

# Nalan Yirtmaç questions gentrification via art

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The recent demolition of the largely Roma neighborhood of Sulukule has provided the impetus for Nalan Yirtmaç to devote her artistic attention to urban transformation and the gradual disappearance of neighborhood culture in

her solo exhibition at X-Ist.

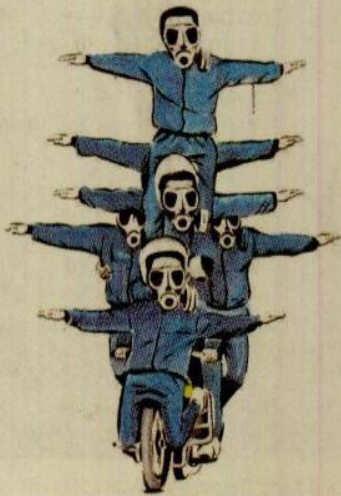
An artist with a strong sense of social responsibility, Yirtmaç responds to societal concerns and daily experiences through her group and solo shows. Stenciling over different kinds of materials, canvases and gallery walls, Yirtmaç creates her works from her own photos. She sometimes pro-

vides greater freedom of expression by using other techniques, including watercolor, lithography, paint and serigraphy.

Yirtmaç focuses on the manipulation of social space in the urban environment and the relationship between objects, places, individuals and the city. Her use of mundane materials straight out of

daily life such as linoleum, table cloths and shower curtains are compatible with the aesthetics of the subject of the exhibition.

It could be said that in this collection of her most recent works, it is possible to observe the behavioral patterns of the monster of modernism, the city. The artist brings the cacophony of messages, produced by the huddled sights of traveling people and buildings, to upmarket Nişantaşı. She, through the people and places acting as the subject of this exhibition, and with her subversive and voluntary view, takes people of all ages in this 13-million people on an inter-class ring tour for the duration of the exhibit. The artist deploys neighborhood intimacy like a cultural barricade against gentrification.



**EXHIBITION:** Yirtmaç focuses on the manipulation of social space in the urban environment and the relationship between objects.

