

Melike Kara



In her expressionist, rustic figures, Melike Kara negotiates the relationship between forms and gestures to explore social relationships and individual subjective states. A student of Rosemarie Trockel, Kara focuses on the immediacy of bodily forms rendered through frenetic accumulations of lines or small, misshapen clay figures.

Regardless of media, Kara's work is unmistakably of the artist's hand. Although composed of simple forms and mostly monochromatic colors, the Cologne-based artist's pieces attempt to convey emotional and psychological energy through gesture. Kara translates complex constellations of energy and feeling into recognizable forms placed in novel relation to one another.

In her work, Melike Kara first and foremost allows the being to emerge without any evaluation. She questions the notion of duality between form and formlessness, incurrence and dissolution, focusing on the correspondence between groups and singular figures. Attitude, gesture and facial expression visualize social constellation, transmitting undefined content without ever being specific.

Yet, by reflecting common, everyday social encounters, the figures seem utterly familiar. Emanating from the being, the artist allows the canvas to react upon all these emotions. The colour however, is deliberately selected to provide a form and frame to the painting's inner life.