

The Genia Schreiber University Art Gallery, 54 Haim Levanon St., Tel Aviv

*Prima Facie*

**Works from the Igal Ahouvi Art Collection**

27/12/2015 – 01/04/2016

**Preview Event: Saturday, 26/12/2015, 8pm**

The Igal Ahouvi Art Collection and the Genia Schreiber University Art Gallery are pleased to announce the launch of *Prima Facie*. This comprehensive exhibition surveys the changing face of portraiture from the beginning of the last century to the present day through paintings, drawings, sculptures, installations and video works by leading international and Israeli artists. Curated from Israel's largest private collection of contemporary art, the exhibition highlights artists' different approaches to portraiture.

The invention of photography in the early 19<sup>th</sup> century created a shift in both the way society viewed portraits and the way artists produced them. Artists today are again faced with a similar challenge. The incredible pace of technological advancements has resulted in the public being constantly barraged by portraits created, published, and evaluated through social and traditional media. Contemporary visual culture is saturated with images of people. The human form gazes out from advertisements, tabloids, social media and television, creating and feeding a constant desire to know people through their appearance. This bombardment, be it by production or consumption often makes it appear as if the traditional art of portraiture, the attempt by the artist to capture a sitter's spirit and soul, has been forgotten. *Prima Facie* exhibits artworks from the Igal Ahouvi Art Collection highlighting the artists approach to portraiture through the appropriation from mass media, the revival of classical themes and attributes, or the use of portraits as a means to convey a social or political agenda.

The exhibition will feature four major installations: **Hans Peter Feldmann's** *100 Years*; **Alex Prager's** video installation *Face in the Crowd*; and **Andy Warhol's** *Screen Tests* (courtesy of The Andy Warhol Museum, Pittsburgh). Emerging Israeli artist **Noam Wenkurt** will be working on an exciting new commission in which visitors will have their portrait painted.

The exhibition also includes works by **Diane Arbus, Richard Avedon, Gili Avissar, Frank Auerbach, Chuck Close, Anne Collier, Dror Daum, Marlene Dumas, Michal Heiman, Nir Hod, William Kentridge, Martin Kippenberger, Robert Mapplethorpe, Melanie Manchot, Ido Michaeli, Richard Prince, Neo Rauch, Thomas Ruff, Luc Tuymans, and Igaël Tumarkin.**

*Prima Facie* is the fifth in a series of exhibitions from the Igal Ahouvi Art Collection held at the Tel Aviv University Art Gallery since early 2014. As a part of the exhibition, the gallery will host

academic forums, lectures, and gallery talks with artists, curators and scholars on various subjects relating to the different approaches to portraiture. The exhibition and events are open to the public free of charge. The exhibition is curated by **Matan Daube**.

Assembled over the past ten years, the **Igal Ahouvi Art Collection** illustrates the pluralistic aspect of contemporary art. The collection focuses on conceptual art and its products and includes a number of pieces by internationally famous artists. By offering the public the opportunity to consider these important works in a series of exhibitions the Igal Ahouvi Collection hopes to promote not only peoples' inquisitive nature but also a collaboration between art scholars and researchers.

The collection comprises of approximately 1500 works, more than half of which are works by Israeli artists, including, **David Adika , Yael Bartana , Moshe Kupferman, Michal Heiman, Raffi Lavie, Aram Gershuni, Moshe Gershuni, Nurit David, Gil Marco Shani, Avner Ben-Gal, Tamar Getter, Elad Larom, Nahum Tevet, Olaf Kuhnemann, Ori Gersht, Elham Rokni, Igal 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, Eitan Buganim, Gilad Ophir, Gili Avissar, Ariel Schlesinger, Haran Mendel, Hanna Sahar and Ido Bar-El**. The remainder of the collection is by international renowned artists including amongst others, **Francis Alÿs, Joseph Beuys, Martin Kippenberger, Rodney Graham, Charles Avery, Marlene Dumas, Hans-Peter Feldmann, Ryan Gander, Johannes Kahrs, Robert Mapplethorpe, Helmut Newton, Irving Penn, Raymond Pettibon, Franz West, Gabriel Orozco, Neo Rauch, Gerhard Richter, Thomas Schütte, Andy Warhol, Christopher Williams, Diane Arbus, David Claerbout, David Hammons, William Kentridge, Daren Almond, Andreas Gursky, Berndt & Hilla Becher**.

**The Genia Schreiber University Art Gallery** is a public gallery and research center affiliated with the David and Yolanda Katz Faculty of the Arts at the Tel Aviv University. The gallery has played an important role in exposing art history and contemporary art to the Israeli public. The gallery building is situated at the University's main entrance and welcomes a varied audience. The central building was constructed in 1998 and comprises three main galleries which are adjacent to the Michel Kikoïne Foundation building. Admission to all exhibitions is free of charge.

For further details, please contact: [elah@igal-ahouvi.com](mailto:elah@igal-ahouvi.com)

**The Genia Schreiber University Art Gallery**

54 Haim Levanon St., Tel Aviv

Opening hours: Sun-Wed 11am-7pm, Thurs 11am-9pm, Fri 10am-2pm

**IGAL AHOVI**  
ART COLLECTION



Free admission