



BATU BEHRAM

Education

2001-2002 KENT INSTITUTE OF ART&DESIGN canterbury, uk

foundation in art&design

2002-2006 UNIVERSITY OF GREENWICH london, uk

ba(hons)architecture

2009-2012 CYPRUS INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY nicosia, n.cyprus

ba(hons)architecture +

Experience

2006-2007 BONGIANNA ARCHITETTURE padova, italy

junior designer and 3d visualiser

2007-2009 GUSTO YACHTS&INTERIORS istanbul, turkey

senior designer

2011-2014 FREELANCE nicosia, n.cyprus

artist, designer

2014-2015 EXPLORING EXPERIMENTAL VIDEO berlin, germany

2015-2017 CO-FOUNDED 11-11 KOLEKTİF nicosia, n.cyprus

architect

2017-2019 AWAKENED LIFE PROJECT coja, portugal

resident

2020-2023 PRISMA ESTUDIO lisbon, portugal

curation team

2024 PRISMA ESTUDIO lisbon, portugal

artists in residency mentor team

Prizes

2012

The Architect Behaeddin Student Awards - Final Year Project, incentive award -Nicosia, Northern Cyprus

2011

Triflow Future Talents - finalist - London, UK

Solo exhibitions

2023

Default; Grey / Corucheus - Um Teatro Em Cada Bairro -Lisbon, Portugal

2020

In Praise of Life / Prisma Estudio, Lisbon, Portugal

2020

Liquidaçao / Arroz Estudios - Lisbon, Portugal

Group exhibitions (selected)

2022

Rare Effects - in collaboration with ArtPool + ArtDao / Arroz Estudios Lisbon, Portugal

2015

Avanti Discourses on Experimental Film / Ehemaliges Stummfilm Kino Delphi, Berlin, Germany

2013

Happening / Sidestreets Educational and Cultural Initiatives - Nicosia, Northern Cyprus

Residency

2025

Chain Reaction -Lisbon, Portugal

2020

The Palace Residency -Gorzanow, Poland

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This work begins with a question I ask myself:

How do I perceive the space that is called public, now that I am playing with the idea of making that which I've long assumed private, porous?

These questions emerged through Sleeping Protocols, a performance practice exploring coexisting (outside of romantic context) as relational choreography. The first episode unfolded through 72 hours of cohabitation with someone I knew without knowing—living between public and private, using my shared bedroom-studio as a shifting base. Not about spectacle, but about what becomes visible when the self softens at its edges.

This performance continues to echo in my perception of Lisbon, where tourism culture flattens public space into aesthetic consumption—detached from the urgencies of those who inhabit it daily.

Coming from Northern Cyprus—a territory shaped by visible and invisible lines—I carry the memory of partition, the ache of proximity without union. These inherited tensions subtly shape my practice: a recurring search for where borders falter, where relation and imagination might begin again.

Through performance, image, and poetic text, my work often dwells in slowness, discomfort, and small negotiations. It does not seek to resolve, but to attend—to let meaning emerge through sustained, porous presence.

I am drawn to the themes of imagining collectivity and affinity not as fixed ideals, but as fragile, lived experiments.

Sleeping Protocols

introduction



I think this is the kind of treaty that starts in the way you leave your socks on the floor differently, knowing someone else might see.

Not made by law. But by witnessing.

Not public. But not private anymore either.

The bed is still mine.
The mug is still mine.
But something's loosening in the idea of "mine."
Not through ideology. Through anticipation.

Filipe is coming.
Not "the participant."
Not "the collaborator."
Just a boy with a name, a timing, and a wound.
Just someone I know without knowing.

Maybe nothing will happen. But even that "nothing" will now be shared. And that's not nothing.

No one has arrived yet but something has —like breath before speech.

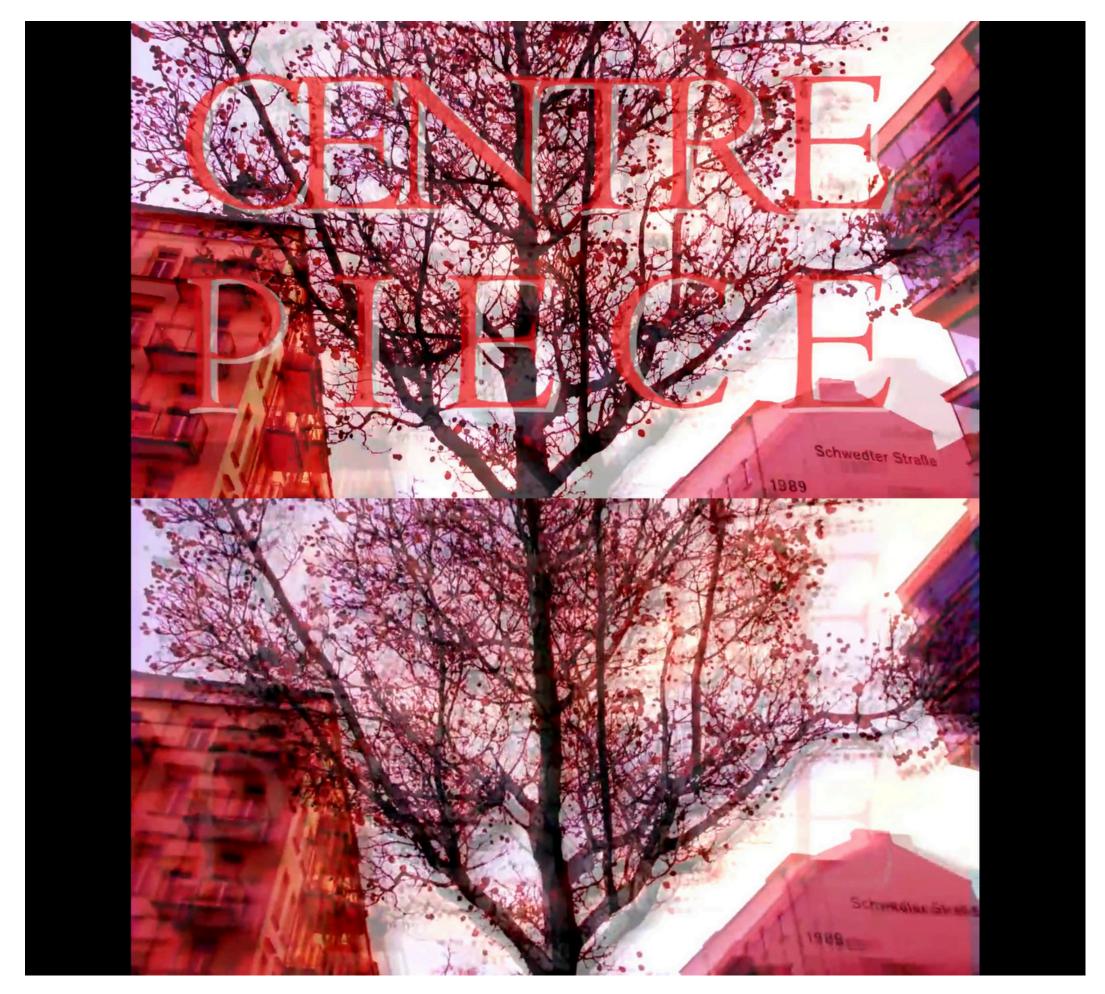
I am here, but the "I" feels a little expanded, slightly pressed from the inside.



Note I Had Nothing To Show Off You Had Nothing To Hide



An Agreement is being lived
Everywhere we go,
And I don't aspire to be
homeless.
A pigeon discarded
Feeds on rice
Everytime it comes
Close home.



Batu Behram Centre Piece, 2015

watch here

Single-channel HD video, colour, sound, 00:33 min

I had once seen this tree, in Berlin, 2015.

A tree, still, in a city that moved.

A glitch looping around ita repeating fragment that intensifies, asking for recognition.

Last night,
I stood outside a circle
I once blurred into.
Not alone—
but with a boy.

Outside what once held me,
I saw it clearly—
I called it Centre Piece, not realising
I was naming my condition.
I thought highly of myself—
Central.

Last night, the known grew limbs primal ones. Crude.



Batu Behram

AVA, 2025

Gel transfer and vinyl tape on transparent vinyl, 100 x 137 cm

AVA is a material and conceptual extension of the earlier video work Centre Piece (2015). It arises from a renewed encounter with the central question of porosnes.

A note to myself:
Lisbon is a zoo.*
For those who carry daily worries—within.
Can you show me the way out,
either way?

*Don't be alarmed—so are many cities. Especially the brand cities.**

**Not a compliment. These are cities curated for consumption—flattened into aesthetics, designed for passive spectatorship. The tide doesn't just wash over—it swallows.

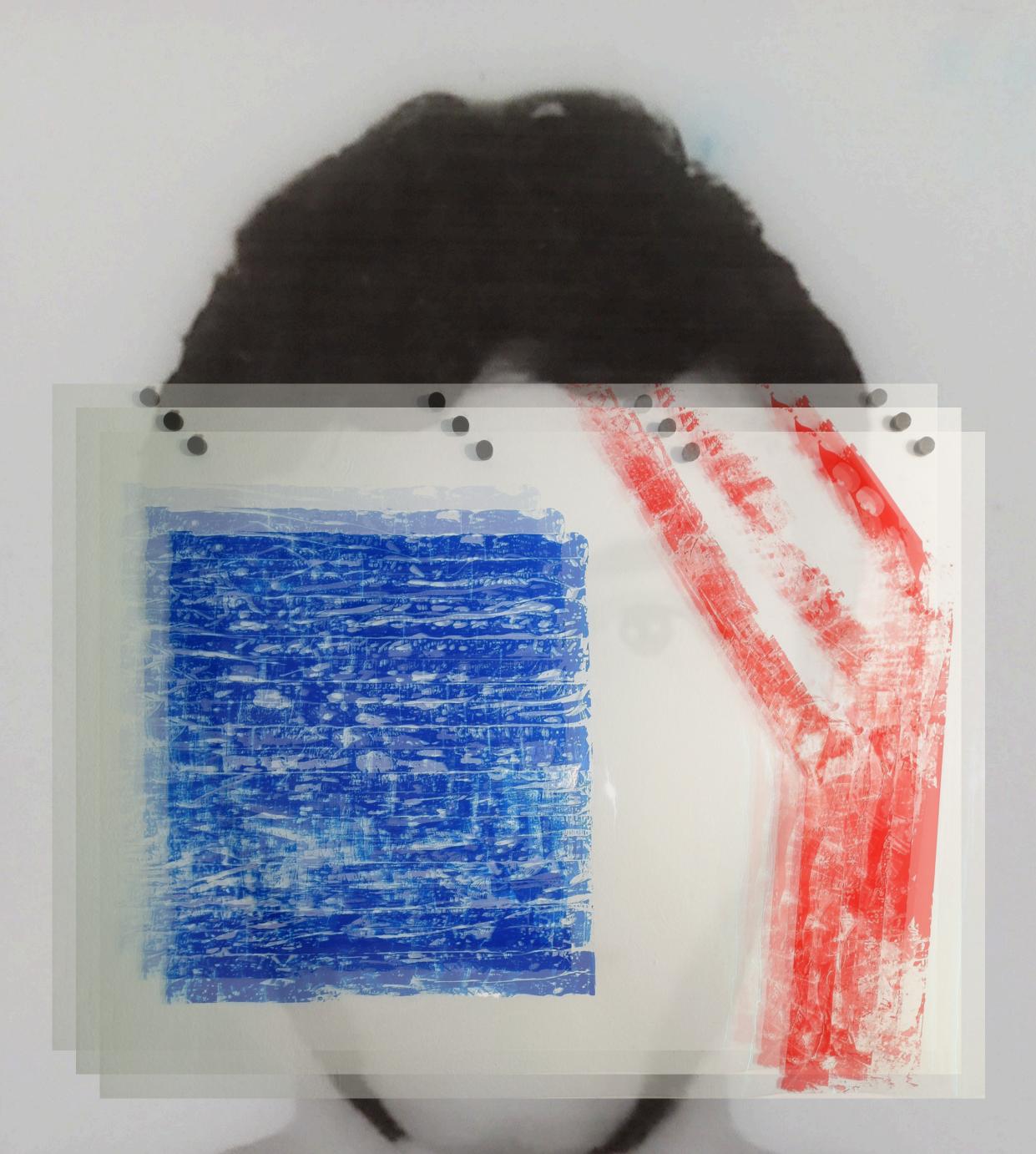
***This is a monologue—spoken inward.



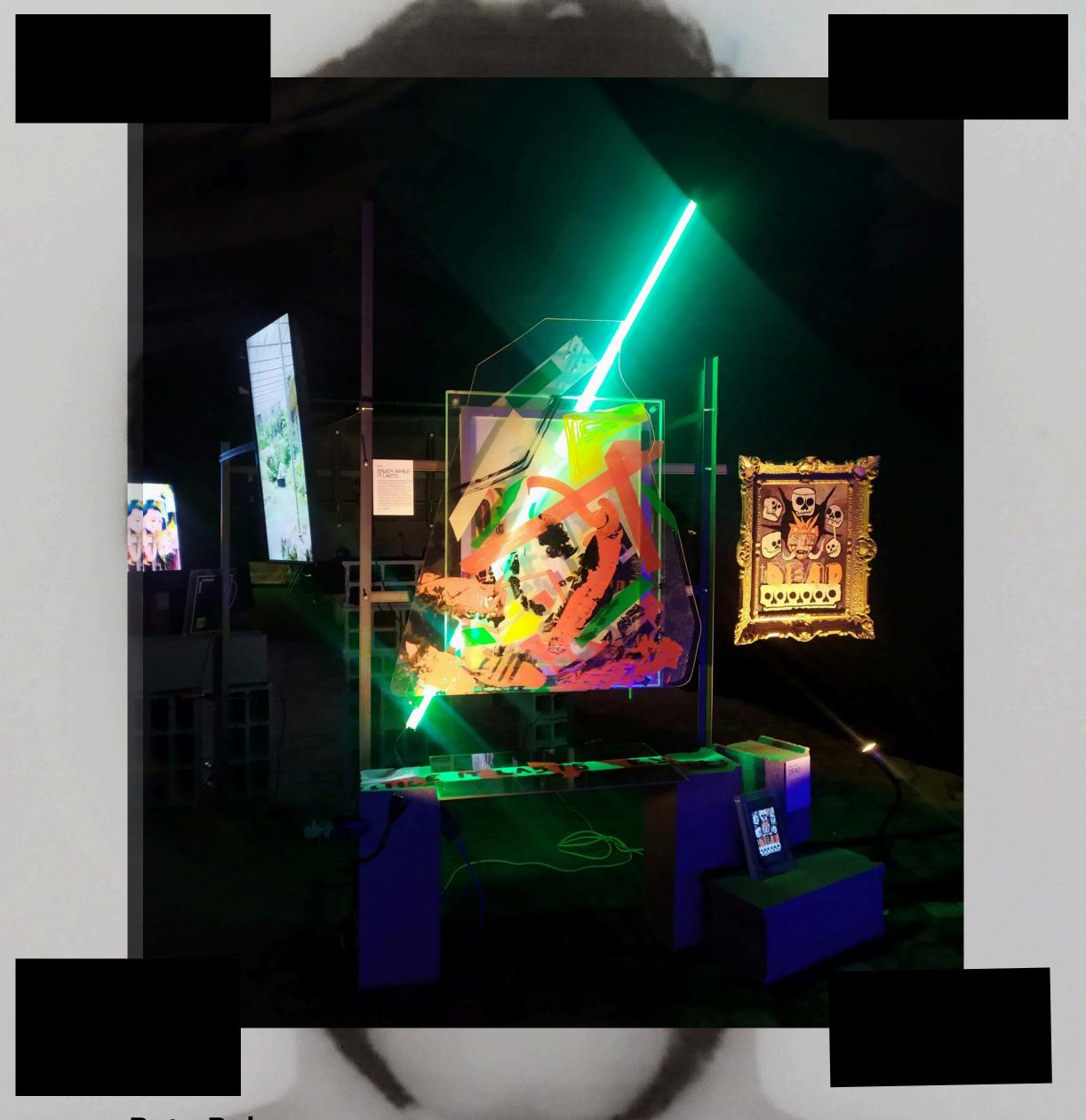
Belonging; Expired, 2025 70x 50 cm Gel transfer, vinyl tape and ink on transparent vinyl



I(s)land, 2025 70 X 50 cm Acrylic on transparent vinyl



Divided, 2025 70 X 100 cm Mark making by removal on transparent vinyl



Batu Behram Enjoy While It Lasts, 2022

Wood, acrylic, metal, Led light, enamel paint, vinyl tape, 120 x 85 x 8 cm

Rare Effects-crypto art festival, in collaboration with Art Dao Arroz Estúdios, *Lisbon, Portugal*

other works



Batu Behram ONNN, 2013

watch here

Single-channel HD video, black & white and colour, sound, 6:45 min

Exhibited at Avanti Discourses on Experimental Film Ehemaliges Stummfilm Kino Delphi, Berlin, Germany

Bearing in mind the relationship between moments and memory in the human life cycle, this film consists of a sequence of scenes intentionally shot without repetition over the course of one month. It simultaneously constructs and deconstructs the connections between Turkish-speaking Cypriots, the local beverage Bixi—which was introduced during that architectural period and disappeared after the de facto declaration of independence of the state of Northern Cyprus—and architectural artifacts that have been abandoned to their fate under state 'supervision'.