



INSTITUTE OF CONTEMPORARY ART
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NEWS RELEASE



BLOWING ON A HAIRY SHOULDER / GRIEF HUNTERS

SEPTEMBER 7–DECEMBER 4, 2011

RECEPTION: WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 7, 6-8PM

EXHIBITION WALKTHROUGH WITH ARTISTS BOAZ ARAD AND ELI PETEL,
AND EXHIBITION CURATOR DORON RABINA: WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 7,
5PM, ICA MEMBERS ONLY



PHILADELPHIA, PA

The Institute of Contemporary Art (ICA) at the University of Pennsylvania presents *Blowing on a Hairy Shoulder / Grief Hunters* on view September 7 through December 4, 2011. Organized by prominent Israeli artist and curator Doron Rabina, this exhibition presents work by twenty artists from Israel, Greece, Germany, Belgium, Britain, and America that examines the relationships between *originality* and *origin*. Through video, photography, drawing, and sculpture these works take the challenges of “originality”—invention, innovation, novelty—to extremes, while making the term “origin” (genesis, precedent, historical debt, pre-historic territory) a subject.



A sculptural work by Mark Manders shows half-formed humans emerging from and into clay, exploring the myth of the earliest human making. In a similar vein, a video by Gilad Ratman, “The 588 Project,” documents a natural mud pool with people, completely immersed, breathing through the tubes, revealing a startlingly contemporary look at life arising out of the mud. Imagery of fossils appears in the work of Tamir Lichtenberg and Yochai Avrahami, and of flame in pieces by Ariel Schlesinger and Carson Fisk-Vittori. “The Earth, the Sun, and the Moon,” by Asaf Koriat, looks like a constructed archeological artifact and uses Israeli coins to represent part of the cosmos. Though not exclusively a show of Israeli artists, this show brings the inventive vitality of the Israeli art scene to the American public.

(Top to bottom): Uri Nir, *Sphinx*, 2010, digital print. Mark Manders, *Figure With Thin White Rope*, 2007-8, painted ceramic, painted polyester, painted epoxy, wig, rope, iron, 33 x 64 x 31 inches. Ariel Schlesinger, *Oil Lamp*, 2010, small object, glass, metal, oil, cotton wick, ¾ x 2 ¾ x ¼ inches. Courtesy of Galerija Gregor Podnar, Berlin/Ljubljana

ARTISTS IN THE SHOW

Ron Amir, Boaz Arad, Yochai Avrahami, Ronnie Bass, Guy Ben-Ner, Corinne Day, Oliver Husain, Dionisis Kavallieratos, Asaf Koriat, Amit Levinger & Lior Waterman, Tamir Lichtenberg, Harel Luz, Mark Manders, Uri Nir, Eli Petel, Gilad Ratman, Carson Fisk-Vittori, Ariel Schlesinger, and Dash Snow.

ABOUT DORON RABINA

Doron Rabina (b.1971) is an artist and among the leading curators and theorists of contemporary art in Israel. Formerly a consultant-curator for the Israel Museum in Jerusalem, he has organized many large scale exhibitions, such as: *Beyond Guilt*, Tina B Art Festival, Prague, Czech Republic (2009); *Eventually We'll Die*, Herzliya Museum of Art (2008); *Power*, Omanut Ha'aretz no. 4, Reading power station, Tel Aviv (2005). As an artist, Rabina represented Israel in the 26th biennale of São Paulo (Brazil) in 2004. Since 2009, he has held the position of Head of Hamidrasha School of Art, Beit Berl College, one of Israel's leading art colleges.

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BLOG:

WWW.ICAPHILA.ORG/MIRANDA

HOURS

Wednesday 11am-8pm
Thursday + Friday 11am-6pm
Saturday + Sunday 11am-5pm

Admission is FREE every day.

Free admission to the Institute of Contemporary Art at the University of Pennsylvania for the public is sponsored by the Amanda (C95) and Glenn (W87/WG88) Fuhrman Fund.

For more information,
call 215-898-7108/5911, or visit
www.icaphila.org.

INSTITUTE OF CONTEMPORARY ART

The Institute of Contemporary Art at the University of Pennsylvania believes in the power of art and artists to inform and inspire. The ICA is free for all to engage and connect with the art of our time.

Blowing on a Hairy Shoulder / Grief Hunters is organized by Tel-Aviv-based artist and curator Doron Rabina and is accompanied by a fully illustrated catalogue.

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Consulate General of Israel
Philadelphia

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