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Body of text:

The exhibition with the catchy name :”Shesh Besh”, exhibited at the Petach Tikva museum shows artist that have been showing in the last six years. It is trying to map a generation, origin of language, style and making happening in the last years, years of wide activity, with lots of new galleries and alternative spaces, some in non commercial spaces, and artists collectives. The exhibition declarers itself as a non thematic one, but an update. But at the same time curator Hadas Maor offers themes and possibilities that cover a vast range, that can include almost everything. Bottom line this is an exhibition with lots of pretensions. There are a lot of beautiful works, but it does not offer a new perspective or a different one on the Israeli art scene. The major characteristic of many of the works is their scale. The lack of humility and the choice of the bombastic. In some works it works well, others less. Tom Pnini presents a lovely work, “Star Demo”. This is the first art piece you view when you enter the exhibition- its presented in the main entrance, different in character and notion than the rest of the works in the exhibition. In “Star Demo” Pnini continues his exploration of the connection between nature (artificial, and hand made) and the city. In the video the skyline of Manhattan can be seen from the opposite shore in Brooklyn, and on top of it a twinkling star. The star is a giant Helium balloon , attached to a 700 meter string, which Pnini asked a friend to hold while shooting from the bank. Pnini created here a minor intervention in the so familiar skyline, bringing a dynamic element to the static buildings, transforming the view to a point of reference to the twinkling star. The star is seen only when it is crossing the light beam directed to him. In another video of from 2008, “Snow Demo”, Pnini threw snow flaks on an abounded industrial court yard in south Tel-Aviv, poetically transforming the space using Styrofoam balls instead of snow flaks. Here too Pnini brings another level to the urban scenery, and the disturbance he makes creates a subtle excitement.