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Albania in the History of Mediterranean art by Edi Hila at Galerie Mitterrand, Paris

Albanian painter [Edi Hila](#)'s works are currently on display in Paris. The artist, who uses his home country as his primary muse, is being presented by Galerie Mitterrand. The exhibition, titled "Tirana-Versailles" is on view until December 23, 2017.

[Edi Hila](#) is a major figure representing Balkan art scene, and has been a witness for more than 20 years of the intense changes lived by European post-communist societies. He chose to stay back in his country and shunned the prospect of migrating to economically affluent countries. He lives in Tirana where he creates his works that reflect the stories of his own self, country, and its history and culture, putting Albania in the history of Mediterranean art.

This show is organized as an afterthought to the Hila's recent presence at "documenta" in Kassel and Athens. It brings forth a selection of works created since early 2000s, focusing on urbanization, political power, cultural heritage, and psychological climate of his country. The reference to Versailles is present in his recent series "Boulevards," in particular exposed in its entirety during the last "documenta." This series shows main public buildings that border the Boulevards of Martyrs of the Nation, in Tirana. From Tirana to Versailles, the artist makes us aware, with his delicate and mysterious painting, of the complex relationships that bind our history, our identities, and our environment.

[Edi Hila](#) was born in Shkodër, Albania, in 1944. Since 1991, he has taught painting at Academy of Arts in Tirana, where he trained artists such as Adrian Paci and Anri Sala.

