



PORTFOLIO

pelin karar

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about me

ARTISTEDUCATOR.

Born in the Netherlands within two different cultures (Turkish and Dutch), which is the source of inspiration for my practice. Living in two different worlds developed me as an artisteducator, who aims to bring people from different backgrounds together through art (education). In my work I focus mainly on performance art, where embodiment, storytelling and mixed media are part of. My aim as an artisteducator is to be someone who can counter discrimination, segregation and polarisation by using universal topics such as identity to find commonalities in people. I apply artistic methods in to connect with people.

FACES OF PREJUDICE

BA FINE ARTS AND DESIGN EDUCATION
WILLEM THE KOONING ACADEMY,
ROTTERDAM, 2017



Faces of prejudice is a photo series of portraits of local people in Rotterdam who experienced prejudice that others had about them. Together with a fellow student, we talked to people about prejudice on the streets of Rotterdam. Those conversations created a space of vulnerability that allowed for connection with those people. It became eye opening for those people and the only way to take down prejudice is by talking about it. At this way we create empathy for each other.

FEAR

BA FINE ARTS AND DESIGN EDUCATION
WILLEM THE KOONING ACADEMY,
ROTTERDAM, 2017

Fear is a performance in which I depict the emotion of fear of failure. On a large sheet of paper I impulsively draw with thick charcoal on the composition of Krzysztof Penderecki. This music has a constructive sound that gradually produces an unpleasant hearing. The lines I draw at the beginning of the performance are organic and fine, but as I feel more anxious, they turn into angular lines. Eventually I lose my control in the lines and in the movements. When the music stops, I end my performance with a deep sigh. This performance represents a fear of failure that I had during my primary school days. As a teacher, I want to expose this common phenomenon, so that teachers become aware of the mental health of students.



EMBRYO

BA FINE ARTS AND DESIGN EDUCATION
WILLEM THE KOONING ACADEMY,
ROTTERDAM, 2018



Embryo is a performance in which I depict the struggle between my two cultural worlds. The placenta is split in two and represents my two cultures: Dutch (blue) and Turkish/Arabic (red). These two placentas together form the purple umbilical cord that is connected to me. I, a fetus, argue with these placentas about my identity. During this fight I ask who I am and where I come from. After I untie the umbilical cord, a lullaby is played, sung by my mother. The song makes it clear that there is not one identity, but several. The fetus does not have to choose one identity because it belongs to someone, namely the mother.



AAN TAFEL!

BA FINE ARTS AND DESIGN EDUCATION
WILLEM THE KOONING ACADEMY,
ROTTERDAM, 2018

Aan tafel! is a project about connecting with local people of Delfshaven/Rotterdam by sharing recipes and cooking together. In a group with three other (international) students we worked with some woman from the community VEC (Vrouwen Emancipatie Centrum). We created a connection with those woman by talking about food, gender, identity and culture while drinking tea together. However my groupmates couldn't talk Dutch and the woman of the community couldn't talk English, so I was the bridge between these students and these women because I was the only one who could speak both languages. As we came to visit more of these women in this community, my fellow group members started communicating by cooking with them and they bonded with them.



SEE ME, DON'T SEE ME

BA FINE ARTS AND DESIGN EDUCATION
WILLEM THE KOONING ACADEMY,
ROTTERDAM, 2020



See me, don't see me is a performance in which I question my position as an art teacher in society, by looking at works of art that represent social issues. In a multicultural society, such as the Netherlands, we have a lot to do with multicultural classes. When certain topics of art are discussed, some students may feel attacked or disconnected from the subject because of religion, culture, gender etc. Therefore it is important that teachers teaching in multicultural classes are aware of inclusive pedagogy. How do we talk about art? What do you see that I don't see?



IN - BETWEEN

MA INTERNATIONAL MASTERS ARTIST EDUCATOR
ARTEZ HOGESCHOOL VOOR DE KUNSTEN,
ARNHEM, 2021

In-between is a performance where I embody the struggle of feeling inbetween two different cultures. In this performance, I mapped my identity on fabric with a motif that consists of blue angular lines and red organic lines to refer my two cultures (Turkish and Dutch). First, I am just one with my identity map because the skirts that I wear is connected to the map, but during the performance you can hear my thoughts about my identity and frustrations in two languages, Turkish and Dutch. As more I become frustrated, a song, *Insan Insan* by the Turkish composer Fazil Say, starts to play and I undress the skirts where I will be seen in white with a purple fabric detail. This represents my identity from my view. I start to dance on the music, and I will even dance outside the map where I want to express freedom. Being in-between allows me to be someone else outside my two cultures.

COLLAGE

MA INTERNATIONAL MASTERS ARTIST EDUCATOR
ARTEZ HOGESCHOOL VOOR DE KUNSTEN,
ZWOLLE, 2022



Collage is a performance where I reflect my identity as an artisteducator in the Windesheim project. The Windesheim project was a project where I worked with students of International Business and employees of Windesheim University collaborating with the goal of incorporating the Sustainable Development Goals into the campus. This performance reflects on moments I had during this project working with my partners and how this formed my identity as an artisteducator, by embodying a collage. This collage formed with pieces of fabric I made earlier as an identity map. Each piece of fabric stands for a moment during the project and by sticking this on me, a memory of thought or sense is expressed by me. At the end of this performance, I embody a new identity as an artisteducator.



A PIECE OF HOME

MA INTERNATIONAL MASTERS ARTIST EDUCATOR
ARTEZ HOGESCHOOL VOOR DE KUNSTEN,
BELFAST, NORTHERN IRELAND 2022

A piece of home is a project created in Belfast/Northern Ireland. This project discovered the sense of home of local people, asylum seekers and students in Belfast. Belfast suffered from a conflict in the '60s which was traumatizing for many people, and this is still present in some neighbourhoods. Local people are very bonded to their own community whereas asylum seekers who just came to Belfast have to find their connection to feel at home. The aim of this project was to form a connection with these people by making them feel at home during the workshops I organized. Through storytelling, performance and crafting I was able to create a connection with these people. The most important thing was to create a safe learning environment and to show vulnerability.