

The Camera's Eyes

“The Camera's Eyes” is a group exhibition presenting the works of photographers living in Meitar. The exhibition explores the physical and formal attributes of a photographic print that form the tools photographers use to define and interpret the content of a photograph.

All photographs have qualities in common. These qualities determine how the world in front of the camera is transformed into a photograph. In addition, these qualities form a visual language that reveals the photograph's meaning. According to the late John Szarkowski (1925 - 2007), photographer, historian, curator, art critic, and the Director of the Department of Photography of the Museum of Modern Art (MoMA), New York from 1962 to 1991, there are many reasons photographs are taken. Photographers possess different concerns, and varying talent, but they share the common language of photography. In his book *The Photographer's Eye*, which is based on a 1964 exhibition at the MoMA, and was the inspiration for this current exhibition, Szarkowski maintains that there are five main attributes intrinsic to the medium that contribute to the formulation of the language of photography and they are:

1. **The Thing Itself** – A photograph evokes the tangible presence of reality.
2. **The Detail** – Through the trivial or suggestive clues, the details in a photograph uncover the meaning of a photograph or assist in understanding an underlying story or symbolism.
3. **The Frame** – Selecting the composition is the key and central act of photography.
4. **Time** – Time describes only the present, and relates to a given instant.
5. **Vantage Point** – Numerous vantage points which can reveal the clarity as well as the obscurity of things.

These qualities can be seen in the photographs of the photographers of Meitar. What catches each photographer's attention influences his or her decisions with regard to content and the organization of a picture. These decisions may be intuitive, conscious or instinctive, yet they resonate with the lucidity of the photographer's attention. Taking photographs is a complex, ongoing, spontaneous interaction of observation, understanding, imagination and purpose. *The Camera's Eyes* focuses on the language of photography used by Meitar photographers, by which they express their sense of the world, give structure to their perceptions and articulation to their meanings. The exhibition is divided into five groups, representing the five attributes which make up the language of photography shared by all those who have chosen this medium to express their art, with the aim of providing a deeper understanding of the different photographic techniques and styles, and moreover a sense of what inspires a photographer's vision.

The Exhibiting Photographers:

Inbal Avraham	Zeev Dekel	Shaul Cohen	Shachar Zur
Leon Bahar	Mike Darzi	Haim Maor	Matias Kurlat
Gideon Ben-Amar	Moshe Hasson	Shira Mushkin	Arie Rudnik
ZoharBarkai	Bruriah Thieberger	Ronit Amit-Nahir	Giora Rosenfeld
Ami Dekalo	Ariel Cohen	Alon Zur	