

# GALERIST

## YUSUF SEVINÇLİ

### 'OCULUS'

DECEMBER 15, 2017 – JANUARY 27, 2018

**OPENING AND BOOK LAUNCH: DECEMBER 14, THURSDAY 18:00–20:00**

Galerist is proud to present *Oculus*, the first solo show of Turkish artist Yusuf Sevinçli at the gallery between December 15, 2017 – January 27, 2018. The exhibition comprises analogue, black&white photographs taken mostly in France and Turkey. Taking its title from an old Roman architectural term for a small circular or oval window or the round openings found at the center of domes. Often an oculus allows a concentrated beam of light into an otherwise dark interior and so is threshold between a world of light and one of shadow.

In Sevinçli's images we are in a shadow-world in which light, meaning and beauty pass fleetingly, out of reach and into memory. There is a beautiful, poetic intelligence in Sevinçli's photographs. They are, we are told images of actual things and places. The artist's sensibility, however, articulated through the elegant contingencies of the analogue photographic process; the framing of the shot, the manipulation of the negative, the quality of the printing, renders reality dreamlike.

The images are a dream-state, rich with ambiguity and metaphor; A flower, silhouetted, becomes epic and architectural. A white circle painted on a dark ground, the casual record of an act of art making takes on occult significance. A woman pulls skin tight like cloth, another's eyes sparkle with light. Stream rises, spectral like from the street. A man in movement, arms outstretched, his head hidden from us, is perhaps dancing or falling. Stairs ascend into luminosity and fiction.

Political in their sensibility of oppressive ambiguity, poetic in their search for moments of transcendence, Sevinçli's photographs are exquisite signs, only partially intelligible, full of melancholy and hope.

### ARTIST BOOK

Galerist Publications is happy to announce that Sevinçli's latest artist book which carries the same name as the exhibition will be presented to the viewer for the first time during the opening.

### YUSUF SEVINÇLİ

Yusuf Sevinçli earned a bachelor's degree in communications at Marmara University (Istanbul) in 2003, and attended a Masterclass dedicated to documentary photography in Sweden in 2005. From that moment on, he started building his own work through different series which include Good Dog (2012), Marseille (2014), Walking (2015) and exhibited in several solo and group shows in Le Botanique (Brussels, Belgium), Galerie Les Filles du Calvaire (Paris, France), Arter (Istanbul, Turkey), Angkor Festival (Angkor, Cambodia), Istanbul Modern (Istanbul, Turkey), Gallery Boavista (Lisbon, Portugal), Atelier de Visu (Marseille, France), Elipsis Gallery (Istanbul, Turkey), Rencontres d'Arles (Arles, France). One of his latest series 'Dérive' has been presented in several places in France, such as La Filature in Mulhouse, Le Château d'Eau in Toulouse, L'Atelier, Nantes as well as in Moscow during the city's Biennial of Photography in 2016. He lives and works in Istanbul.

Published books; Good Dog (Filigranes Editions, 2012), Marseille (le bec en l'air, 2014), Walking (Filigranes Editions, 2015), PUT (Fail Books, 2017) Oculus (Galerist Publications, 2018).