

Daniel in Paris | Daniel Oksenberg

April 11th - June 13th, 2024

The French Institute, Tel Aviv

In an era when iron is nationalized for the casting of swords, Daniel Oksenberg deliberately chooses the softness of ceramic material, inviting moments of devotion to a gentle caressing touch. The artistic endeavor presented in this exhibition serves as an alternative to the incomprehensible violence occurring outside. In Oksenberg's world, to create means to venture down a rabbit hole, befriend the imagination, and sail towards the realm of fantasy. The various sculptures installed in the space suggest the possibility of movement. A rabbit peeks out from a plastic bag, while a sunflower follows the sun with her gaze. The blinding Tel Aviv sun disables her function as a lamp. At the end of a wild night, a high-heeled shoe appears to collapse, while a used handkerchief breathes new life through its nostrils. The paintings on the wall describe an impenetrable picture of reality. A mirror does not reflect, while a faceless figure expresses compassion. Little paintings of abstract fragments depict an unrecognizable internality. Like a Zig Zag girl in a china shop, Oksenberg finds himself immersed in an impossible surrounding. Confronted with a new reality defined by a war over narratives, art becomes an invitation to reconsider human flexibility.

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