

Press Release

28 November 2017

“You Want Kilims, But I Do Films”. Art and Culture in Turkey Lecture and Discussion with Mahir Namur, Ata Unal, and Nele Hertling Thursday, 7th December, 7 pm, Akademie der Künste, Pariser Platz

As part of the series “You Want Kilims, But I Do Films”, the **cultural entrepreneur and exhibition organiser Mahir Namur** (Vienna/Istanbul) and the **theatre scholar and theatre maker Ata Unal** (Istanbul/Brussels) will be hosted at the Academy building at Pariser Platz on 7th December. Mahir Namur has long-standing experience in creating cultural projects (such as the art biennial in Sinope, Turkey) and in artistic exchange at European level. Ata Unal is currently conducting research on the development of Turkish theatre since the end of the 1990s, alongside his practical theatre work. He approaches the presence of the ‘independent scene’, which is currently the focus of media attention, with knowledge about its history. Neither was the Turkish theatre of recent years dead, nor is there now reason for blind cheering. What is important is the details – and the context of perception. The discussion is moderated by **Nele Hertling**, member of the Academy and Director of the Performing Arts Section.

The political and social upheavals in Turkey have substantially altered conditions for those working in cultural fields. In the special event series “**You Want Kilims, But I Do Films**” (a quote by the Kurdish film director Atif Yilmaz), artists, writers, journalists, and scholars provide insights into their current practices and address the present situation. On 8th March 2018, an Academy Discussion will take place at Pariser Platz with the filmmaker and President of the Academy, Jeanine Meerapfel, and Ayşe Çaglar (anthropologist and sociologist, Vienna), and others.

The series “You Want Kilims, But I Do Films” is a cooperation with taz.gazete. With the kind support of the Gesellschaft der Freunde der Akademie der Künste (Society of Friends of the Akademie der Künste).

Event information:

“You Want Kilims, But I Do Films”. Art and Culture in Turkey Lecture and Discussion with Mahir Namur, Ata Unal and Nele Hertling (Moderation)

Thursday, 7th December 2017, 7 pm, free admission
Akademie der Künste, Plenary Hall, Pariser Platz 4, 10117 Berlin

Press and
Public Relations

Pariser Platz 4
10117 Berlin
Germany
T +49 (0)30 200 57-15 14
F +49 (0)30 200 57-15 08
presse@adk.de
www.adk.de

>> Press tickets: presse@adk.de, Tel. (030) 20057-1514

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