



WORLD ART DAY 2022: SOLIDARITY

We have been celebrating Leonardo da Vinci's birthday as a World Art Day since 2012.

On its 10th anniversary, Audrey Azoulay, Director General of UNESCO, declared in her message:

"Just as man needs oxygen to survive, he also needs art and poetry."

These words by Aimé Césaire remind us how vital art and culture are to humanity, and how they underpin our unity and resilience. This **World Art Day** is a timely reminder that art can unite and connect us even in the most difficult of circumstances. Indeed, the power of art to bring people together, to inspire, heal and share, has become increasingly clear during recent conflicts and crises, including COVID-19. Yet according to the UNESCO Global Report "**Re|Shaping Policies for Creativity: Addressing culture as a global public good**", published in February 2022, some 10 million jobs were lost in the cultural and creative sector globally in 2020. Indeed, in a sector where employment is often informal and unstable, and in the absence of an appropriate social safety net, artists and culture professionals too often find themselves vulnerable in the face of the loss of income brought on by crises and conflicts.

This shows us just how much we need to accord artists appropriate status, as urged by UNESCO's 1980 Recommendation concerning the Status of the Artist, in order to bolster respect for their rights and boost the resilience of arts and culture. The challenge of keeping art alive, now and in the future, is therefore twofold: we must support culture professionals and cultural institutions, and promote access to art for all. In order to better identify priority needs, we must listen to the voices of the art world in all their diversity. This is the aim of UNESCO's ResiliArt movement, which was launched to affirm the resilience of art in this period and prepare for the future. To date, thousands of artists and professionals have participated in more than 300 debates around the world. The challenges we face today can only be met through far-reaching cultural policies aimed at helping creative communities overcome this crisis and protecting and improving the status of artists. The UNESCO World Conference on Cultural Policies and Sustainable Development – MONDIACULT 2022 will bring together the world's culture ministers 40 years after the first MONDIACULT in 1980.

It will ensure that the voices of artists and civil society are fully heard as countries set the agenda for culture for the years to come.



STOP WAR!



STOP WAR!

HOW DID WE CELEBRATE THE WORLD ART DAY?

This year, instead of concerts, dances, and cheerful events we celebrated **World Art Day** with exhibitions, international and national panels. Logos embedded "**Stop War!**" are spread with the following slogans:

Art illuminates the path to peace!

Art will save the world, not war!

War kills, art creates!

Art will win, not war!

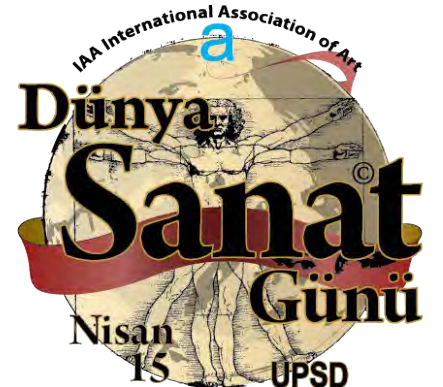
Long live art, long live World Art Day!

We want a World Art Day without war!

No to war, yes to art!

Let art shape the world, not war!

Leonardo celebrates World Art Day, while we celebrate his birthday!



SAVAŞA HAYIR!

ERDO SAM

GARDENERETTE

15.4.22 - 29.5.22



EXHIBITION: ERDO SAM "GARDNERETTE"

April 15 – May 29, 2022

“At first glance, Erdo Sam’s works appears formally liberated from a compositionally recognizable order. This is also true in regards to the self-confident placement of occasional color clusters that are almost scenic in their nature. Otherwise, the paint application is that of a delicate transparent glaze. As empathetic viewers, we can certainly embrace the painter’s desire when he lets the paint flow across the canvas. The paint moves as gravity pulls. Sometimes like glowing lava, at others on the contrary like cooling mercury element. Purposeful coincidence.”

-Sophie Brandes

Also in April 14th, the exhibition “Gardenerette” by Erdo Sam had its vernissage at Piramid Sanat with a cocktail celebrating the World Art Day.

This exhibition focusses on collective sense of helplessness mixed with rebellious thoughts generated by femicide that has for long and reinforced the deep pain and caused social trauma in our country as well as the feeling of revolt provoked by Russia's persecution of Ukraine.

In the catalog, writer Sophie Brandes narrates the exhibition as *“The word ‘war’ is still around us. So let us once again turn to the present. And thus, reality. Let’s go all the way back to the beginning of Erdo Sam’s emergence. The ‘Burnt Works’. They aren’t ‘pretty’. Faces in which the fire has left its terrible traces. Violence as it is constantly practiced throughout the world. Violence against women, children, with ‘other’ beliefs.”*

The exhibition can be visited at Piramid Sanat until May 29th, 2022.



OPENING of KARTAL ART STREET: PEACE CONCERT AND “PRESS YOUR HAND FOR PEACE”

Turkish and Russian rock musicians held a 'peace concert' together in Kartal.

The Kartal Municipality celebrated **World Art Day** with the opening of the Kartal Art Street and had a full program of activities that include many disciplines of art. International Plastic Arts Association (UPSD) President Bedri Baykam and hundreds of artists carried out the slogan “**No to war, yes to art!**” through the events and celebrated the **World Art Day** with events worthy of its name.

At the opening, Russian musicians Slava Lobanov (Guitar, vocals), Simon Shiriaev (Drums) and Turkish artists Yaren Yiğitbaşı (Bass guitar) and Sercan Pamuk (Keyboard) took the stage together and drew attention to the unifying power of art and gave a message of peace.

The Russian musicians, which fled away from Russia told the interviewing TV channels: “**We don't want to live in an aggressor country. Stop the killings, stop Putin now!**”

Also, as part of the events held in Art Street, “**Press Your Hand for Peace**” board was signed by the Mayor of the Municipality of Kartal in İstanbul Gökhan Yüksel, President of UPSD Bedri Baykam, with the participants of hundreds of children with their painted hands.



PANEL DISCUSSION: ART AND WAR via ZOOM

This year we held on World Art Day, April 15th an online panel discussion: Art and War. We had speakers from Ukraine, UK, Lithuania, Cyprus, Slovakia, and Turkey.

We discussed "How does the art world react to the invasion of Ukraine by Russia and the catastrophic war?" with Victor Sydorenko (President of Modern Art Research Institute of the National Academy of Arts of Ukraine, and Vice-President of the Academy of Ukraine), Lesia Smyrna (Doctor of Art History, Modern Art Research Institute, Senior Researcher), Myroslava Hartmond (Writer, curator), Egle Ganda Bogdaniene (Lithuanian Artists' Association, Chairwoman), Christos Symeonides (International Association of Art, World Executive Committee Member), Pavol Kral (International Association of Art, World Executive Committee Member) and Bedri Baykam (International Association of Art, World President) as the moderator.

With the presentations of the researchers, the events in Ukraine were analyzed and Ukrainian artists also contributed to the panel by sharing their experiences. Christos Symeonides, emphasized that every artist is a peacemaker and that Russian artists should not be excluded from the arts community. Andrea Kozarova (President of IAA Europe) and Bogdaniene (President of Lithuanian Artists Association) stated that "at least the memberships of Russian artists' organisations should be temporarily frozen". Baykam replied on the question "Why Russian artists did not participate in this online panel?" as "We announced this meeting publicly as the AIAP/IAA Including the professional organization in Russia. But the lack of participation from Russian artists in general was something we expected. Because, of course, the Russian artists who gave the right to Putin, and according to Bogdaniene's statement, the signed text of thousands of Russian artists and thinkers who approved Putin is in the Russian press, and of course, they show an attitude that approves with some very strange wording tricks an attack that put an end to the right to life of tens of thousands of people. It would be a madness to let such persons participate to our zoom meeting; of course, there are many Russian artists and intellectuals who do not approve of Putin, and it would be unfair to ask them or to expect their own demand to participate in this panel. Because the moment they expressed these, they would go directly to prison in Russia. For these reasons, there were no Russian intellectuals or artists among us at this meeting".



Bogdaniene said that she would send this heavy file of statements and names to Baykam and she did that. **In addition, the World Art Day "Wallace Hartley" Awards, which were given in three different fields, were given the titles of Freedom, Solidarity and Humanity due to the war and suffering in Ukraine.**

First, the young artist Nickita Tsoy was presented with an award:
"To our young Ukrainian colleague Nickita Tsoy, and in his presence to all the young Ukrainian artists, with the belief that art should be continuous during war and peace times and that it will carry the next generations to a world full of peace, and solidarity"

After, an award was presented to Victor Sydorenko:
"To the President of The Modern Art & Research Institute of the National Academy of Arts of Ukraine, Victor Sydorenko, and in his presence to all the Ukrainian artists, in the face of the terrible war that Ukraine and its dear people are going through, with empathy to the Ukrainian art scene and our colleagues for the disaster they have

experienced, with our most sincere and heartfelt solidarity and affectionate wishes".

For the final award, the Ukrainian people were addressed through Sydorenko:

"To the heroic people of Ukraine and the Commander-in-Chief of the Ukrainian Army, Volodymyr Zelensky, for their great resistance and courage that went down in world history, with our deepest feelings of admiration and the belief that Ukraine will overcome these terrible days, reaching clear horizons as well as peaceful tomorrows"

Baykam promised that they would try every possible way to deliver the prizes to their owners physically, despite the war conditions. The panel, which closed with the wishes of celebrating the World Art Day in better tomorrows without wars, with the emphasis of peace and solidarity, will soon be on Youtube.

(We are searching yet all the alternatives to send these award plaques)

AKADEMİX-IV

Altan Çelem, Avni Öztopçu, Başak Kaptan Şiray
Burak Boyraz, Burçin Erdi, Deniz Gökdoğan
Evren Kavukçu, Fethiye Erbay, Gizem Enuysal
Gülveli Kaya, Hülya Küpçüoğlu, İrfan Okan
Melihat Tüzün, Mete Ağyar, Muhammet Tatar
Mutlu Erbay, Neslihan Kıyar, Nurseren Tor
Özge Gökbulut, Reyhan Uludağ, Saim Erken
Ünal Kuş, Yıldız Doğan, Zeliha Akçaoğlu

Açılış: 16 Nisan 2022 Saat: 17.30

ULUSLARARASI PLASTİK SANATLAR DERNEĞİ

a+A

IAA/AIAP - Official Partner of UNESCO
INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF ART
TURKISH NATIONAL COMMITTEE

Küratör
Denizhan Özer



STOP WAR!

Uluslararası Plastik Sanatlar Derneği

Maçka Demokrasi Parkı, Sanatçı İşlikleri Şişli Evlendirme Dairesi Yanı
Şişli / İstanbul

Tel: 0212 247 62 83 Fax: 0212 247 36 85 Mobil: 0533 162 70 05
Email: aiap.upsd.tr@gmail.com

Derneğimiz, Pazar, Pazartesi hariç her gün 12.00-18.00 arası açıktır.

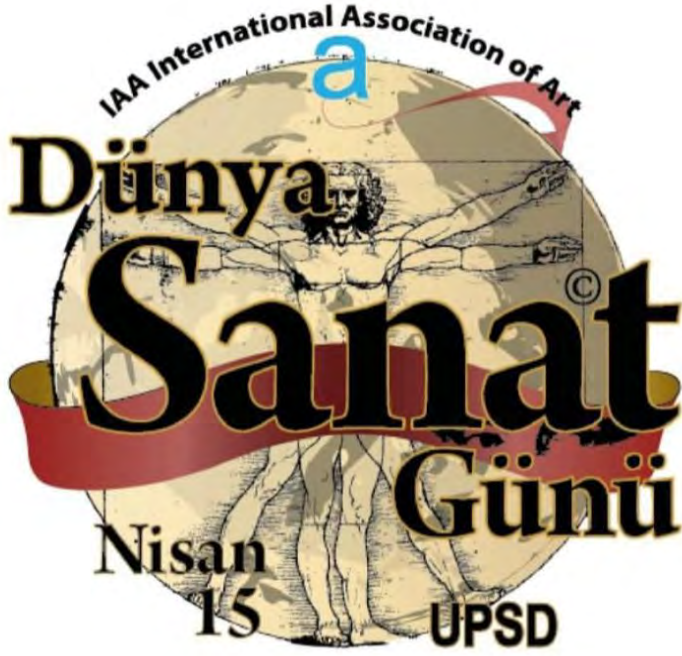
EXHIBITION: 4th AKADEMİX

4th AKADEMİX exhibition, consisting of works by valuable academicians, was opened at the headquarters of **UPSD in Maçka on April 16th, 2022**. While Denizhan Özer was the curator of the exhibition, Bedri Baykam gave the opening speech, and his dear friend lost on the 14th of April, a day ago Prof. Dr. Balkan Naci İslimyeli was memorated and Baykam pointed to the great void that his absence would bring...

The exhibition, which consists of the works by 24 artists, can be visited until the May 14th, 2022.



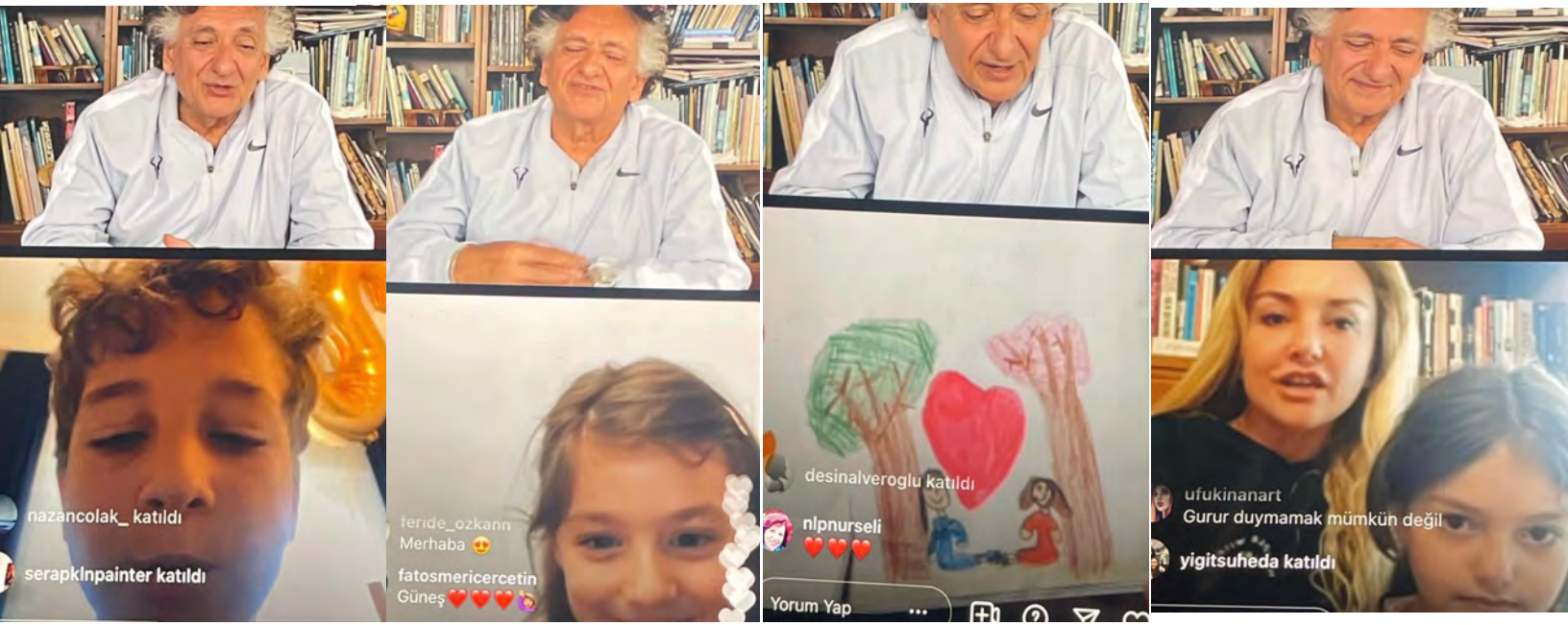
LIVE: CHAT WITH CHILDREN



On the next day Bedri Baykam celebrated World Art Day with children! Baykam, who went live on Instagram on Sunday, April 17, 2022 and talked about children and art, gave the audience a very enjoyable hour. He chatted live with many valuable children artists about art. After noticing that the most participants happened to be from the cities of Istanbul and Eskişehir, Baykam shared photos with his beloved participants and invited them to come to Pyramid Sanat with their parents to discover, his art center in Taksim!

@bedribaykam
Dünya Sanat Günü'nü
çocuklarla kutluyor!

17 Nisan Pazar günü 15:00-16:00 arası
tüm çocukları instagrama bekliyoruz.



SAVAŞ ÖLDÜRÜR, SANAT YARATIR!

Dünya Sanat Günü
Nisan 15 - UPSD
SAVAŞA HAYIR!

Sanat ve Savaş
Yer: Piramid Sanat
18 Nisan 2022, Pazartesi
17.00-19.00



Tamer Levent Coşkun Aral Sedef Kabaş Osman Erden Bedri Baykam

Adres: Feridiye Cd. No:25
Taksim/İSTANBUL
+90 542 554 71 82



PANEL DISCUSSION: ART AND WAR @Piramid Sanat

The debate on "Art and War" was held at Piramid Sanat on Monday, April 18 in front of an audience of 200 persons, Bedri Baykam, talked about the fact that the invasion in Ukraine has been going on as a shame for humanity for 1.5 months, and he left the floor to Coşkun Aral, who has been a war correspondent for more than 40 years and won many national and international awards. Aral, who was born in Siirt and who connects his desire to be a war correspondent with his experiences while growing up, spoke about many striking war moments he witnessed and said, "Those who do not know war cannot stop the war". Emphasizing that Atatürk was one of the people who knew at heart what it means to be a refugee, Aral gave the anecdote that Atatürk found his mother in a refugee camp following the loss of Thessaloniki.

Journalist Sedef Kabaş who earlier this year had been for fifty days in prison after having been accused of having used a proverb that was perceived as an insult on President Erdoğan, started her speech with a question:

"Isn't art a kind of war too?" After talking about her family (especially his father Mehmet Kabaş and his uncle Ali Kabaş) mostly being artists, she continued her words by saying, "I chose to enter the world of war instead of aesthetics". Emphasizing that it is out of the question for us to continue our "normal" lives while such a massacre is already taking place in Ukraine, she stated that is hidden inside all of us: "We actually do not live "normal" lives at all! We were just made to believe in it, we were used to it". In her speech, "Don't let your brains be invaded! If your brains are occupied, you are giving your lands, your institutions, your history, your children's sustenance, and your dreams for the future!" Kabaş also shared an interesting memory of her days in prison with the audience: "When the trial day came, my ward friends asked, 'Will you wear lipstick, Sedef?'... When I expressed my hesitation by saying, 'I don't know, we wear lipstick when we go on TV, but will it be appropriate here?', they said to me, 'Of course you will wear it, just as those men wear suits and ties and get a good behavior time discount in front of the judge, you will also wear that lipstick!' Then they gave me that lipstick as a gift, I still keep it..."

Famous stage actor Tamer Levent, who drew attention to the closure of the "Village Institutes*", some 80 years ago complained that today's education is based on memorization only and talked about the ease of accessing information and therefore the importance of using information. Explaining that learning is about being curious, Levent said, "What should a person who lives and grows in this culture do in a society where the 'danger' of curiosity is reflected even in the proverbs!" He drew attention to the effect of social factors and culture on us.

Afterwards, art historian Osman Erden stated that he opposes the affirmations that art has "healing power" and stated that art contains everything related to human beings and therefore it could also contain the bad and the evil. Continuing with examples of the intersections between art and war, Erden conveyed the impact of the war on people and therefore on art in the most striking and real way, in his speech, which was based on the artist Šejla Kamerić's "Bosnian Girl", who witnessed the Bosnian War.

*Village Institutes are educational institutions opened in 1940, aiming to train teachers for village schools, agriculture and health workers for villages by targeting the local area.







STOP WAR!

AND APART FROM THESE, COUNTLESS EVENTS WERE HELD IN UNIVERSITIES, ART INSTITUTIONS, GALLERIES AND COUNTLESS MUSEUMS ALL OVER THE WORLD! HUNDREDS OF THOUSANDS OF SOCIAL MEDIA SHARES WERE DONE ALL OVER THE WORLD, BY ARTISTS AND INSTITUTIONS.

PLEASE, DON'T FORGET TO SEND US ALL YOUR WORLD ART DAY 2022 ACTIVITIES WITH ALL THE INFORMATION, PHOTOS AND EVERYTHING. WE'LL BE HAPPY TO SHARE THEM AND DON'T FORGET THAT OUR BOOK ABOUT THE HISTORY OF WORLD ART DAY ON IT'S 10th YEAR, IS IN PREPARATION. PLEASE SEND US ALL POSSIBLE DATA UNTIL MAY 10th.

NOW IT'S TIME TO GO BEYOND THIS BLACK PERIOD OF THE WORLD AND HOPE FOR WORLD ART DAY IN PEACE DAYS OF THE WORLD. AND MOST OF ALL, WE THANK ALL OF YOU, ALL NATIONAL COMMITTEES THAT HAVE KEPT CONTRIBUTING TO WORLD ART DAY, YEAR AFTER YEAR WITH BELIEF AND CONTINUITY! LONG LIVE!



SAVAŞA HAYIR!