

DIRIMART

PRESS RELEASE

UPFALLING ONES BY ÖZLEM GÜNYOL & MUSTAFA KUNT AT DIRIMART DOLAPDERE

Upfalling Ones

Özlem Günyol & Mustafa Kunt

Opening: 20 March 2024

Venue: Dirimart Dolapdere

The exhibition can be visited from 20 March to 28 April. (Except on Mondays.)

An invitation into a world where symbols of societal power are fragmented and reassembled.

ISTANBUL, 13 March 2024 — Dirimart is pleased to announce *Upfalling Ones* the third solo exhibition by the artist duo Özlem Günyol and Mustafa Kunt. Showcasing a noteworthy approach to reconfiguring objects, the artists invite the audience to question perceptions of physicality and context.

Featuring seven works, the exhibition humorously examines the expression of power through physical size or height. Transforming public monuments into everyday objects like rugs, ladders, or climbing walls and bringing them into the exhibition space as actors draw viewers closer and offer them the opportunity to interpret.

Reducing symbols of power to a human scale within the exhibition space, *Upfalling Ones* replaces a hierarchical order that relegates humans to secondary status with one that places humanity at the center. The exhibition provides a thought-provoking and critical look at the representation of power and control, offering a narrative that explores the complex relationship between individuals, monuments and various symbols of authority.

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Özlem Günyol (b. 1977, Ankara) and **Mustafa Kunt** (b. 1978, Ankara) moved to Germany and attended the Frankfurt Art Academy – Städelschule – after graduating from Hacettepe University's Department of Sculpture in 2001. In addition to numerous awards and scholarships, they recently won the HAP Grieshaber Preis der VG Bild-Kunst Award in 2017, which is given to an artist every year in Germany. The selected solo exhibitions of the duo, who have been thinking and producing together since 2005, include *The Image Without the Image*, Kulturkreis der deutschen Wirtschaft, Berlin (2019); *Ses-li Harfler / Ses-siz Harfler*, Dirimart, Istanbul (2019); *Beyond the Horizon*, Projektraum des Deutschen Künstlerbundes, Berlin (2017); *minute by minute*, Dirimart, Istanbul (2015); *Özlem Günyol & Mustafa Kunt*, FAK, Dortmunder Kunstverein, Dortmund (2014); *UP!UP!UP!*, Temple Bar Gallery & Studios, studio 16, Dublin (2011); *be-cause*, Basis, Frankfurt (2007); *354512 cm²*, Altes Hauptzollamt, Frankfurt (2003) and selected group exhibitions include *10: Abstractions, Intimations, Ruminations, İMALAT-HANE*, Bursa (2023); *To See a World in a Grain of Sand*, Kunstverein zu Assenheim, Assenheim (2023); *The 90s on Stage*, Salt Beyoğlu and Salt Galata, Istanbul (2022); *Would you still love me if I painted parrots all day?*, Dirimart, Istanbul (2022); *And Now the Good News: Works from the Nobel Collection*, Pera Museum, Istanbul (2022); *WALK!*, Schirn Kunsthalle Frankfurt, Frankfurt am Main (2022); *As rights go by / On loss of rights and lack of rights*, Freieraum MuseumsQuartier, Vienna (2016); *New Frankfurt Internationals: Solid Signs*, Nassauischer Kunstverein, Wiesbaden; Frankfurter Kunstverein, Frankfurt (2015); *ars viva 12/13 – Systeme*, Kunstmuseum Liechtenstein, Vaduz (2013); *Out of Lines* (film screening), Parasol Unit, London (2012); *Untitled*, 12th Istanbul Biennial, Istanbul (2011); *Hector Kunstpreis 2009*, Kunsthalle Mannheim, Mannheim (2009); *El Dorado, About the promise of Human Rights*, Kunsthalle Nürnberg, Nürnberg (2009) and *Making a Scene*, Fondazione Morra Greco, Naples (2008). The artist duo currently lives and works in Frankfurt.

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