

Art on 56th

Kardeşim Beirut

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April 1 to 23



Yigit Yazici, Untitled, fine art print on paper, 83 × 95cm, 2016, courtesy of Art on 56th

Kardeşim Beirut – which translates as Beirut brothers – brings together three Turkish artists whose work shares a contemporary pop art aesthetic.

Self-taught Austrian-Turkish painter Pinar du Pre uses a mixture of traditional and digital techniques to create layered canvasses bearing colourful portraits. Capturing instantly recognisable celebrities in a riot of neon hues, she reflects on shifting styles, techniques and attitudes, playing with retro and futuristic approaches.

Baris Saribas' work combines pop art and expressionist techniques, culminating in a darker aesthetic. His disquieting works explore peace and destruction, depicting aircrafts, hot air balloons, explosions and rainbows in unexpected and jarring combinations. Planes hover in mid-air as bombs fall from their bellies like rain, harmless and weightless in the moments before impact.

Yigit Yazici's work seeks to capture quotidian objects from unexpected perspectives. His palette of electric neon hues and his bold, often overlapping lines create surreal renderings of everything from trucks and motorbikes, to the interior of a barbershop. For this exhibition he has created a special series of Beirut-themed works, including pop art portraits of assassinated former Prime Minister Rafik Hariri.