

## PRESS RELEASE

### JOHN ARMLEDER'S FIRST EXHIBITION IN TURKEY OPENS AT DIRIMART DOLAPDERE

John Armleder

Opening: 24 April 2025

Venue: Dirimart Dolapdere

The exhibition will be on view from 24 April to 25 May 2025. (Except on Mondays).

***"It is the viewer who creates the artwork."* —John Armleder**

**Istanbul, 12 April 2025**— Dirimart is pleased to announce *EVER*, John Armleder's debut exhibition in Turkey. On view from 24 April to 25 May 2025 at Dirimart Dolapdere, *EVER* presents a retrospective selection, featuring his iconic Furniture Sculptures, works on paper, and new puddle-and-pour paintings created specifically for the show.

Co-founder of the Geneva-based Groupe Ecart, Armleder emerged in the 1960s in the spirit of the Fluxus movement. His practice challenges conventional boundaries of art through painting, sculpture, installation, and performance. Influenced by composer John Cage, he embraces chance and experimentation, merging found objects with vibrant swathes of colour and reflective surfaces to create environments that question aesthetic norms.

The exhibition title *EVER* carries a layered meaning, cultivating a deliberate ambiguity open to potential exploration. It encompasses a continuous reinterpretation of aesthetic values, a statement on permanence, or the cyclical nature of artistic ideas all at once.

*EVER* offers a view into Armleder's expansive, humorous, and experimental practice, reaffirming his lasting influence on contemporary art. It includes a selection of 31 works on paper from the 1960s to 1983—ranging in medium, including pen and ink, watercolour, gouache, acrylic, oil, and collage, a 10-metre painting that reflects Armleder's embrace of spontaneity, chance, and Fluxus ideals; dot paintings, puddle-and-pour diptychs, and *Furniture Sculptures*, as well as two new sculptures and a site-specific installation developed during the artist's stay in Istanbul.

Encompassing John Armleder's six decades of practice, *EVER* invites viewers to reflect on the intersections of chance, form, and meaning. *EVER* will be on view at Dirimart Dolapdere from 24 April to 25 May 2025.

**John Armleder** (b. 1948, Geneva) studied at the Ecole des Beaux Arts, Geneva. He held his first exhibition in the Ecart Happening Festival in Hotel Richemond, Geneva in 1969. Armleder's works were exhibited in prestigious institutions including Museum of Modern Art (MoMA), New York; Centre Pompidou, Paris; Kunstmuseum Basel, Basel; Museum of Contemporary Art (MOCA), Sydney; Museum of Modern and Contemporary Art (MAMCO), Geneva. In 1986, he represented Switzerland at the Swiss Pavilion of the 42nd Venice Biennale. His recent solo exhibitions include *EVER*, Dirimart Dolapdere, Istanbul (2025); *Encore Trop*, Centre d'Édition Contemporaine, Geneva (2024); *Transparents*, Musée Barbier-Mueller, Geneva (2024); *EXPERIENCES*, Kunsthalle Marcel Duchamp, The Forestay Museum of Art (KMD), Cully (2023); *Again, Just Again*, Rockbund Art Museum, Shanghai (2021) and *John M. Armleder*, Aspen Art Museum, Aspen (2019). Among the significant exhibitions and biennials he participated in are the Biennale de l'image en mouvement, Geneva (2016); 6th Shanghai Biennale, Shanghai (2006); 2nd Lyon Biennale of Contemporary Art, Lyon (1993); *documenta VIII*, Kassel (1986) and the 6th Biennale of Sydney, Sydney (1986). John Armleder lives and works in Geneva.