AHMET ÖĞÜT
BAKUNIN’S BARRICADE
In 1849 when Prussian troops tried to defeat the socialist insurgency in Dresden, revolutionary anarchist Mikhail Bakunin suggested placing paintings from the National Museum’s collection in front of the barricades, speculating that prussian soldiers wouldn’t dare to destroy the works and therefore not storm the barricade.

Inspired by Bakunin’s never realized proposal Öğüt has created a barricade using works from the museum’s collection.

A document stipulates that the barricade may be requested and deployed by activists during future social uprisings.
Bakunin's Barricade
A barricade inspired by Bakunin's never realized proposal in 1849.
Installation view Van Abbemuseum, 2015
Bakunin’s Barricade

A barricade inspired by Bakunin’s never realized proposal in 1849.

Installation view Kunsthall Charlottenborg, 2017

Bakunin’s Barricade Agreement with Van Abbemuseum 2015:

A loan contract, prepared in collaboration with a lawyer, stipulates that the barricade may be requested and deployed during extreme economic, social, political, transformative moments and social movements.

AGREEMENT OF TRANSFER OF THE WORK OF ART BAKUNIN’S BARRICADE

THIS AGREEMENT (‘Agreement’) is entered into by and between:

Ahmet Ögüt, the owner and maker of the work of art described below (hereinafter referred to as the ‘Work’), born in Diyarbakır in Turkey in 1981, hereinafter referred to as ‘the Maker’;

and

[name of institution], having its registered office and office address at [address] [city/town] [country], a publicly funded institution/museum and/or an entity with a public art collection1, duly represented for the purposes of this Agreement by Mr/Ms [name] [position], hereinafter referred to as ‘the Transferee’.

The parties are hereinafter collectively referred to as ‘the Parties’.

Whereas:

a. The Maker has created a work of art in the context of the Exhibition (see Article 1 - Definitions).

b. This work of art represents, inter alia, a materialization of a proposal by Mikhail Bakunin to place art works from the national museum’s collection in front of barricades during the socialist insurgency in Dresden in 1849, in order to deter Prussian troops from storming the barricades.

c. The Transferee expressed its willingness to buy the work of art, after which the Parties entered into negotiations about the terms and conditions of sale.

The Parties hereby agree as follows:

Article 1 – Definitions

The Barricade: the work of art created in the context of the Exhibition, entitled Bakunin’s Barricade.

Name of the artist (the Maker): Ahmet Ögüt
Title of the Barricade: Bakunin’s Barricade
Date of conception: 2015
Materials: various materials
Dimensions of the Barricade: variable
Edition: unique per country
The Barricade consists at least of the components mentioned below. These components may be re-
placed, reproduced or removed in consultation and with the prior written permission of the Maker.
A comprehensive list of the materials used can be found in Annex 1, the Installation Instructions.

- at least 5 Works of Art from the Transferee's collection
- scrap cars
- police fences
- bricks and other building materials
- plastic tubes
- metal tubes
- wooden stakes
- street lights

Extreme economic, social, political, transformative moments and social movements:

moments and social movements that are intended to express serious public concern about social
or political problems and are intended to bring about changes in public institutions or social rela-
tionships. Recent examples of such movements include protests in Seattle during the Ministerial
Conference of the World Trade Organization in 1999, the protests following the presidential elec-
tions in Iran in 2009, the various Occupy protests beginning with Occupy Wall Street in New York
in the US in 2011 and the Gezi Park protests in Istanbul in Turkey in 2013.

Works of Art:

Paintings from the Transferee’s collection owned solely by the Transferee.

Article 2 – Purchase and Delivery

The Maker agrees to sell the Barricade to the Transferee and the Transferee agrees to buy the Barri-
cade from the Maker subject to the following terms and conditions of this Agreement. The delivery
of the Barricade will take place at a location and time to be agreed at a later date.

Article 3 – Purchase Price and Payment

The purchase price of the Barricade amounts to EUR 80,000,- plus VAT and other statutory levies.
The Transferee shall pay the purchase price within 30 days in a manner to be specified by the Ma-
ker.

Article 4 – Obligations of the Transferee, including a Perpetual Clause

4.1 The Transferee is permitted to display the Barricade to the public only with the Works of
Art and this Agreement.

4.2 The Transferee, or any subsequent Transferee, shall transfer all rights and obligations
arising under this Agreement to the subsequent Transferee and shall perform all acts
required by law to effect this transfer. The Transferee shall use the template included in
Annex 2 to this Agreement for that purpose.

4.3 Before the transfer to any subsequent Transferee, the Transferee shall inform the Maker
about the transfer in writing in a timely manner and shall send him a copy of the draft sales
agreement between the Transferee and the subsequent Transferee.

Article 5 – Loan Obligation and Penalty

5.1 The Transferee agrees to loan the Barricade to third parties in order to be used as a
barricade if these parties request this loan in the context of extreme economic, social,
political, transformative moments and movements which engender high levels of public
concern relating to fundamental human rights, including those defined in the Universal
Declaration of Human Rights.

5.2 The Transferee agrees to negotiate with third parties on the inclusion of the Works of Art
as part of the Barricade.

5.3 If the Transferee fails to comply with the provision of paragraph 5.1, the Transferee will
incur an immediately payable penalty amounting to the value of the Barricade at that time,
without prejudice to the Maker’s right to demand the performance of the provision of
paragraph 5.1 of this Agreement.

5.4 The penalty incurred under this article will be donated to a good cause to be specified by
the Maker.

Article 6 – Intellectual Property Rights and Licence

6.1 This Agreement does not constitute an assignment of the intellectual property rights to the
Barricade. The maker will retain all intellectual property rights, including but not limited to
copyright.

6.2 Any display, with the exception of display in public space, or any other communication or
distribution of the Barricade or images of the Barricade without Works of Art is an
alteration or mutilation of the Barricade and therefore infringes the moral rights and the
copyright of the Maker.

6.3 The Transferee acquires the right to reproduce and communicate images of the Barricade
for promotional and non-commercial purposes.

Article 7 – Third-Party Clause

7.1 Third parties will be entitled to demand the performance of the Transferee or its legal
successor under Article 5 of this Agreement if the condition mentioned in that article is
satisfied.

7.2 The third party will not be liable to the Transferee or its legal successor for any damage to
the Barricade or components thereof or to the Works of Art or for any direct or indirect loss
as a result of the use of the Barricade.

Article 8 – Governing Law

This Agreement is governed by the laws of the Netherlands.

Article 9 – Jurisdiction

Any disputes relating to the conclusion, interpretation or execution of this Agreement will be ex-
clusively submitted to the competent court in the Amsterdam court district, the Netherlands.