

Serpil Mavi Üstün:
Nothing Left Behind

24 February - 10 March 2026



Nothing Left Behind, 2025
Serpil Mavi Üstün

Huxley-Parlour are delighted to announce *Nothing Left Behind*, an exhibition by London-based artist, Serpil Mavi Üstün. Presenting a suite of thirteen new works on canvas, the exhibition reveals the artist's sustained engagement with the quotidian, internal logics, and melodrama.

Mavi Üstün's paintings offer glimpses: the drooped heads of tulips rather than the full bouquet, concealed faces masked behind books and drapery. This act of withholding infuses Mavi Üstün's works with a tension, creating psychologically charged paintings that revel in the peculiarity of everyday moments. Closely-cropped compositions conceal contextual signifiers, yet plates, vases, beds, and ceramic figurines point to domesticity. Titles such as *I'll Be Waiting at the Door* and *The Waiting Room* suggest worlds beyond the canvas' limits. In this way, Mavi Üstün's subjects exist in a liminality between public and private. Ambiguity operates as a mechanism for dialectical enquiry, to explore desire and solitude, vulnerability and assertiveness, and exteriority and interiority.

A performativity weaves through the artist's practice. Depicting unresolved moments - where glossed fingernails and rouged lips spar with introverted gazes, and the

textural, visceral qualities of fur and hair juxtapose with smooth painterly surfaces - Mavi Üstün's vignettes are activated through an exchange with the viewer. Employing natural and non-human forms, such as cut fruits and dogs, as allegorical foils for her subjects' internal expressions, the artist denies a single element agency over another, to create paintings laden with narrative potential.

Mavi Üstün was born in Turkey in 1979. She studied at Mimar Sinan Fine Arts University, Istanbul, and was shortlisted for the Royal Arts Prize in 2018. She has exhibited in both solo and group exhibitions in Istanbul, London, Paris, Dubai, New York, and Ankara. Her work has also been featured in *Art Maze Mag*, *Istanbul Art News*, and *Maake Mag*. Mavi Üstün currently lives and works in London.

ABOUT CONDUIT:

A curated programme of sixteen solo, two-week exhibitions at the gallery's project space, on the lower ground floor of 3–5 Swallow Street. Running throughout 2026, it is established to highlight select international early-career artists, spanning a variety of media and practices. Each exhibition will mark the first presentation of the artist's work with the gallery.

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CONDUIT AT HUXLEY-PARLOUR
3–5 Swallow Street, London W1B 4DE

More information can be found online at www.huxleyparlour.com/conduit