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## Alican Durbaş

Director, Video Artist

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### LANGUAGES

Turkish (native language), French, English

### SHORT BIO

Alican Durbaş (b. 1986, Istanbul) currently resides in Istanbul. His main focus lies in investigating the relationship between cinema and video art. In his works, he explores the possibilities of establishing a narrative “to be watched”, “to be followed” and the opportunities to create actions, environments “to be seen” and further, “to be experienced”, within the framework of certain formalist decisions. As a result of these researches, his work, **Soil (2017)** was screened in the short film competitions of many international film festivals such as Sharjah Film Platform (2019), 37th Istanbul Film Festival (2018), 16th Tirana Film Festival (2018); and in addition, it was exhibited as a video installation at venues such as Beirut Art Center, Los Angeles Digital Arts Center and at events such as 9th Cairo Video Festival (2019), 22nd Toulouse Rencontres Traverse Vidéo (2019).

As a participant of the Istanbul Biennial 2019-2020 Production and Research Programme, he develops his projects. With his feature film script **Tessera**, he won the best screenplay award at the script contest organized by Axolotl Magazine (a Turkish magazine combining the writings of time-based artists) within the 39th International Istanbul Film Festival, in 2020. He just finished his short film **Distant Mirror**. He was selected for Talents Sarajevo 2011 and Berlinale Talents 2022, the talent development programmes of the International Berlin Film Festival.

### EDUCATION

**Yeditepe University, Graduate School of Social Sciences, Istanbul-** *Master's program in Arts and Cultural Management Thesis*

2013 - 2017

**Yeditepe University, Faculty of Fine Arts, Istanbul-** *Bachelor of Fine Arts in Arts and Culture Management*

2005 - 2010

**New York's Digital Film Academy, Istanbul-** *Certificate of Digital Filmmaking*

2008 - 2009

**Saint-Joseph French High School, Istanbul**

2002 - 2005

**Saint-Joseph French Secondary School, Istanbul**

1998 - 2002

### EXHIBITIONS

**OPEN SPACE** - *10th Armenia Art Fair*

- On 2020 December 10th Armenia Art Fair presents Open Space, a unique platform curated in the framework of AAF digital space. Made up of submissions ranging from video artists to photographers, established and emerging artists, over 30 international artists from 19 different countries present their work as part of the Open Space curatorial project. This project was created

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with funding from the International Relief Fund of the German Federal Foreign Office, the Goethe – Institut, and other partners.

**IMAGES FOR A BETTER WORLD** - *The Opendoor Digital Museum project as part of the actions of BIENALSUR 2019 and with support of Alooh Latam and FEPE International*

- The Open Air Museum of Digital Art is a cultural and artistic exchange through video art. Over 20 artists from all over the world project their videos on advertising screens in the streets of more than 40 Latin American cities.

**MOSS INDEX VOLUME 2** - *Artists' Television Access, San Francisco, USA*

06.03.2019

- Moss Index is a twice-annual screening series about looking at nature (“nature”), interacting with the environment (“the environment”), and investigating the border regions where the human and the not-human intersect. An invitation to look at the environment might usually imply a certain political goal, but we are interested in starting further back: decolonizing our ways of seeing and imagining alternative socio-ecologies. Plant-vision, inter-species encounters, unmapping, wet thresholds. This is not a green film fest.

**SEEING IN TONGUES** - *Los Angeles Center for Digital Art, USA*

14.06.2018 - 07.07.2018

- Curated by The Film and Video Poetry Society

**IMMATERIAL COLLECTION II, 02: Liminal Space** - *Beirut Art Center, Lebanon*

06.06.2018

- Curated by BAC's visiting researcher Joy Stacey, “Immaterial Collection II: Forum” brings together video works by the acclaimed artists in Beirut Art Center's Media Library with new works selected from the open call to artists from the NEMA region, creating forums for conversation between two unique collections of artworks. Over 100 established and early career artists submitted work, inspiring connections with works in the Media Library. Selected videos from each have been screened in a series of four distinct forums to stimulate conversation and debate over drinks on the terrace afterward.

**SURPLUS** - *REM Art Space, Istanbul, Turkey*

03.06.2016 - 03.07.2016

- “Surplus” is the first group exhibition of “Support Art Ist” which is founded for supporting young artists and enhancing their visibility.

**PORT CITY TALKS. ISTANBUL. ANTWERP.** - *MAS-Museum Aan de Stroom, Antwerp, Belgium*

23.10.2015 - 24.01.2016

- The exhibition curated by Murat Tabanlıoğlu is one of the events of the International Europalia Art Festival.

**CONNECTING THE DOTS: WORKSHOPS** - *Pera Museum, Istanbul, Turkey*

06.08.2013 - 22.09.2013

- The exhibition features a selection of works from the workshops of the 6th International Triennial in collaboration with Marmara University Faculty of Fine Arts.

**WATER WORK** - *Siemens Art Gallery, Istanbul, Turkey*

09.03.2013 - 14.04.2013

- Initiated and curated by Ass. Prof. Mürteza Fidan, Dr. Vincent W.J. van Gerven Oei, Prof. T. Melih Görgün and Gosse de Kont.

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## FILMOGRAPHY

For general video portfolio: <https://vimeo.com/211028358>

### **DISTANT MIRROR** - *short fiction*

17', 2022

### **SOIL** - *short experimental*

18', 2017

- The second edition of Sharjah Film Platform (SFP), Official Selection, United Arab Emirates, 2019.
- 9th Cairo Video Festival, Official Selection, Egypt, 2019.
- VASTLAB Experimental Film Festival, Official Selection, USA, 2019.
- We Make Movies International Film Festival, Official Selection, USA, 2019.
- The Hazel Eye Film Festival, Official Selection, USA, 2019.
- 9th Alchemy Film and Moving Image Festival, Out from Turkey Programme, Scotland, 2019.
- 5th International Motion Festival (IMF), The Single Channel Show - Program 4, Cyprus, 2019.
- Sinepark Short Film Festival, Best Film Award in Experimental Category, Turkey, 2019.
- 22nd Rencontres Traverse Vidéo, Official Selection, France, 2019.
- 9th Baku International Short Film Festival, International Competition, the Golden Pomegranate Award as the winner of the Best Experimental Film, Azerbaijan, 2018.
- 2. AFSAD Short Film Competition, Best Film in Experimental Category, Turkey, 2018.
- 5th International Uşak Winged Seahorse Short Film Festival, National Short Film Competition, Best Sound Award, Turkey, 2018
- International Amity Short Film Festival, Panorama Section, Turkey, 2018.
- The 16th edition of Tirana International Film Festival, Official International Short Competition, Video Art & Experimental Category, Albania, 2018.
- Accessible Film Festival, The Long & Short of It Selection, Turkey, 2018.
- 4th Marmaris International Short Film Festival, 2018 Hermithea Second Best Experimental Short Film Award, Turkey.
- Screening – Seeing in Tongues curated by The Film and Video Poetry Society, Los Angeles Center for Digital Art, USA, 2018.
- Screening – Immaterial Collection II, 02: Liminal Space, Beirut Art Center, Lebanon, 2018.
- Festival ECRĂ, Official Selection, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, 2018.
- Concrete Dream Film Festival, Official Selection, Los Angeles, USA, 2018.
- Delete TV 2018, Official Selection, London, UK, 2018.
- The West Virginia Mountaineer Short Film Festival, Official Selection, Morgantown, West Virginia, USA, 2018.
- 37th Istanbul Film Festival, Official Selection as part of the National Short Film Competition, Istanbul, Turkey, 2018.
- Nomination for the Best Short Film Award in 50th SIYAD Awards organized by the Turkish Film Critics Association. 2017.
- 15th Bogotá Short Film Festival / Festival de Cortos de Bogotá – BOGOSHORTS, Official Selection as part of the International Competition (Experimental Category), Bogotá, Colombia, 2017.
- Experimental Forum, Honorable Mention, USA, 2017.
- 18th International İzmir Short Film Festival, Official Selection, İzmir, Turkey, 2017.

### **AKİS** - *short fiction*

11', 2011

- 5th Sinepark Short Film Festival, Finalist Film at Horror Category, 2011.
- Official Selection at Festival della Identita (Identita Film Festival 3th edition), Berceto, Italy, 2012.

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## **YAHYA'S MULES** - *a web documentary*

2012

- A web documentary created after Youth Mode Interactive Documentary Workshop organized by Mode Istanbul, Doc Next Network, and Documentarist 2012.

## **THE BOAT** - *short fiction/animation*

8', 2010

- Screening at UFO 0110 International Digital Film Festival, New Delhi, India, 2012.
- Screening at 23rd Ankara International Film Festival, Ankara, Turkey, 2012.
- Special screening at 48th Antalya International Golden Orange Film Festival, Antalya, Turkey, 2011.
- Special screening at 17th Adana International Golden Boll Film Festival, Adana, Turkey, 2010.

## **CITY AND ART DOCUMENTARY** - *documentary*

80', 2010

- A film documenting the process of "City and Art Project" consisting of a forum, introducing its workshops and exhibitions in five European cities, which is organized by the European Cultural Association, and which is implemented by Mimar Sinan Fine Arts University under the coordination of Secretariat General of EU Affairs.

## **PAPERS** - *short fiction*

11', 2008

- Best Film Award in Fiction Category at 6th PAM Short Film Festival, Turkey, 2008.
- 20th Ankara International Film Festival, National Short Film Competition, Turkey, 2012.
- Screening at the 18th Istanbul International Short Film Festival, Fiction Category, Turkey, 2009.
- 2nd Beylikdüzü International Short Film Festival, Competition Finalist, Turkey, 2009.
- İnönü Üniversitesi Short Film Festival 2009, Competition Finalist, Turkey, 2009.

## **SYMBOL OF IMMORTAL CRIES** - *short documentary*

15', 2008

- Screening at Film Festival: Humanity Explored, an online film festival organized by "Culture Unplugged", 2012. [http://www.cultureunplugged.com/storyteller/Alican\\_Durbas#/myFilms](http://www.cultureunplugged.com/storyteller/Alican_Durbas#/myFilms)
- Screening at the 18th Istanbul International Short Film Festival, Documentary Category, Turkey, 2009.
- Third Film Award in Documentary Category at the 2nd Beylikdüzü International Short Film Festival, Turkey, 2008.

## **TWO AND A HALF** - *short fiction*

2', 2006

- Honorable Mention prize at DV333 British Council Digital Video Film Competition, Ankara, Turkey, 2006.
- Screening at the 5th British Short Film Days, Ankara, Turkey, 2006.
- Screening at the 12th Festival on Wheels, Kars, Turkey, 2006.

## **PARTICIPATED WORKSHOPS**

- 2022 - Berlinale Talents, the talent development program of the International Berlin Film Festival.
- 2019-2020 - Participant of the Istanbul Biennial Production and Research Programme.
- 2013 - The research project "Bridges across The Bosphorus" initiated by The Interfaculty ArtScience from The Royal Academy of Arts (The Hague) in collaboration with The T.I.M.E.

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Department of The Royal Conservatoire (The Hague) and The Fine Art Faculties of Marmara University and The Mimar Sinan University of Fine Arts (Istanbul)

- 2012 - Interactive Web Documentary Workshop with Prof. Andreas Treske organized by Mode Istanbul and Doc Next Network
- 2011 - 5th Sarajevo Talent Campus which took place in cooperation with the 17th Sarajevo Film Festival and Berlinale Talent Campus
- 2009 - !FZINE Film Journalism Workshop hosted by Nisi Masa (European Network of Young Cinema) within The !f Istanbul International Independent Film Festival
- 2009 - 1st International Artist Initiatives Istanbul Meeting
- 2008 - Directing workshop with director Reha Erdem at 14th Festival on Wheels (Kars)
- 2008 - ICCPR 2008 International Conference on Cultural Policy Research at Yeditepe University, Istanbul
- 2006 - Margins of Europe Informal European Theatre Meeting at Culture Forum Istanbul with European Cultural Association

## EXPERIENCE IN THE FILM INDUSTRY

[https://www.imdb.com/name/nm6765229/?ref=nr\\_sr\\_1](https://www.imdb.com/name/nm6765229/?ref=nr_sr_1)

### **PASTEL, AZ Celtic Films, Fethiye- Second Assistant Director**

JUNE-JULY 2021

- The feature film "Aftersun" directed by Charlotte Wells

### **AY YAPIM, Istanbul- Second Assistant Director**

JANUARY 2019

- The feature film "9,75 Santimetrekare" directed by Uluç Bayraktar

### **AZ Celtic Films, Istanbul- Second Assistant Director**

JULY 2018

- The Turkish Airlines commercial directed by Ridley Scott

### **Netflix Studios, O3 Medya, Istanbul- Second Assistant Director**

JANUARY - APRIL 2018

- The Netflix Original Series "The Protector" (3 episodes)

### **AZ Celtic Films - Second Assistant Director**

OCTOBER - NOVEMBER 2017

- The feature film "I Am You" directed by Sonia Nassary Cole

### **Karaçelik Film Yapım, Istanbul - Second Assistant Director**

AUGUST 2017

- The feature film "Butterflies" directed by Tolga Karaçelik

### **Folke Films Sweden, Karma Films, Istanbul - First Assistant Director**

JUNE 2016

- The commercial Georg Jensen "Never too much" directed by Laerke Herthoni

### **Eastern Sunrise Films, Y Production, Istanbul - Second Assistant Director**

JULY - AUGUST 2015

- The feature film "The Ottoman Lieutenant" directed by Joseph Ruben

### **Columbia Pictures, Karma Films, Istanbul - Third Assistant Director**

JUNE - 2015

- The feature film "Inferno" directed by Ron Howard

### **Piepie Films, AZ Celtic Films, Istanbul-Baku - Crowd Second Assistant Director**

JANUARY - MAY 2015

- The feature film "Ali and Nino" directed by Asif Kapadia

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**Nordisk Film, AZ Celtic Films, Konya** - *Third Assistant Director*

OCTOBER - NOVEMBER 2014

- The feature film "A War (Krigen)" directed by Tobias Lindholm

**Excel Entertainment, LPT Film, Istanbul-Antalya** - *2nd Unit Assistant Director*

AUGUST 2014

- The feature film "Dil Dhadakne Do" directed by Zoya Akhtar

**Polyphone Film, AZ Celtic Films, Istanbul** - *Extras Coordinator*

MAY 2014

- The German TV serial "Das Traumschiff (The Dream Boat)

**Big Talk & BBC, AZ Celtic Films, Bursa** - *Third Assistant Director*

APRIL 2013

- The British TV series "Ambassadors"

**BKM Film, Mardin** - *Backstage Director*

SEPTEMBER - OCTOBER 2012

- The feature film "Hükümet Kadın" directed by Sermiyan Midyat

**Eon Production, Pinewood Studios, Anka Film, Istanbul** - *Props Department Coordinator*

JANUARY - JUNE 2012

- The feature film "James Bond Skyfall" directed by Sam Mendes

**EuropaCorp, Karma Films, Istanbul** - *Production Assistant*

NOVEMBER - DECEMBER 2011

- The feature film "Taken 2" directed by Olivier Mégaton and produced by Luc Besson

**Drama İstanbul, Istanbul** - *Backstage Director*

SEPTEMBER 2011

- The feature film "Hidden Lives" directed by A. Haluk Ünal