

LITTLE STAR

WEEKLY

Cover

August 5, 2016



Hayal Pozanti, *Relentless Tenderness* (2016). Acrylic on canvas, 40 x 40 inches.
Courtesy the artist and Jessica Silverman Gallery, San Francisco

Hayal Pozanti (b. 1983, Istanbul, Turkey) makes paintings out of language and statistics. She developed an alphabet of thirty-one forms that roughly correspond to the twenty-six letters of the Latin alphabet and the single-digit integers. Her abiding concern is the multifarious ways in which advanced technology has come to bear on human experience, and many of her paintings express statistics that illustrate unprecedented or unexpected relationships between humans and machines. The measured rate at which information can be processed by the brain, for instance, is two hundred sixty eight miles per hour, and Pozanti translated this observation into a painting by overlapping her symbols for two, six, and eight, playing with their levels of transparency, and rendering the composition on canvas. Paintings from this body of work register like icons, with strong colors and hard-edged forms that telegraph the gravity of the information she's collected. But in a recent series of paintings, Pozanti is looking to reaffirm the importance of the body in the experience of technology. Using the same alphabet of forms, she's making compositions out of words for feelings, and her paintings have begun to privilege transparency and gesture over calculation and rigor.

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