

Ventilator

Exhibition: **Judith Kakon**

The Untold Compromise

Reception: Thursday, January 3rd, 7:30-11pm | Rothschild Center, 11th Fl. 22 Rothschild Boulevard Tel-Aviv, IL

Ventilator Gallery is delighted to announce the opening of *The Untold Compromise*, Judith Kakon's debut solo exhibition in Tel-Aviv.

WeWork launched its first shared workspace in New York in 2010, leasing office spaces to startups on the basis of flexible membership plans. Today, WeWork owns hundreds of spaces across twenty two countries and manages more than one million square meters of real estate. Following WeWork's success, more companies cropped up worldwide, offering a broad range of spaces and membership deals to their customers. One could argue that WeWork anticipated an entire discourse on simultaneity: the global phenomenon they initiated allowed entrepreneurs to book office spaces in multiple cities at any given time. Simultaneity, or as Carl Gustav Jung coined it *Synchronicity*, is a term that refers to events connected by both causality and meaning. Today, the term "simultaneity" has become widely used in Internet terminology, in relation to online communication, movement, preservation, aggregation, modularity and liquidity - all of which form the undercurrent of Judith Kakon's presented works.

Judith Kakon decided to book a meeting room for half a day from a coworking office company on Rothschild Boulevard. Kakon's decision sets up both the spatial and durational parameters for her exhibition, *The Untold Compromise*.

After accessing the 11th floor of this skyscraper, the visitor will enter *The Untold Compromise* facing West. At nighttime, the view from the large translucent glass walls is hazy and dark. From such a distance, one can hardly see the nearby Mediterranean Sea. Yet a sense of liquidity sweeps through the different works that Judith Kakon chose to momentarily display in the meeting room.

Considered to be one of the first long shelf life products, the Medjool is a sun-dried date; a fruit from which most liquids have naturally evaporated. In contrast, *Le Flacon* (the flask) was invented to conserve valuable liquids and prevent their deterioration upon contact with the air. Judith Kakon's "date-flacons" mimic old casting and glassblowing techniques that go back to The Roman Empire. Made out of glass, her Medjools are empty vessels charged with undefined potential: that of being filled with liquids and meaning.

Disparate Images is a photographic series that presents archetype images of wrecked umbrellas. Each time this mass-produced modular shelter is dismantled by the wind, its disposal qualities are reaffirmed. As such, the umbrella exemplifies a global consumer product that becomes unique only once it breaks. Similarly in Judith Kakon's works, what seems to be identical is actually in a state of a constant flux, as Kakon avoids repeating the same image twice.

Judith Kakon (1988, Basel, CH) lives and works in Basel. She received her MFA from Bard College, The Milton Avery School of The Arts, Annandale-on-Hudson, NY (2016) and her BFA from Bezalel Academy of Arts and Design, Jerusalem, IL (2013). Her first exhibitions were shown at venues such as Art Basel, Basel, CH (2018); Kunsthau L6, Freiburg, DE (2017); Kunsthalle Basel, Basel, CH (2017); Instituto Svizzero di Roma, Rome, IT (2016); Taylor Macklin, Zurich, CH (2015); Kunsthau Glarus, Glarus, CH (2015); Kunsthau Baselland, Muttentz, CH (2014); Herzliya Museum of Contemporary Art, Herzliya, IL (2014); MoBY Bat Yam Museums, Bat Yam, IL (2013) among others. Judith Kakon is a recipient of Kiefer Hablitzel Prize among other prizes, awards, residencies and scholarships.

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Date Series (Medjool), 2017

Mold-blown glass
Variable dimensions
50 uniques

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Disparate images, 2018

Inkjet prints
33 x 48.3 cm
15 out of 22

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Extract of *Alibaba Mails*, 2017

Artist book
in collaboration with The Kingsboro Press, LA/NY
12 copies

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Ghost Tones, 2017

HD Video, sound, 18 min

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Alviero Martini, Voyages, 2017

Jeans, Acrylic glass
90 x 60 x 3 cm

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You can catch Maria on the stairs, 2018

Powder-coated aluminum
37,5 – 300 × 52 × 46 cm