



UPSD - THE TURKISH PLASTIC ARTS

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ULUSLARARASI PLASTİK SANATLAR DERNEĐİ
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ASSOCIATION

The Turkish International Plastic Arts Association (Uluslararası Plastik Sanatlar Derneđi) was founded in 1989 in Istanbul. A large meeting of artists had gathered to select the eight

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founding members (Alaattin Aksoy, Beril Anılanmert, Bedri Baykam, Handan Börütecene, Mehmet Gülyüz, Hüsametttin Koçan, Bünyamin Özgültekin and Yusuf Taktak). Mehmet Gülyüz was selected as the first president. UPSD has had three other presidents since then: Hüsametttin Koçan, Nilüfer Ergin and Bedri Baykam. The actual President Bedri Baykam has been in office since 2006. The other board members are Tijen Şikar Parla (General Secretary), Bahri Genç (Treasurer), Ceylan Mutlu, Turan Büyükkahraman, Murat Havan and Ekin Onat von Merhart.

Since its foundation, the Turkish National Committee is an association representing the freedom of thought, committed to the freedom of creation, clashing against censorship, defending the freedom and rights of artists before social security and copyright, revealing efforts in instilling art works in state institutions to expand art.

The total number of members is currently 1538, where the total of approximately 1200 members is from Istanbul, Ankara & Izmir, where Istanbul has the largest share, rest distributed in various regions of the country.

We have no other branch anywhere in the country, although we are in touch with artists all over. Since its establishment the core values of the Turkish NC has revolved around freedom of speech, the struggle against all kinds of segregation and hatred ramification, the collective cultural attitude and effort towards preconceived thoughts and ideas. UPSD also struggles for the freedom of all journalists unfortunately in prison in Turkey.

Photos and a small description of the most important activities in 2011, 2012, 2013 and 2014 & World Art Day Events and Photos:

A press meeting was done for Mehmet Aksoy on January 12, 2011:

Among the reactions of UPSD towards society on the anti-democratic process prevailing Sculptor Mehmet Aksoy had erected a monument called "The Monument Of Humanity" in the city of Kars, East of Turkey, close to Armenian border. The Prime Minister Mr. T. Erdoğan defined the monument as 'disgusting-freaky' after a visit to Kars. He ordered its destruction and removal.

A press release communicated to public and media as "The sculpture of Mehmet Aksoy is a permanent and great piece of art and cannot be removed.



March 8, 2011 - World Women's Day Exhibition:

Every year, hundreds of women are killed by their relatives, husbands or lovers in what are called 'honor killings' that reflect unfortunately a lack of tolerance, education and basic respects to human rights. UPSD brought to light this unfortunate reality of feudal type left-over of human relations.

Special exhibition organized by UPSD for fighting against aggression directed towards women at a growing rate. 36 Turkish Artists participated.



"Kadına Yönelik Şiddet" Sergisi açılışında UPSD Başkanı Bedri Baykam, Yönetim Kurulu üyeleri ve sanatçılar



"World Art Day" Proposal of UPSD Accepted in Guadalajara – 2011:

UPSD has given a proposition that the Birthday of Leonardo Da Vinci, April 15 should become World Art Day. The proposal accepted by the General Assembly on its day of presentation.



Young Artistic Activity 5 – 12 April 2011:

On April 12th 2011, the exhibition of "Young Artistic Activity 5" with focus on "Independence from the beginning" was realized in the Mustafa Kemal Culture Centre of Beşiktaş Municipality. 111 Artist were selected by the jury. A catalogue of 128 pages was printed for occasion of the exhibition.



World Art Day Conference at the Italian Cultural Center in Tepebaşı Istanbul 2012:

On Monday April 16, 2012 Mr Alessandro Vezzosi director and founder of the Museo Ideale di Leonardo da Vinci in the city of Vinci gave a conference entitled "Leonardo da Vinci, Modernism and Utopia".



WAD EXHIBITION – 15 April 2012:

On the evening of April 15th, World Art Day celebrations continued with the WAD Exhibition with the participation of 60 artists at the IAA Turkey's gallery.



SHOP WINDOWS EXHIBITION – 2012 (World Art Day):

96 Artworks by 86 artist, including sculptures were displayed on the windows of 72 stores on the very well known districts of Şişli Nişantaşı Avenues for 14 days. Ministry of Culture and Tourism Ertuğrul Günay and Mayor of Şişli Mustafa Sarıgül visited the exhibition on April 12th.



WAD Conference at the Beşiktaş Akatlar Cultural Center - April 13, 2012:

On Saturday, April 13, 2012 Prof. Tomur Atagök, Bedri Baykam UPSD President and Yusuf Taktak the artist gave a conference entitled "out of-ordinary Renaissance genius Leonardo da Vinci and World Art Day."

The panel discussion about "The never ending Renaissance genius Leonardo Da Vinci and World Art Day" was held.



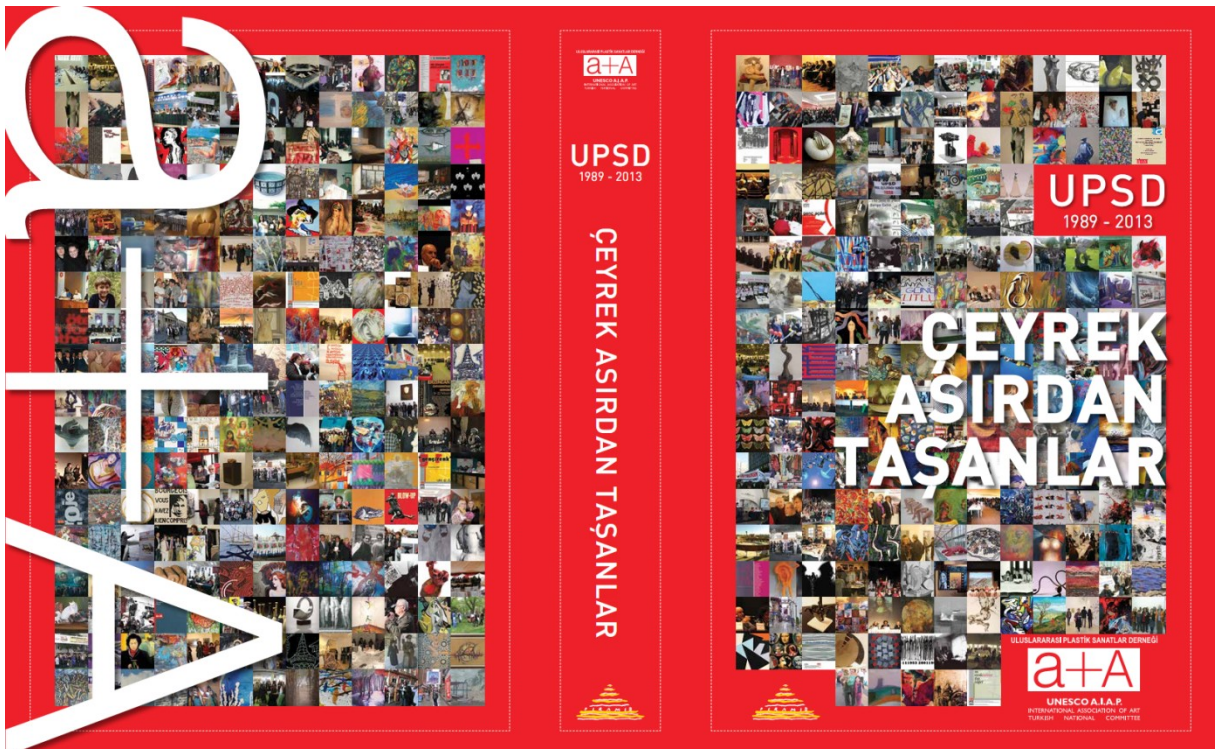
IAA World Art Associations Union General Assembly was held on 12-13 October 2012 in Istanbul.



"The Three Generations Contemporary Turkish Art" exhibition was exposed to the art lovers in the UPSD Art Gallery between 11th of October and 11th of November 2012.

A Book For The Past 20 Years Of UPSD December 2012

A Book is prepared for the 20 year of UPSD, The Turkish National Committee. The book is an almanac of documents and information about artists of about 600 pages.



Youth Reunion Exhibition 15 April 2013 (World Art Day):

Youth Reunion Exhibition collecting the works of 60 young artists under age 36 was organized at the Istanbul gallery of UPSD / Unesco IAA with a reception.

Panel Discussion Captivating and Situating Art in The Context of World Art Day 18 April 2013.

On the 18th of April 2013, a panel discussion titled "Captivating and Situating Art in the Context of World Art Day" was held at the Caddebostan Culture Centre (CKM) with the attendance of UPSD President Bedri Baykam, Professor Tülin Onat and Professor Nilüfer Ergin.

SHOP WINDOWS EXHIBITION-2013 (World Art Day)

In Istanbul's well known shopping district Bağdat Avenue some 23 shops have placed original 25 art works of famous Turkish Artists to their display which was provided by UPSD. In Nişantaşı 34 art works by 34 famous Turkish Artists were displayed on the windows of 34 stores on the very well known district of Şişli, Nişantaşı, Abdi İpekçi, Teşvikiye Avenues for 13 days (between 10th of April and 23th of April)



15 April 2014 "Young Artistic Activity 6" ROAD, TUNNEL, LIGHT (World Art Day):

UPSD, in the tradition of the Turkish National Committee has organized the 6th Young Artistic Activity6 (Genç Etkinlik) 69 Artists were selected by the jury. Selected works were exhibited at the MKM Art Gallery. A catalogue of 80 pages was printed for the occasion of the exhibition.



5 May 2014 - A Panel Discussion - Auctions Crisis:

We also have a huge different problem among the professional artists that we represent: that is the situation with the Auctions. Unfortunately, they act very irresponsibly and they just want to earn money from gross sales. They lower the first offering prices and thus hurt many artists' market prices. They destroy all art values. No control, no inspection, they treat the situation like a market of small company shares. UPSD launched a joint-action together with the Galleries Association.



28 May-15 July 2014 - Gezi Protest Exhibition:

Turkey now is part of this much tormented region of the world in the near-middle-east. The famous "Arab-spring", has turned last May-June into a "Turkish Spring". The "Gezi Protests" widely publicized around the world, has almost lasted one full month between May 27 and June 25 all over Turkey. Millions of people marched protesting and the excessive use of force and violence by the government has resulted in an unfortunate bill with 7 dead persons and many blind youngsters due to tear-gas bombs.

Before it was evacuated savagely by the Istanbul police, the Gezi Park has been an unmatched centre for a communal life that reminded us of the "Commune de Paris" from history. The Gezi Park united in its land, thousands of artists, writers, actors, journalists, directors, academicians, lawyers, businessmen, political party members as well as ordinary citizens that stood up in defence of democracy and freedom. It was quite a human laboratory at the most universal level. Also it created serious multi-disciplinary platforms of solidarity and union between various fractions of socio-'professional level.

Gezi Exhibition was organized to save and keep alive all the things which had happened in those days. The works of 54 Turkish artists were exhibited in UPSD Art Gallery and Pyramid Art Center. A catalogue of 184 pages was printed for the occasion of the exhibition.

Piramid Sanat

Sıkıyorsa Gel!

#direnkalbim SENİ PAYLAŞIYORUM



Küratörler

Bedri Baykam | Denizhan Özer

İlk Yılında Gezi : 28 Mayıs - 15 Temmuz 2014

Doğan Akbulut, Suat Akdemir, Muzaffer Akyol, Mustafa Albayrak, Işıl Ansoy Kaya, Selen Arslan, Şehmuz Atasever, Erdal Avcı, Ali Ayıldız, Resul Aytemür, Bülent Bakan, Bedri Baykam, Deniz Beşer, Ezgi Bilgin, Ozan Bilginer, Melis Buyruk, Turan Büyükkahraman, Şahin Çetin, Eda Çiğirli, Safiye Mine Erdurak, Bahri Genç, Deniz Gökduman, Genco Gülan, Gülercan Hacıoğlu, Osman Nuri İyem, Murat Havan, Mustafa Horasan, Nesren Jake, Ali Raşid Karakılıç, Fazilet Kendirci, Kayihan Keskinok, Ahmet Kiracı, Seydi Murat Koç, Komet, Temür Köran, Şükran Moral, Ekin Onat, Neriman Oyman, Mehmet Özenbaş, Denizhan Özer, Aslı Özek, Çetin Pireci, Deniz Pireci, Ceren Selmanpakoğlu, Doruk Seymen, Emine Şenses, Füzuran Şimşek, Deniz Yünem, Tuncay Takmaz, Alpay Tuğlu, Tansel Türkdoğan, Okan Ulusoy, Faruk Yiğen

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6th Artists' Assembly – 7 June 2014:

The main subject of the Assembly was the draft resolution of Turkish Art Associations Law (TUSAK). UPSD was represented by the General Secretary Tijen Şikar and Artist Ekrem Kahraman. The president of UPSD Bedri Baykam's text was about UPSD's perspective on TUSAK. Tijen Şikar mentioned about the challenges in general that Turkish artists encountered in the artistic area in Turkey. Ekrem Kahraman summarized the history of the Autonomous Art Council. 86 civilian unions participated in the assembly publishing a declaration at the end.



Leonardo & His Turkish Connections - April 18, 2014 (World Art Day):

On the occasion of World Art Day and in collaboration with Istanbul Modern Museum, UPSD organized a lecture on Leonardo da Vinci by artist, author and scientist Professor Bülent Atalay described by NPR, the Washington Post and the National Geographic Society as a "Modern Renaissance Man".

Artists Initiative:

The leading artists of Turkish culture and artistic sphere have represented themselves in an artistic initiative to speak out for the democratic rights. UPSD has been an active player in leading this effort and has been a very important voice since 2012. The President of UPSD Bedri Baykam is one of the three speakers of this initiative.