

# Matan Golan: Damped Vibrations

06.01.22 — 12.02.22

Curator: Maya Frenkel Tene

The title of the exhibition is borrowed from Physics, it describes a shift in the state of a given mechanical system over time. The vibration oscillation depends on the properties of the system (material properties for example); the force that is applied to it; and the resistive force that keeps it under control. Damped vibrations subside over time, such as motion of a pendulum, or guitar strings.

The sculptural installations of Matan Golan may set into motion at any given moment. They carry within them a possibility of future occurrence, or an event that just occurred. In his work, Matan draws inspiration from household objects that have a tight sense of design, a distinct industrial form and functionality. Yet in contrast to these household objects, the objects Matan creates reveal an imagined functionality and a set of charged formal elements that echo the human body, as they stand like actors on a stage of a dynamic installation. They emphasize the entangled, the twisted, the apathetic and the serpentine, and go against the order of things that idealizes the perpendicular elements, not to mention the erect.

The current exhibition features a seemingly familiar set of objects. A water trough positioned under a damp screen, seemingly collecting the drops off of it to a sound of paced breathing. Out of a metal pipe, a trail of pills drains into the water trough as well. A J-shaped figurine hangs on a bar, somewhat static, or about to roll up. The silent objects are asking to deny their stillness, they too create an inner pace similar to a mechanical device, or a digestive tract of sorts. A thin line is running through the different parts of the installation outlining an imaginary scene of movement and flow. The viewer is invited to move through the space and capture decisive moments, where the material bares its own breath, as the occurrence shifts from one object to the next.

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**Matan Golan** (b. 1985), lives and works in Tel Aviv. Graduated from The School of the Art institute of Chicago with an M.F.A (2020) and received his B.F.A. with honors from Bezalel Academy of Arts and Design (2015). His works were featured in one-person and group exhibitions at The Israel Museum, Alfred Gallery, Tel Aviv, Indie Gallery, Tel Aviv, Site Gallery, Chicago, Litmann Gallery, Portland OR, USA, among others. Winner of Lauren and Mitchell Presser Award for Video Art, Creativity Award from The Art Institute of Chicago, Special project Award by Rabinovich Foundation. His works are included in the collection of the Tel Aviv Museum, The Israel Phoenix collection and in private collections.