

**The Igal Ahouvi Collection will be exhibited publically for the first time  
in a series of exhibitions at the Tel Aviv University Gallery**

We are delighted to announce the launch of a collaboration between the Igal Ahouvi Collection and the Tel Aviv University Gallery, in a move which will contribute greatly to the promotion of the art community and the community of art-lovers in Israel. The Igal Ahouvi Collection exhibitions will be held alongside independent exhibitions presented by the University Gallery.

This collaboration embraces the University Gallery's vision and intends to present 12 art exhibitions which will be open to the general public. This move provides an opportunity for students and the general public to come in direct contact with key works of contemporary art from Israel and abroad.

Through the exhibition series, the general public is invited to experience top-notch artworks by prominent contemporary artists from the Igal Ahouvi Collection which have never been exhibited before in Israel. The gallery will host lectures and gallery talks as well as present commissioned works by Israeli and international artists. The exhibitions will be accompanied by comprehensive catalogues featuring essays by theorists, curators, and cultural figures and scholars from different areas. The move will enable students to encounter contemporary art, analysis and criticism in the presence of the works themselves and allow the art and art-lovers community to see the scholarly practice that drives the collection and its thoroughgoing work in the Israeli art field.

The Igal Ahouvi Collection exhibition program will be put together in collaboration with the University Gallery's management team, alongside its own planned exhibition program. An artistic steering committee has been created for the exhibitions, whose members comprise: the Dean of the Faculty of the Arts' representative – Dr. **Assaf Pinkus**, the University Gallery's curator – **Irit Tal**, the curator of the Igal Ahouvi Collection – **Sarit Shapira**, and the public's representative – **Edna Moshenson**, an independent curator. The steering committee will approve the exhibition and event program while seeking to preserve the gallery's academic character, maintain proper diversity and see the gallery as a single complex that aspires to excellence in its exhibitions.

Admission to all the exhibitions and events taking place at the gallery will be open to the general public free of charge. The trilogy will be accompanied by a comprehensive catalogue that will be published at the beginning of April 2014.

**Prof. Joseph Klafter, President of Tel Aviv University**, has welcomed the agreement, saying that the general public and the student community will benefit from the chance to be exposed to first-rate works by Israeli and international artists. "Students will be able to see and study the analysis of works first hand, and be exposed to works to which up till now they have had no access."

**About the Igal Ahouvi Collection:**

The Igal Ahouvi Collection has existed and been involved with the Israeli and international art scene for ten years. The collection includes 1600 works of art, out of which around 750 are by international artists and around 850 by Israeli artists.

The collection is founded on great passion and love for contemporary art and a great faith in its power in the society we live in. Contemporary art is part of the variety, stratification and pluralism

that characterize our time. Like art, the collection also reflects this position, incorporating works by diverse artists who work with a variety of means. The collection sees the art discourse as one single arena, and does not differentiate the works' importance according to their geographical origins. Among other things, the collection focuses on conceptual art and on its products and influences. Especially important for the collection are works that have contributed to the thought processes of other artists and to the contexts that have been created as a result of this influence. Works of this kind capture the imagination and invite profound thought processes. Purchases of Israeli and international artworks for the collection are made regularly. **Tami Gilat**, the collection's Director, is entrusted with those purchases as well as with the personal contact with the galleries and the auction houses and the day-to-day running of the collection.

A team of curators and professionals maintain the collection, aiming to stay constantly up to date with what is happening in the art field. At the same time, the Igal Ahouvi Collection helps Israeli artists develop their projects, awards prizes and supports various cultural institutions in Israel. In the past years the collection has been curated by **Sarit Shapira**, who boasts a long and impressive résumé of activities for the artistic community. The collection's curatorial practice tries to understand and find the works' social, political and circumstantial validity. To see how the works not only converse with other works in the collection, but also with the outside world.

Among the Israeli artists whose works are included in the collection:

**Moshe Kupferman, Michal Heiman, Raffi Lavie, Moshe Gershuni, Nurit David, Gil Marco Shani, Avner Ben Gal, Tamar Getter, Elad Larom, Nahum Tevet, Olaf Kunman, Ori Gersht, Elham Rokni, Yigal Tumarkin, Ido Michaeli, Jan Tichy, Khen Shish, Maya Gold, Dror Daum, Miki Kratsman, Sigalit Landau, Sharon Yaari, Michael Gross, Yair Garbuz, Natalia Zourabova, Alex Kremer, Gilad Ophir, Gili Avissar, Ariel Schlesinger, Haran Mendel, Hanna Sahar, Ido Bar-El and others.**

Among the foreign artists whose works are included in the collection:

**Francis Alys, Joseph Beuys, Martin Kippenberger, Rodney Graham, Charles Avery, Marlene Dumas, Hans Peter Feldmann, Ryan Gander, Johannes Kahrs, Elad Lassry, Robert Mapplethorpe, Helmut Newton, Irving Penn, Raymond Pettibon, Franz West, Gabriel Orozco, Neo Rauch, Gerhard Richter, Thomas Schutte, Andy Warhol (works on paper), Christopher Williams, Diane Arbus, David Claerbout, David Hammons, William Kentridge, Daren Almond, Andreas Gursky, Franz West, Berndt & Hila Becher**