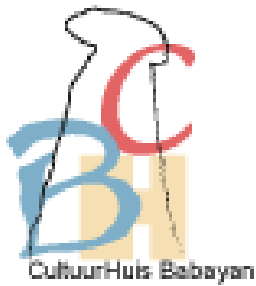


## Newsletter 2 of the artist residency Culture House Babayan, Ibrahimpasa, Cappadocia, Turkey – December 2007



Dear all: guests, professional artists, art work-shoppers and culture and nature lovers.

This time the newsletter is send to you in English, because we have several applications from abroad, and already an artist-stay is planned for 2009!

This newsletter can also be downloaded from the website.

We are at the start of the winter now and some light snow has fallen. The Cappadocian landscape stays as enchanting as ever and we can heat the rooms perfectly. We ourselves are in Cappadocia around Christmas and New Year, so if you are tempted to come... don't hesitate! And bring your watertight walking shoes, binoculars and good sunglasses.



Paul explored wonderful new paths from the house and even 'discovered' some more hidden churches.

About the Art Residency: Several artists have been doing their art projects in 2007 and we could provide them with a good art-making and art-presenting structure. This will be improved and expanded yearly.

At the moment we're drawing-up an inventory of the applications for artist residency (long-stay) in 2008. We start from now with the fill-in of this program for the two studio apartments best suitable for artist-in-residency: Tandir and Arch.

**Application deadline: 15<sup>th</sup> of January 2008.**

The program for the summer guests who come for weekly art workshops, culture and nature walking will be filled in later.

In association with the NIHAnkara/KozaVisual (Netherlands Institute for Higher Education) we are programming a project for Water Management in Cappadocia to start with a congress in January 2008. An Art project will be the awareness aspect of this Water Management project and has the name: Art/Eco Platform Cappadocia.

The Art/Eco Platform is a cooperation of three art organizations and based on the art/eco theme of 2008: WATER! = BRIGHT?

- **'Contemporary Art Festival Mustafapasa'**, two weeks in July/August 2008 – They invite artists of all kind to exhibit their works during the festival period in churches and valleys. Organization by FabrikArtGroup members.

- **‘HAYAL’, creative workshops’** – Theatre and film projects performed both on locations in Cappadocia and Kalkan (coast) in spring/summer/fall. The projects are developed for amateurs (all countries) and local inhabitants to participate.
- **‘Culture House Babayan’,** Ibrahimpaşa artist residency and art project development – the inviting of professional artists from Turkey and abroad, to work longer time on projects directly inspired by the know-how and results from the Water Management Project and the exchange of ideas. Throughout 2008, art works can be shown and performed at several places, like Culture and Art Centers (Nevşehir and Ankara), Art Galleries (Göreme, Ankara) and a University (ODTÜ) in Turkey. Also there is the Contemporary Art Festival Mustafapaşa.

We invite artists to already prepare themselves for their stay in the Culture House Babayan by **NOW** planning a period and presenting a project, based on the theme WATER! = BRIGHT? All necessary project and content information about the Art/Eco Platform water project can be provided, so please ask for it. For now, the artists depend on their own budgeting, although the Art/Eco Platform is actively looking for funding and sponsorship.

Next follows a short explanation why WATER! = BRIGHT? was chosen as the Art/Eco theme 2008:

Cappadocia is a cultural and historical area, still peaceful and away from a hectic modern world and a World Heritage site of Unesco.

The presence of open air museums, beautiful landscapes filled with painted cave churches, pigeon houses and historical sites makes it well to study and to connect to. Breathtaking hand-carved architecture and 40.000 km<sup>2</sup> of sculpturally shaped volcanic nature astonish the eye of everyone that enters. Cappadocia slowly starts to get open to the world –tourist area- with all kind of consequences for environmental infrastructure.



- Problems like open canalizations, polluted valleys by free garbage dumping and the lack of drinking water. As it became a tourist area, the modern use and the supply in this volcanic infrastructure became clearly out of balance.
- The river Kızılırmak is the main water stream coming from the Black Sea going all the way South, passing through Cappadocia and following its way up again towards the North. The river is therefore of huge importance for the Anatolian Heights. But there is little water streaming now, because several storage lakes were constructed. Wastewater is led into it at many locations and soon this river will also provide the drinking water supply of Ankara...

>>> Artists who want to work on their independent art projects with individual funding and sponsorship are also most welcome to apply. We can write them a letter of recommendation. They can also join the Mustafapaşa Contemporary Art Festival at the free sector, and we can provide those artists with other good exhibition opportunities.

For more information please take a look at the website: <http://www.wbouman.com>

With regards,  
On behalf of the Culture House Babayan,  
Paul Broekman and Willemijn Bouman.