

Ventilator

Exhibition: **Ishai Shapira Kalter**

ן' (Yod Alef)

Reception: Thursday, April 19th, 1pm | Dates: April 19th – April 22nd | POPPOSITIONS Off-fair 7th edition

Address: Former Atelier Coppens, Place du Nouveau Marché aux Grains 22-23, Nieuwe Graanmarkt - 1000 Brussels, Belgium

Ventilator is pleased to announce its participation in POPPOSITIONS Off-fair 7th edition. This year, the fair will take place at the former Atelier Coppens in Brussels. For Ventilator, a nomadic exhibition space founded in Tel Aviv, it will be the first project to be fulfilled in Europe. In this iteration, Ishai Shapira Kalter will present *ן' (Yod Alef)*, a segment that follows-up on the artist's previous exhibition *ן' (Yod)*, first shown in the fall of 2017 at RawArt Gallery, Tel Aviv (curated by Leah Abir).

Through time, many industries have successfully developed innovating shading solutions to cope with the sun's scorching UV radiation. Hence, the idea of artificial shading has long ago been materialized. By contrast, the sun is the only environmental resource that cannot be capitalized; therefore reminding us that all life is equal in essence. But beyond realms of matter and value, the solar cycle has shaped our perception of temporality and futurity; for it determines our day-to-day reality by setting a pure measure of time. The sun, which is finite, may be considered as the most appropriate conceptualization for imagining, understanding and reasoning contemporaneity.

In *ן' (Yod Alef)*, Ishai Shapira Kalter resorts to solar conditions as an allegory for a society's disposition and temper, but also as a mere substance involved in creating a state of mind that is apt for painting. He encapsulates energy radiated from the sun and fixes it into visible matter. *Plates: Modules No. 18-25* (2018) are eight industrial diptych paintings that were affected by long exposures to the Israeli sun. Their unique pigments' preparation process involves the treatment of materials that are usually used for shading solutions, sealing structural apertures, and disinfecting corporeal lesions. *Plates: Modules No. 18-25* (2018) are assembled from two welded galvanized steel plates connected by a rectangular tube that functions as a practical hanging apparatus. One of the two panels depicts a simple, controlled, geometrical, non-figurative gesture. It was conceived at Shapira Kalter's underground studio – a public bunker in the heart of Tel Aviv; whereas, for the second panel of the diptych, the image was processed outdoors through a long duration of time. There, the marks are unpredictable, unexpected and unintentional.

Plates: Modules No. 18-25 (2018) are hybrids of fabric and construction materials, surfaces and pigments, stretchers and hanging apparatus which bear elements from organic artificiality and conventions of post-war painting.

Ishai Shapira Kalter (b. 1986, Ness-Ziona, Israel) lives and works in Tel Aviv. He received his MFA from Hunter College, New York, NY (2017) and his BFA from Bezalel Academy of Arts and Design, Jerusalem, IL (2013), in the framework of which he also studied at The Slade School of Fine Arts, London, UK (2011). His first exhibitions and projects were hosted by venues such as POPPOSITIONS Off-Fair, Brussels, BE (2018); India Art Fair, New Delhi, IN (2018); Art Market Budapest, Budapest, HU (2017); Veinti4/Siete Galería, San José, CR (2017); YARAT Studios, Baku, AZ (2016); West Space, Melbourne, AU (2015); RawArt Gallery, Tel Aviv, IL (2015); The Helena Rubinstein Pavilion for Contemporary Art, Tel Aviv, IL (2014); MoBY Bat Yam Museums, Bat Yam, IL (2013) among others. He received several fellowships, grants and scholarships including The Jean and Albert Nerken Scholarship Fund, The Rabinovich Foundation Grant and the Israel Lottery Council for Culture and Arts Grant.

Ishai Shapira Kalter is the founder of **Ventilator**