

UTKU VARLIK

Zero Hipotez

April 27th – June 2nd, 2018

The window which I go through in the night is always open to the infinity, against the north star, and in the morning, it oversees a park in which children play...

Utku Varlık

“I want to paint again, to redesign a canvas; to question the changing time” says Utku Varlık, whose new exhibition at Bozlu art Project ‘Zero Hipotez’ is an alternative hypothesis proposal of the artist, who is one of the important representatives of the Turkey’s 1968 generation and has been living in Paris for almost 50 years. Varlık shares the events, people and mostly the fears who made great impressions in his life in the book ‘Zero Hipotez: Fragments’, that is to be published simultaneously with the exhibition. The exhibition will be open between April 27th - June 2nd, 2018.

*Zero Hipotez, is a meeting of pictures and text, a first trial of writing of a painter who depicts collages between the times and images, visualizing the ideas into dreamy paintings, which also strike at the art-lovers’ minds. Utku Varlık who has been famous for the friendships with the literature and painting environment in his years in Turkey, takes a dreamy adventure with protagonist Roby Zober who is the centerpiece of the stories in the book *Zero Hipotez: Fragments: 60’s Academy*; on the way to pub across the school, Niyazi, Cihat Burak, Hayalet Oğuz, Bedri Rahmi Eyüboğlu, Avni Arbaş, Edip Cansever, Cemal Süreya and much more legendary people, their anecdotes, conversations in pub tables, painters’ friendships, dialogues of literature and cinema, hitch-hikings, Paris in 70’s, the museums that were always dreamt of, the cities, the paint masters who always hang over the head of painters like a sword of Damocles, colors, smells, fears and tastes...*

The artist summarizes the reason of transferring these life experiences via an exhibition and book like this:

A life; in which I saw myself at the end of the road before realizing; is the stocktaking of a cross match, or settling old scores? I think “NONE” of them... This life experience cannot be captured by a visual

synthesis or any vision, and at this point, a narration is necessary; to paint the sense of reality of the reader, to write the poems of idleness, if the life includes a story! What moved me was to compile the surfaced memories. A mystery hidden behind a portrait, the objective content in the background was always a field of interest for me, a place where a shadow is cast is very important; just like looking to a picture on the life... To paint again, to redesign a canvas; to question the changing time...

Utku Varlık

Utku Varlık was born in 1942 in Bolu, Turkey. He started the Academy of Fine Arts, Department of Painting in 1961. He studied painting in the studio of the Bedri Rahmi Eyuboglu and trained engraving and lithography in the workshop of the Sabri Berkel. Being graduated from the Academy in 1966, he went to Paris on a state scholarship in 1970. He studied at the Academy of Fine Arts in Paris under George Dayez from 1971 to 1974 and he studied lithography in Cachan Studio. His first exhibition was in 1965 in Geneva, then Utku Varlık, opens exhibitions in Istanbul, Ankara, Izmir, Salzburg, Munich, Cologne, Hamburg, Stuttgart, Cannes, Lyon and Paris on regular basis. Studies in Paris since 1975, works of Utku Varlık represented in Istanbul and Ankara State Painting and Sculpture Museums, in the collections of the Central Bank and Türkiye İş Bank, United States of America Ben and Abey Gray Foundation, Mayor of Paris, and Paris National Library and Lyon Museum. Utku Varlık forms his figures with expressionist narrative format during the early life of art, although he has been inspired from political life of 1960s and 1970s, continued to use this form of expression. Artist, moved away from expressive narration and social issues after 1975, has been directed towards an imaginary form of expression. Figures for artist, a continuous and living element of nature which is one of the prime and, the reflection is found in nature.

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