

INFORMATION PACK

Mehmet Başbuğ

1956 Diyarbakır – 2017 Bishkek



From Yesevi to Rumi, 2005, Oil on canvas, 140 × 200 cm (55.1 × 78.7 in) · MB-0051

Mehmet Başbuğ was born in Diyarbakır in 1956. He trained in art education at the Bursa Institute of Education and in painting at the Gazi Faculty of Education, and earned his master's degree, proficiency in art and doctorate at the Institute of Social Sciences of Gazi University, Ankara.

After ten years in state schools he began teaching at the Gazi Faculty of Education in 1986. In 1994 he helped found the Faculty of Fine Arts at Süleyman Demirel University in Isparta, and from 1999 to 2009 he taught at the Faculty of Education of Selçuk University in Konya. From 2009 until his death he worked in Bishkek as dean of the Faculty of Fine Arts and vice-rector of Kyrgyz-Turkish Manas University. In 2015 he became a full member of the Kyrgyz Academy of Arts. He was a founding member of the Ankara Painters' Association and of GESAM, the Turkish collecting society for visual artists.

He held more than eighty solo exhibitions in Turkey and abroad and won eighteen awards in national competitions. His paintings are in the collections of the Turkish Presidency, the Grand National Assembly of Turkey and the Ankara State Museum of Painting and Sculpture, of ministries, banks and universities, and in private collections from the United States to Japan. In 2017 the Central Bank of the Republic of Turkey issued his painting "63" as a silver commemorative coin.

His principal subjects are the Turkish War of Independence, the women of Anatolia, migration and Turkestan. In scenes of villages, markets and coffeehouses, and in his horses, goats and fountains, he painted the everyday life of Anatolia.

He died in Bishkek on 7 July 2017.

SELECTED INSTITUTIONS HOLDING HIS WORK

Presidency of the Republic of Turkey	VakıfBank
Grand National Assembly of Turkey	TÜRKSOY (International Organization of Turkic Culture)
Prime Ministry	Turkish Radio and Television Corporation (TRT)
Ministry of Foreign Affairs	Agricultural Credit Cooperatives of Turkey
Ministry of National Education	National Lottery Administration
Ministry of Culture and Tourism	Turkish Grain Board
Ministry of Public Works and Settlement	Turkish Cooperative Association
Ministry of Youth and Sports	Institute of Art and Language Research (SADA)
Ministry of Family and Social Policies	Governorship of Karaman
Ministry of Transport, Maritime Affairs and Communications	Governorship of Kastamonu
Ankara State Museum of Painting and Sculpture	Governorship of Konya
Gazi University Museum	Akdeniz University
Anadolu University Museum of Contemporary Arts	Anadolu University
Central Bank of the Republic of Turkey	Gazi University
Ziraat Bank	Fırat University
Development Bank of Turkey	Selçuk University
Tourism Bank of Turkey (TURBAN)	Süleyman Demirel University
Türkiye İş Bankası	Kyrgyz-Turkish Manas University
İller Bankası	Necmettin Erbakan University
Şekerbank	

SELECTED WORKS



Goats, 2005, Oil on canvas, 140 × 200 cm (55.1 × 78.7 in) · MB-0017



Impact Factor, 2017, Oil on canvas, 140 × 250 cm (55.1 × 98.4 in) · MB-0082



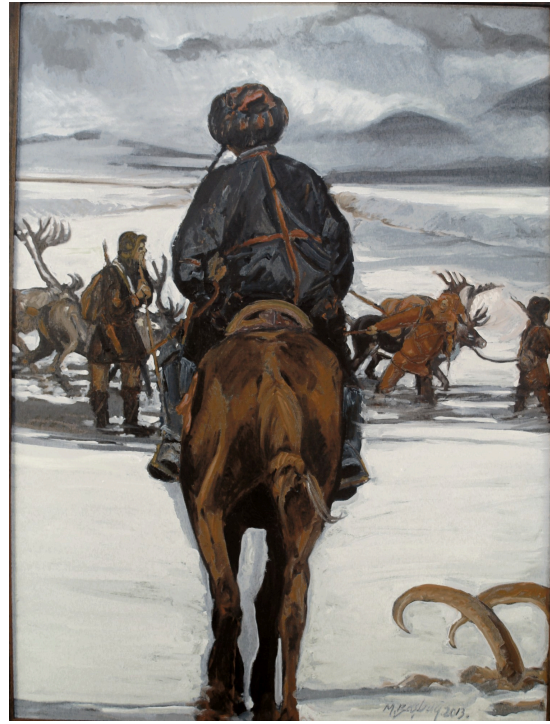
Conversation, 2005, Oil on canvas, 200 × 140 cm (78.7 × 55.1 in) · MB-0016



Silent Coffeehouse, 2007, Oil on canvas, 140 × 200 cm (55.1 × 78.7 in) · MB-0001



Kökbörü 2, 2011, Oil on canvas, 100 × 150 cm (39.4 × 59.1 in) · MB-0006



A Cold Winter's Tale (from Siberia), Oil on canvas, 80 × 60 cm (31.5 × 23.6 in) · MB-0021



Horse's Head, Work on paper, 41 × 32 cm (16.1 × 12.6 in) · MB-0022



Days of Mobilisation, 2008, Oil on canvas, 140 × 200 cm (55.1 × 78.7 in) · MB-0014

CHRONOLOGY

1956	Born in Diyarbakır.
1972	Second prize, painting competition for the 50th anniversary of Victory Day.
1976–1986	Worked in state schools under the Ministry of National Education.
1977	Certificate of honour, DYO Painting Competition.
1979	DESİYAB Award, Ministry of the Interior poster competition.
1982	First solo exhibitions: Ankara State Fine Arts Gallery and İş Sanat Gallery.
1983	Second prize, Zonguldak Centenary Culture Foundation competition. First prize, Adana Governorship painting competition. Honourable mention, 3rd TPAO Atatürk Competition.
1985	Honourable mention, competition for the 65th anniversary of the liberation of Van. Award of merit, Inter-University Youth Year Painting Exhibition. First prize, Ankara Sanat painting competition. Prize, 4th TPAO Atatürk Competition. A delegation of the USSR Academy of Arts visited his exhibition in Ankara and invited him to exhibit in the Soviet Union.
1986	Honourable mention, Jockey Club of Turkey painting competition. First honourable mention, Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports painting competition "Mehmet Akif and the National Anthem".
1986–1994	Taught in the Department of Painting, Gazi Faculty of Education, Gazi University, Ankara.
1987	Prize, Turkish Literature Foundation Mehmet Akif painting competition. Second prize, Tarihbank painting competition "The Birth of the National Anthem and the War of Independence".
1990	Second prize, Ministry of Culture Ahi Evran painting competition.
1992	Solo exhibitions in Baku, Almaty, Bishkek, Tashkent, Ashgabat and Kuwait.
1994	First prize, Kırıkkale Municipality Ahmed Yesevi competition.
1994–1999	Helped found the Faculty of Fine Arts at Süleyman Demirel University, Isparta; vice-dean and head of the Department of Painting.
1996	First prize, painting competition for the 20th anniversary of Fırat University.
1997	Taught for six months in schools in Tatarstan and researched the Turkic arts of the Idel-Ural region. Solo exhibitions in Tatarstan and Macedonia.
1999	Represented Turkey at TÜRKSOY's 2nd Meeting of Painters of the Turkic World in Bursa, held for the 700th anniversary of the Ottoman state.
1999–2009	Taught in the Department of Fine Arts Education, Faculty of Education, Selçuk University, Konya.
2005	66th State Exhibition of Painting and Sculpture.
2006	Painted Muş for the Ministry of Culture and Tourism's "Türkiye Resimleniyor" project; the works were shown at the Grand National Assembly.
2007	Represented Turkey at the 10th Meeting of Painters of the Turkic World, organised by TÜRKSOY in Kyrenia (Northern Cyprus). Painted Diyarbakır for the "Garlar Resimleniyor" (Painting the Railway Stations) project of the Ministry of Culture and Tourism and the Turkish State Railways.
2008	Became associate professor.
2009–2017	Dean of the Faculty of Fine Arts and vice-rector, Kyrgyz-Turkish Manas University, Bishkek.
2013	Became full professor.
2015	Elected a full member of the Kyrgyz Academy of Arts.

2017	The Central Bank of the Republic of Turkey issued his painting "63" as a silver commemorative coin. Died in Bishkek on 7 July. Memorial exhibition "From Asia to Anatolia" at Markazid Art Gallery, Istanbul.
2021	3rd International Mehmet Başbuğ Art Research Symposium, Ankara.

EXHIBITIONS

65 solo and 11 group exhibitions documented (1982–2017); listed in the catalogue.

SELECTED LITERATURE

- Başbuğ, Fatih (2025). *Mehmet Başbuğ Resimlerinde Aile Teması*. Z. Başbuğ ve F. Başbuğ (ed.), Sanat ve Dil Araştırmaları I, Özgür Yayınları, Gaziantep
- Gözübenli, Mehmet Ali · Karoğlu, Alaybey (2025). *Türk Resim Sanatında Toplumcu Gerçekçi İzler: Mehmet Başbuğ*. idil Sanat ve Dil Dergisi. doi:10.7816/idil-14-117-01
- Çoban, İbrahim (2024). *Mehmet Başbuğ'un Köy, Sokak, Çarşı, Pazar, Kahvehane Temalı Eserlerinde Tasarım ve Kompozisyon Anlayışı*. idil Sanat ve Dil Dergisi. doi:10.7816/idil-13-115-09
- Andiç Başbuğ, Sezin (2021). *Mehmet Başbuğ Resimlerinde “Yalnızlık” Temasının Sosyal Roller Açısından İncelenmesi*. 3. Uluslararası Mehmet Başbuğ Sanat Araştırmaları Sempozyumu, Ankara
- Atalay, Mustafa Cevat (2021). *Ressam, Mehmet Başbuğ Eserlerine Dair Bir İnceleme*. Journal of Social, Humanities and Administrative Sciences. doi:10.31589/joshas.787
- Soylu, Rasim (2021). *Mehmet Başbuğ Resimlerinde Hayvan İmgelerinin Göstergebilim Çözümlemesi*. MANAS Sosyal Araştırmalar Dergisi. doi:10.33206/mjss.874791
- Yılmaz Arıkan, Emine Nur (2021). *Mehmet Başbuğ'un Resimlerinde Duygu Renk İlişkisi*. idil Sanat ve Dil Dergisi. doi:10.7816/idil-10-80-12
- Güngör, Tuğba (2020). *Çağdaş Türk Resim Sanatında Göç Olgusu: Mehmet Başbuğ Özelinde Bakmak*. MANAS Sosyal Araştırmalar Dergisi. doi:10.33206/mjss.681050
- Yabalak, Halit (2020). *Mehmet Başbuğ Resimlerinde Millî Mücadele*. Vankulu Sosyal Araştırmalar Dergisi
- Güngör, Tuğba (2019). *1980 sonrası Türk resim sanatında figüratif eğilimler ve Mehmet Başbuğ*
- Büyükkol, Semih · Arda, Zuhul (2017). *Mehmet Başbuğ'un Resimlerinde Çeşme İmgesine Estetik Bir Bakış*. idil Sanat ve Dil Dergisi. doi:10.7816/idil-06-40-10
- Başbuğ, Fatih (2016). *Mehmet Başbuğ: Bozkırdaki Atlar / Desenler*. Artsürem Bilim ve Sanat Kitabevi, Ankara
- Başbuğ, Fatih (2016). *Ressam Mehmet Başbuğ'un “Yesevi'den Mevlana'ya” İsimli Eseri Üzerine Notlar*. Akdeniz Üniversitesi Güzel Sanatlar Fakültesi 1. Uluslararası Akdeniz Sanat Sempozyumu, Antalya, 23–25 Mayıs 2016
- Özsezgin, Kaya (1999). *Diyarbakır: Müze Şehir*. Yapı Kredi Yayınları
- Özsezgin, Kaya (n.d.). *Türk Plastik Sanatçıları: Ansiklopedik Sözlük*. Yapı Kredi Yayınları

20 press articles (1982–2017) are listed in the catalogue.

CONTACT

mb@mehmetbasbug.tr · mehmetbasbug.tr

Records of the works, with provenance, exhibition history and literature, are in the catalogue at mehmetbasbug.tr. Each work has a permanent catalogue number (MB-0000) and its own page.

© Artsürem, 2026