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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



Sum of Us (Detail)
Screenprint, acrylic paint, embroidery floss, glass beads, sequins, thread,
yarn crochet on found bedsheet
20"x30"
2022

In Turkish, the words for “you” (sen) and “I” (ben) share common letters, and there are no gendered pronouns. Everything in the natural world is “o” in the third person, and you and I overlap intimately. This imprecise language, along with double-meaning words and absurd sayings, leaves room for playful interpretation/misinterpretation of the world. How we mutually understand each other are contextualized by the cultures we belong to and the languages (both verbal and visual) we share. Through these linguistic sentiments, in ***Between You and I***, artist Hale Ekinici explores the intersection between “you”, “I”, and “it”: the immigrant, the Western, the Eastern, the woman, the lover, the human, the other, the plant, the tongue. The works investigate expressions of intimacy and ambiguous readings of closeness.

Accurate translation is impossible, communication is complex, and “you” and “I” are too apart; negotiating these with humor, the artist yearns for the shared letters of ben, sen.

Between You and I

Work by Hale Ekinici

Opening Reception
December 3rd, 2022
4 - 7 PM

On View December 3 - 25, 2022
Sundays 11 AM - 2 PM

Hale Ekinici (b. 1984 in Karamursel, Turkey) is a multidisciplinary Turkish artist, designer, and educator based in Chicago. She received her MFA in Interdisciplinary Arts & Media at Columbia College Chicago and is currently an Associate Professor of Art & Design at North Central College. Exploring personal history, cultural identity, gender politics, and craft traditions, her works vary from videos to embroidery paintings embellished with vibrant colors, patterns, and autobiographical relics.

She was recently a Facebook Chicago Artist in Resident. Her work has been exhibited nationally at EXPO Chicago, Studio Gang, Co-Prosperity, One After 909, Woman Made Gallery, South Bend Museum of Art, Koehnline Museum of Art, St. Louis Artists' Guild, and Queens College Art Center. Her videos have been screened internationally, including New York City, Berlin, Warsaw, and Jerusalem. She completed residencies at ACRE, Jivar Barcelona, Momentum Worldwide Berlin, Elsewhere Museum, and Chicago Artist Coalition.

www.hale-ekinci.com
[@haleekinci_art](https://www.instagram.com/haleekinci_art)

Comfort Station activates a historic building with public, community-driven programs that foster vibrant connections at the intersection of art and life. Our exhibition program is a rotating monthly series that showcases Chicago-based emerging and established artists, selected through an annual open call for proposals by Comfort Station staff.