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Michal Raz
2019



Michal Raz

Born in Jerusalem, Israel 1984
Lives and works in London, UK

Education and qualifications

2016 – Present MFA candidate, Slade School of Art, UCL, London UK
2010 – 2013 BFA, with high honors, Hamidrasha School of Art, Beit Berl college, Israel
2006 – 2007 Visual communication, Shenkar College of Design and Engineering, Israel

Solo Exhibitions

2016 The Best Is Yet to Come, Pasaz, Tel Aviv Israel – 2013 Plain, Weizmann Institute of Science, Rehovot, Israel

Group Exhibitions

2018 Why Patterns, No 20 Arts, London, UK - NOF, Provender Building, London, UK - Rubber Chew/ Clink, adieu, Unit 1 Gallery, London, UK - 2017 Bureaucracy of Too Many Rubbish Dinner Parties, Chalton Gallery, London, UK - Faith, Austin Forum, London, UK - 2016 Repetitive Motifs in ritual objects and contemporary art - Mane Katz Museum, Haifa, Israel - 2013 Backflip, Hertzelya Art Center, Israel - 2012 International photography festival, Tel-Aviv Jaffa, Israel - 2011 Bat-Yam Art Biennale, Bat-Yam, Israel

Residencies and Awards

2018 Slade Summer School Art Education residency - 2017 Joya Air, Spain - Griffin Gallery Residency Program, London - Red Mansion Art Prize (shortlisted)

Work Experience

2016 – Present Art tours guide, Arternative, London
2014 – 2016 Art instructor and educator, Bat museum of contemporary art, Israel
2013 – 2014 Art teacher, Aran primary school, Tel Aviv, Israel



OnMute 2, 2019
Acrylic on Paper
75 x 56 cm



OnMute 2, 2019
Acrylic on Paper
75 x 56 cm



Ad Matai, 2019
Acrylic on Canvas
50 x 40 cm



Mixed Feelings, 2019
Acrylic on Canvas
50 x 40 cm



Here We Go, 2018
Mixed Media on Canvas
210 x 170 cm



Love Triangle
Mixed Media on Wood
20 x 25 x 0,3 cm
SOLD



Dag / Namer
Mixed Media on Wood
20 x 25 x 0,3 cm



Faux Flying
Mixed Media on Wood
20 x 25 x 0,3 cm



Will Sprawl I + II (Diptych), 2019
Acrylic on Canvas
50 x 35 cm (each)



On Mute I + II (Diptych), 2019
Acrylic on Canvas
76 x 56 cm (each)

Interview

From Jerusalem to the Infinity of London – Michal Raz on Her Life as a Painter

Michal Raz was born in Jerusalem, Israel, in 1984. Most of her life she lived in Tel Aviv. She studied with Jacob Mishori (Painting) and Dr. Dorit Kedar (Eastern Philosophy) and holds a Bachelor of Fine Arts (BFA) with high honours from Beit Berl College in Israel and a Master of Fine Arts (MFA) from Slade School of Art, London. She was awarded several prizes and residencies. Her works have been shown in Israel, Europe and Latin America.

RPR Michal, when did you start working as an artist and why? Is there a first artwork you can think of?

MR Since I can remember, I have been painting, drawing, writing. I always knew that I'm going to do something creative, but I wasn't sure what. I really love music, so for a long time I thought I'm going to make video clips. When I realised you have to work with a team to do that, I changed my mind. When I was about 12 years old, my best friend and I went to painting classes together. The teacher was a very old-school kind of painter. I remember one day we were doing a still life drawing of a jar and a weird mask. After class, I went to my friend's house, and we put the drawings we made that day on her desk and left the room. When we came back in, I looked at my friend's drawing, and I was so excited by it and said how great it is. She looked at me and said "Michal, that is your work". When I think back to that moment, I know something happened then.

RPR What impact did your first art school have? What did you make the decision to leave your home country and come to London? In what way did Slade influence your work?

MR My first art school had a great impact on me and my practice, mostly because of two great teachers I had. The first one was a painter (I really think he is one of the best I know) and he had a massive influence on me. The second one is a great woman who taught me Zen Buddhism, and luckily, I'm still her student.

I always wanted to try and live abroad. I decided to apply to Slade and move to London when I felt ready for it. I really love living in London – it's so endless and fascinating, and I'm still so excited by its infinity.

RPR Who and what is inspiring you – apart from art schools and teachers?

MR Music, films, books, artists, thinkers, writers, my partner, my friends... I get inspiration from daily life, I guess that everything I experience somehow manifests itself in my artistic process in the end. I think most of all I'm inspired by songs. Music gets to me in a way nothing else does. Every painting I make is a collage of visual interpretations of sounds and words (minus the sounds and the words).

RPR Which materials do you work with and which techniques do you prefer?

MR I work mainly with acrylic paint, but I use different materials and ways of creating. I like playing with materials and exploring them in unexpected ways. Every series of works has its own language and beat, and I try to find new techniques and materials to go along with that specific language and rhythm.

RPR What do you want to express with your art?

MR This is maybe the biggest of all questions, and therefore I feel like I can't answer with words. This is why I paint.

RPR ART – Art Management

What we do

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- Curating new art exhibition formats and artists' exchange programs
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