In November 2015, on the eve of an exhibition opening at Ben-Gurion University, and in the midst of preparing a forthcoming exhibition in Moscow, the **international artist** \_\_\_\_'s body failed. Within just one week, she unexpectedly left the world. She was only 63 years old.

“The work of \_\_\_\_Yacobi Z”L is among the most important of the middle generation of Israeli art, authentic and unique...Working on the verge of detachment and physical isolation in the heart of the desert, she has produced extraordinary art, complex in its content, its practice, and its transcendental, religious, and mythical tendencies. As such, it constitutes an original and unique stream within the history of Israeli art, **and makes a decisive contribution to the local culture that is worthy of the highest preservation.**"

*Aharei Mot* (“After death”)

“It seems, sadly, that only with \_\_\_\_'s passing can we appreciate the full significance of her work. During her artistic life, she worked unabated, crowding and cramming her workspace in Arad, and creating the Center of Art and Creation - Woman of A Thousand Voices. Only upon her departure can one look upon her complete work and discern from a bird's eye view the timeless foundations that her work constantly re-created.”

“My works continue to evolve: they are influenced by the audience who sees them. Every country where my work has been exhibited has added to my work through the cultural markings of that place. By dint of their involvement, viewers influence the works. There is no sense of ending but of constant formation and change.”

About the Artist:

Ruth Dorit Yacoby was a groundbreaking painter and poet whose works bare a unique personal imprint and a complete artistic language. Her works connect inner truth with life's universal messages. Her creations are endowed with the special virtues of great art, conscious of trends and bearing mastery over varied techniques, while being innovative, original, uncompromising, and pioneering.

“My paintings are my prayers. I paint every day, outdoors. Then I leave them there, at the mercy of natural forces.”

“I want peace. I don't know how to get out of the trap we have fallen into; I can only draw. This is my prayer.”

“This is the universal mother, of happiness and pain, of storms and eternity. This is the cry of the woman against all wars.”

**The Mission**:

She presented over 130 exhibits, of which 67 were solo exhibitions, across five continents, inmajor galleries and museums in Israel and abroad, all of them sponsored by the Foreign Ministry and embassies.

“They say my paintings are reminiscent of sacred stories. I think they reflect the common religious current of all humanity...”

“And I say that my painting is not painting at all. It is healing. And, in fact, people in South America told me that I was an ancient shaman; that my role is to heal ...”

“All around the world, I was told that my painting was a road map that takes people to a place of trauma, where they go through the trauma and embark on a new path to healing.”

“I was here only to bring them to the world, and now I must return them to the universe.”

**The House on the Mountain: The Center**

In September 2003, a cornerstone was laid for the construction of a museum called the “Center of Art and Creation.” This center was sponsored by a German entrepreneurial organization and was located on a mountain that the artist chose on the outskirts of Arad.

The late Shimon Peres (Israeli president and head of the Center for Peace) also participated in the ceremony. Mr. Peres gave his blessing for the establishment of the Center, which was to provide a platform for her work and for the work of other artists – local artists as well as those from neighboring countries and from all over the world, in the spirit of peace among nations

**Vision for** **The House on the Mountain**

 In the south of Israel,

 Between the Negev and the Judean Desert

On the way to the Dead Sea,

Will be the House on the Mountain,

A unique, powerful meeting place,

An abode of life

An incubator for multidisciplinary creation

That combines and integrates

All the arts.

The Center will bring the margins to the center and will serve as a magnet and a reference point for art, introspection, connection, and growth. It will serve as a place of pilgrimage for local and foreign visitors. A beating heart in the desert.

The Center, with its central installation, invites visitors on a journey beyond time and space;

a deep personal process of transformation and personal growth.

It offers a bridge of reconciliation and fusion of fragments,

Healing and comfort in the meeting of peoples and nations, and a prayer for peace.

Following the Second Lebanon War and the collective experience of bereavement, Ruth Dorit undertook to express the silent voices crying out for their loss in tandem with their will not for revenge but for reconciliation and consolation, the sanctification of life.

Thus said the Lord:

“A voice was heard in Ramah,

Lamentation and bitter weeping,

Rachel weeping for her children,

Refusing to be comforted for her children,

Because they are no more.”

Thus said the Lord:

“Refrain your voice from weeping,

And your eyes from tears;

For your work shall be rewarded, says the Lord,

And they shall come back from the land of the enemy.”

(Jeremiah 31: 14-16)

In 2008, she established a permanent exhibition in a large space in the city of Arad's artist quarter. At the center of the space, beside works of art, she placed a powerful installation that was essentially a spiritual journey of healing and empowerment in the transition from the “Land of the Dead” to the “Land of the Living.”

Since its opening, the Center has been an educational-cultural center, an attraction for students and art lovers alongside tourists and intellectuals attending tours, development and empowerment workshops, and intercultural encounters from the local community and worldwide.

**Upon her death, she commanded us ...**

You must go on ...

**Our mission:**

In the face of despair, disputes and sickness in the world

To continue to make her voice heard

To spread her compassionate and healing work, and her prayer

To choose life:

With hope, joy, and unity.

**Our path to realizing the vision**

Sounding the message to the world:

Exhibitions and installations in Israel and around the world

Establishment of the Center - the House on the Mountain

**Management of the Collection:**

 • **Storage and Cataloging** - Completing the process, building an online database.

• **Construction and management of an artist website**, where the digital catalog will be displayed.

• **Exhibitions**:

 • Planning and realizing an exhibition at the **Herzliya Museum** (March 21)

 • Submit a proposal for the **Biennial** exhibition

 • Initiation and production of **additional** **exhibitions in** **Israel and abroad**

 • **Virtual Exhibition** - The Journey from the Land of the Dead to the Forest of Life

**• Sales / Distribution:**

• **Works**

• **Artist books** - production and distribution

• **Workshops and lectures** to spread the message and vision

• **Related products** - cards, prints, installation details

• **Documentary** - production and distribution

Cataloging and storage of the collection

Establishment of the Center - House on the Mountain

A universal, multicultural arts-based center for leadership development, healing and empowerment and promoting unity

• Preliminary testing of software and planning

• Resource recruitment - Investors, donors, sales, sponsors, partners, institutional grants.

• Architectural planning

• Construction

• Design and curation

• Official opening

• Operations - tours, workshops, performances

• Satellite installations worldwide

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| --- |
| Purchase of the House |
| Planning and Construction |
| Storage |
| Environmental construction including a path to the mountain |
| Operation for 5 years  |
| Related Products - Books, prints, exhibitions |