

"Scales"

Guy Levy and Nardeen Srouji 14.06.18-16.07.18

Reflecting upon the perceptions of the Middle Eastern setting and the symbols most representative of it, Levy and Srouji touch upon power relations and social and political issues via displacement and replacement of elements.

Srouji works from that *place* between attachment and detachment. Interested in how process take form, she uses familiar objects and materials from her surroundings, but displaces them and transforms them into social and political relations, inviting the viewer to question and challenge their status-quo, and reconfigure their own perception and relation to the world.

Levy's work is rooted in his attempt to extricate the enduring negative connotation often attributed to the Levant. In his compositions, there is an ambivalence that stems from the mutual definition of individuals as *Others* and from the changing hierarchies of control and influence that form between them. Thereby dramatic contrast of caucasian and oriental figures and mundane symbols—and technique reminiscent of expressionism — becomes a means to reflect upon his own sense of social and political exclusion as a Sephardi Jew in Israel.

Guy Levy, born in Petah Tikva in 1988. Levy completed his BFA studies at Shenkar College of Engineering and Design in 2016. He has participated in various solo and group exhibitions in Israel, and is the recipient of both the America-Israel Cultural Foundation Award for encouraging young artists (2016) and the Margaret and Sylvan Adams Prize (2017).

Nardeen Srouji, born in Nazareth in 1980 is a graduate of the MFA at the Bezalel Academy of Arts and Design (2017). Srouji has held numerous exhibitions throughout the country, including the Qalandiya International Biennale-Palestine (2012/2014/3018), the gallery of Beit HaGefen in Haifa(2012/2014/2017), Fresh Paint Fair 10 in Tel-Aviv-Jaffa (2018).