Ilyas Baqa

TUĞAN İLYAS ANLIAK · TRANSDISCIPLINARY ARTIST & ENGINEER · BERLIN
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Artist and engineer (B.Eng. Mechanical Engineering; master's studies in Human Factors at TU Berlin), Berlin. Artistic practice since 2021, focused on artistic research since 2026.

Kinetic art & soft robotics · Biosensing (GSR, EMG, HRV) · Technosomatics & trans* embodiment · Algorithmic motion analysis (MediaPipe, Python) · Industrial pneumatics & mechatronics

ARTISTIC PRACTICE

since 2021 — ***Series I***
Attempts: the body and intimacy translated into mechanics, data and space; all lead to The Translation Device; ongoing

since 2021 — Attempt 00 · The body in mechanics
Penile Transplant
Kinetic object, silicone casts & cable mechanics; ongoing

2022 — Attempt 00.1
CyberSkin
Sensor skin, silicone & conductive thread

since 2026 — Attempt 01 · Preliminary study
Algorithmic Somatics & Collapse Analyses
The body in data: interactive motion capture, landmark networks, dance & code performances

2026 — Attempt 01.1 · Collapse analysis
Zahr & Tiryāq
Data into poetry: poison and antidote, a paradox of Rumi, read through movement data

2026 — Attempt 02 · Preliminary study
Gel Gör Beni: Those Who Remained in Kadıköy
Performative mirror work, song and face landmark analysis, Berlin

since 2026 — Attempt 03 · Main project
The Translation Device: An Apparatus of Failed Attempts of Intimacy
Kinetic spatial installation & biosensing performance; in development; concept and feasibility prototypes

2026 — Attempt 03.1 · Feasibility study
Obedient Tremor
Performance study with the 1:10 prototype of The Translation Device, video

2026 — Attempt 03.2 · Feasibility study
Kalp / Gönül
Pulse, microcontroller, light, mirror; video

2026 — Attempt 03.3 · Feasibility study
sil baştan (residual evidence)
Voice, projected construction drawing, face tracking, kinetic membrane with stepper motors, light; video

2026

Attempt 03.4 · Study

olsaydı

Interactive work: 99 moments of a short encounter, searched by simulated annealing for the world in which it would have worked out; study for the thermal printer of The Translation Device

since 2026

Hesap (Series II)

Series of algorithmic works on the present; measuring as reckoning; ongoing

2026

II/01

Müstehcenlik Algoritması (The Obscenity Algorithm)

Completed work. Dance performance with a self-developed obscenity index, built on pose estimation, scoring the “obscenity” of movement; Instagram reel, 165,000+ views, shared by TGEU (Transgender Europe), Uykusuz and others

2026

II/02

HTTP 451 (Erişim engellendi)

Performance with two self-built counters that light up only with the performer's heartbeat; projection, pulse sensor, microcontroller; video

2026

II/03

DURAK 12022 (a recursive gaze)

Performance with real-time pose tracking; a projected grid of light deforms with every gesture and falls back onto the body and a TPU membrane; video

2022

Reshape Matter

Participatory build project for queer and trans* BIPOC people; Berliner Projektfonds Kulturelle Bildung, Wagenplatz Kanal e.V., Berlin

EDUCATION & RESEARCH

since 2025

M.Sc. Human Factors (in progress), Technische Universität Berlin

Psychology meets engineering and computer science: cognitive and automation psychology, neuroergonomics, psychophysiology & biosensing, empirical research methods

2017–2022

Studies in Mechanical Engineering (Design Engineering), Berliner Hochschule für Technik

Holistic product development: strength and durability analysis, lightweight design, numerical methods & optimisation, multibody dynamics; kinetics, mechatronics & bionics

2012–2016

B.Eng. Mechanical Engineering, Düsseldorf University of Applied Sciences

Engineering mechanics, design and product development

SELECTED PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

2023–2024

Continuum Innovation, Research & development

BLDC drives, sensor systems

2019–2021

Novoluto, Research & development, working student, then technical specialist

Real-time classification of sensor data, signal processing, machine learning (MATLAB/Simulink)

2016–2019

Fraunhofer IPK, Student assistant

Automation, PLC programming