

First Merchant to accept currencies of Transnistria, Abkhazia- American Artist

ISTANBUL, TURKEY, August 11, 2015 /EINPresswire.com/ -- American artist Alex Hill, who lives in Istanbul, Turkey has announced that he will accept the currencies of two unrecognized de facto states, the Transnistrian ruble and the Abkhazian apsar. He is believed to be the first merchant outside of either country to do so.

The move is largely symbolic, as both countries' lack of international recognition makes it impossible for Hill to receive bank transfers from either country and this will necessitate his visiting the breakaway regions in order to exchange the currencies for a more widely recognized currency such as the US dollar or the Euro. "There's a reason no one else from outside these countries has accepted these currencies before," says Hill, "as far as most of the world's governments are concerned these places don't exist, but that doesn't matter when you take a bus from Moldova to Ukraine and suddenly see a flag with a hammer and sickle flying over a checkpoint and have to show your passport to Transnistrian soldiers. I want to do something to make people aware of these tiny countries. And to be perfectly honest, it's a nice excuse to go on an adventurous vacation."

About Alex Hill

Alex Hill is an abstract artist from the United States who lives in Istanbul, Turkey. His work blends traditional motifs with minimalist painting and has hung in various places in Turkey, including Istanbul's Atatürk Olympic Stadium and the Turkish Parliament in Ankara. His work is visible on his website (www.alexmhill.com) and available for purchase on his Yessy page (www.yessy.com/alexmhill).

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Ike Chamir

Alex M Hill

+90 541 782 21 62

[email us here](#)

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