

Ebru Nihan Celkan
Istanbul / Turkey

Born 1979 in Adana/Turkey.

Ebru Nihan Celkan received a Bachelor's Degree in Labour Economics in 2001 from Uludağ University and an MBA degree in 2008 from İstanbul University. She started her professional career in 2003. Her acting career started at Sadri Alışık Theatre in Istanbul in 2005 and in 2007 her first play *From Heaven to Hell* was staged at the Sadri Alışık Theatre Festival. Between 2007 and 2008, she continued her studies on performative playwriting and performative acting theories with Studio Actors (Studio Oyuncuları).

Her play *Triggerman* (Tetikçi) was the opening play of Aksanat 2009 Write a Play Festival and had its first reading at the Talimhane Theatre. It also won the 3rd Playwriting Contest of Mitos-Boyut Publishing House and was published by Mitos-Boyut. Ebru Nihan Celkan's play *17:31* was staged by Theatre 0.2 (Tiyatro 0.2) in 2010/2011. The short movie *10, 9, 8...* for which she wrote the script, was screened at the Aksanat Short Film Festival in 2011. She was invited to "Internationally Rising Playwrights" seminar by Sala Beckett - L'Obrador Dramaturgy Institute. She worked with Simon Stephens in a workshop as part of the seminar. Her play *Project TX_7* had its first stage reading in July 2011 at the Barcelona Grec 2011 Festival. In 2011 she also established the theatre company buluT.

In 2017 she became one of the four playwrights chosen from around the world for Maxim Gorki Theatre's International Playwriting Project "Krieg I'm Frieden - War in Piece". As part of this project she wrote her latest play "Will you come with me?" and finished in 2018.

Since 2013 she has been one of the instructors for the Sabancı University's Purple Certificate program which aims to enable high school teachers from 11 pilot cities to develop a critical gender perspective as part of the »UN Joint Program for Promoting the Human Rights of Women«. Since 2015, Celkan has been running performative story writing and narration workshops for the tour-guides of Sabancı University's Gender and Women's Studies Forum's »Curious Steps: Gender and Memory Tours« program.

Her latest play "Will you come with me?" premiered in Berlin 2018 & Istanbul 2019

She was a Jean Jack Rousseau Fellow of the Academy Schloss Solitude Stuttgart, between January 2019 – March 2019.

In her fellowship period she prepared »Untold Stories: Gender and Memory Walks« in the program of the short festival "Engaging with Histories" by Academy Schloss Solitude (March 2019). The tour through Stuttgart guided by participants of Ebru Nihan Celkan's workshop »Gender Steps« as well as other special guests. The walks are part of Ebru's project »Diverse Steps«, which aims to enable people to connect in alternative ways to the histories of the spaces they are living in. Together both storytellers and walkers search for, revive, and re-contextualize the memories of underrepresented historical individuals by developing and conducting city walks to locations that are significant for reasons related to gender and cultural diversity.

In her fellowship period she presented gender workshop ["EDGE 101 - Equity & Diversity for Gender Equality"](#) to students and academic staff of Akademie für Dastellende Kunst – Baden Württemberg.

Between 15 – 17 April 2019, she run a workshop "Bias 101" and a module "Data is Beautiful – Data is Ugly" both were related with the gender equality and diversity issues in Documentary Convention – Leipzig which

is initiated by Arab Fund for Arts and Culture (AFAC) and DOX BOX e.V. It aims at creating a platform for dialogue, collaboration and resistance, designed to inspire creativity, foster connectivity and ignite change.

In 2016 she established Y+O, a platform dedicated to develop emotional intelligence. She creates projects, game-based learning workshops and contents such as gender mainstreaming, diversity, team work, power of »we«, ethic management, trust building, creating innovative approach. Ebru Nihan Celkan consults and works with multinational corporations and also with local holdings.

Publication list: Complete Plays I: After The Day Nobody Died & Where Were We?. Mitos-Boyut (İstanbul 2013); Complete Plays II: Home! Sweet Home! & 17:31. Mitos-Boyut (İstanbul 2015); Complete Plays III: Babel Towers & Triggerman. Mitos-Boyut (İstanbul 2016); Complete Plays IV: Tilt & A Prince from Outer Space. Mitos-Boyut (İstanbul 2018)

Plays:

From heaven to hell (2007) premiered at the Sadri Alışık Theatre directed by Levent Ünsal

The Triggerman (2009) premiered at the ikincikat (2012) directed by Ebru Nihan Celkan

17.31 (2010) premiered at the ikincikat Theatre directed by İpek Banu Kılar

Tilt (2011) premiered at the Talimhane Theatre directed by Aslıhan Erguvan

After the day Nobody Died (2012) premiered at the Kumbaracı50 Theatre directed by Sumru Yavrucuk

Where Were We? (2012) premiered at the Sermola Performans directed by Mîrza Metin

Home! Sweet Home! (2014) premiered at the besincikat Theatre directed by Ebru Nihan Celkan

Crusty Suprising Animals (2014) premiered in Istanbul Theatre Festival directed by Özlem Karadag

Babel (2015) premiered at the Emek Sahnesi directed by Ebru Nihan Celkan

Will You Come With Me? (2018-Berlin) premiered at the Maxim Gorki Theatre directed by Hakan Savas Mican

Will You Come With Me? (2019-Istanbul) premiered at the TOY Theatre directed by Sami Berat Marcalı

Directed:

The Triggerman (2009) premiered at the ikincikat (2012) directed by Ebru Nihan Celkan

Home! Sweet Home! (2014) premiered at the besincikat Theatre directed by Ebru Nihan Celkan

Babel (2015) premiered at the Emek Sahnesi directed by Ebru Nihan Celkan

A Little Bit of Me A Little Bit Of You (2016) premiered at the Emek Sahnesi written by Ciyil Kurtulus