

ISSUE: 76

# E-BÜLTEN

OCTOBER 2026

ISTANBUL GELISIM UNIVERSITY
Faculty of Fine Arts

# CONTENTS


HIGHLIGHTS 3-7

ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENTS 9-12

SUCCESSES 14-19

NEWS FROM FFA 21-38

SCIENTIFIC STUDIES 40-49

51-58 ARTISTIC ACTIVITIES

60-63 INTERVIEWS

65-67 CULTURAL JOURNEY

69-70 GASTRONOMY JOURNEY

ISTANBUL GELISIM UNIVERSITY

Faculty of Fine Arts

*Happy*

**29 OCTOBER**

# REPUBLIC DAY!



İSTANBUL GELİŞİM UNIVERSITY

Faculty of Fine Arts

**With the Participation of Minister of Trade Prof. Dr. Ömer Bolat**

# IGU 2026-2027 Academic Year Opening Ceremony

*Was Carried out!*





İSTANBUL GELİŞİM UNIVERSITY

Faculty of Fine Arts

# "DOSTLAR SAĞOLSUN"

## İGÜ Student Reaches the **Golden Orange** with a Short Film!

"**Dostlar Sağolsun**", a short film created by **Orhan Kerem Kartal**—a student in the Department of Radio, Television, and Cinema at the Istanbul Gelişim University (IGU) Faculty of Fine Arts—as part of his graduation project, won the Best Film award in the Student Films from Film Schools competition at the 63rd International Antalya Golden Orange Film Festival.



As the Faculty of Fine Arts at Istanbul Gelişim University, we congratulate our student, Orhan Kerem Kartal, on this significant achievement.



IGU FACULTY OF FINE ARTS

# CINEFEST AWARD OF BEST SHORT FILM!

The short film "Aç Açına," produced by Dr. Eda Türkay—a faculty member in the Department of Radio, Television, and Cinema at Istanbul Gelişim University's (IGU) Faculty of Fine Arts —won the Best Short Film Award at CineFest, held in Albania. Directed and written by Ahmet Toğaç, the film has added yet another accolade to its ongoing journey through national and international festivals.

In addition to its festival selections and awards, the film has also been made available to audiences on the international digital film platform MUBI, allowing "Aç Açına" to reach a broader viewership beyond the festival circuit.



ISTANBUL GELISIM UNIVERSITY

Faculty of Fine Arts

## From the Faculty of Fine Arts

# COP31 Success!

## 2 Project Acceptance
## 1 Session Hosting

The Faculty of Fine Arts (FFA) at Istanbul Gelişim University (IGU) has achieved a new milestone regarding COP31. Two projects from the Department of Interior Architecture and Environmental Design have been accepted, while the departments of Visual Communication Design, Interior Architecture and Environmental Design, and Radio, Television and Cinema have secured the right to host sessions within the "blue zone."

### CR-Cities Academic Network (İklim Değişikliğine Hazırlıklı Kentler Akademik Ağı)



*Asst. Prof. Gökçe Uzgören*



*Asst. Prof. İbrahim Erol*



*Res. Asst. Merve Karadaban Özen*



*Özge Naz Kamiş*

### From BIM to Climate Action: Integrating Sustainability Performance into Building Approval Processes



*Asst. Prof. İbrahim Erol*



*Asst. Prof. Gökçe Uzgören*



*Özge Naz Kamiş*

### The City We Play: An Interdisciplinary Game Design Framework for Climate-Resilient Cities



*Res. Asst. Dr. A. Bengisu Cansever Bayhan*



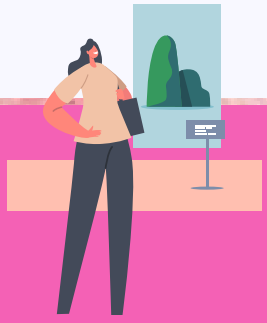
*Res. Asst. Okan Kirbaci*



*Res. Asst. Mustafa Dalli*



# ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENTS



# TWO PROJECTS FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF INTERIOR ARCHITECTURE AND ENVIRONMENTAL DESIGN ACCEPTED TO THE COP31 COHE PAVILION



Two projects prepared by the faculty members and a student of Istanbul Gelisim University (IGU), Faculty of Fine Arts (FFA), Department of Interior Architecture and Environmental Design, were entitled to take place in the COP31 CoHE (Council of Higher Education) Pavilion as a result of the evaluations carried out under the coordination of the Council of Higher Education. The projects offer solutions to sustainability and climate change issues in the context of academic cooperation and technological integration.

Istanbul Gelisim University (IGU) earned the right to participate with three important projects to be featured in the COP31 CoHE Pavilion as a result of the evaluation process carried out under the coordination of the Council of Higher Education (CoHE). Two of the accepted projects were prepared by Asst. Prof. Dr. İbrahim Erol, Asst. Prof. Dr. Gökçe Uzgören, and Res. Asst. Merve Karadaban Özen, academics of the IGU Faculty of Fine Arts (FFA) Department of Interior Architecture and Environmental Design, along with Özge Naz Kamiş, a student from the Department of Interior Architecture and Environmental Design (English).

**Climate-Ready Cities Academic Network**

The first of the accepted projects, "CR-Cities Academic Network", is designed as an international collaboration platform aiming to bring together the urban planning, architecture, and landscape architecture departments of universities in countries bordering the Mediterranean. On the basis of the project, it is aimed to develop interdisciplinary intervention strategies against regional and global problems such as climate migration, coastal erosion, and urban heat islands, to design a joint certificate program, and to create an open-access information-sharing portal.

Project Team: Asst. Prof. Dr. Gökçe Uzgören (Moderator), Asst. Prof. Dr. İbrahim Erol, Res. Asst. Merve Karadaban Özen, Özge Naz Kamiş (Student, Department of Interior Architecture and Environmental Design - English)

**Sustainability Performance in Building Approval Processes**

The second project, bearing the signatures of our academics and student, will take place in the pavilion under the title "From BIM to Climate Action: Integrating Sustainability Performance into Building Approval Processes". Proposing the integration of sustainability performance into the building approval processes, the study envisions analyzing energy, carbon, water, and material data through Building Information Modeling (BIM/IFC) and artificial intelligence-supported systems. The standard performance score to be produced in this direction is planned to directly contribute to climate-resilient city goals.

Project Team: Asst. Prof. Dr. İbrahim Erol (Moderator), Asst. Prof. Dr. Gökçe Uzgören, Özge Naz Kamiş (Student, Department of Interior Architecture and Environmental Design - English)

We congratulate our faculty members and student, who will represent our university and department at the COP31 CoHE Pavilion with their studies focusing on climate change and urban sustainability, and wish them continued success in their academic studies.

COP31
TÜRKİYE
ANTALYA

# ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENTS



## INTERNATIONAL SUCCESS FOR ISTANBUL GELİSİM UNIVERSITY ACADEMICS: INTERDISCIPLINARY SESSION ACCEPTED FOR COP31

### From the Faculty of Fine Arts

# COP31 Success!

Istanbul Gelişim University (IGU) Faculty of Fine Arts has achieved a new success in the context of COP31. A collaborative project titled **"The City We Play: An Interdisciplinary Game Design Framework for Climate-Resilient Cities"**—authored by **Research Assistant Dr. A. Bengisu Cansever Bayhan** (Department of Visual Communication Design), **Research Assistant Mustafa Dallı** (Department of Interior Architecture and Environmental Design – English Program), and **Research Assistant Okan Kırbacı** (Department of Radio, Television, and Cinema)—has been accepted for a session at the COP31 Higher Education Climate Action Pavilion.







An interdisciplinary session proposal entitled "The City We Play: An Interdisciplinary Game Design Framework for Climate-Resilient Cities," developed by four academics from Istanbul Gelisim University (IGU) and Istanbul Gedik University, has been accepted for the Higher Education for Climate Action Pavilion at the 31st United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP31). Bringing together expertise in visual communication design, architecture, interior architecture, and cinema, the session will take place on November 20, 2026, in Antalya, Türkiye.

The session proposal was prepared by Res. Asst. Dr. Ayten Bengisu Cansever Bayhan from the Department of Visual Communication Design, Res. Asst. Mustafa Dallı from the Department of Interior Architecture and Environmental Design (English), and Res. Asst. Okan Kırbacı from the Department of Radio, Television and Cinema at Istanbul Gelisim University.

**Sustainable Cities to Be Addressed Through Game Design**

The study, entitled “The City We Play: An Interdisciplinary Game Design Framework for Climate-Resilient Cities,” aims to make environmental issues visible through interactive experiences and to increase city residents’ participation in solution-finding processes.

Combining visual storytelling, communication, and spatial design approaches, the session will focus particularly on helping young people develop awareness of climate change and generate creative ideas for the future of sustainable cities.

**The session will take place in the Blue Zone of COP31**

Approved as part of COP31, which will be held in Antalya from November 9–20, 2026, the session is scheduled to take place on Friday, November 20, at 9:00 a.m. as part of the Higher Education for Climate Action Pavilion program in the conference’s Blue Zone.

This joint effort by faculty members from Istanbul Gelişim University and Istanbul Gedik University will open a discussion on an international platform about the contributions that the disciplines of design and communication can make to climate action.

As the Faculty of Fine Arts at Istanbul Gelişim University, we congratulate our faculty members on this international achievement and wish them continued success in their work.

COP31
TÜRKİYE
ANTALYA



# SUCCESSES

# “AÇ AÇINA” WINS BEST SHORT FILM AWARD AT CINEFEST IN ALBANIA!






“Aç Açına,” a short film produced by Asst. Prof. Eda Türkay, a faculty member of Istanbul Gelisim University (IGU), Faculty of Fine Arts (FFA), Department of Radio, Television and Cinema, received the Best Short Film Award at CineFest held in Albania. Directed and written by Ahmet Toğaç, the film added another award to its ongoing journey across national and international festivals. The 14-minute fiction short film, produced in 2024, stands out with a story built around family relationships, childhood dreams, and the fragility of expectations. “Aç Açına” centers on adolescent Selma, whose plan to make pizza at home with her mother and younger brother for her father’s birthday and then go to an amusement park is unexpectedly disrupted.

The festival journey of “Aç Açına” began before the film entered production. The project received significant support during its development process by winning the Folkart Film Lab Production Award in the Film Lab section of the 22nd International İzmir Short Film Festival. It was later selected for the 6th Short Film Workshop organized within the scope of Meetings on the Bridge by the Istanbul Foundation for Culture and Arts (İKSV). The project was also granted short film production support by the Republic of Türkiye Ministry of Culture and Tourism, General Directorate of Cinema. Following the completion of production, the film had its world premiere at the 38th Cinekid Festival and was subsequently screened at various national and international festivals.

“Aç Açına” had previously received the Best Editing Award at the 11th International Uşak Short Film Festival, the Jury Special Award at the 8th International Education-Themed Short Film Competition, the Best Short Film Award at the Düzce Konuralp International Film Festival, and a Special Mention at the 6th SineKültür Interuniversity Short Film Festival. The film was also honored with the Best Art Direction Award at the 25th Paso Film Festival. The Best Short Film Award received at CineFest in Albania became the latest achievement in the film’s international festival journey.

# ASSOC. PROF. EMRE DOĞAN'S "RIGHT TO IMPERFECTION" SCREENED IN ANKARA







"The Right to Imperfection," a video work conceptually developed by Assoc. Prof. Dr. Emre Doğan, Head of the Department of Radio, Television and Cinema at Istanbul Gelişim University (IGU), Faculty of Fine Arts (FFA), was presented to audiences as part of the "Shorts from a-part" film screening held in Ankara. The work was screened on September 26, 2026, at UNITE, as part of a program featuring seven short productions.

Organized by a-part, the event brought together a diverse selection of works spanning fiction, documentary, experimental film, and video art. Assoc. Prof. Dr. Doğan's nine-minute video work, "The Right to Imperfection," was among the productions featured in the program.

Drawing on Jean Baudrillard's reflections on art and illusion, "The Right to Imperfection" questions the pursuit of aesthetic perfection and explores the role of imperfection in artistic expression. The collaborative work incorporates various forms of photography, with digitally captured images left unaltered during post-production. Its visual structure, created through the printing and scanning of photographs, investigates the possibilities of an analog mode of thinking within the conditions of digital production.

In addition to "The Right to Imperfection," the Ankara screening featured the works "Açık," "Bazı Meşhur Suçlar," "Godard Etkisi," "Harika Bir Şey," "Peki Ben Neden Hâlâ Buradayım," and "Yasemin Adında Bir Salon Bitkisi." Bringing together diverse cinematic approaches, the program provided a new exhibition context for "The Right to Imperfection," a work that invites critical reflection on the relationship between photography and the moving image.

# SUCCESSES

## ASSOC. PROF. EMRE DOĞAN'S "RIGHT TO IMPERFECTION" PHOTOGRAPHY SERIES TO BE SCREENED AT THE IZMIR INTERNATIONAL SHORT FILM FESTIVAL!




"The Right to Imperfection," a photography series conceptually developed by Assoc. Prof. Dr. Emre Doğan, Head of the Department of Radio, Television and Cinema at Istanbul Gelişim University (IGU), Faculty of Fine Arts (FFA), has been selected for the non-competitive National Panorama section of the 27th İzmir International Short Film Festival. The work will be presented to audiences during the festival, scheduled to take place from November 2 to 8, 2026.

Exploring the relationship between imperfection, aesthetic perfection, and illusion in artistic creation, "The Right to Imperfection" offers a critical perspective on evaluating photography solely in terms of technical accuracy. Drawing on Jean Baudrillard's reflections on art and illusion, the project approaches imperfection not as a deficiency to be eliminated but as an integral element of artistic expression.

Developed within the conceptual framework established by Assoc. Prof. Dr. Doğan, the collaborative series brings together works from various photographic genres, including portraiture, architectural, nature, street, and abstract photography. One of the project's fundamental creative principles is the decision to refrain from digitally manipulating images captured using digital cameras and smartphones. The visuals, produced by directly printing and subsequently scanning the photographs, investigate the possibilities of an analog mode of thinking within contemporary digital production environments.

The İzmir International Short Film Festival, celebrating its 27th edition this year, will bring together diverse forms of cinematic and visual expression from November 2 to 8, 2026. The inclusion of "The Right to Imperfection" in the non-competitive National Panorama selection will provide an opportunity for festival audiences to engage with a project that explores the relationship between photography and cinema. Through this presentation, the series will extend its critical examination of artistic perfection and visual representation into a new screening context.

# SUCCESSES

## “KARANLIKTAN MAVİYE” NAMED A FINALIST AT THE IGU INTERNATIONAL MEDIA AND SHORT FILM FESTIVAL!








“Karanlıktan Maviye (From Darkness to Blue)” a graduation project produced and directed by Ahmet Tevhid Kuzu, a graduate of the Department of Radio, Television and Cinema at Istanbul Gelişim University (IGU), Faculty of Fine Arts (FFA), has been named a finalist in the Documentary category at the IGU International Media and Short Film Festival.

The 2026 documentary follows a woman and a group of environmental volunteers who strive, through their personal sacrifices, to heal the profound damage humanity has inflicted on nature. It portrays their demanding, unpredictable, and ongoing struggle to protect sea turtles and ensure their survival. Through the narrative possibilities of documentary filmmaking, the project highlights environmental responsibility, volunteerism, and the relationship between humanity and nature.

Developed as a graduation project within the Department of Radio, Television and Cinema, the production was supervised by Asst. Prof. Dr. Emre Doğan. In addition to serving as the film’s producer and director, Ahmet Tevhid Kuzu contributed to editing, sound design and mixing, post-production, poster and trailer design, translation, and subtitling.

Serkan Tosun served as the director of photography, while Esra Bozoklu was the assistant director. The camera crew consisted of Furkan Murat, Serkan Tosun, Ahmet Tevhid Kuzu, Yasin Çayan, and Esra Bozoklu. Furkan Murat was responsible for drone operations, while underwater cinematography was carried out by Furkan Murat and Ahmet Tevhid Kuzu. Yasin Çayan managed lighting and sound operations. Color grading was undertaken by Oğuzhan Koçak and Ahmet Tevhid Kuzu, while Serkan Tosun served as the post-production assistant.

# LECTURER AHMET BİKİÇ'S TWO DOCUMENTARIES SCREENED AT THE ALMAMORA FILM FESTIVAL!









Lecturer Ahmet Bikiç, a faculty member in the Department of Visual Communication Design (VCD) at Istanbul Gelisim University's (IGU) Faculty of Fine Arts (FFA), has achieved significant international success with two documentary projects he directed. His films, titled "Babylon Documentary" and "Scent of the Island Documentary," were featured in the special selection of the prestigious Almamora Film Festival in Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates, where they were presented to international cinema enthusiasts and academics. While both productions garnered attention for their unique narratives centered on history, culture, nature, and sustainability, they also made significant contributions to Istanbul Gelisim University's visibility and representation on international artistic platforms.

Realized through a collaboration between Istanbul Gelisim University and Hilla University in Iraq, the "Babylon Documentary" brings the cultural heritage of the ancient region of Babylon—one of the oldest centers of settlement and civilization in human history—to the screen.

"Ada Kokusu" (Scent of the Island)—another work by Ahmet Bikiç featured at the festival—turns its focus to Gökçeada, Turkey's largest island. The film centers on the island's pristine nature, rich biodiversity, ecological balance, and the harmonious, balanced relationship the local community maintains with the environment.

As the Istanbul Gelisim University Faculty of Fine Arts, we congratulate our faculty member, Lecturer Ahmet Bikiç, for proudly representing our faculty at the Almamora Film Festival in Abu Dhabi with the "Babil" and "Ada Kokusu" documentary projects, and we wish him continued international success.

# A STUDY CO-INVENTED BY LECTURER İREM ÖZPINAR HAS BEEN GRANTED A PATENT!



The “Web-Based Evaluation, Solution Provision, and Archiving Method and System,” co-invented by Lecturer İrem Özpınar, a faculty member of the Department of Interior Architecture and Environmental Design at Istanbul Gelişim University (IGU), Faculty of Fine Arts (FFA), has been granted a patent following its development within the scope of a TÜBİTAK 1001 research project.

The TÜBİTAK 1001 research project, in which Lecturer İrem Özpınar, an academic member of the Department of Interior Architecture and Environmental Design at Istanbul Gelişim University (IGU), Faculty of Fine Arts (FFA), participated as a researcher, has successfully resulted in a patent registration. Patent application No. 2025/009923, filed on behalf of the Rectorate of Akdeniz University, was officially registered on August 21, 2026.

The inventors of the developed system include Prof. Dr. Şebnem Ertaş Beşir, Prof. Dr. Ümit Turgay Arpacıoğlu, Lecturer İrem Özpınar, Mücahit Gül, Ayşan Ilgın Polat, and Melis Seyfettinoğlu Yeşilkent.

The patented invention comprises a web-based evaluation, solution provision, and archiving system designed to analyze potential hazards and risks associated with non-structural elements during earthquakes. The system can respond in real time to issues identified during the risk score calculation process and algorithmically generate solutions to address these issues.

Based on scientific computational algorithms, the proposed method enables the assessment of potential risks and threats encountered in interior architecture projects. The developed system facilitates the generation of solutions for identified risks, the archiving of assessment results, and the automated delivery of comprehensive, customizable project reports to users.
We congratulate Lecturer İrem Özpınar, a faculty member of our department who has contributed to transforming academic knowledge into a tangible invention through this interdisciplinary scientific research project, as well as all the co-inventors involved. We wish them continued success in their scientific endeavors.



# NEWS FROM FFA

# ACADEMIC DEVELOPMENT MEETING HELD WITH FULL-SCHOLARSHIP STUDENTS OF THE IGU FACULTY OF FINE ARTS





An academic, social, and professional development meeting was organized for full-scholarship students of Istanbul Gelisim University (IGU), Faculty of Fine Arts (FFA). Held on October 22, 2026, at the Student Dean's Office in Block K, the meeting was attended by Vice Rector Prof. Dr. Serdar Egeli, Assoc. Prof. Murat Doğan, Assoc. Prof. Sezgin Savaş, department heads and vice heads of the Faculty of Fine Arts, academics, and students.

The meeting aimed to encourage students to participate more actively in university life and enhance their academic productivity. Topics discussed included scientific research, social responsibility projects, intellectual property and patent applications, national and international competitions, and career opportunities. Potential collaborative projects between students and academics, along with the academic support available for these initiatives, were also addressed.

**The importance of university culture and academic productivity was emphasized**

Vice Rector Prof. Dr. Serdar Egeli stated that high-quality universities should have their own distinctive institutional culture and exemplary student profiles. Emphasizing the importance of students communicating with academics in their faculties and departments to transform their ideas into concrete projects, Prof. Dr. Egeli noted that the necessary academic support and organizational resources were available to facilitate these processes.

Assoc. Prof. Murat Doğan and Assoc. Prof. Sezgin Savaş invited department heads and vice heads to share examples of successful practices involving students, highlighting opportunities for academic and artistic collaboration across the faculty.







The meeting also addressed the areas of activity identified by the faculty to support the development of full-scholarship students. These included encouraging students to participate in Scientific Research Projects (BAP) focusing on social responsibility and TÜBİTAK research projects, collaborate with faculty members on academic articles, book chapters, and conference papers, evaluate projects developed in their courses for potential patent applications, and participate in national and international competitions.

Opportunities for students to organize talks, panels, workshops, and academic events were also discussed, along with contributing written and visual content to the university bulletin and departmental websites, participating in mentoring activities, and providing peer education. High school outreach activities, Continuing Education Center programs, and collaborations with the Career Center were among the other topics addressed.

Asst. Prof. Rabiya Saltık Duvan, Vice Head of the Department of Radio, Television and Cinema, shared examples of students' academic and artistic productions. Asst. Prof. Duvan highlighted the recent finalist achievement at the Antalya Golden Orange Film Festival and the short film production support provided by the Ministry of Culture and Tourism, emphasizing their significance for student projects.

Asst. Prof. İbrahim Erol, Head of the Department of Interior Architecture and Environmental Design (Turkish-English), discussed architectural projects developed in collaboration with one of his students, as well as the patent application processes involved. He shared the challenges encountered at different stages of collaborative project development and the professional experience gained through these efforts.

In the final part of the meeting, full-scholarship students had the opportunity to ask academics questions directly and obtain information about research projects, academic publications, competitions, and professional development opportunities. The meeting encouraged students to take a more active role in the faculty's academic and artistic activities, develop collaborative projects with faculty members, and make effective use of the support and opportunities provided by the university.

# ASSIST. PROF. DR. GÖKÇE UZGÖREN TOOK PART AS A SPEAKER IN A PANEL HELD WITHIN THE SCOPE OF EUROPEAN HERITAGE DAYS





Assist. Prof. Dr. Gökçe Uzgören, a faculty member of the Department of Interior Architecture and Environmental Design at Istanbul Gelişim University (IGU) Faculty of Fine Arts (FFA), featured as a speaker in the panel titled “The Urban Development and Architecture of Cihangir, the Cultural Face of Beyoğlu,” organized as part of European Heritage Days.

Assist. Prof. Dr. Gökçe Uzgören, a faculty member at the Department of Interior Architecture and Environmental Design at Istanbul Gelişim University (IGU) Faculty of Fine Arts, took part as a speaker in a panel series held within the scope of European Heritage Days. Hosted by Beyoğlu Municipality, in partnership with the European Commission and the Council of Europe, and under the coordination of the Ministry of Culture and Tourism, the events took place between September 12–20, 2026. This year, the events were organized internationally under the theme "Heritage at Risk: Revive, Resist, Reimagine." Designed to bring visibility to Beyoğlu's multi-layered historical and cultural heritage and support its inclusion on the UNESCO World Heritage Tentative List, the program brought together prominent academics and experts.

In this context, a panel titled "The Urban Development and Architecture of Cihangir, the Cultural Face of Beyoğlu" was held at Metrohan on September 16, 2026, in partnership with the Cihangir Beautification Association and the Beyoğlu City Council. Speaking alongside Dr. Architect Dilek Şişman during the session, Assist. Prof. Dr. Gökçe Uzgören addressed the historical and spatial transformation processes of the Cihangir neighborhood in detail.

**Historical Fabric of Cihangir and the Conservation-Oriented Building Inventory Project**

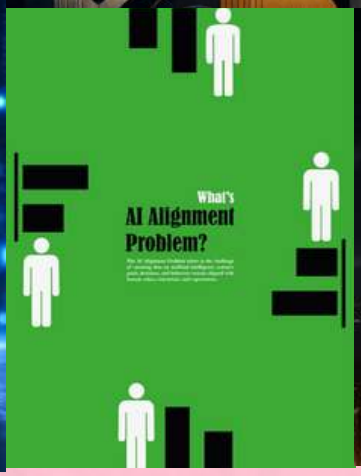
During the panel, speakers comprehensively evaluated the stages of urban and social development Cihangir has experienced since the 15th century, the characteristics and styles of the surviving architectural heritage in the neighborhood, and the losses caused by increased demolitions in recent years. In addition to discussing threats to the historical fabric and potential solutions, the event introduced the upcoming project titled "Updated Building Inventory Study for Conservation in Cihangir," designed as a follow-up effort. The event, which carries great significance for translating the academic expertise developed within the IGU Faculty of Fine Arts into active platforms for urban culture and heritage preservation, drew strong interest from attendees. By bringing academic circles and civil society organizations together, the panel created valuable awareness around transferring Cihangir's tangible and intangible heritage to future generations.

# ABSTRACT PROCEEDINGS BOOKLET OF THE INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM AND GROUP EXHIBITION ON ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE APPLICATIONS PUBLISHED












The “International Symposium and Group Exhibition on Artificial Intelligence Applications” organized in collaboration with Istanbul Gelisim University (IGU), Faculty of Fine Arts (FFA), and STA Congress, was held online on August 17–18, 2026. Following the event, which addressed the current applications of artificial intelligence technologies across different disciplines from academic and artistic perspectives, the Abstract Proceedings Booklet, featuring the studies presented during the symposium, was published. The booklet was edited by Lect. Dr. İrem Fulya Özkan.

The papers presented during the symposium examined the transformation brought about by artificial intelligence across various disciplines through a range of case studies and research approaches. The booklet includes studies focusing on creative ecosystems in the digital age, the use of generative artificial intelligence in the social sciences, the pedagogical roles of AI models in music education, the assessment of wind energy potential through artificial neural networks, interactive evolutionary approaches to choreographic design, the reproduction of classical fairy tales through generative artificial intelligence, and the relationship between generative AI and photogrammetry in PBR material production.

Published under ISBN 978-625-90026-6-8, the Abstract Proceedings Booklet provides a lasting record of the academic studies presented at the symposium while also serving as a reference source for future academic and artistic research on artificial intelligence applications. With the publication of the studies presented during the event as an academic record, the International Symposium and Group Exhibition on Artificial Intelligence Applications completed a process that brought together researchers and artists from different disciplines and contributed to interdisciplinary discussions on the rapidly evolving field of artificial intelligence.

# PROF. DR. AYSUN CANÇAT'S ARTWORK "KARŞILAŞMA" FEATURED IN AN INTERNATIONAL GROUP EXHIBITION!








"KARŞILAŞMA" / Gravür/ 50 x 35 cm / 2024

Prof. Dr. Aysun Cançat, a faculty member of the Department of Graphic Design at Istanbul Gelişim University (IGU), Faculty of Fine Arts (FFA), participated in the "2nd International Online Group Exhibition," held as part of the 2nd International Black Sea Educational Sciences Congress from April 30 to May 2, 2026. Organized in collaboration with Trabzon University's Fatih Faculty of Education and the Eurasian Association of Social Sciences Educators, the event brought together works by artists and academics from various disciplines on an international platform.

Aiming to support artistic production and academic exchange, the online group exhibition provided an opportunity for artworks from different artistic disciplines to reach a wider audience. With international participation, the event offered a platform for artists to present their original works and explore diverse artistic approaches.

Prof. Dr. Aysun Cançat participated in the exhibition with her 2024 engraving titled "Karşılaşma," measuring 50 × 35 cm. Dominated by black-and-white tones, the artwork stood out for its figurative expression, strong linear structure, and distinctive composition. Making use of the expressive possibilities of engraving, the work invited viewers to reflect on the relationships between figures and the concept of encounter.

International events of this kind contribute to increasing the visibility of academics' artistic production while also encouraging interaction between different cultures and disciplines.
Istanbul Gelişim University's Faculty of Fine Arts continues to support the participation of its academic staff in national and international artistic events, strengthening its commitment to art, design, and academic production. Prof. Dr. Aysun Cançat's participation in the exhibition represents a valuable contribution to the faculty's goals of promoting artistic production and enhancing its international visibility.

# DEPARTMENT OF RADIO TELEVISION AND CINEMA STUDENTS CONTRIBUTE TO BREAST CANCER AWARENESS THROUGH ART!







Students from the Department of Radio, Television and Cinema at Istanbul Gelisim University (IGU), Faculty of Fine Arts (FFA), participated in the “Inspired by Art: Let's Embrace and Heal” (Sanattan İlhamla: Sarılarak Saralım) program held at Istanbul Modern Art Museum as part of Breast Cancer Awareness Month. The students attended a seminar by Assoc. Prof. Ebru Nalan Sülün focusing on pioneering women in art history and contributed to a participatory installation designed by contemporary artist Sabire Susuz by sharing their breast cancer awareness messages.

Organized in collaboration between Istanbul Modern and Estée Lauder Companies Türkiye, the program highlighted the role of art in fostering social solidarity and raising awareness. Through seminars, workshops, and participatory art activities, students had the opportunity to explore the creative practices of women artists and take part in a collective artistic project.

During the seminar titled “Inspiring Lives and Artistic Transformation: Pioneering Women in Art History”, held at the Istanbul Modern Auditorium, Assoc. Prof. Ebru Nalan Sülün discussed the lives of influential women artists, the social barriers they encountered, and the distinctive forms of artistic expression they developed. Through the works of artists such as Frida Kahlo, Louise Bourgeois, and Yayoi Kusama, the seminar explored the visibility of women in art history, the relationship between artistic production and personal experiences, and the transformative power of creative processes.





Following the seminar, students took part in an installation designed by contemporary artist Sabire Susuz, which evolved through the contributions of visitors.

Located in Istanbul Modern's Kemankeş Open Area, the installation encouraged collective artistic production through an arrangement of pink ribbons, the international symbol of breast cancer awareness. Developed through visitors' notes, drawings, and messages, the artwork brought individual expressions together within a shared space of solidarity.

Students from the Department of Radio, Television and Cinema prepared messages related to breast cancer awareness and placed them among the pink ribbons. In doing so, they moved beyond observing the artwork and became active participants in its creation.



# “BİR’İZ INT-AI” EVENT BROUGHT STUDENTS TOGETHER AROUND DESIGN AND SOCIAL INTERACTION!







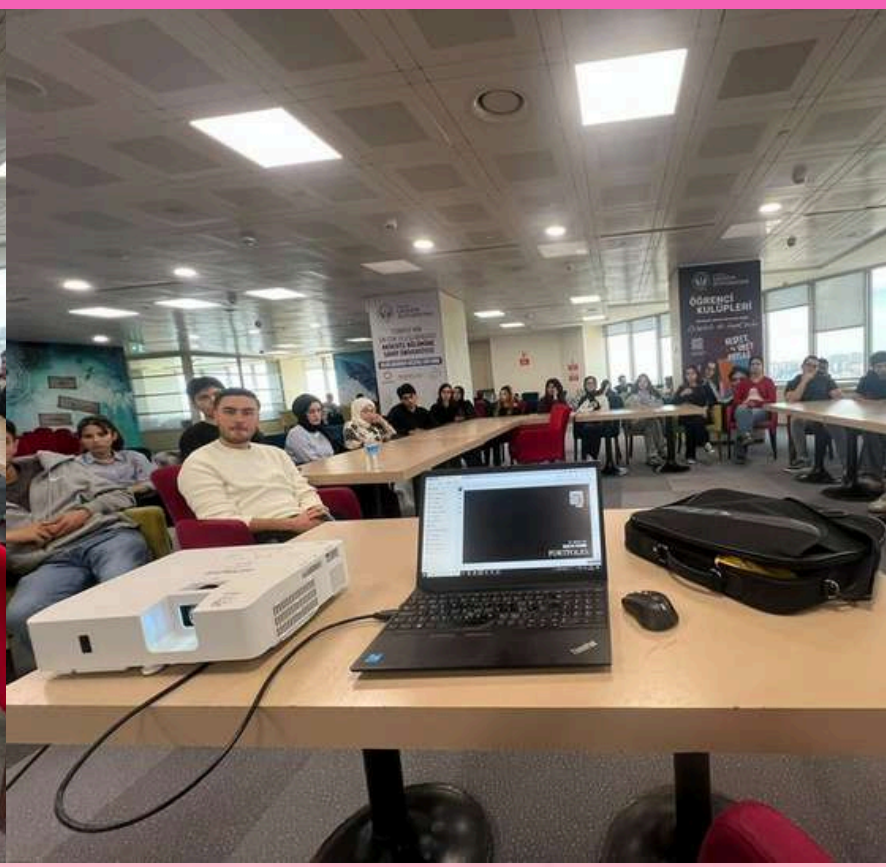



The “BİR’İZ INT-AI” orientation event, organized in collaboration with Istanbul Gelisim University (IGU) Artificial Intelligence and Design Club and the Interior Architecture and Environmental Design Club, was held with the aim of supporting students’ adaptation to the new academic year, helping them become familiar with student clubs, and increasing social interaction. The event took place on October 6, 2026, between 11:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. at the K Block Tower Student Center.

The program began with the welcoming of students and opening remarks, followed by presentations introducing the Artificial Intelligence and Design Club and the Interior Architecture and Environmental Design Club. Throughout the event, students had the opportunity to learn more about the clubs while also taking part in various design and social activities.

# INNOVATIVE WORKSHOP FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF INTERIOR ARCHITECTURE AS PART OF THE ARTISTIC DEVELOPMENT SERIES: ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE IN INTERIOR ARCHITECTURE





As part of the “Artistic Development Series” organized by the Office of the Dean of Students at Istanbul Gelişim University (IGU) to enhance students’ creativity and enable them to explore various artistic disciplines, an “Artificial Intelligence Workshop in Interior Architecture” was held under the leadership of Dr. Minel Kurtuluş Gençay, Assistant Professor in the Department of Interior Architecture. Held on October 6, 2026, at Gelişim Tower, the event explored the role of artificial intelligence in spatial design and artistic processes, from concept development to visualization.

Organized by Dr. Minel Kurtuluş Gençay, Assistant Professor in the Department of Interior Architecture at Istanbul Gelişim University (IGU), Faculty of Fine Arts (GSF), the “Artificial Intelligence in Interior Architecture Workshop” took place on Tuesday, October 6, 2026, from 12:00 p.m. to 1:00 p.m. on the 17th The “Artificial Intelligence in Interior Architecture Workshop” was held.

Aimed at helping students blend their digital design skills with forms of artistic expression, the workshop—led by Assistant Professor Minel Kurtuluş Gençay—explored the fundamental operating principles of artificial intelligence technologies and their current applications in interior design. The differences between traditional design methods and AI-supported creative processes were conveyed to students through visual examples.

In the workshop, which was organized in keeping with the interdisciplinary and innovative spirit of the Artistic Development Series, it was emphasized that artificial intelligence is not merely a tool for final visual production, but rather an auxiliary technology that supports the designer's artistic vision and decision-making processes. The key areas of application highlighted in the workshop were listed as follows:

- Concept and Artistic Idea Development: The processes of establishing the central idea, theme, and source of inspiration during the early stages of design,
- Spatial Composition and Atmospheric Design: Exploring the spatial atmosphere by quickly experimenting with different textures, materials, colors, and lighting scenarios,
- Rapid Visualization and Presentation: The time-efficient transformation of interior design ideas and alternative proposals into visualizations.

**Awareness of Future Design Practices**

During the workshop led by Assistant Professor Minel Kurtuluş Gençay, it was emphasized that artificial intelligence tools do not replace the designer's unique creativity and expertise; rather, they should be positioned as a powerful "support tool" that enriches the designer's ideas.

Through this Artistic Development event, which aimed to unlock students' creative potential, students not only had the opportunity to connect next-generation technologies with their professional processes but also gained a strong awareness of the importance of AI-supported design approaches in the future of interior architecture practice. The Interior Architecture Department at IGU continues to offer high-quality events that support students' academic, artistic, and technological development.



# FROM THE FACULTY OF FINE ARTS A VISIT TO CRAFTISTANBUL!






The Faculty of Fine Arts at Istanbul Gelişim University visited the 7th CRAFTİSTANBUL International Handicrafts and Design Fair, held from October 1–4, 2026.

Held October 1–4, 2026, at the Dr. Architect Kadir Topbaş Exhibition and Arts Center in Yenikapı, Istanbul, CRAFTİSTANBUL brought together artists, artisans, designers, institutions, and various stakeholders working in the field of cultural heritage from Turkey and around the world. The fair featured a wide selection of works ranging from traditional production techniques to contemporary design applications, which were presented to visitors.

During the visit, the work of master artisans, workshops, and institutions producing in various fields of handicrafts was examined. In connection with the AES (Golden Handicrafts) Project, carried out under the Faculty of Fine Arts at Istanbul Gelişim University, discussions were held regarding the documentation of master artisans and their works, making cultural heritage visible in the digital sphere, developing new content, and establishing potential academic and institutional collaborations.

The visit to CRAFTİSTANBUL also provided a professional and academic experience in terms of the Faculty of Fine Arts' approach to art and design education, which is based on on-site observation, awareness of cultural heritage, and exposure to contemporary design practices. Furthermore, it laid a productive foundation for establishing new connections that could expand the AES Project's network of masters, institutions, and production partners, as well as for future collaborations aimed at documenting traditional handicrafts.

# FACULTY OF FINE ARTS VICE DEAN ASSOC. PROF. DR. SEZGİN SAVAŞ'S NEW BOOK "AYDINLIĞIN BAHARI (SPRING OF LIGHT)" MEETS READERS!




Authored by Istanbul Gelişim University (IGU) Faculty of Fine Arts (FFA) Vice Dean Assoc. Prof. Dr. Sezgin Savaş, the new book titled "Gece Gündüz Serisi: Aydınlığın Baharı (Night and Day Series: Spring of Light)" has been published by Kitapyurdu Direct Publishing (KDY).

Drawing attention with his literary productions alongside his qualified work in the academic and artistic fields, Assoc. Prof. Dr. Sezgin Savaş solidifies his place in the literary world with the new installment of his fantasy fiction novel series. Comprising a total of 338 pages, the work promises readers a rich literary universe with its immersive plot and in-depth character analyses.

As the Istanbul Gelişim University (IGU) Faculty of Fine Arts (FFA), we congratulate our Vice Dean Assoc. Prof. Dr. Sezgin Savaş on the occasion of his new book titled "Night and Day Series: Spring of Light," and wish him continued success in his literary and academic endeavors.

# ORIENTATION EVENTS HELD FOR STUDENTS IN THE TURKISH- AND ENGLISH-MEDIUM PROGRAMS OF THE DEPARTMENT OF INTERIOR ARCHITECTURE AND ENVIRONMENTAL DESIGN!




The Department of Interior Architecture and Environmental Design at Istanbul Gelişim University (IGU), Faculty of Fine Arts (FFA), organized orientation events for students enrolled in its Turkish- and English-medium programs as part of the 2026–2027 academic year. During the events, students were provided with information about the organizational structures of the university, faculty, and department, as well as the academic staff, educational processes, academic advising, and communication channels. The events were attended by the academic staff of the Department of Interior Architecture and Environmental Design and students enrolled in the respective programs.

The orientation events aimed to facilitate students' adaptation to the university, faculty, and departmental environments, enhance their understanding of the department's academic structure and operations, and provide essential guidance on matters they may encounter throughout their education. As part of the programs, the general structures of the university, faculty, and department were introduced, and fundamental information regarding the educational processes of the Department of Interior Architecture and Environmental Design was shared. Members of the department's academic staff were introduced, and their respective roles and responsibilities within the department were explained. Students also received information about the academic advising system and the communication channels available for seeking guidance on academic matters.

During the question-and-answer sessions, students had the opportunity to raise questions concerning university and departmental life, which were addressed by members of the academic staff. At the conclusion of both events, evaluation surveys were administered to gather students' opinions and feedback regarding the orientation process. These surveys were designed to collect student evaluations and provide data to support the continuous improvement of future informational activities and orientation programs.

# EXCITEMENT FOR THE NEW ACADEMIC YEAR IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INTERIOR ARCHITECTURE!





The Department of Interior Architecture at Istanbul Gelişim University (IGU), Faculty of Fine Arts (FFA), organized a comprehensive orientation program on September 22, 2026, for students beginning their studies in the 2026–2027 academic year. During the event, led by Head of Department Asst. Prof. Dr. Kadir Öz, students were introduced to the academic staff, curriculum structure, studio course procedures, and administrative processes relevant to their education and professional development.

**Departmental Vision, Curriculum Structure, and Professional Opportunities**

Asst. Prof. Dr. Kadir Öz, Head of the Department of Interior Architecture, delivered the opening remarks and orientation presentation, beginning with an introduction to the department's academic staff. The presentation continued with a comprehensive overview of the Department of Interior Architecture, highlighting its vision, primary objectives, and short- and long-term goals established for students. Particular emphasis was placed on the competencies students are expected to acquire throughout their education, the significance of an interdisciplinary approach, and the professional development opportunities available to them.

The orientation program also addressed the technical and administrative procedures students will encounter throughout their academic journey. Detailed information was provided on the university's educational systems, Student Information System, course registration procedures, examination regulations, and essential administrative requirements.

The Department of Interior Architecture extends its best wishes to all newly enrolled students and members of the academic staff for a successful and productive academic year.

# ACADEMIC ADVISING MEETINGS HELD FOR THIRD- AND FOURTH-YEAR STUDENTS OF THE DEPARTMENT OF INTERIOR ARCHITECTURE






The Department of Interior Architecture at Istanbul Gelişim University (IGU), Faculty of Fine Arts (FFA), completed its academic advising and orientation meetings for third- and fourth-year students as part of the Fall Semester of the 2026–2027 academic year. Held on October 1, 2026, the meetings addressed course content, curriculum structure, internship procedures, and graduation requirements in detail.

The Department of Interior Architecture at Istanbul Gelişim University (IGU), Faculty of Fine Arts (FFA), organized comprehensive academic advising meetings for third- and fourth-year students on Thursday, October 1, 2026, with the aim of supporting their academic and professional development.

The third-year academic advising meeting, conducted by Asst. Prof. Dr. Parvin Heidari at 2:00 p.m., focused on issues encountered by students throughout their educational journey and their academic planning for the upcoming semesters. The fourth-year academic advising meeting was conducted by Asst. Prof. Dr. Minel Kurtuluş between 12:00 p.m. and 1:00 p.m. in Classroom 501, Block K, at Istanbul Gelişim University.

Following the productive academic advising meetings, the academic staff of the Department of Interior Architecture extended their best wishes to all third- and fourth-year students for a successful 2026–2027 academic year.

# ORIENTATION MEETING HELD FOR FIRST-YEAR STUDENTS OF THE DEPARTMENT OF VISUAL COMMUNICATION DESIGN





The Department of Visual Communication Design at Istanbul Gelişim University (IGU), Faculty of Fine Arts (FFA), organized an orientation program for first-year students who enrolled in the department for the 2026–2027 academic year. Designed to facilitate new students' adaptation to university and departmental life, the program provided information on academic procedures, the department's educational structure, course content, and various aspects of university life.

During the orientation program, students were introduced to the educational approach of the Department of Visual Communication Design and the general structure of its undergraduate curriculum. To help students pursue their four-year academic journey in a more informed and systematic manner, explanations were provided regarding course procedures, practice-based learning processes, and design projects undertaken within the department.

The orientation program also provided an opportunity for newly enrolled students to meet one another and become acquainted with the department's academic staff. The event continued with an interactive question-and-answer session and an exchange of information. Students had the opportunity to directly address their questions concerning departmental procedures, course requirements, and university life to members of the academic staff.

The orientation program organized by the Department of Visual Communication Design at Istanbul Gelişim University, Faculty of Fine Arts, aimed to facilitate the integration of students entering the department in the 2026–2027 academic year into university and departmental life, while supporting an informed and well-prepared beginning to their undergraduate education.

# ORIENTATION MEETING HELD FOR FIRST-YEAR STUDENTS OF THE DEPARTMENT OF GASTRONOMY AND CULINARY ARTS




An orientation meeting was organized for first-year students by the Department of Gastronomy and Culinary Arts at Istanbul Gelişim University (IGU), Faculty of Fine Arts (FFA). Aimed at facilitating newly enrolled students' adaptation to academic life, the meeting addressed key aspects of the educational process, departmental operations, and university life.

The meeting, held in Classroom 311, was attended by Prof. Dr. Aslı Albayrak, Head of the Department of Gastronomy and Culinary Arts, Assoc. Prof. Dr. Murat Doğan, and Asst. Prof. Dr. Emel Çirişoğlu. Students had the opportunity to meet the academic staff and gain valuable insights into the department's educational processes and important considerations regarding university life. Prof. Dr. Albayrak serves as Head of Department, while Assoc. Prof. Dr. Doğan and Asst. Prof. Dr. Çirişoğlu are listed among the department's faculty members.

As part of the orientation program, students were informed about the department's academic structure, course procedures, and academic advising system. Emphasis was placed on the importance of regularly monitoring academic processes within the university and faculty. Students were also reminded to follow announcements, news, regulations, and guidelines published on the department's official website. Academic advising, departmental communication, and administrative procedures had also been among the key topics addressed in previous orientation programs.

Additionally, students received guidance on the appropriate communication procedures for course-related matters, the academic and administrative structure of the department and faculty, and the relevant university units they may consult throughout their studies.

# LECTURER AHMET BİKİÇ TO PARTICIPATE IN THE 4TH INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS ON MANAGEMENT OF ORGANIZATIONS!






Lecturer Ahmet Bikiç, a faculty member of the Department of Visual Communication Design at Istanbul Gelişim University (IGU), Faculty of Fine Arts (FFA), has been accepted to participate in the 4th International Congress on Management of Organizations with his paper titled “The Role of AI-Assisted Visual Communication and Digital Storytelling in the Perception of Digital Leadership: A Conceptual Evaluation from an Organizational Communication Perspective”.

Organized in collaboration with Girne American University, the congress will take place from November 12 to 14, 2026, at the GAU Spectrum Center in Kyrenia, Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus (TRNC). The main theme of the congress has been designated as “Effective Management, Strong Organizations, a Better Future.” The event will provide an academic platform for discussing research from diverse perspectives, including management, leadership, corporate communication, and interorganizational interaction.



# SCIENTIFIC STUDIES

# ASST. PROF. DR. ZEYNEP ACIRLI'S ARTICLE PUBLISHED IN GRID - ARCHITECTURE, PLANNING AND DESIGN JOURNAL!



The article titled "Collective Memory of Individuals: The Case of Interior Design Education Buildings in Eskişehir," authored by Asst. Prof. Dr. Zeynep Acırlı, a faculty member of the Department of Interior Architecture and Environmental Design at Istanbul Gelişim University (IGU), Faculty of Fine Arts (FFA), has been published in Volume 9, Issue 2 of GRID - Architecture Planning and Design Journal. The study examines the influence of space on memory through a phenomenological research design.

The scientific research article titled "Collective Memory of Individuals: The Case of Interior Design Education Buildings in Eskişehir," written by Asst. Prof. Dr. Zeynep Acırlı, a faculty member of the Department of Interior Architecture and Environmental Design at Istanbul Gelişim University (IGU), Faculty of Fine Arts (FFA), has been published in GRID - Architecture Planning and Design Journal, an academic journal focusing on architecture and design. The article appears in Volume 9, Issue 2 (2026) of the journal, on pages 852–874.

Focusing on the role of space in the formation of individual and collective memory, the study investigates how the use of different buildings for interior architecture education across various periods in Eskişehir has influenced memory formation. Employing a phenomenological research design, the research examines the place of educational buildings in the memories of their users, thereby contributing to the existing academic literature.

We congratulate Asst. Prof. Dr. Zeynep Acırlı, a faculty member of our department, on her valuable contribution to academic literature and wish her continued success in her scholarly endeavors.

# ASSOC. PROF. MURAT DOĞAN'S ARTICLE ON BUSINESS CONTINUITY IN GASTRONOMY BUSINESSES PUBLISHED!




An article titled "Business Continuity Perception in Gastronomy Businesses: A Quantitative Study on Corporate Capacity, Digital Infrastructure, and Operational Resilience," authored by Associate Professor Dr. Murat Doğan from the Department of Gastronomy and Culinary Arts at Istanbul Gelisim University's Faculty of Fine Arts (FFA), has been published in the peer-reviewed International Journal of Business Continuity and Risk Management. The study identifies the organizational and technological factors that influence gastronomy businesses' preparedness for crises.

Published in Volume 16, Issue 2 of the journal in 2026, the study uses quantitative methods to examine the perceptions of 315 managers working in Turkey's food and beverage services sector regarding business continuity. Focusing on businesses' capacity to maintain operations in the face of crises such as pandemics, natural disasters, and supply chain disruptions, the research evaluates the role of organizational structure and digital infrastructure in operational resilience.

**The perception of business continuity among 315 managers was examined**

In Assoc. Prof. Dr. Doğan's study, the Perceived Organizational Business Continuity (POBC) scale, adapted for the gastronomy sector, was used. Based on data collected from participants, the relationship between variables such as management structure, number of employees, information technology capacity, daily production volume, and business operations and the perception of business continuity was analyzed.

Validity and reliability analyses of the scale were also conducted as part of the study. As a result, an assessment tool was developed that can be used in academic studies measuring the perception of crisis preparedness in gastronomy businesses.

# DR. KADİR ÖZ'S PUBLICATION REACHES TOP Q1 RANK AS JOURNAL RANKING RISES!



A research article titled "A DSM-based decision-support framework for proactive risk identification in pre-licensing project processes," authored solely by Dr. Kadir Öz, Assistant Professor and Chair of the Department of Interior Architecture at the Faculty of Fine Arts (GSF) of Istanbul Gelişim University (İGÜ), was published in the *International Journal of Construction Management.

Published in a Top Q1-level journal—which ranks in the top 98th percentile in the Scopus Architecture category and is ranked 3rd among 210 journals—the study presents a data-driven decision-support model aimed at identifying risks encountered in pre-licensing design processes in the architecture, engineering, and construction sectors at an early stage.

The study combined the Design Structure Matrix (DSM) with weighted scoring methods to identify delays, coordination issues, and rework in design processes in advance. Evaluating a total of 26 main work steps, the study identified design development, interdisciplinary coordination, and the construction drawing phases as the processes carrying the highest risk.

The fact that the developed model provides a data infrastructure that can be integrated with Building Information Modeling (BIM) and digital twin technologies enhances the research's practical potential. Analyses conducted across five different scenarios revealed that the model achieved an 80.8% classification accuracy and a 97.7% ranking correlation.

Assistant Professor Kadir Öz's study contributes to the proactive assessment of risks and the improvement of decision-making processes in architectural project management, while also supporting IGU's international academic visibility.

# BOOK OF ABSTRACTS OF THE “FROM MEMORY TO THE FUTURE: ART AND DESIGN SYMPOSIUM” PUBLISHED!




The Book of Abstracts featuring the academic papers presented at the “From Memory to the Future: Art and Design Symposium,” held online on October 1–2, 2026, in collaboration with Istanbul Gelişim University (IGU), Faculty of Fine Arts (FFA), and STA Congress (Art and Design Research), has been published.

Organized under the theme “Preservation, Interpretation, and Reproduction of Cultural Heritage,” the symposium examined the relationships between cultural memory, art, and design through an interdisciplinary approach. The published Book of Abstracts brings together academic perspectives on the preservation of cultural heritage and the reinterpretation of traditional knowledge and practices within contemporary art and design processes.

Throughout the symposium, discussions focused on the influence of cultural memory on artistic production, the relationship between traditional artistic practices and contemporary design approaches, and the role of art in transmitting cultural values to future generations. Particular emphasis was placed on understanding cultural heritage not merely as an accumulation of historical knowledge, but also as a dynamic field of knowledge that informs and inspires contemporary creative processes.

Bringing together research from various disciplines, the event highlighted key issues such as the sustainability of cultural heritage, the reinterpretation of traditional practices, and the establishment of creative connections between the past and the future. Documenting the academic contributions of the symposium, the Book of Abstracts also serves as a valuable resource for future research exploring the relationships between cultural heritage and contemporary art and design.

# YOUTH AND CLIMATE ACTION STUDENT SYMPOSIUM HELD!




The “Youth and Climate Action Student Symposium,” organized in collaboration with Istanbul Gelişim University (IGU), Faculty of Fine Arts (FFA), and STA Congress, was held on October 1–2, 2026. Aiming to raise public awareness of climate change and climate action ahead of COP31, the event brought together academic and creative works developed by young people addressing environmental challenges.

The symposium featured research projects prepared by undergraduate and graduate students, either independently or in collaboration with faculty members. Key issues, including the climate crisis, sustainability, environmental responsibility, and climate action, were examined from various disciplinary perspectives. Students were encouraged to actively contribute to the global climate agenda through their research and proposed solutions.

In addition to the environmental impacts of climate change, the symposium addressed its social, cultural, and economic consequences. Contributions from the fields of art, communication, social sciences, and other academic disciplines highlighted the interdisciplinary nature of the climate crisis while fostering discussions on sustainable living practices and the development of a shared sense of responsibility.

Providing a platform for emerging researchers to present and exchange their academic work, the symposium contributed to strengthening awareness of climate change and promoting solution-oriented approaches toward a sustainable future.

The Book of Abstracts, featuring summaries of the studies presented during the symposium, was published under ISBN 978-625-90026-8-2. Serving as a permanent academic record of the research contributions, the publication is accessible through the STA Congress Symposium Archive.

# A QUALITATIVE STUDY ON GREENWASHING BY ASSOC. PROF. DR. SEZGİN SAVAŞ AND A VISUAL COMMUNICATION DESIGN UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT!

## An Examination of the Phenomenon of Greenwashing in the Context of Poster Design: An Analysis Based on Design Criteria

Reyyan Ravza Eryılmaz[1]

[1]İstanbul Gelişim Üniversitesi, İstanbul, Türkiye.
reyyan.eryilmaz@ogr.gelisim.edu.tr

Doç. Dr. Sezgin Savaş[2]

[2]İstanbul Gelişim Üniversitesi, İstanbul, Türkiye.
ssavas@gelisim.edu.tr

Reyyan Ravza Eryılmaz, an undergraduate student in the Department of Visual Communication Design at Istanbul Gelişim University (IGU), Faculty of Fine Arts (FFA), and Assoc. Prof. Dr. Sezgin Savaş, Vice Dean of the Faculty of Fine Arts, have collaboratively conducted an academic study examining the phenomenon of greenwashing in the context of poster design.

Their paper, titled “An Examination of the Greenwashing Phenomenon in the Context of Poster Design: An Analysis Based on Design Criteria,” adopts a qualitative approach to investigate the role of visual and linguistic strategies employed by brands in their poster designs to construct an environmentally friendly image.

The research findings revealed that brands frequently utilize verbal messages, nature-related imagery, predominantly green color palettes, and natural symbols associated with their products to establish an environmentally conscious brand identity. Although the posters examined constructed a positive relationship between brands and nature through prominent visual elements, the study identified that concrete and verifiable evidence supporting these environmental claims was often marginalized in the communication process.

By highlighting the potentially manipulative nature of greenwashing practices within visual communication design, the study aims to contribute to discussions on ethical design practices and raise awareness among consumers.

On behalf of Istanbul Gelişim University, Faculty of Fine Arts, we congratulate our Vice Dean, Assoc. Prof. Dr. Sezgin Savaş, for providing academic guidance and mentorship, and our undergraduate student, Reyyan Ravza Eryılmaz, for her valuable research contribution. We wish them continued success in their academic endeavors.

# JOINT CONFERENCE PAPER BY ASST. PROF. DR. EDA TÜRKAY AND HER STUDENT ESRA CEVAHİR PRESENTED AT A SYMPOSIUM!




The paper titled “A New Professional Role in Sustainable Filmmaking: The Sustainable Production Consultant,” jointly prepared by Asst. Prof. Dr. Eda Türkay, a faculty member of the Department of Radio, Television and Cinema at Istanbul Gelişim University (IGU), Faculty of Fine Arts (FFA), and student Esra Cevahir, was presented at the Youth and Climate Action Student Symposium. The study examined sustainable production consultancy as an emerging field of expertise aimed at reducing the environmental impact of the film industry, as well as the career opportunities this profession offers to young filmmakers.

Presented at the symposium held on October 1–2, 2026, in collaboration with Istanbul Gelişim University, Faculty of Fine Arts, and STA Congress, the research focused on how climate action can be integrated into filmmaking and audiovisual production processes.

The study explored professional roles identified by various titles within the international film industry, including sustainability manager, sustainability coordinator, and eco-manager.

Employing a qualitative research approach, the study examined international professional profiles, sustainable production resources, and Türkiye’s “National Occupational Standard for Sustainable Production Consultants (Level 6)” through document analysis and comparative content analysis.

On behalf of Istanbul Gelişim University, Faculty of Fine Arts, we congratulate Asst. Prof. Dr. Eda Türkay and our student Esra Cevahir on their academic contributions and wish them continued success in their future scholarly endeavors.

# ASST. PROF. DR. EMEL ÇİRİŞOĞLU DELIVERED AN ORAL PRESENTATION AT THE 10TH INTERNATIONAL GASTRONOMY TOURISM RESEARCH CONGRESS!







Asst. Prof. Dr. Emel Çirişoğlu, a faculty member of the Department of Gastronomy and Culinary Arts at Istanbul Gelişim University (IGU), Faculty of Fine Arts (FFA), participated in the 10th International Gastronomy Tourism Research Congress (UGTAK 2026), held in Eskişehir from October 1 to 3, 2026. During the congress, she delivered an oral presentation titled “An Examination of Gastronomy and Culinary Arts Curricula: An Evaluation of Courses Focusing on Specialization.”

At the congress, Çirişoğlu presented the research conducted in collaboration with Asst. Prof. Dr. Ayşe Seray Engin from Istanbul Esenyurt University. Hosted by Anadolu University, the congress brought together academics and researchers specializing in gastronomy and tourism to share their scientific studies and research findings.

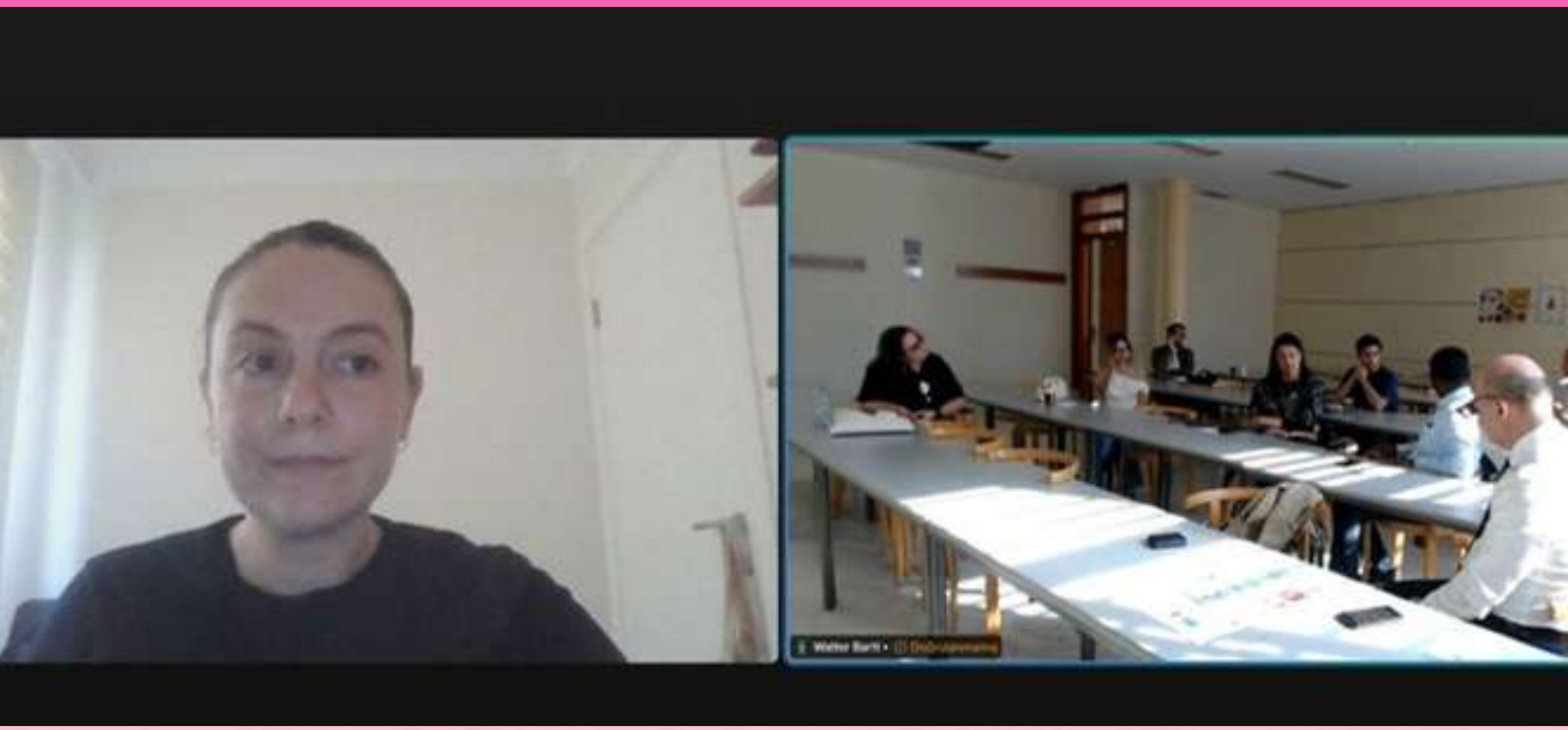
The study conducted by Çirişoğlu and Engin examined the curricula of undergraduate Gastronomy and Culinary Arts programs in Türkiye, focusing on sector-specific areas of specialization and professional competencies. Within this framework, the research included Gastronomy and Culinary Arts programs offered by faculties at universities ranked among the top 20 according to the success rankings published by the Council of Higher Education's YÖK Atlas platform.

Compulsory and elective courses offered within these programs were classified into seven categories based on their respective professional fields. This classification enabled the researchers to evaluate the areas in which the curricula were concentrated and examine the distribution of courses in terms of professional specialization.

The research findings revealed that Culinary Arts and Kitchen Practices constituted the predominant area within compulsory courses, while opportunities for specialization were primarily structured through elective courses. A particularly strong emphasis on traditional, regional, and international cuisines was identified among elective courses, whereas pastry and bakery arts, as well as service, bar, and beverage operations, were represented to a more limited extent.

The study recommended adopting a more systematic approach to specialization in gastronomy education by developing structured specialization modules aligned with students’ career objectives. It further emphasized the importance of supporting these modules through practical training, project-based learning, and collaboration with industry stakeholders.

# RESEARCH ASSISTANT MERVE KARADABAN PRESENTED A PAPER AT THE INTERNATIONAL SOCIOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION (ISA) RC41 CONFERENCE!



Research Assistant Merve Karadaban from the Department of Interior Architecture and Environmental Design at Istanbul Gelişim University (IGU), Faculty of Fine Arts (FFA), presented a paper co-authored with Prof. Dr. Emmanuèle Cunningham-Sabot on post-industrial transformation in Karabük and Thionville at the ISA RC41 – Sociology of Population Interim Conference, held in Madrid on September 10–11, 2026. The study comparatively examined the relationships between urban shrinkage, population dynamics, migration, employment, and spatial transformation.

Research Assistant Merve Karadaban, a member of the Department of Interior Architecture and Environmental Design at Istanbul Gelişim University (IGU), Faculty of Fine Arts (FFA), presented her collaborative research with Prof. Dr. Emmanuèle Cunningham-Sabot from École Normale Supérieure at an international academic conference.

The Interim Conference, titled “Population Dynamics in the Global North and the Global South: Age Structural Transitions, Migration, and Changing Places,” was organized by the Research Committee on Sociology of Population (ISA RC41) of the International Sociological Association and held in Madrid on September 10–11, 2026.

# SCIENTIFIC STUDIES

## TWO GRADUATE STUDENTS SUPERVISED BY RESEARCH ASSISTANT DR. AYTEN BENGİSU CANSEVER BAYHAN PARTICIPATED IN THE YOUTH AND CLIMATE ACTION SYMPOSIUM!





The Brand Painted Green: Environmental Semiotic Analysis in the Cases of H&M, Adidas × Parley and WWF Earth Hour

Melek Gülşen[1]

[1]İstanbul Gelişim Üniversitesi, İstanbul, Türkiye.
alikaancay@gmail.com

Arş. Gör. Dr. Ayten Bengisu Cansever Bayhan[2]

[2]İstanbul Gelişim Üniversitesi, İstanbul, Türkiye.
abcansever@gelisim.edu.tr

The Myth of Green Technology: A Semiotic Analysis of Sustainability Discourse in Apple's Brand Communication

Enes Dalgıç[1]

[1]İstanbul Gelişim Üniversitesi, İstanbul, Türkiye.
enes.dalgic@ogr.gelisim.edu.tr

Arş. Gör. Dr. Ayten Bengisu Cansever Bayhan[2]

[2]İstanbul Gelişim Üniversitesi, İstanbul, Türkiye.
abcansever@gelisim.edu.tr

Research Assistant Dr. Ayten Bengisu Cansever Bayhan, a faculty member of the Department of Visual Communication Design at Istanbul Gelişim University (IGU), Faculty of Fine Arts (FFA), participated in the STA Youth and Climate Action Symposium, held as part of COP31-related activities, together with her graduate students, contributing to academic research on climate communication and sustainability. The symposium addressed the impact of the global climate crisis on visual communication and brand narratives, as well as the greenwashing strategies employed by brands, from an academic perspective.

The first paper presented at the symposium, titled “The Myth of Green Technology: A Semiotic Analysis of Sustainability Discourse in Apple’s Brand Communication,” was co-authored by Research Assistant Dr. Ayten Bengisu Cansever Bayhan and master's student Enes Dalgıç. The study examined how major technology companies construct their environmental responsibility narratives in an era when digital technologies have become an integral part of everyday life.

Another paper presented at the symposium was “The Greenwashed Brand: An Environmental Semiotic Analysis of H&M, Adidas x Parley, and WWF Earth Hour,” jointly prepared by Research Assistant Dr. Ayten Bengisu Cansever Bayhan and master's student Melek Gülşen. Focusing on environmental semiotics, the research comparatively examined H&M’s Conscious Exclusive collection in the fast-fashion industry, the collaboration between sportswear brand Adidas and Parley, and the Earth Hour campaign organized by WWF, a global nonprofit environmental organization.

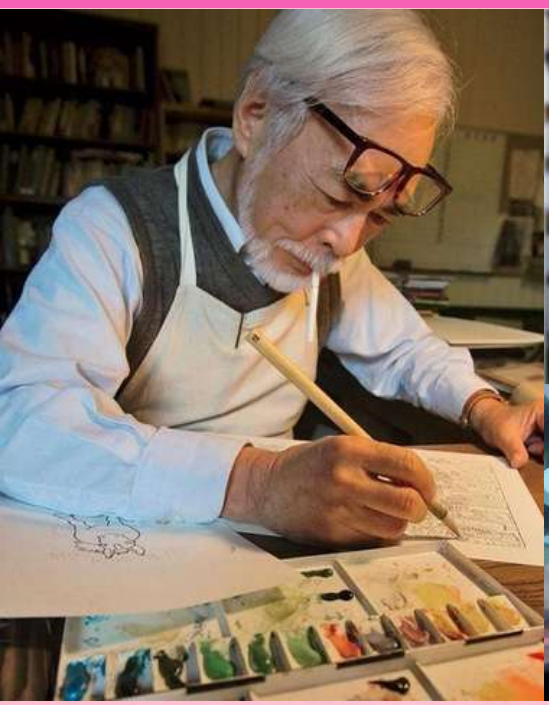
On behalf of Istanbul Gelişim University, Faculty of Fine Arts, we congratulate our academic staff member and graduate students for contributing to sustainability and environmental awareness through their scholarly research and wish them continued success in their academic endeavors.

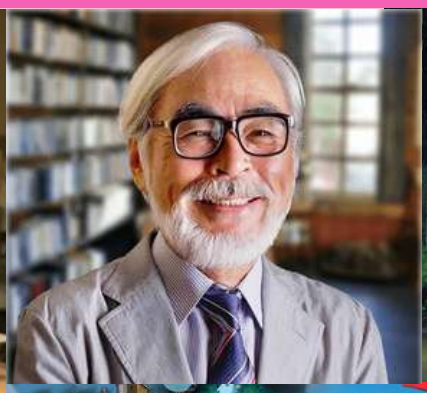


# ARTISTIC ACTIVITIES

AUTHOR: RESEARCH ASSISTANT DR. A. BENGİSU CANSEVER BAYHAN

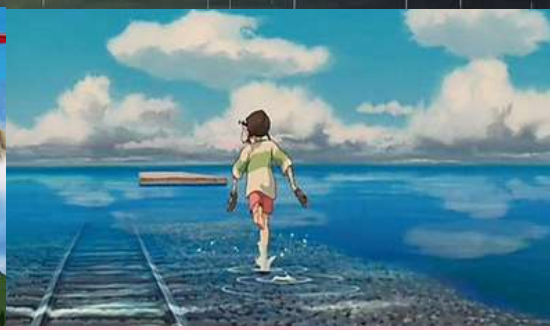
# THE LINES OF IMAGINATION: THE WORLD OF HAYAO MIYAZAKI











A giant forest spirit waiting at a bus stop, a castle floating across the sky, a silent train traveling over the sea… In Hayao Miyazaki's films, an ordinary moment can open the door to imagination. The Japanese director, animator, and manga artist transports audiences into fantastical worlds while inviting them to reflect on nature, humanity, and coexistence. Born in Tokyo in 1941, Miyazaki began his career in animation at Toei Animation. In 1985, he became one of the co-founders of Studio Ghibli. Through films such as My Neighbor Totoro, Princess Mononoke, Spirited Away, and Howl's Moving Castle, he has reached audiences across generations. Spirited Away won the Academy Award for Best Animated Feature in 2003, further establishing Miyazaki's international recognition.

In Miyazaki's visual universe, nature is far more than a backdrop against which events unfold. Forests, wind, water, and living creatures actively shape the direction of the narrative. Princess Mononoke confronts humanity's desire for production and development with nature's struggle for survival, without offering a simplistic resolution. The needs and contradictions of its characters encourage audiences to consider how conflicts arise rather than merely determining who is right. Children and young women also occupy a central position in Miyazaki's films. Chihiro in Spirited Away and Kiki in Kiki's Delivery Service develop resilience by confronting their fears, assuming responsibility, and forming relationships with others. Their courage emerges not from possessing all the answers from the outset, but from their ability to move forward amid uncertainty. One of the defining characteristics of Miyazaki's storytelling is the attention he devotes to seemingly insignificant moments. The preparation of a meal, grass swaying in the wind, or a character silently observing their surroundings contributes to the emotional atmosphere of a film. In these scenes, the rhythm of movement, sound, and visual details become narrative devices as powerful as dialogue. From the perspective of visual communication design, Miyazaki's works offer rich examples for examining how meaning is constructed through the relationships between color, composition, characters, and spatial environments. A tranquil landscape following a visually crowded scene, a character's posture, or the deliberate use of negative space within a frame can profoundly influence the audience's emotional response.

Exploring Miyazaki's world reminds us that imagination is also an act of attentive observation. What makes the extraordinary believable in his films is the meticulous depiction of the details of everyday life.

AUTHOR: LECTURER CANSU SÖZER

# JAPANESE BREAKFAST – FOR MELANCHOLY BRUNETTES (& SAD WOMEN) (2025)







Performing under the name Japanese Breakfast, Michelle Zauner explores the emotional conflicts arising from desire, disappointment, and romantic idealization in her fourth studio album, For Melancholy Brunettes (& sad women) (2025). While her previous album, Jubilee (2021), presented a brighter and more optimistic atmosphere, her latest work interprets melancholy through the distance between imagined happiness and lived reality.

Produced by Blake Mills, the album combines influences from indie rock, chamber pop, and folk with orchestral arrangements. Moving away from synthesizer-driven sounds and embracing acoustic guitars, strings, and subtle rhythmic elements, Zauner creates a cinematic and contemplative musical atmosphere. Her restrained vocal performance further reinforces the album's fragile and introspective character.

One of the album's opening tracks, "Orlando in Love," examines the beauty and dangers of romantic desire through literary and mythological references. "Mega Circuit" offers a critical perspective on masculinity and societal expectations, while "Little Girl" presents a more personal and vulnerable narrative through its minimalist arrangement. Together, these tracks reveal the album's diverse emotional dimensions.

Rather than romanticizing sadness, For Melancholy Brunettes (& sad women) examines the confrontation between reality and the ideals people construct around love, success, and happiness. With its literary references and intricate production, the album occasionally demands greater attentiveness from the listener, transforming melancholy from a mere emotion into a multilayered experience that encourages reflection on identity, expectations, and acceptance.

AUTHOR: ASST. PROF. DR. BAŞAK LALE

# UNINTERRUPTED TRANSPARENCY: THE FARNSWORTH HOUSE








Constructed between 1945 and 1951, the Farnsworth House is a sculptural residential masterpiece that reflects the architectural vision of Ludwig Mies van der Rohe, one of the pioneers of modern architecture. It stands as one of the most tangible expressions of his celebrated philosophy, “Less is more.” Designed as a weekend retreat for Dr. Edith Farnsworth, the structure symbolizes one of the purest and most radical dialogues between architecture and nature.

The most distinctive feature of the Farnsworth House is its elevation above the ground on white structural steel columns, creating the impression that the building is floating above the riverside meadow. In response to the changing dynamics of its natural surroundings, including the risk of river flooding, Mies van der Rohe raised the structure above the landscape and dissolved the boundaries between interior and exterior spaces through expansive floor-to-ceiling glass panels. Surrounded by transparent glazing on all sides, this single-room pavilion transforms the changing seasons and the shifting colors of the surrounding trees into a natural backdrop for domestic life.

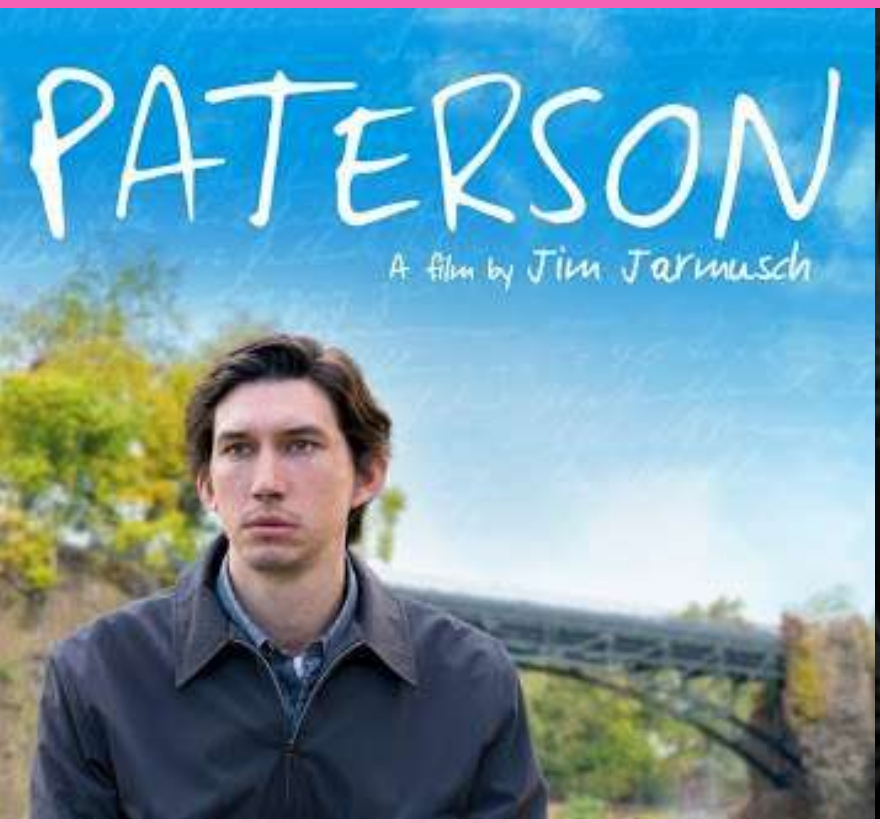
The interior contains no load-bearing partition walls. Instead, the architect concentrated the bathroom and service facilities, which require privacy, within a single centrally positioned, wood-paneled core. The living, dining, and sleeping areas flow seamlessly around this central element, creating an uninterrupted spatial arrangement. The harmonious combination of wood, travertine marble, and white steel lends the building a timeless elegance.

“Nature rediscovers its own presence through the transparency of glass and steel, while architecture achieves timelessness through its seamless dialogue with the river and surrounding trees.”

Having profoundly influenced the evolution of modern residential architecture, this glass monument remains one of the world's most inspiring examples of minimalist aesthetics and functional simplicity. Located in Plano, Illinois, approximately 90 kilometers from Chicago, the Farnsworth House operates as a museum under the stewardship of the National Trust for Historic Preservation and is accessible through guided tours. Visitors are advised to purchase tickets online to experience this remarkable encounter between architecture and nature firsthand. For anyone traveling to Illinois, the Farnsworth House is an essential destination for exploring an architectural landmark that helped redefine the history of modern design.

AUTHOR: ASSIST. PROF. EDA TÜRKAY

# PATERSON (JIM JARMUSCH, 2016)






Written and directed by Jim Jarmusch, Paterson is a film that explores the poetry hidden within the ordinariness of everyday life, distinguished by its calm and understated narrative style. Starring Adam Driver, the film follows one week in the life of Paterson, a bus driver living in Paterson, New Jersey, who writes poetry in his spare time. Waking up at similar hours each day, driving the same bus route, listening to conversations around him, and jotting down verses in a small notebook, the protagonist reveals the possibility of discovering subtle differences within the repetitive patterns of daily existence.

Drawing inspiration from the poetic approach of American poet William Carlos Williams, the film examines the relationship between everyday life and artistic creation, reminding audiences that creativity can emerge not only from extraordinary experiences but also from the attentive observation of ordinary moments. Through his minimalist cinematic language, rhythmic repetitions, and contemplative atmosphere, Jarmusch invites viewers to reflect on time, observation, the practice of writing, and the nature of inspiration.

Paterson approaches poetry not merely as an art form constructed through words, but as a way of perceiving and interpreting the world. In doing so, the film offers audiences an opportunity to rediscover the stories concealed within the seemingly insignificant details of everyday life.







AUTHOR: RESEARCH ASSISTANT OKAN KIRBACI

# MUAMMER KARACA THEATRE





As you may already know, the defining feature of this column is theatre productions. Over the past seasons, we have explored numerous remarkable performances, and we will continue to do so in the coming months. Among them are 9/8'lik Kıyamet, one of the most acclaimed productions of last season; Yerma, which first met audiences in March; and The Lieutenant of Inishmore, an outstanding dark comedy distinguished by its monochromatic stage aesthetics, which recently held its European-side premiere at the historic Ses Theatre. These and many other productions have been watched and are awaiting their turn to be discussed.

This month, however, we will make a small exception. Rather than focusing on the plays themselves, we will turn our attention to the venues that bring them to life. More specifically, we will explore a truly exceptional theatre that has been restored to Istanbul's cultural and theatrical heritage: the Muammer Karaca Theatre.

On September 25, 2026, the Muammer Karaca Theatre reopened its doors after a 14-year hiatus. Following restoration work undertaken by the Istanbul Metropolitan Municipality, the historic venue welcomed audiences once again with a particularly meaningful inaugural production: İlk Temsil, staged by the Istanbul Metropolitan Municipality City Theatres. Inspired by the theatre's own history, the play effectively allowed the venue to tell its story upon its own stage.

At this point, it is worth taking a moment to remember Muammer Karaca himself. Having devoted more than half a century of his life to the performing arts, the late Karaca remains one of the most significant figures in the history of Turkish theatre. In 1955, drawing largely on his theatrical experience and personal initiative, he established the theatre bearing his name in Beyoğlu.

His celebrated production Cibali Karakolu was performed thousands of times over a period of 16 years, becoming one of the longest-running successes in Turkish theatrical history. Yet, although theatre thrives on the applause of its audiences, applause alone cannot sustain it. In the final years of his life, Karaca encountered financial difficulties and was ultimately compelled to transfer the theatre he had founded to the municipality because of mounting debts. The venue was eventually closed in 2012 due to seismic safety concerns, and another 14 years would pass before its doors could finally reopen.

***“The sacrifices we made became the fertilizer that allowed theatre to flourish, and its light burned many delicate moths to ashes. Yet that light never went out… Those who call you mad today and dismiss your passion as madness will one day remember you as a leader and a pioneer, and establish museums in your name… I cannot call you mad. Everyone loves something, and some are willing to die for that consuming passion. How fortunate are those who find something beautiful to love in this wretched world!”***

Another remarkable feature of the renovated theatre is the exhibition Mengü Ertel’s Theatre Universe, hosted in the Tonozlu Building Exhibition Hall on the lower floor. Bringing together theatre posters, stage and costume designs, sketches, and archival documents, the exhibition offers an extraordinary exploration of the visual memory of Turkish theatre. Particularly significant are the designs created for Keşanlı Ali Destanı, which had its world premiere on this very stage in 1964. The exhibition will remain open until January 21, 2027, so be sure to mark the date. Anyone attending a performance at the Muammer Karaca Theatre should certainly take the opportunity to visit the exhibition as well.

In previous editions of this column, we expressed our appreciation for the opening of Habitat Sahne and the addition of Baruthane Stage to Istanbul’s theatrical landscape. Now, the Muammer Karaca Theatre joins these valuable cultural venues. Of course, Istanbul is home to countless independent theatres, performance spaces, and cultural centers, some familiar to us and others yet to be discovered. The establishment of new venues, the reopening of historic theatres, and the creation of opportunities for emerging theatre companies to perform are all developments worth celebrating for anyone who values the performing arts.

However, an important point deserves emphasis. As architects frequently remind us, it is people who bring spaces to life. Transforming a physical structure consisting of four walls and a ceiling into a living, breathing place with memory and character ultimately depends on human presence. What makes a theatre truly valuable is not merely its architecture, stage, or seating, but the words spoken within it, the dedication invested in its productions, the excitement shared, and, above all, the people who fill its seats.

In short, we owe our gratitude to everyone who contributed to the reopening of the Muammer Karaca Theatre and the establishment or restoration of many other performance venues. Yet audiences also have an important responsibility: to fill these theatres, attend performances, discover emerging companies, and go beyond simply applauding theatre by actively sustaining its existence. After all, a theatre does not truly come to life when its curtain rises, but when it welcomes its audience.

May our stages always resonate with applause.





AUTHOR: RESEARCH ASSISTANT HATİCE ÇOBAN

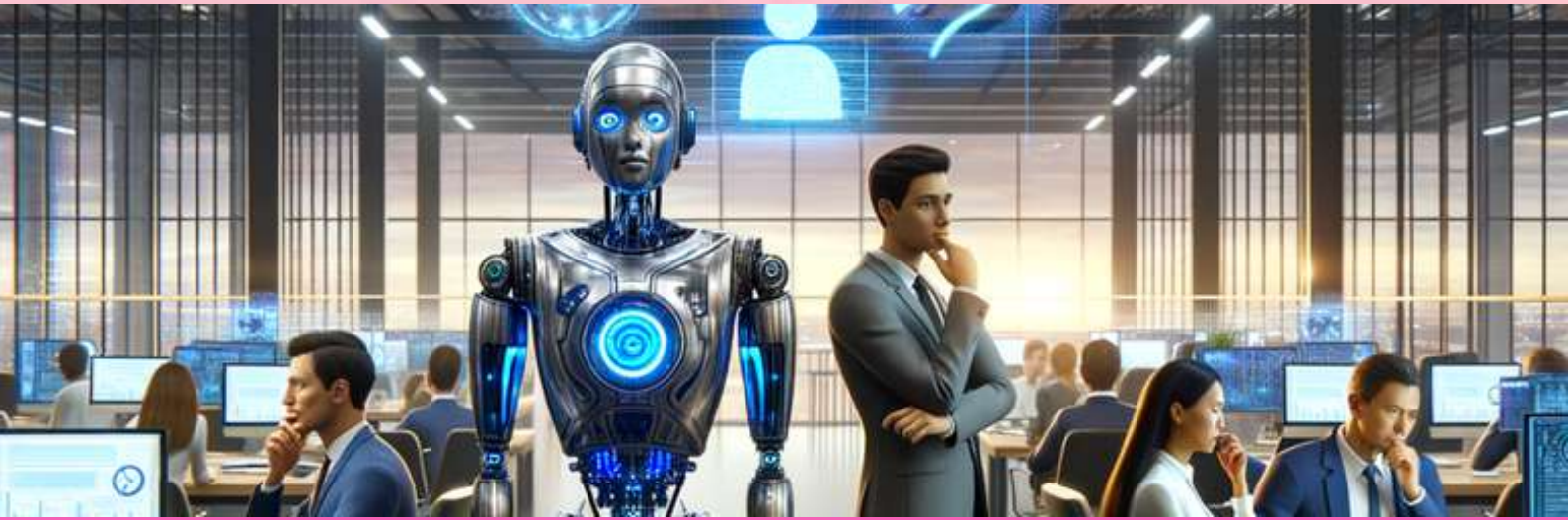
# ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE ETHICS SPECIALIST



An Artificial Intelligence Ethics Specialist is a professional who evaluates the moral and societal challenges that may arise during the design, development, and deployment of artificial intelligence systems and autonomous technologies, ensuring that algorithms operate fairly, transparently, and in accordance with human rights principles.

The responsibilities associated with this profession include identifying and mitigating algorithmic bias, auditing the decision-making processes of autonomous systems (such as self-driving vehicles and medical diagnostic algorithms), safeguarding user data privacy, and guiding technology companies in the development of legal and ethical guidelines.

Artificial Intelligence Ethics Specialists may work in major technology corporations, software development companies, healthcare institutions, law firms, research laboratories, and public sector organizations. Pursuing a career in this field requires interdisciplinary knowledge encompassing artificial intelligence technologies, data science, philosophy (particularly ethics), sociology, and information technology law.





# WHAT'S IN THE CITY?

AUTHOR: RESEARCH ASSISTANT DR. A. BENGİSU CANSEVER BAYHAN

## NOVEMBER EVENTS

**This November, Istanbul's art scene features exhibitions that bring together different eras and creative worlds. We've selected three exhibitions for you that you can visit throughout the month.**

Beneath the Same Blue — Istanbul Modern
8 September 2026 – 31 December 2027

How about a journey through different periods of art, guided by the seas, freedom and dreams evoked by the colour blue? Istanbul Modern's new collection exhibition brings together artists from Türkiye and around the world. Paintings, sculptures, photographs, videos and installations offer fresh perspectives on identity, urban life, migration, memory and nature.





Yoko Ono: Insound and Instructure — Sakıp Sabancı Museum
25 June – 27 December 2026

An exhibition that reminds us that art is as much about thinking, imagining and participating as it is about looking... Bringing together 67 works spanning more than seven decades of Yoko Ono's practice, the exhibition encompasses performance, film, installation and participatory art. Extending into the museum's garden, it invites visitors to reflect on peace, memory and the connections between people.

Overseas: Özer Kabaş and His Times — Salt Beyoğlu
16 September 2026 – 14 March 2027

A multifaceted artistic journey spanning painting, cinema, theatre and jewellery design... Focusing on the work of artist, educator and writer Özer Kabaş, the exhibition brings together paintings, original prints, films and archival documents. Exploring the relationships between the sea, labour and people, it also offers a closer look at a period in Türkiye's cultural and artistic history.





# INTERVIEWS

AUTHOR: RESEARCH ASSISTANT
ELİZ MUTLU TEKAY

# WE CONDUCTED AN INTERVIEW WITH ASST. PROF. DR. BAŞAK LALE FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF INTERIOR ARCHITECTURE!




***Dear Dr. LALE, first of all, could you briefly tell us about your academic background and your journey up to this point?***

Hello. My academic journey in the field of Interior Architecture began when I met the Department of Interior Architecture and Environmental Design at TOBB University of Economics and Technology. Design education completely broke me away from the more normative understanding of education I had received in previous periods, causing the source of my perception and interest to direct towards this discipline, to which I would be bound with a sense of loyalty in the following years. After graduating with honors from my undergraduate education, I started my master's degree in the same field at Hacettepe University with the aim of becoming an academician and delving into the subtleties of the profession. My studies focused on Ankara, where I combined my theoretical research in the history and theory of architecture and interior architecture with field data, and I continued this approach through Istanbul during my doctorate.

***You recently completed your doctoral process successfully, congratulations! Could you tell us about the focus of your doctoral thesis and the contributions this process has made to your academic vision?***

Thank you very much. In my doctoral study, I focused on the transformation of dead-end streets, which formed a 'private/semi-private threshold' space between housing and the city in traditional Islamic urban morphology, preserving privacy and functioning as an 'outer room' used by street residents. In my study conducted specifically on Istanbul Fatih, I analyzed how historical ruptures—starting with the Tanzimat modernization and the Ebniye Ordinances (Building Regulations), followed by the rational planning discipline of the Republican era, post-1950 mass internal migration waves, the 1985 UNESCO conservation process, the 1999 Marmara Earthquake, and today's urban transformation policies—coded dead-end streets as 'technical defects to be liquidated.' The main findings I reached through archival documents, mapping studies, and diachronic field readings showed that dead-end streets, which were an active part of daily life and privacy in the past, have today either vanished, been opened to traffic, commercialized, or evolved into idle spaces that are 'close enough to touch yet so far apart,' disconnecting from housing. This challenging research process granted me the ability to read interior architecture not merely limited to the interior of the building envelope, but as a holistic approach encompassing housing, threshold space, and psycho-social relationships on an urban scale. The depth I gained in historical qualitative data analysis, urban memory, and interdisciplinary research both strengthened my academic vision in my academic career and added a multi-layered perspective to my future research and the pedagogical approach I will share with my students.

***Based on this knowledge, could you tell us about your academic, publication, or project-oriented future plans and your research vision that you aim to implement in the coming period?***

I aim to transform the experience and knowledge I gained during this academic marathon into high-quality academic publications and funded research projects in the coming period. First, I plan to publish the findings I produced as a series of articles in internationally indexed journals and make them visible in national and international arenas in the field of urban memory/housing research. On the project side, alongside BAP (Scientific Research Projects) applications, I put guiding and mentoring projects at the center of my future plans under TÜBİTAK 2209 (University Students Research Projects) together with my undergraduate students, touching upon different and contemporary areas of spatial design while strengthening their researcher identities.

Thank you very much for your contributions and answers. We congratulate you once again on successfully completing your doctoral degree, and wish you continued success in both your academic publications and all the projects you plan.





AUTHOR: RESEARCH ASSISTANT OKAN KIRBACI

# FROM STUDENT LIFE TO PROFESSIONAL LIFE: BEDİA ZERİN HÖKENEK'S JOURNEY IN CINEMA AND MEDIA



**We spoke with Bedia Zerin Hökenek, a graduate of the Department of Radio, Television and Cinema at Istanbul Gelisim University's Faculty of Fine Arts, about her experience as an editor at Ego Medya, the contributions of her university education to her professional career, her transition into the media industry, and her future career goals.**

***It has been two years since you graduated from the Department of Radio, Television and Cinema. How do you think the knowledge and experience you gained during your university education have contributed to your professional career?***

First of all, I would like to talk about communication and self-confidence. Thanks to the events organized by my department, I learned how to communicate effectively and developed a strong sense of work discipline. During my student years, I took on various responsibilities at the International Short Film, Video and Photography Symposium, where I was also involved in the organization process. This experience provided me with valuable skills in planning, interpersonal relationships, and effective communication. As for the knowledge I gained, the short films we produced during our practical courses allowed us to experience how film sets operate, as well as the production and post-production processes firsthand. This helped me adapt quickly to the industry and its workflows when I began my professional career.

***You are currently working as an editor at Ego Medya. Could you tell us about your responsibilities and your role in the production process of a television program?***

At Ego Medya, we produce special news reports for various television channels, including NTV, TLC, and Beyaz TV. We also manage the production processes of YouTube videos and Instagram Reels. On the social media side, I create personalized content and organize the filming processes. Once filming is completed, I review the footage, carry out the necessary checks, and prepare the content for publication. On the television side, my main responsibilities include writing voice-over scripts, reviewing recorded footage, and providing feedback and revision requests.

***What were the biggest challenges you faced when transitioning from university to professional life after graduation? How did you overcome these difficulties?***

Student life is undoubtedly one of the most enjoyable and liberating periods of our lives. During this time, we benefit from many opportunities, and the responsibilities we take on are primarily aimed at our personal development. For example, when I submitted an assignment at university, I was working entirely for my own growth and achievement. However, entering professional life brought a significant change in this mindset, which I initially found quite challenging. In the workplace, you have concrete responsibilities, and you are expected to make a clear and tangible contribution. Since the internship period is over, you are expected to act like a professional from the moment you enter the industry. At first, this created a sense of anxiety for me, making me wonder, *“Will I really be able to succeed?” Overcoming this feeling was not easy, but you gradually become familiar with the professional environment. With a touch of nostalgia for student life and a strong determination to succeed, you eventually accept that a new chapter of your life has begun and learn to adapt to the process.

***Based on the experience you have gained at the beginning of your professional career, what advice would you give to students of the Department of Radio, Television and Cinema who are preparing to enter the industry? What are your personal career goals for the coming years?***

My most important advice to fellow students is to take advantage of every opportunity related to the industry that comes their way during their university years. Actively participating in departmental events and gaining practical experience are extremely valuable. At the same time, they should also enjoy their student years. When you are young, your body can tolerate sleepless nights and demanding schedules more easily. I believe that the effort, dedication, and hard work invested in personal development during these years will pay off significantly in professional life. As for my own career goals, my greatest ambition is to become an academic who has gained extensive hands-on experience in the industry. With this goal in mind, I continue to pursue both my academic and professional development with determination.







# CULTURAL JOURNEY

AUTHOR: PROF. DR. ISMET ÇAVUŞOĞLU

# ON THE 25TH ANNIVERSARY ‘LABOR OF LOVE’ JUBILEE EXHIBITION AT GALERIST ART GALLERY, ISTANBUL...





Foreign and Turkish artists, who hold an important place in world art, have opened dozens of solo exhibitions and displayed contemporary artworks to date at Galerist art gallery, which has established itself as a prominent contemporary art space over the years. Architect Tabanlıoğlu, the new owner of Galerist, highlighted the gallery's 25th anniversary with a selection featuring one artwork from every artist who has held a solo exhibition at the gallery thus far. A grand organization was arranged for this occasion. Both Turkish and foreign artists took part in the exhibition's opening. In addition to the artists, there was a large audience present in the gallery spaces. It was highly significant that renowned artists who had exhibited at this gallery at different times came together through this exhibition, conversing among themselves and interacting with the audience. At the opening, I had the opportunity to speak with the famous art educator, critic, and curator Prof. Dr. Ali Akay, who resides in France, as well as many other critics. They remarked that it was an important and distinctive exhibition. Prof. Dr. Ergin Çavuşoğlu, who lives in London, England, also participated in this exhibition, and his opinion of the event was excellent; he emphasized that it was an important inter-artist gathering.

Galerist celebrates its 25th anniversary with the "Labor of Love" exhibition, bringing together nearly 50 artists who have shaped the gallery's identity from its foundation to the present day. The exhibition, taking place at Galerist between September 16 and November 7, 2026, traces artistic affinities, long-lasting relationships, and shared commitments by combining important works that have left a mark on the gallery's history with new pieces produced specifically for this occasion.

Founded in 2001, Galerist has developed a program shaped around a dialogue based on continuity, intellectual exchange, and long-term relationships established with artists from different generations over the years. Throughout approximately 200 exhibitions, it has opened up space for the productions of young artists while accompanying the development of established practices, safeguarding artist legacies, and supporting the international visibility of Turkish contemporary art. Bringing together different generations, mediums, and artistic approaches on an equal gender basis, this artist-oriented approach also forms the foundation of Galerist's 25-year story.





Instead of looking at this story through an archive, "Labor of Love" opens Galerist up for consideration through the productions of the artists who brought it into existence. The works gathered in the exhibition can be read as self-portraits within the artists' own practices, while as a whole, they also create the collective portrait of Galerist. The idea of a self-portrait here refers not only to an image in which the artist represents themselves but to a broader field of expression extending to recurring forms, material choices, gestures, symbols, production methods, and the intellectual matters that define a practice.

The title of the exhibition renders visible the often-unseen labor, care, determination, and belief that lie at the core of artistic production and long-lasting partnerships. The title points to the continuous effort required to be a gallery that evolves alongside different actors such as artists, institutions, art professionals, collectors, and audiences over the years. Rather than commemorating a completed past, the exhibition celebrates a story that is still being written, looking toward the future that these relationships will make possible while saluting the 25-year journey.

The "Labor of Love" themed exhibition brings together the works of Hüseyin Alptekin, Haluk Akakçe, Francesco Albano, Ergin Çavuşoğlu, Yeşim Akdeniz, Rasim Aksan, Semiha Berksoy, Hera Büyüktaşçıyan, Taner Ceylan, Hussein Chalayan, Michael Craig-Martin, İpek Duben, Ayşe Erkmen, Leyla Gediz, Kendell Geers, Anton Henning, Mustafa Hulusi, İdil İlkin, Merve İşeri, Şahin Kaygun, Nuri Kuzucan, Arik Levy, Merve Morkoç, Youssef Nabil, Julian Opie, Lara Ögel, Serkan Özkaya, Güçlü Öztekin, Seza Paker, Thomas Ruff, Sarkis, Yusuf Sevinçli, Erinç Seymen, Arslan Sükan, Murat Şahinler, Ali Emir Tapan, Evren Tekinoktay, Ayça Telgeren, Defne Tesal, Margaret R. Thompson, Tunca, Gavin Turk, Elif Uras, Viron Erol Vert, Erwin Wurm, Burcu Yağcıoğlu, Nil Yalter, and Nazım Ünal Yılmaz.













# GASTRONOMIC JOURNEY

AUTHOR: ASSOC. PROF. DR. MURAT DOĞAN

# SILENT WITNESSES OF ANCIENT TABLES: THE STORY WHISPERED BY BONES



İstanbul Gelişim Üniversitesi
Güzel Sanatlar Fakültesi Dekan Yardımcısı

Doç. Dr. Murat Doğan

Kadim Sofraların Sessiz Tanıkları: Kemiklerin Fısıldadığı Hikâye

Ne yersek oyuz, derler. Bu sözü genellikle bedenimiz için söyleriz; kaslarımız, cildimiz, saçlarımız için. Oysa yediklerimiz çok daha derin bir yere kazınır: hikâyemize. Bir toplumun

başkalarının yazdığı birer methiye gibi. Peki ya kemiklerin kendisi? İşte asıl hikâye orada başlıyor. Çünkü kemikler, bir insanın yaşarken ne yediğinin, hangi proteinlere erişebildiğinin, ne sıklıkla et yiyebildiğinin kaydını tutar. Bu bir

kemikleri, halk tabakasının basit toprak mezarlarında yatanlara kıyasla çok daha yüksek azot izotopu taşıyor. Bu demek oluyor ki, onların sofrasından et, süt, peynir eksik olmuyordu. Onlar, güçlerini yalnızca kalelerin burçlarına

We are what we eat, they say. We usually say this about our bodies—our muscles, our skin, our hair. Yet what we eat is etched somewhere much deeper: into our story. To look at a society's cuisine is, in fact, to look at its map of power, its fears, its beliefs, and its desires. A slice of bread on our table today is the continuation of a seed our ancestors planted in the soil thousands of years ago. But what was the distance between the hands that sowed that seed and the lips that ate that bread? Whose table held meat, and whose bowl contained nothing but gruel? The answers to these questions are no longer hidden only in history books or in the magnificent gravestones unearthed in excavations. They lie in silence itself—in the whispers of bones and broken pottery waiting beneath the earth.

Imagine: you are at an archaeological excavation. You patiently peel back the layers of soil, and a skeleton emerges before you. What can this skeleton tell you? The grandeur of its grave and the gold ornaments placed beside it certainly say something. But these are always stories told "from the outside," like eulogies written by others after someone's death. What about the bones themselves? That is where the real story begins. Because bones keep a record of what a person ate during their lifetime, which proteins they had access to, and how often they could eat meat. It is, in a sense, the body's own archive. And scientists now know how to read this archive.

The language of this archive is isotopes. Carbon and nitrogen. Every mouthful you eat becomes part of your body's building blocks and leaves a signature there. The carbon signature in the bones of someone who eats wheat and barley differs from that of someone who eats millet. But it is the story of nitrogen that is truly striking. Nitrogen reveals your place in the food chain. The higher up you are—that is, the more meat and animal protein you consume—the higher the nitrogen level in your bones. It is like biology's ruthless yet equally honest ledger. Which segments of society ate well, and which could barely fill their stomachs—the bones reveal them one by one.

And it is precisely here that the greatest secret of those ancient tables comes to light: Inequality. Yes, in ancient societies, just as today, the table was a matter of class. The bones of the elites, buried in monumental tombs and mourned with laments, contain far higher levels of nitrogen isotopes than those of ordinary people lying in simple earthen graves. This means that meat, milk, and cheese were never absent from their tables. They had inscribed their power not only on the battlements of castles but also into the very molecular structure of their bodies. A thinker named Bourdieu says that social classes distinguish themselves not only through economic power but also through "taste." And the most fundamental expression of that taste is what you can and cannot eat. In the ancient world, protein was a badge of privilege. The ancestor of the dry-aged steak you eat today at a luxury restaurant was the nitrogen isotope etched into the bones of a member of the elite thousands of years ago. All that has changed is the splendor of the table; what remains unchanged is its privileged position.

In the second article of our series, we take the story beyond bones, into the invisible world of flavors hidden in the pores of broken pottery and amphorae. As we trace the fatty acids absorbed into ceramic vessels, the fermenting grape must, and the ancient culinary wisdom that transforms nature into culture, we will examine the profound meaning the table has carried from past to present and the true power of sharing.

Assoc. Prof. Murat Doğan




GELİŞİM ÜNİVERSİTESİ
Güzel Sanatlar
“ “I HAVE AN IDEA!” ”
PROJECT APPLICATIONS CONTINUE!
For Application

# FACULTY OF FINE ARTS GRADUATES MEET AT METSIS!

## YOU CAN ALSO BECOME A MEMBER

CLICK



IGU
CAREER
Career Planning, Application and Research Center

IGU
MMC
Mezunlar ve Mensuplar Koordinatörlüğü

A new platform that connects IGU graduates and students with employers based on the qualifications required for the job.

# JOB MATCH PLATFORM

Access is now open. You can view open positions as a member and submit your application.



For more information and to apply

metsis.gelisim.edu.tr

# TAG


**COORDINATOR**
Prof. Dr.Şükran Güzin
ILICAK AYDINALP

**EDITOR**
Assoc. Prof. Sezgin SAVAŞ

**CONTENT EDITORS**
Res. Asst. Hatice ÇOBAN

**CONTENT EDITORS**
Prof. Dr. İsmet ÇAVUŞOĞLU
Assoc. Prof. Murat DOĞAN
Asst. Prof. Dr. Eda TÜRKAY
Asst. Prof. Dr. Başak LALE
Res. Asst. Dr. A. Bengisu CANSEVER BAYHAN
Res. Asst. Hatice ÇOBAN
Res. Asst. Eliz MUTLU TEKAY
Res. Asst. Fatih YÜCEYURT
Res. Asst. Okan KIRBACI
Lecturer Cansu SÖZER

**DESIGN**
Res. Asst. Fatih YÜCEYURT
Res. Asst. Okan KIRBACI
Res. Asst. Nuran AKARSU

**TRANSLATION**
Res. Asst. Mustafa DALLI



**ISTANBUL GELISIM UNIVERSITY**
**FACULTY OF FINE ARTS**

**Cihangir Mahallesi, Petrol Ofisi Caddesi, No. 3-5 Gelişim Tower, Avcılar/ISTANBUL (Interior Architecture, Interior Architecture and Environmental Design, and Interior Architecture and Environmental Design (English) departments are on the 14th floor; the Dean's Office of the Faculty of Fine Arts and other departments are on the 20th floor)**

**0 (212) 422 70 00**

gsf.gelisim.edu.tr