



Hanut31-Theater and Gallery hosting Idris  
“Ghawar Real Estate”  
Hamody Gannam and David Havrony

This real estate agency, “Ghawar Real Estate” is a site specific installation created by Hamody Gannam and David Havrony for HaHanut Gallery, which is located in south Tel Aviv. Two windows looking onto the street, balancing between fiction and authenticity. On the left window is an advertisement for a luxury apartment with open sea view for sale in the Old Jaffa Port, price: 12 million shekels. This apartment is genuinely available on the market. The right window is filled with numerous advertisements for homes in Tel Aviv and Jaffa marked as “sold.” In this context the term ‘sold’ arouses questions on the reasons that led to the sale, for instance whether it was undertaken by necessity, imposition or choice. The exhibit treads between historical and contemporary themes: part of the images used in these fabricated advertisements are archival sources collected by Gannam, while others are real estate photographs taken by Havrony and originally produced to catch the attention of authentic contemporary homebuyers. The vast majority of the text incorporated in the installation is in Arabic, a choice emphasizing local identity discourse and pointing to the phenomena of Jewish gentrification of Jaffa homes enabled by the Israeli real estate boom. This theme is associated to a larger context too, the exhibition takes its name from Al-Ghawar, the world’s largest oil field located in eastern Saudi Arabia. By choosing this name, the artists wish to underline the complex and global link between political agreements, economic calculations and land value.

Hamody Gannam (b. 1986) was born in Haifa. He is a graduate of Tiltan College of Design and Visual Communication, where he majored in art history, design, painting and photography, he studied geographical photography at the Galitz School of Photography, and is currently an MFA student at the Bezalel Academy of Arts and Design. In 2012 Gannam was awarded a three year residency scholarship by the Haifa municipality and Beit HaGefen. Gannam has held exhibitions at Beit HaGefen, The Haifa City Museum, the Van Leer Institute and the Museum of Islamic Art in Jerusalem and Petah Tikva Museum. He has participated in the Manofim Art Festival and Jerusalem Design Week.

David Havrony (b. 1985) was born in Nahariya. He is a graduate of the Photography Department at the Bezalel Academy of Arts and Design. His work has been showcased in Israel and abroad, including at Kunstverein Nürnberg, Architect’s House Gallery in Jaffa, Hansen House in Jerusalem, Open Museum Tel Hai and others. His work has been published on digital and print



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media and is part of private and public collections including the Tel Aviv Museum of Art collection.