

“Bringing stars back to the sky” - “Poetically correct ” 1 Performance and installation by Dovrat ana Meron

Many understand the flag to represent the government of a country. The USA flag for example is used throughout the world in public discourse referring to the U.S. both as nation, state, government, set of policies and ideology. Russia, China, the USA and the EU, are only few of the dominant powers that confiscated the star and added it to their flags as a mark of their identity. In this project I focus on the tension between the star as it appears in nature and the way it has been “exploited” by mankind by borrowing its signifiers - word and image, in such an inflation and into so many, totally different fields, until it lost it's relation to the originally unreachable and lyric “glittering star”. The flag of a nation is its most widely recognized symbol. It is frequently displayed, on public buildings and on private residences. Flags are also used as a motif on decals for car windows and clothing ornaments (badges, lapel pins etc)

I cut out the stars from the flags.
I repeat mixed version of words and sentences compiled of fragments of hymn from different countries.

The action is done as a purifying ceremony for the stars. It aims to dismantle them from various historical, political and ideological contexts, liberate the archetype of the stars and reclaim their lyrical nature. Stars are everywhere, rock stars, football stars, models, artists, icons or famous figures. All enjoy exclusivity of STARdom; All use the same symbol and etymology. No copyright for nature. I wish to enable the audience to recall the primal sensation that stars aroused in them when they are up in the sky.

In this performance I try to reduce to the essence the complex and fragile question of identity, religion, nation, nationalism and its representations in relation to personal and collective memory. The installation can stay throughout the exhibition
Concept The flag is a complex and contentious symbol, which can make emotions run high.

Cutting out stars from flags is not meant as punishment or offensive act against countries and the world order. It is merely a naïve wish to bring the star to the sky It enables the process of dismantling the stars from nationalist, religious or other connotations as fame, and stars from the flags such as of China, USA and EU.

This performance has second and third versions. The second version emphasis the star in relation to my roots, it refers to my background and identity as a performance artist that was born in Israel and as a secular Jew. In this version I use more exclusively the star tag from the holocaust and David star
This version will premiere in the Jewish Ghetto in Venice 6 of September 2009 as part of the European Jewish day.

The third version confronts nationality and religion and raises questions of gender and the task of perseverance and continuation in relation to the Israeli folk and the Jewish people.