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Mediterranean Talks *Architectura Franca*: Architectural Episodes of the Golden Horn Arsenal Istanbul

Abstract

The pavilion of Turkey displayed *Darzanà: Two Arsenals, One Vessel* at the 15th Venice Architecture Biennale entitled *Reporting from the Frontier**. Part of the research conducted for *Darzanà*, this presentation summons the architectural history of the Golden Horn Arsenal as a Mediterranean frontier in three meanings of the term. First, the Arsenal was a multi-layered militaristic and technological frontier representing the three main stages of warship construction, respectively, for galleys, galleons and cruisers. Second, the Arsenal was a frontier of architectural encounters. In likeness to the *lingua franca* (common language of the Mediterranean navigation) that acts as a bridge or a vessel between different languages, this architecture of encounters can be designated as *architectura franca*; a maritime architecture interconnecting different building cultures. Third, as part of the historical urban frontier of Greater Istanbul, the Arsenal had been a liminal space, a threshold in between the sea and the city.

(*Organized by IKSŞ; curators Feride Çiçekođlu, Mehmet Kütükçüođlu, Ertuđ Uçar with the curatorial collaboration of Cemal Emden and Namık Erkal)

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Publications:

Erkal Namık, "Grain Scale of Ottoman Istanbul: Architecture of the Unkapani Landing Square", *Journal of Urban History* (on-line first, to be published)

Erkal Namık, "Reporting from Darzaná: Seven Episodes of the Golden Horn Arsenal", (eds) F. Çiçekođlu, *Darzaná:Two Arsenals One Vessel*, 15th Venice Architecture Biennial Turkish Pavilion Exhibition Book, 5- 38 pp., Istanbul: IKSŞ, 2016.

Erkal Namık, "Fatih Devri Mimarisi", *Büyük Istanbul Tarihi Ansiklopedisi*, vol 9, 80-139 pp. Istanbul, IBB Kültür AS, 2015.