

**"METANOIA"****26.11.2020 – 16.01.2021****ASLIHAN KAPLAN BAYRAK, NERMİN ÜLKER, SERDAR ORUÇ**

**Labirent Sanat** is pleased to host the group exhibition entitled **Metanoia**. The exhibition featuring the works of **Aslihan Kaplan Bayrak, Nermin Ülker and Serdar Oruç**, can be visited between **26 November 2020 - 16 January 2021** at the new venue of **Labirent Sanat** in Tepebaşı.

We, as humans, look back when we reach the limits of our own power, our desire is suppressed and we experience fear of death or an extreme shortage of existence. In this retrospect we question our past. For independent individuals who take responsibility for their lives - even if the source of the problem depends on external factors - the remedy is often through renewal of their choices or a radical change. This is not a state of renunciation, but the fastest and most effective way to create new arteries for ourselves with references from the past. Freedom is the power to create our own options and move forward despite external focuses and stereotypes.

According to Jung, metanoia is the soul's (psyche) melting itself after an unbearable conflict and reshaping itself in a more adaptive form, rebirth. When we consider this point of view together with our current situation, we can evaluate the closure process we have experienced due to the covid-19 pandemic as an opportunity to look back, question our individual orientations, investment and consumption habits, lifestyle, desires, passions, the destruction of nature we cause, our attitudes towards others and change our consciousness. In such a time of blockage, Jung emphasizes that it is a better method to direct our focus to our inner world rather than the outer world that is prone to loss.

Art teaches people the practice of metanoia; how to make a u-turn on the path to progress. It just wants to show us the invisible existence of death where we tend to see life (Boris Groys). New beginnings always depend on an end. Metanoia is an experience of extinction; It represents our rebirth by confronting our dark sides and loneliness, from our palled state of being in the spiral of external pleasures and passions.

Klee's figure of Angelus Novus turns his back on the future; looks at the present and the past. Meanwhile, he continues to move backwards towards the future. This shows us the view of direction of the philosophical metanoia (as quoted by Boris Groys from Benjamin). Physicist L.E. Boltzmann explains the difference between the past and the future by our blurred vision of nature. The future of the universe is determined by the present state of the instance, just like the past. Artwork can also reflect traces of future possibilities with reference to the past and present or intuitively.

**Metanoia** exhibition, which will be opened to visitors by taking pandemic measures on **26 November 2020**, allows us to see the recent works of **Aslihan Kaplan Bayrak, Nermin Ülker and Serdar Oruç** through the self practices that guide their production. The exhibition can be seen at **Labirent Sanat's** new venue in Tepebaşı until **16 January 2021**.

**Labirent Sanat**

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**Visiting hours:** Tuesday - Friday: 11.00 - 19.00, Saturday: 11.00 - 18.00**For more information and images:** info@labirentsanat.com | +90 212 243 86 81**Labirent Sanat**Çatma Mescit Mah. Tepebaşı Cad. No: 56 K: 2 34430, Beyoğlu / İstanbul  
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**About Artist:**

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**Aslıhan Kaplan Bayrak** was born in 1975 in Zonguldak. She studied at Mimar Sinan Fine Arts University Painting Department in Prof. Zekai Ormanci's atelier. The artist, who also worked in the gravure atelier with Fevzi Tüfekçi and Umut Germeç, graduated in 2007 with a first. Bayrak continues to work in her painting and engraving atelier in İstanbul Pendik, she has curated and coordinated the Garden Arts Initiative since 2014. The sense of being/self is not independent of the space. From this point of view, the artist aims to show the pleasant tension between cosmos and chaos while wandering around the boundaries of order and disorder by playing with our perception of space. While constructing space with reflections, curves and intersecting lines, the artist questions the spirit of space and time. The perception of space in her paintings invites us to rethink our connection with nature as much as it bothers us.

**Nermin Ülker** was born 1974 in Karadeniz Ereğli, Turkey. She started her professional work life as a surgical nurse, graduated in 2012 from Işık University Faculty of Fine Arts Visual Arts and Sculpture Department, İstanbul. She graduated her Master's Degree at the Social Sciences Institute of Işık University Art Theory and Criticism Programme. At the same school, she lectured basic design in the 2019-2020 academic year. Nermin Ülker, contributed to more than 20 national and international group exhibitions, and two personal exhibitions. She continues her work at her atelier which is located in the İstanbul Maslak Atatürk Industrial Car Area.

**Serdar Oruç** was born in İstanbul in 1987. He received his bachelor's and master's degrees in the Fine Arts Education Department of Marmara University. He developed his artistic practices in the atelier of Asst. Prof. H. Avni Öztopçu. The concept of nature which constitutes the main motivation of his thoughts, is experienced in all his works in formal and spiritual sense. The spontaneity of nature, the constant change and transformation state and the relational context between disappearance of previous lives for the formation of life, constitute the inner skeleton of his art. In his works, while the adventure of an internally deepening experiment is observed, he invites the audience to a frightening journey. He continues his works in İstanbul.