

An abstract painting featuring thick, expressive brushstrokes in shades of pink, white, black, and blue. The composition is layered and textured, with some areas appearing more saturated than others. The overall effect is one of dynamic movement and emotional intensity.

# FRACTURE

Zümrütoğlu

JD MALAT  
GALLERY

UNTITLED,  
ART.

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Portrait taken at Pilevneli Gallery Mecidiyeköy

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## Zümrütoğlu

For UNTITLED 2020 JD Malat Gallery presents *Fracture*, a solo booth by leading Turkish artist Zümrütoğlu. This booth will bring together Zümrütoğlu's highly expressive paintings and sculptures as an extension of the artist's solo exhibition *Atonal Drift* at JD Malat Gallery in London. *Fracture* develops the artist's interests in the 'dissonant and disharmonious body'. Zümrütoğlu explores the notion of disharmony by creating a series of works which announces a more violent approach to figurative abstraction, commenting on the artist's own deviation from traditional structures. Zümrütoğlu interrogates ideas of deconstruction across painting and sculpture and seeks to underline this series of works as a by-product of a fractured society.

In an attempt to display the depth and progressive nature of the gallery programme, this booth will underline Zümrütoğlu's relevance in the field of figurative abstraction, whilst outlining JD Malat Gallery's interest in promoting and situating established and emerging artists within the framework of contemporary art historical discourse.

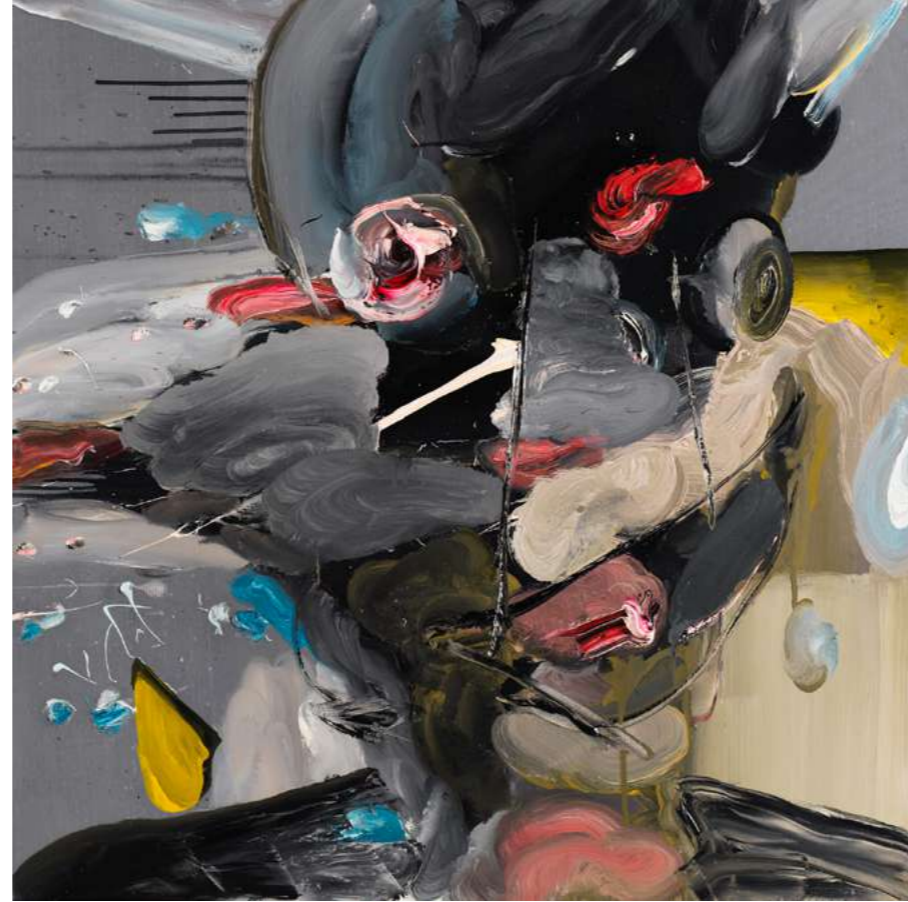
The title of the booth, *Fracture*, marks an extension of *Atonal Drift* which develops from the progressive thinking first expressed by Austrian-born composer and painter, Arnold Schoenberg (1874-1951). 'Atonality' has been understood as a conscious attempt to avoid traditional harmony in music. Taking on the broadest sense of the term - as deviation from traditional structures and integral frameworks of different practices - 'atonal' in Zümrütoğlu's new body of work denotes the artist's ability to challenge the conventions of figurative painting to express a dissonant human form, whilst 'drift' demonstrates the artist's shift from the canvas to sculpture.

Informed by Western literature, philosophy and music, Zümrütoğlu's work to date has engaged with the darker side of human existence. With swirling strokes and splashes of thickly applied paint, Zümrütoğlu presents figures whose corporeal boundaries are pushed beyond their limits. Such twisted and visceral forms mark an expression of Zümrütoğlu's contemplation of the darkness of humanity and bring to life what he calls 'the disharmonious body'. The dynamism of colour and fleshy painterliness which first captivated Zümrütoğlu's audience through his paintings, is now offered to the audience at UNTITLED through this new body of work. After a visceral shock or being hit 'in the gut' as Zümrütoğlu often states, one begins to see figures slowly emerge and materialise through the thick paint and ceramic forms. A careful encounter with these works will alert the viewer not only to the baseness of human nature, but also our desire to search for harmony amongst chaos. Engaging the viewer through painting and sculpture, *Fracture* is a theatrical celebration of the best and worst of humanity in every sense and emotion.

Moved by the work of German poet Heinrich von Kleist (1777-1811) and French Surrealist playwright Antonin Artaud (1896-1948), Zümrütoğlu has embraced themes such as the fragility of human existence, psychological anxiety, and pollutions of the mind. Zümrütoğlu harnesses the pain of the 'fracture' by engaging with the darker side of human existence, forcing the viewer to interact with the fragility of our bodies and the ease at which they can be broken. Zümrütoğlu avoids preparatory drawings, the 'gut punch' effect of his work develops organically through the process of the painting, fracturing the body in real time. There is a sense that a human is present on the canvas, recognisable through eyeballs and other bodily parts, yet Zümrütoğlu has broken them into indefinable waves of gestural brushstrokes and swathes of colour.

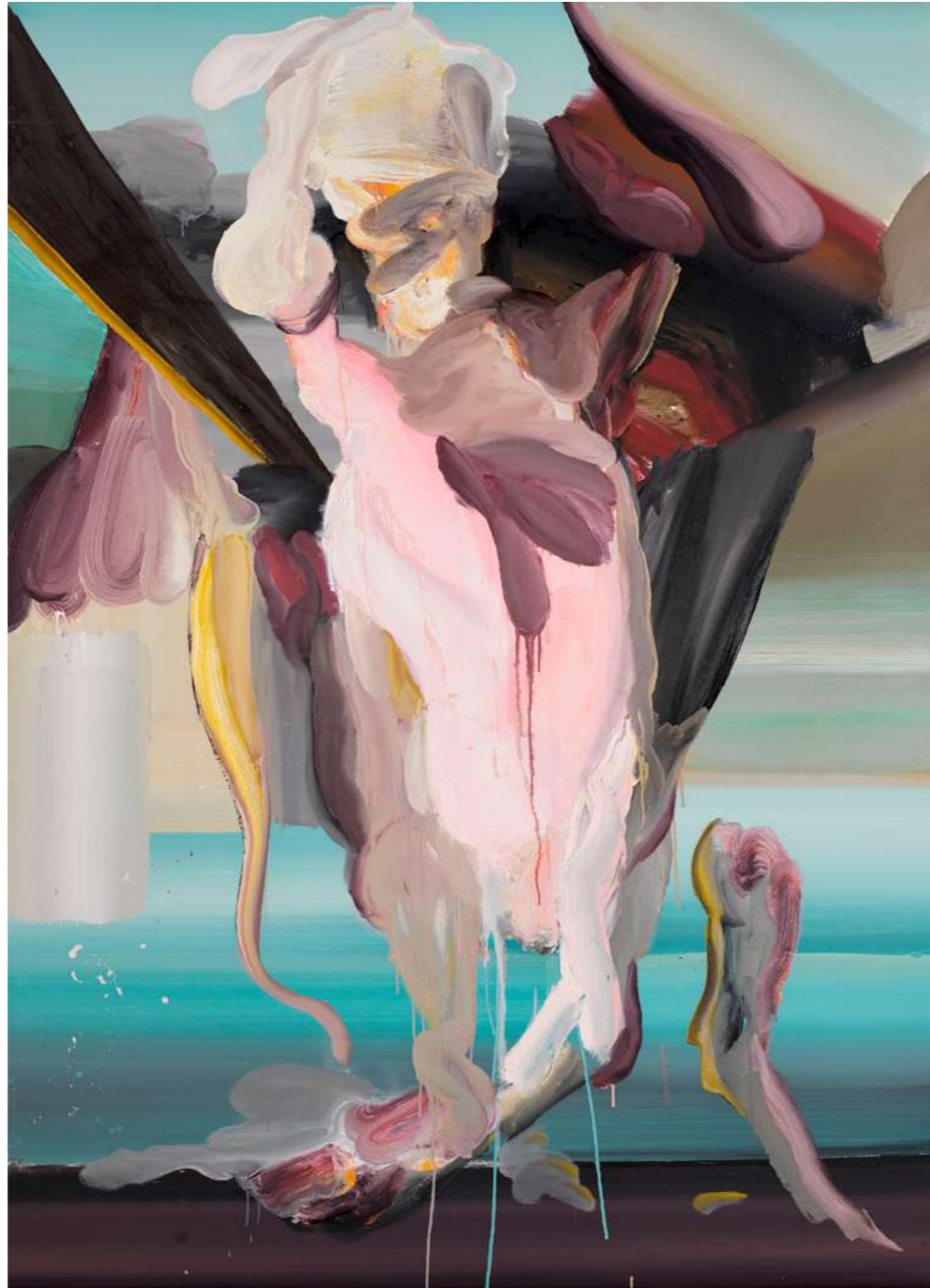
This booth will underline the dynamic exchange of cultural connections through the medium of figurative abstraction. The range of work on display will enable UNTITLED's international audience to appreciate why Zümrütoğlu has caught the eye of a global crowd as well as collectors from Turkey, France and Germany. Notable collections of Zümrütoğlu's work includes Istanbul Modern Museum, Turkey and Elgiz Museum, Turkey.

JD Malat Gallery specialises in contemporary art and champions a broad spectrum of emerging and international contemporary artists. The programme consists of an array of exciting artists supported by year-round exhibitions and contemporary art fairs. This exhibition underlines JD Malat Gallery's wider international programme and seeks to strengthen the dialogue between artists and viewers across the world. As a representative of diversity and innovation, JD Malat Gallery believes Zümrütoglu will provide a unique and engaging aesthetic for UNTITLED 2020.



**Carefree, 2019**

Oil on canvas  
90 x 90 cm



***Bets Are Closed, 2020***

Oil on canvas  
250 x 180 cm



***Carry On The Game, 2020***

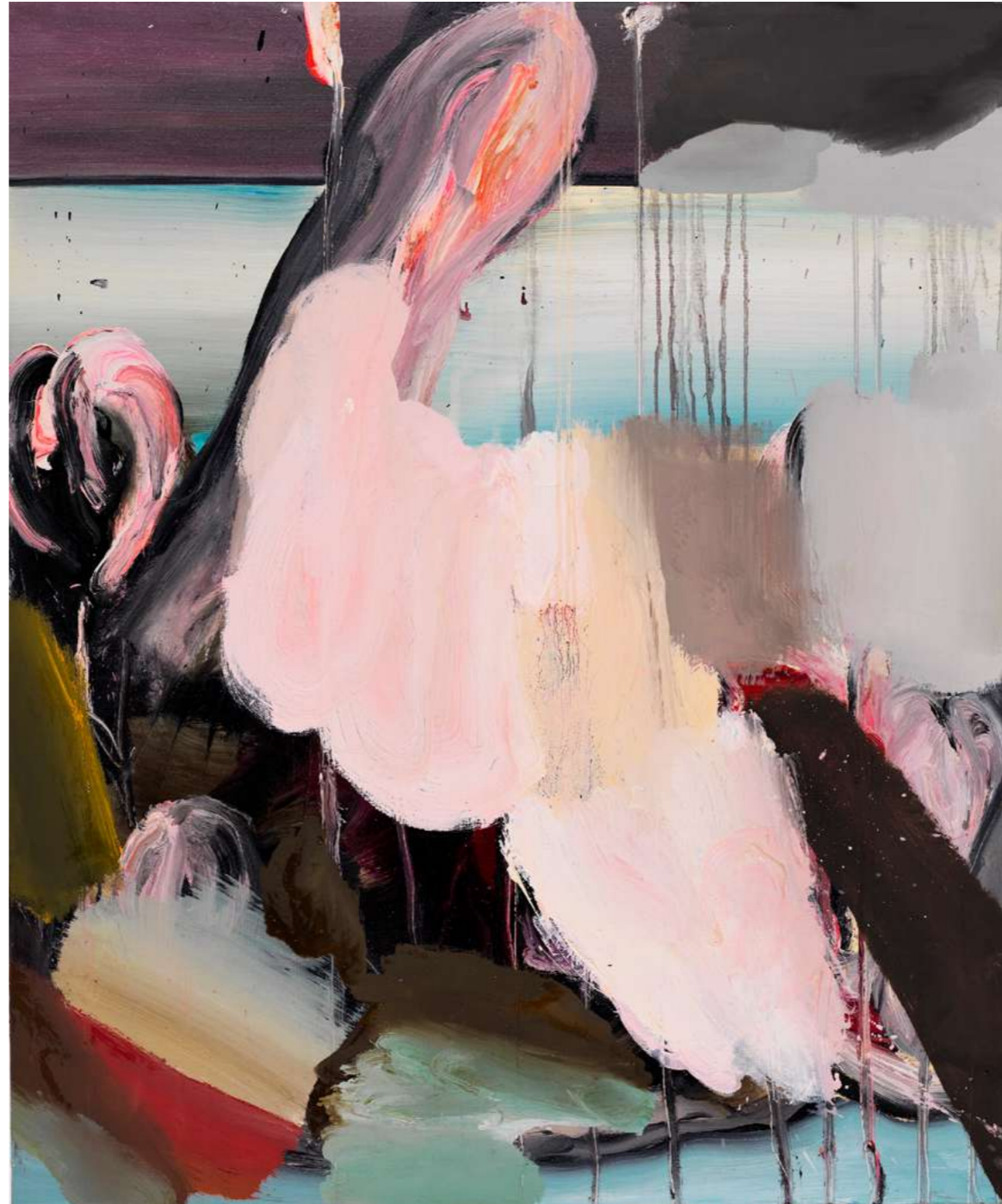
Oil on canvas  
146 x 116 cm



***Bigwig IV, 2019***

Oil on canvas  
90 x 90 cm





***At last, 2020***  
Oil on canvas  
146 x 120 cm



***I sell oil, I sell honey, my master died, now I must sell them I, 2019***

Oil on canvas  
220 x 260 cm



***I sell oil, I sell honey, my master  
died, now I must sell them III, 2019***

Oil on canvas  
260 x 220 cm



***Non-appearing Gaze I, 2020***

Oil on canvas  
90 x 90 cm



**Noone's Gaze, 2020**

Oil on canvas  
225 x 185 cm



***Noone's Dance, 2020***

Oil on canvas  
260 x 220 cm



***The Architecture of  
Flesh VIII, 2020***

Ceramic  
46 x 25 x 25 cm



***The Architecture of  
Flesh - Marco, 2020***

Ceramic  
60 x 50 x 40 cm





***The Architecture  
of Flesh II, 2020***

Ceramic  
40 x 40 x 23 cm

## Zümrütoğlu CV

b. 1970- Konya, Turkey

Works and lives in Istanbul, Turkey & Berlin, Germany

### Selected Solo Exhibitions

2019	<i>Time for The Salt</i> , Pilevneli Gallery, Istanbul, Turkey	2018	<i>Mirror of Darkness</i> , JD Malat Gallery, London, UK
2017	<i>Holy Bargaining</i> , Pilevneli Gallery, Istanbul, Turkey	2017	<i>Portfolio Series 5; Zümrütoğlu</i> , Plato Sanat, Istanbul, Turkey
2016	<i>Für Alle und Keinen</i> , Tammen & Partner Galerie, Berlin, Germany	2015	<i>Dark Matter</i> , The Empire Project, Istanbul, Turkey
2013	<i>Cosmetic Violence</i> , The Empire Project, Istanbul, Turkey	2013	<i>O Zaman</i> , Galerie Ivan Ptakhine, Paris, France
2012	<i>Odysseus Yorgin</i> , Tammen & Partner Galerie, Berlin, Germany	2009	<i>Or II, Pi Artworks, Istanbul, Turkey 'Or I'</i> , DEMSA Collection, Pi Artworks, Istanbul, Turkey
2006	<i>The Verses of Earth</i> , C.A.M. Gallery, Istanbul, Turkey	2006	<i>Get Stubborn</i> , Karşı Sanat Works, Ankara, Turkey
2002	<i>A Poet A Painter, Im Kontext von Antonin Artaud</i> , bir Kunstzentrum, Istanbul, Turkey	2001	<i>In the Memory of Antonin Artaud</i> , izmir Art and Sculpture Museum, Izmir, Turkey

### Selected Group Exhibitions

2020	<i>Abstraction &amp; The Natural World</i> , JD Malat Gallery, London, UK	2020	<i>The Contemporary Human Condition</i> , JD Malat Gallery, London, UK
2019	<i>Summer Exhibition</i> , JD Malat Gallery, London, UK	2018	<i>At the Factory: 10 Artists/10 Individual Prctices</i> , Pilevneli Gallery, Istanbul, Turkey
2018	<i>Eyewitness</i> , Künstlerhaus Bethanien, Berlin, Germany	2015	<i>Backyard</i> , Plato Sanat, Istanbul, Turkey

2012	<i>Grammar of the Other</i> , Tammen & Partner Galerie, Berlin	2007	<i>Sisyphos</i> , C.A.M. Gallery, Istanbul, Turkey
2005	<i>Young Expansion in Contemporary Turkish Art</i> , Pera Museum, Istanbul, Turkey	2004	<i>Turkish Contemporary</i> , M-A-C Kunstgalerie, Germany
2003	<i>What is missing?</i> , Karşı Sanat Works, Istanbul, Turkey		

### Selected Art Fairs

2019	<i>Contemporary Istanbul</i> , JD Malat Gallery, Istanbul, Turkey	2019	<i>ZONA MACO</i> , JD Malat Gallery, CDMX, Mexico
2009	<i>St-art 14th European Contemporary Art Fair</i> , Strassburg, Germany	2009	<i>Contemporary Istanbul</i> , Pi Artworks, Istanbul, Turkey
2008	<i>TÜYAP Contemporary Art Fair</i> , Karşı Sanat Works, Istanbul, Turkey	2007	<i>TÜYAP Contemporary Art Fair</i> , Karşı Sanat Works, Istanbul, Turkey
2006	<i>Contemporary Istanbul</i> , C.A.M. Gallery, Istanbul, Turkey	2005	<i>Opposite Art Works</i> , Artist – 14th Istanbul TÜYAP Art Fair, Turkey
2004	<i>Tombstone for Me</i> , Antik Art Gallery, 14th Istanbul TÜYAP Art Fair, Turkey		

### Publications

2019	<i>Time for The Salt</i> , Erdoğan Zümrütoğlu, text by Hans Irrek, Pilevneli Gallery, Istanbul, Turkey	2018	<i>Holy Bargaining</i> , Erdoğan Zümrütoğlu, text by Drew Hammond, Pilevneli Gallery, Istanbul, Turkey
2018	<i>Mirror of Darkness</i> , text by David Bellingham, JD Malat Gallery, London, UK	2015	<i>Dark Matter</i> , Erdoğan Zümrütoğlu, text by Marcus Graf, The Empire Project, Istanbul, Turkey

### Museum Collections

Istanbul Modern Museum, Turkey

Turkey Elgiz Museum, Istanbul, Turkey



Portrait taken at Pilevneli Gallery Mecidiyeköy

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