

PAPER

"Art Basel Artist of the Day: Hayal Pozanti"

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(Percentage of Americans who expect that scientists will have developed the technology to teleport objects within the next 50 years), 40 x 40 inches, Acrylic on Canvas, 2015 on view at UNTITLED art fair -courtesy of the artist and Jessica Silverman Gallery.

Using a self made language of shapes, Turkish artist Hayal Pozanti paints colorful geometries that represent statistics based on human interaction with technology. Though the images may look abstract, Pozanti's work gives a physicality and tangibility to numbers, so that the statistic of say, the number of dreams a human has each month, can be seen in a new artistic form. We caught up with the young artist while showing at Untitled Art Fair in Miami to discuss her unique shape alphabet, making the intangible into physical and her push and pull relationship with technology.

Who: Hayal Pozanti

Medium: Paintings and sculptures based on statistics

Where to see her work in Miami: Nathalie Karg Gallery at the Untitled Art Fair.

What is the process behind your paintings?

My work is based on an invented 'alphabet' of 31 shapes called Instant Paradise. Each shape has a letter and a number assigned to it. I collect data related to the impact of technological advancements on humans and use a personalized encryption system to embed this information via my alphabet into the paintings. This process is a self generative system and the numbers or letters that are selected generate the composition. I then make intuitive decisions about color and texture.

What influences the shapes that you paint to represent your data?

I created the shapes hoping to achieve absolute abstraction. In other words, I did not want them to resemble anything that already existed. In order to do this I felt a need to go back to basics and study the drawings of ancient civilizations, cuneiform and kilim motifs.

Many of the statistics you paint have to do with how people interact with the internet and technology. What is your relationship like these things?

Push/pull. I'm not a luddite but I do try to keep a critical eye and a healthy distance. Our obsession with progress for the sake of progress has lead us down such dark paths as the atomic bomb and surveillance of private lives through online data collection. Today we are faced with the possibility of creating an intelligence that could lack emotional capacities necessary for the survival of the human race. I am not suggesting we stop invention. Only proposing we reconsider what we might be losing in the process.

Do the tactile and physical aspects of painting effect how you interact with or relate to technology?

Absolutely. I actually started painting as a means to deal with anxiety caused by excessive screen time. Painting has allowed me to incorporate my body into the everyday and create space for meditation, self-reflection and focus. It's a portal of escape into the calm of tactility.

What's next beyond the Miami madness, what are you working on?

I have a solo show in the spring with Levy Delval, a gallery in Brussels.

How would you describe the Art Basel Miami experience in 3 words or less?

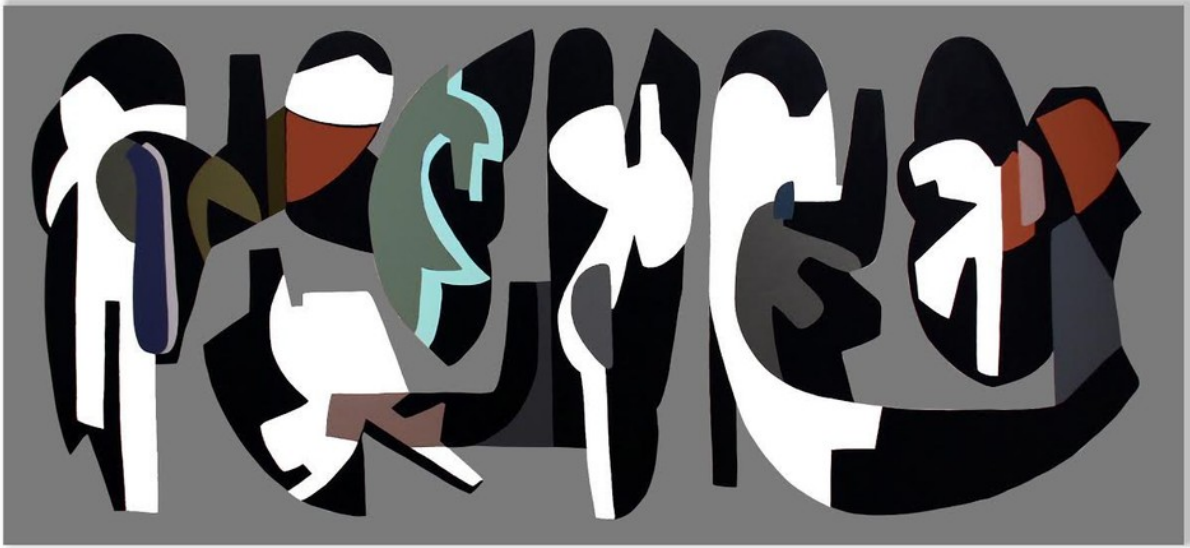
Rubber reality.



Pozanti_268 - 268 (Miles per hour that information can be processed in the human brain), 60 x 60 inches, Acrylic on Canvas, 2015 -courtesy of the artist and Jessica Silverman Gallery.



(Number of variations in smiles that human beings possess), 60 x 60 inches, Acrylic on Canvas, 2015 - courtesy of the artist and Jessica Silverman Gallery.



(Number of dreams that a human being has each month), 60 x 132 inches, Acrylic on Canvas, 2015—courtesy of the artist and Jessica Silverman Gallery.