

Melike Kara

CV

1985 Born in Bensberg, Germany
Lives and works in Cologne, Germany

Education

2014 Dusseldorf Art Academy, Dusseldorf, Germany

Solo and Two-Person Exhibitions

2026 Whispers, Kunsthau Hamburg, Hamburg, Germany
Everything Knows, François Ghebaly, Los Angeles, USA

2025 was uns bleibt, Bortolami, New York, USA

2024 Melike Kara, Peter and Irene Ludwig Foundation, Aachen, Germany
chanting, Jan Kaps, Cologne, Germany
Shallow Lakes, Schirn Kunsthalle, Frankfurt, Germany

2023 Emine's Garden, Kunst Halle Sankt Gallen, St. Gallen, Germany
changing light, nw9, Cologne, Germany

2022 landing softly, Neue Galerie Gladbeck, Gladbeck, Germany
as above so below, Arcadia Missa, London, UK

2021 Nothing is You, Everything is Yours, Kölischer Kunstverein, Cologne, Germany
How she shapes us, LC Queisser, Tbilisi, Georgia

2020 dayë dayë, B.LA Art Foundation - Artspace, Vienna, Austria
Zonta Cologne Art Award 2020, Fuhrwerkswaage, Cologne, Germany
where we meet, Jan Kaps, Cologne, Germany
No Friends but the Mountains, Kunstverein Göttingen, Göttingen, Germany

2019 Gowend Garden, Salon 94, New York, USA
My Beloved Wild Valley, Arcadia Missa, London, UK
new work, Witte de With Center for Contemporary Art, Rotterdam, Netherlands

2018 Speaking in Tongues, Jan Kaps, Cologne, , Germany
A Taste of Parsley, Yuz Museum, Shanghai

2017 Köpek, Peres Projects, Berlin, Germany

2016 Honey: Bread & Butter (with Jessica Gispert), Komplot, Brussels, Belgium
In Your Presence, Peres Projects, Berlin, Germany

2015 Flying Dinner, Open Forum, Berlin, Germany

2014 Real Sorbet, Ortlo, Leipzig, Germany

2013 Das kleine Schwarze, Boutique, Cologne, Germany

Selected Group Exhibitions

2025 Unter the weaver's hands, Kunsthalle Trier, Germany
Da(Zwischen)Sein, Suermondt-Ludwig-Museum, Aachen, Germany
Tropez, Berlin, Germany

2024 Healing the Earth, Kunsthalle Düsseldorf, Germany
Being Mediterranean, MO.CO., Montpellier, France
New Acquisitions and Donations, Kunst Museum St. Gallen, Germany
Black Box Theater, Clearing, New York, USA

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- On Growing Sane in Insane Places, The Ryder Projects, Madrid, Spain
Identities, Rothschild & Co Bank AG, Zürich, Switzerland
- 2023 Tsinaamdzgvishvili 49 / Mazniashvili 10, LC Queisser, Tiflis, Germany
Calling, Kunstverein Düsseldorf, Dusseldorf, Germany
the yellow light at 6pm - Remembering. envisioning, sensing landscape, Galerie Max Hetzler, Berlin, Germany
I've only got eyes for you, Philara Foundation, Dusseldorf, Germany
Brave New World: 20 Painters for the 21st Century, Museum De Fundatie, Zwolle, Netherlands
Next Door, Yuz Project Space of Art, Shanghai
The Reason for Painting, Mead Gallery, Coventry, England
My Oma, Kunstinstitut Melly, Rotterdam, Germany
Monotypes, Kunsthalle Zürich, Zurich, Germany
- 2022 Is it morning for you yet? (58th Carnegie International), Carnegie Museum of Art, Pittsburgh, USA
Trilogie de cendres (v.3), Frac des pays de la Loire, Nantes, France
Visions or Waking Dreams, Kunstverein Friedrichshafen, Friedrichshafen, Germany
Traverser les silences, Editions Dilecta, Paris, France
- 2021 Sweet Lies. Rethinking Identity, Ludwig Forum Aachen, Germany
The Dreamers, 58th October Salon, Belgrade Biennial, Serbia
Incorporea 04, Cura. Basement Roma, Rome, Italy
- 2020 love your symptom, but not too much, blank projects, Cape Town, South Africa
Risquons-Tout, Wiels Contemporary Art Centre, Brussels, Belgium
- 2019 Solar Anus, Parisian Laundry, Montréal, Canada
- 2018 BAMBOO BAR, AT THE EDGE OF THE UNIVERSE, Dortmunder Kunstverein, Dortmund, Germany
The Same As Ever, But More So. Curated by Miriam Bettin, Braunsfelder, Cologne, Germany
Inaugural Show, LC QUEISSER, Tbilisi, Germany
Nothing Will Be The Same As Before, Tanya Leighton, Berlin, Germany
- 2017 (X) A Fantasy, curated by Sandra Pusterhofer, David Roberts Art Foundation, London, UK
MIDTOWN, Salon 94 and Maccarone Gallery, Lever House, New York, USA
White Columns Bene t Exhibition and Auction, White Columns, New York, USA
Monday is a Day Between Sunday and Tuesday, curated by Lisa Offermann, Tanya Leighton, Berlin, Germany
- 2016 Melike Kara, Talisa Lallai, Lindsay Lawson, curated by Maria Chiara Valacchi, Studiolo, Milan, Italy
Wild Style: Exhibition of Figurative Art, Peres Projects, Berlin, Germany
In Wonderland, Salon Dahlmann, Berlin, Germany
FACE TO FACE, curated by Eugenio Viola, Palazzo Fruscione, Salerno, Italy
SURREAL, König Gallery, Berlin, Germany
Folly, Emalin, Dunmore, Germany
Pineapple, Airth, Falkirk, Scoland
The Snoring Princess, Kunstgruppe, Cologne, Germany
Lanzarote, Union Pacific, London, UK
- 2015 copy gods (with Yves Scherer & Julia Scher) Drei, Cologne, Germany
The State of Having Left, curated by Lisa Offermann and Pauline Seguin, Leipzig, Germany
- 2014 kunst Imtage, Pourya, Düsseldorf, Germany
NOWHERE, Bar Babette, Berlin, Germany
L'Aventura., A+B Contemporary Art, Brescia, Italy

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- Ifinito, Kunstverein Essen, Totale, Essen, Germany
Shortcuts, Hallmackenreuther, Cologne, Germany
- 2013 Body Light, Venus & Apoll (by Julia Stoschek Collection), Düsseldorf, Germany
Dark(traces) (with Keren Cytter, Anja Kirchner, David Panos, Clemens v. Wedemeyer), Hamburg, Germany
Filmfestival, Hamburg, Germany
Fragile Islands, Parkhaus, Düsseldorf, Germany
Zyklus, Studio Roh, Düsseldorf, Germany
Bal Aksin, Maybachpoint, Cologne, Germany
Ein drittel weiß hören, KIT, Düsseldorf, Germany
Der stille Grund, Gagarin, Düsseldorf, Germany
Here is always somewhere else, Castle Oud Rekem, Rekem, Germany

Selected Public & Private Collections

Centre Georges Pompidou, Paris, France
K11, Hong Kong, China
Los Angeles County Museum of Art (LACMA), Los Angeles Yuz Museum, Shanghai, China
Philara Foundation, Düsseldorf, Germany
FRAC des Pays de La Loire, Carquefou, France
Zuzueum Museum, Riga, Latvia
Pérez Art Museum, Miami, USA
Lauda Foundation, Vienna, Austria
Kunstmuseum St. Gallen, St. Gallen, Switzerland
M Woods Museum, Beijing, China
Museum Ludwig, Cologne, Germany

Selected Publications

- 2024 Baden, Sebastian (ed.), shallow lakes, Exh. cat., Berlin: DISTANZ Verlag, 2024
- 2023 Jager, Hans den Hartog, Brave New World, Exh. cat., Zwolle: Museum de Fundatie, 2023
- 2022 Mohebbi, Sohrab (ed.), Is it morning for you yet? 58th Carnegie International, Exh. cat., Pittsburgh: Carnegie Museum of Art, 2022
Gisbourne, Mark and Tannert, Christoph (eds.), Dissonance: Platform Germany, Exh. cat., Berlin: Dr. Cantz'sche Verlagsgesellschaft, 2022
- 2021 Schöneich, Fabian (ed.), Melike Kara: Where We Meet, Exh. cat., Cologne: Verlag der Buchhandlung Walther König, 2021
Marotta, Ilaria and Baccin, Andrea (eds.), THE DREAMERS (58th October Salon | Belgrade Biennale 2021), Exh. cat., Rome: Cura Books, 2021
Snauwaert, Dirk, Vishmidt, Marina, Coccia, Emanuele and Zihlerl, Vivian, Risquons-Tout: Planetary Artists Venture into Risk, Unpredictability, and Transgression, Exh. cat., Brussels: Mercatorfonds, 2021

Selected Press

- 2025 Carollo, Elisa. Artist Melike Kara Confronts the Multiplicity in Her Debut Show at Bortolami, Observer, January
- 2023 Sohrab, Mohebbi. 'Being without Ego', MOUSSE #82, Winter 2023
Vukadinović, Vojin Saša, Critics' Picks: Melike Kara, Artforum, October 9

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- Johnson-Nwosu, Chinma, Six must-see works in Art Basel's free-to-see public art programme, The Art Newspaper, June 14
- Pohlen, Annelie. 'Düsseldorf CALLING', KUNSTFORUM International, September
- Restorff, Jörg. 'The trip inside', RHEINISCHE POST, July
- Corwin, William, Melike Kara: Emine's Garden, The Brooklyn Rail, September
- Hess, Barbara. 'Calling', Stadttrevue, September
- Genova, Christina. 'Emine's Enchanted Garden: Kurdish history grows and proliferates in the Kunsthalle St.Gallen', TAGBLATT, July 10
- 2022 Hallström, Sofia. 'In the Studio with Melike Kara', émergent magazine, February
- Billard, Jillian, The 58th Carnegie International explodes and expands the global contemporary art exhibition format, The Art Newspaper, October 21
- Laster, Paul, 9 Highlights from the 58th Carnegie International in Pittsburgh, Galerie Magazine, September 30
- 2021 Lace, Inga. 'Melike Kara', Artforum, vol. 60, no. 4, December
- Krogh Kristensen, Sofie. 'Five Exhibitions to See During Art Cologne. Melike Kara, Kölnischer Kunstverein', Frieze, November 17
- 2020 Semonjek, Anja. 'Melike Kara offenbart ihre kurdisch-alevitischen Wurzeln', GÖTTINGER TAGBLATT, January
- 2019 Artsy Editors. 'The artists to know right now', THE ARTSY VANGUARD, September
- Farkas, Rózsa & Kara, Melike. 'Melike Kara: My beloved wild valley', CURA, June
- Scheper, Moritz. 'Speaking in Tongues', ARTREVIEW, March
- 2018 Herriman, Kat. 'Melike Kara brings the spirit world to the Yuz Museum', CULTURED MAGAZINE, July
- 2017 Radley, Jack. 'An Awoval of Anonymity: Melike Kara at Peres Projects', BERLIN ART LINK, October
- Corrigan, Anna. 'Melike Kara: „Köpek“ at Peres Projects', ART OBSERVED, November
- Horvat, Katja. 'Köpek by Melike Kara', CURA, October
- Duguid, Rosalind. 'Melike Kara: Body Language', ELEPHANT, October
- Ther, Milan. 'Dogged Disclosure: Melike Kara', MOUSSE, October
- Loizou, Nicolette. 'The human form in „Köpek“ by Melike Kara at Peres Projects', BLOUIN ARTINFO, October
- Moore, Susan. 'A place on the map', FINANCIAL TIMES, September
- Editor. 'Melike Kara', HYPOCRITE DESIGN, August
- Quack, Gregor. 'Melike Kara', CURA, Summer 2017
- Arnold, Frances & Forbes, Alexander. 'The 15th best booth at Art Basel in Hong Kong', ARTSY, March
- Weisenstein, Kara & Rubin, Charlie. 'Inside Independent New York, the Art Fair that Shook Armory Week', CREATORS, March
- 2016 Vasey, George. 'Melike Kara', KALEIDOSCOPE, Winter 2016
- Neuendorf, Henri. '10 Emerging Artists to Keep on Your Radar', ARTNET NEWS, November
- Leclère Lucas. 'Melike Kara', FROG MAGAZINE, October
- Elderton, Louisa. 'Review: Wild Style', FLASH ART INTERNATIONAL, September/October
- Buffestein, Alyssa. 'What Do Ancient Artefacts and Contemporary Paintings Have in Common?', June
- Yang, Ida. 'In Your Presence, We Dissolve Together', LEAP, March/April
- Darellmann, Amelie. 'Interview with Melike Kara', KUBAPARIS, March
- Bier, Arielle. 'Melike Kara', ARTFORUM, February