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E-mail: event@lightmillennium.org

Light Millennium proudly presents:

A Book Presentation and Signing
SUMMER’S END with ADALET AĞAOĞLU

“My writing adventure is nothing but a search for my own answers to my own questions.”
– Adalet Ağaoğlu

On Thursday, April 30, 2009 at the Turkish Center, NYC;
&
in collaborations with Princeton University, Department and Program in Near Eastern Studies
on Tuesday, April 28, 2009, NJ;
and
New York University, Near Eastern Studies and The Program in Ottoman Studies
on Friday, May 1, 2009, NYC:

[Lightmillennium.Org] One of the principal novelists of our time, prominent Turkish author Adalet Ağaoğlu will be giving three different presentations during her visit to the U.S. from April 27th to May 3rd.

Programs with Ağaoğlu, consisting of a panel, two presentations, and book signings, will mark the publication of Summer’s End in the U.S. Ağaoğlu’s novel Summer’s End (Yaz Sonu), translated from the Turkish by Figen Bingül, was published by Talisman House, Publishers, in New Jersey in 2008.

This is Ağaoğlu’s second book published in the U.S. Her novel titled Curfew (Üç Beş Kişî) was published by the University of Texas in 1997, which is now out of print.

Princeton University, NJ: Adalet Ağaoğlu will give her first talk at Princeton University, Department and Program in Near Eastern Studies (Jones Hall, Room 100) in New Jersey, on Tuesday, April 28, 2009 at 4:30PM. This program will be moderated by Prof. Robert P. Finn.

For more information on the Princeton University Program: Linda R. Kative
E-mail to> lindak@Princeton.edu
For the Invitation of the program, please visit>

Turkish Center, NYC: “A Panel & Book Signing” program with Adalet Ağaoğlu is scheduled to be held on Thursday, April 30, 2009, at the Turkish Center (821 United Nations Plaza, New York, NY 10017). During this program, Ağaoğlu will be presenting her brief “Manifesto of Life” along with her essay on Summer’s End, titled “Time in the Eastern Mediterranean.” Registration for the program will start at 6:30PM, and the program at 7:00PM. The panel will be moderated by Prof. Sibel Erol, who wrote the introduction for the book. During the panel, Figen Bingul, the translator of Summer’s End, and Edward Foster, the publisher (Talisman House,

For more information on the program, please visit>
http://lightmillennium.org/events/aagaoglu_nyu_may1.pdf

For the Invitation of the NYU Program, please visit>
http://lightmillennium.org/events/aagaoglu_nyu_may1.pdf

For more information:
Greta N. Scharnweber
E-mail to> gs113@nyu.edu
For the Invitation of the program, please visit>
http://lightmillennium.org/events/aagaoglu_turkishcenter_apr30.pdf

New York University, NYC: The third and last program with Ağaoğlu will take place at The Hagop Kevorkian Center for Near Eastern Studies and The Program in Ottoman Studies at New York University (The Kevorkian Center, 50 Washington Square South at Sullivan Street) on Friday, from 12:30 to 2PM. The program will be moderated by Prof. Sibel Erol.

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The programs in Princeton and New York University are organized by the related departments of these universities in collaboration with the Light Millennium organization.
For more information: http://lightmillennium.org

About Summer’s End:

“Summer's End is a novel of yearning. An endeavour to halt the passage of time for an instant, to set it down on paper. But to be honest, it is also a novel of broken dreams, because yearning is the result of inadequate understanding,” says Adalet Ağaoğlu about her novel.

Narrated by an author on vacation among the classical ruins of the ancient city of Side on the Mediterranean coast in Turkey, Summer’s End provides an intricate picture of a large cross-section of modern Turkish society. The novel offers a complex multi-dimensional and multi-leveled view of cultural values, politics, sexuality, and personal dilemmas. Taking place in an Eastern Mediterranean town at the end of the 1970s, the novel deals with issues springing from modernization and social conflict. While transporting the reader to a region with unmatched natural beauty and historical and mythological richness, Ağaoğlu analyzes her characters, affected by the political upheaval in the country at the time, as they struggle to find meaning in their lives.

Summer’s End is one of the most celebrated works by Adalet Ağaoğlu, a good example to her unique writing both in style and content. Ağaoğlu defines her writing career for over 60 years, saying: “My writing adventure is nothing but a search for my own answers to my own questions.”

ADALET AĞAOĞLU was born in 1929 in Nallihan in the Ankara Province of west central Turkey. After completing a degree in French literature from the University of Ankara, she began graduate work in Paris. On return to Turkey, she assisted with cultural programming for the state radio and co-founded the Arena Theatre Company. Ağaoğlu first achieved prominence as a playwright, writing for various theaters during the ‘50s and ‘60s. In the early ‘70s, she began writing novels; the first, Lying Down to Die (1973), was heralded as a groundbreaking departure from the classical Turkish novel, and her first short story book, High Tension (1975), won the Story Award of the year. A Wedding Night (1979) won all the main novel awards of 1979-80. Since then, she has established herself as one of Turkey’s leading writers. She has been rewarded with numerous honors besides the literary awards she won in the fields of novel, short story, and drama. For her perception of subtle and overt changes in modern Turkish society and her writing titled “Modernism and Social Change,” Adalet Ağaoğlu received the “Turkish Presidency Merit Award” in 1995. In 1998, Ağaoğlu was granted “Honorary Ph.D. from “Eskişehir Anadolu University,” followed by the “Ph.D. of Humane Letters” from the Ohio State University.

The two volumes of the author’s diaries were published in 2007.


Adalet Ağaoğlu lives in Istanbul.

For further information: Linda R. Kative, e-mail: lindak@Princeton.edu for April 28th Program
Bircan Ünver, e-mail: event@lightmillennium.org for April 30th Program
Greta N. Scharnweber, e-mail: gs113@nyu.edu for May 1st Program