

IDO ABRAMSOHN Objects: A Two-Part Documentary

January 7 - 31, 2015

Gallery hours: Tuesday - Saturday, 12 - 6 pm

Opening Reception | January 7<sup>th</sup> | 6-8 pm



Baxter St at CCNY is pleased to present a solo exhibition in photography by Ido Abramsohn, *Objects: A Two-Part Documentary*. Abramsohn juxtaposes two types of objects, photographed formally as still lifes in a studio setting: souvenirs sold to tourists in Israel, and items from a collection created by the Intelligence and Terrorism Information Center, a research center affiliated with the Israeli Army.

The souvenirs include trinkets that would appeal to Jewish tourists visiting Israel and are sold as a part of the 'authentic' Israeli experience. They contain various references to common symbols, ranging from biblical to military and patriotic references.

The items photographed from the Intelligence and Terrorism Information Center represent possessions said to have been confiscated from Palestinians by the Israeli Army. These items range from objects that could be used as weapons to things that are not dangerous but confiscated as punishment.

When taken out of their original context and juxtaposed, the two series of representations create a new, more open-ended narrative. The ambiguity that results destabilizes automatic responses and assumptions, but, at the same time, demonstrates how commodification can reduce complex narratives into easily digestible and misleading imagery.

Born and raised in Jerusalem, Ido Abramsohn currently lives and works in NYC. He received his BA in photography with honors from Hadassah Academic College in Jerusalem. His work has been exhibited in museums and galleries around the world, including Haifa Museum of Art (Haifa, Israel), Bronx Museum of Art (New York, NY), Museum on the Seam (Jerusalem, Israel), Site Specific Art Fair (Tel Aviv, Israel), and Fresh Paint Contemporary Art Fair (Tel Aviv, Israel). He has been the recipient of Sotheby's Under the Hammer Award for emerging artists and of the America-Israel Cultural Foundation Grant and participated in the Bronx Museum's Artists in the Market Place residency.

The exhibition is the first in a series of four solo exhibitions by 2014 winners of Baxter St at CCNY's Workspace Residency, supported by the Jerome Foundation, the New York State Council on the Arts, the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs, and the Foundation for Contemporary Arts, and will continue through January 31.

Each year, Baxter St at CCNY selects four emerging photographers living in New York City for the Workspace Residency Program, which offers them analog and digital workspace at the International Center of Photography, access to the Baxter St at CCNY community and programs, and solo exhibitions at Baxter St.

For additional information please visit baxterst.org or email baxterst@cameraclubny.org.