

HOME / STREET / "BODY ARCHIVE": AN EXHIBITION BY MANUELA BENAIM, MAKIKO HARRIS, AND EMILY POPE ON IDENTITY, DESIRE, AND RESISTANCE



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"Body Archive": An Exhibition by Manuela Benaim, Makiko Harris, and Emily Pope on Identity, Desire, and Resistance

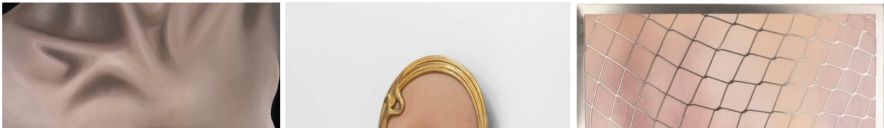
October 17, 2025 — 2 min read

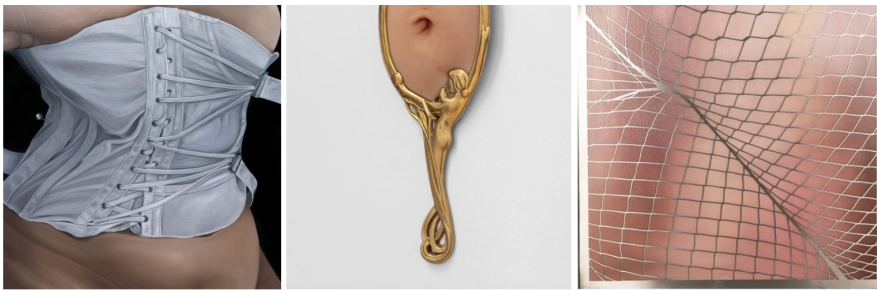
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VIEWS

The body is a living archive, constantly evolving and recording every experience. The *Body Archive* exhibition at Kristin Hjellegjerde Gallery brings together the practices of Manuela Benaim, Makiko Harris, and Emily Pope, exploring the female body as a surface, a space, and a symbol.

Emily Pope's meticulously cropped paintings place viewers in the role of voyeurs, as if peering through a keyhole. Depicting voluptuous torsos with exposed breasts, drawn from art-historical references and personal archives, these works feel both familiar and unsettling. By deliberately abstracting the figures' context, Pope invites reflection on the history of women's objectification.

Makiko Harris's new works, at first glance, resemble garter stockings but, upon closer inspection, reveal body fragments crafted from rigid galvanized steel. This steel mesh replaces the softness of traditional lingerie, transforming exposure into a claim of autonomy and resistance. Harris critiques the commodification of the body, asserting that what is seen is not always a passive invitation but an active negotiation. For the first time in this exhibition, her steel mesh takes the form of portrait masks.





Sculptor Manuela Benaim's faces, cast in silicone and sealed in resin, reveal how the body is scrutinized and frozen in time. These faces feel like remnants of abandoned selves or moments just before transformation. Her framed navel sculptures serve as quiet monuments to origins, honoring the connection between individuality and shared human experience.

Body Archive invites us to reconsider the body—shaped by history and culture—as a space for reclamation, resistance, and reimagination.

Exhibition Details:

Artists: Manuela Benaim, Makiko Harris, Emily Pope

Title: *Body Archive*

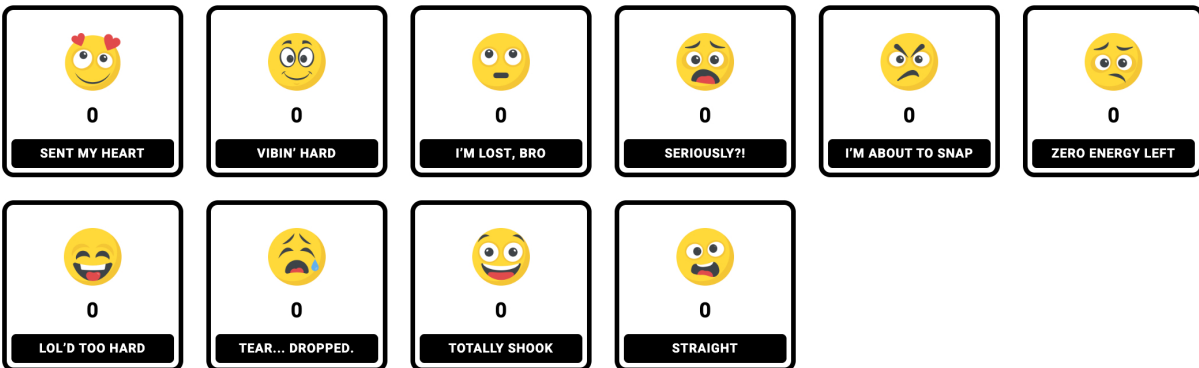
Venue: Kristin Hjellegjerde Gallery, Berlin

Dates: October 16 – November 15, 2025

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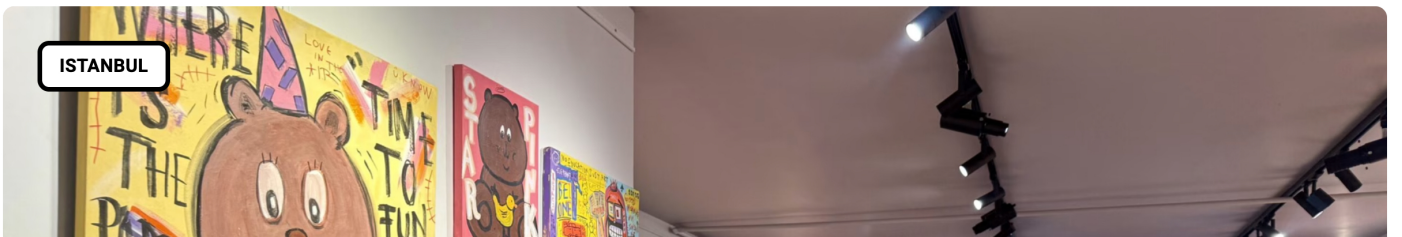


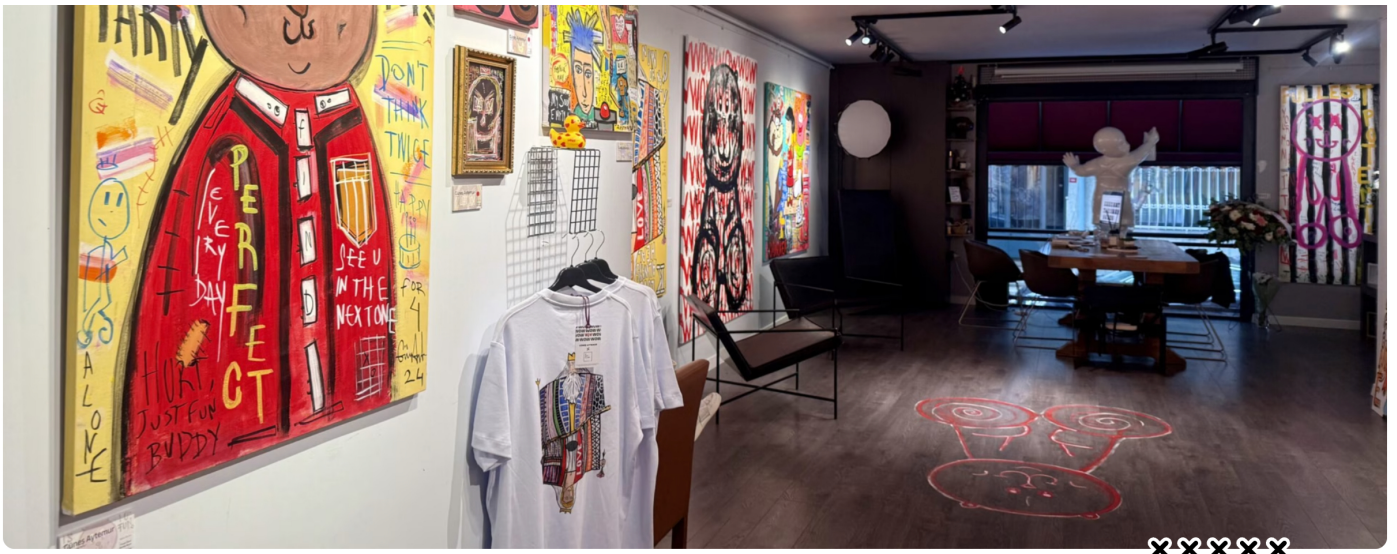
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VIEWS



Güneş Aytemur's "WOW" Exhibition Continues

October 17, 2025 — 1 min read

At first glance, "WOW" feels like an exclamation, but in Güneş Aytemur's canvases, it transforms into an entirely new language. This solo exhibition, featuring 21 new works, is a contemporary take on astonishment, humor, and the colorful memories of childhood.

Aytemur weaves an energy that spans from pop art to graffiti, classical painting disciplines to the rapid imagery of the digital age. In her works, the word "WOW" sometimes bursts from a cartoon character's mouth, other times seeping into the surface as a scribble. Yet, each time, it appears as a gesture questioning the nature of awe itself: Are we saying "wow" because we're truly captivated, or merely out of habit?

Between Innocence and Chaos

In Aytemur's world, childhood memories collide with the chaotic rhythm of today. The colors are vibrant, but their undertones are ironic; the expressions are joyful, yet carry a sense of weariness. This tension creates a nostalgic yet critical stance in her paintings—much like a moment oscillating between joy and melancholy.

WOW is not just about amazement but also about our diminishing capacity to be amazed. In an era of constantly glowing screens, where we struggle to know what still sparks wonder, Aytemur invites viewers to reconsider their own reactions.

Exhibition Details

On view through October 17, 2025

Bi'Nevi Gallery, Teşvikiye Mah. Muradiye Bayırı Sok. No:45 D:2, Şişli – İstanbul

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SENT MY HEART

0

LOL'D TOO HARD

VIBIN' HARD

0

TEAR... DROPPED.

I'M LOST, BRO

0

TOTALLY SHOOK

SERIOUSLY?!

0

STRAIGHT

I'M ABOUT TO SNAP

ZERO ENERGY LEFT



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