



tutu tugce sonmez

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EDUCATION

2005-2009 | BA in Studio Arts | Michigan State University, MI, USA
2005-2009 | BA in Advertising | Michigan State University, MI, USA
2022 | BTEC Award in Education and Training, Level 3 | London, UK

ABOUT

Tutu Tugce Sonmez is a Turkish-born artist based in London, with a rich background in both Studio Arts and Marketing from Michigan State University. Her journey has led her from Izmir to Los Angeles, East Lansing, Istanbul, and now London, where she continues to develop her unique practice.

Tutu's work spans a range of mediums, with a particular focus on ceramics, sculpture, and photography. She explores themes of human emotion, cultural identity, the human psyche, and the healing power of creation. Environmental awareness and collective healing are central to her artistic vision, and her work seeks to provoke reflection and encourage dialogue on these pressing global issues.

From her London studio, Tutu collaborates with various designers and brands internationally, creating works that evoke emotional resonance and challenge viewers to engage with their inner landscapes. Her creative process is instinctual, driven by a desire to transform ideas into tangible forms that offer new perspectives on existence and well-being.

SKILLS

- Creative & Technical: Adobe Photoshop, Illustrator, InDesign, Premier Pro, Figma
- Artistic Practices: Ceramics, Sculpture, Photography, Acrylic Painting
- Project Management & Communication: Brand Development, Commission Management, Client Relations, Creative Direction

AWARDS

- 2005 | Global Spartan Scholarship, Michigan State University, MI, USA
- 2022 | Emerging Women Artists Award, Koruncuk Charity, Turkey

PREVIOUS CAREER

Marketing & Creative Direction

Although my earlier career focused on project management and brand strategy, these experiences enhanced my ability to manage large-scale projects, communicate with diverse stakeholders, and develop creative solutions that align with client goals. As a creative director and brand manager, I gained valuable expertise in partnership development, sponsorship, and creative direction, all of which have translated seamlessly into my current artistic practice.

EXHIBITIONS & PUBLICATIONS

2024

- Forest House Installation (Private Show), London, UK
- Chelsea Art Lounge, Home Group Show, London, UK
- Speaker, LABRC, Arts-Based Research Centre, Unwrapping Christmas Conference, London, UK
- Guest Lecturer, Regent's University, BSc Psychology Program - Psychology of Motivation Behind Creation, London, UK
- Private View Show (Group Show), Shanghai, China
- Parrot Art Showcase (Digital), UK

2023

- Mist Gallery Showcase, London, UK
- Times are Changing and I am Changing with You (Curator and Artist), Borough Yards, London, UK
- The Narrative Project Group Show, Kingswood House, London, UK
- Out Loud Group Show, Gallery Marquess, London, UK
- Don't Touch Group Show, LMDS, Shanghai, China
- Amber Room Group Show, Bow Arts, London, UK
- Inspirational Women Artists, Space Arts, London, UK
- Publication | Meraki Interview, Digital
- Publication | Wallpaper Magazine, Shanghai Issue

2022

- Brouhaha Art, Women Only Online Exhibition, London, UK (selected)
- Sephia Group Show, LMDS, Shanghai, China
- Amber Room Group Show, 180 Strand, London, UK
- London Contemporary Art Fair, London, UK (selected)
- Art Number 23 Exhibition, Athens, Greece (selected)
- Publication | Maison Francaise Magazine Interview, Turkey
- Publication | Tat Magazine, London, UK

2021

- Rebel Magazine Front Cover and Feature Story, UK
- Fresh, London, UK (selected)
- Private View Show (Group Show), Shanghai, China
- Elle Decoration, Turkey
- Art Residency | Numberblue, Venice, Italy

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

2018-Present | Freelance Artist, London, UK

- Create a variety of fine art pieces for exhibition, including sculptures, photography, and multi-medium works
- Permanent collection at Wallpaper Magazine Store, Shanghai, China
- Launched brand collaborations with over seven companies across Italy, Turkey, China, and the UK
- Commissions from interior designers for bespoke artworks
- Delivered community and corporate workshops for organizations such as Deloitte, Artsy, and Barclays
- Guest lecturer at Regent's University, BSc Psychology program
- Speaker at London Art-Based Research Centre
- Curated Pop-Up Gallery at Borough Yards, London, UK

2020-2021 | Artist Assistant, London, UK

- Assisted Zoe Lloyd in her Ceramics Classes London studio
- Supported her work shown at Geneva Art Fair, 2022