

# locustprojects

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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

### Locust Projects presents

#### MAIN GALLERY:

Tal Amitai-Lavi, Tal Frank:  
*Homeline*

#### Exhibition Dates:

June 11-August 7, 2021

#### Related Programs:

##### OPENING RECEPTION

Thursday, June 10

6-8pm; masks and social  
distancing required

##### HYBRID ROUNDTABLE:

*Homeline*: Tal Amitai-Lavi  
and Tal Frank in conversation  
moderated by curator Tami  
Katz-Freiman + Q&A  
Friday, June 11  
7pm; in-person and [virtual](#)

##### Public Hours:

Wednesday to Saturday  
11am – 5pm

##### APPOINTMENTS OPTIONAL

[Link to make appointments](#)

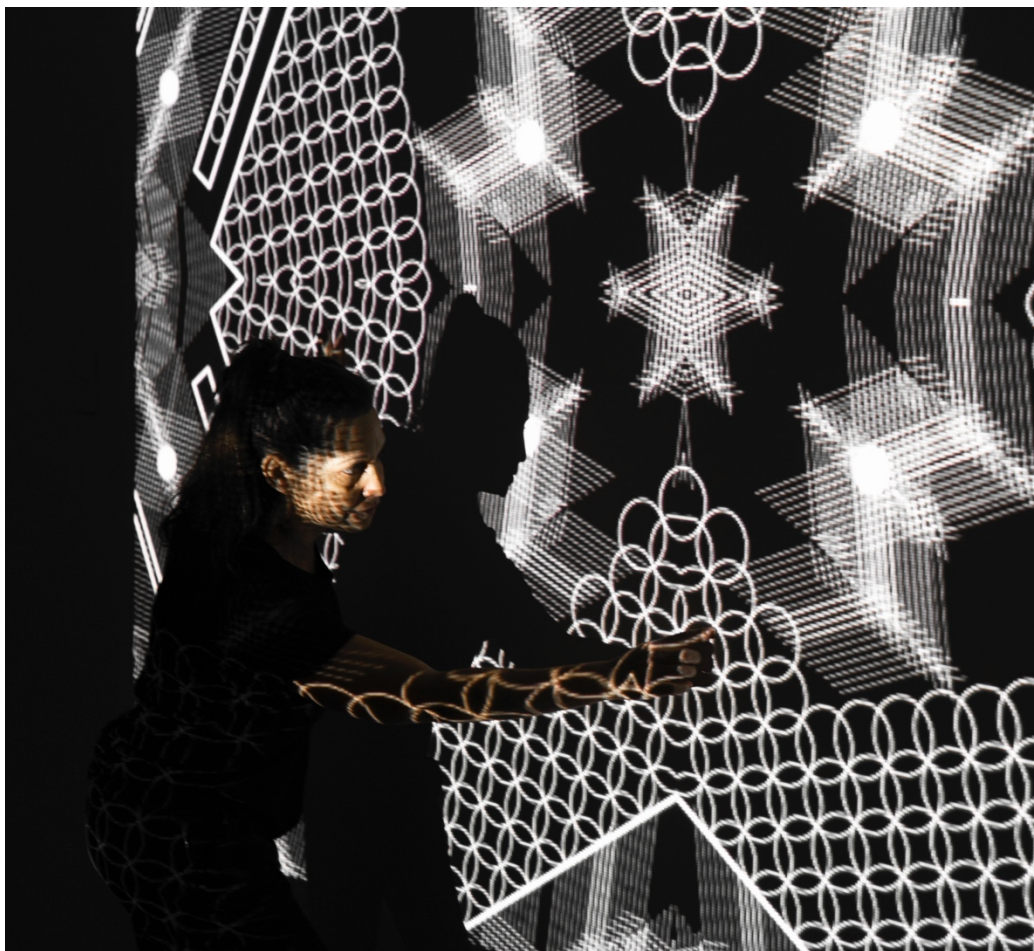
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##### Press kit and images:

[Available here](#)

## LOCUST PROJECTS PRESENTS NEW INSTALLATION BY TAL AMITAI-LAVI AND TAL FRANK On view June 11-August 7, 2021



Tal Frank in studio testing video projections for the carpet work in *Homeline*. Photography by Zony Maya.

[Miami, FL] Locust Projects presents *Homeline*, a new site-specific installation by Israel-based artist Tal Amitai-Lavi and Mexico City-based artist Tal Frank. The exhibition opens to the public with a reception on Thursday, June 10 from 6-8pm, and is on view through August 7 from 11am-5pm by appointment. Admission is free.

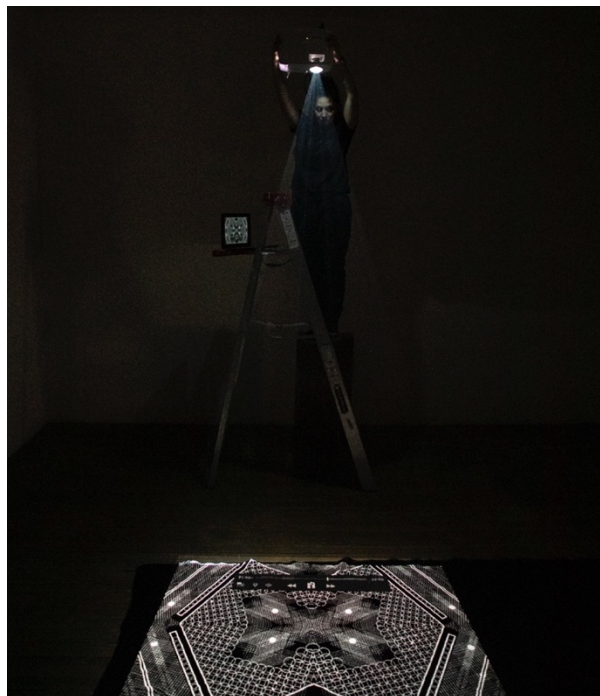
*Homeline* is inspired by the architectural structures of Locust Projects' Main Gallery. The installation is composed of three domestic elements created out of unexpectedly weightless materials, including light and delicately-installed nylon strings- a window that separates the space, a projected carpet, and a slowly flowing curtain. These

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Above: Tal Amitai-Lavi in studio working on the window for *Homeline*. Photography by Oded Antman.



Above: Tal Frank in studio testing video projections for the carpet work in *Homeline*. Photography by Zony Maya.

**Animation:** Arie Willem de Jongh

**Photography featured on storefront:** Zony Maya

**Tal Amitai-Lavi and Tal Frank:** *Homeline* is made possible, in part, by support from Artis, [www.artis.art](http://www.artis.art). Tal Amitai-Lavi's work in *Homeline* is made possible, in part, by support from the Ministry of Culture, Foundation for Independent Artists, Israel. This project was selected as part of Locust Projects' Main Gallery Open Call by panelists

objects generate a succinct, close-knit architectural-sculptural setting in black and white. The installation explores reflections, inversions, illusions, and space disruptions and creates an illusionistic, dreamlike environment. Viewers are confronted by their perception and senses, entering a world whose foundations are fragile, in which life-sized architectural structures have lost their functionality and expected physicality.

The work is further informed by, and reflects upon, the situation faced by the world in the wake of the global COVID-19 pandemic, as everyone found themselves locked inside their homes. The exhibition explores this feeling of a disorienting altered reality within a domestic setting that is both familiar and unsettling.

Upon entering the space, viewers will see a window made of nylon strings installed within a wall, reminiscent of Marcel Duchamp's *Fresh Widow* and serving as a metaphor for the barrier between the visible and the invisible, reality and illusion.

A video animation of an ornamental carpet will be projected directly on the gallery's floor, utilizing 3D software to create the illusion of realistic material and movement as the projected image moves continuously across the flat, still surface of the floor. The constantly-moving pattern of the carpet is inspired by the architecture of Locust Projects' Main Gallery space, each shape in motion corresponding to a wall, a doorway, or a column.

In the back of the space, a large-scale curtain made through obsessive, meticulous work using thousands of thin, transparent nylon strings is illuminated with beams of light to create an illusion of motion even while the strings hang still.

The visitor within the installation experiences a ghostly, contemplative atmosphere surrounded by translucent, light, airy material. Domestic, familiar objects have volume without weight, their expected physical forms, or their original functionality, exploring concepts of materiality and conceptuality.

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*Ivan Toth Depeña, multidisciplinary artist and Locust Projects alum (2016); Kori Newkirk, painter, multimedia artist, and Locust Projects alum (2005); and Elizabeth Withstandley, video installation artist and co-founder of Locust Projects.*

## RELATED PROGRAMS

### *Homeline*

Hybrid Roundtable: Tal Amitai-Lavi and Tal Frank. Moderated by Tami Katz-Freiman

Friday, June 11, 7pm

Attend live at Locust Projects or [register on Zoom](#) now to join virtually

Join us live at Locust Projects for a screening of a conversation between multidisciplinary visual artists **Tal Amitai-Lavi** and **Tal Frank**, moderated by curator **Tami-Katz Freiman**, followed by an in-person Q&A with the artists.

They will discuss their current exhibition, *Homeline*, (on view at Locust Projects through August 7), in the context of their previous work, touching on their mutual interest in material simulation, optical illusions, architectural elements, labor intensive practice, and immersive experiences. *Homeline*, which uses weightless materials including light and nylon strings to create domestic elements such as a window, a carpet, and a curtain, will be explored from a post-pandemic perspective.

The hybrid format of this program bridges Israel, Mexico, and Miami, allowing the artists and curator to record a conversation across three countries and share it with in-person audiences at Locust Projects, as well as virtually across the world.

Masks and social distancing required at Locust Projects.

## ABOUT TAMI KATZ-FREIMAN

[Tami Katz-Freiman](#) is an art historian, curator and critic, based in Miami, Florida, where she works as an independent curator of contemporary art. From 2005-2010 she was the Chief Curator of the HMA (Haifa Museum of Art) in Israel. She started her curatorial practice in 1992 and over the years she has curated numerous group and solo exhibitions in prominent museums in Israel and the US, where she lived and worked also between 1994 and 1999. In the years 2008-2010 she was teaching Feminism and Contemporary Art at the Department of Art History at the Tel Aviv University. In addition to essays for catalogues and books published in conjunction with the exhibitions she has curated, Katz-Freiman has written numerous articles, essays, and reviews addressing various issues in contemporary art. In 2012 she curated: Critical Mass: Contemporary Art from India for the new wing of the Tel Aviv Museum of Art and UNNATURAL for the Bass Museum of Art, Miami Beach. She is part of the professional advisory committee for Miami-Dade County's Art in Public Places program. In 2017 she curated the Israeli Pavilion in the 57th Venice Biennale.

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## ABOUT THE ARTISTS

### TAL AMITAI-LAVI



Tal Amitai-Lavi (born in Israel, 1969) is a multidisciplinary artist engaging in painting, drawing, sculpting and installation work. She graduated cum laude from the Hamidrsha- Faculty of Arts, Beit Berl College in 1994, and received her B.A. (cum laude) from the Multidisciplinary Program of the Arts, Tel Aviv University in 2001. She has an MFA in Creative Arts from the University of Haifa (2010).

Selected solo exhibitions include: “Green on the Outside Red on the Inside” (Basis Gallery, Herzliya, 2017); “Light Construction” (Chelouche Gallery, Tel Aviv, 2014); “(temporary) Happiness” (Herzliya Museum of Contemporary Art, 2004) ; “Aleph for Ohel [tent] / Bet for Bayit [house]” (Noga Gallery, Tel Aviv, 2001); “We are a Bound Family” (The Kibbutz Art Galery, Tel Aviv, 1996). Select group exhibitions include:

The Israel Museum, Jerusalem; Tel Aviv museum; Haifa Museum; Petah-Tikva museum; Herzliya Museum of Contemporary Art. She has also shown her work in prominent venues abroad in Germany, New York, London, Belgium.

In 2016, she was selected to be a finalist in “Arte Laguna Prize”, Arsenale, Venice and in September 2017 she participated in Nakanojo Biennale for contemporary art, Japan. In 2018 Tal Amitia-Lavi was invited to be an artist in residence at The Fountainhead Residency, Miami. Her residency was supported by Artis. Tal Amitai-Lavi has received a grant from the Ministry of Culture, Foundation for Independent Artists, Israel, that partially supported *Homeline*.

Amitai-Lavi’s work straddles the boundary between two-dimensional and three-dimensional. It is characterized by love of craftsmanship, laborious processes, minimalism, sensitivity to details and an exploration of unusual materials. In her recent works, Tal Amitai-Lavi shows images that mark out elusive spaces of emptiness and fullness. Through a variety of methods and different materials such as sewing thread, soda powder, kinetic sand, suction cups, nylon strings etc., she creates worlds whose foundations are fragile and disintegrating. These worlds seemingly materialize from concrete images yet they create a disturbing mental atmosphere. Her unique work aims to transcend the private case and address universal values with which any viewer may identify.

Photo: Tal Amitai-Lavi in studio. Photography by Gili Danon.



### TAL FRANK

Tal Frank is a visual artist based in Mexico City. She has extensive experience in consulting in the areas of sculpture and industrial design, and is a Professor of Sculpture at several colleges as well as a curator and producer of multidisciplinary art events and site-specific installations.

Frank has exhibited solo exhibitions and created site specific installations around the world, including the Herzliya Museum of Contemporary Art, Israel; Rosenfeld Gallery, Tel Aviv; Institute Cultural

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Mexico Israel, Mexico; Museum Haifa of contemporary art Israel; Berliner Liste, Art Fair, Berlin; among others. Frank has exhibited in various group exhibitions including HIT Gallery, Bratislava, Slovakia; La casa Invisible, Malaga, Spain; Israel Museum, Jerusalem; and Ashdod Museum of Art, Israel.

Grants and awards include the Israel Fund for Young Artists, the Israel Foundation Scholarship Fund, the Rabinovich Foundation Fund and the Pais Culture Council, Scholarship for Culture and Arts and OUTSET Foundation among others. Frank participates in residency programs such as AIRIE Artist-in-Residence-in-the-Everglades, Florida; Soma Summer Programming, Mexico City; Kineret.net Technology and Art, Israel; and the Asylum Art All-Star Latin America Retreat, Mexico, among others.

Frank received a master's degree from the University of Haifa and Bachelors degrees from the Midrasha School of Art, Beit Berl College, Israel and holds an art teaching certificate. Most recently, Frank is the founder and artistic director of the artist-run Radio 28 International Exchange Program located in the historic center of Mexico City.

Photo: Tal Frank in studio, photo courtesy of the artist.

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## ABOUT LOCUST PROJECTS

Founded by artists for artists in 1998, Locust Projects is Miami's longest running nonprofit alternative art space. We produce, present, and nurture ambitious and experimental new art and the exchange of ideas through commissioned exhibitions and projects, artist residencies, summer art intensives for teens, and public programs on contemporary art and curatorial practice. As a leading incubator of new art and ideas, Locust Projects emphasizes boundary-pushing creative endeavors, risk-taking and experimentation by local, national and international artists. We invest in South Florida's arts community by providing artists with project grants and empower creative careers by supporting the administrative work of being an artist through an onsite artist resource hub and access to pro bono legal services.

**Locust Projects 2020-2021 exhibitions and programming are made possible with support from:** The John S. and James L. Knight Foundation; The Andy Warhol Foundation for the Visual Arts; The Miami-Dade County Department of Cultural Affairs and the Cultural Affairs Council, the Miami-Dade County Mayor and Board of County Commissioners, The Children's Trust; Berkowitz Contemporary Foundation; The National Endowment for the Arts Art Works Grant; Hillsdale Fund; the Albert and Jane Nahmad Family Foundation; VIA Art Fund | Wagner Incubator Grant; Funding Arts Network; The Jorge M. Pérez Family Foundation at The Miami Foundation; Susan and Richard Arregui; Kirk Foundation; Miami Salon Group; Scott Hodes; Jones Day; Community Recovery Fund at The Miami Foundation and the Wege Foundation; and the donors to the Still Making Art Happen Campaign and Locust Projects Exhibitionist members.

**ART HAPPENS HERE.**