

Edouard Malingue Gallery
馬凌畫廊

Opening Hours
Monday to Saturday
10AM-7PM

Exhibition
'ISTHK | HKIST'
First Floor, 8 Queen's Road
Central, Hong Kong

Dates
April 5 – May 18, 2013

Opening
April 5, 6.30-8.30PM

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Edouard Malingue Gallery is pleased to present 'ISTHK|HKIST', the first exhibition in Hong Kong of celebrated Turkish contemporary artist, Nuri Kuzucan (b. 1971, Turkey). A highly anticipated exhibition, the solo show marks the first time Turkish contemporary art is provided a particular focus in Hong Kong, and brings together two of the world's most thriving artistic scenes: Istanbul and Hong Kong. The exhibition thus reflects Edouard Malingue Gallery's dedication to exhibiting selected distinguished talent from around the world.

'ISTHK|HKIST' will feature a series of twelve works that individually, as well as aggregately, explore the complex geometries of dense urban landscapes. Although devoid of human presence, Nuri Kuzucan shows in his paintings how metropolises, from Istanbul to Hong Kong, have become signifiers and quantifiers of modern living. Nuri Kuzucan thus explores society's increased focus on space and provides reflection, as well as seeming criticism, on our manifested urbanity and celebrated contemporaneity.

Nuri Kuzucan depicts, from multiple perspectives, our complex surroundings: whether from an aerial or panoramic viewpoint, each of his paintings manifest layers and folds of interior and exterior spaces. Depicted from a distance, each painting portrays the intricate overlap and fragmented dimensionalities of our cosmopolitan edifices. Such distance, however, is not to be confused with detachment: on the contrary, Nuri Kuzucan's omniscience permits him to delve deeply into the composition of our modern quotidian and flesh out the intimacy amidst the anonymity of the concrete jungle.

Nuri Kuzucan's works exhibited in 'ISTHK|HKIST' simultaneously carry with them an emotional charge: executed in dark, light or colourful tonalities, Nuri Kuzucan sets with each stroke a dramatic or conversely tranquil aura over each contemporary landscape. Moreover, Nuri Kuzucan's technique of using acrylic on canvas and mixed media adds a textural sense of fragility and concurrent permanence to each painting. Thus, although Nuri Kuzucan chooses not to blatantly depict the human form, each of his paintings carries a whisper of humanity and illustrates how "to live is to leave traces". (Walter Benjamin, *Reflections: Essays, Aphorisms, Autobiographical Writing*. Trans. Edmund Jephcott. New York: Schocken Books, 1986. Print. p 155).

Nuri Kuzucan (b. 1971) gained a Major in Painting as well as a Science Masters from the Mimar Sinan University of Fine Arts in Istanbul. Nuri Kuzucan's paintings have been the focus of multiple solo exhibitions in Turkey and group exhibitions around the world, from Basel to Berlin and Dubai. Nuri Kuzucan's work has additionally been exhibited in public collections such as the Pera Museum in Istanbul and has been recently added to the permanent collection of the Museum of Modern Art Istanbul. In the event of his first solo show in Hong Kong, an extensive publication has been created with images of his work as well texts by leading international commentators in the field of Contemporary Art. Key contributors include: Levent Calikoglu (Chief Curator, Museum of Modern Art Istanbul), Ariane Koek (CERN Residency Programme), HG Masters (Editor-at-large, artasiapacific) and Bige Orer (Director, Istanbul Biennale).

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Since its inception in 2010, Edouard Malingue Gallery has used its OMA-designed premises in Central, Hong Kong, to bring solo exhibitions of internationally renowned artists such as Pablo Picasso, Zhang Huan, Laurent Grasso and Callum Innes to Asia's rising cultural hub. Also at the heart of Edouard Malingue Gallery's artistic program lies an aim to combine these high profile shows with solo exhibitions by selected fresh global talents, such as Fabien Merelle and Yuan Yuan. Edouard Malingue Gallery thus seeks to provide an international platform for artists from around the world in Hong Kong as well as abroad.

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