

DIRIMART

Dirimart at Art Basel Unlimited 2026

18–21 June 2026

Preview: 16 & 17 June 2026

Dirimart is delighted to present *Reenactment of Heaven* (2018) by İnci Eviner at the 2026 edition of Art Basel Unlimited.

Reenactment of Heaven is a two-channel video installation displayed on a ten-metre-wide double-sided screen. It was previously exhibited at the 10th Liverpool Biennial and was presented in Turkey for the first time at Dirimart Dolapdere in the artist's 2022 exhibition *Houries and Travelers*. Designed to be experienced through the viewer's movement around the installation, its immersive scale and spatial choreography transform the exhibition space into a site where earthly realities and spiritual imaginaries coexist and unfold simultaneously.

Reflecting on the entanglement of belief and economy, she conceived *Reenactment of Heaven* as a dual-stage composition. The upper register of the video presents a panoramic view of Istanbul from a rooftop, spanning the passage from sunrise to sunset. Beneath this familiar cityscape, houri figures inhabit a timeless dimension, moving within an eternal order. Through this juxtaposition, Eviner explores the political interplay between the banality of everyday life and religious fantasy: between prohibitions and temptation, desire and redemption.

Grounded in drawing as a primary mode of thought, Eviner's practice extends into video, installation, performance, and sculpture to interrogate how discourses shaped by systems of power—around tradition, belief, and ways of living—influence perception, emotion, and thought through subtle strategies and tactics. In exploring how subjectivity is constructed within systems of power, the body emerges as both a site of resistance and a field of inquiry, revealing the often-invisible mechanisms through which political, social, and symbolic structures operate. Figures that originate in her intricate drawings migrate fluidly across media, dissolving hierarchies of representation and embodying tensions between lived realities and uncanny imaginaries.



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Eviner's multilayered visual language draws from art-historical allegories, cultural iconographies, and contemporary ideograms. By reconfiguring symbols, creating deliberate gaps between image and meaning, and staging choreographies poised at the edge of improvisation, she invites viewers to reconsider the narratives that shape identity in a rapidly shifting world. Her work ultimately offers a dynamic and resonant exploration of how individuals navigate the mutable space between personal experience and collective history.

Reenactment of Heaven (2018) will be on view at Art Basel Unlimited from 16 to 21 June (ticket dependent).

Inci Eviner (b. 1956, Ankara) graduated from the Painting Department of Mimar Sinan University of Fine Arts, Istanbul and completed her PhD at the same university. She represented Turkey at the 58th Venice Biennale, Turkish Pavilion in 2019. She held a comprehensive retrospective show in 2016 at the Istanbul Museum of Modern Art. She participated in the 2024 edition of Frieze Sculpture curated by Fatoş Üstek at The Regent's Park, London. Eviner's solo exhibitions include *Neural Crest of an Island*, Dirimart Pera, İstanbul (2024); *Mécaniques de l'esprit*, Maison de la Culture d'Amiens, Amiens (2024); *Beyond Home*, İMALAT-HANE, Bursa (2023); *Houris and Travelers*, Dirimart Dolapdere, İstanbul (2022); *Co-Action Device: A Study*, Hasköy, İstanbul (2022); *Looping on Thin Ice*, Pearl Lam Galleries, Shanghai (2016); *Runaway Girls*, Drawing Center, New York (2015); *Broken Manifestos*, Espace Chatelain, Brussels (2013); *Broken Manifestos*, Musée d'Art Moderne de la Ville de Paris, Paris (2011); *Harem*, *Art in the Auditorium*, Whitechapel Gallery, London (2009) and *Nouveau Citoyen*, MAC/VAL, Vitry-sur-Seine (2009). Selected group exhibitions and biennials include *Further Away*, 6th Mardin Biennial, Mardin (2024); *Colonial Memory*, Thyssen-Bornemisza National Museum, Madrid (2024); *Inspired by the East*, British Museum, London (2020); *Hand Drawn*, Action Packed, Hayward Gallery, Southbank Center, London (2018); *Beautiful World, Where Are You?*, 10th Liverpool Biennial, Liverpool (2018); *Imagined Borders*, 12th Gwangju Biennale, Gwangju (2018); *Dystopia: Marking the 200th Anniversary of Karl Marx's Birth*, Municipal Museum of Jena, Jena (2018) and *Mom, Am I Barbarian?*, 13th Istanbul Biennial, Istanbul (2013). She received the Sharjah Biennial 13 Prize in 2017. The artist has been invited to several artist residencies, including Rauschenberg Foundation, Florida (2017); SAM Art Projects (2010) and Leube, Salzburg (2005). Eviner's works have been included in international collections such as the Deutsche Bank Collection, Centre Pompidou Paris, Istanbul Museum of Modern Art, Guggenheim New York and TBA21 Vienna. İnci Eviner lives and works in Istanbul.

