

PRESS RELEASE

Whiteness as Property: a new work by caner teker on TheArtists.net

Exclusively for TheArtists, performance artist **caner teker** developed 'Whiteness as Property' (2022): «In this work I would like to offer the services of an escort (...) I would like to take this term specifically from the sex work industry, indicating that this is, same as performance work, a service that is paid. Whoever books me, can make agreements with me what we're doing, this service is not specifically sexual, it can be! (...) I use the platform here as 'escort agency' that does nothing else than advertising this service for my purposes and taking a percentage for the salary.» caner teker

Despite a rigorous grounding in theory, caner teker's artwork is physical and beautiful. The artist takes the stance that documentary photography cannot capture the reality of performance, perhaps since movement can only be glimpsed in two dimensions, capturing coolly with no indication of breath, or warmth. Even without photos, the sheer breadth of teker's work can be appreciated through the diversity of media employed. caner teker offers us the monolithic yet playfully designed large format print 'Shame Manifesto' (2021) that sharply defends positions of 'us' and 'them' through a verbal exchange. The sculptural archive 'Resonating Bodies' (2022) blends craft, set design and found objects to imply the demanding physicality of stripping. Scent and touch and sweat are tangible artifacts of a recent performance ('Kirkpinar', 2020), the offerings cast off by delicately oiled wrestlers, a tender nod towards an energy long since dissipated, but containing the promise of renewal.

More works of caner teker can be discovered and acquired on www.TheArtists.net with a 10% share of each sale going to Initiative Duisburg 1984 e.V. (5% from TheArtists' share and 5% from teker's share). The performance artist is part of the Selection of Ahmet Ögüt – socio-cultural initiator, artist and lecturer – which includes five artists originating from Turkey. The collaboration with teker exemplifies TheArtists' concern to also show non-object based art works, to give them emphasis, space and attention.

Upcoming performance

'Grounds for Refusal' by caner teker
Sunday, 27.11.22, 19:00 at Bone Festival, Berne

About TheArtists

The curated platform TheArtists supports selected artists with no gallery representation by communicating their practice and offering their works for sale on TheArtists.net. New selections of artists – curated by renowned artists and curators such as Gregor Hildebrandt, Slavs and Tatars, Maya El Khalil, Ahmet Ögüt and Bettina Steinbrügge – are launched four times a year. TheArtists' focus is on the artists, offering insight into contemporary art practices and making artworks easily accessible for sale. 60% of the sale proceeds get paid out directly to the artist. An additional 5% goes into a community fund which is split up equally between all artists of one selection.

We are at the same time – on invitation by ruangrupa, curators at documenta fifteen – developing and managing **lumbung Gallery**, a cooperative experiment in co-ownership, exchange, and transvestment at documenta fifteen. Lumbung Gallery is a platform which could contribute to the different already existing ways of supporting artists and collectives, their local ecosystem, communities and the lumbung at large by sharing returns and is inspired by ideas and thoughts very similar with TheArtists' mission.

For any further information, please contact Maren Brauner (maren@theartists.net) or Beat Raeber (beat@theartists.net).