

Tanya Leighton

## frieze

### A Guide to Berlin's Art Week and Gallery Weekend

The city's best autumn exhibitions



BY SONJA-MARIA BORSTNER IN CRITIC'S GUIDES | 09 SEP 20



Elif Saydam, *Artists (Kotti)*, 2020, 23k gold, inkjet transfer and oil on canvas, 30 x 21 cm.

Courtesy: the artist and Tanya Leighton, Berlin

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# Tanya Leighton

**Elif Saydam, 'Gut Feeling'**

**Tanya Leighton**

*11 September – 24 October*

For their first exhibition at Tanya Leighton, Elif Saydam has created a series of oil paintings exploring the legacy of ornament within the tradition of 16th-century Persian and Ottoman miniatures. Combining traditional motifs such as flowers, fruits and decorative patterns with cartoonish elements borrowed from smartphone games, advertising and graffiti, Saydam's works dismantle traditional categorizations of imagery. *Artists (Kotti)* (2020), for instance, incorporates materials ranging from pure gold to stickers and iron-on badges, interweaving pictorial elements from disparate times and cultural backgrounds.



## **SONJA-MARIA BORSTNER**

Sonja-Maria Borstner is a writer, curator and editorial assistant at *frieze* based in Berlin, Germany. She is co-editor of the online magazine PASSE-AVANT.