

Curator: Nicola Trezzi

Post Graduate Studies Final Group Exhibition, Hamidrasha Gallery Hayarkon 19, Tel Aviv.

Death Spiral

The hypnotizing video and sound installation of Michal Lazarovitz is a tantalizing ode to the power of nature, a celebration of its order – an order we are truly part of, an order we belong to, whether we like it or not – through the support of technological devices. The starting point is the found footage documenting the movement of blind ants, a type of insect that is known for the so-called *Death Spiral* (which is also the title of Lazarovitz's work). This peculiar and revelatory phenomenon sees an entire community of ants following the smell of one leader until they all die from exhaustion. In order to emphasize the formal beauty of such tragedy in the world of nature, the artist has employed the Optical Flow Algorithm to track the movements of the ants and create, thanks to the accompaniment of Sufi music, a multilayered experience in which mankind and animal, the natural and the artificial, image and drawing become two sides of the same coin.