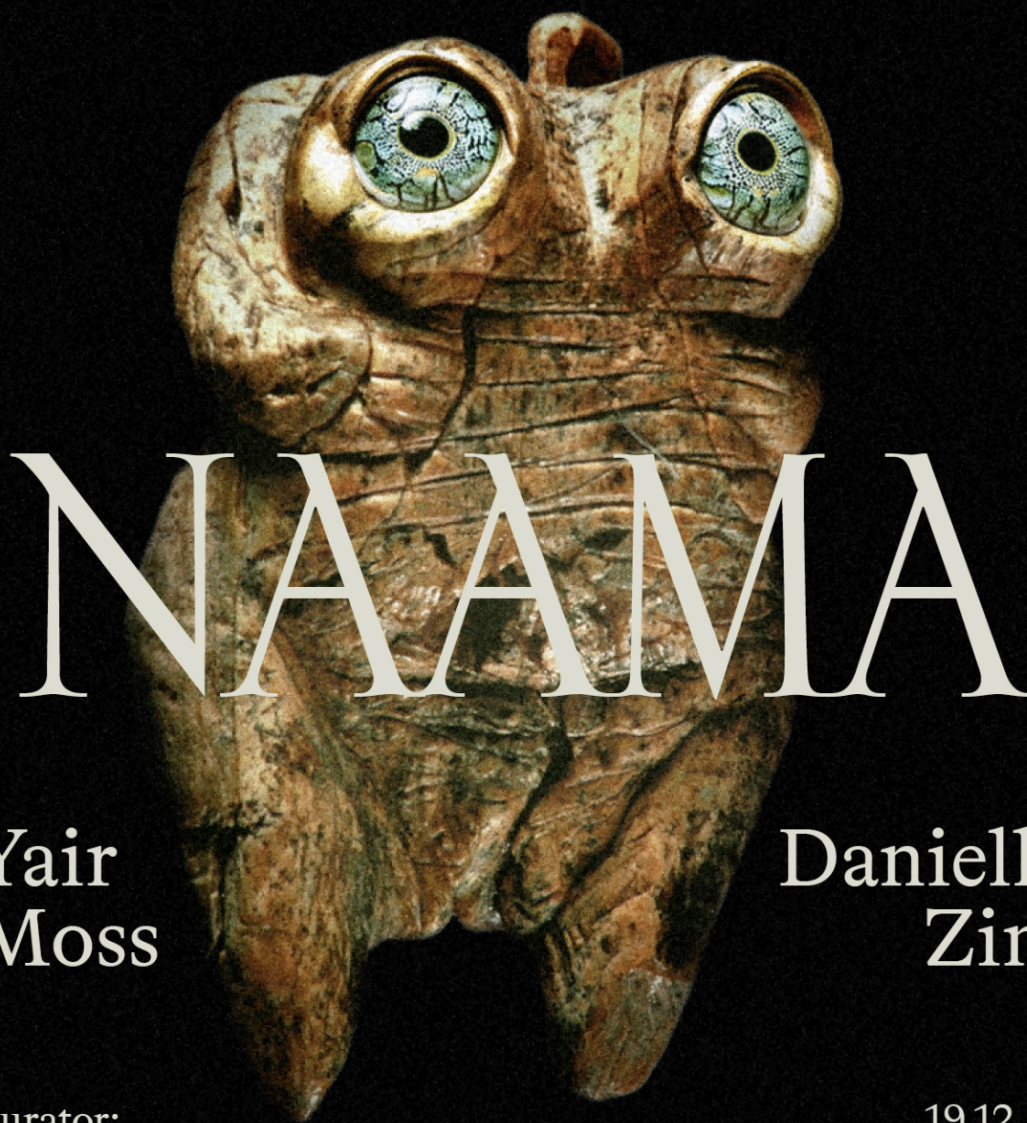


Hacubia presents



Yair
Moss

Danielle
Zini

Curator:
Einav Ziv Ayalon

19.12.24
— 3.2.25

HACUBIA Contemporary Art Gallery · School of Art
Yehoshua Yevin 13, Nayot, Jerusalem · Phone: 02-5456222
Opening Hours: Sun–Thu, 9:00–17:00



NAAMA / Danielle Zini &Yair Moss

The function of myth is often to soothe and offer an explanation for natural phenomena and extreme events beyond the grasp of humans. In the exhibition **NAAMA**, Danielle Zini &Yair Moss explore the myth of the flood, which is found in many mythologies including Jewish, Mesopotamian, Greek, and Native American, Indian, and Chinese mythologies. The common elements reiterated in all of these flood myths reveal an ancient intercontinental and intercultural connection, and the collective premise that sees the catastrophe as a potential for regeneration and repair.

The affinities between the various flood myths and their integration are very similar to the operation of Artificial Intelligence, which stands at the basis of this exhibition. A video at the entrance to the space depicts a double flooding: the real one that threatens to drown every living and growing thing, and the technological one, which is no less threatening. The image projected in it is a collage of photographs that capture real events in different places and times. The flood of water is replaced by a technological deluge: the hyperdimensional gaze of AI moves through the world, which is a textual site that has no source, whose composer has multiple voices, identities, and perspectives. The meaning of such a world for humans is an endless and incessant torrent of information. A world in which human logic and truth are called into question.

A pointed oval object made of sand casting is placed on the floor at the center of the space, simulating the archaeological site in the Turkey's Mount Ararat, as a relic of Noah's Ark. Scanning the QR code next to it leads to an encounter with NAAMA, a chatbot named after Noah's wife. Zini & Moss mobilize the human fear of AI to address the issue: Their NAAMA is intrinsically linked to stories of dystopia and mankind's self-destruction and assumes many roles in the exhibition – the "phone a friend" lifeline, the source of the destruction, the source of the images that reproduce the destruction, or perhaps the path to the solution and salvation. In an intimate conversation, she offers visitors a comparative mythology, both private and global, as a consoling acknowledgment that this is the way of the world.

The proposed solace is reiterated in the figure of the earth diver, whose role in the flood myth is to plunge into the chaos and retrieve a handful of soil from which the dry land, the new beginning, will develop. The earth divers are often depicted as small and seemingly insignificant animals, but their stories embody the moral values of their respective culture. Using AI, Zini & Moss created new versions of the earth diver, consisting of archaeological findings from disparate cultures and periods that were fused into timeless images, perhaps as a contemporary longing for a savior who would carry the promise of a new beginning.

Danielle Zini &Yair Moss address the impending catastrophe, a flood of AI and inundation of misinformation that may lead humanity to a physical and spiritual ruin, while also pointing at the possibility of regeneration and re-creation.

Einav Ziv Ayalon, exhibition curator





