

**The Aldrich
Contemporary
Art Museum**

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Hayal Pozanti, *18*, 2015
Courtesy of the artist and Jessica Silverman Gallery, San Francisco

For Immediate Release:

Hayal Pozanti: Deep Learning

November 15, 2015, through April 3, 2016

Opening Reception: Sunday, November 15, 2-5pm

Ridgefield, CT (October, 2015): Turkish-born artist Hayal Pozanti will debut a new series of paintings and digital animations in her first solo museum exhibition, *Deep Learning*, to be presented at The Aldrich Contemporary Art Museum as part of the *Painting in Four Takes* series from November 15, 2015, through April 3, 2016.

The practice of Hayal Pozanti spans painting, digital animation, and sculpture. For the exhibition, she will debut a new series of paintings and digital animations. Pozanti negotiates two opposing image-producing interfaces, the digital, with its mechanical, frenetic pace, and traditional studio practice, with its slowness, imperfection and tactile insistence. To do so, she has invented “Instant Paradise”: a thirty-one-character “alphabet,” which she uses to generate shapes that never repeat themselves, nor have a recognizable equivalent in visual culture. Embedded within these shapes are bundles of mined data relating to the impact of contemporary



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technological developments on human lives. Through this process, Pozanti acts as a digital-to-analog encryption system so as to preserve information that could be lost or altered in the cloud. Her movement, from freehand to track pad, reinforces her intent, so that the final composition is equally successful online and in person. Alongside her paintings, and sometimes shown side by side, she creates digital animations, both informed by her back and forth translation of mechanical and digital processes and her desire for the means via which they are seen to be interchangeable, non hierarchical, and streamlined.

Hayal Pozanti: Deep Learning, organized by Aldrich curator Amy Smith-Stewart, is generously supported by Jennifer and Claude Amadeo and Patrons Circle contributors Serge and Ian Krawiecki Gazes.

Painting in Four Takes

Hayal Pozanti: Deep Learning is part of *Painting in Four Takes*, a series of solo exhibitions that will provide a window into the practices of four engaging painters who imbue the medium with relevance and character. In addition to Pozanti, Steve DiBenedetto, Julia Rommel, and Ruth Root will be featured. On view from November 15, 2015, through April 3, 2016, the exhibitions will mark the first time in over twenty years that The Aldrich has dedicated all of its galleries to painting.

The last one hundred years have witnessed the explosion of virtually every available means and medium in the service of art making, yet painting has not only maintained a central position in visual art, but has also adapted creatively to rapid changes in our culture as a whole. Today, painting is embedded in the broad debate of actual vs. virtual, and its ability to balance what is illusive and what is real, what is tactile and what is optical, and what is emotive and what is formal, providing fertile ground for a diverse range of artists.

“While some point to marketability as the basis for the unwavering position of painting as a leading visual arts medium, for many artists, painting provides the most relevant platform for expression, allowing for both the potential of innovation and deep historical continuity,” says Richard Klein, The Aldrich’s exhibitions director.

Aldrich curator Amy Smith-Stewart explains, “The four artists selected span generations, methods, and intentions, but all are deeply entrenched in what painting is and can be in the image-dominated atmosphere of our twenty-first century.”

The public are invited to a free reception celebrating the four exhibitions from 2 to 5 pm on Sunday, November 15.

The Artist

Hayal Pozanti was born in Istanbul in 1983 and now lives in New York. She earned an MFA from Yale University and a BA from Sabanci University. She was featured in Prospect 3, the New Orleans biennial, and is in the collections of JP Morgan and the Los Angeles County Museum of Art. Pozanti has exhibited in Berlin, Chicago, Los Angeles, Milan, and New York. She was recently included in group exhibitions such



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as *Women and Abstraction* at Cornell Fine Arts Museum in Winter Park, Reunion at Sabanci Museum in Istanbul, Turkey, and *Then They Form US* at MCA Santa Barbara.

The Museum

Founded by Larry Aldrich in 1964, The Aldrich Contemporary Art Museum is dedicated to fostering the work of innovative artists whose ideas and interpretations of the world around us serve as a platform to encourage creative thinking. It is the only museum in Connecticut devoted to contemporary art, and throughout its fifty-year history has engaged its community with thought-provoking exhibitions and education programs.

The Museum's education and public programs are designed to connect visitors of all ages to contemporary art through innovative learning approaches in hands-on workshops, tours, and presentations led by artists, curators, Museum educators, and experts in related fields. Area schools are served by curriculum-aligned on-site and in-school programs, as well as teachers' professional development training.

Supporters

The Aldrich, in addition to significant support from its Board of Trustees, receives contributions from many dedicated friends and patrons. Major funding for Museum programs and operations has been provided by the Department of Economic and Community Development, Connecticut Office of the Arts; the National Endowment for the Arts; the Anna-Maria and Stephen Kellen Foundation; the Leir Charitable Foundations; The Goldstone Family Foundation; the Anne S. Richardson Fund; and Fairfield Fine Art.

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HamletHub; TownVibe, publishers of *Ridgefield Magazine*; and WSHU Public Radio are the official media sponsors of The Aldrich in 2015.

For additional information and images, please contact:

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