

ARIK LEVY

I remembered it differently

31 March - 13 May 2017

I remembered it differently is the title of Arik Levy's second exhibition at Setareh Gallery. In line with this quotation, which alludes to the complexity of human memory, the exhibition aims to establish a dialogue between the viewer and the mindset of the artist. Akin to a trip around the world during the course of which other countries and cultures are experienced within a short period of time, visitors to the exhibition are invited to continually face different moods and situations. And similar to the experience of a journey, the motif of absence – capable of provoking self-doubt and self-reflection – is intrinsic to the majority of these works, thus perhaps enabling a sheer wealth of approaches.

Arik Levy's point of departure for his sculptures and paintings is the relationship between nature and 'human nature'. In everyday life, the perception of our environment is largely based on our memory, which reacts on a rational as well as emotional level. When viewing Levy's works of art, the viewer's perception and interpretation open up an additional dimension and liveliness in his works, transferring narratives into a different context, nature into a complex social fabric, order into chaos, and the static into the kinetic. On the basis of this interdependency between nature and perception, the exhibition presents new series of Levy's works.

The series *FacetFormation* is based on individual 'facets', which – a mere second ago – had been parts of a complete and perfect form, but which can now no longer be joined into a whole. Instead, they transform or rather mutate into completely new forms, similar to human beings who must constantly reinvent themselves in different social contexts. In Levy's oeuvre, this series represents the transition from the abstract to the figurative, in the process of which a minimal form evolved. Levy made a similar experience while working on the series *Mineralized World* – paintings that Setareh Gallery exhibited two years ago. Like those paintings, the series *FacetFormation* reveals views of a fixed point in time and space.

FixingNature, a series that Levy began work on ten years ago, unfolds the ambivalence between fragility and intimacy of the objects displayed, and the longing for the eternal or even for immortalisation. Twigs, logs and similar objects found in nature are bundled with bandages. This moment of healing the wound is carried into the future by the use of bronze that withstands the rotting process.

Red Globules and *White Globules* – photographic paintings on aluminium composite panels – likewise combine the fragility as well as the energy of human life with the power of nature. Life and the recurrence of life are symbolically shown in the combination of the vital blood corpuscles transporting oxygen and nutrients through our bodies – represented in Levy's work by the old tree branches.

SETAREH GALLERY

ARIK LEVY

(*1963, lives and works in Paris, FR)

SOLO SHOWS (selection)

- 2017 I remembered it differently, Setareh Gallery, Dusseldorf, DE
2016 Absent Presence, Alon Segev Gallery, Tel Aviv, ISR
2015 Mineral Memories, Setareh Gallery, Dusseldorf, DE
Intuitive Reactions, Praguekabinet Gallery, Prague, CZ
Intimate Formations, Please Do Not Enter gallery, Los Angeles, USA
Manmade (Human) Nature, Pékin Fine Arts Gallery, Hong-Kong, CHN
2014 Primitive Components, Alon Segev Gallery, Tel Aviv, ISR
Uncontrolled Nature, Louise Alexander Gallery, Porto Cervo, IT
2012 Experimental growth, Bisazza Foundation, Montecchio Maggiore, IT
2010 Luminescence. between Fire & Ice, Santa Monica Museum of Art, USA

GROUP SHOWS (selection)

- 2017 CARBON, Jensen Gallery Sydney, AUS
2016 Julian Schnabel & Arik Levy, Podborny Robinson, Saint-Paul-de-Vence, FR
Existing Absence, Rencontres d'Arles, FR
2015 Domaine du Muy, Contemporary Sculpture Park, Le Muy, FR
Summer Group Show 2015, Louise Alexander Gallery, Porto Cervo, IT
2014 Full House: 100 artists, Aeroplastics Contemporary, Brussels, BE
Que la lumière soit, Fondation EDF, Paris, FR
2013 alongside the exhibition "Dans la ligne de mire" – Musée des Arts Décoratifs, Paris, FR
Lightopia, Vitra Museum, Weil am Rhein, DE
2011 Regeneration, Installation, Natural History Museum, London, UK
2009 Fruit & Flowers, Kenny Schachter/ROVE, London, UK
Osmosis, Swarovski Crystal Palace, Ex Magazzini di Porta Genova, Milano, IT
2008 Diversion, Kenny Schachter/ROVE, London, UK
The Artist's Playground, Sudeley Castle, UK
2006 Big Rock – Permanent Installation – Passage de Retz, Paris, FR
2005 D. Day, Centre Georges Pompidou, Paris, FR
2004 Brilliant, Victoria & Albert Museum, London, UK
2002 Video Zone Biennale, Two stars hotel (in Collaboration with Sigalit Landau), Hertzlia Museum, ISR
1997 Humanism 2020 – 1997, Sculpture Biennale Ein Hod, ISR

INSTALLATIONS IN PUBLIC SPACES (selection)

- 2018 RockGrowth Hermitage, permanent installation, Hermitage Museum plaza, Moscow, RUS
2016 RockTripleFusionGiant, permanent installation, One Park, Taipei, CHN
2014 RockGrowth 808 Atomium, permanent installation, Atomium, Brussels, BE
2012-2017 Transparent Opacity, five-year solo installation, Crystal Worlds Museum, Wattens, AT
2013 RockGrowth, permanent installation, Enclos des Bernardins, Paris, FR

PUBLIC COLLECTIONS (selection)

Museum of Modern Art, New York, USA, The Art Institute of Chicago, USA, Museum of Arts and Design, New York, USA, Centre Georges Pompidou, Paris, FR, Fond national d'art contemporain (FNAC) Paris, FR, Israel Museum, Jerusalem, ISR, Maison de la photographie de Marrakech, MAR