



Art



Sigalit Landau
Photo by
Ilia Melnikov

An impressive and unconventional work of art was recently put on display at the Tel Aviv University gallery. The work, "Madiah Kibutzi" ("Collective Dishwasher") by renowned Israeli artist Sigalit Landau, examines the common ground of Israelis and kibbutzniks. A conversation with one of Israel's best-known artists / **Maya Geuz**

"The work was part of my dealing with the social side of nutrition, food and eating," says Sigalit Landau, referring to "Madiah Kibutzi," or "Collective Dishwasher," as it's known in English, a work which examines the collective common ground of Israelis and kibbutzniks. It was recently displayed at the Tel Aviv University gallery. Originally part of "Dining Hall," a 2007 work she exhibited at Berlin's Kunst-Werke Institute for Contemporary Art, which Landau says "represented the original home of the East European immigrant, the

collective situation in which a group eats together, the street food, the status of shwarma in Berlin. The dishwasher was created to be in the lobby, where it could be seen before buying tickets and entering the exhibition. I wanted it to be Socialist-Communist, open to everyone's eyes and ears." The installation includes six paintings by the late artist Moshe Kupferman, which are hung around the dishwasher. Landau's kibbutz conveyor-belt dishwasher installation touches all the senses. The sense of hearing is stimulated

when the viewer pushes buttons that play "Breakfast," "Lunch" and "Supper," composed by musician Yarden Erez. The rotating machine is filled with Landau's version of goodies: dishes covered with mud, coffee and cigarette ash, a bowl filled with metal flatware, plastic half bodies on the conveyor belt and watermelon halves preserved in salt scattered around. For the sense of smell, there's the scent of coffee, weakened by the salt used on the installation's watermelons. The watermelons immediately identify the installation ▶▶