

## DETRITUS & ART / A personal point of view on Environment and Art by Rainer Stegmann

### Amazing Art Mosaics from plastic pieces

Let me introduce Deniz Sagdic to you.

Deniz Sağdıç is a Turkish artist. She was born in 1982 in Mersin, Turkey, and began her art education in Mersin University's Faculty of Fine Arts in 1999 where she graduated at the top of her class in 2003. She moved to Istanbul where she established her own studio. Deniz created her own plastic style which became the artist's signature. She tried different mediums as painting, video art and photography. Deniz started a project called Ready ReMade where she uses daily use objects for creating art. Her latest material is used denim. She cuts it into small pieces and stripes and uses those as a painter uses different colours. Other materials she uses are used zips and buttons, but also used paper and cardboard. *"You can scratch the denim up like dressing a marble and can sculpt it into different shapes, without the fear of it being broken like a marble. You can transform it into 3D forms like a sculpture by stretching, bending, and folding..."* (Interview with Deniz Sagdic at fashionunited.uk)

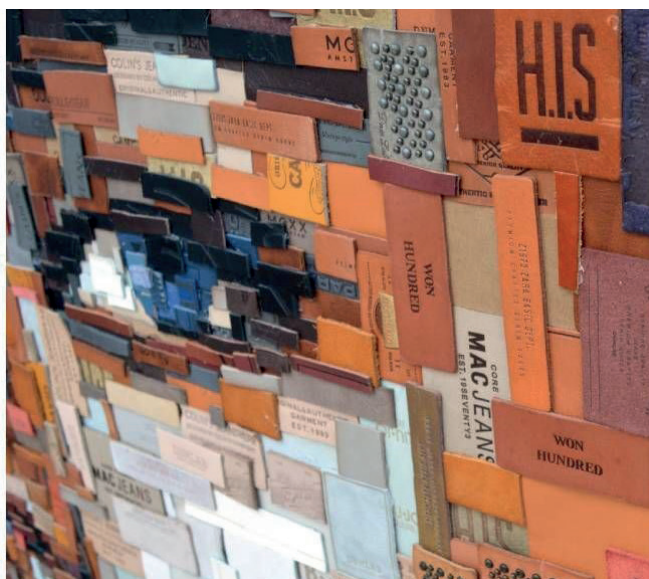
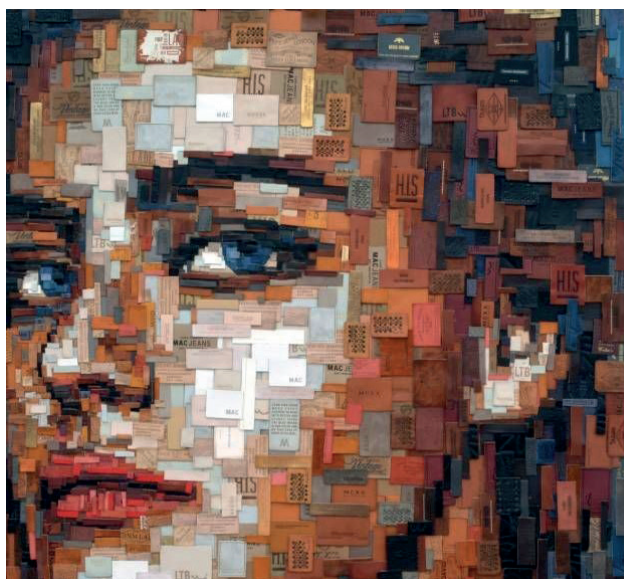
A friend made me aware of Deniz when some of her portraits were exhibited at the new Istanbul Airport. These large formatted art objects caught a lot of attention and I was immediately fascinated by her work.

Deniz gives used products a second chance showing the value of discarded clothes and brings them to new life.



This portrait spreads a sad atmosphere to me it seems she is looking for help, such a strong expression. On the left side you can see the pieces of old jeans in their different blues.

Her message is also that art can be created using all kinds of materials, there are no limits. She directs our intention



Deniz brings this face to life with a very specific expression by using different pieces of paper and cardboard.

to the problem of fast fashion that I presented already in Volume 18 of Detritus Journal. Although the portraits immediately cast a spell over us the aspect of the reuse of garments and fabrics needs to be highlighted.

Can art like one I present in this issue can bring people to think more of the value of their dresses and fabrics, will the reader buy less fashion? This depends on each single person watching this page, some may care more most may be not. But what in my view is important to make people aware of the thousands of tons of used dresses ending up on dumps in Africa and South America or that are burnt in MSW incinerators and may be this problem will enter their subconscious which may indirectly change peoples' behaviour buying less and more long - lasting dresses.

I have selected some of her incredible portraits, showing for some of them the materials she used. The expression of the different faces is very concise independent of the materials used.

Deniz calls this art series "Being a Human": "*I try to bring into view that art is human-specific but also its prop-*

*erties which explain human being are inseparable, one and sole. My art works arose in this context and also remove the obstacles that I mentioned, also this time try to contact with human being in its own contents. Every works purpose to deal with an argument one by one or entirely".*



*In the next edition I will show an installation of Goncalo Mabunda collects scrap metals and recycles weapons used in the 15 year long civil war in Mozambique, Africa. From: Making Africa – A Continent of Contemporary Design, Vitra Design Museum.*

