

Ebru Uygun

Location: Tal Museum, 2nd floor, new part

Nature amazes us in so many ways: there are places like Engelberg with its spectacular mountain panorama or the island of Rügen with its chalk cliffs. But beauty is not only to be found in the sublime, it can also be more subtle, as when autumn leaves are washed up on the banks of a stream or the sun makes a dried-up puddle burst open.

Ebru Uygun draws her inspiration from both the spectacular and the mundane. And just as nature is not judgmental, nature studies of bison form the basis for her series of small-format paintings of the same name, while her larger abstract formats are based on structures that she notices on walks in nature.

When the bison were still found in large populations in America, a herd of these wild cattle must have made an impressive sight. By the 20th century, the bison was nearly extinct. Uygun places it as an abstract, ephemeral silhouette on white surfaces against an earthy background. Everything is on the surface and yet a mystery. For her new, untitled series, Uygun has broken open the canvas and exposed the color itself: so colorful and vivid, as if you were looking at a precious stone—lapis lazuli blue, sulfur yellow, coral red. There is nothing but painting behind the painting. For Ebru Uygun, this outburst of beauty is already the beginning of its transience. (*ah*)

Ebru Uygun was born in 1974 in Istanbul, Turkey, where she still lives and works. Uygun studied in Brighton and London, Great Britain. Her work has been shown in solo and group exhibitions at Istanbul Modern (2023), Museum Haus Konstruktiv, Zurich (2013), Switzerland, and Green Art Gallery, Dubai, United Arab Emirates (2009), among others.