

irem gngez
irem gungez
irem guengez

2019-2021



artist statement

i mostly locate myself in threshold (in between) in order to focus on the unconscious progress of getting to know myself, going out of my comfort zone, living abroad and seeking for liminoid situations in order to gain or lose meanings. and i try to find out why i do this to myself in my artistic practice.

while traveling and living through different countries, i try to figure out if i can ever feel myself home. during this journey, some existential questions come up. i experience doubting the answers that i find. the feeling of being in foreign environment, grasping three languages everyday and coping with relationships support the discomfort behind my (changing) state.

these thinkings are some driving forces of my artistic approach. they come out in the shape of tangible and concrete media as photographs, books, installations and found objects. my choice of medium happens to appear as bits of life in order to capsule the reality. my aim is to reuse these bits, look at them again and combine them with other dimensions of reality to uncover their abnormal essence.

i step back, take a position of a stranger, and simply seek for mundane objects, places and moments that are present in our everyday lives, but not necessarily noticed and being taken for granted.

when different layers of everyday life come together in the form of a photomontage, they create dissonance. places and objects are being alienated from reality. in my artistic practice i keep questioning my perception without expecting answers. the title of my book "went for a walk, ended up nowhere" speaks to this approach.

my photographs are circulating between my projects. they pop-up as bits of life, guide my experience and meet other media to keep questioning and reinventing reality. trying to understand what my gut tells me, i build control over my practice by letting mistakes and coincidences naturally direct my work.

recently i have been working on reflecting the liminoid experiences i have in my relationships which is connected to my focus on liminality in my artistic practice. carrying heavy feelings everywhere with me and not knowing where to place them is a part of my in-between position. all of these loads allow me to work with media like text, installation and objects and make me mix different materials as it's seen on 'hide and seek'.

in my search for artistic expression, i'm constantly looking for a way of creating a homelike ambience, even though i might never find it.

my work ist kaputt gegangen
zurich, 2021

carton box, doormat, alarm clock,
pans, cups, plates, vases, map,
battery, clothes hanger, hair ties,
shoes, candle, lock, tampon, tea
glass, dictionary, broken ceramic
pieces
ca. 90x90 cm



detail

carton box, doormat, alarm clock,
pans, cups, plates, vases, map,
battery, clothes hanger, hair ties,
shoes, candle, lock, tampon, tea
glass, dictionary, broken ceramic
pieces
ca. 90x90 cm



detail

carton box, doormat,
alarm clock, pans, cups,
plates, vases, map,
battery, clothes hanger,
hair ties, shoes, candle,
lock, tampon, tea glass,
dictionary, broken ceramic
pieces
ca. 90x90 cm



**hide and seek
zurich, 2020**

16 wooden boards
covered with photo prints
and fabric, shelves
(or)

photo prints and fabric
on wood
ca. 10x15 cm

shelves
175x90cm

installation view:
3. fatart fair 2020



detail

16 wooden boards
covered with photo prints
and fabric, shelves
(or)

photo prints and fabric
on wood
ca. 10x15 cm

shelves
175x90cm

installation view:
3. fatart fair 2020

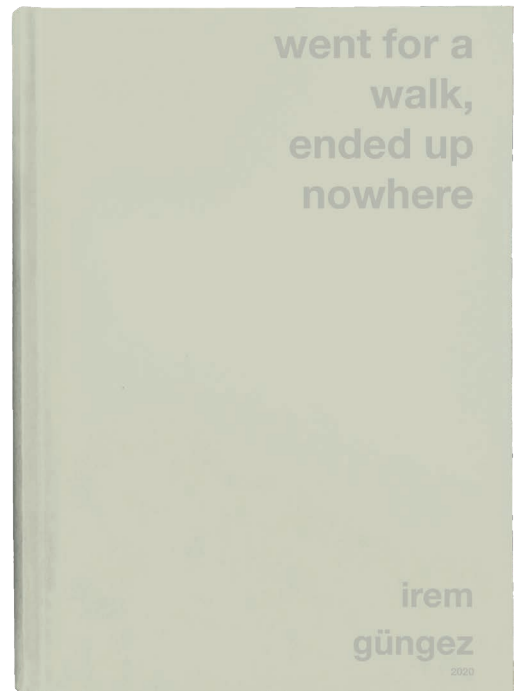


**went for a walk,
ended up nowhere**
zurich, 2020

book printed on matte paper,
84 pages, 29.7x42 cm

work in progress
([video link here](#))
password: 1717

top: cover
bottom: selected pages



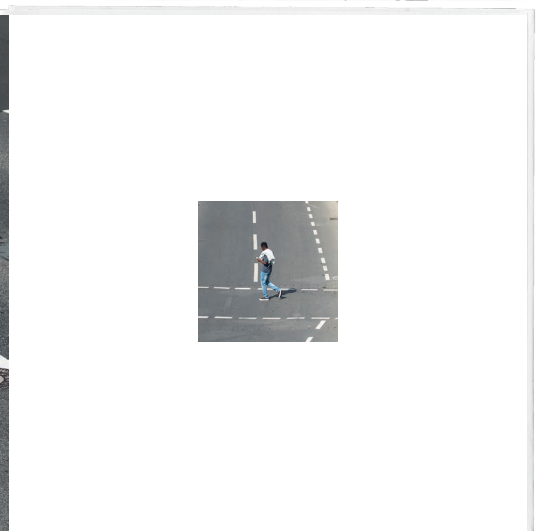
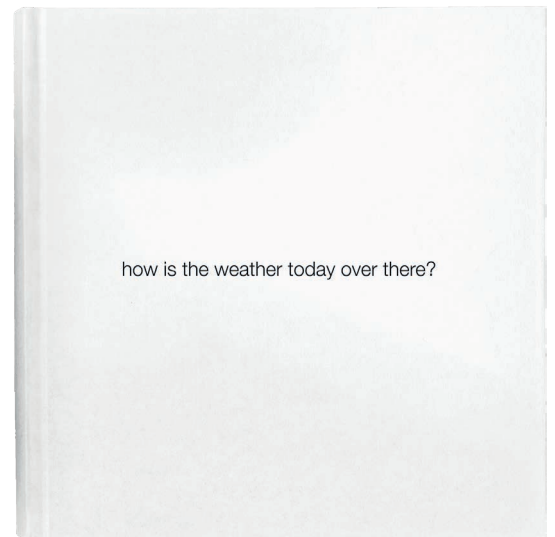
**how is the weather
today over there?**

aachen, 2020

book printed on coated
paper,
58 pages, 13x13 cm

work in progress
([video link here](#))
password: 1717

top: cover
bottom: selected pages



**es ist 5 grad,
fühlt sie aber wie -5**
hamburg, 2020

book printed on coated
paper, 88 pages, 6x9 cm
found variable objects,
dimensions variable

installation view:
annual exhibition at hfbk



detail

book printed on coated
paper
88 pages, 6x9 cm

(video link here)
password:1717



make yourself at home
hamburg, 2019

found frames and objects,
photos printed on copy
paper, dimensions variable

installation view:
last cents of europe,
group exhibition at hfbk



detail

installation view:
last cents of europe,
group exhibition at hfbk



untitled
zurich, 2019

found doormat
40x60 cm
photoprinted tag

installation view:
semester exhibition in toni
areal



detail

installation view:
semester exhibition in toni
areal



trilingual objects

zurich, 2019

engraved found glasses

15x5 cm, 11x7 cm,

13x7 cm

installation view:

semester exhibition in toni

areal



irem güngöz

***1995**

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exhibitions

2021, walk-through window exhibition, artcon, zurich
2020, 3. fatart fair, women* in arts, schaffhausen
2020, annual exhibition, hfbk hamburg
2019, last cents of europe, group exhibition at hfbk hamburg
2019, a very crowded room, semester exhibition at toni areal, zurich
2018, 100 kg, semester exhibition at longtang, zurich
2018, the sound of boiling water,
semester exhibition at toni areal, zurich

publications

2020, es ist 5 grad, fühlt sie aber wie -5, photobook, hfbk hamburg
2020, sandwich magazine, risoprint, published by materialverlag der
hfbk in cooperation with wigger bierma and ralf bacher
2018, the big room, photozine, istanbul
designed and published by fail books

education

2017-2021, zurich university of the arts, fine arts (ba)
2019-2020, university of fine arts of hamburg, exchange program
2013-2017, mimar sinan fine arts university, art history (ba)
2014-2015, fine arts academy of ravenna, erasmus program

