

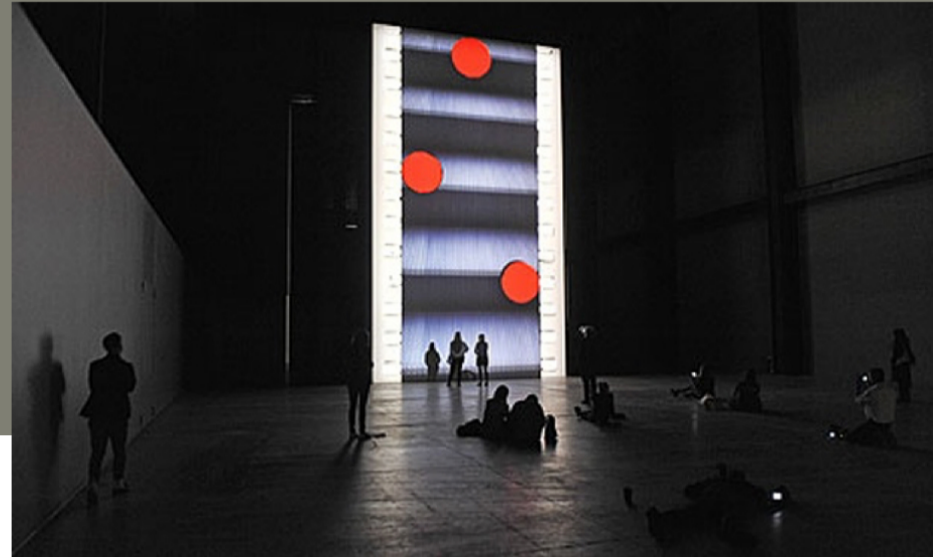
Department of

Interior Architecture and Environmental Design

İhsan Doğramacı  
Bilkent  
University

#### ABSTRACT:

Tacita Dean's 11-minute moving image installation titled *FILM* opened at Tate Modern in the October of 2011. Propelled by the impending obsolescence of the analogue film format in the face of the rise of the digital, Tacita Dean made a "portrait of the film itself" in her 11-minute moving image installation titled *FILM*. Such self-reflexivity has almost exclusively shaped the existing scholarship on *FILM*, even though Dean designed the installation specifically for Tate Modern's Turbine Hall. Yet, without a comprehensive consideration of the profound relationship between Dean's moving image installation and the architecture as well as the history of Turbine Hall, any attempt to analyze *FILM* overlooks the broader cultural and historical ramifications of the work. In *Through a close visual analysis of both *FILM* and its exhibition space, I argue that Dean's work sets up a complex relationship with the Turbine Hall not merely through its scale and positioning, but also, and more profoundly, through its pronounced emphasis on the tension between indexicality and animation. Furthermore, *FILM* imposes an implicit critique to the museum institution and its politics of spectacle. Unlike other commissioned works of Unilever Series at Turbine Hall such as Olafur Eliasson's *The Weather Project* (2003), Ai Weiwei's *Sunflower Seeds* (2010), and Rachel Whiteread's *Embankment* (2005), *FILM* neither perceptually transforms the vast space of the Turbine Hall, nor is it dwarfed by it. Instead, the installation connects to its viewers in intimate, non-spectacular ways that relies on tactility. Focusing on the spatial and institutional politics of *FILM*, I intend to question the implications and limitations of "site-specificity" in the contemporary art scene while reconsidering the art and museum world's loosely-defined concepts of "public" and "public space."*



**SPEAKER:**  
Dr. Ekin Pınar

#### SEMINAR:

**Through a Museum Window:  
Tacita Dean's *FILM* and the  
Substance of Contemporary  
Site-Specific Art**

10 April 2018  
Tuesday 13:30 FFB-05

