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Press information

Dor Guez | 40 DAYS

September 21 - October 12, 2013

Opening: Friday, September 20, 6 - 9 p.m.

carlier | gebauer is pleased to present Dor Guez's recent project *40 DAYS* for the first time to the German audience. The exhibition premiered at ArtPace, San Antonio, Texas and then travelled to *The Mosaic Rooms, Al-Qattan Foundation*, London.

Guez's heritage is deeply rooted in the history of the Middle East, he was born to a Christian Palestinian and Jewish Tunisian family. His work focuses on depicting the history and experiences of the Christian Palestinian minority, a dispersed community whose voices and experiences have been marginalized by the prevailing narratives of the region. Guez's work explores contemporary art roles in provoking questions about history, nationality, ethnicity, and personal identity. Guez's practice includes photographic and video techniques, scanned archival images, which he calls "scanograms", and video installations, which are at once documentary, testimonial and experimental films.

40 DAYS is a multi-channel video piece and photographic series about the destroyed gravesites in the Christian Palestinian cemetery in the city of Lod (previously known by its Arabic name of Al-Lydd). The images originate from Guez's ongoing project: The C.P.A. (Christian-Palestinian Archive), a growing collection of archival documents from the Palestinian diaspora. In a publication devoted to the project Guez describes the project during a conversation with Mitra Abbaspour, associate curator of photography at Moma:

40 DAYS deals with the position of the Christian Palestinian minority in the post "Arab Spring" reality of the Middle East. Both the video works and printed materials relate to the history of the image as an object - the tears, folds and cuts. In the video you see the result of the destruction of the Christian Palestinian cemetery in the city of "Lod/Al-Lydd", and, in parallel, the destruction of the actual photographs, which were taken by my grandfather to the police as evidence. The first destruction is a pure hate crime; the second, of the photographs themselves, notwithstanding poetic and aesthetic appearances, reflects the desperation of a disenfranchised and marginalized community.

Dor Guez was born in Jerusalem in 1980 and currently lives and works in Tel Aviv. His work has been featured at the *The Mosaic Room*, London; Tel Aviv Museum of Art; KW Institute for Contemporary Art in Berlin; the 12th Istanbul Biennial; the 17th Videobrasil in São Paulo; The Jewish Museum, New York, the 3rd Moscow International Biennial; Palais de Tokyo, Paris; Benin Biennial, Artspace in San Antonio and more. Recently he had a first overview at the Rose

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Art Museum in Boston. Guez is the recipient of the Orgler Scholarship, Tel Aviv University; Ruth Ann and Nathan Perlmutter Artist in Residency Award, Rose Art Museum, Brandeis University; and International Artist in Residence Award, Artpace, San Antonio. Guez is a lecturer in the History and Theory Department at Bezalel Academy of Arts and Design, Jerusalem, and a PHD researcher affiliated with Tel Aviv University.*

* Extract of the press release of *The Mosaic Rooms*, see also:
[http://www.mosaicrooms.org/dor-guez/.](http://www.mosaicrooms.org/dor-guez/)