

Anna Hayat and Slava Pirsky CV



Israeli photographers Anna Hayat and Slava Pirsky craft their art using large-format black-and-white Polaroid photographs, taken within the studio and outside of it. These works explore trauma, self-sacrifice, and the fragility of life. Through their lens, they explore facets of Israeli society intertwined with existential challenges, born out of omnipresence of war and terror. People, landscapes, flora, and objects all find their place in their compositions. Departing from strict documentary representation, the artists construct metaphorical imagery that resonates with current events.



Anna Hayat and Slava Pirsky have been working together since 1999.

Anna was born in Russia, and immigrated to Israel in 1994. She studied photography in The Hadassah Academic College, Jerusalem.

Slava was born in Russia, and immigrated to Israel in 1991. For the last 30 years he works at archeological restoring the appearance of historical buildings and objects based on found remains.

Now both based in Modi'in-Maccabim-Re'ut, Israel

The works of Anna Hayat and Slava Pirsky are photographed in a large format on Polaroid films, from which are developed a negative and positive momentarily after the shot. The chemicals left on the face of the negative at the end of the development process, leave a map of stains and marks, which changes from one negative to the other. This way, the action of controlled photography clears way for the random stains, which add a picturesque volume to the piece. Although this process damages the crisp quality of the image itself, it preserves the magic of analog photography, and gives back some of the aura that was attached to it when it was first seen.

Exhibitions

2024 "Existence", Festival Kyotographie KG+, gallery G-77, Kyoto, Japan (solo)

2023 "Rifts, Joints, and Rifts", The Laurie M. Tisch Gallery, New-York, USA (solo)

2023 "Rifts, Joints, and Rifts", Festival Kyotographie KG+, gallery G-77, Kyoto, Japan (solo)

2022-23 "Rifts, Joints, and Rifts", Contemporary Art Center, Ramle – CACR, Ramle Museum, Israel (solo)

2022 "BAD+(contemporary art fair)", Bordeaux, France

2022 "In the Locked Garden", Lemon Frame art gallery, Tel Aviv, Israel

2014 Fresh Paint Limited Edition, Contemporary Art Fair, Tel Aviv, Israel

2014 Documentary Israeli Photography, companion exhibition to World Press Photo, Eretz Israel Museum, Tel-Aviv, Israel

2013 Fresh Paint 6, Contemporary Art Fair, Tel Aviv, Israel

2011 "Safe shore" City Gallery, Rishon-LeZion, Israel

2011 "Because our lives is..." Bet HaOmanut Gallery, Mevasseret Zion, Israel

2011 "Crust", Jerusalem Artists' House, Jerusalem, Israel (solo)

2010 "Girl and Simple Things", Ellicott City, Maryland, USA (solo)

2009/10 "People and Trees," Jerusalem Theater, Jerusalem, Israel (solo)

2009 "Fetish," Between Mango and Passion Fruit, Izostadia gallery, Petah Tikva, Israel

2009 "Polaroid," Design Gallery, Saint Petersburg, Russia

2009 Local Testimony, The Open Museum of Photography Tel-Hai, Israel

2008 Israeli Photojournalism, exhibition held each year along with the World Press Photo. Dizengof Center, Tel-Aviv, Israel

Awards

2023 AAP Magazine Awards. The Second Place Winners: The Series "Alex"

2014 First place in Landscapes category, Local Testimony

2008 First place in Portrait category, Local Testimony

2008 International Photography Association (IPA) Award

2003 Polaroid International Photography Award

1999 Award from the Ministry of Immigrant Absorption