

## PRESS RELEASE

# EXHIBITION / ERDAL ALANTAR

« THE 60s »

THE GESTURAL SYMPHONY OF THE SECOND SCHOOL OF PARIS

14 MARCH AU  
20 APRIL 2019



Composition, 1965, 146x114 cm  
Huile sur toile ©Galerie Hervé Courtaigne

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GALERIE HERVÉ COURTAIGNE  
[www.hervecourtaigne.com](http://www.hervecourtaigne.com)

53, rue de Seine  
75 006 Paris

[contact@hervecourtaigne.com](mailto:contact@hervecourtaigne.com)  
+33 (0)1 56 24 23 00

Ouverture de mardi à samedi  
de 11h à 13h et de 14h à 19h

Hervé Courtaigne's gallery linked its history to Erdal Alantar's poetic gesture and puts his work in the spotlight through this unprecedented solo exhibition. Works of the 1960s, from a singular lyrical abstraction, hold an important place in such a fruitful period of the Second School of Paris. These ten years of creation represent a central moment in the overall artist's work: the hardness of the contours and the dark colors. Tend to blossom towards an aerial gesture by the assimilation of the vivacity of the colors within the movement itself. The blackness of the line meets a form of lyrical lightness that unfolds on the surface of his canvases. His abstraction materializes and reaches aerial forms.

The painting of Alantar is the testimony of a double culture, the post 1945's French gestural Abstraction blends the heritage of Ottoman calligraphy, creating a unique, powerful and passionate writing, recognizable among all. Through an evolutionary course, this exhibition presents a selection that illustrates this transition and its formal research by highlighting the artist's fidelity to the lyricism of the gesture.

From 1963 to 1970, the subject and the representational plastic formulation give way to a total abstraction of vaporous forms and imprints of an intense musicality. At the end of the 60's the indefinable subject is a matter of feeling, of interiority. The artist was a music lover and his wife a pianist. With the delicacy of his expression, he painted while listening to classical music, was able to impress, surprise, transport perceptions in a calligraphic universe that summons the musicality of forms. Classical music permeates its works. They become the complement of an emotion, cradled by the notes, guiding the trajectory and the pressure on the brush. His work, the reality of the meeting between the color and the gesture freezes the moment of an energy which is transmitted. The light invades the paintings, showcasing the uniqueness of the form by the singularity of the artist's invoice. It's an artistic adventure that this personal exhibition proposes to retrace.

### BIOGRAPHY OF THE ARTIST

Born in Istanbul in 1931, Erdal Alantar studied at the Beaux-Arts of Istanbul between 1949 and 1956. He was graduated from Beaux-Arts of Florence and Rome in 1958.

Erdal Alantar finds the path of lyric Abstraction when he arrived in Paris, in 1959, where he moved with his wife, Sevinç. He wanted to develop his art «at the source», where Abstraction was the most advanced. He researched the trace and the gesture in its close correlation with the music.

Away from the mainstream, he created a style that he calls «Gestural expressionist Romanticism». Erdal's first exhibition, «A Turkish painter from the School of Paris, 1960-2000» was organized by the Hervé Courtaigne's gallery in 2012.

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Composition, 1963,  
130x99 cm, Huile sur toile  
©Galerie Hervé Courtaigne



Composition, 1965,  
100x100 cm, Huile sur toile  
©Galerie Hervé Courtaigne



Composition, 1969,  
100x100 cm, Huile sur toile  
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