



The
American
Turkish
Society
Since 1949

THE AMERICAN TURKISH SOCIETY

Programs and Activities

2007-2008

ABOUT THE AMERICAN TURKISH SOCIETY

Founded in 1949, The American Turkish Society is America's oldest not-for profit organization seeking to enhance economic, political, and cultural ties between Turkey and the United States. The Society achieves its mission by bringing together leaders in government, including Prime Ministers, Ministers of State and Ambassadors, as well as business leaders, journalists, and scholars covering a spectrum of fields. It also initiates and sponsors a variety of education and arts & culture programs, providing fellowships, grants, and other opportunities for educational and cultural exchange between the two countries. The American Turkish Society is a 501(c)3 charitable organization.

For more information on programs and to become a member and support The Society, please visit our website at www.americanturkishsociety.org or contact us at 212.583.7614.

EVENTS – 2007-2008

- **May 15, 2008 – A Discussion with Maureen Freely, author of *Enlightenment***
 - Discussion with journalist, novelist and a celebrated translator of Turkish novelist and Nobel laureate Orhan Pamuk
 - Moderated by Dr. Sibel Erol, Professor of Turkish Literature at NYU, with ~ 50 attendees
- **May 7, 2008 –Lecture by Prof. Dr. Ümit Cizre, “Making Sense of Contemporary Turkish Politics”**
 - Dr. Umit Cizre, distinguished scholar of Turkish Affairs, Professor of Politics, Bilkent University, Ankara
 - In collaboration with SUNY Levin Institute, with ~ 100 attendees
- **May 3, 2008 – A Cinematic Journey: From the West to the East**
 - A panel discussion with the director, producer and writer/lead actor of the film “My Marlon and Brando” at the Tribeca Film Festival
 - In collaboration with Moon and Stars Project, at NYU, with ~ 70 attendees



EVENTS – 2007-2008

- **March 4, 2008 – Gender and Power in Turkey**
 - A panel discussion with Dr. Selma Acuner, Ankara University and Diba Nigar Göksel, European Stability Initiative; moderated by Ayça Alemdaroğlu, New York University
 - In commemoration of International Women’s Day
 - In collaboration with Barnard Center for Research on Women, with ~ 50 attendees

- **February 21, 2008 – U.S.-Turkish Relations and Northern Iraq**
 - A discussion with Gareth Jenkins and Dr. C.K. Daly, The Jamestown Foundation; Dr. Hüseyin Bağcı, METU, Ankara
 - In collaboration with The Jamestown Foundation, with ~ 70 attendees



EVENTS – 2007-2008

- **November 27, 2007 - World Energy Outlook 2007: China and India Insights**
 - o Presentation by Dr. Fatih Birol, Chief Economist and Head of the Economic Analysis Division, International Energy Agency
 - o Sponsored by Baker & McKenzie LLP, with ~ 50 attendees

- **November 6, 2007 - Civil Society Efforts in Education and Entrepreneurship in Turkey**
 - o Presentations by Derya Akalin, Executive Director, The Mother Child Education Foundation (ACEV), and Didem Altop, Managing Director, Endeavor Turkey, with ~ 50 attendees



EVENTS – 2007-2008

- **October 22, 2007 – Luncheon Address by H.E. Mehmet Simsek**
 - Minister of State in Charge of the Treasury
 - Discussion of Turkey's monetary and fiscal policies
 - Sponsored by Merrill Lynch, with ~ 90 attendees
- **October 1, 2007 – Breakfast Address by H.E. Ali Babacan**
 - Foreign Minister of Turkey
 - Discussion of Turkey's economy and foreign policy issues, with ~ 60 attendees
- **September 20, 2007 – Turkey and Its Role in Europe**
 - Discussion of Turkey's EU aspirations with 8 expert panelists from Europe and the U.S.
 - In collaboration with NYC Bar Association, Turkish Consulate in NY and TACCI, with ~ 300 attendees



ANNUAL GALA DINNER

- Annual gala dinners celebrate successful U.S. – Turkish corporate partnerships.
- Celebrated Ford-Koç and Citi-Sabancı partnerships in 2006 and 2007, respectively.

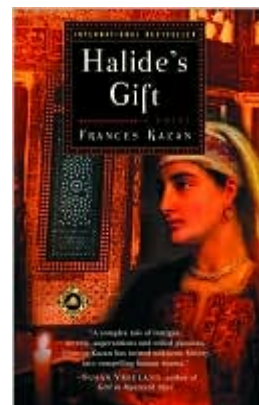
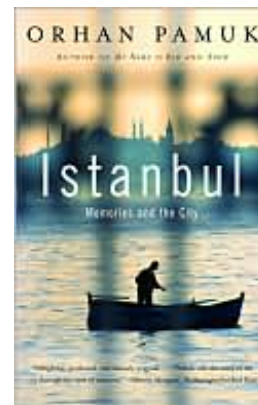
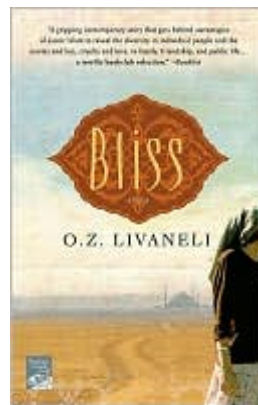
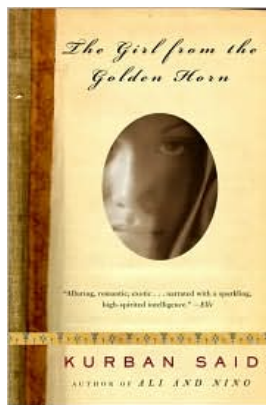
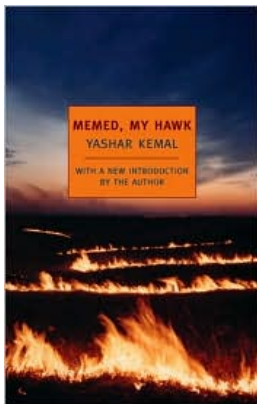
Third Annual Gala Dinner – April 16, 2008

- Celebrated the successful partnerships of GE and Doğuş Group in financial services and real estate, and their cooperation in media.
- Honored Jeffrey Immelt, Chairman & CEO of GE, and Ferit Şahenk, Chairman of Doğuş Group.
- Charles O. Holliday, Jr., Chairman and CEO of DuPont, and David J. Stern, Commissioner of The National Basketball Association, served as Dinner Committee Co-Chairmen, along with Mrs. Ahmet Erteğün as Honorary Chairwoman.
- Attended by nearly 400 people, at The Waldorf=Astoria Hotel, New York
- Raised over \$700,000 for The Society's educational and cultural programs



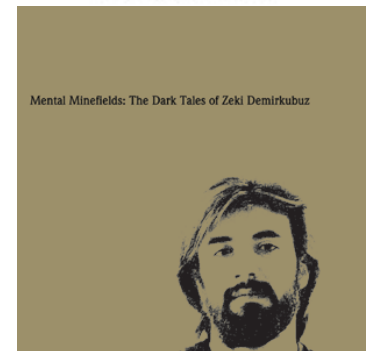
ATS BOOK CLUB

- ATS Book Club seeks to promote a greater understanding of Turkey through book discussions and recommendations. Discussions over the past year included:
 - **Memed, My Hawk** by Yashar Kemal
 - **The Girl from the Golden Horn** by Kurban Said
 - **Bliss** by O. Z. Livaneli, moderated by Jenny B. White, Associate Professor of Social Anthropology, Boston University



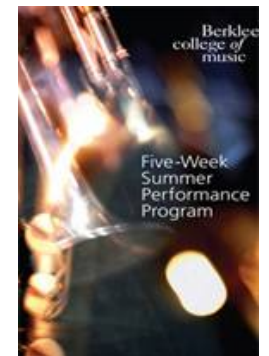
ARTS & CULTURE PROGRAMS

- Continued long-term support of the annual *New York Turkish Film Festival* and *Mayfest*, a month-long festival of Turkish visual and performance arts, produced by the Moon and Stars Project.
- Supported the 2008 Tribeca Film Festival and co-presented an in-depth conversation on *My Marlon and Brando*, a film from Turkey competing in the festival.
- Continued support to the *Summer Residency Program* at the School of Visual Arts, The program offers artists from Turkey an opportunity to work intensively in a private studio, receive individual critiques from faculty, and attend weekly lectures.
- Supported *Mental Minefields: The Dark Tales of Zeki Demirkubuz*, the first film retrospective of prominent Turkish director at the Film Society of Lincoln Center.
- Supported *Reorientations: Islamic Art and the West in the 18th and 19th Centuries* – an Islamic art exhibit at Hunter College.
- Supported *Yüksel Arslan: Visual Interpretations*, the first U.S. exhibit of the artist, at the Drawing Center.



EDUCATION PROGRAMS

- Continued support to the *Global Educators Program* in collaboration with American Field Service (AFS), which enables Turkish teachers to spend a semester in the U.S.
- New scholarship support to the *Faces of America* program of AFS, increasing the number of American students going to Turkey for AFS summer programs.
- Continued support to the *Arif Mardin Music Fellowship* at the Berklee College of Music. Established by The Society in 2007, in honor of Arif Mardin, the late Vice Chairman of the Society, the Fellowship enables Turkish students to attend Berklee's 5-week Summer Performance Program.
- Airfare and scholarship funds for NYC students to attend Space Camp in Turkey, one of five NASA camps in the world, which brings together youth from Turkey, the neighboring countries and the U.S.
- A new scholarship fund in music, in memory of Ahmet Ertegun, founder of Atlantic Records and long-time, cherished chairman of The American Turkish Society. *The Ahmet Ertegun Memorial Scholarship* supports deserving students of Turkish descent pursuing undergraduate or graduate studies in music at The Juilliard School.



LOOKING TO THE FUTURE...

- The American Turkish Society prides itself on being the oldest non-profit, charitable educational institution in the U.S. reaching out to a broad spectrum of Americans interested in learning more about Turkey while also appealing to Turkish-Americans.
 - The Society aspires to be the single most important source of information and inspiration on Turkey in the U.S.
 - The Society hopes to celebrate its 60th anniversary (2009) with an ever increasing roster of programs and supporters.
 - The Society actively seeks new resources and opportunities that will help accomplish its mission of strengthening ties and understanding between Turkey and the U.S. in policy/current affairs, business/economics, education, and arts & culture.
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