

LILACH BAR-AMI: BLUE BOAT

THE INSTALLATION *BLUE BOAT* FEATURES FRAGMENTS, MATERIALS, AND THOUGHTS ASSOCIATED WITH THE HOUSE WHERE THE ARTIST HAS BEEN LIVING IN RECENT YEARS. THE HOUSE, BUILT ABOUT FORTY YEARS AGO, CONTAINS OBJETS D'ART, UTENSILS, AND RUGS MANIFESTING AN AESTHETIC LANGUAGE THAT IS GRADUALLY DISAPPEARING, ONE THAT EXPRESSES NOSTALGIA FOR "ANOTHER LAND." THE CONNECTION BETWEEN WOMAN AND OBJECT RAISES QUESTIONS REGARDING THE MUTUAL RELATIONS BETWEEN NATURE AND CULTURE AND BETWEEN PHYSICAL AND METAPHYSICAL SPACE, ADDRESSING ISSUES OF SOCIAL, CULTURAL, AND GENDER IDENTITY.

THE SPIRIT OF THE "HOUSEWIFE" HOVERS ABOVE THESE WORKS. THE TWO TERMS – "HOUSE" AND "WIFE" – BY TURN BLEND AND SEPARATE. BETWEEN THE HOUSE WALLS THE WOMAN DREAMS OF "REAL LIFE." THE OBJECTS SHE COLLECTS AND CHERISHES TAKE HER TO DISTANT, MAGICAL, IMAGINARY WORLDS, SOMEWHERE FAR BEYOND THE HOUSE WALLS.

IN THE FIRST MONTHS OF THE CORONAVIRUS PANDEMIC, WHEN CURFEWS WERE IMPOSED IN ISRAEL AND WORLDWIDE, THE ARTIST PHOTOGRAPHED HER OWN HAND HOLDING AN OBJECT WHILE WEARING A LATEX GLOVE OF THE KIND REQUIRED TO BE WORN IN PUBLIC PLACES. A NEW AND SURPRISING LAYER WAS ADDED TO THE ARSENAL OF IMAGES, ACTIONS, AND GESTURES THAT NOURISH THE ARTWORK IN THE SPACE OF THE HOUSE. THE RESULT IS A SPACE THAT IS FUTURISTIC, ENIGMATIC, MYSTERIOUS, AND DIFFERENT. A TWIST APPEARS IN THE PLOT – ANOTHER ANGLE FROM WHICH TO READ THE STORY OF THE "HOUSEWIFE" AND HER GENERATION THROUGH THE LENS OF TIME.

THE INSTALLATION IS DEDICATED TO ELLA AND KURT AMSTER, O.B.M., THE HOUSE'S OWNERS, AND TO THEIR GENERATION

THE WORK *GIRL WITH CHINESE VASE* IS PART OF A JOINT PROJECT CREATED WITH PHOTOGRAPHER DEGANIT ARTMAN