

“To be in the unknown in order to know”: Interview with Hadar Mitz

I.) What comes to mind when you hear the expression “crossing the threshold”?

I think art is crossing the borders, life is crossing the borders. It is trying to touch what you cannot touch and trying to be on both sides. I think crossing the threshold is a life journey. And art is a tool to experience it. All of us humans have to cross this threshold in order to develop.

II.) What do you think about the phenomenon of fear?

I think the experience of fear is a part of being a creator. I want to realize fear as something small and not give it a really big place. I think it is an invitation to see which state I need to cross. If there is fear, so there is something interesting there. It is not my comfort zone. So maybe I needed to go in the direction what frightened me. And maybe it will surprise me, because fear and crossing the threshold it is the same road I think. According to Marina Abramovic I believe that fear is a gate.

III.) Is there any experience in your life, which opens you to your art practice?

I need to be inside in order to understand. I need to feel first. My method is to be in the unknown in order to know... I was collecting a lot of National Geographic magazines and I started to cut out my own internal-imaginary world. I gave to everything a new order. In my way of cataloging pictures, I give my ideas about the world a new structure. In this microcosmic world, I am the researcher but then in order really to be in this world I am also researching myself.

IV.) Is there a special precondition or preparation for arriving at your artistic process?

There is no action required, only going out and noticing what interests me the most. Art itself is my preparation. I want to be in this place that I do not understand. I am not searching for symbols and I am not searching for logic. But I know that there is something touching me. You know, it is like witchcraft. There is no logic. There is this magic which happens.

V.) Do you know the feeling of something like a rift within ourselves, or us and the world, and is your art have a special way to deal with this? Yeah. I long for that. (Laughing). My art should reach this level. It should be something not only to look at in a Gallery. I want, that it will be a connection tool. I still do not know how, but I am on my way.

VI.) How can we strengthen the human quality of being connected with the world through art?

I feel that what I try to develop is observation. And when I see something which touches me, I do not need answers. I just need to observe it. And during the observation I experience different types of time, maybe a more expanded one, maybe eternity and temporality together, I do not know. If I am interested in something and I am really investigating... like a little child.