

# Shmuel Goldstein : Mangroves

27.10.22 — 12.12.22

Curator: Maya Frenkel Tene

In recent years I am searching for transitional moments that exist between binary opposites like inside/outside, day/night, danger/safety and more. In my work I am proposing a different gaze at these contrary elements - that seem absolute and in contrast to one another - to allow an in-between, twilight area, where a spectrum of colors and beauty is found. The visual abundance of the images leads me to use different techniques and materials in sculpture and painting. I am drawn to the shimmering and seductive esthetics and to labour-intensive work.

In 2012, while traveling through India, I decided to go off the path, and wander by myself into a tropical forest area by a stream, only to alarmingly return from it after just a few moments. The contrast between the enchantment and allurement of nature, and between the element of danger that lies within, gave birth to the Entanglement paintings. Through them I can safely arrive into that dangerous patch of woods, immerse myself in it, and feel protected. The paintings offer a close look at saltwater trees and bushes, and the seam line between land and sea. Busy surfaces laden with details portray a dense thicket vegetation that conceals the horizon line and blocks off sunlight from reaching the soil. The thick vegetation is positioned far from the safe pathway like a seductive, tropical refuge, impossible not to walk through.

Shmuel Goldstein , 2022

\*\*\*

**Shmuel Goldstein** (b. 1980) lives and works in Tel Aviv. Graduated with honor from Hamidrasha School of Art, Beit Berl (2018). His works have been included in solo and group shows, among others are The Steinhardt Museum of Natural History, Old Jaffa Museum, The Edmond de Rothschild Center, The Municipal Art Gallery Rishon LeZion, and Sklar Levy gallery. Recipient of Curator's Choise award at the Freshpaint art fair Independent Artists Greenhouse, 2020. His works are included in numerous collections like Haaretz Art Collection and Galila Barzilaï-Hollander collection, as well as many private collections.