

The histories and biographies of objects are central themes in the textile-based works of Nevin Aladağ. Her fabrics come from a variety of sources including carpet samples, mass-market clothing and even furniture cloth to produce works that query and, subsequently, transcend the positioning of specific materials. Aladağ describes this aspect of her process as being connected to the Duchampian notion of the readymade, wherein a common object is transformed by the artist's manipulation of its context. For example, Aladağ's 'Colors' series (2008-ongoing) uses two found commercial objects: a pendant lamp by the Danish designer Poul Henningsen and tights of various colours. She combined these by stretching the tights over the lampshade in a variety of patterns and colour combinations. The works simultaneously evoke both the surrealist creations of Man Ray and the high-end, aspirational design culture of lifestyle magazines. Though the discourse of commercial design is one subject of the work, broader themes of identity, history, and gender are also integrated within the network of associations.---Aladağ studied at the Munich Academy of Fine Art. Now based in Berlin, her work featured in documenta 14 (2017), where the performance 'Musikzimmer' ('Music Room', 2017) used furniture – including chairs with cloth upholstery – as objects from which to create musical instruments. At once furnishings and instruments, they posed questions about the role of materials in an object's creation. For example, musical instruments are frequently classified by the material from which they are constructed – 'brass' and 'woodwind' sections of orchestras – however objects like furniture are often classified by use, and thus the combination of the two objects required audiences to question pre-existing understandings of how objects are understood in relation to material.---The use of second-hand fabric is also an important feature of Aladağ's carpet-based works. 'Social Fabric, yellow blue red' (2017), for example, uses reassembled carpet fabric to produce new forms that could, themselves, be described as carpets. However, they are intended to be hung from the wall like tapestries, upending the ways in which these fabrics are usually contextualized and experienced. Other significant works include the 'Pattern Matching' series (2010-ongoing), which explores the ways in which Orientalist associations become woven into the fabric of textile objects – quite literally. Using coloured sections of carpet, 'Pattern Matching' depicts the surface of basketball courts, underlined by the title's wordplay. In doing so, it questions the assumptions behind ostensibly 'western' and 'eastern' cultural practices. Their value lies less in what they depict and how, and more in the tactile quality of the surface on which they are rendered.---William Kherbek



From the 'Colors' series---2016-17---PNS pendant lamps and tights---dimensions variable---Installation view at Sammlung Philara, Düsseldorf, 2018



Pattern Matching (blue-red-black)---2016---Collage with carpets of different origin---130 x 78 x 5 cm---51 1/4 x 30 2/3 x 2 in

NEVIN ALADAĞ Born 1972, Van, Turkey. Lives and works in Berlin. **EXHIBITIONS:** 2019 – Museum Mönchehaus, Goslar, Germany; 2018 – 'Kestnergesellschaft', Hanover, Germany; WENTRUP, Berlin; 'Social Fabric', Sammlung Philara, Düsseldorf; 'Ernst-Rietschel-Kunstpries für Skulptur', Albertinum, Dresden; Staatliche Kunstsammlung, Dresden, Germany; 'Rollin', STUK, Leuven, Belgium; 2017 – 'Nevin Aladağ, Musikzimmer', Neues Museum, Nürnberg, Germany; 'Nevin Aladağ, Roman Tingeltyl, Basel'; 'Nevin Aladağ, Punt Stietje Spiel', Salzburger Kunstverein, Salzburg, Austria; 2016 – 'Nevin Aladağ, Lentos Kunstmuseum Linz, Austria; 'Screen 3-111', AOK Kunst in öffentlichen Raum, Vienna. **AWARDS:** **EXHIBITIONS:** 2018 – 'Deutschland ist keine Insel, Sammlung zeitgenössischer Kunst der Bundesrepublik Deutschland, Ankaufe 2012 bis 2016', Bundeskunsthalle, Bonn; 'Honey, I Rearranged the Collection', Hamburger Kunsthalle, Hamburg; 2017 – 'Vanderlust: Actions, Traces, and Journeys, 1967-2017', UB Art Gallery---US Anderson Gallery, Center for the Arts, Buffalo, New York; documenta 14, Athens, Greece, and Basel, Germany; 'Viva arte Viva', STN Venice Biennale; 'Lissab/Harbor', Istanbul Modern; 2016 – 'Wolfsburg Unlisted', Kunst-museum Wolfsburg, Germany; 'BascherKunst', Ruhr Triennale, Germany; 'Magie und Macht – Von fliegenden Teppichen und Drosseln', Maria Theresia, Germany.

Nevin Aladağ



Social Fabric, yellow blue red---2017---Carpet pieces on wood---112 x 112 x 5 cm---47 3/4 x 44 x 2 in