

Japan - Israel AIR PROJECT, Yamakiwa / WAITINGROOM
Peleg Dishon Solo Exhibition, *What makes things fly*

Duration : Dec. 1st, Sat. - Dec. 23rd, Sun., 2018

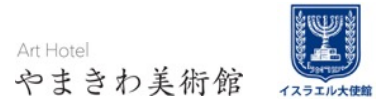
Opening Reception : Dec. 1st, Sat. 6:00pm-8:00pm (Artist Talk 7:00pm-)

Venue : WAITINGROOM (1F-2-14-2 Suido, Bunkyo-ku, Tokyo 112-0005, JAPAN)

Hosted by : Yamakiwa Art Hotel, WAITINGROOM

Cooperation/Support : Embassy of Israel in Japan

- Hours : Wed to Sat. 12-7pm and Sun. 12-5pm
- Closed on Mon., Tue. and National Holidays (We will open the gallery on Dec.23rd even if it's the Holiday)
- Artist will be present at the opening reception and will give an artist talk after 7pm.
- Admission Free

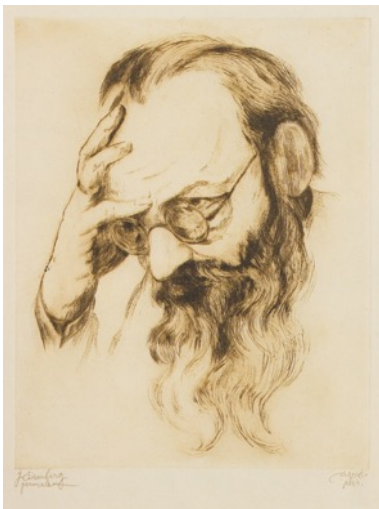


Yamakiwa Art Hotel (Tokamachi, Niigata), WAITINGROOM (Tokyo), and Embassy of Israel would like to announce an exhibition by Peleg Dishon (b.1979), *What makes things fly*, through December 1st to the 23rd, as a result presentation exhibition of an artist in residency program, "Japan - Israel AIR Project Yamakiwa / WAITINGROOM". The Israeli artist, Dishon, was selected from the 99 applications of the open call and are staying at the residency in Tokamachi, Niigata, for a month through October 27th to November 27th. This exhibition at WAITINGROOM (Tokyo) will consist of the works he creates during his stay in Niigata, being inspired by the environment and communicating with people there. This is Dishon's first visit to Japan.

Dishon uses paper as core material in his artwork over the years. He is influenced by the culture of traditional Jewish paper cutouts, meanwhile, he also finds a linkage between his work materials and artistic methods to Japanese crafts even if he has never been in Japan. This was the motivation for him to apply for this program. Therefore, he refers the book, "Jerusalem rebuilt: A Daydream" written in 1918 by Boris Schatz (1866-1932), the founder of Bezalel (the first academy for fine art in the Land of Israel in the 20th century), and proposes to create a kite by paper cutouts, as the motif that can approach both to Israel and Japan. In the book by Schatz, he describes Jerusalem one hundred years later in 2018 - our present time. Jerusalem rebuilt is a futuristic, Zionist utopia - a socialist, peace loving society that uses fine art to build the nation. Schatz proposes Japan, which he perceived as a nation basing its foreign trade on exporting fine art, as a model for his Utopian society. In his vision, the Zionist state will base its economic system on exporting fine art made by artists from Bezalel.

However, we are now in the midst of 2018, and Jerusalem is at the center of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, with the transfer of the US Embassy to the city and the 70th anniversary celebrations for the establishment of the State of Israel. As part of the violent clashes, kites, a symbol of freedom and hope become weapon, as Burning kites from Gaza sparks fire in Israel. This happened while Dishon was actually writing the proposal for this program.

In *What makes things fly*, Dishon is building a traditional Edo kite combining both traditional Japanese and Jewish motif and addresses the story of Jerusalem rebuilt as bringing those two cultures together.



portrait of Boris Schatz



reference image of Jewish paper cutouts



reference image of Jewish paper cutouts

Stories can make things fly.

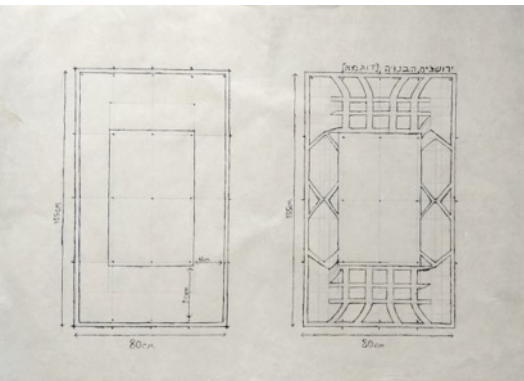
In Hebrew, the word kite is used as a metaphor for a person floating in the air - detached from reality. Jerusalem Rebuilt opens with a dream of Boris Schatz flying over his beloved Jerusalem 100 years in the future, that is, our days, as the book was written 100 years ago. Dishon imagines Schatz using a flying carpet, a gift of love from Queen Sheeba to King Solomon at the time the king built the first Jewish temple in Jerusalem. In this story, what makes the carpet fly is its colors.

Dishon also refers to an event called "Shirone Giant Kite Battle" in Niigata, originated in middle Edo Era when the river bank was built. In celebration of the river bank completion, the people of Shirone, located on the east bank of the river, flew a kite across the river and crashed it down on the west bank. In return, the angry people of the west bank crashed a kite on the east bank. Today, every year, two groups from each bank of the river flies kites at the same time trying to push the other group kite in to the river, what is known as "Shirone Giant Kite Battle". Kite that falls into the river loses not only their ability to fly but also their colors, washed out by the water in the river.

Both stories refer to colors as essential part of the flying, but it seems that what really makes those objects fly in our mind is the stories themselves.

During his stay in Yamakiwa (Niigata), Dishon received, as a gift, 100 sheets of 100 years old handmade paper from a local paper maker who had heard his story. This precious gift is going to be used by Dishon to create his traditionally handcrafted Edo kite and will bring together the traditional Jewish paper cutout and the art of Japanese kite decoration, according to Schatz's vision. By doing so, Dishon hopes to bring into his exhibition something from Schatz's Utopian plan. It may not solve the conflict between Israel and Palestine, but it will hopefully remind people of the power of imagination possessed by kites, helping them and hanging in the sky against harsh reality.

For this exhibition, Dishon will create a large scale installation which consist of a main big kite, paper pop up booklets describing ancient Jerusalem, and 10 small kites. The small Rukkaku kites - a very popular kite originated in Niigata will be created together with Yamakiwa local people as part of the residency program and will be made of a special Chinese Calligraphic cloth. Visitors in the exhibition are welcome to draw or write on the kites while what they have drawn will dry out and disappear, as if flying like the colors of the kites in the stories.



plan drawing of the big kite for the exhibition



reference image of the flying carpet

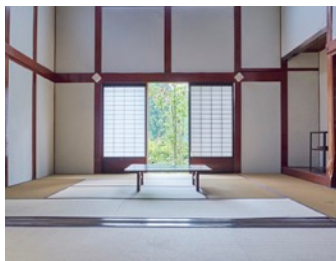
About Yamakiwa Art Hotel (Niigata)



Gallery



Studio Space



Studio and Accommodation space

Yamakiwa Art Hotel is an alternative art space run by artists, set in a traditional Japanese farmer's house in mountains near Niigata.

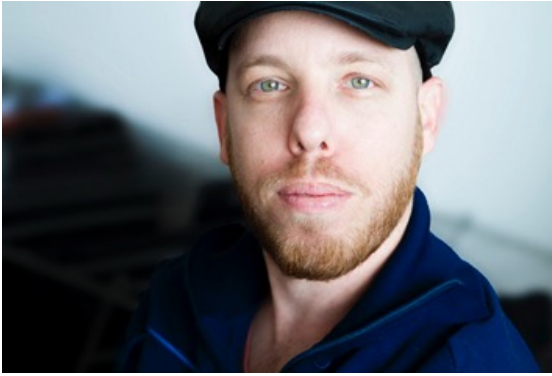
The gallery runs a residency programme for overseas artists and curators, to support their research and exhibition making which can be developed, according to their concepts and practices, into various other projects such as workshops, talk events, collaboration with Japanese artists or galleries in Tokyo.

Our aim is to establish close connection between art and life within the gallery's setting as a 'house', brought through the direct and indirect cooperation among creative practitioners, visitors and local residents.

Address : Kamiebiike, Matsunoyama, Toukamachi-shi, Niigata, JAPAN 942-1426
 TEL : +81-25-594-7667
 Website : <http://yamakiwagallery.com>
 Email : info@yamakiwagallery.com

We will organize the workshop event with Peleg Dishon at Yamakiwa Nov. 23rd (Fri.) 2-5pm
 Dishon will create the Rukkaku kite (originated in Niigata) with the resident people in the area. For more info, please contact Yamakiwa.

Peleg Dishon

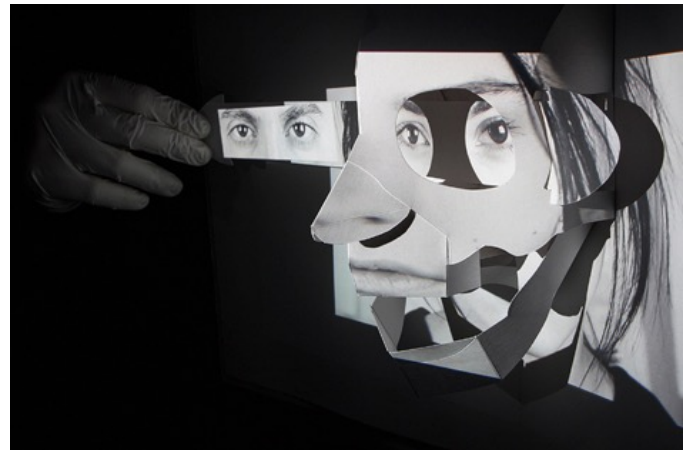


<http://pelegdishon.com>

Peleg Dishon, a multidisciplinary artist, (born in 1979) lives and works in Tel Aviv, Israel. Graduated with honors from HaMidrasha School of Art, Beit Berl College (2009). At the core of Dishon's work stands the relationship between material and light. Whether in paper work, photography or installation, Dishon's art work incorporates an interest in models, mapping, and the mechanics of movement. In many of his works paper is the lead actor in an imaginary world. The simple, flat and neutral paper changes different states: from a three-dimensional paper cutout to an almost transparent screen; from a light-maker to the source of a ghostly appearance of illusory cinema. Dishon creates these worlds with clashing means: labor intensive handwork, up to date office technology, projection and photography. Dishon has participated in numerous group and solo exhibitions throughout Israel and abroad including solo exhibitions in Circle 1 Gallery, Berlin (2014) and the Petach Tiqva Art Museum, Israel (2012). His works are in various of private and public collections among them are the Israel Museum Collection (Jerusalem), SIP Collection - Shpilman Institute for photography (Tel Aviv), Bank Ha'poalim Collection (Tel Aviv), Petch Tikva Museum Collection, START Collection - Serge Tiroche (Jaffa) and more.



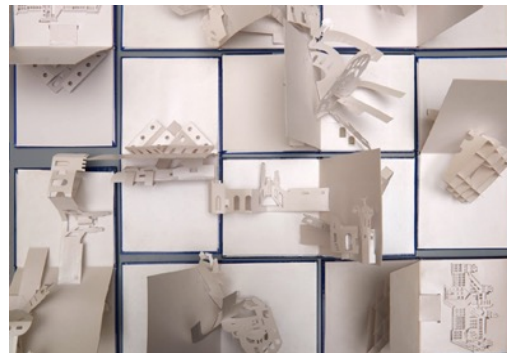
Yuki Ona is the ghost in the machine, 2016
phosphorescent paper, regulated opening mechanism
photo by Merav Maroodi



Five Death Scenes (details), 2017, video
photo by Merav Maroodi



Flood (details), 2012, folded paper cutout, Photo by Elad Sarig



Flood (pop up) details, 2014

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Peleg Dishon Solo Exhibition

What makes things fly

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Art Hotel
やまきわ美術館



***Inquiry about the artist and exhibition**

WAITINGROOM

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Website : <http://waitingroom.jp>