

C.V. DENIZ SOEZEN (born 1981; Vienna)

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Contemporary Art and Moving Image Practice, Experimental Ethnography, Diasporic Art, Decolonial Methodologies, Post-colonial Art Education, Anthropology beyond the Human, Feminist New Materialism, Nomadic thinking and Multilingualism.

EDUCATION

- 2014-2019 **PRACTICE-BASED PHD (Visual Arts)**
Centre for Research and Education in Arts and Media,
University of Westminster, London
(CREAM Research Scholarship)
Title of thesis: 'The Art of Un-Belonging'
Supervisors: Dr. Uriel Orlow and Dr. Margherita Sprio
Examiners: Dr. Shela Sheikh and Dr. May Adadol Ingawanij
- 2007-2009 **MFA ART PRACTICE**, Goldsmiths College, London
(AHRC scholarship)
- 2000-2005 **DIPLOMA IN FINE ART (Magistra artium)**
University of Applied Arts in Vienna. Faculty of Visual Arts

EXHIBITIONS (SELECTION)

- 2019 **HYPHEN**
Group Exhibition. Ambika P3 London
- THE MOON MUSEUM**
Participatory arts project, artist commission by 'Little Earthquake'; exhibition at MAC Birmingham 'Moon Festival'
- 2018 **THE ART OF UN-BELONGING**
Solo Exhibition. London Gallery West
- responseABILITY**
Group Exhibition. Curated by Margarethe Makovec & Anton Lederer, < rotor > Center for Contemporary Art, Graz
- 2017 **BETWEEN HERE AND THEN**
Group Exhibition, London Gallery West and Project Space
- 2016 **KAHVEHANE KONGRESSPARK**
Temporary Café And Performance.
Soho in Ottakring, Urban Art Biennial, Vienna
- 2016 **ANDERSWO UND HIER. INTERKULTURELLE POSITIONEN IN DER KUNST**
Group Exhibition. Curated By Eva Maltrovsky, Landesgalerie Eisenstadt

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EXHIBITIONS (SELECTION)

- 2015 **TRANS ANGELES**
Solo Exhibition. MUSA Start Gallery, Vienna
- 2015 **MOBILIZING MEMORY – VIENNA**
Group Exhibition. Curated by Isin Önel and Ayse Gül Altınay, Kunsthalle Exnergasse, Vienna
- 2014 **HEIDI GOES LIVE**
Multimedia Performance. Marianne.von.Willemer.Prize for digital media. Ars Electronica Center, Linz
- JAYWALK**
Group Exhibition, MAK Center for Art and Architecture, LA
- 2013 **CURATORS' NETWORK MEETING**
Group Exhibition. Organized by Andrea Löbel and Jürgen Tabor. Kunsthalle Exnergasse, Vienna
- 2012 **PANIK 8: PERFORMANCE AS POST-COLONIAL STRATEGY!**
Curated by Irene Lucas and Ruby Sircar, VbKÖ, Vienna
- “UÇAN HALİM” – “MY FLYING CARPET”**
Solo Exhibition. Commissioned by Manser/ Palak/ Otzoup, Die Nische, Basel
- 2010 **LIVING ACROSS - SPACES OF MIGRATION**
Group exhibition. Curated by Christian Kravagna, x:hibit, Academy of Fine Arts, Vienna
- HOME SWEET HOME SICK HOME**
Performance. Lust Gallery, Vienna
- BE LONGING**
Solo Exhibition feat. Suzan Dennis. Visual Arts Platform, Austrian Cultural Forum, London
- 2009 **MFA DEGREE SHOW**
Goldsmiths College, London
- PLATFORM JUNGE KUNST**
Group Exhibition, Gallery Baeckerstrasse4, Vienna

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AWARDS AND SCHOLARSHIPS

- 2019 **RUNNER-UP PRIZE BEST PRACTICE AWARDS**
British Association of Film, Television and Screen Studies
Best Practice Research Portfolio in the Category 'Audio
Visual and Installation' for 'Surya Namaz'
- 2014- 2017 **CREAM RESEARCH SCHOLARSHIP**
Centre for Research and Education in Arts and Media,
University of Westminster, London
- 2016 **ARTIST IN RESIDENCE 'WEST BALKAN CALLING'**
Public ROOM Sarajevo, Bosnia-Herzegovina, organized
by <rotor> center for contemporary art, Graz
- 2014 **MARIANNE.VON.WILLEMER. PRIZE FOR DIGITAL
MEDIA**
Ars Electronica Center, Linz
- 2014 **ARTIST RESIDENCY**
Cité des Arts Paris
- 2013- 2014 **ARTIST RESIDENCY 'MAK SCHINDLER SCHOLAR-
SHIP LOS ANGELES'**
MAK Center Artists and Architects-in-Residence Program
- 2013 **SCHOLARSHIP FOR VIDEO AND MEDIA ARTS**
Start Scholarship awarded by the Austrian Federal Ministry
for Education, the Arts and Culture
- 2007- 2009 **AHRC SCHOLARSHIP**
Research preparation masters scheme, Arts and Humanities
Research Council, UK

SHORT BIO

DENİZ SÖZEN (born 1981) studied Fine Art in Vienna and London and recently completed a practice-based PhD at CREAM (Centre for Research and Education in Arts and Media), University of Westminster. Her works have been shown in various contexts internationally. Recent exhibitions include 'The Moon Museum' at MAC Birmingham (2019), 'Hyphen' at Ambika P3 in London (2019), 'The Art of Un-belonging' (solo) at London Gallery West (2018), and 'ResponseABILITY' at < rotor > center for contemporary art in Graz (2018). She has presented her research in numerous conferences and her writings have been published in print and online. Her visual essay Trans Plantations has been published as part of Sharpening the Haze: Visual Essays on Imperial History and Memory by Ubiquity Press (peer-reviewed).

Deniz has taught and held workshops at art colleges internationally, including the University of Westminster, Central Saint Martins, UAL, the University of Reading, the Academy of Fine Arts Vienna, the University of Art and Design Linz and UCA Farnham.

ARTIST STATEMENT

My work explores themes of culture and language questioning the notion of identity and belonging through opacity and multilingualism. Experimenting with the notion of the untranslatable and partial translation, my practice aims to destabilise the Eurocentric imaginary, that has been shaped by dualisms, such as self and Other, mind and body, culture and nature, etc. which constitute the colonial legacy of modernity. My practice moves across various media and art forms, including video, performance, ceramics, (sound) installation and interventions in public space. Moving image, objects and sound are placed in relation to each other within exhibitions and beyond. The audio-visual elements of my work shift in the shapes of documentary-style recording, multilingual narration and lecture-performances.

I engage with the representation(s) of self and Other through the lens of my experience of living in and between different spaces, cultures and languages to create and produce work that presents a multiplicity of viewpoints and voices, proposing a more pluralist perspective on being and becoming.

Departing from my mixed Turkish-and-Austrian heritage and hybrid subject position, the autobiographical and fictional narratives in my multi-disciplinary projects explore infinite and unforeseen possibilities for our entanglement with each other – including the earth and non-human others, such as plants, objects and plant-based matter. Experimenting with multilingual storytelling and collaborative processes of writing, thinking, learning and art making, my research-based practice presents a multiplicity of viewpoints and voices that question dualistic thought and aim to re-imagine the notion of belonging – ultimately beyond the human.

DENIZ SOEZEN: LIST OF PUBLICATIONS

PUBLICATIONS

- 2020 **TRANS PLANTATIONS**
Published as part of 'Sharpening the Haze: Visual Essays on Imperial History and Memory' by Ubiquity Press
- 2019 **THE ART OF UN-BELONGING**
PhD thesis; Published by the University of Westminster
- 2017 **NEUES AUS HEIDI-LAND UND BEGEGNUNGEN DER ANDEREN ART. TRICKSTER TAKTIKEN ZWISCHEN KUNST UND VERMITTLUNG**
In 'vorausgesetzt. Kunst/Pädagogik und ihre Bedingungen', edited by Nanna Lüth, revolver, Berlin
- 2015 **TRANS ANGELES**
trilingual artist book (English, Thai, Armenian), self-published, Vienna
- 2014 **TRANS ANGELES: NAVIGATING LOS ANGELES BY ITS ETHNIC ENCLAVES. AN AUSTRIAN VIDEOGRAPHER'S 'OFF THE RECORD' FIELD NOTES'**
In: Nowiswere (web-based) contemporary art magazine, Issue 14
- 2012 **REFLEXIONEN ÜBER ZWISCHENRÄUME**
In: Institut für Auslandsbeziehungen e.V. (ifa). Kunstvermittlung in der Migrationsgesellschaft. Reflexionen einer Arbeitstagung 2011. Edition Kultur und Außenpolitik. Online-Publication
- FROM ALIEN GALAXIES TO THE DERVISHES' SKIES: ENCOUNTERS OF A DIFFERENT KIND.**
In: Insea Newsletter, Volume 4, No.1
- 2009 **DAS TÄNZERISCHE IN DER KUNSTVERMITTLUNG.**
In: Documenta 12 Education II: Between Cultural Praxis And Public Service. Results Of A Research Project. Carmen Mörsch And The Research Team Of Documenta 12 (Ed.) Published By The Institute For Art Education (IAE) Of The Zurich University Of Arts. Berlin: Diaphanes

TALKS AND CONFERENCES

- 2018 **COFFEE: THE STORY OF A GLOBAL TRANS-PLANT**
Empire Off-Centre Workshop, Max Planck Institute for the Study of Religious and Ethnic Diversity, Göttingen
- FROM PERSONAL TO PLANETARY: (RE)IMAGINING THE MEMORY OF 'COFFEA ARABICA'**
Creating Interference Symposium
In association with Iniva and CREAM, the University of Westminster
- THINKING THROUGH COFFEE. THINKING THROUGH CLAY – BELONGING BEYOND THE HUMAN**
University of Westminster Research Conference
- 2017 **BETWEEN HERE AND THEN**
Artist talk, London Gallery West, London
- 2016 **VISUALISING IMMATERIALITIES**
Symposium, Leopold-Franzens-University, Innsbruck
- 2015 **TRANS ANGELES**
Gallery talk with Christian Kravagna, startgallery MUSA, Vienna
- NEUES AUS HEIDI-LAND – RADIO DÖNERGY**
Artist talk, UdK Berlin
- 2014 **ART AFTER COLLEGE**
Artist talk and visiting tutor at the School of Arts and Communication Design, University of Reading
- THERE ARE SOME THINGS WE NEED TO TALK ABOUT**
Artist talk with Brigitte Kovacs, VbKÖ Vienna
- ARBEITSGESPRÄCH "FETT"**
Talk about Art Education through Arts, Kunsthaus Dresden
- 2010 **LIVING ACROSS – SPACES OF MIGRATION**
Artist talk with Anna Jermolaewa, Christian Kravagna, Ghazel and Nada Prlija. Academy of Fine Arts Vienna
- CULTURE AND LOCATION: FANTASIES OF BELONGING IN CONTEMPORARY ART**
Co-Organisation of the conference and artist talk, Austrian Cultural Forum, London