

# BG

Press Kit  
Berlin, 6.6.2024

Özlem Altın, Grief, 2024, Detail, © Özlem Altın und THE PILL. Foto: dotgain.info



# Özlem Altın

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**Prisma**

**Hannah Höch Förderpreis 2024**

**8.6. – 14.10.24**

**BERLINISCHE  
GALERIE  
MUSEUM FÜR  
MODERNE KUNST**



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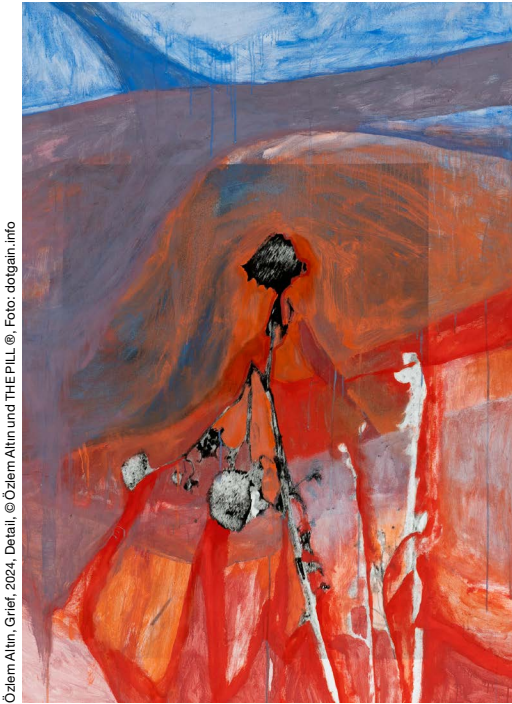
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## Özlem Altın

**Prisma**

**Hannah Höch Förderpreis 2024**

**8.6. – 14.10.24**

Özlem Altın (\*1977 in Goch) is the recipient of the State of Berlin's Hannah Höch Förderpreis 2024. This honour includes the solo exhibition Prisma at the Berlinische Galerie and the eponymous catalogue.

In her artistic work, Özlem Altın prefers not to be associated with any particular art medium. At the Berlinische Galerie, she has engaged in a dynamic process of collaging and photomontage to create a multifaceted, site-specific installation, in which she examines – with a strong measure of empathy – the relational fabric between photography, archive, and body.

The exhibition invites visitors to engage with the cycles of life—as a metaphor for process and change or as a reflection of the constantly evolving clockwork of the cosmos. For Özlem Altın, the body is a means of expression and a repository of knowledge at the very same time, or, as she puts it, an 'interface for communicating, connecting, and transmitting knowledge through touch and contact'. For her multilayered installations, comprised of works ranging from large-format paintings to room-sized sculptural constellations, Özlem Altın draws on her own and found photographs from the archive she has been accruing for over two decades, with a focus on body language, gestures, and touch. Here, photography becomes an artistic material, as well as the point of departure and reference for her creative practice, for instance when she arranges pictures of hands or eyes together with other image fragments, thus creating, also through overpainting and cropping, an imaginary world of new sensory connections, calling to mind a speculative way of mapping. Here, the artist's compositions of inner and outer pictures elude any form of clear interpretation, making ambivalence visually tangible.

### About the artist

Özlem Altın is an artist, mother, and somatic practitioner. In her paintings, collages, photographs, and artist books she explores the body at rest and the inanimate in action. In her work, Altın draws from a photographic collection she has assembled over the years, combining found images with her own photographs to form dense constellations. Employing photomontage and applying layers of paint, the artist succeeds in fostering new associations. In this way, the artist challenges viewers to also examine the space between the images and to develop their own narratives. Some elements and motifs—like the mask, the mermaid, the heron—are symbols to which she



frequently returns. Her collages embody something hybrid, part human, part animal, as well as a state of in-betweenness. This complex net of imagery contributes to the elaboration of a narrative on bodily existence, at times of mythological nature.

### **Hannah Höch Förderpreis**

Since 2011, the Hannah Höch Förderpreis has been bestowed on artists by the State of Berlin. The award, which includes a stipend of 10,000 euros as well as an exhibition with accompanying publication, recognizes the lifework to date of an artist (or an established group of artists) who lives and works in Berlin. The award is meant to support the implementation of new ideas and to enhance public visibility.

Jury: Paz Guevara (curator, Haus der Kulturen der Welt; lecturer, Weißensee School of Art and Design), Maren Lübbke-Tidow (freelance author; curator; artistic director of the European Month of Photography Berlin), and Katia Reich (head of the Photography Collection, Berlinische Galerie).

The exhibition has been funded by Senate Department for Culture and Social Cohesion.

### **Exhibition catalogue**

A bilingual catalogue (German/English) published by Distanz Verlag will accompany the exhibition.

### **Press images**

[berlinischegalerie.de/en/press-release/oezlem-altin](https://berlinischegalerie.de/en/press-release/oezlem-altin)

### **Online tickets**

[bg.berlin/tickets](https://bg.berlin/tickets)

### **Social Media**

#ÖzlemAltinBG

#HannahHöchFörderpreis2024

#SenKultGZ

#BerlinischeGalerie

## **Contact Press**

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Berlin's Museum of Modern Art,  
Photography and Architecture  
Alte Jakobstraße 124–128  
10969 Berlin  
Tel +49 (0)30 789 02 600  
[berlinischegalerie.de](https://berlinischegalerie.de)

Admission 10€, concessions 6€  
Wed–Mon 10 am–6 pm  
Tue closed

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## Biography

### Özlem Altın

Özlem Altın is an artist, mother, and somatic practitioner. In her paintings, collages, photographs, and artist books she explores the body at rest and the inanimate in action. In her work, Altın draws from a photographic collection she has assembled over the years, combining found images with her own photographs to form dense constellations.

By finding connections between layers of photomontage and ink, the artist challenges viewers to develop new narratives by “acknowledging what is happening in between the images.” Some elements and motifs—like the mask, the mermaid, the heron—are symbols that she frequently returns to. They embody something part human and part animal, and a state of in-betweenness. Her complex net of images contributes to elaborating a narrative, at times mythological, on bodily existence.

#### 2023

Guest professor Visiting Artist Studio, UMPRUM Prag

#### 2020-21

Substitute for a professor of photography, HGB Leipzig

#### 2007

Founding of independent publisher for artist books Orient Press, Berlin

#### 2004-2006

MA Fine Arts, Piet Zwart Institute, Rotterdam, Netherlands

#### 2000-2003

BA Fine Arts, Hoogeschool voor de Kunsten, Arnhem, Netherlands

#### Solo exhibitions

- Kismet, The Pill, Istanbul (2022)
- Lens, Kunst Meran, Italy (2019)
- Processing, Camera Austria, steirischer herbst, Graz (2017)
- Interiore, SpazioA, Pistoia, Italy (2016)
- No story, no, Witte de With, Rotterdam (2015)

#### Group exhibitions

- Fotograf Gallery Prag (2023)
- EMOP, Amtsalon, Berlin (2023)
- 59th La Biennale di Venezia (2022)
- Kunstverein Braunschweig (2021)
- Museum of Modern Art, New York City (2020)
- GIBCA Gothenburg Biennial (2019)
- 16th Istanbul Biennial (2019)
- 10th Berlin Biennial (2018)
- 4th Mardin Biennial, Turkey (2018)

#### Grants and Residencies

- Villa Romana Prize, Florence (2020)
- Residency CCA Andratx, Mallorca (2018)
- Residency Goethe-Institut, IMMA, Dublin (2014)
- The Moving Museum, Istanbul (2014)

## Exhibition texts

Prisma is a site-specific installation by Özlem Altın. Themes like birth, death, and reincarnation play a significant role in the artist's collages, large-format paintings, and sculptural works. The cycles of life become metaphors for process and change. For Altın, the body is a means of expression and a reservoir of knowledge—or, in her own words, an “interface for communicating, connecting, and transmitting knowledge through touch and contact”.

The artist draws from a compilation of her own and found photographs—an archive that has been growing for over two decades. Here, photography is both artistic material and point of departure and reference for her practice. A focus is placed on gestures and body language when selecting pictorial motifs: images of hands are combined with fragments of other pictures and, together with coloured overpainting, give rise to new contexts of meaning.

Özlem Altın (b. 1977 in Goch) lives and works in Berlin. In 2020, she participated in the group exhibition “Companion Pieces: New Photography 2020” at The Museum of Modern Art in New York and, in 2022, in the exhibition “The Milk of Dreams” at the 59th Venice Biennale.

### **About this installation**

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## Press images



Özlem Altın, Teeth, Jaw, Anchor, 2024, © Özlem Altın und THE PILL®, Foto: dotgain.info



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Özlem Altın, Grief, 2024, Detail, © Özlem Altın und THE PILL®, Foto: dotgain.info



Özlem Altın, Naked Eye (landscape), 2023, © Özlem Altın und THE PILL®, Foto: dotgain.info



Installation view „Özlem Altın. Prisma.“, Berlinische Galerie, © dotgain.info



Installation view „Özlem Altın. Prisma.“, Berlinische Galerie, © dotgain.info



Installation view „Özlem Altın. Prisma.“, Berlinische Galerie, © dotgain.info



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## **Contact** **Press**

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