

By means of art works on display for the first time in Israel, The "Bare Life" exhibition seeks to explore how the borderlines delineating identity, freedom and security, shift during periods of emergency and uncertainty, impairing the basic rights of the individual. Raphie Etgar, curator

באמצעות יצירות אמנות המוצגות לראשונה בישראל נבקש לברר כיצד הגבולות המגדירים זהות, חופש וביטחון משתנים בתקופות של חרום ואי-ודאות, ומשפיעים על זכויותיו ופרטיותו של האדם. רפי אתגר, אוצר התערוכה

02-6281278 : ירושלים טלפון 02-6281278 , ימי ו' 14-9, רחוב חיל ההנדסה 4 , ירושלים טלפון 9-17, 14-6, ימי ו' 9-14 Opening Hours: Sunday-Thursday 9-17, Friday 9 -14, 4 Chel Handasa St. Jerusalem 91016 Israel Tel 02-6281278

BARE LIFE is the third in a series of exhibitions on themes of human rights presented by the Museum on the Seam, a socio-political contemporary art museum.

This exhibition points resolutely at the place where the temporary emergency situation turns into a legitimized ongoing situation that in the end leads to a paranoia of suspicion and to the use of violence to re-establish public order.

The works on show in this exhibition were selected with an intention to present and depict the atmosphere that encourages nations and organizations to activate invasive methods which infringe the boundaries of our identity, our privacy, and the freedom we are entitled to as citizens of the world.

The exhibition is made up of works by 42 artists from all over the world, some of whom are showing this work in Israel for the first time. The artists bring testimonies that attempt to clarify the nature of relations in times of trouble and in periods of uncertainty which the regime or sovereign define as a time for restoring order, according the authorities the power to use all the means at their disposal.

Curator of the exhibition: Raphie Etgar.

Among the artists included in the exhibition:

Bruce Nauman (USA) William Kentridge (South Africa)

Anselm Keifer (Germany) Shahram Entekhabi (Iran)

Bill Viola (USA)

Paul McCarthy (USA)

Sophie Calle (France)

Tsibi Geva (Israel)

Adi Nes (Israel)

Gilad Efrat (Israel)

Santiago Seirra (Spain) Gaston Zvi Ickowicz (Israel)

Wilhelm Sasnal (Poland)

As part of the creation of the exhibition, the Museum invited a number of contemporary thinkers to reflect on the condition of bare life from philosophical, psychoanalytic, political, religious, feminist, and media-oriented perspectives. The result is a series of contemporary articles that complement the visual work to form a heightened attempt to think and experience anew the contemporary landscape.

The list of contributors includes some of the more influential thinkers of our time: Giorgio Agamben, Slavoj Žižek ,Simon Critchley, Werner Hamacher, Ariella Azoulay, Mark Hansen and Adi Offir. Their contributions do not follow one coherent line, but together they compose a collage of ideas that intermingles with the works exhibited in the show. And this is probably the only way that the notion of bare life can be approached. For there is no one commanding view on life and no reference point outside life from which we can examine the relations between life and the political, juridical, and institutional forces that shape it. We therefore find ourselves articulating "life" from within, and this structural limitation has everything to do with the subject that concerns us. All the contributions, however diverse, explore the problematic if not paradoxical relation between life and the forces that govern and regulate it. For in attempting to qualify life these forces end up limiting or denying the very basis that sustains them. Catalogue editor: Roy Brand

The Museum on the Seam is a socio-political contemporary art Museum, unique in Israel and located in Jerusalem on the seam line between east and west. The Museum raises diverse issues for discussion with the goal of having an impact on public dialogue within a complex reality.

The Museum on the Seam was established in 1999 with the generous support of the von Holtzbrinck family of Germany, through the Jerusalem Foundation and at the initiative of the curator Raphie Etgar.

The Museum is open daily, Sunday – Thursday 9:00-17:00 and Fridays 9:00-14:00 For further information, please contact Merav Maor: 054 427 0745 merav@coexistence.art.museum