

Burak Ata

Light the fire, drink the sea

7 April - 4 June 2023

“Memory...can be an unreliable thing; often it is heavily coloured by the circumstances in which one remember.”[1]

Burak Ata's solo exhibition titled *light the fire, drink the sea* is taking place at **March Art Project Pera** between **7 April - 26 June 2023**.

Burak Ata uses the daily life scenes as a subject in his paintings to make it visible and keep track of the passage of time. Bringing together the works produced by the artist in the past three years, the exhibition proceeds in a setup that knits personal and social history together. Witnessing the buildings that are out of date through different places and people, the artist paints subjects that he watches as they disappear in a consistent manner. The places he visits again and again change and transform over time. The devastations are replaced by monuments that have been rebuilt together.

Light the fire, drink the sea is a reference to the first sentence translated from the language of the Hittites, one of the oldest known civilizations to keep archives. It also depicts a scene from a personal story that is also at the center of the exhibition. The historical multi-layeredness in the exhibition is conveyed in a parallel axis with the overlapping moments in the personal life of the artist: The pier witnessed its destruction over time, the church rebuilt by the locals, a figure drinking beer alone at nightfall, a gallery window illuminated by street lamps, or a fire lit on the beach. While keeping track of those who have changed, transformed or disappeared with the factors they have been exposed to, the exhibition also underlines how sensitive and fragile they are.

“Parts that were once connected are now separated.”

About Burak Ata

Güncel biyografi paylaşacağız.

<https://burak-ata.com/>

[1] Kazuo Ishiguro, *A Pale View of Hills* (Londra: Faber&Faber, 1982).