



A Look into Human Pain

Zvi Lachman's exhibition *Crossing Line* deals with human suffering



By NERIA BARR

PHOTO: AVRAHAM HAY

Zvi Lachman's new exhibition, *Crossing Line* (הקו החוצה), is now showing at the Rothschild Fine Art Gallery in Tel Aviv. This exhibition looks deeply into human pain, suffering, and the small moments of hope that keep us going, even in terrible times.

At the center of the exhibition is a series of works called *Tablets* (לוחות). This series of wax reliefs includes three works: "Crossing Line," "Shelter" (מחבוא), and "Howl" (יללה). These works deal with the sadness and fear brought by the events of October 7. Lachman says they show his feelings and questions about this tragic time.

The piece "Crossing Line" is based on an old painting, "The Massacre of the Innocents" (טבח החפים מפשע), by painter Nicolas Poussin. It shows a mother trying to save her child in a war. Lachman's art shows the pain and chaos of violence. The "crossing line" in the artwork is the breaking point between life and death.

"Shelter" shows a mother holding her child. The mother's hug is both loving and strong. It deals with a mother's need to keep her child safe, especially in terrible times such as war. This artwork deals with the power of motherly love and the human instinct for survival.

"Howl" is about grief and loss. It is inspired by "The Roaring Lion" (האריה הרושע), an iconic sculpture by Abraham Melnikov. In Lachman's work, the lion's roar becomes a cry of pain. It expresses deep sadness and the suffering of war.

Other important works

Another key piece in the exhibition is "Ecce Homo" (Behold the Man). The name references the suffering of Jesus as well as Primo Levi's book, *If This Is a Man*. This is a bronze sculpture that shows the

struggle to stay human after suffering violence. Lachman says this work is about rising from the ashes after the October 7 attacks.

The exhibition also includes Lachman's personal war journal titled *Broken Time*. The journal has drawings of people, landscapes, and animals. These drawings show his feelings of fear, sadness, and uncertainties of living through such chaos.

Lachman also created bronze sculptures titled "Passion" (פסיון), "Survival" (הישרדות), and "Collapse" (קריסה). These are inspired by "The Parable of the Blind" (משל העיוורים), a painting by Pieter Bruegel the Elder. The sculptures look at the cycle of human suffering and the struggle to break free from it. They show both creation and destruction.

Self-portrait with Herzl

Another interesting piece is "Self-Portrait with Theodor Herzl." In this artwork, Lachman places himself next to Herzl, the father of modern Zionism. This piece asks questions about identity and history. It shows the connection between the past and the present.

A message of hope

Yaniv Shapira, the curator of the exhibition, says Lachman's art uses a "new language" to express both the present and the past. The exhibition invites people to think about pain, healing, and hope. *Crossing Line* is more than art; it is a way to understand human feelings and history. Lachman's work reminds us to think, grieve, and find the power to move forward.

Zvi Lachman, *Crossing Line*, Rothschild Fine Art Gallery, 2 Maor Moshe St., Tel Aviv. For opening hours and more details, visit www.rgfineart.com

Dictionary

Exhibition	אגנבישן	תערוכה
Suffering	ספרינג	סבל
Series	סיריס	סדרה
Wax	ואקס	שעווה
Reliefs	רליפו	תבליטים
Survival	סרביבל	הישרדות
Grief	גריף	יגון, אבל
Sculpture	סקלפצ'ר	פסל
Expresses	אקספרס	מבטאת
Behold	בהולד	ראה
References	רפרנס	מאזכר
Struggle	סטרנגל	מאבק
Ashes	אשו	אפר
Landscapes	לנדסקיפו	נופים
Uncertainties	אנסרטנטיז	אי-וודאות
Destruction	דסטרוקשן	הרס, חורבן
Self	סלף	עצמי
Identity	אידנטטי	זהות
Curator	קיוורטר	אוצר
Healing	הילינג	ריפוי