

ANTEA - A SPACE FOR WOMEN'S ART AT KOL HA-ISHA

Founders, directors and curators: Nomi Tannhauser and Rita Mendes-Flohr

Antea – a Space for Women's Art at Kol Ha-Isha is an activist art gallery, situated in Jerusalem. The gallery seeks to bring feminist, multi-cultural issues to public discussion by presenting innovative and challenging exhibits accompanied by a wide variety of programs, including panel discussions, catalogue essays, and guided gallery visits.

Antea was established, together with Kol Ha-Isha – The Jerusalem Women's Center, in the spring of 1994 and named after its predecessor of the nineteen-eighties on Sheinkin St., Tel Aviv. Unique in Israel, Antea, until recently, has been the only gallery devoted to women's art. Its exhibits rest on the intersection between art and society, committed to quality, and yet acknowledging that art does not exist apart from its social context.

The gallery's exhibits have addressed a variety of feminist issues, such as alternative images of women's body and the social construction of beauty. The most ambitious undertaking has been "Ahoti" or "Sister - Mizrahi Women Artists in Israel" held February 2000. This exhibit, was concerned with the politics of representation, establishing the voice of Mizrahi women in the Israeli cultural and social discourse. The series 'Artist Mentors Artist' exhibited during the years 2008-9 was a unique project which examined the discourse surrounding the topic of art teaching and mentoring in Israel.

Antea seeks to empower women through art, offering opportunities to lesser known artists - while at the same time showing works of artists who have exhibited widely. Through our Community Art Project, Antea strives to give women of all backgrounds – some of whom are not necessarily trained artists - a stage to present alternative images of themselves and society, such as our three year project with High School art majors from diverse communities. In the same multicultural spirit, we are committed to bring diverse groups of viewers to visit the exhibits, touching on broader personal and social questions through the artworks.