

ZEHRA ŞONYA

1972 Born in Limassol, Cyprus.

1991 Graduated from Girne Anafartalar High School.

1993 Started her studies in Hacettepe University, Faculty of Fine Arts, Department of Sculpture.

1997 Graduated as the highest ranking student of the Department and Faculty. Gained admission to Hacettepe University, Fine Arts Faculty, Sculpture Department Master's Program during the same year.

1999 Started to work as a Research Assistant at Hacettepe University, Faculty of Fine Arts, Department of Sculpture, whilst pursuing her postgraduate studies.

2001 Completed her studies in the postgraduate program.

2001-2003 Taught elective sculpture courses at Eastern Mediterranean University, Department of History of Arts and Archaeology.

2003 Candidacy from the Peace and Democracy Movement to become a member of the parliament from Kyrenia district to support peace on the island.

2003 Worked at EMU-Cyprus Studies Center as the Project Coordinator of Visual Arts. Her duties included formation of an archive, virtual museum and web pages, organisation of panels and talk events, compiling books, writing books and many other similar projects.

2003 Undertook duties at EMAA's (European Mediterranean Art Association) executive board. During her service period, she undertook various responsibilities including project coordination, editing, project development and drafting, catalogue and book design.

2006-2008 Offered courses on a part time basis at Lefke European University Graphic Design Department.

2013-17 As the head of Kyrenia Municipality Art Studio, she organised and managed courses targeted towards children and adults.

Currently, she coordinates arts and aesthetic courses at EMU Educational Sciences Department and, at the same time, works at EMU Center for Cyprus Studies as the Project Coordinator of Visual Arts. She is also the President of EMAA during for the 2017 – 2019 period .

Solo Exhibitions

2013 "Internal Lines –Internal Structures" exhibition, EMAA Capital Art Center, Nicosia-Cyprus.

2003 Solo Sculpture Exhibition, Famagusta Municipality, Exhibition Hall, Cyprus.

2001 Hacettepe University, Faculty of Fine Arts, Department of Sculpture, Master's Dissertation Exhibition, Ankara-Turkey

Group Exhibitions

2018 Settling into Life, Installation Exhibition, Picadilly, Famagusta – Cyprus.

2018 Workshop with Artists Exhibition, EMAA Capital Arts Center, Nicosia- Cyprus.

2014 The Jerusalem Show VII: FRACTURES, Jerusalem- Israel. (Curator Başak Şenova)

2012 EMAA 10th Anniversary Exhibition, İsmet .V. Güney Art Center , Nicosia- Cyprus.

2012 UNCOVERED exhibition, Nicosia - Cyprus (Curator; Başak Şenova - Pavlina Paraskevaidou)

2011 "The Little Land Fish" exhibition, EMAA Capital Arts Center, Nicosia – Cyprus (Curators ; Zeynep Yasa Yaman – Antonis Danos)

2010 "The Little Land Fish" exhibition, Harbour of Art, İstanbul – Turkey

2010 "İnce Çizgi Tutar" exhibition, German Culture Center, Ankara – Turkey (Curator ; Nurtane Karagil)

2010 "Cypriot Art for Peace" exhibition, EMAA Capital Arts Center, Nicosia-Kıbrıs

2010 Arts and Creativity in North Cyprus exhibition, Nicosia-Cyprus

2009 UN Art Exhibition, office where the peace negotiations took place, Green Line, Nicosia-Cyprus

2008, "Visibility Range Zero", DSM, Diyarbakır – Turkey (Curator; Şener Özmen)

2008 "I, You, Him" Lilith group exhibition, Lemar Supermarket, Nicosia-Cyprus

2008 "Blind Date", took place as part of the 'Art in Nicosia' events organised by EMAA. Old Nicosia Psychiatric Hospital, Cyprus.

2007 Meeting Europe "Memory" Installation Exhibition, La Chataigneraie, Flemalle-Belgium.

2006 Meeting Europe "Memory" Installation Exhibition, Apollonia Art Center. Strasbourg, France.

2006 "Cloud on the Wave" EMAA Group Exhibition, HASDER Building, Arabahmet, Nicosia-Cyprus

2006 "Square Root" exhibition organised as part of EMAA May Exhibitions, Art Studio, Nicosia-Cyprus.

2005 "In– Sight", group exhibition with Nicolas Panayi, Nicosia-Cyprus.

2005 "From Dusk till Dawn" group exhibition, Famagusta Municipality, Osman Gökçe exhibition hall, Cyprus.

2005 "Consumption of Justice" international exhibition, Diyarbakır Art Center, Diyarbakır-Turkey.(Curator; Beral Madra)

2005 "Island/Border" EMAA Installation Exhibition, Union of Municipalities, Nicosia-Cyprus.

2005 "Border Lines" Visiting Artist Program and Exhibition, Kodra, Thessaloniki-Greece.(Curator; Efi Starusa)

2004 Hyper Links 20 Cypriot Artists and New Signal" Evagoras&Kathleen Lanitis Foundation, Limassol-Cyprus. (Curator; Efi Starusa)

2004 "Young Cypriot Artists" Kerava Art Gallery- Finland

2003 Christmas Art Exhibition, 13 Cypriot Artists, Amargos Gallery, South Nicosia-Cyprus.

2003 "Support for Peace" exhibition, Hilton Hotel, Nicosia- South Cyprus

2002 "Turkish Cypriot Female Artists" group exhibition organised on the occasion of 8 March International Women's Day, Famagusta-Cyprus

2002 METU 4th Plastic Arts Exhibition, Ankara-Turkey.

2001 TRNC State Painting, Sculpture, Ceramic Exhibition, Nicosia-Cyprus

2001 21x21 Group Sculpture Exhibition, Ankara-Turkey

1999 Group Sculpture Exhibition, Karaca Art Gallery, Ankara-Turkey

1999 Contemporary Sculpture Association, "Başka Ne Olan" Group Sculpture Exhibition, Ankara-Turkey

1998 Kıbrıs İktisat Bank 1st Group Sculpture Exhibition, Nicosia-Cyprus.

1997 Independent Sculpture Competition, organized by the Faculty of Fine Arts and Contemporary Sculpture Association, Hacettepe University, Ankara.

1996 Atakule Spring Festival Group Sculpture Exhibition, Ankara.

Workshops and Symposia

2018 Workshop with Selim Birsal, "Settling into Life", Nicosia- Famagusta/Cyprus

2018 EMAA Workshop with Neriman Polat, "Art Practices of Daily Life", Nicosia/Cyprus.

2017 EMAA Workshop with CANAN, "A Journey to Collective Subconscious, from Myths to Tales".

2017 EMAA Workshop with Mürüvvet Türkyılmaz, "Land of Infinite Perspectives", Nicosia/Cyprus.

2008 9th Changchun China International Sculpture Symposium, China

2007 "Ayia Varvara" 2nd International Stone Symposium, Larnaca, Cyprus.

2006 "Ayia Varvara" 1st International Stone Symposium, Larnaca, Cyprus.

- 2004 2nd International Hacettepe Stone Sculpture Symposium, Ankara- Turkey.
2004 "From Dusk till Dawn" bicomunal camp project, Karpaz- Cyprus
2003 "Out of the Line", bicomunal workshop, Ledra Palas, Nicosia-Cyprus.
2001 Yenimahalle Municipality, Conversion of Waste into Sculpture Project Workshop, Ankara-Turkey
1999 "Open Air Sculpture Workshop", held as part of Millenium and Republic Art Organisations, Ankara-Turkey
1997 TRNC Famagusta Municipality, Open Workshop Sculpture Activity, Famagusta-Cyprus.
1996 Open Workshop Sculpture Activity, Dalyan-Muğla.

Awards

- 2003 Artist of the Year Award, Turkish Bank - Cyprus (this award was returned)
1997 Sculpture Competition Achievement Award, organised by Hacettepe University, Faculty of Fine Arts and Contemporary Sculpture Association, Turkey
1997 Merit Award for Department and Faculty highest ranking student, by Hacettepe University, Fine Arts Faculty -Turkey

Monument - Sculpture

2017 Osman Türkay Monument Project, Kyrenia-Cyprus.

Books

First Turkish Cypriot Sculptor ŞİNASI TEKMAN, EMU-CCS publications.

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