

Proportional Line
Kemal Seyhan
Last Decade

Book Launch & Exhibition
Curated by Dr. Necmi Sönmez

26 November – 7 December 2019

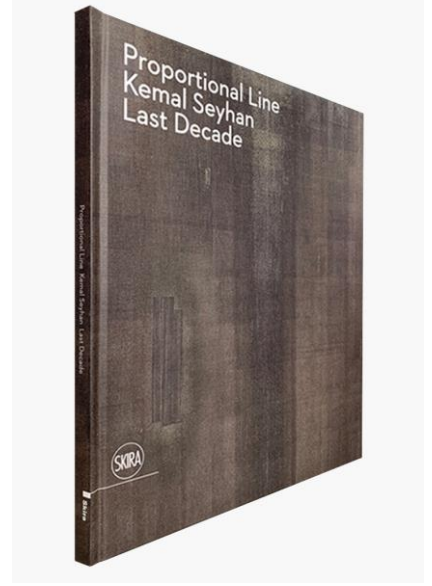
ARK KÜLTÜR Beyoğlu

Opening: 26 November 2019, Tuesday, 19.00

Presentations:

19.10 Alistair Hicks, Independent Writer and Curator, London

19.30 Dr. Necmi Sönmez, Dusseldorf



***Proportional Line Kemal Seyhan Last Decade*, the monograph recently published by worldwide known Skira Editions, brings together Seyhan's works from his last period. The art book will be celebrated with the launching cocktail and namesake exhibition from 26 November 2019 at Art Kultur.**

"Kemal Seyhan's abstract paintings don't instantly screech of identity. The excesses of the self are subsumed into the rigorously applied paint, or mixed alternatives."
Alistair Hicks

Artist Kemal Seyhan aroused the interest of the international art platform with his painting techniques and formatting styles. His monograph, entitled *Proportional Line Kemal Seyhan Last Decade*, brings together Seyhan's recent works. The art book, published entirely in English by famous art publisher from Milan, Skira Editions, is edited by Curator and Art Historian Necmi Sönmez. *Proportional Line Kemal Seyhan Last Decade* will meet art viewers at the book launch and the namesake exhibition at Art Kültür on 26th November.

Independent Writer and Curator Alistair Hicks, Curator and Artist Edelbert Köb, and Curator and Art Historian Necmi Sonmez's critical reviews accompany Seyhan's paintings and sculptures in the art book. Shedding light on different developmental processes of the artist, the writings open to discussion characteristics observed in artist's paintings and sculptures looking back to his last ten years. *Proportional Line's* launch will take place along an exhibition in a different approach, putting on view artist's works that will be exhibited for the first time and with writers Necmi Sönmez and Alistair Hicks' presentations.

Kemal Seyhan's paintings in the last two decades are narrated with a narrow language, comprising four words: Horizontal, vertical, color, intensification. While he pieces the words of this narrow vocabulary together, the artist restricts himself with a series of rules: Starting with black, applying vertical and horizontal on the canvas lengthways, avoiding simple topological relations on the surface of the work –such as large-small, including-included, inside-outside; in this context, not using the color to define the space on the canvas, putting it mainly under intensification's order creating an excelled surface that disables any three dimensional illusion, leaving everything else (except for the surface), the back or sides of the canvas, out of attention. The works are implemented by applying this vocabulary and rules on canvas deck of times. Kilos of paint is used to color the canvas with thousands of spatula touches to create strata.

Kemal Seyhan, b.1960. Lives and works between Vienna and Istanbul. Major exhibitions include; *Untitled – Poetics of Inner Space* (solo), Pi Artworks Istanbul, Turkey (2018); *Syntax* (solo) Osthaus Museum Hagen, Germany (2017); *Freundschaftsspiel Istanbul*, Freiburg, Museum for Modern Art Freiburg, Germany (2016); *Ondas Negras* (solo), GPLSpaceVI, Vienna, Austria (2015); *41 Meter* (solo), Zorlu Center, Istanbul, Turkey (2013); *Sieben Grengänge*, House Wittgenstein, Vienna, Austria (2011); *Kemal Seyhan* (solo), Cora Hölzl Gallery, Dusseldorf, Germany (2010). Major collections include; Ferdinandeum, Tiroler State Museum, Innsbruck, Austria; Arch Driend Collection, Vienna, Austria; Die Roland Madesta, Nürnberg, Austria; Istanbul Modern Museum, Istanbul, Turkey; Museum Evliyagil, Ankara, Turkey.

Presentations:

Dr. Necmi Sönmez. Curator, art historian and art critic. Sonmez is working with international institutions including Tate, Staatliche Museen zu Berlin, Deutsche Bank KunstHalle, Borusan Contemporary. Since 2015, he has been working as an independent editor for Skira editions.

Alistair Hicks. English Independent Writer and International Curator. Between 1996 and 2016, he was Senior Curator at Deutsche Bank. He is the author of several books; including *The Global Art Compass: New Directions in 21st Century Art*, *The School of London*, *New British Art in the Saatchi Collection* and *Art Works: Deutsche Bank Collection Group Head Office, Frankfurt*.

ARK KÜLTÜR

Batarya Sk. No:2

34430 Beyoğlu / İstanbul

Tuesday - Sunday: 11.00 - 18.00

Contact:

PI ARTWORKS

For all press enquiries: nihankarahan@gmail.com

For all other enquiries: ed@piartworks.com