



PRESS RELEASE

**EXHIBITION: PAINTINGS BY MUSTAFA SALİM AKTUĞ - IN THE TRISTE
FLOW OF TIME**

Atlas Art Gallery

Cinnah Cad. 19/1 Çankaya Ankara

T: +90 312 468 59 04 E: atlassanat@gmail.com www.atlassanat.com

17 October 2018 - 21 December 2018

Visual interpretation of complex situations arising from the never-ending changes, renewals ongoing in the postmodern world, where rigid modernity transforms into fluid. Mustafa Salim Aktuğ presents us that. In this exhibition, somewhat anthological, we, as his audience, will face his works that purport the history of evolution and variety as well as the narrative tongue of his works he elaborated as far back as the 90s. In this society wherein we dwell as individuals, the artist puts on his canvas through abstract expression the astounding pace of time as well as the unfathomable speed things come and go. These fictive expressions so to speak, which emerge as a result of artistic/pictorial proposals for certain solutions where thousands and thousand of strokes are overlapped are much like a colorful feast

of things and situations we face in our lives. Sustained and seamless repetitions are mere traces of a quest for a meaning; that of the rhythmical, decorous as well as improper flow of life. As the artist makes his choice of the impression he wishes to leave on his audiences through colors, he also strives to engrave on canvas the sadness, agony and all the cheerfulness through his myriad strokes. Such depth and rhythmic search made manifest through the use of a single color or sometimes with a multitude of colors evolve into series of works reflecting the power of colors.

As the artist depicts certain specific subject-matters in certain series, that is when he comes up with his proposals for solutions. In his series 'The Voice of Time' and 'The Voice of Earth' predominantly black and brown, he reanimates before our eyes the coal-mine disasters and the brutality of an earthquake. Then, he commences his series 'Music, Colors and Depths' with much blue, red and green. These serial works involve almost sacred allusions to the livability of life. Other than his impression of the Far East during his travels, Far Eastern art and philosophy have also had a great influence on the creation of this series. Then, in his series 'Other Side' he has his pictures shrouded in tones of yellow, where frugality and productivity are almost symbol-like. Other series that entail, 'Journeys Into the Heart of Color' and 'Meditation' he delves into such pursuits clad in blue, purple, orange colors and textures which are expressions of our inner power to live. Then, in his late creations, we witness the emergence of lyric as well as sad narratives against the dwindling number of colors. Wars and massacres brewing around our borders, the tragedies that surround our nation, the fast-changing agendas and the yarn of financial problems provide the gist of his recent works and for sure his paintings rooted in such phenomena as the greater humanity, the energy of life, ups and downs, yearnings, migration, gravity, whereabouts of the homeland, emptiness, chaos, connections, free-alterations, the wind, rain and sun and natural phenomena, fast-track comms and rhythm.

Visit the artist's prominent works since 2005 at Atlas Art Gallery until 21 December 2018.