



Press Release London

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## BEZALEL *LEGACY INNOVATION INSPIRATION*

-- Sotheby's London To Showcase Work by Graduates and Students of Bezalel Academy of Arts and Design Jerusalem in a Selling Exhibition in Conjunction with Janice Blackburn --

-- 5-11 May, 2010 --



Edit Yemini, *Untitled*, porcelain and plastic

SOTHEBY'S LONDON is delighted to announce its collaboration with Bezalel Academy of Arts and Design Jerusalem on their first ever exhibition in the UK, in conjunction with Janice Blackburn. From **Thursday, 5 May to Wednesday, 11 May, 2011**, Sotheby's will host a selling exhibition of work by recent graduates and students from the academy in Jerusalem. Ceramics and glass, photography, industrial design and fashion will feature in Sotheby's New Bond Street galleries.

'Bezalel – Legacy Innovation Inspiration' offers a real insight into the multi-layered types of design that have earned Bezalel its much deserved reputation as one of the world's most outstanding arts institutions, which visitors to the exhibition in Sotheby's East Gallery will be able to see and enjoy for themselves.

Curator Janice Blackburn visited Israel last year to see Ron Arad's spectacular new Design Museum in Holon and took the opportunity to meet designers and explore studios and galleries. After a day at Bezalel in Jerusalem, looking at student work and talking to President Professor Arnon Zuckerman, she felt motivated to bring a selection of the best of past and present student's work to London. Janice regards the high level and diversity of the work to be exceptional, sparkling and with original thought and artistic vision.

Professor Arnon Zuckerman, President of the Bezalel Academy of Arts and Design Jerusalem, said: *"The Bezalel Academy is thrilled and privileged to be welcomed by Sotheby's in London to display a selection of student and graduate work. The various pieces give just a taste of the wide range of disciplines that Bezalel offers, whilst successfully conveying the innovation, inspiration, and talent nurtured within our student body both currently and steadily throughout the past century. This exciting collaboration with Sotheby's befits our reputation as a world leading academy of art, design and architecture, where creativity, quality and excellence are the very essence of our 105 year long history."*

#### **Works to be exhibited include:**

Together with works in ceramics, glass and industrial design, a photography project on the port town of Ashdod will feature, as well as the fashion project 'Red but not Tapping', an experimental shoe project. In addition, Ami Drach and Dov Ganchrow, 1991 and 1992 graduates who work from a studio in Jaffa, are showing examples of titanium implants used in medical surgery - as well as their unique hot plate. Tal Gur graduated in 1996, is a senior lecturer at Bezalel and will be exhibiting two chairs and some stunning lighting. Ezri Tarazi, who graduated in 1989, is showing a selection of witty but practical furniture including his marvellous Baghdad Table.

Several Bezalel graduates go on to post graduate degrees at London's Royal College of Art and they too will be represented. David Amar, winner of the 2007 Clore Foundation Scholarship to the RCA, has designed the exhibition at Sotheby's, and will also be an exhibitor, and the current holder of the award, ceramicist Zemer Peled. Design duo Shay Alkalay and Yael Mer ('Raw Edges') go from strength to strength, designing interiors for the Stella McCartney fashion stores all over the world. They will be exhibiting a wall piece combining technology and the hand made.

## Bezalel Academy of Arts and Design Jerusalem

Founded in 1906, Bezalel Academy quickly established an impressive international reputation in art and design which increased when, prior to the Second World War, German refugees settled in Israel and joined the faculty. They endowed Bezalel with a strong Bauhaus ethos and discipline, having taught at the renowned Bauhaus School until it was closed down by the Nazis. This rich legacy and spirit of creative integrity has remained a shining influence for generations of students who continue the tradition without resting on past achievements.

Today Bezalel Academy has a broad and multifaceted scope of professional and artistic activities involving pioneering state-of-the-art design as well as traditional techniques of craftsmanship. It is the source of significant creativity with an international network of art and design excellence. Bezalel nurtures originality and creative talent, which contributes hugely to the on-going cultural identity of Israel.



Tal Gur, Mesh Chair, metal and plastic



Ori Sonnenschein, Solskin peels, dried citrus peels



Sergei Litvinov, Team, printed on luster paper



Noa Hagiladi, 'This is my baby' he used to say... , glass



Ami Drach and Dov Ganchrow, Hotplate, ceramic and copper



'Ashdod photography project': Lior Goldrat, Norway line



David Amar, 'Raymond', reclaimed wood and cast aluminum image



Ezri Tarazi, Baghdad table, extruded aluminum profiles



Yael Mer and Shay Alkalay, Screen installation, wood and computer screens



Shunit Zangi-Goman, Urban Shields

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