

Israeli Center for Digital Art (Artlab)

16 Yirmiyahu st., Hulon

**Saturday 21st of January**

at 8 p. m.

## ***Unrecognized***

The opening of the travelling exhibition by the Israeli artist Tal Adler and the launching of the visibility campaign.

### **Placing the Unrecognized Bedouin Villages BACK ON THE MAP!**

The Negev, on maps, looks like a wedge occupying the whole south area of Israel. The indigenous people of the Negev, living there since long before the establishment of the state of Israel, are the Bedouin. After 1948, most of the Bedouin fled or were deported by the Israeli forces. Those one who stayed became Israeli citizens. Out of more than 150,000 Bedouins in the Negev live in 45 unrecognized villages.

The ***Unrecognized*** project was born in 2003 when Bedouin fields in the Negev had been sprayed with a toxic substance from the air, in a State-sponsored act. Tal Adler started to look into the matter and came face to face with the issue of the unrecognized villages and their inhabitants. Aware of the importance of public opinion in political processes, Tal Adler decided to start this project to trigger a social change. Through a clever use of artistic media, educational and social tools, ***Unrecognized*** brings the story of the unrecognized Bedouin settlements to the attention of wider audiences.

The panoramic photograph format adopted in the project is the generally accepted format for landscape and group photographs. In the annals of photography, most photographs of panoramic views portray powerful images of nature and of wild landscapes; people are, for the most part, absent from such photographs. If they appear at all, they are presented romantically, as miniature figures, as part of the landscape. The panoramic photographs in the ***Unrecognized*** project can therefore also be seen to run counter to the way the country's leadership has viewed the Negev and its Bedouin inhabitants at different times. An information room, in collaboration with Negev Coexistence Forum for Civil Equality, Physicians for Human Rights, Bustan and other organizations, with articles, essays and films will be available for the visitors. A catalogue is published alongside the exhibition.

Lecture and Debate: "**Ethnocracy and the Bedouin society in the Negev**"

Tuesday 31/1/06 at 20:30; attendants:

**Att. Anwar Hajuj** - director of center for the unemployed's rights in Rahat - 'Commitment to Peace and Social Justice.'

**Prof. Oren Yiftachel** - lecturer for Geography, Ben Gurion University and member of the 'Negev Coexistence Forum for Civil Equality.'

#### **Partners:**

**Tal Adler** - initiator of project, writing, photography  
The Regional Council for the Unrecognized Villages in the Negev  
Cittadellarte - Fondazione Pistoletto  
Love Difference  
Israeli Center for Digital Art  
Religious Action Center  
Omanut Laam  
Joint Israel

The Israeli Center of Digital Art 16th Yirmiyahu st.

Hulon 58373

tel: 972-3-5509137, 972-3-5568792

fax: 972-3-5580003

email: [info@digitalartlab.org.il](mailto:info@digitalartlab.org.il)

[www.digitalartlab.org.il](http://www.digitalartlab.org.il)