# MY CANVAS BECAME MY BODY, MY BODY BECAME MY CANVAS

Reds, blues, yellows, greens,

to cut a long story short

all colors are in front of my eyes.

All excited all cheerful, all angry, all infatuated

Shouting and screaming, «Me too, me too, put me in your painting too».

My brush, my canvas my hands are trembling.

Red is angry: «Take me », it says.

« Put me in the center of the canvas. Let me be a skirt. »

Geen says, «Get lost.. », to red.

«Everybody in this world knows me,» snaps red,

«I'll set the place on fire, I am the most attractive one! However you try, you can only be grass!»

They start a fight.

All of a sudden the silvery sound of a distant, clarinet is heard

One, two, three, four, five, six, seven, eight, nine

One, two, three, four, five, six, seven, eight

The tripping nine eight rhythm hushes all the other bickering colors

They pass out with the wind of the silver sound.

Black watches from a distance with an air of pride,

it's a turkey, can't stop puffing up.

Looks down upon everything, taking blue on its side

White wants to take a distance and leave

"Let me be a cloud!" Place me in the deepest horizons of the sky!

I don't want to see anyone."

Cut it now! Its enough

You have been nagging me.

Shut up now. I gave birth to you!

My canvas became my body, my body became my canvas!

I am the who waits upon these feelings!

I am the one who strives to let them mature, to let them turn into thoughts,

I am the one to let them flow in to the painting

# SU YÜCEL





### BIOGRAPHY

Su Yucel was born in London, in 1961.

She received her first award in 1974 while she was a secondary school student in Turkey, with her work titled "Lunch at the Fields" in a contest inaugurated by the Turkish PTT, for stamps and philately. One million copies of the award winning stamp were printed in the same year.

She entered Strasbourg Beaux-Arts Academy in 1979 and studied under the tutorship of Camile Hirtz, Camile Claus and Sarkis Zabunyan.

In 1984, she participated in the group exhibition at Gallery Mont Charge, Strasbourg. Same year she launched her first solo exhibition in Galata Art Gallery, Istanbul. In 1986 she was invited to Jordan, where she spent six - months. This gave her the opportunity to observe and research and these were reflected in her work. One of her works was permanently exhibited at Petra Bank Gallery, Amman.



In 1987-88 she worked as the art director in two films; respectively, "Bir Avuc Gokyuzu" directed by Umit Elci and "Ada" directed by Sureyya Duru. In 1997 she presented her collected works in an exhibition at Vancouver Fine Art Gallery, Canada. In 1997 she put together a meeting of "Poetry, Paintings and Jazz", with the participation of Can Yucel, Reent Bolukbasi and Ali Peret. Improvising in literature, music and artistic fields represent only one aspect of her experimental works. In 2002 she was awarded the first prize by the Arts Council for the stage design of 'Can Oyunu' a play directed by Genco Erkal.

She has participated in several social projects, including joint projects of women from Karaburun, İzmir and Greek Island Lesbos, organized by Women's Peace Initiative (WINPEACE) in 2002; and painting classes organized by KAMER with the participation of women in south eastern Anatolia. The art works produced in these projects were exhibited in Lesbos, Karaburun, Athens, Rhodes, Diyarbakır and Istanbul. The imprint of times she spent together with Aegean and eastern Anatolian women were visible in her exhibition titled "Spell". Her work titled, "The Mediterranean" was first presented at the Barut Hotel lobby in Antalya in 2006, and has since been permanently exhibited.,



In 2009, she assisted Karl Kneidl in staging Beethoven's Fidelio at the Augsburg State Opera and Ballet. In the same year, she had a solo exhibition in Das Kunst im Augenblick in Vienna, Austria. Her recent works have focused on Gypsies. In 2008 she worked with sociologists in the gypsy neighbourhood Sulukule. In 2009 she held workshops for underprivileged women living in the Tarlabaşı neighbourhood in Istanbul in a project supported by Istanbul 2010 European Capital of Culture Agency. In 2010 her works were exhibited in Izmir and Istanbul.

She is currently producing a series of documentaries for Iz TV on making art in different parts of Turkey.

In 2013, Middle East Technical University awarded artist with Appreciation Prize for her professional achievements and contributions to the country.

She still continues working on paintings and filming documentaries for Habitat Tv.

# PERSONAL EXHIBIONS

1984 Galata Art Gallery, Istanbul

1986 Petra Bank Gallery, Amman-Jordan

1986 Galeri Baraz, Istanbul

1988 Istanbul

1989 Galeri Artisan, 2nd Istanbul Biennial

1990 Galeri Lapis, Cappadocia

1991 Vancouver Fine Art Gallery, Canada

1992 Galata Mevlevihanesi, Istanbul

1993 Galeri Ars, Ankara

1994 French Monastery, Istanbul

1996 Milli Reasurans Art Gallery, Istanbul

1998 Galatea Art Gallery, Istanbul

2000 Garanti Art Gallery, Istanbul

2002 Istanbul

2003 Datca, Mugla

2004 Datca, Mugla

2004 Talisman, Istanbul

2005 French Cultural Center, Istanbul

2005 Hobi Art Gallery, Istanbul

2005 Karsu Art Gallery, Istanbul

2006 Ankara

2008 Almelek Art Gallery, Istanbul

2008 Istanbul

2010 Macka Art Gallery, Istanbul

2011 French Cultural Center, Istanbul

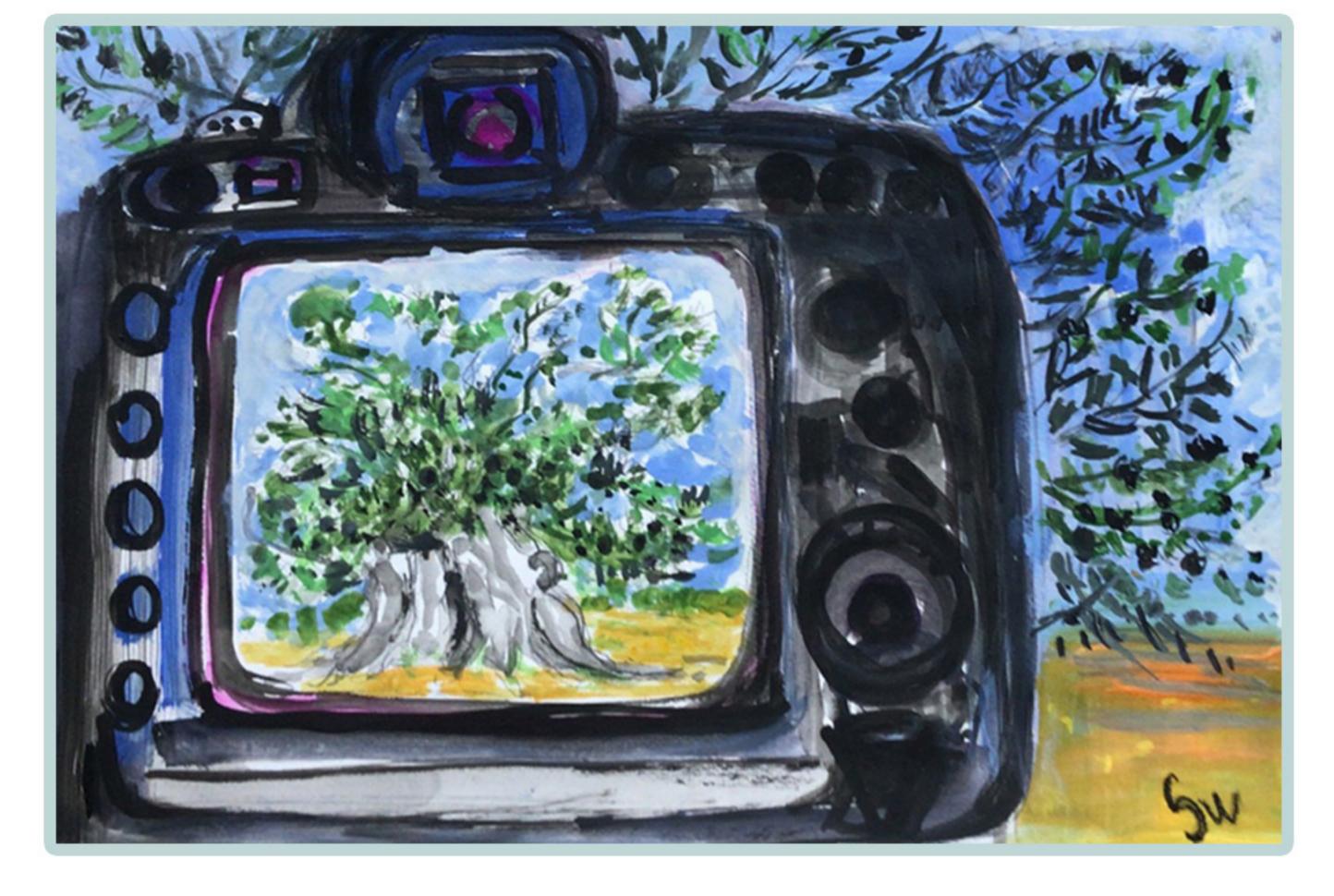
2011 Macka Modern Art Gallery, Istanbul

2013 Sisli Terakki Fondation Art Gallery

2016 Atelier exhibition, Istanbul

2018 Türker Art Gallery, Istanbul

2023 Gallery Diani, Istanbul



She still continues painting works in her atelier and documentary film shooting on Habitat TV.





### PARTICIPATED EXHIBITIONS

1984 Gallery Mont Charge, Strasbourg

1985 Participated in a Spring Fair Festival, Wachen Supported by

European Council General Secretary

1992 Expo 92 Sevilla, Spain

1995 Sofia, Bulgaria

1997 Athens, Greece

1998 Sydney, Melbourne, Australia

2007 Old Bazaar, İstanbul

2008 Belgium

2010 Mardin Biennial

2018 Türkcell Commubications and Arts at the Galata Greek School

### MISC PROJECTS

1987 Art direction for movie "Bir Avuç Gokyuzu"

1988 Art direction for movie "Ada" by Sureyya Duru

2000 Stage set design of play "Can Oyunu" by Genco Erkal

### AWARDS

2000 Best stage set award for "Can Oyunu" play
2013 Appreciation Award, Middle East Technical University For her Professional achievements and contributions to the country



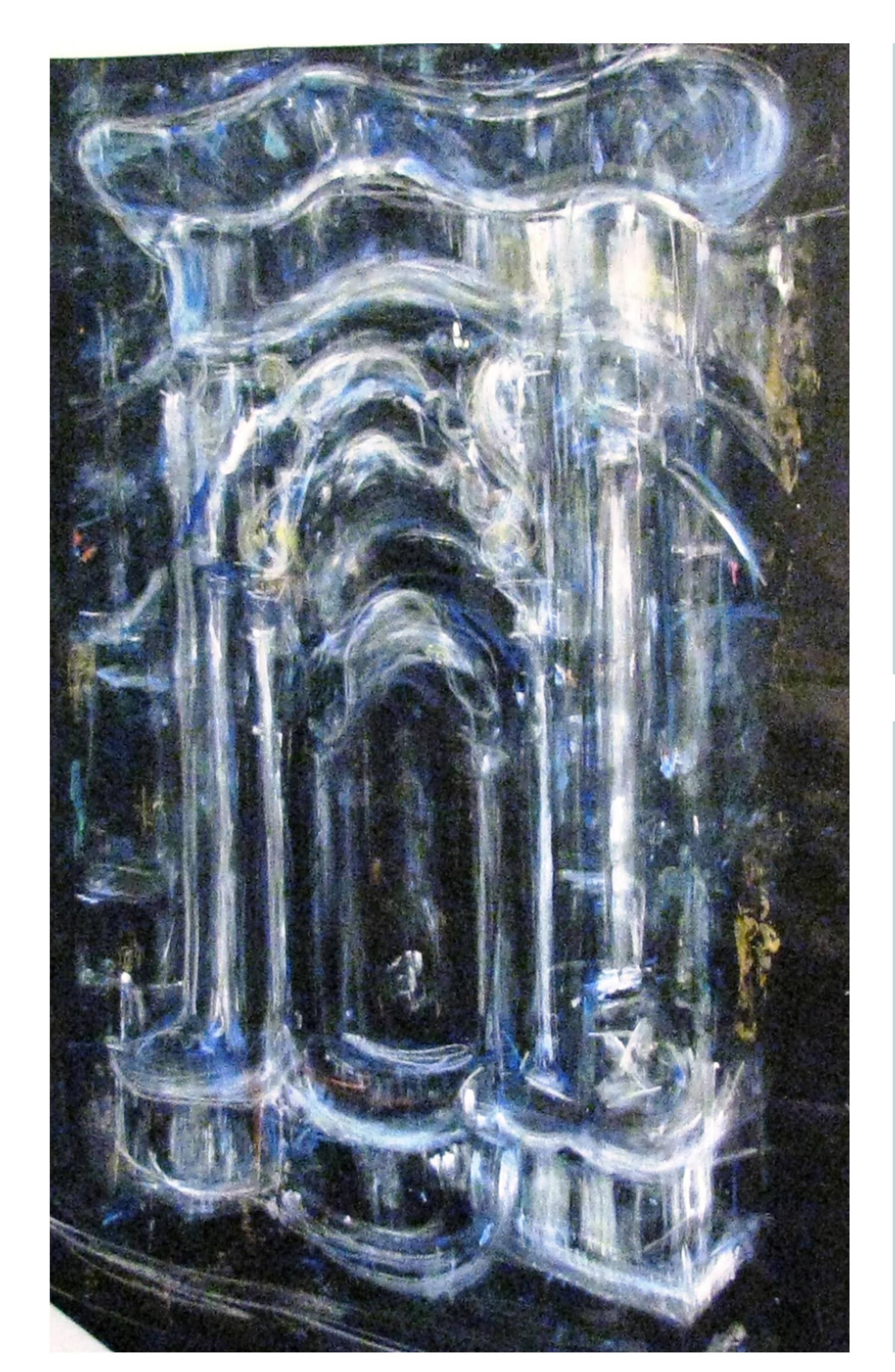
### SOCIAL WORKS

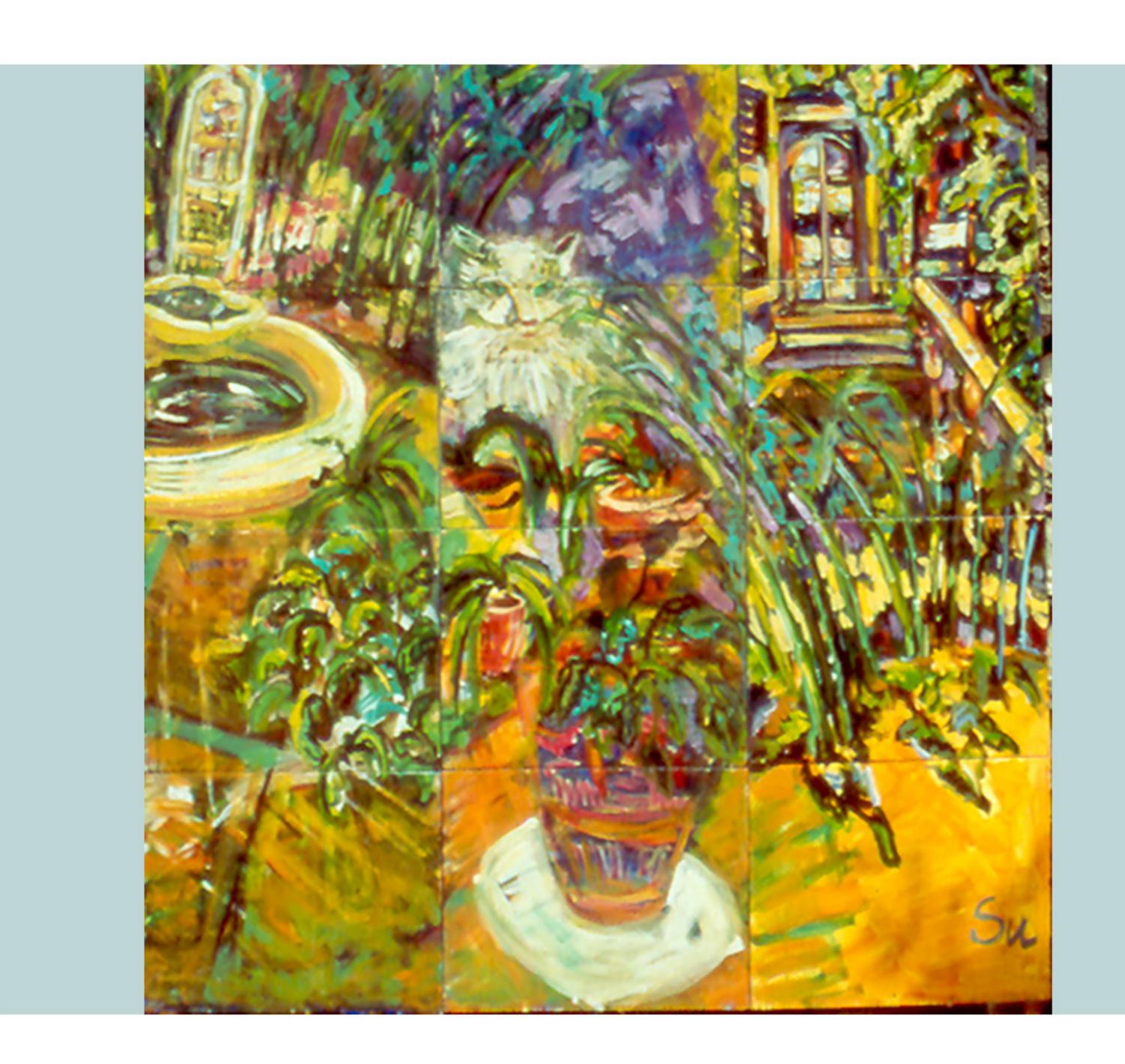
WOMAN CREATIVE WORK IN DIYARBAKIR

THE MULTICOLORED MYTHOLOGIAL WORLD OF THE WOMEN OF KARABURUN

GYPSY WOMAN CREATIVE WORK IN SULUKULE

TIME CAPTURED
THINGS IN MY MIND
JOURNEY OF SU
INLAND SEA
TRACES ON THE WATER
SO FOUNTAINS







LIGHT
GYPSIES
TALISMAN
CAN-SU
SIRKET-I HAYRIYE





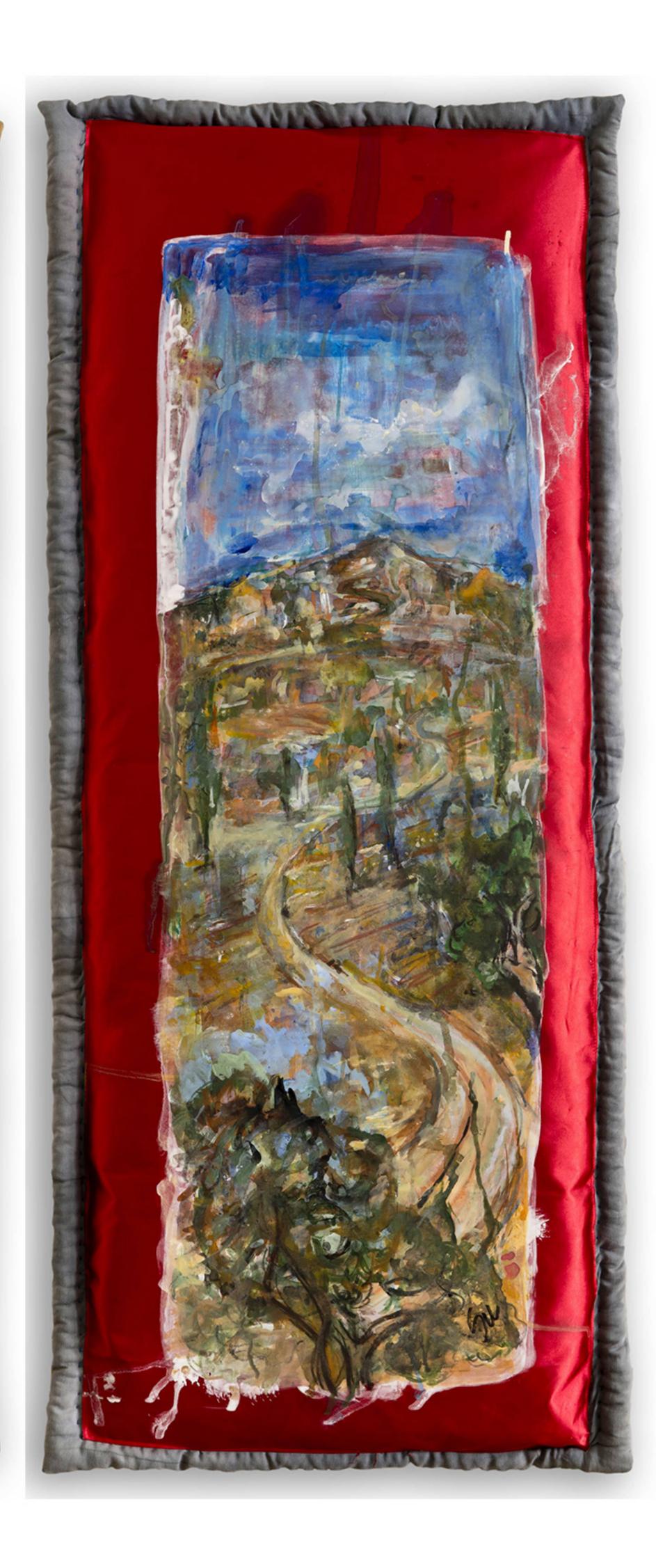












## Young artist puts life back into old Turkish houses

By Ali Hakan

Id Turkish houses form the theme of a current exhibition at the Artisan gallery in Ortaköy, İstanbul.

Works by young artist Su Yücel are being exhibited as part of the International İstanbul Biennial. The show, entitled "Houses in Birgi," concentrates on different architectural features from the interiors of old buildings - porches, halls, exterior staircases leading into gardens, banisters, arches, vaulted rooms and benches.

The artist tends to avoid front elevations, preferring to use the interesting perspectives created from the side, from below or from above. Her understanding of perspective enables her to take space and make use of it in the way she wants.

Yücel is doing more than just reproducing the porches and halls of these houses. She has an expressionist attitude, breaking loose from a theme, moving toward the abstract, using lively and intricate

The artist uses perspective to create a convex effect almost as if while drawing the interior, she is trying to see the exterior of the

Asked about this, Yucel said, "These old houses have established an equilibrium with nature. Spaces in which people live are an important reflection of people's spiritual makeup. People's lives mold the environment around them, but they are also affected by their environment.

This is the first time that Yucel has tackled the theme of enclosed spaces. In the past her work has focused on natural themes such as gardens, deserts, palm trees, even roosters.

"This is the first time I've done anything of this kind. But as the paintings reached their final stages, I realized that my eye was still being led outdoors. My paintings had somehow ended up as landscapes."

Yücel was born in London in 1961 and started painting at an early age. At 13, she won first prize in a PTT (Turkish Post

stamp painting competition. She went on to take part in her first joint exhibition at the Monte-Charge gallery in Strasbourg in 1984. Later the same year, she opened her first individual exhibition at Istanbul's Galata Sanat

In 1985, she took part in the received worthwhile offers, she European Council Spring Exhibition and graduated in the same year from the Strasbourg Fine Arts

Academy with distinction. She has had several other solo exhibitions including one in Jordan at the Petra Gallery in Amman. Yücel has also worked as artistic director on Sūrreya Duru's film "Ada" and on Umit Elçi's "Bir Avuç Gökyűzű." She says that if she would like do more in that field.

Yücel's exhibition will continue until Oct. 30.



Artist Su Yücel has taken old Turkish houses as the theme for her Telegraph and Telephone Corp.) exhibition of paintings currently at the Artisan gallery in Istanbul.