

## **:mentalKLINIK**

:mentalKLINIK is an artist duo from Istanbul composed of Yasemin Baydar and Birol Demir who began their collaborative works in 1998, known for their reactionary form of an open laboratory to reinvent process, production, roles, conception and presentation. Resisting to the limitations of a single vocabulary or style, their world is a playful one full of hedonistic appeal which can be experienced as festive and glamorous but also surprising as one approaches to discover with a closer view an underlying violence suggestive of a bad trip after party or a creepy beginning of the end.

Their works shift between emotional and robotic attitudes. Some Works begin by slicing or cutting whereby the artists introduce an element of danger, as a métaphore of art. Other works are emotionally charged with connotations set in direct contrast to other works completely devoid of human characteristics. Converting all pieces of present time into materials for their works of art, :mentalKLINIK points out to contemporary reality by means of sound, action, object, text and form. Reflecting upon our habits of consumption and production; the artist duo forces the limits of interdisciplinary working and questions the patterns and the modes of relation underlying these patterns.

The artists dislocate the materials already detached from everyday life and create a new aesthetic form that is awkward, alien and uncanny within the exhibition space forcing viewers to question their own material surroundings. Throughout their works they bring to light invisible politics and social dynamics that define our everyday lives.

:mentalKLINIK's experimental approach has been praised on numerous occasions and include a performative installation titled 'FreshCut' (MAK, Vienna\_ Austrian Museum of applied Arts / Contemporary Art) and 'Co-operation Would be Highly Appreciated' Exhibition at SCAD Museum GA, USA. They have participated in numerous international exhibitions including Istanbul Modern-Rotterdam at Boijmans van Beuningen Museum (Rotterdam, 2012); Izmir Triennial of Contemporary Art (Izmir, 2010); and Tomorrow, Now (MUDAM, Luxembourg, 2007). They have had two major solo shows at Galerist, Istanbul titled That's Fucking Awesome curated by Jerome Sans (2011) and rABBIThOLE (2009); and a solo show at Gallery Isabelle van den Eynde Thank You For your Cooperation (2014).