

Pi Artworks Istanbul: Volkan Aslan

The Perfect Day

1 September – 31 October 2015

The Perfect Day at Pi Artworks Istanbul opens in parallel with the 14th Istanbul Biennial. During the Biennial's previous iteration in 2013, Volkan Aslan exhibited one of his neon installations (*Games, Games, Games*, 2013) at Galata Greek Primary School, and this year he produces an even more enthusiastic project. For *The Perfect Day* the artist will transform the gallery with an immersive, site-specific installation that will dominate Pi Artworks Istanbul's space and act as an unconventional platform for new iterations of his neon series.

Aslan will create an autonomous space within the gallery, where the visitor will be left alone to experience his work without external visual references. Viewers will be in a direct engagement with his quotidian elements that have been given strange and illogical new functions.

The Perfect Day follows on from other recent projects such as, *Any Given Day* (Arter, Istanbul, 2010); *Don't Forget to Remember* (Arter, Istanbul, 2013); *A Day Not Lived Yet* (Pi Artworks London, 2014) that share the common reference of the passage of time. Time is a trajectory segmented into regular, repeatable, and measurable units. The artist does not link the concept of 'day' with emotional and private connotations, instead he points out his common reference about time all around the world. An ordinary day for someone can be 'the perfect day' for the other. The 'perfect day' described by Aslan is the day he excitedly started the production of a new work.

In this exhibition, Aslan presents the materials such as neon and clay in their basic states. He avoids the spectacular expression and forms that would easily point to obvious meanings. This reflects the fact that this exhibition consists of not only new work but also that the installation will give the impression it is still under construction. The materials in the work will stand close to their unrefined state but they still exist within the story that the artist creates.

Volkan Aslan opened his last solo exhibition in 2014 at Pi Artworks London. His solo exhibitions in Istanbul include *Don't Forget to Remember* at Arter – Space for Art (2013); *Volkan* at Macka Art Gallery (2011); *Unstable Repetition* at Pi Artworks Istanbul (2011) and *Volkan Aslan in Istanbul* at Under Construction (2007). Aslan participated in several group exhibitions such as *The Moving Museum Istanbul* Exhibition (2014); *13th Istanbul Biennial* curated by Fulya Erdemci (2013); *Pi @ Q* (Q Contemporary, Beirut, 2012); *If Nature is Heaven, Hell is City* (Cer Modern, Ankara, 2011); *Second Exhibition* (Arter, Istanbul, 2010); *When Ideas Become Crime* (Depo, Istanbul, 2010); *Too Good to Be True* (Delfina Foundation, London, 2009); *Once Upon a Time* (Bethanien Künstlerhaus, Berlin, 2009) and *Save As* (Triennial Bovisa Museum, Milan, 2008).

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Aslan's work is held in lot of Turkish collections, including the Özyeğin University Collection and Vehbi Koç Foundation. Aslan is also co-founder of 5533, an independent non-profit art space in Unkapanı, Istanbul.

Pi Artworks was founded by Yeşim Turanlı in 1998 in Istanbul and for the past 17 years, has been introducing Turkish and international artists to the primary market. Since its founding, Pi Artworks has been committed to showcasing the best of Contemporary Turkish and international art to Istanbul's growing art scene, alongside providing an international platform for its roster of artists to showcase their work. The gallery is located at the famous historical Mısır Apartmanı in Istanbul and in October 2013 Pi Artworks London opened on 55 Eastcastle Street, in the heart of London's bustling Fitzrovia.

Volkan Aslan: *The Perfect Day*

Pi Artworks Istanbul

Mısır Apartmanı 163/4 No: 13 Kat: 4 İstanbul

September 1st - October 31st, 2015

10.00 - 19.00 (Except Sundays)

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