istanbul Next Wave, Akademie der Kunste, Berlin, Germany (2010).

For press information and images, please contact: Neil Jefferies (nj@piartworks.com) or call +44 207 637 8403



KEHRER

Artworks Istanbul
Istiklal Cad. Mısır Apt 163/4 34430 Galatasaray/Beyoğlu
Tel: +90 212 293 71 03
Turkey

Pi Artworks London
55 Eastcastle Street London W1W 8EG
Tel: +44 207 637 8403
United Kingdom

www.piartworks.com