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I became acqainted with Murat Palta’s works through Depictions of White Screen before I met him. With the first work that I saw at the exhibition, I was very much impressed by his jovial sense of humour peculiar to intelligent people and the fact that although it was his first exhibition it was idiosyncratic, utterly original, and mature in terms of technique and content. I remember very clearly having told about the exhibition and passionately mentioned to the dear friend and valuable choreographer Beyhan (Murphy) whom I had met after the exhibition for a chat that it was promising to have finally such a gifted one among young artists emerging in recent years.

It is not possible not to appreciate and admire an artist who emerges from today’s art world where bad imitations of Western artworks, distant from their origins and identity, are served, and who becomes known through a universal language of art that he created despite his young age by analyzing his own identity with its cultural, political, religious and sociological dimensions! I think that the like of enormous humorous energy that is told to have been brought by Hayali Küçük Ali to our traditional shadow play Hacivat and Karagöz lives in the miniatures in Murat Palta’s works today.

When Rumi stated that “the word belonging to the past remained in the past; one needs a new word today”, he was pointing out to the importance of creating a way of expression which is not limited to time and space indeed. Murat does not only succeed in that, but also shares with us “the word belonging to today” (films, stories and topics) with the language and technique of miniatures belonging to the past, and moreover, with an utterly contemporary style.

People frequently ask me the following question: “What are your sources of inspiration, where do you take your inspiration?” Murat Palta’s art and works are one of the most beautiful answers of this question in recent years.

When you meet artists that you admire and you see that they are refined, sincere, intelligent, sympathetic and candid themselves such as their works, your love and admiration naturally takes on a different meaning. And the feeling that this wise-hearted young man that I recently had the opportunity to meet and have a chat has aroused in me harbours a similar excitement and love just as his works.

I believe that Murat Palta will be the leading one among the young artists of today’s Turkey of whom we will be recently proud of not only in Turkey but in the world’s art scene. On the bright side, on the contrary of many artists, he has already succeeded in that completely by his own efforts, talent, endeavour and intelligence.

*-Mercan Dede*