

## Derya Ozparlak



Ozparlak graduated with an Honours BFA in Sculpture from the Faculty of Fine Arts at Anadolu University in Turkey. She has participated in numerous group and solo exhibitions, art fairs, and symposiums in Toronto, Turkey, Chicago, Almeria of Spain, Beirut, Berlin, NYC and Palermo of Italy. Derya has also received various awards from the artistic community in Turkey and Spain. She has brought artworks into life as a full-time artist since 2006.

She believes after she turns a piece of cold metal to one of her sculptures, the material obtains an extramundane value, meaning that the cold metal now is expressing some sort of a metaphor; therefore, it is warmer in nature. It can connect to the human soul. The figures in Derya's artworks depict an urge for communication; however, their body parts are tied to the balloons which are symbols of shackles.

Metaphorically, conflicts of life have chained these figures to these balloons, and it is as if there is no way out. By painting the balloons in different colours, the artist claims to inspire varying moods in the eye of the beholder. Viewing the balloons in the first-place projects a feeling of happiness due to their colourful and light nature.

Another significance of the balloons is that despite the heavy nature of metal, they are still able to carry away the figures elsewhere. Considering some other types of Derya's sculptures, the balloons indicate a perspective of emancipated figures. They seem to be set free of the useless conflict of everyday life.

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### Solo Exhibitions

- 2013 Lightness Gallery Selvin Istanbul -Turkey
- 2007 Untitled Anadolu University Gallery G Eskisehir -Turkey

### Selected Exhibitions

2023 SURFACES: Real & Imagined, Oeno Gallery, Prince Edward County, ON  
 2023 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration: Summer Group Show, Oeno Gallery, Prince Edward County, ON  
 2023 Conversations, Oeno Gallery, Prince Edward County, ON  
 2022 Nothing is What it Seems, Oeno Gallery Annex, Prince Edward County, ON  
 2021 Negotiating Diaspora: From The Personal To The Universal, Oeno Gallery, PEC, ON  
 2020 Terrestrial Break Free, M2M Colombo/Sri Lanka  
 2019 Outdoor Sculpture Exhibition 2019, Oeno Gallery, Prince Edward County, ON  
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 2018 The Yogen Früz Pinkberry Brain Project, The Yogen Früz Pinkberry Brain Project  
 2017 WJCC Diverse City Canada150, Toronto/ Canada  
 2017 The Artist Project/ Contemporary Art Fair Toronto /Canada  
 2016 Engage The Past To Create The Future In Situ, Mississauga Toronto/ Canada  
 2016 Art Base Project A Remix Of The Local Istanbul- Turkey  
 2016 Middle Eastern Art, Les Plumes Galerie, Beirut, Lebanon  
 2015 Contemporary İstanbul Art Fair, İstanbul /Turkey  
 2015 Gallery İlayda Summer Collective İstanbul /Turkey  
 2015 Proje 4L Elgiz Müzesi Plaza Worker İstanbul /Turkey  
 2015 42 Maslak Maker Culture İstanbul /Turkey  
 2014 Şişli Young Sculptor Maçka Garden İstanbul /Turkey  
 2014 Zorlu PSM Perspective Installation Exhibition İstanbul /Turkey  
 2014 Proje 4L Elgiz MuseumTerrace Exhibitions < 40 İstanbul /Turkey  
 2014 İstanbul Breeze Benerialto NYC/U.S.A  
 2014 Armaggan ArtStates of Material İstanbul /Turkey  
 2013 Ege Art Fair İzmir /Turkey  
 2013 Hilton Asmus Contemporary Gallery İstanbul Breeze Chicago U.S.A  
 2013 Sofa Art and Design Fair Chicago/U.S.A  
 2013 Korean – Turkey Art Exhibition CRR İstanbul /Turkey  
 2013 Armaggan Art 7-24 Vol 2 İstanbul /Turkey  
 2013 Proje 4L Elgiz MuseumTerrace Exhibitions İstanbul /Turkey  
 2012 Arte İstanbul Beyoğlu-Beyoğlu İstanbul /Turkey  
 2012 71th National Museum of Painting and Sculpture Ankara/Turkey  
 2012 Proje 4L Elgiz Museum Terrace Exhibitions İstanbul/Turkey  
 2012 Rotary Art Exhibition İstanbul/Turkey  
 2012 Rh+Art magazine The Young Sculptor of the Year İstanbul/Turkey  
 2011 Frühlingserwachen festival sculpture exhibition Berlin/ Germany  
 2009 69th National Museum of Painting and Sculpture, Ankara/Turkey  
 2007 Başkent Rotary Become Leader sculpture contest exhibition, Ankara/ Turkey  
 2006 EMA, International Stone Sculpture Symposium Exhibition Almeria /Spain  
 2006 Erdemir Steel, Steel and Life sculpture competition exhibition, Ankara/Turkey

### **Outdoor and Selected Collections**

2016 My Life KVK Collection İstanbul/Turkey  
 2016 Voyage Mercure Art Hotels Collection İstanbul/Turkey

- 2015 Puzzle Imago Mundi -Luciano Benetton Collection – Italy
- 2015 Space Polimeks Museum Collection, Istanbul/Turkey
- 2014 Lightness White Room Gallery Capri/Italy
- 2014 Unknown Polimeks Museum Collection Istanbul/Turkey
- 2014 Seyrusefer Hanzade Doğan's Collection Istanbul/Turkey
- 2014 Zorlu Center P.S.M Perspective Installation Istanbul/ Turkey
- 2014 Lightness Odeabank Levent 199 Collection Istanbul/ Turkey
- 2013 Balloon Girl Michael Kuhn Collection Berlin/ Germany
- 2013 Time of Lightness Proje4L Elgiz Museum of Contemporary Art / Turkey
- 2012 Violinist Askaynak Collection İstanbul/ Turkey
- 2011 Alone Michael Kuhn Collection Berlin/Germany
- 2011 Blacksmith Eke Metal Denizli/Turkey
- 2010 Tango and Musicians Installation G.antep/Turkey
- 2010 47. International Antalya Golden Orange Film Festival Installation Antalya/Turkey

### **Selected Prizes**

- 2010 Mention award, Ankara Bar Association, Turkey
- 2010 Mention award, 29th Turgut Pura Sculpture competition, -Turkey
- 2009 1st Place Ankara Bar Association
- 2009 Law as a Profession and Courthouses contest, Turkey
- 2009 2nd place, Erciyes University, 15th Bust Sculpture competition –Turkey
- 2008 Mention award, 27th Turgut Pura Sculpture competition, -Turkey
- 2008 Mention award, Kahramanmaraş Sütçü Imam University,
- 2009 Painting and Sculpture competition, -Turkey
- 2007 Mention award, 26th Turgut Pura Sculpture competition, -Turkey
- 2006 Mention award, EMA, International Stone Sculpture contest Almeria, - Spain
- 2006 2nd and the best team prize, Mersin National Sand Sculpture Competition -Turkey

### **Symposiums**

- 2012 Nesin Mathematics Village Sculpture Symposium, İzmir I –Turkey
- 2011 Kömürcüoğlu I. International Marble Symposium, Denizli –Turkey
- 2007 Side International Sand Sculpture Symposium, Antalya –Turkey
- 2006 Mersin /Huzurkent International Sand Sculpture Symposium Turkey
- 2006 EMA International Marble Symposium, Almeria -Spain

### **Education**

- 2022 BFA, Integrated Media: Life Studies, OCAD U Toronto, ON, Canada (ongoing)
- 2008 BFA, Sculpture, Anadolu University Fine Art Faculty Sculpture Department- Honours Degree Eskisehir, Turkey