

At Memory's Edge

Artist Bios – Press Release

Designer, artist, and truth-teller, **Ashley M. Freeby** (b. 1986) uses natural materials, poetic language and minimalism to explore site, monuments, and data as a way of investigating the essence of memory and trauma. Unbound by medium, she allows her work to be centered by research, and truthful and uncensored narratives. Her recent project, *(un)sterile soil*, is a virtual installation of content where she highlights her work from 2016 to 2020, and collaborates with seven writers or artists to create a website over seven installments. *(un)sterile soil*, like much of Freeby's work, is about the death and memory of Black bodies killed by law enforcement. She explores sites from above to below the surface to shift perspective and retain the memory for those lives lost.

Freeby is a graduate of the School of the Art Institute of Chicago, currently resides in Allentown, Pennsylvania, and is the Communications Director and Head Designer for Ox-Bow School of Art & Artists' Residency.

To learn more about the artist's work visit www.ashleyfreeby.com and www.unsterilesoil.online.

Efrat Hakimi (b. 1982, Tel Aviv, Israel) is a multidisciplinary artist and educator based in Central New York and Tel Aviv. Hakimi works across technologies and crafts. In her works, she studies objects, language, and sites to unpack the narratives and forces that shape them. Hakimi is the recipient of the Lauren and Mitchell Presser Photography Award for a Young Israeli Artist from the Tel Aviv Museum of Art, 2020, and the Katz International Photography Award, 2018. She has exhibited at the Tel Aviv Museum of Art, Tel Aviv, Hyde Park Art Center, Chicago; Roots & Culture, Chicago; 6018 North, Chicago; Hayarkon 19 Gallery, Tel Aviv; Mana Contemporary, Chicago; 062 Gallery, Chicago; Rosenfeld Gallery, Tel Aviv. Hakimi received her MFA from the School of the Art Institute of Chicago (2019), studied Fine Art at HaMidrasha-Faculty of the Arts, Beit Berl (2016), and holds a BSc. from Ben-Gurion University, Be'er Sheva, Israel (2010).

Iris Helena (b. 1987, João Pessoa – Paraíba, Brazil) is a Brasília-based multidisciplinary artist with a degree in Visual Arts from the Federal University of Paraíba, and a Master's in Contemporary Poetics from the University of Brasília, where she is currently completing a Doctorate in Visual Arts. Helena's research is characterized by critical, philosophical, aesthetic, and poetic investigations of the urban landscape from a dialogic approach between the image of the city and the surfaces/supports chosen to materialize it. In her practice, precarious and ordinary materials are often removed from everyday consumption to enable the (re)construction of memory linked to risk, instability and, above all, the desire for erasure. Helena is also a member of the *VAGA-MUNDO artistic research group: nomadic poetics* linked to the University of

Brasília. The Group conducts residencies and expeditions reflecting on geopoetics and landscape poetics. She is represented by Portas Vilaseca Gallery (Rio de Janeiro – Brazil).

Lihl Turjeman (b. 1985, Tel Aviv, Israel) lives and works in Tel Aviv and Turin. She received her MFA from Bezalel Academy of Art in Jerusalem. In 2015, she was awarded the Israeli Ministry of Culture Award for Young Artists. Her large-scale painting installations are characterized by a monochromatic nature and revolve around space in its multiple forms and meanings. Her works emphasize an extreme duality, moving freely between an epic approach and a microscopic concentration on details that are drawn by ‘mapping’ and scratching the surface. Turjeman’s practice can be characterized as action painting, in which she performs physical actions on the surface of the canvas. Through smearing, rubbing, peeling, staining, and gluing, she hardens the fabric, while emphasizing its folds and textures. The canvas functions as a wall, a territory, or a map that is yet to be drawn. Turjeman is a former resident of Cité Internationale des Arts in Paris; Artport TLV; Fondazione Spinola Banna in Italy; Nars Foundation; and ISCP in Brooklyn, NY. In the past decade, she has exhibited at The Israel Museum in Jerusalem, the Tel Aviv Museum of Art, CCA TLV, Petach-Tikva Museum of Contemporary Art, and the Haifa Museum of Art, among others. Her works may be found in public and private collections in Israel, Europe, and the United States. Turjeman is represented by Sommer Contemporary Art, Tel Aviv/Zurich, and Ncontemporary, Milan/London.

Curator Bio

Luna Goldberg is a Miami-based curator, and currently serves as the education manager at the Jewish Museum of Florida–FIU and The Wolfsonian–FIU. Goldberg’s research focuses on global contemporary art and identity politics with an emphasis on Israeli art. She is the recipient of a WaveMaker Grant, Ellie Creator Award, and Fulbright Fellowship to Israel. Goldberg has curated exhibitions and programs in partnership with the Israeli Pavilion at the Venice Biennale, Detroit Art Week, and the Sullivan Galleries. She has held positions at the Museum at Eldridge Street, the Norton Museum of Art, and the Eric Carle Museum of Picture Book Art. Her writing has appeared in national and international publications including *Kunstlicht: Journal for Art, Visual Culture & Architecture*, *Migration Processes and Artistic Practices in Wartime: From the Twentieth Century to the Present*, and *Sigalit Landau: Salt Years*. Goldberg’s latest co-edited volume, *Imagined Israel(s): Projections of the Jewish State in the Arts*, is slated for publication in 2022.