

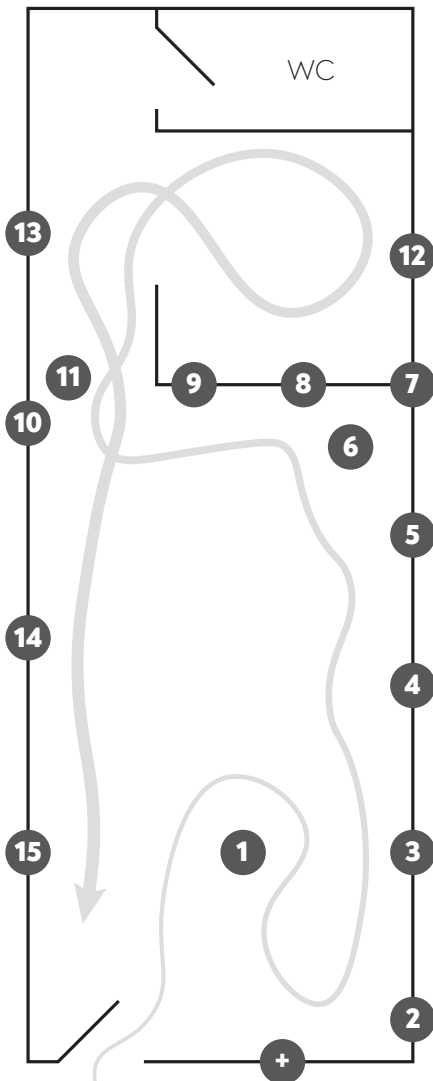
ALMOST TOUCHING

02 - 27 / 04 / 2024

Tue. - Sat., 13:00 - 18:00

5533

Almost Touching recollects traces of Alp's so-called "late puberty" in three consecutive steps: "search", "denial" and "submission". The exhibition is comprised of a selection from Alp's works which best reflect their personal journey from 2021 to this day. In their works, Alp begins with asking fundamental and existential questions on life. Such investigation, in later steps, eventually yields in an unapologetic blasphemy and a subtextual political defeat respectively. Alp calls their works "embodiments of mind trash". In parallel to such description, the selection consists of Alp's most provocative and flammable trashy whims.



1. Almost Touching

#curiosity

a habit from childhood, exploration, "how close can i get fingers without touching?", distance, void, intimacy, gap, contact, closure, kissing one's hand, whispering into one's ear

2. Pandemic Timer

#waiting

a game we played back in elementary school waiting for the recess, waiting, sth that is sure to end but not sure when, meditative, found paper, scrap pages, daily routine

3. They Didn't Mean That

#questioning

what's expressed, what's meant, mismatch, inconsistency, various intonations of "they didn't mean that", writing with the other hand upside down, catharsis, unraveling the knot, daily habit, printed template

4. I'm Boreddd...

#realization

boredom, compression, narrowing, union, merging, not losing any meaning but the space for it, almost leaking out of boundaries, no space left

5. Holy Bible

#makingfun

chaotic, messy, depth, visible on the surface, a soup of words, blurry, pushing hard to make sense

6. The Void

#denial

making sth out of nothing, believing, knowing, creating, to exist, to not exist, to never have existed, blowing breath into the creator, kufic script, "allah"

7. Blasphemy Manifesto

#delusion

blasphemy, "i'm god", "i'm the reason for god", self-correction, change, small changes making big differences, from believer to believed, to rebel

8. Pseudo-Jesus

#complaint

mold, frame, what is - what's remembered, preach, image, unable to fit, misaligned, a trembling image

9. Self-Portrait

#inversion

religious figure, inverted, extruding from a center, converging at a

center, narcissism, glancing at oneself, self-centered

10. Pray-Oh

#resolution

fabricated praying thing, packaged faith, ready-to-use product, marketed norms

11. A Shithole At Its Best

#knowing

surface, peeled, crumpled, perfect sphere, glossy, truth hidden inside

12. No Place Left

#submission

stray animals, dog: no territory to own, cat: no peace to feel safe, bird: no moment to take a breath

13. Men's Toilet

#understanding

politics, politicians, elections, the school where worked as a noter, last supper, alignment, gestures, composition

14. Foreseeable Future

#shakinghands

firsts, collage, dream - nightmare, alternate realities, very close possibilities

15. No Winners, No Losers

#truce

game, pre-set steps, rehearsed fight, illusion of victory, winning together, losing together, no one side becoming victor

+ Façade Installation

bedroom, indoors, outdoors, inversion, from safe and comfortable interior space to dangerous exterior space, watching the street fight through the gap between curtains

Sincerest of thanks to 5533 for the space and the opportunity, to Can Küçük for all his support, to Ali Yanık for helping install the exhibition, to Sanatorium for equipment, to my mom for emotional and financial support, and to my friends Gizem, Sıla ve Gülşah for their ideas, as well as their patience.

Alp Şerif Besen

Insta: @alpserifbesen

E-Posta: alp.serif@gmail.com

