

STATEMENT

My work is based on abstractions of my lived experiences in urban and natural environments where I explore the concepts of adaptation, possibility, belonging, and memory. I am influenced by the geometry and gestures that reside in structures generating a continuous flow of connections, transitions and shifts. I have been grouping my works into series based on the techniques I use to start the painting or drawing process as well as the overall focus of that particular series.

This show titled ‘Windmills of your mind’ includes a selection of works from my ongoing Thread Paintings series where I upcycle fabrics (e.g., napkins, chemin de table, handkerchiefs) to use them initially as painting rags. The works are then overlaid with image tracings borrowed from my photographs. I am inspired by geographic boundaries, vast landscapes, aerial views, shifting perspectives, and various architectural elements such as archways, windows, and ceilings. I intensely value the paint stains and smears on the fabric as they are the record-keepers of the process of my art-making, holding a memory of trials and errors while also guiding the new shapes, patterns and structures that emerge as I embroider.

I approach each composition as an atmosphere where I observe the fragment of places converge with stains and mark making. In doing so, I explore the possibility of new spaces circulating in an ever-evolving state of float and flow.

I find this dynamic process reflected in the rhythm and the lyrics of the song “The Windmills of Your Mind”:

“Like a circle in a spiral, like a wheel within a wheel

Never ending or beginning on an ever spinning reel

As the images unwind, like the circles that you find

In the windmills of your mind!” (English Lyrics by Marilyn Bergman, Alan Bergman, composed by Michel Legrand)

Yasemin Kackar-Demirel