

İpek Duben (b. 1941, Istanbul)

Education

- 1984** Ph.D., Art History, Mimar Sinan University, Istanbul, Türkiye
1972-76 New York Studio School, Painting, Sculpture, and Drawing, New York, USA
1971 Doctoral Studies, Political Science and Social Psychology, University of Chicago, USA
1965 M.A., Political Science University of Chicago, USA
1963 B.A., Philosophy, Agnes Scott College, Decatur, Georgia, USA (Phi Beta Kappa)

Selected Solo Exhibitions

- 2025** '70-', Galerist, Istanbul, Türkiye
2021 'İpek Duben Retrospective: The Skin, Body and I', SALT Beyoğlu, Istanbul, Türkiye
2020 'Angels and Clowns', Pi Artworks, Istanbul, Türkiye
2018 'In via incognita', Pi Artworks, London, UK
2017 'They/Onlar', Fabrica, Brighton Festival, England, UK
'LoveGame', Merdiven, Istanbul, Türkiye
2015 'They/Onlar', SALT Galata, Istanbul, Türkiye
2013 'What is a Turk?', The Agency London, UK
2012 '2012', Zilberman Gallery, Istanbul, Türkiye
2011 'Extracted Objects', CDA Projects, Zilberman Gallery, Istanbul, Türkiye
2009 'İpek Duben: A Selection 1994–2009', Akbank Sanat, Istanbul, Türkiye
2007 'Crossing', ART 101 Gallery, New York, USA
2001 'LoveYouForever, LoveBook - LoveGame', Stephen Gang Gallery, New York, USA
1994 'Manuscript 1994', Taksim Municipality Art Gallery, Istanbul, Turkey
'Manuscript 1994', Galeri Nev, Ankara, Türkiye
1991 'Traces/İzler', Maçka Art Gallery, Istanbul, Türkiye
1989 'İpek Aksüğür Duben', Galeri Nev, Ankara, Türkiye
1988 'İpek Aksüğür Duben: Painting and Drawing Exhibition', Maçka Art Gallery, Istanbul, Türkiye
1985 'İpek Aksüğür Duben: Portraits', Burgh House, London, UK
1982 'Sherife', State Fine Arts Gallery, Istanbul, Türkiye

Selected Group Exhibitions and Biennials

- 2026** 'The World's Slippery Ambiguity', KASA Gallery, Istanbul, Türkiye
'CONSTELLATIONS (or we don't know what we are going to do...)', Gallery G-art, Istanbul, Türkiye
2025 'Three-Legged Cat', 18th Istanbul Biennial, Galata Greek School, Istanbul, Türkiye
2024 'Kadının Adı Var', G-art Gallery, Istanbul, TR
2022–23 'Artists Making Books: Poetry to Politics', The British Museum, London, UK
'Multi Perspective: In a Multiple Perspective', Yarat Art Center, Baku, Azerbaijan
'Guilty, Guilty, Guilty!: Towards a Feminist Criminology', Kunstraum Kreuzberg, Berlin, Germany
2022 'Nature and State', Staatliche Kunsthalle Baden-Baden, Germany
2021 'Reflections: Contemporary Art of the Middle East and North Africa', The British Museum, London, UK
2019 'Paper', Pilevneli Gallery, Istanbul, Türkiye

GALERIST

- 2018** 'First Round', Galata Greek School, Istanbul, Türkiye
'Social Works', Frieze London, UK
'Beyond Words', 4th International Mardin Biennial, Mardin, Türkiye
- 2017** 'Home', Evliyagil Museum, 15th Istanbul Biennial Neighbour Event, Istanbul, Türkiye
- 2016** METU ART 17, Ankara, Türkiye
- 2015** METU ART 16, Ankara, Türkiye
'Our wounds, our ballads', artON, Istanbul, Türkiye
- 2014** 'Poetry and Exile, Contemporary Art from the Middle East', The British Museum, London, UK
3rd EIAB – European International Artist Book Biennale, Moscow, Russia
'Stay With Me', Tütün Deposu, Istanbul, Türkiye; Apartment Project, Berlin, Germany
METU ART 15, Ankara, Türkiye
'Disquiet', Zilberman Gallery and Pi Artworks, Istanbul, Türkiye
- 2013** 'Mom, Am I a Barbarian?', 13th Istanbul Biennial, Istanbul, Türkiye
5th International Artists' Book Exhibition, King St. Stephen Museum, Hungary
Akbank Sanat Print Lab Collection: Black, White and Multi-Colored, Akbank Sanat, Istanbul, Türkiye
'Unutmamak Exhibition', Mustafa Kemal Cultural Center, Istanbul, Türkiye
- 2012** 'Aftermath', Akbank Sanat, Istanbul, Türkiye
'Familiar', SPAS Gallery, Rochester Institute of Technology, New York, USA
Mail-art-book, 8th International Moscow Artists' Book Fair, Russia
- 2011** 'Les Antidotes A L'Orientalisme', La Galerie / Lycée Notre Dame de Sion, Istanbul, Türkiye
'Dream and Reality', Istanbul Modern, Istanbul, Türkiye
'The (UN)Framed Photograph', Center for Book Arts, New York, USA
'Selection from Turkish Contemporary Art', Azerbaijan State Academy of Fine Arts, Baku, Azerbaijan
'Where Fire Has Struck', 20th Anniversary Exhibition of Human Rights Foundation of Turkey, Tütün Deposu, Istanbul, Türkiye
Ege University Fourth International EgeArt Days, Izmir, Türkiye
'Femme Affranchies', Exposition de Marie Ozan, French Cultural Center, Istanbul, Türkiye
- 2010** 'A Dream... But Not Yours', National Museum of Women in the Arts, Washington, D.C., USA
4th International Artist Book Biennale, Bibliotheca Alexandrina, Egypt
- 2009** 'Istanbul Next Wave: Under my feet I want the world, not heaven', Akademie der K nst, Berlin, Germany
'Threads: Interweaving Textu[r]al Meanings', Center for Book Arts, New York, USA
'New Works New Horizons', Istanbul Modern, Istanbul, Türkiye
- 2008** 'Proje/Project 1, İsimŞehirMemoryCity', Kartal B lent Ecevit Cultural Center;  mraniye Cultural Center, Istanbul, Türkiye
The 1st International Roamig Biennial of Tehran, Hafriyat, Istanbul, Türkiye
- 2007** 'Modern and Beyond: 1950–2000', Santralistanbul, Istanbul, Türkiye
- 2006** 'Substance and Light: Ten Sculptors Use Cameras', Munson-Williams-Proctor Art Institute, Utica, NY, USA
4th International Artist Book Exhibition, King St. Stephen Museum, Hungary
'Everything is Going to be Alright', Apartment Project, Istanbul, Türkiye
'Ağır İşler', Pyramid Art Gallery, Istanbul, Türkiye

GALERIST

- 2005** 'Origins and Nations', Galerie Nord, Berlin, Germany
'Bir Bilanço', Karşı Sanat Gallery, Istanbul, Türkiye
Gallery Opening Exhibition, Istanbul Modern Art Gallery, Türkiye
- 2004** 1st International Handmade Artist Book Biennale, Bibliotheca Alexandrina, Egypt
'Call Me Istanbul', ZKM, Karlsruhe, Berlin, Germany
The Art Incubator Inaugural Art Exhibition, Ethan Cohen Fine Arts, New York, USA
'Time Lines Reading the City of Signs: Istanbul: revealed or mystified?', Akbank Sanat, Istanbul, Türkiye; London College of Communication, UAL, London, UK
- 2003** 'Time Lines Reading the City of Signs: Istanbul: revealed or mystified?', The Architecture Centre, Bristol, UK; Nottingham University, Nottingham, UK; Istanbul Bilgi University, Istanbul, Türkiye
- 2001** METU Art Festival 3: Exhibition of Plastic Arts, METU Culture and Convention Center, Ankara, Türkiye
The Fifth Sharjah International Arts Biennial, United Arab Emirates
'Re:Duchamp', Travelling Exhibition, Istanbul, Türkiye
'Heightened Awareness', The Catherine G. Murphy Galleries, St. Paul, Minnesota, USA
'Justice and Politics', Modena, Italy
Fifth Annual Loft Pioneer Show, The Puffin Room, New York, USA
- 2000** 'Roundtrip Istanbul III', Borusan Art Gallery, Istanbul, Türkiye
'Veritas Omnia Vincit', TÜYAP, Istanbul, Türkiye
'Shop for Cleaning Materials', Apartment Project, Istanbul, Türkiye
- 1999** 'Private Mythologies', Westbeth Gallery, New York, USA
- 1998** 'Karamustafa Import-Export', Museum für Völkerkunde, Vienna, Austria
- 1997** 'Karamustafa Import-Export', Echoraum, Vienna, Austria
'Meeting 1', Galatea Art Gallery, Istanbul, Türkiye
- 1996** 'People, Places and Things: An Exploration of the Portrait', Annual Alumni Exhibition, The New York Studio School For Painting, Drawing and Sculpture, USA
'Content and Context', The Catherine G. Murphy Gallery, St. Paul, Minnesota, USA
'Figuring in the Figure', Montclair State University Art Galleries, New Jersey, USA
'Maps-Charts-Routes', Irvine Fine Arts Center, California, USA
'Printed Matter', New York, USA
- 1995** 'OpPositions', Museum voor Volkenkunde, Rotterdam, The Netherlands
'Ephesus: Imagination of History', Ephesus, Türkiye
- 1994** 'Hunter College Invitational', Hunter College Galleries, New York, USA
'Every Shop Window in Nişantaşı a Gallery', Istanbul, Türkiye
- 1993** 'Contemporary Woman Artists', Istanbul Museum of Archaeology, Türkiye
- 1992** 'Contemporary Interpretation of Traditional Culture: 66 Squares', TÜYAP, Istanbul, Türkiye
'New York-Istanbul', Atatürk Cultural Center, Istanbul, Türkiye
'Drawers', Galerie Maison de la Céramique, Mulhouse, France
- 1991** 'Memory/Recollection 1', Istanbul Taksim Municipality Art Gallery, Türkiye
- 1990** 'December', Soyak Art Gallery, Istanbul, Türkiye
- 1980** '1.Günümüz İstanbul Sanatçıları Açık Hava Sergisi', Devlet Resim Heykel Müzesi, Istanbul, Türkiye
- 1982** 'The Figure and the Portrait in Turkish Painting', Galeri Baraz, Istanbul, Türkiye

1979 'İpek Duben and Kemal İskender', Yapı Endüstri Merkezi Art Gallery, Istanbul, Türkiye

Video Festivals and Screenings

2010 Videfesta '10—International Media Arts Festival, Goethe-Institut, Ankara, Türkiye

2007 'Homeland Borders and Boundaries', Video Festival, Mexicali, Mexico

Baja California's Culture Institute, Arts Latina Video Festival, USA

Center for Photography, Woodstock, NY, USA

'Team Players for Plausible Art Worlds', Event Series, ICA, Philadelphia, USA

2006 International Short Film Festival, Oberhausen, Germany

'(In) Place of Fear', IMAF 8th International Multimedia Art Festival, Serbia and Montenegro

River's Edge Film Festival, Kentucky, USA

'Too Much Freedom', L.A. Freewaves, 10th New Media Art Festival, Hammer Museum, Los Angeles, USA

'Coding: Decoding: Exhibition', The Museum of Contemporary Art, Copenhagen, Denmark

Contemporary Art from Turkey and Korea, Incheon Center for Contemporary Art, South Korea

'Thing', 1st International Sinop Biennale, Türkiye

Oriental Underground Liteside Festival, Amsterdam, The Netherlands

2005 Visibility Project 2005, Galata Perform, Hamson Apartment, Istanbul, Türkiye

Awards

2025 Art History Association Awards, Lifetime Honor Award in Visual Arts History

2024 AIAP/IAA Wallace Hartley Honorary Arts Award

2023 Agnes Scott College, Lifetime Achievement Award

Söz Kadında, Baksı Museum's Anatolian Award in Visual Arts

1980 Award for painting, The First Contemporary Open Air Exhibition

1963 Graduate Study Award, Agnes Scott College, Phi Beta Kappa

1961 Honors graduate, Arnavutköy American College for Girls (Robert College), Istanbul

Collections

Istanbul Modern, Arter Museum, Istanbul; The British Museum, London; Museum Volkenkunde (National Museum of Ethnology), Wien Museum, Vienna; King St. Stephen Museum, Deak Collection, Hungary; Bibliotheca Alexandrina, Egypt; Zorlu Foundation, Istanbul; Center for Book Arts, Moscow Artist's Book Archive, as well as private collections across Turkey, USA, UK, Japan, and France.

Monograph

2004 'The Skin, Body and I', Mousse Publishing, Edited by Vasif Kortun; including essays by Işın Önol, Kaelen Wilson-Goldie, and Marianne Hirsch; Interview with İpek Duben by Vasif Kortun.

Publications

- 2016** SALT e-publication *İpek Duben Yazı ve Söyleşileri 1978-2010* [İpek Duben Essays and Interviews], <http://saltonline.org/tr/1432>
- 2008** *Seksenlerde Türkiye'de Çağdaş Sanat: Yeni Açılımlar* [Contemporary Turkish Art in the Eighties: New Perspectives], ed. I. Duben and E. Yıldız, Istanbul Bilgi University Press
- 2007** *Türk Resmi ve Eleştirisi: 1880-1950* [Turkish Painting and Its Criticism], Istanbul Bilgi University Press
- 1991** "Introduction", *Çağdaş Düşünce ve Sanat* [Contemporary Thought and the Arts], ed. İ. Duben and D. Şengel, İstanbul AIAP/PSD (2. ed 1993)
- 1990** *Pera Ressamları 1873-1808*, (Painters of Pera 1873-1808), Exhibition catalog, Beymen Sanat Galerisi, Istanbul
- 1989** Adnan Çoker, exhibition catalogue, İpek Aksüğür Duben, Derimod Cultural Center, Istanbul

Teaching (Lecturer)

Istanbul Technical University; Istanbul Sabancı University; Istanbul Boğaziçi University; Yıldız Technical University; Istanbul Bilgi University; Izmir Economy University; New York University.

Curatorial Work

- 2001** 'Re:Duchamp', Travelling Exhibition, Istanbul, Türkiye
- 1990** 'Istanbul Pera Painters 1873–1808', Beymen Art Gallery, Istanbul, Türkiye