Apricots from Damascus Issue 046

What is a language?

Cüven İnkirioğlu
What would it be like to live in the distant past? And this, in a specific place under a certain sky? What constitutes our image of the past? Is it language? Objects? Or should one look at the architecture, the building, street corner or a detail? There is no real image of the past “as it is”, but then can’t we glimpse a moment in the past? How do objects transfer an image of a moment?
How about other ‘beings’, the trees, the edge of the sea, the hills when we watch them a hundred years later? Is there an archaeology of nature as shaped by human psyche, rather than by natural selection and geological process? Do we assume a link between the collective unconscious and destruction of the physical world? Do we annihilate in order to forget?
Through which physical trace does the repressed return? Language again? Or is it the food that we eat? How is the personal memory shaped? How does one reconstruct one’s own past? Which are the turning points in a personal timeline? A war? An earthquake? The massacres?
How do we reconcile 10 years? 30? 50? How is it that one feels content? By not looking back at all? How does one leave behind one's past? How do you pack up and go?
apexart - istanbul

Izmir, November 2015

t.k.a. the pope, Izmir

apexart is an art organization based in Istanbul, Turkey. It was founded in 2001 by Selim Caner and Sibel Aydin. Apexart produces exhibitions and publications that explore the role of art in society and the relationship between art and politics. The organization is committed to promoting and supporting emerging artists and curators from around the world.

The exhibition in Izmir is part of a larger project called "Arts from Damascus," which aims to bring together artists from Damascus and other cities in Syria to create a dialogue about the cultural heritage of the region.

For more information, visit apexart.org/exhibitions/ak-in-istanbul.php

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