

# Ver-huizing

Curator: Ronit Eden

Our times are marked by great demographic changes. Political and social circumstances generate a movement of populations from one country to another, either by force or by choice.

The proposed exhibition will include works of art which deal with the definition of identity and investigate the concept of "home". Building a home in a new place means balancing between the need to conceal the former identity and a deep longing for the lost past, while endeavouring to create a new private space. Shown as a group, the artworks enter into a disturbing dialogue which exposes some truths of new and old settlers: how they see themselves and how they are seen by their social environment.

Each of the artists offers a personal viewpoint. What they have in common is the fact that they are not judgemental, but rather curious and investigative towards the environment.

The stories told in the works are personal ones. Every-day life, such as the activities at home and street sounds coming in through the window, envelop the visitor to the exhibition, who nevertheless remains detached. The artistic act creates a critical distance and a new connotation. The well-known and the self-evident are examined from a different point of view.

## The art peices

### **A house in Jaffa**

**Sami Bukhari and Eyal Danon**

**Israel**

- The installation of **Sami Bukhari** and **Eyal Danon** relates to Palestinians living in Jaffa – a mixed city of Jews and Arabs. Many ancestors of the Arab inhabitants had to leave, either during war or because of changes in urban planning. The dialogue in this work of art reflects the tension between the residents on the one hand and the Israeli authorities on the other. The conversation in this installation [happens seemingly](#), during day to day life and develops in an apartment of a Palestinian family in Jaffa. The talking is part of the documentation of the city as heard from the memory of those who were raised there. It was registered consciously in order to create conditions for settlement and the building of a mutual future. Therefore all members of the community of Jaffa have to be allowed to tell their stories from their own point of view. This work was shown for the first time in September 2003 in the Architects House, a Gallery located in old Jaffa and directed by architect Shelly Cohen. In collaboration with her the work was created.

## **"Are there any palm trees in Grozny?"**

**Banu Cennetoglu**

**Turkey**

- In a series of maps and photos **Cennetoglu** shows a narrow piece of land that has been divided into three different sites: a military camp, a deserted vacation camp and a holiday resort. The three of them are close to each other and located on the Black sea shore on the Asian side of Istanbul. Cennetoglu observes the land and the people who live there from a distance, how they live in closeness but do not have any contact, it looks like they simply exist one next to the other. In the deserted vacation camp, Chechen refugees try to built a new home to have a sense of confidence. Banu's work exposes how they live in a foreign environment and raises the question of belonging and if new pertinence is possible at all. `

**Entrant**

**Pedro Gomez-Egana**

**Columbia**

- **Pedro Gomez-Egana** produced, especially for this exhibition, a sound piece which is based on his research in different countries of the global phenomenon of migration. In his work, Gomez-Egana creates a dialogue between the sound of the street in the "Indische buurt" of Amsterdam and the internal resonance of music in his own mind. Every moment new relationships come up in the exhibition-space and every moment the boundaries blur between the known and unknown, between the individual voice and the social sound.

## **The Artists**

**Sami Bukhari**

1964 Born in Jaffa.

lives and works in Jaffa. Israel

Elementary and junior high school teacher in Jaffa. Socially involved and active in non-profit organizations documenting the untold stories of different populations in Israel. This activity has led him to establish a centre for Palestinian culture and tradition.

Studied photography at the Department of Visual Communications, Ecole

Nationale Supérieure d'Expression Plastique, Marseilles, France.  
Studied sculpture at the Department of Art, Ecole Nationale Supérieure  
d'Expression Plastique, Marseilles, France.

Exhibited in solo and group exhibitions among them : "Nature Morte", photographs,  
Théâtre de la Minoterie, Marseilles, France. Photographs, Tova Osman Gallery, Tel  
Aviv; Israel. " Land, Peoples and Identities", ElKahf Gallery, Bethlehem

### **Eyal Danon**

1972 - Born in Tel Aviv.

Lives and works in Tel Aviv, Israel

Presently vice-director and curator at the Israeli Center for Digital Art &  
lecturer/teacher at different schools of art and design in Israel. In studied at the  
"Camera Obscura" School of Art in Tel Aviv, Israel. Fine Arts at Middlesex University  
in London, Graduating with a First Class Honors Degree.

Participate in exhibitions, Curated and produced projects in Israel and other  
countries, among them: "Photographs, October 2000 - April 2002", an  
exhibition of 4 foreign photojournalists, Israel. "On the edge", an exhibition of the  
German photographer Torsten Luders, at the Interdisciplinary Center for Art and  
Science, Israel

Organized "Serial Cases", a video exchange program between 10 curators from 8  
cities .

Member of the selection committee and curator of "The 23rd International  
Contemporary Artists Istanbul Exhibition", Turkey

### **Banu Cennetoglu**

1970 - Born in Ankara

Studied at School of Visual Arts, New York, US. Speos, Paris Photographic Institute,  
France. B.A. in psychology, Bogazici University, Istanbul, Turkey.  
Rijksakademie van beeldende kunsten, Amsterdam, The Netherlands.

Achieved fellowship and stipends among them : Rijksakademie van beeldende  
kunsten/Dutch Ministry of Education, Culture and Science, The Netherlands. Office  
for Contemporary Art, Oslo, Norway .

Exhibited in solo exhibitions among them : "French Photography?", The Deep, Tokyo, Japan. "Visions 01", Moscow House of Photography, Russia. "On Mobility" , De Appel, Amsterdam, The Netherlands.

"Sweet Taboos", National Gallery for Arts, 3rd Tirana Biennale, AL.

Gives Workshops and lectures, publish and producing artist books and in BAS, a new project space in Istanbul

## **Pedro Gomez-Egaoa**

1976 - Born in Bucaramanga, Colombia

Studied violin performance and theory, Missouri Southern State University, US  
London Musician's Collective musical improvisation. Greenwich Dance Agency contemporary dance. BA Music, emphasis in composition and performance  
dissertation: "Performance Art and Non-Sounding Music", Goldsmiths College - University of London, UK

Participate in research and creation projects among them: Physicality and Musicality (Mountains are Mountains project) in collaboration with Philipp Gehmacher Tanz Quartier, Wien, Austria. Instrumental composition and physicality (Mahler's 5th project, Theatre En Corps, Laban Centre London, UK  
Rencontre International d'Art Performance, Quebec, Canada

Achieved fellowship and stipends among them : violin and theory, Academic Scholarship, University of Northern Colorado, US. Norwegian Ministry of Education and Research Scholarship MA in Visual Arts, Kunsthøgskolen in Bergen, Norway.

Gives lectures and workshops among them : analysis of music for dance, (seminar), Academia Superior de Artes de Bogotá, Colombia. MA choreography / composition, Trinity College of Arts, (guest lecturer), Laban Centre, Londres. PD programme,

Exhibited in solo exhibitions among them : Holes and Bodies (electroacoustic composition) - ICA Institute Contemporary Art, London, UK. "Paseo" (performance) - Festival de Danza de Almada, Portugal. " Good Enough" (electroacoustic composition), Tanz Quartier, Wien, Austria. "Local-Lokaal-Local" (site specific project and installation)- 66East, Amsterdam, The Netherlands

## Curatorship

Ronit Eden

born in Israel.

After studying design and architecture at "Hasadna" in Tel Aviv, she followed a diversified career: along with her work as an interior architect, she worked as an exhibition designer for some of the major museums in Israel. Concurrently, she organized a number of international symposia about the theoretical implications of architecture and gave lectures on this subject. Among other things, she did the following:

- Israel Museum, Jerusalem: designing exhibitions (in cooperation with the chief designer) for the departments of graphics, photography & modern art, the permanent collection & the Jacques Lipchitz Collection.
- The Yitzhak Rabin Center for Israel Studies, Tel Aviv: designing memorial exhibitions.
- Tel Aviv Museum of Art: renovation of exhibition halls (in cooperation with the museum designer).
- Organizing an international symposium entitled "The Interior as a Space in the Dimension of Time".
- "Architecture of Israel" magazine: published an article about & interview with architect Hans Hollein.

Presently, Ronit Eden lives in Amsterdam, where she curates and designs exhibitions.

- "The Right to Remain Silent" - an exhibition at Gallery 66 East in Amsterdam (in cooperation with other curators); 2005.
- "A visit to Israel' contemporary sculpture from Israel, an exhibition at the Beelden aan Zee museum, Den Haag; planned for the winter of 2008.
- "Pictures at an Exhibition", a workshop on designing exhibition space, at the Fontys Academie voor Architectuur en Stedenbouw in Tilburg; winter 2008