



Stars and Crescents (solitary act in Istanbul between 14 and 20 September 2011)

production year: 2011-2012
location of act: Istanbul, Turkey
witness of act: 62 digital photos
presentation format: photo installation
(62 images [inkjet on paper], 2 gray cotton papers)
entire size: 153x114 cm

It is an act I made in Istanbul to look for stars and crescents while walking around and photograph them, and the proof of my act presented as photo collage installation.

NATIONAL & RELIGIOUS ARE UNIVERSAL

Star and crescent signal the Turkish identity as well as they are universal symbols that can be found anywhere in the world. No matter if it is in nature, culture, religion, commerce, politics, or even something that is not intended to be but appeared as a star or a crescent to my eyes, I photographed my findings, which became the witness of my act.

FORM MISCELLANEOUS CONSTELLATION

I printed these 62 photos on paper, and added two gray cotton papers in the beginning and the end of the sequence. I placed them all in 8 by 8 and in chronological order, to create a single image that embraces various constellations of stars and crescents within.

ANTIPODAL EXPERIENCE The idea came from my experiences in Buenos Aires: a Brazilian friend simply finding the “moons” on the top of the minarets as “cute design” when seeing a mosque for the first time; eating Medialunas, Argentinean croissants, reminded me of the story behind the shape of croissants in relation to the Ottoman Empire.

(left page, from top to bottom) pomegranates sold at the stands on the street, their profile contains star shapes; a paper cup with four-pointed stars; a graffiti with five-pointed stars; installation view of the “witness” photos, forming constellations (right page) 62 photos of stars and crescents found in Istanbul

