Özlem Ünlü

Visual and Performance Artist

Özlem Ünlü was born in 1983, in Ankara. She graduated from the Painting department of Hacettepe University, Faculty of Fine Arts, Department of Painting. She is a visual and performance artist living and working in Istanbul, since 2009.

“My works -mainly composed of series - consist of erotic/pornographic drawings and paintings through which I investigate the notions of domination, power, gender and various relations through the human body and its sexuality. In my series such as Chat Roulette or Bindil, I have been working on live painting/drawing dozens of live models in their ordinary milieu from all over the world. These series are similar to research projects for me. I consider art as a healer for both the artist and the viewer. Focusing on both the body and its healing process as well as my interest to myths and legends brought me to explore and study ancient healing medicine and rituals from far east. The relation I have to my artistic practice also changed and I started to be more and more interested in using my own body as a medium. I still believe in initiating social change and healing through performance art. In the construction process of my performances, I envision by also incorporating the issues depicted in my paintings, using different disciplines and materials with the involvement of the audience. Performance art brought new questions to my practice regarding the limits of body and the relation we have to time, space and others.”

Since 2003, Ünlü held four solo exhibitions in Turkey and participated in various exhibitions as an independant visual artist. Since 2016, she is represented by Performistanbul (International Performance Art Platform). Among her performances; *Collective Commission*, as part of *Stay LIVE at Home - Home Performance* Series realized by Performistanbul, Digital Series (2020), *Kâlâ, Needed: You 672 Hour Live Process*, Curator: Simge Burhanoğlu, with Performistanbul, Performistanbul Live Art Research Space, Istanbul (2018), *Domain of Things*, collaboration with Pedro Gómez-Egaña for his work entitled Domain of Things in “15th Istanbul Biennial”, Galata Greek Primary School, Istanbul (2017) and *Tape* in Daily Milk Performance event and private event Performistanbul-PCSAA, İstanbul (2018) - Coop, İstanbul (2016).”

Exhibition

2019	*gözlerimiz birbirine değmesin*, Duvar Sergileri, Muaf Beyoğlu, Istanbul
2019	*Mirasyedi Özlem*, Dramaqueer, Istanbul
2018	*Bu Bir Performans Değildir*, curated by Simge Burhanoğlu, Daire Sanat, İstanbul.
2016	*Bring Your Art,* Group Exhibition, İstanbul

2016 *Açık Stüdyo Günleri*, Studio Exhibition, İstanbul

2016 *Whatever Forever*, Group Exhibition, C.A.M Galeri, İstanbul

2016 *Değiş Tokuş* Sergisi Group Exhibition, Ada Sanat, İstanbul

2015 *Start Vol III*, Group Exhibition, C.A.M Galeri, İstanbul

2014 *God Save The Porn*, Group Exhibition, Klup Külah, İstanbul

2013 *Ben, Bizzat Kendim*, Group Exhibition, CerModern, Ankara

2012 *Keçi Geçti*, Group Exhibition, Ankara Meydan Sahnesi

2010 Piha Collective Art, Group Exhibition, İstanbul

2009 Kızılcahamam Art Festival, Ankara

2009 Çankaya Municipality Contamporary Art Centre, Group Exhibition Ankara

2007 ArtForum Fair Competition Exhibition, Ankara

2006 (Solo) Drawing Exhibition, Hayal Perdesi , Ankara

2005 (Solo) Hacettepe Universty, Drawing Exhibition

2004 Hacettepe Universty, Group Exhibition

2004,2005 Şefik Bursalı Competition Exhibitions, Ankara

2003 Ankara State Art and Sculpture Museum Youth Exibition

Performances

2020 *Collective Commission*, 19 session, as part of *Stay LIVE at Home* – Home Performance Series realized by Performistanbul, Istanbul

2019 *Dreams that Money Can Buy,* Performance Series, Project Organizer Buğra Erol, Tab Gallery, İstanbul

2018 *Tape,* Performistanbul, İstanbul

2018 *Kala*, *Needed: You 672 hours live process*, Performistanbul, İstanbul

2016 *''Tape'' Performans, Günlük Süt*, Coop, İstanbul