

# Tanya Leighton

ELIF SAYDAM

Born 1985 in Calgary, Canada  
Lives and works in Berlin

## Education

2016 MFA, Staatliche Hochschule für Bildende Kunst, Frankfurt am Main  
2009 BFA, Concordia University, Montréal

## Solo Exhibitions

2022 *F\*rgiveness*, Tanya Leighton, Berlin (forthcoming)  
*All Stars*, Lausanne (forthcoming)  
2021 *...schläft sich durch*, Kunstverein Harburger Bahnhof, Hamburg  
*Shane* (with Beth Collar), Zarinbal Khoshbahkt, Cologne  
2020 *Everybody's Fool*, Galerie Rüdiger Schöttle, Munich  
*NADA* (with Paul Kajander), Franz Kaka, Toronto  
*Gut feeling*, Tanya Leighton, Berlin  
*Selfing*, Melange, Cologne  
*glücksfall* (with Leonie Nagel), The Tail, Brussels  
2019 *What me worry*, Stadium, Berlin  
*La belle dame sans merci*, Franz Kaka, Toronto  
2018 *Colt Jonner's Desecration of Descent* (with Vera Palme), Berlin Art Week  
2017 *No R.E.M.*, Ashley, Berlin  
2016 *Matador*, Kunstverein Albrecht Dürer Gesellschaft, Nuremberg

## Selected Group Exhibitions

2021 *Kuli*, Mauer, Cologne  
*Lose Enden*, Kunsthalle Bern, Switzerland  
*CASA UOVO*, Sangt Hipolyt, Berlin  
*Von der schenkenden Tugend*, Zarinbal Khoshbahkt, Cologne  
*Jahresgaben*, Kunstverein Harburger Bahnhof, Hamburg  
2020 *Luxury and Glamour. The Wilfulness of the Superfluous*,  
Landes-Stiftung Arp Museum Bahnhof Rolandseck, Bonn  
*Perhaps A window?*, Stadium, Berlin  
*Reality*, Tropez, Humboldthain Schwimmbad, Berlin  
*Kartoffelmuseum*, Stallmuseum, Berlin-Brandenburg  
*Times in Crisis*, Klosterruine, Berlin  
2019 *Network Error*, INOX, Copenhagen  
*Made in Balmoral*, Künstlerhaus Schloss Balmoral, Bad Ems, Germany  
*NEUE HORIZONTE 2030*, Winterfeldtstr. 41, Berlin  
*Real Books (Extraordinary Tales)*, Jan Kaps, Cologne  
2018 *Still Life*, Galerie Rüdiger Schöttle, Munich  
*Emic etic*, Between Bridges, Berlin  
2017 *Young Positions*, Galerie Rüdiger Schöttle, Munich  
*Pressing your face in wet grass*, privateOFFSPACE, Frankfurt am Main

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- 2016 *Friday the 13th Full Moon in Cancer presents tears*, Cave 3000, Berlin  
*Jahresgaben*, Kunstverein Nürnberg Albrecht Dürer Gesellschaft, Nuremberg  
*Marianne-Defet-Malerei-Stipendium*, Kunsthalle Nürnberg  
*Croissant*, MMK Museum für Moderne Kunst, Frankfurt am Main  
*31 Women*, Philipp Pflug Contemporary, Frankfurt am Main

#### Performances and Readings

- 2021 *The House Always Wins*, Online lecture, Städelschule, Frankfurt Am Main  
*Chomp. Spit. Bite*, Online lecture/performance, Academy of Fine Arts, Nürnberg  
*...schlafen sich durch*, Südlese Festival Hamburg
- 2020 *Empathy When*, Broken Dimanche Press Podcast series, Tropez, Humboldthain Schwimmbad, Berlin  
*Youth*, Gegenwart, Hamburg  
*I want to cum in your heart*, Babes Bar, Berlin
- 2019 *Von Fleisch und Zucker*, Montez Press Radio, Hamburg  
*Desecration of Descent* (with Vera Palme and Stefan Müller), Art Book Fair, Kölnischer Kunstverein, Cologne  
*Desecration Of Descent for die Marmory Show IV* (with Vera Palme), Deborah Schamoni, Munich  
*Pure Fyction Mausoleum*, Johan, Frankfurt am Main
- 2018 *Desecration of Descent: Marathon Reading and Flesh Roast*, Büro BDP, Berlin  
*Die Welt und das Schwimmbad*, Tropez, Humboldthain Schwimmbad, Berlin  
*Pure Fyction, an Un-trodyction*, Ashley, Berlin  
*Telephone: Act II. Miss St's Hieroglyphic Suffering*, KW Institute for Contemporary Art, Berlin  
*Cool Ranch Honky Tonk*, Babes Bar, Berlin
- 2017 *Produktion: MADE IN GERMANY DREI, IMPURE Fiction presents . . . der Kaukasische Kreidekreis von Brecht*, Kestnergesellschaft, Sprengel Museum, Kunstverein Hannover
- 2016 *The Grand Balcony, La Biennale de Montréal: IMPURE Fiction presents. . . Le Misanthrope 1666*, Société des arts technologiques, Montréal, Canada  
*Major Canis Minor*, Kunstverein Nürnberg Albrecht Dürer Gesellschaft, Nuremberg  
*Pure Fiction: Belly of the Whale*, Johan, Frankfurt am Main

#### Residencies, Fellowships and Prizes

- 2020 Förderpreis "Kataloge für junge Künstler", Alfried Krupp von Bohlen und Halbach-Stiftung  
 Kunstfonds NEUSTART Kultur, Germany  
 Singular Plurality: Canada in Germany

- 2019 Canada Council for the Arts Concept to Realization Grant  
Singular Plurality: Canada in Germany  
Canada Council for the Arts Travel Grant  
Canada Council for the Arts Research and Creation Grant  
Künstlerhaus Schloss Balmoral, Stiftung Rheinland-Pfalz für Kultur
- 2018 Sobey Award Longlist, National Gallery of Canada  
Production grant, Canadian Embassy in Germany
- 2017 Berlin Program for Artists, Berlin  
Production grant, Canadian Embassy in Germany
- 2016 Marianne-Defet-Malerei-Stipendium, Da Vinci Pinsidefabrik /  
Kunstverein Nürnberg Albrecht Dürer Gesellschaft, Nuremberg  
Production grant, Canadian Embassy in Germany  
Linklaters LLP Prize for Painting, Städelschule Rundgang
- 2012 Professional Development Award, British Columbia Arts Council  
Banff Centre Spring Thematic: LIFE IS BEAUTIFUL STOP PLEASE  
ALLOW FEATURES ASSUME... , Banff Centre for the Arts, Canada  
Samband Islenskra Myndlistarmanna/Association of Icelandic Artists.  
Reykjavik, Iceland

#### Publications and Catalogues

- 2022 *Elif Saydam: TWO CENTS*, artist monograph, Alfried Krupp von Bohlen  
und Halbach-Stiftung, Mousse Publishing (Italy)
- 2020 Interjection Calendar, Montez Press (London)  
*Luxus & Glamour: vom Eigensinn des Überflüssigen* , Künstlerhaus  
Schloss Balmoral (Bonn)
- 2019 *PF The Bastard*, PureFiction (Cologne)
- 2018 *Colt Jonner's Desecration of Descent*, Broken Dimanche Press (Berlin)  
*Pure Fyction*, Städelschule, Pure Fiction (Frankfurt am Main)
- 2017 *Produktion. Made in Germany Drei*, Kestnergesellschaft/Kunstverein  
Hannover/Sprengel Museum (Hannover)  
*Pyre Fiction*, Städelschule, Pure Fiction (Frankfurt am Main)
- 2016 *The Grand Balcony: BNL MTL*, La Biennale de Montréal (Montréal)  
*Matador*, Kunstverein Nürnberg / Institut für moderne Kunst  
(Nuremberg)  
*Eye to Eye*, The Capilano Review (Vancouver)  
*Dysfuction III*, Städelschule, Pure Fiction (Frankfurt am Main)
- 2015 *Dysfuction II*, Städelschule, Pure Fiction (Frankfurt am Main)
- 2014 *Dysfuction I*, Städelschule, Pure Fiction (Frankfurt am Main)

#### Bibliography

- 2021 Jens Althoff, "... schläft sich durch", *ArtForum*, September 2021  
Miriam Bettin, "Every ticket wins: hyperpositivity in the work of Elif  
Saydam", *Conceptual Fine Arts*, 14 June 2021  
Sonja Maria Borstner, "Elif Saydam: Ein Blick hinter die Geschichten  
des öffentlichen Raums", *Berliner Zeitung*, 18 April 2021
- 2020 Harry Burke, "Elif Saydam", *Canadian Art*, Winter issue

- “Elif Saydam, Artists (Kotti)”, *Artam Magazine*, November issue  
Olivia Giovetti, “5 Must-See Shows from Gallery Weekend Berlin”,  
*Artsy*, 15 September 2020  
Sonja-Maria Borner, “A Guide to Berlin’s Art Week and Gallery  
Weekend”, *Frieze*, 9 September 2020  
Ophelia Lai, “Elif Saydam”, *Art Asia Pacific*, issue 117, March– April  
2020  
Kristian Vistrup Madsen, “Working Nine to Five Five Five: Elif Saydam”,  
*Mousse Magazine*, issue 71, March 2020  
2019 Stanton Taylor, “Elif Saydam at Stadium”, *Berlin Critic’s Pick*,  
*ArtForum*, October 2019  
Stephanie Ling, “Elif Saydam at Franz Kaka”, *Flash Art International*,  
#325, April – May 2019

#### Public Collections

Sammlung zeitgenössischer Kunst der Bundesrepublik Deutschland, Germany