



Untitled, 1991
Gouache on paper
49.5x70 cm

DIRIMART

APRIL 14 – MAY 4, 2016

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DENİZ
BİLGİN
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“Again the eyes, always the eyes”

Between April 14 and May 4, Dirimart will host the exhibition *Again the Eyes, Always the Eyes*, featuring the work of Deniz Bilgin, who passed away in 1999. The opening will take place on April 14 (the artist’s birthday) at 18:00.

The exhibition – whose title is taken from a poem by Sami Baydar dedicated to Bilgin – presents a thematic selection of the artist’s oeuvre focusing on the motif of the eye. Bilgin’s work employs various techniques such as batik and gouache; her final piece, completed in oil paint, will also be on display. In addition, Bilgin’s series “The Black Notebook” will be exhibited collectively for the first time and will be available for purchase as a limited-edition “artist’s book.”

Necmi Zekâ has written the following regarding the exhibition:

We live in a world in which we are always observed by others, and above all by ourselves: a world surrounded by eyes. Yet it is also a world where much hides, or is hidden, from sight...In the paintings of Deniz Bilgin, we encounter a brand new set of eyes which defy surveillance and tyranny, which shake up our complacent “view” that “seeing is believing” or that “reality is what is visible.” Deniz Bilgin’s eyes differ both from the “perceiving” eye working in concert with the mind and from the “feeling” eye ascribed to the soul or heart. Foregrounding substantiality and the body, while also removing the “distance” necessitated by materiality, these eyes offer the world a new sort of visibility. They prioritize neither the external nor the internal, causing us to experience, in equal measure, an uncompromising strangeness and a casual familiarity.

Deniz Bilgin was born on April 14, 1956. After graduating from Şişli Terakki High School, she studied for one year at Istanbul University’s Department of English Language and Literature, going on to receive a degree from the London College of Printing’s Department of Graphic Design in 1979. At the start of the 1980s, Bilgin lived in Singapore and Indonesia, learning the techniques of batik from local artists. She subsequently returned to Istanbul, where during the 1980s and 1990s she had numerous exhibitions of her batik and gouache artworks and designed covers for books and journals. Bilgin died in Ankara on November 9, 1999. A retrospective of her work opened in 2004 at Karşı Sanat Çalışmaları. Her complete artworks, along with critical commentary on her oeuvre and art, can be found in the book “Deniz Bilgin/Ressam” (Deniz Bilgin/Painter).

For detailed information, please contact the gallery at info@dirimart.com or +90 212 291 34 34
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