

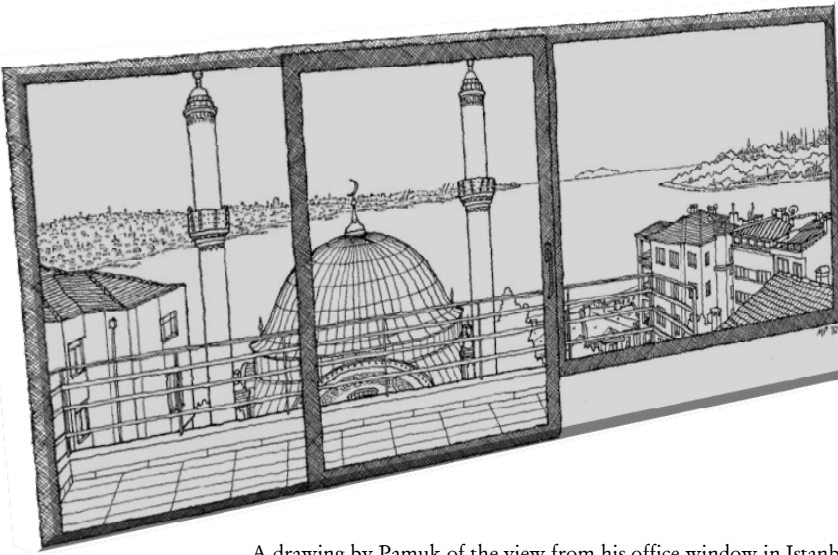


Near Eastern Languages and Civilization
Turkish Studies Program

“wavering between two worlds”

The Ambiguity of ‘East-West’ & ‘Self-Other’ in Orhan Pamuk’s Works

A talk by **Olcay Akyıldız**
Boğaziçi University, İstanbul



A drawing by Pamuk of the view from his office window in Istanbul.

In this talk, Olcay Akyıldız presents the playful and ambivalent position of the author Orhan Pamuk between two worlds. Pamuk has been accused of being an orientalist or looking at his own culture with western eyes both of which Akyıldız challenges. Using the methodology of Orhan Pamuk’s analysis of Turkish author Ahmet Hamdi Tanpınar’s novel *A Mind at Peace*, Akyıldız discusses two novels by Pamuk - *White Castle* and *My Name is Red* - to demonstrate the author’s undecided position between

two cultures. Through a close reading of the novels the talk presents how Pamuk actually deconstructs the binary opposition of East and West through his characters.

April 5, 2011 at 12:30pm in CMU 202