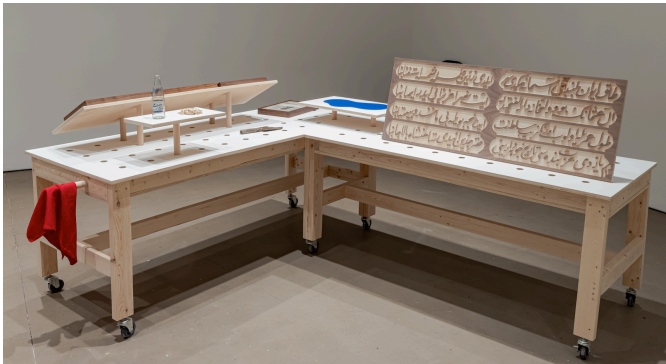


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## EXHIBITION CHECKLIST

*A Minaret for the General's Wife*  
Erdem Taşdelen

Original dates: 21 November 2020 – 27 February 2021  
Expected dates: TBD



Erdem Taşdelen

*Handkerchief, sunflower seed shells, glass water bottle, shovel, CNC-routed plywood plaque, laser-cut acrylic pond, Kėdainiai guidebook, 5 archival inkjet prints in walnut frames.*

Installation, 2020. Wood structure on casters, paint.  
96 x 78 x 50 in.

Commissioned by Mercer Union and SAVAC Toronto,  
2020.

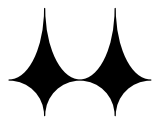


Erdem Taşdelen

*View of Totleben Manor House from across.*

Framed inkjet print, 2020. 14 x 9 in.  
Photograph by Jokūbas Skrinška. Date unknown.

Courtesy the Artist.



Erdem Taşdelen

*Ruins of Edirne Palace, formerly New Imperial Palace of Ottoman Empire, 2013.*

Framed inkjet print, 16 x 10.5 in.  
Photograph by Kenan Kaya/Northern Imagery. Royalty-free stock image from Shutterstock.

Courtesy the Artist



Erdem Taşdelen

*Top marble plaque.*

Framed inkjet print, 2020. 14 x 9 in.  
Photographer and date unknown. Image courtesy of the Kėdainiai Regional Museum.

Courtesy the Artist

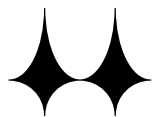


Erdem Taşdelen

*Family at the rear iwan.*

Framed inkjet print, 2020. 14 x 9 in.  
Photographer and date unknown. Image courtesy of Kėdainiai Regional Museum.

Courtesy the Artist



Erdem Taşdelen

*Sisters at the minaret.*

Framed inkjet print, 2020. 8 x 10.5 in.  
Photographer and date unknown. Image courtesy of Kėdainiai Regional Museum.

Courtesy the Artist



Erdem Taşdelen

*Binoculars, shattered cinder block from the patio of Mercer Union, dog whistle, rubber stamp with ink pad, rat trap, USB stick, booklets, 7 archival inkjet prints in walnut frames.*

Installation, 2020. Wood structure on casters, paint.  
96 x 30 x 48 in.

Commissioned by Mercer Union and SAVAC Toronto,  
2020.



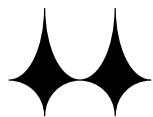
Erdem Taşdelen

*Jakub Szynekiewicz in his study, 1927.*

Framed inkjet print, 2020. 8 x 12 in.  
Photographer unknown. Image courtesy of National Digital Archives Poland.

Courtesy the Artist





Erdem Taşdelen

*Locals at Dotnuvėlė River.*

Framed inkjet print, 2020. 14 x 8.5 in.  
Photographer and date unknown. Image courtesy of  
Kėdainiai Regional Museum.

Courtesy the Artist



Erdem Taşdelen

*Man sitting in front of the minaret.*

Framed inkjet print, 2020. 14 x 8.5 in.  
Photographer and date unknown. Image courtesy of  
Kėdainiai Regional Museum.

Courtesy the Artist



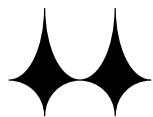
Erdem Taşdelen

*Individuals gathered around the minaret.*

Framed inkjet print, 2020. 15 x 9.5 in.  
Photographer and date unknown. Image courtesy of  
Kėdainiai Regional Museum.

Courtesy the Artist





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Erdem Taşdelen

*Soldiers in front of the Monument to Eduard Totleben in Sevastopol, 1975.*

Framed inkjet print, 2020. 7.5 x 10 in.  
Photograph by S. Ozersky. Sputnik Images/Alamy Stock Photo.

Courtesy the Artist



Erdem Taşdelen

*Men at the rear iwan.*

Framed inkjet print, 2020. 12.5 x 8 in.  
Photographer and date unknown. Image courtesy of Kėdainiai Regional Museum.

Courtesy the Artist

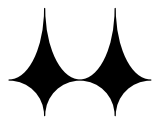


Erdem Taşdelen

*Ottoman woman with parasol, 1880-1900.*

Framed inkjet print, 2020. 12 x 15.5 in.  
Photograph by Abdullah Frères. Image courtesy of Library of Congress Prints and Photographs Division.

Courtesy the Artist



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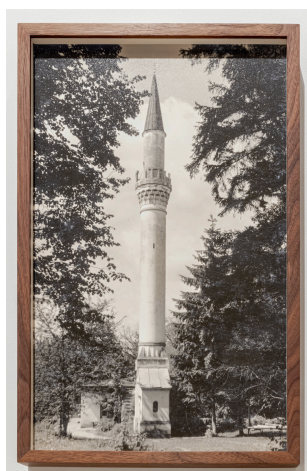


Erdem Taşdelen

*Umbrella, miniature staircase, watch, 35 mm slide, CRT monitors, 2 archival inkjet prints in walnut frames*  
Installation.

Installation, 2020. Wood structure on casters, paint.  
96 x 96 x 48 in.

Commissioned by Mercer Union and SAVAC Toronto,  
2020.



Erdem Taşdelen

*View of Kėdainiai Minaret from east.*

Framed inkjet print, 2020. 9 x 14.5 in.  
Photographer and date unknown. Image courtesy of  
Kėdainiai Regional Museum.

Courtesy the Artist

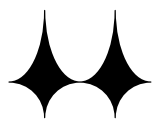


Erdem Taşdelen

*Shifting shades, 2019.*

Framed inkjet print, 2020. 10.5 x 16 in.  
Photograph by Erdem Taşdelen.

Courtesy the Artist



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Erdem Taşdelen

*A Minaret for the General's Wife.*

Single-channel video on CRT monitor, 2020.  
Colour, silent. 11 mins. 39 secs.

Courtesy the Artist



Erdem Taşdelen

*Booklets, goblet, buttons, trumpet, microfilm reel, 5 archival inkjet prints in walnut frames.*

Installation, 2020, Wood structure on casters, paint.  
96 x 30 x 48 in.

Commissioned by Mercer Union and SAVAC Toronto,  
2020.



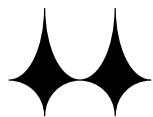
Erdem Taşdelen

*Musical band gathered in rear of Kédainiai Minaret.*

Framed inkjet print, 2020. 10.5 x 8 in.  
Photographer and date unknown. Image courtesy of  
Kédainiai Regional Museum.

Courtesy the Artist





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Erdem Taşdelen

*Man gazing at pond in front of Totleben Manor House.*

Framed inkjet print, 2020. 14.5 x 9.5 in.  
Photographer and date unknown. Image courtesy of  
Kėdainiai Regional Museum.

Courtesy the Artist



Erdem Taşdelen

*Two Turkish women on a field.*

Framed inkjet print, 2020. 8.5 x 5 in.  
Photographer and source unknown. Date unknown.

Courtesy the Artist

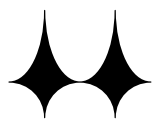


Erdem Taşdelen

*Mufti of the Muslim Religious Union Jakub  
Szyrkiewicz with members of the Muslim community.*

Framed inkjet print, 2020. 8 x 11.5 in.  
Photographer unknown, Circa 1925-1937. Image  
courtesy of National Digital Archives Poland.

Courtesy the Artist



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Erdem Taşdelen

*Family on the stairs of the minaret.*

Framed inkjet print, 2020. 9 x 14.5 in.  
Photographer and date unknown. Image courtesy of  
Kėdainiai Regional Museum.

Courtesy the Artist



Erdem Taşdelen

*Carpet, music stand, exhibition poster,  
chairs, denim jacket, packaged frames,  
speakers, stage lights, c-stand, booklets, stepladder,  
level, wine bottles.*

Installation, 2020. Dimensions variable

Courtesy the Artist

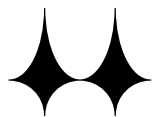


Erdem Taşdelen

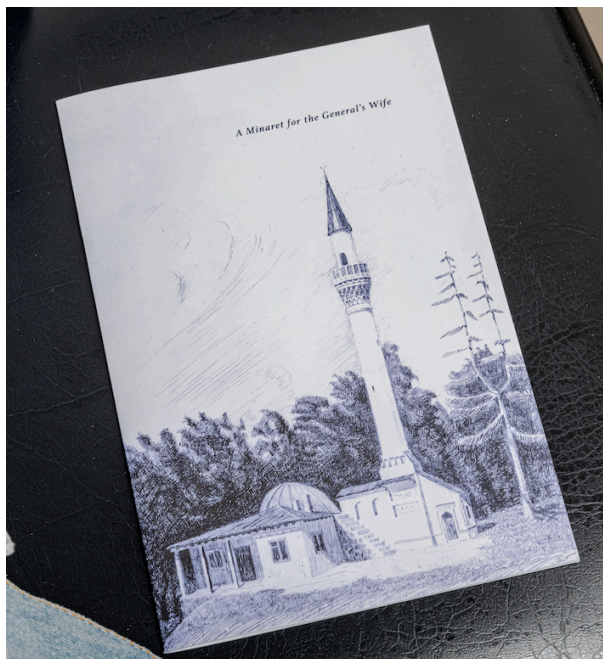
*Untitled.*

Sound installation, 2020. Dimensions variable.  
Two-channel audio, 44 mins. 8 secs.

Courtesy the Artist



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Erdem Taşdelen


*A Minaret for the General's Wife*

Offset-printed booklet, 2020. 6 x 9 in.  
28 pages. Edition of 1000

Courtesy the Artist

The starting point for Erdem Taşdelen's exhibition, *A Minaret for the General's Wife*, is an architectural oddity located in the Lithuanian city of Kėdainiai: a freestanding Ottoman-style minaret that peculiarly has no mosque below or attached to it.

There are two prominent narratives regarding the construction of the Kėdainiai Minaret. The first is that it was erected by Russian Army General Eduard Tottleben as a monument to celebrate Russia's victory in the Russo-Turkish War of 1877-78. The second, a myth popular among locals, is that it was a gift from the General to his Turkish wife of Islamic faith.

In his search to uncover the origins of the minaret, Taşdelen presents primary sources, translations and fabrications to reflect upon the dichotomy between the authenticity of a material record and the myriad truths spoken by subjective experience. Bringing together historical and fictional elements, the artist renders the minaret a metaphor for the complex ways in which we consider our own narratives and memories of places, structures and objects that seemingly don't belong. 

Exhibition didactic vinyl. 33 x 48 in.