

# The human form in 'Köpek' by Melike Kara at Peres Projects, Berlin

BY NICOLETTE LOIZOU | OCTOBER 04, 2017

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Melike Kara

Peres Project presents "Köpek," the second solo exhibition of painting, sculpture, and photography by the famous German artist [Melike Kara](#). She lives and works in Cologne.

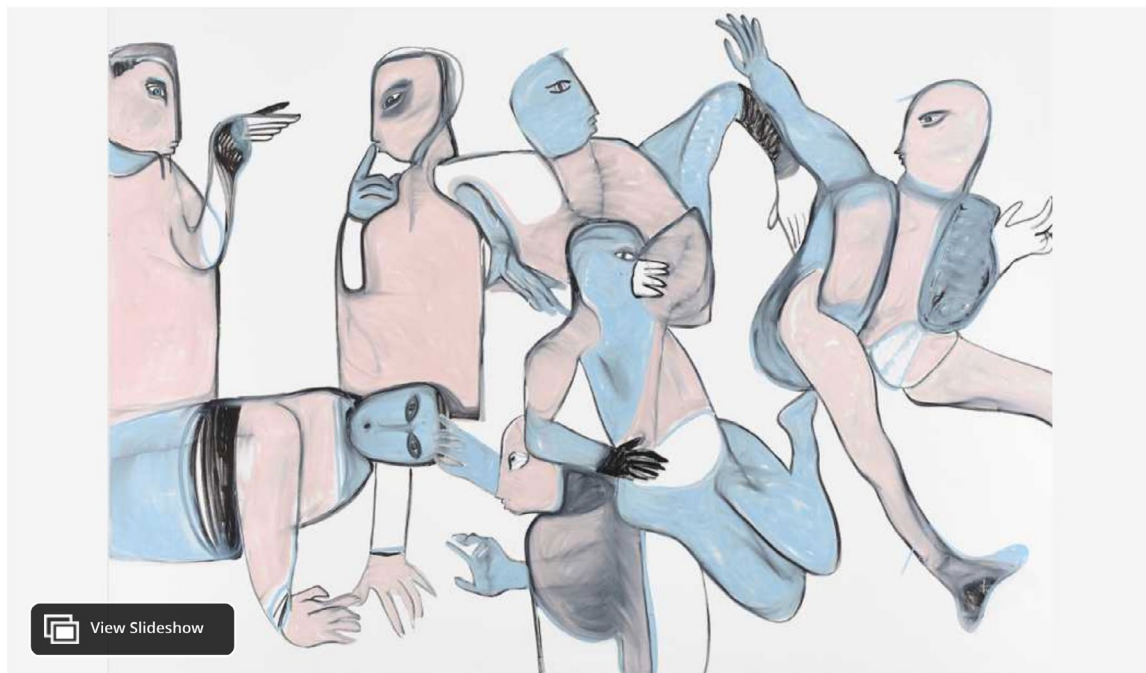
Melike Kara was born in 1985 in Bensberg and did her schooling at the Kunstakademie Dusseldorf. Her work is based on the identity of self and inter-relationship of people.

The characters that populate Melike Kara's dramatic canvases are regularly defined by their paces. While some images seem relatively benign, others are full of figures performing an array of impressive dances featuring gravity-defying somersaults and backflips. The contorted forms, all long arms and legs, offer a articulation of human anatomy that knows no bounds.

Kara paints figures which have no definite identity or gender and depict the social interaction between humans. There is also a generality of space and time. When people are made to come in contact with each other, there must be some emotion; be it love or disagreement. The artist observes her subjects with keen interest contrasting their mental ability with weakness. The essential quality of these paintings is their anonymity along with modesty, for they represent living people, facing the changes of life.

The exhibition also showcases an installation of wallpapers made up of photographs of different places in Germany and Turkey. They don't show people, yet human presence is felt through architecture, collected flowers, and a gravestone. The artist represents the contemporary world through her photography, the world which the artist calls her home. The photographs of Turkey refer directly to her family history. She raises the question of how much of the personality is inherited and how much of self is acquired afterward. The photographs of Germany show closed market stores owned by second or third generation Turkish immigrants. She raises the question of cultural integration of the immigrants and its effect on the national economy and their ethnic identity. According to the artist, localization of people is virtually impossible as people have always moved around from pre-historical era.

*"Köpek" is being showcased at Karl-Marx-Allee 82, 10243 Berlin, Germany from September 7 through November 3, 2017.*



MELIKE KARA show me god, 2017 Painting - Acrylic and oil sticks on canvas 200 x 280 cm (78.74 x 110.24 in)  
(Courtesy: Peres Projects, Berlin, Photographer: Matthias Kolb)