

# OVERGADEN.

Press release June 2016

## Deniz Eroglu: *Milk & Honey*

18 June – 14 August 2016

Opening: Friday 17 June 5-8pm

**What does the Turk in the local kebab shop really think about life in Denmark? In his first solo exhibition in Denmark, the Danish-Turkish artist Deniz Eroglu focuses – with equal portions of humour and aesthetic beauty – on giving a voice to people who are rarely heard in public in Denmark, and hardly ever in Danish art institutions.**

Overgaden proudly presents the first solo exhibition by Deniz Eroglu, who has created a series of new works based on his experiences as the son of a Turkish immigrant. The title *Milk & Honey* refers to a Danish TV programme on Turkish immigrant workers called *The Land of Milk and Honey*, which was broadcast on Danish state television in 1989. The artist watched the programme when he was eight, and remembers it having a negative impact on his relationship to his Turkish background. Eroglu has described the sadness and disappointment he felt when he realised that a lot of people in Denmark didn't care much for the people who had stayed in the country after originally being invited to come here as temporary migrant workers.

The title of the exhibition also alludes to the dream of Denmark as a land of plenty, flowing with milk and honey. For generations many immigrants and refugees have come to Denmark with high hopes that have had to be adjusted in the face of a culture that was perhaps less friendly and welcoming than they had anticipated. The works in the exhibition therefore go beyond Deniz Eroglu's personal family history, and can be read as a portrait of Danish society and the Danes' treatment of 'outsiders' – people like Eroglu's father, who came to Denmark in the late 1970s.

In the exhibition, Deniz Eroglu reflects intelligently and pensively on his mixed background in sculptures and installations. Previously he has worked primarily with film and video, but *Milk & Honey* is a total installation with singing kebabs, a computer game starring Eroglu's father in the lead role, piles of honey coins, and a river of milk. During the exhibition there will be a programme of events, including an artist talk and film screening showing how Turks have been portrayed throughout film history.

Deniz Eroglu (b. 1981) studied at the Funen Art Academy and Städelschule in Frankfurt, where he graduated in 2014. Eroglu is currently on a two-year residency at the Rijksakademie van beeldende kunsten in Amsterdam. He has exhibited widely internationally, including shows in Germany, Austria, Mexico and the US.

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**Contact:** For more information about the exhibition contact Merete Jankowski at [mj@overgaden.org](mailto:mj@overgaden.org) or on +45 32 57 72 73. Press images can be downloaded from the press page on our website.

Overgaden is Copenhagen's innovative exhibition venue for Danish and international contemporary art. With varying exhibitions and events, including artist talks, lectures, performances and film screenings, Overgaden acts as a platform for the latest developments on the art scene, and as a forum for discussion and debate.

Overgaden.  
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Tirsdag-søndag 13-17, torsdag 13-20. Fri entré

STATENS KUNSTFOND

