

NAME-SURNAME: Sema SÖKMEN

TITLE: “Jean-Paul Sartre’s Conception of Art Based on the Phenomenological Ontology”

ABSTRACT

The main question that was tried to be presented and analyzed throughout this thesis is “how can a conception of art grounded on phenomenological ontology and humanist atheistic existentialism be possible?” The objective of the thesis was to explore philosophical basis for the idea of art that could be based on phenomenological ontology. The thesis consisted of four chapters. In chapter one the meaning of phenomenological ontology was tried to be revealed. This work concentrated necessarily on the philosophy of Jean-Paul Sartre, because the founder of phenomenological ontology is Sartre. The passage attempted to be established between philosophy and art by Sartre starting from the point of phenomenological ontology was conducted and introduced by descriptive method. One of the defining characteristics of Sartre’s philosophy, beside phenomenology, is humanist atheistic existentialism. For this, in the second chapter a detailed account for humanist atheistic existentialism developed by Sartre based on phenomenological ontology was given. In the third chapter a new conception of art put forward by Sartre and grounded in phenomenological ontology and humanist atheistic existentialism, namely committed or responsible art was explained. In the fourth chapter that composed the last part of the thesis, some examples of the works of art considered as the product of this new conception of art, namely Sartre’s *Nausea* and the first three volumes of *The Roads to Freedom* were analyzed.

KEYWORDS: Jean-Paul Sartre, existentialism, phenomenological ontology, humanist atheistic existentialism, aesthetics and philosophy of art, work of art.