

OVERLOAD by Dave Yaacov & Ania Dergachev

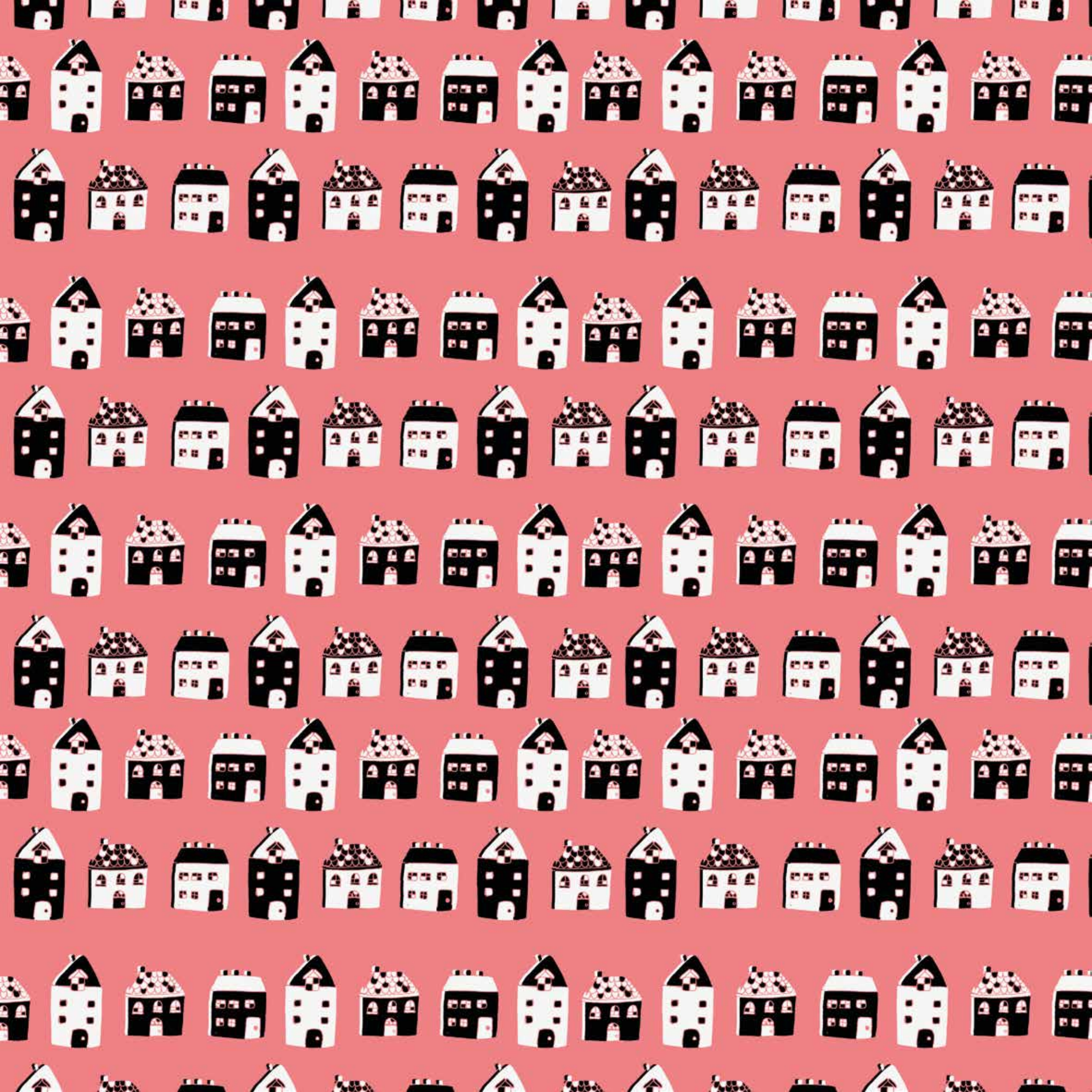


OVERLOAD

Childhood in the Shadow of War
Collaborative illustration project
by Dave Yaacov & Ania Dergachev

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OVERLOAD

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Translation by Irit Caspi



Overload

Two-person exhibition, reading, and performance art event
The Invasion of Normandy – Childhood in the Shadow of War

June 6-8, 2016

Mazeh 9 – the Tel Aviv-Yafo Municipality's Center for Young Adults
Event organizer and producer: Dave Yaacov
Participating artists: Ania Dergachev Romanov and Dave Yaacov

What type of dialog takes place between childhood and adulthood during wartime?

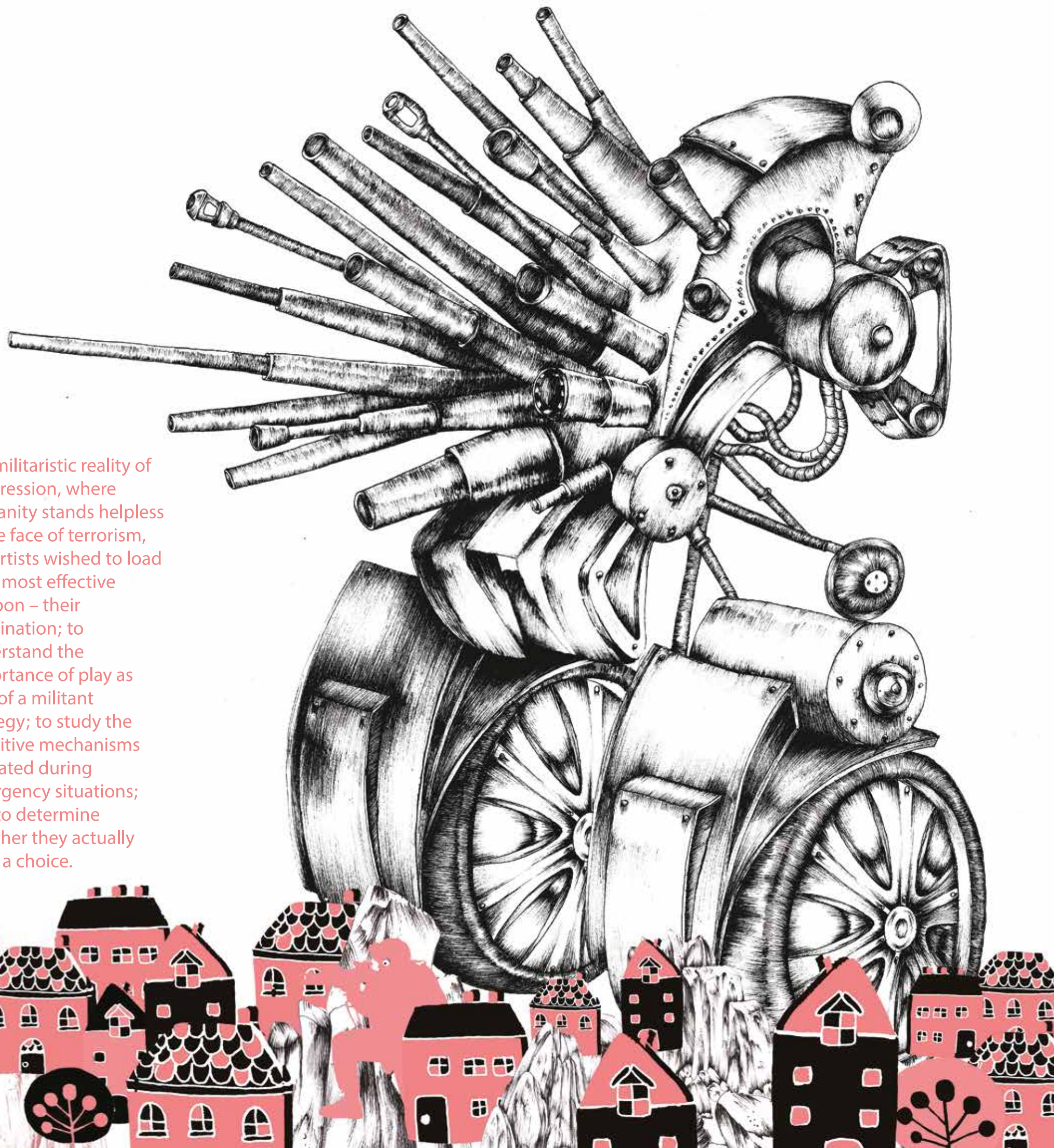
How are pain, killing, and helplessness perceived from these two different perspectives?



Ania Dergachev and Dave Yaacov went back in time, to the beginning of the end of Nazi Germany – the invasion of Normandy – to conduct an open discussion regarding the balance of power between a child, the ultimate representation of helplessness, and an adult, who is responsible for the child's fate. And to wonder whether people ever stop being children – in the lack of control over the wars imposed on them. The absence of children from the invasion is the basis of artistic creation as an informed choice that facilitates a new dialog. Does their absence spare them from the consequences of the struggle?



In a militaristic reality of suppression, where humanity stands helpless in the face of terrorism, the artists wished to load their most effective weapon – their imagination; to understand the importance of play as part of a militant strategy; to study the cognitive mechanisms activated during emergency situations; and to determine whether they actually have a choice.



The two artists, who come from different artistic languages, joined forces in a unique collaborative creative format – which presents a variety of works that deal with the passages between the world of childhood and adulthood in the midst of war, from three large wall drawings to works asking the viewer to take an active role while posing these questions:

**What is war for me?
And what is my war?
And how can I, as a
“child”, cope in a
world of adults who
require me to fight?**



And they are not alone. On the opening night, other participants from various artistic arenas exhibited their personal interpretation of war – through reading, dance, poetry, and performance art – from the historical to the personal, and back. We invite you to join us.



Work Process

Ania Dergachev Romanov and Dave Yaacov joined forces in a unique collaborative and learning-oriented format. The two illustrators, who come from different artistic approaches, have collaborated on three complex illustrations, spreading over 15 meters in size. Together, they employed a unique process to explore mental, creative, and artistic coping strategies in a two-person work. How do I, as an artist, respond to

criticism raised by my co-creator? What does the creative process emphasize – ultimate personal expression or the common goal? And does such collaboration enhance my abilities or hinder them?





These works were created through an open, honest, and authentic dialog, in order to create an artistic space that tells a complex story while allowing each artist to express themselves in an open and representative manner. Every inch was decided on together – from choosing the images and colors to the construction of each part of the compositions. All assumptions were made after dozens of attempts and ongoing challenges to reach mutual agreement. And the result is harmonious and communicative, full of emotion and narrative.









The Artists



Ania Dergachev

Ania Dergachev Romanov studied Illustration in NB Haifa School of Design's Illustration track. After graduating, she illustrated textiles for a European studio. Her works are available in a wide range of international brands, such as H&M, Kooples, Robert Graham, and many more. Two of her biggest passions are illustration and stories, and she believes that every Illustration hides a story. She gets inspiration from all things different and unique, such as Alexander McQueen's fashion, Alexander Simonov's marine photography, Santiago Calatrava's architecture, or the passion fruit flower.



Dave Yaacov

Socially active artist, illustrator, and entrepreneur. Exhibited in over ten group exhibitions, some of which he also produced and organized, and two solo exhibitions. Appeared in illustration compilations and magazines. Published fanzines and an artist monograph, and is currently working on his first children's book. His inspirations: Tove Jansson (both her illustration and her writing), Tom Cook, Mary Blair, and Hans Christian Andersen. Lives and breathes children's literature. Served as editor of an arts and culture magazine for one year. Represented Israel in the Bologna Children's Book Fair in Italy, where he operated and produced the Israeli pavilion.



R-A-Z

dis[b]order by R-A-Z
Emotional ties representing political boundaries – culture and faith as conversions of interpersonal relations; patterns of movements and memories become a conceptual cartography that serves social objectives.

A solo dancer, stage artist, and visual artist, who operates in Israel and Europe. Studies for a master's degree in Curating.



Michal Pitowsky

Writer. Her debut novel, Asphalt, published in 2012 by Keter, won the Israeli National Library's Pardes Scholarship. Following its publication, she

was invited as a guest speaker to the Knesset's Education Committee on school violence. Currently editing her second novel, The Commune, and writing the blog Tipusim. Pitowsky will read from her novel Asphalt, which depicts adolescence in an Israeli school as a battlefield, particularly for girls. Ofri, a sensitive sixth grader, is branded with the schoolyard's worst possible trait: Weak. As a result, the boys act extremely aggressively towards her, so as to distance themselves from any signs of weakness. How can one fall in love within such a reality for the first time? How can one not?



Albina Chizik

Theater artist and flower arranger
Directed the play I Do Not Have an Accent, which deals with issues of identity, belonging, and communication.

Art project: Take Care of Yourself



ShoShana BenaHohim

ShoShana BenaHohim is Uri Karin's drag persona. Out of these two personas emerge other characters, such as

Holeket, who mostly writes and performs poetry and spoken word, Hoh Ben-Shoshim (ShoShana's drag king persona), and more. ShoShana performs through drag and in drag to free herself and the world from gender fixation. Her main drag style is genderfuck – playing with mixed and confused gender characteristics. In her act, she explores the intersection of challenging gender structures and undermining the status quo in other realms. Uri~Shoshanna specializes in multidisciplinary arts: Music, performance art, poetry writing and reading, visual art, and street art. Holeket~Uri's projects include Fruitica, a poetic encounter of fruit and erotica, and Mila Be'Ivrit Hoderet, a blog that offers Hebrew translations of popular English songs.



