

YUNT

FEBRUARY 4, 2026

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MAY 3, 2026

Curators:

Merve Elveren

Meriç Öner

Participants:

Gürbey Hiz

Emre Hüner

Mona Mahall

& Aslı Serbest

Metehan Özcan

Firuzan Melike Sümertaş

Deniz Tortum

“Under the Rug”: The Second Instalment of the *PresentAbsent* Programme at YUNT from 4 February

Curated by Merve Elveren and Meriç Öner, “PresentAbsent: Under the Rug”, the second instalment of the *PresentAbsent* Programme, will be on view at YUNT from 4 February 2026 to 3 May 2026. As the second part of a three-part exhibition spanning an entire year, it offers alternative perspectives on the past and future through the long-term research of participants Metehan Özcan, Mona Mahall and Aslı Serbest.

Metehan Özcan’s photographic images and collages blend rural, industrial, and domestic elements within the city, suggesting scenes where boundaries blur and a sense of unease prevails. His *Heroes* series, which started in 2017, focuses on the “accumulations” the artist found on the metal pillars of the Kahramanlar Köprüsü [Heroes Bridge] in Izmir. Unlike conventional cityscapes, the series offers a collective memoir where things that no longer belong to anyone and are ignored come together along the canal. *Jobs in the Phone Book* (2019) and *Online Job Advertisements* (2026) series moves the artist’s ongoing performances onto a more speculative ground: they raise questions about how easily spaces considered private could be shared with “a stranger”.

Mahall and Serbest, form *newold europe* (2026) project that reimagines Europe as a geographically relocated space with fluid boundaries. To imagine the borders of Europe as more elastic, Mahall and Serbest draw on Neolithic times to explore more generous forms of collective space and life, handed down through cultural remains such as prehistoric clay models and figurines. Found in sites stretching from the Danube Valley to Anatolia, these remains express a culture of “Old Europe”, one that actually appears new and worth striving for: more egalitarian, heterarchical, peaceful, and highly developed.

Opening up side paths to YUNT’s current explorations, the second instalment of the exhibition brings together different moments and geographies to interpret the destabilized tension between the private and public:

It is impossible to pinpoint that first moment when the perception of time became complicated, boundaries blurred irreversibly, and the sense of belonging evaporated. Even if it exists, it is recorded differently in each

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mind. Perhaps it was a rupture created by moments piling up on top of each other. Alternatively, perhaps it never actually happened. Today, however, points to a time where all uncertainties intersect. Because expectations for the future clash with current anxieties, and past dreams have clearly failed to materialize. The worlds of like-minded communities are at odds with each other; the voices of individual positions are faint; life beyond the physical is violent, and truths are entirely dubious.

- Excerpt from the curatorial text -

About Us

YUNT, located in Sultanbeyli, is a non-profit art and interaction space. It aims to increase the community's exposure to artistic activities. In addition to exhibitions, and events, it provides an educational program and supports publications, allowing individuals it engages with to establish new sensory relationships with the world. It aims to contribute to the proliferation of potential social change through the experiential and interactive opportunities it offers. Through its event program and incentive policy, YUNT supports artistic production and intellectual thought.

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Transport:

For public transport (İETT), please use the Mescidi Aksa Camii bus stop. Private parking is available for visitors.

[Click for location.](#)

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