

## OMM - ODUNPAZARI MODERN MUSEUM PRESENTS A NEW EXHIBITION RESPONDING TO THE CLIMATE & ECOLOGY CRISIS

### *At the End of the Day*

2 October 2020 - 25 April 2021



Stephan Kaluza, *Arkadienmaschine 6*, 2012

From October 2020, **OMM – Odunpazarı Modern Museum** in Eskişehir, Turkey will present a show questioning humanity's relationship with a planet on the brink of mass destruction.

*At the End of the Day*, curated by the OMM team and spanning all three floors of the museum, asks whether we can develop respectful ways of coexisting with nature, inviting viewers to rethink their relation to the environment. It is the first new show to follow the museum's reopening in July after a period of temporary closure due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Before the COVID-19 pandemic of 2020 became a global health crisis, humanity was beginning to face the consequences of the environmental damage it has wrought ever since the Industrial Revolution. Natural disasters induced by climate change, an immigration wave that has yet to crest, and a worldwide pandemic highlighting disparities in governing systems and the treatment of human lives – all have brought one question to the surface: this earth, which humanity has claimed to be the center of for so long, is perfectly capable of surviving without us. Can our species take heed and use this knowledge to develop respectful ways of coexisting with nature?

*At the End of the Day* explores this line of questioning, featuring works that address the distinction between exploitation and coexistence, migration and conquering, and memory and monumentalizing. The exhibition, which is inspired by Ursula K. Le Guin's seminal 1972 novella *The Word for World is Forest*, finds its roots in a world similar to that of the fictional Athshe, a once-peaceful planet colonized by humans and stripped of its natural resources.

The works on show explore hyper-consumerism and overproduction, colonisation and coexistence, the mass migration of climate refugees and the notion of nature as a mere

commodity and backdrop to human experience, inviting viewers to reconsider their relationship to and with the environment.

During this crucial period of understanding and realization, in which we become fully aware of the threats posed by overusing natural resources in the name of pleasure and profit while ignoring the earth's ecological balance, this exhibition shines a light on possibilities for our collective future, for better or for worse.

**Zeynep Birced**, Exhibitions Director at OMM, said:

*"The pandemic has brought to light our fragile relationship with the planet and undermined our sense of control, as well as exposing the structural inequalities that exist as a result of environmental exploitation. This exhibition delves into the past, present and future, but instead of claiming answers or solutions it invites the audience to reflect, using art as a tool to raise consciousness about the myriad issues facing our generation."*

Bringing together over 40 works of painting, photography, video and installation, the 36 artists represented in the exhibition include Adnan Varınca, Ahmet Doğu İpek, Ali İbrahim Öcal, Ali Kazma, Alper Aydın, Andreas Gurksy, Aras Seddigh, Aylin Zaptçioğlu, Azade Köker, Bashir Borlakov, Burcu Perçin, Burcu Yağcıoğlu, Canan Tolon, Ekin Saçlıoğlu, Elmas Deniz, Emin Altan, Emin Mete Erdoğan, Fırat Engin, Guido Casaretto, Hale Tenger, İrem Tok, João Vilhena, Kerem Ozan Bayraktar, Lara Ögel, Marc Quinn, Murat Akagündüz, Mustafa Hulusi, Nazan Azeri, Osman Dinç, Pınar Yoldaş, Seon Ghi Bahk, Sergen Şehitoğlu, Serkan Demir, Stephan Kaluza, TUNCA and Yaşam Şaşmazer.

During the exhibition, the [OMM Podcast](#) series will feature talks with several of the artists in **At the End of the Day**, offering the chance to get to know the artists behind-the-scenes and reach out to art lovers who cannot visit the museum. The podcast is available in Turkish on Spotify.

September 2020 marks one year since the striking museum designed by Kengo Kuma and Associates opened its doors, breathing new life into Eskişehir and the contemporary art scene in Turkey. Since opening (as of 7 September 2019), OMM has hosted four standout exhibitions, two artist residencies and welcomed more than 166,000 visitors from Turkey and abroad, including over 6,700 students on free school tours and 1000 participants in learning and education programmes.

## **Notes to Editors**

### **About OMM**

OMM is a modern and contemporary art museum founded by collector Erol Tabanca, in Eskişehir, northwest Turkey in 2019. Designed by Kengo Kuma and Associates (KKAA), with its stacked timber design, inspired by the surrounding streetscape of Odunpazarı and its history as a timber trading market, the 4,500m2 museum stands as a new landmark that reconnects the town with its heritage, and as a progressive cultural development for Eskişehir and the Central Anatolia region at large. OMM aims to contribute towards the development of cultural, social, and artistic life through dynamic and extensive public programmes, seminars, artist talks and workshops.

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**Press Assets**

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To receive up to date information on exhibitions, events and training programmes at OMM and for detailed information about tickets, guided tours and planning your visit, please visit [www.omm.art](http://www.omm.art) and follow us on Instagram [@ommxart](https://www.instagram.com/ommxart).

Safety measures taken by OMM in the light of the covid-19 pandemic can be seen on our website [www.omm.art](http://www.omm.art).