ÖKTEMAYKUT

Murat Yıldız
Stijn Ank
Dialogue

ARTISSIMA

Artissima
30.10 - 01.11.2026
Preview: 29.10.2026
Booth: Black 4

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Öktem Aykut presents a duo presentation by Stijn Ank and Murat Yıldız. Ank, primarily known for his monumental site-specific works, pivots towards a series of intimate ossified sculptures. By pouring liquid plaster into raw powder, he allows the medium to self-determine its form, resulting in ephemeral structures that appear as if unearthed from a seabed. In dialogue with these sculptures are the jagged, vivid drawings of Murat Yıldız. Composed entirely in colored pencil, Yıldız's series uses rapid, sharp gestures to capture memories as they elusively unfold. Together, the artists create a poetic tension, converging on a fascination with how materials transform and the vulnerability of matter.

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Murat Yıldız

Untitled, 2026

Colored pencil on canvas
148 x 182 cm

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Murat Yıldız

Untitled, 2025

Colored pencil on canvas
87 x 76 cm

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Murat Yıldız

Untitled, 2026

Colored pencil on canvas
154 x 120 cm

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Murat Yıldız

Untitled, 2026

Colored pencil on canvas
100 x 100 cm

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Murat Yıldız

Untitled, 2026

Colored pencil on canvas
83 x 84 cm

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Murat Yıldız

Untitled, 2025

Pencil on canvas
75 x 54 cm

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Murat Yıldız

Untitled, 2025

Colored pencil on canvas
90 x 80 cm

Murat Yıldız (*1984, Istanbul) studied Combined Arts at Yıldız Technical University and completed his master's degree in Fine Arts at St. Joost School of Art & Design in the Netherlands. Yıldız's artistic experimentation revolves around how people and objects shape one another, both consciously and unconsciously. He founded Dream News which is a publication that seeks to shape the time we live in, and gives the news of the future of today's dreams, through research, interviews, and workshops. He is part of HAH Kolektif, an Istanbul based artist collective. He participated in artist research programs in 2016 and 2019 at Lähde!, Artist in Community program, KulttuuriKauppila in Finland and Het Vijfde Seizoen, Den Dolder in Holland in 2019, Platform Living Room Artist Residency in Rotterdam, Netherlands in 2023. He also exhibited his works in group exhibitions in the Netherlands and Turkey. His first solo exhibition *Water is Sandpaper, You are My Eye* took place at Öktem Aykut in 2022. In 2024 his second show *Flower and Leaves* was exhibited at the gallery. Öktem Aykut presented his works at Liste Art Fair Basel in 2023. Yıldız lives and works in Istanbul.

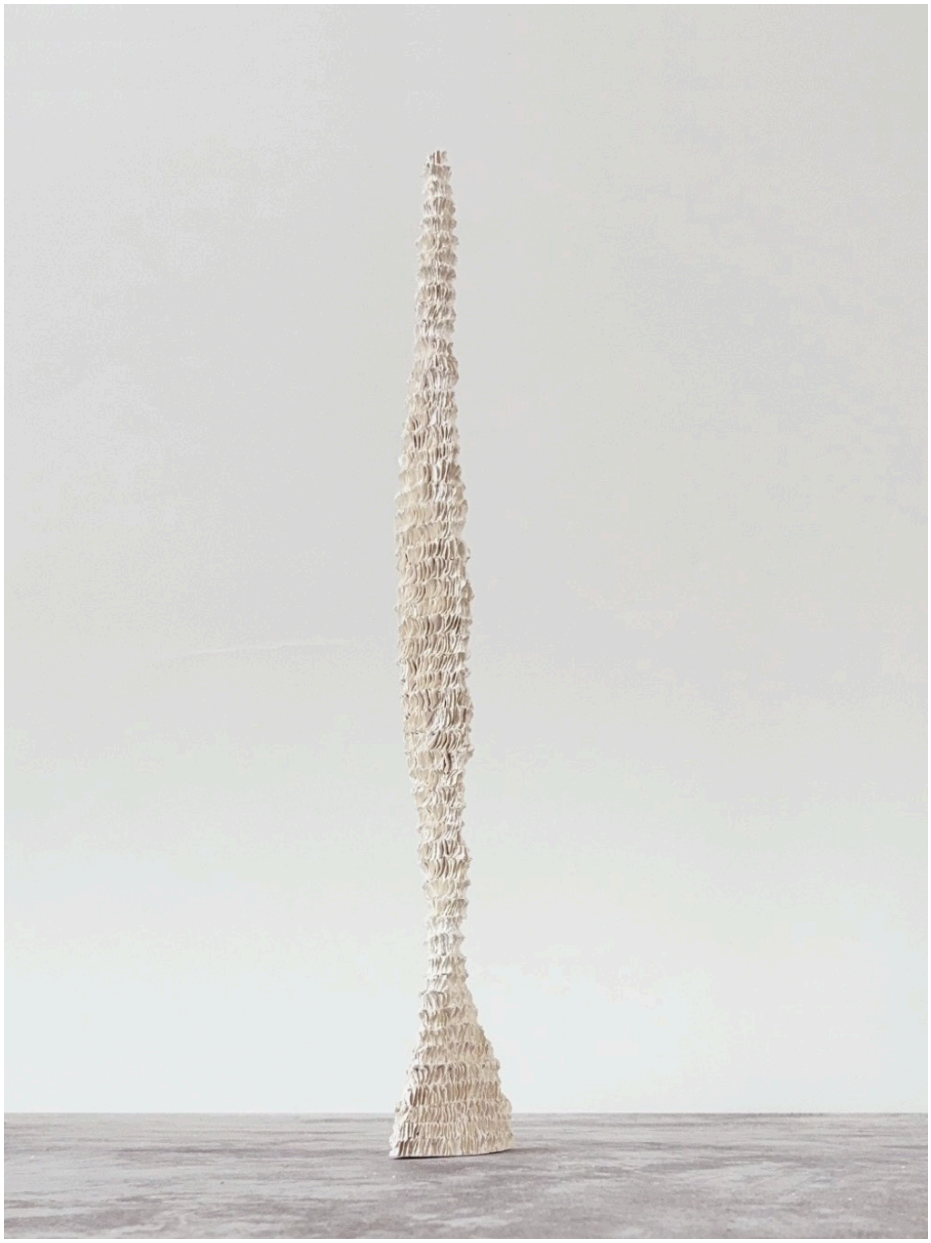


Stijn Ank

Untitled, 2026

Plaster, metal structure
68,1 x 8 x 7 cm

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Stijn Ank

Untitled, 2026

Pigmented plaster, metal structure
50,1 x 8,3 x 4,6



Stijn Ank

Untitled, 2024

Plaster, metal structure
148,4 x 30,6 x 12,3 cm



Stijn Ank

Untitled, 2024

Plaster, metal structure
24 x 9,8 x 11,7 cm



Stijn Ank

Untitled, 2024

Pigmented plaster
19,2 x 14 x 6,6 cm



Stijn Ank

Untitled, 2026

Pigmented plaster, metal structure
17,9 x 6,7 x 7,2 cm



Stijn Ank

Untitled, 2024

Pigmented plaster
6,7 x 15,2 x 1,9 cm



Stijn Ank

Untitled, 2025

Pigmented plaster, metal structure
16 x 6 x 6 cm



Stijn Ank

Untitled, 2025

Pigmented plaster, metal structure
4 x 4 x 12 cm



Stijn Ank

Untitled, 2026

Tin, gold gilding
5,9 x 5,9 x 14,9 cm

Stijn Ank (*1977, Brussels). Works intuitively, creating molds with different materials, that delineate specific spatial boundaries. Into these molds, he pours liquid plaster—a substance derived from seawater salts—mixed with natural pigments sourced from minerals. As the plaster sets, it undergoes a crystallization process reminiscent of coral growth, capturing a tension between fluidity and solidity. Once the molds are opened, Ank's sculptures emerge as autonomous worlds, they occupy a sensory space that feels both archaic and immediate—a moment suspended before meaning crystallizes. His sculptures serve as meditations on the fragile beauty of existence, bearing witness to the cycles of materiality, space, light, and time. Constantly evolving, they reflect the delicate balance between creation and decay, permanence and impermanence. Institutional solo exhibitions include IMMA, Dublin (2025); Kunsthaus Lempertz, Brussels (2024); Le Musée du Louvre, Paris (2022); Academia Belgica, Rome (2020); Club Solo & Vanabbemuseum, Breda (2019); Bastide Projects, Marseille (2018); MoCA Museum, Taipei (2017); Künstlerhaus Bethanien, Berlin (2017); Forum d'Art Contemporain, Luxembourg (2014); S.M.A.K., Ghent (2012). Ank's solo exhibition *Desire* took place at Öktem Aykut in 2022. The artist lives and works in Ghent.