

ci contemporary istanbul

**CONTEMPORARY ISTANBUL ANNOUNCES GALLERIES FOR THE 14TH EDITION
12 – 15 SEPTEMBER 2019**



Photo © Tolga Adanali.

Press Release 28 August 2019

Contemporary Istanbul (CI), the leading annual art fair in the region, announces today the galleries for its 14th edition, taking place 12 – 15 September 2019 in the Istanbul Congress Center and the Rumeli Hall at the Istanbul Lutfi Kirdar Convention and Exhibition Center. Situated at the meeting point of Europe, Asia and the Middle East, in one of the great cities of the world, CI is overseen by artistic director Anissa Touati. In 2019, CI continues to be supported by its main sponsor, Akbank.

CI presents international contemporary art galleries alongside Turkish galleries, offering global reach to the flourishing local art scene and market. The 14th edition of the fair will feature 73 galleries from 22 countries, 510 artists and more than 1,400 artworks. CI is pleased that galleries such as Marlborough Gallery, New York, Barcelona, Madrid, London; Mark Hachem, New York, Paris, Beirut; Galerie Michael Schultz, Berlin; Project Artbeat, Tbilisi; Mobius Gallery, Bucharest; The Pill, Istanbul; and Pi Artworks, Istanbul, London have returned to the fair this year, building on their presentations at past editions. For the first time, the fair welcomes participation by new galleries including HIGH ART, Paris; Galerie Krinzinger, Vienna; BARRO, Buenos Aires; LOVAAS Projects, Munich; LC Queisser, Tbilisi; and Zawyeh Gallery, Ramallah.

Continuing to build the fair's reputation for innovation, the 14th edition will also see the expansion of the Gallery Support Program, which assists galleries with participating in the fair. The initiative has grown to support galleries in countries including Russia, Azerbaijan, Georgia, Romania, Portugal, USA, and South Africa.

“As Istanbul is gearing up for the coming month of September marked by vibrant days of contemporary art, CI will take a steering position in this period. At the beginning of 2019, Anissa Touati was assigned as the artistic director of CI, leading the path for the fair to ground its place in the rapidly changing art world and allowing it to distinguish itself in the new age. Contemporary Istanbul has a strong impact on both Turkey and the region, and it will continue gathering momentum by continuously renewing its objectives. In addition to the inner workings of the fair, we are very much committed to the promotion of Istanbul and Turkey. Beginning in September and continuing during the next three years, there will be significant improvements to the artistic and cultural infrastructure of the

city and CI sees as part of its above-mentioned mission, to promote these positive initiatives worldwide,” said Ali Güreli, Chairman, Contemporary Istanbul.

“I am delighted to announce the list of participating galleries for the 14th edition of Contemporary Istanbul which features a strong representation of galleries from the region and further afield. This year we are pleased to welcome 73 galleries. The program for 2019 reflects on the question of Mediterraneanism, exploring the unification of the basin. I look forward to collaborating with Art-O-Rama, on our talks program titled *Mediterranean Mindset*, which will take place in Istanbul and Marseille, and which will be moderated by Salma Tuğan, Deputy Director, Delfina Foundation”, said Anissa Touati, Artistic Director, Contemporary Istanbul.

Participating Galleries

AB GALLERY, Seoul; **Anna Laudel Contemporary**, Istanbul; **Art Agency**, Sofia; **Art On Istanbul**, Istanbul; **Azerbaijan Art Platform**, Baku; **BARRO**, Buenos Aires; **Berman Contemporary**, Johannesburg; **Borderline Art Space**, Iasi; **Bozlu Art Project**, Istanbul; **C24**, New York; **C.A.M Galeri**, Istanbul; **CODE South Way**, Marseille; **Crèvecoeur**, Paris, Marseille; **Double V Gallery**, Marseille; **E.A Shared Space**, Tbilisi; **Exteramentale**, Paris; **Ferda Art Platform**, Istanbul; **Galeri 77**, Istanbul; **Galeri Binyıl**, Istanbul; **Galeri Diani**, Istanbul; **Galeri Mçrd**, Istanbul; **Galeri Miz**, Istanbul; **Galeri Nev Istanbul**, Istanbul; **Galeri Siyah Beyaz**, Ankara; **Galeria Foco**, Lisbon; **Galeria Joan Gaspar**, Barcelona; **Galeria Victor Lope Arte Contemporaneo**, Barcelona; **Galerie Krinzinger**, Vienna; **Galerie Lisa Kandhofer**, Vienna; **Galerie Tore Suessbier**, Berlin; **Galerist**, Istanbul; **Georg Karl**, Vienna; **Gowen Contemporary**, Geneva; **HIGH ART**, Paris; **Isabel Croxatto Galeria**, Santiago; **JD Malat Gallery**, London; **Khak Gallery**, Tehran; **LC Queisser**, Tbilisi; **LOVAAS Projects**, Munich; **Marina Gisich Gallery**, St Petersburg; **Mark Hachem**, New York, Paris, Beirut; **Marlborough Gallery**, New York, Barcelona, Madrid, London; **Martch Art Project**, Istanbul; **MERKUR Galeri**, Istanbul; **Michael Schultz**, Berlin; **Mobius Gallery**, Bucharest; **Mohsen Gallery**, Tehran; **Olçay Art**, Istanbul; **Öktem & Aykut**, Istanbul; **P.E.T. Projects**, Athens; **Perve Galeria**, Lisbon; **Pg Art Gallery**, Istanbul; **Pi Artworks**, Istanbul, London; **Pigment Gallery**, Barcelona; **Pilevneli**, Istanbul; **Pilot Galeri**, Istanbul; **Piramid Sanat**, Istanbul; **Project Artbeat**, Tbilisi; **Ramapano**, Paris; **Rem Art Space**, Istanbul; **Sanatorium**, Istanbul; **Sevil Dolmacı Art Gallery**, Istanbul; **SPAGHETTO**, Athens; **Studiocur/art**, Paris; **Ta(r)dino 6**, Baku; **The Pill**, Istanbul; **This is Blitz**, Valletta; **THK Gallery**, Cape Town; **Versus Art Project**, Istanbul; **Villa del Arte Galleries**, Barcelona; **X-Ist**, Istanbul; **Zawyeh Gallery**, Ramallah; **Zilberman Gallery**, Istanbul, Berlin.

Special Projects

Recent Acquisitions

The 14th edition of CI will include the *Recent Acquisitions* exhibition, which will showcase newly acquired artworks selected from 42 private collections. The exhibition will be curated by CI Executive Committee member Hasan Bülent Kahraman based on the theme of *things, words, signs: this and the other*.

Plugin

Contemporary Istanbul in its 14th year continues to dedicate a section of the program to new media and digital arts, sponsored by Siemens Home Appliances. Plugin explores the ways in which new media can be presented within the conventional format of an international art fair, encouraging visitor interaction with the works on view. The seventh edition of Plugin is curated by Esra Özkan, director and curator of bang. Art Innovation Prix by ArtBizTech, Turkey. In 2019, Plugin will feature over 15 artists who explore the theme of *RW. [material]* including **Farhad Farzaliyev**, Azerbaijan; **Jessica Boubetra**, France; **Mathieu Le Sourd (Maotik)**, France; **Olivier Ratsi**, France; **Umut Servan Koyun**, France; **Orkan Telhan**, Germany; **Alex Guevara**, Peru; **Aykut Cömert**, Turkey; **Begüm Yamanlar**, Turkey; **DECOL & Nohlab**, Turkey; **Kerim Dünder**, Turkey; **Under1Minute**, Turkey; **Betül Aksu**, United Kingdom; **Nergiz Yeşil**, Turkey; **Resole**, Turkey; **Pınar Yoldaş**, USA; and **Şölen Kıratlı & Hannah Wolfe**, USA.

Sculpture Park – Garden of Eden

For the first time in 2019, CI will present an open air sculpture park on the Lufti Kirdar Terrace, complementing the diverse range of work on view indoors at this year’s edition. Artistic director Anissa Touati will curate the presentation with works by artists including **Mikayel Okanjanyan**, Armenia;

Elsa Sahal, France; **Ugo Schiavi**, France; **Guido Casaretto**, Italy; **Ebru Dösekçi**, Turkey; **Emirhan Eren**, Turkey; **Osman Dinc**, Turkey; **Sinem Tekin**, Turkey; and **The Zodiac Is**, Turkey.

Art Platforms

CI will also present a special section featuring Art Platforms, which highlight artist-run-spaces, project spaces and independent curators. This section will include projects dedicated to new approaches by **P.E.T. Projects**, Athens; **SPAGHETTO**, Athens; **Studiocur/art**, Paris; **Ta(r)dino 6**, Baku; **Motto**, Berlin; **Exteramentale**, Paris; and **This is Blitz**, Valletta.

Artist in Residence

The 14th edition of the fair will host Pakistani artist Waseem Ahmed in residence, who has been conceptualising new work, which will be shown at the Gowen Contemporary booth. The installation will be curated by Alexandra Pace, founder and director of This is Blitz, Valletta.

DeepCity: Urban Environments in the Era of Surveillance Capitalism

Further special projects at CI in 2019 include the premiere of a new digital work, *DeepCity: Urban Environments in the Era of Surveillance Capitalism* by Turkish artist and architect Güvenç Özel. Awarded by NASA in 2015 for his Mars colony design, Özel will create an immersive environment through media and robotics. On view at the Vodafone Red booth during the fair, visitors will be invited to occupy a fictitious space between the mind and the body of machines where artificial intelligence and robotics intersect.

CIF Dialogues – Mediterranean Mindset

CI and Art-O-Rama, the first international art fair in the South of France, have announced a new collaboration for their 2019 editions. For the first time, the two fairs will organize *Mediterranean Mindset*, a series of talks, as part of their 2019 talks program. Collectors, artists, and stakeholders are invited in a series of two talks during Art-O-Rama in Marseille and two talks during CI, in collaboration with the Delfina Foundation.

For this first collaboration, the two fairs' boards have appointed Salma Tuğan, Deputy Director of the Delfina Foundation, for the moderation of the talks. Both fairs will also host local galleries at each venue with CI welcoming French galleries including **Crèvecoeur**, Paris and Marseille; and **Double V Gallery**, Marseille. Art-O-Rama will welcome Turkish galleries including **The Pill**, Istanbul; and **Öktem & Aykut**, Istanbul.

Istanbul Connection Program

In 2019, CI also introduced a new initiative – the Istanbul Connection Program – which saw the introduction of major institutions, artists' studios and private collectors to the art and culture scene of the city, resulting in monthly visits to Istanbul. The program will resume this October, running until October 2020.

14th Edition of Contemporary Istanbul

Istanbul Congress Center (ICC) and Convention and Exhibition Centre (ICEC)

Mediterranean Mindset	Preview day	General admission
12 September 2019	11 September 2019	12 – 15 September 2019
	By invitation only	

The 14th edition of CI will also coincide with a number of events in the cultural calendar of the city including the 16th edition of the Istanbul Biennial, which will take place 14 September – 10 November 2019, and the opening of several new museums and cultural institutions in Istanbul and Turkey including ARTER, Odunpazarı Modern Museum and the Istanbul Museum of Painting & Sculpture.

Notes to Editors

About Anissa Touati

Anissa Touati is the Artistic Director of Contemporary Istanbul. She is Chalet Society's Associate Director based between Mexico and France and is known to have contributed to the development of the current Mexican art scene in Mexico and abroad. She has curated and co-curated exhibitions at several international locations including, among others: the Mexican part of *Cycles of Collapsing*

Progress at Rashid Karami International Fair in collaboration with BeMA Museum and Studiocur/art (Tripoli, Lebanon), *¿Cómo te voy a olvidar?* at Galerie Perrotin (Paris, France), *Le Sud Bébé* at Musée J1 (Marseille, France), *Coordenadas*, a solo show of Jesper Just at Anahuacalli Museum (Mexico City, Mexico), *Made By 4 Hands* at OMR Gallery (Mexico City, Mexico), *Romance atómico*, a solo show of Matias Duville at BARRO (Buenos Aires, Argentina), and *a tall action is not a height* at The Chimney (New York, USA).

About Contemporary Istanbul Foundation

The Contemporary Istanbul Foundation for Art, Culture and Education was founded in 2018 to support the development to the art environment and relations in Istanbul. With a strong educational remit, the Foundation holds art events, workshops and artist residencies.

About Akbank

Akbank is one of the leading banks in Turkey and has been supporting Contemporary Istanbul for 14 years since its inception. Akbank embraces the social development through culture and the arts as a prime responsibility alongside supporting economic growth. Having supported the arts and artists since its foundation, Akbank has contributed significantly to Turkey's social and economic development thanks to its long-term corporate social responsibility projects. Akbank remains committed to Contemporary Istanbul in its 14th year.

About Art-O-Rama

Founded in 2007, Art-O-Rama is the first international art fair in the South of France. The fair has a unique format as each booth is considered as an exhibition space whose architectural specificities lie on the gallery's curatorial proposition. Art-O-Rama allows gallery owners to present themselves under a unique and original light; signing their artistic line in a space they have designed according to the project they have built with their artists.

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