GADI FRAIMAN

NEW MASKS SERIES

2022 COLLECTION

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"MY IMPULSE IS STRONG EACH TIME I ARRIVE HERE. EACH TIME I FIND MYSELF DOING SOMETHING DIFFERENT FROM WHAT I PLANNED. I'M CAPTIVATED. NEW IDEAS ARE REVEALED TO THE WORLD IN AN EPOCH I DIDN'T CHOOSE"

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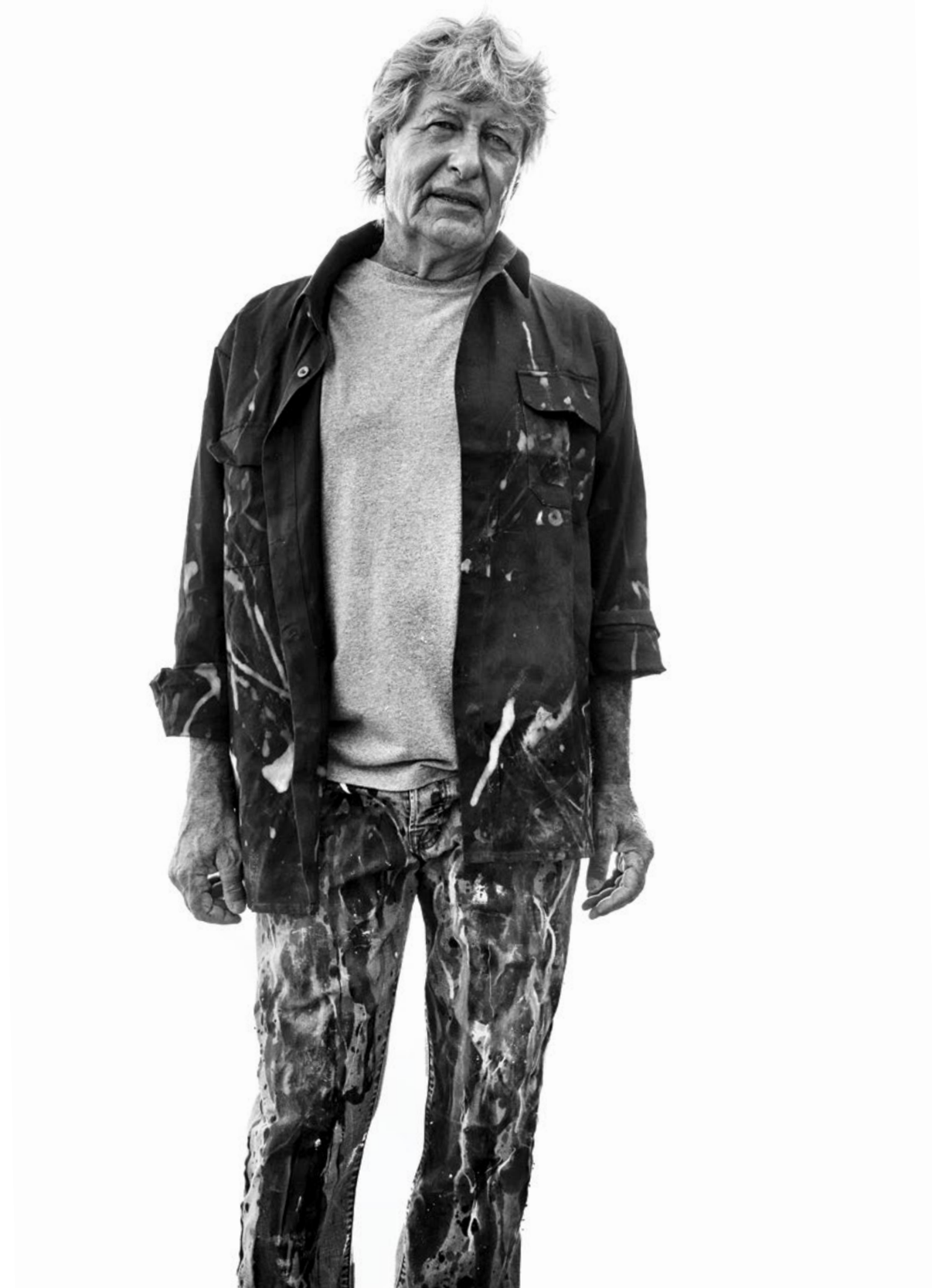
EVERYTHING FLOWS LIKE LIFE ITSELF

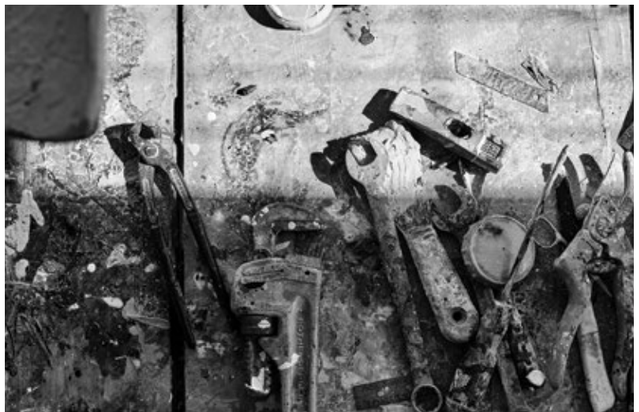
Gadi's story is likely one you haven't heard before. The son of Polish Holocaust survivors, Gadi used art as therapy. For most of his life, art was simply a side hobby to his job as a vineyard farmer in Israel. At age 40, Gadi boldly decided to pursue his artistic passion as his life's work.



Polish-born to Holocaust survivors who immigrated to Israel, Gadi came of age in a land that was coming of age. When he was young, he turned to art as a distraction - a way to escape from the inherited trauma of his parents. Gadi's family worked & lived off the land, and Gadi's first source of inspiration was the untouched nature that surrounded him. He used to get lost in his daydreaming as he explored this new country by himself, conjuring up artistic visions in his flourishing imagination. This time left alone to indulge in fantasies instilled in Gadi the unique ability to devise fully formulated dreamscapes in his mind of things he could create - a critical skill of foresight for a sculptor.

As he grew older, Gadi nurtured the love of his land to become a farmer, growing grapes in vineyards in Kibbutz Mishmar David in the verdant Judean Foothills. What began as childhood escapism grew into a joyful hobby that Gadi pursued whenever he wasn't in the fields.

At age 40, Gadi made the courageous decision to take his artistic devotion to the next level, leaving his job in the vineyards and focusing on sculpting full time. Gadi's unbridled passion for his art and his constantly evolving creative approach define his signature style. Gadi's sculptures capture this fervent kinetic energy & flow almost as if a spark of life is growing inside each of them.



"I am very drawn to color, I think everyone is in some way. Color is the senses, color is life. This world is very colorful and I just hone in on that. I don't work with a specific palette; I work with what the sculpture need, and my desire to use color to affect people. Color affects every realm of life and I want to inject color into the range of human emotion."

MASKS SERIES 2021

A classical theme through art history, Gadi explores masks as pretense in human relationships and in daily human interactions. "It's a very true saying, that 'All the world's a stage, and all the men and women merely players', which with age I understand more and more. Everyone hides behind masks." What is unusual and touching about Gadi's take on masks is that he shows an accepting and understanding side to masks through his works, rather than only the more critical connotations of pretense. "Falsity is not necessarily a bad thing. When a person does not want to reveal himself or tell you about his mood and just says everything is okay, that's fine; it's not a negative thing. We don't always outwardly express our emotions, and when we choose not to, we wear masks." His mask sculptures depict couples who are very close, touching and dancing. There is a lot of movement, their bodies are connecting; they are seperated only by a thin veil of masks. It becomes a sort of play, the separation a mere fraction compared to the love that is shared between the two bodies.

Pretenders, Bronze 80X60X206 cm

II

IT'S A VERY TRUE SAYING THAT ' ALL THE WORLD'S A STAGE AND ALL THE MEN AND WOMEN MERELY PLAYERS,'-WHICH WITH AGE I UNDERSTAND MORE AND MORE.

EVERYONE HIDES BEHIND MASKS.

SIT ACROSS FROM EACH OTHER TOUCHING, PLAYING, WHILST HOLDING UP ORNATE GOLDEN MASKS. IT SEEMS THE TWO ARE WITH HOLDING SOME TRUTHS FROM ONE ANOTHER AS THEY ARE MASKED, YET AT THE SAME TIME THEY ARE CURIOUS AND CLOSE. FOR GADI, LIFE IS A GAME, AND THROUGH THE NOTION OF PLAY, THE LINE BETWEEN CLOSENESS AND PRETENSE IS BLURRED. REFLECTED BY THE RADIANT COLORS OF THE PLAYERS, THE TWO ARE INTIMATELY CLOSE, SEPARATED ONLY BY A THIN VEIL.

Game of Masks, Colored Bronze , 50x70x85 cm

Observer, Bronze 40x70x160 cm

Game of Masks, Bronze , 50x70x85 cm

" I started working with bronze because of curiosity. All my art is one big curiosity. I change styles, change projects, change materials - I just do not like to get bored, I need to be challenged all the time. "

COLOR

According to its subject matter and form, Gadi chooses to paint some of his bronze sculptures. "Some sculptures require it. For example, a tango is sensual and calls for bright, sharp, dominant colors much like the dance itself." Colors arrive to him intuitively, and require no thought, being naturally drawn to bright and bold primary colors. Although the choices come easily, the undertaking of painting the sculptures by hand is a precise and arduous act. "I like good results, and high quality works. I like perfection, and when you demand perfection, you need to act accordingly."

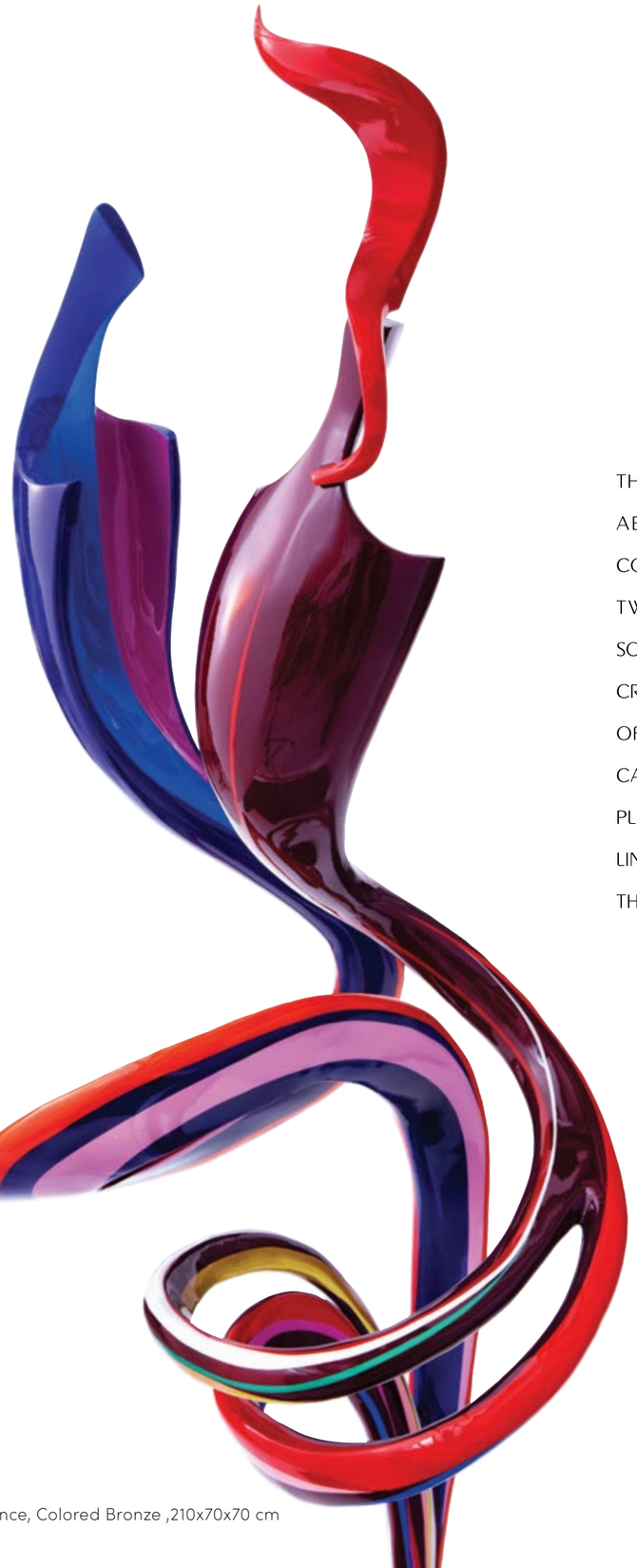
Two figures, one colorful, glowing, the other earthy, unrefined, dance together in a ballet. It is a delicate and beautiful dance with one's own shadow, with the more fragile and vulnerable parts of ourselves, forming integration and wholeness.

Tango, Colored Bronze, 160x60x60 cm

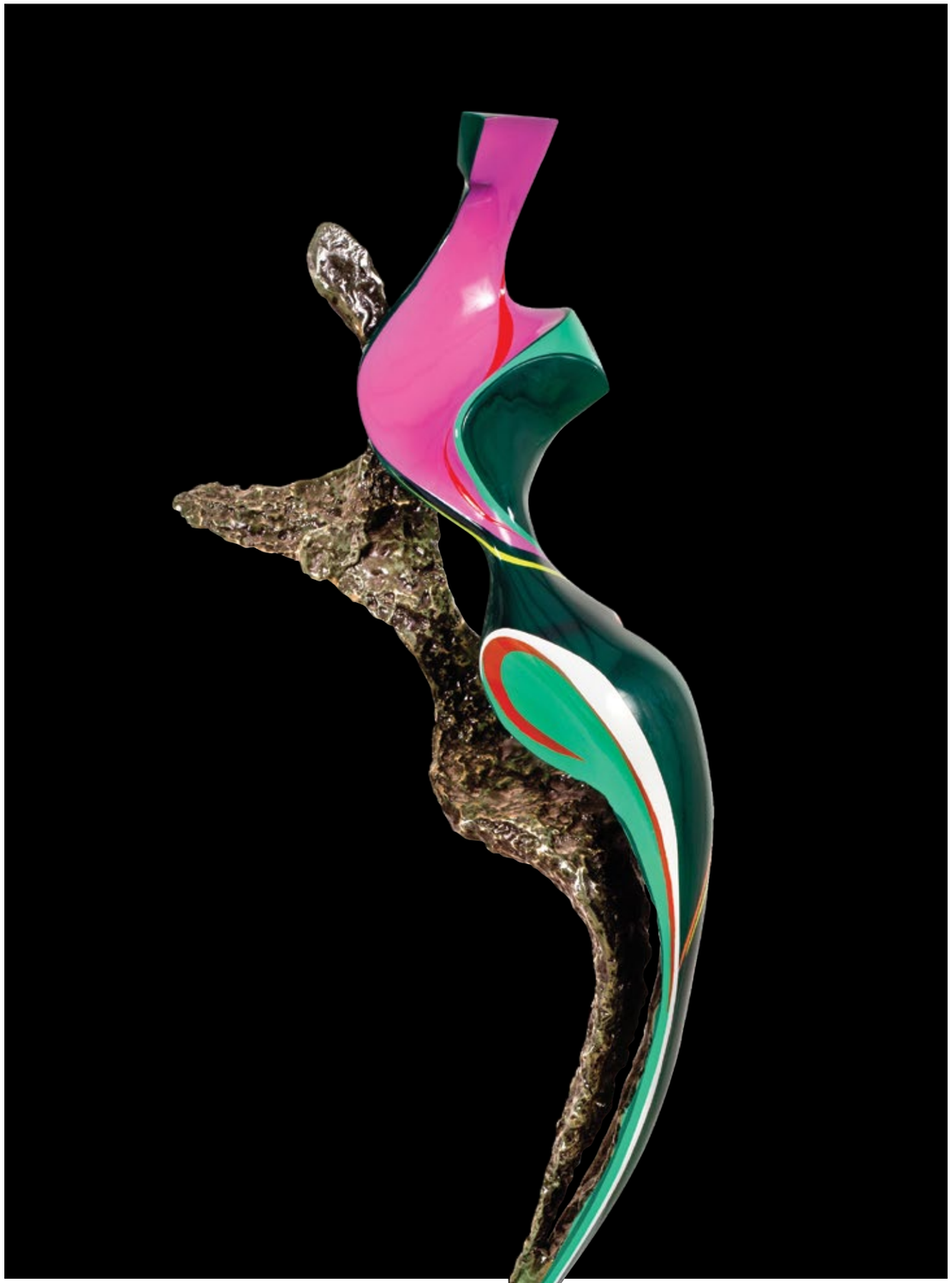
Tango, Bronze, 160x60x60 cm

"DANCE IS MOVEMENT, IS IT CONNECTION, IT IS FREEDOM, IT IS FLOW". GADI HAS A REAL INTEREST IN MOVEMENT. IN HIS DANCING SCULPTURES, TWO DANCERS CREATE NEW FORM TOGETHER, CLOSE AND FLOWING WITH ONE ANOTHER. IN THESE GENTLE AND BEAUTIFUL WORKS, TWO FORCES SEEM TO COMPLETE ONE ANOTHER, MORPHING AND FORMING TOGETHER SOMETHING NEW THAT WOULD NOT EXIST INDEPENDENTLY, LIKE YIN AND YANG.

Tango, Gold coated Bronze, 33X33X75 cm



THIS ALLURING SCULPTURE ABSTRACTLY DEPICTS A COLORFUL DANCE BETWEEN TWO DANCERS AND THE SONGLIKE SWIRL OF EMOTIONS CREATED BETWEEN THE UNION OF TWO SOULS. THE HURRICANE OF COLORS CREATES A PLAYFUL ORCHESTRA, REVEALING THE TWO FIGURES IN THE THROES OF LOVE AT ITS TOP.

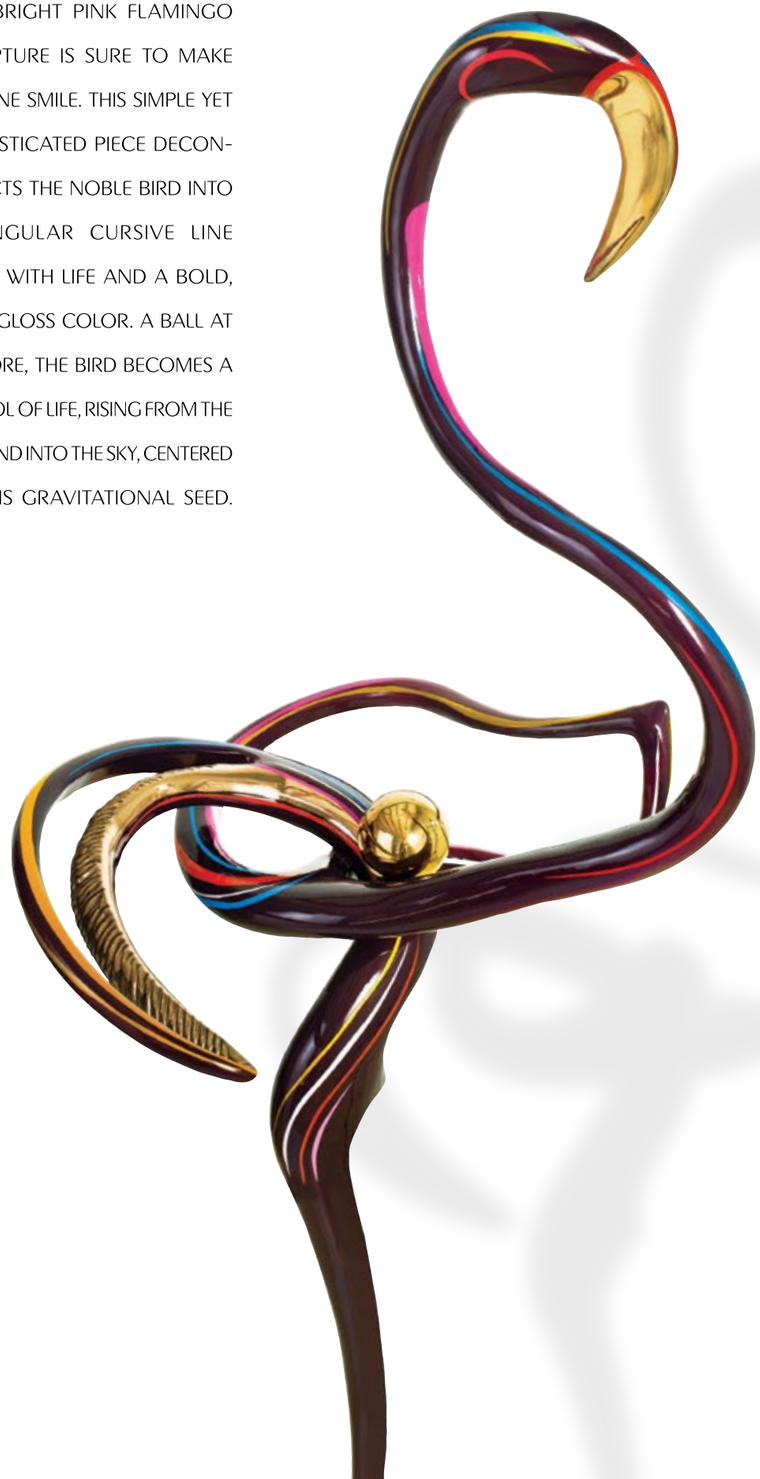


Dance with a shadow, Colored Bronze, 55X50X215 cm

GADI'S SCULPTURES OF BIRDS REVEAL BEAUTIFUL, NIMBLE CREATURES OF FLIGHT. HE DOES NOT ATTEMPT TO RECREATE THEM AS THEY ARE BUT AS HE SEES THEM, ABSTRACTED AND DELICATE, ALMOST AMORPHOUS, THEIR BODIES BECOMING TALL AND THEIR WINGS AN ACCESSORY TO THEIR FULLY AIRY BEING.

Flamingo, Colored Bronze , 45X95X210 cm

THIS BRIGHT PINK FLAMINGO SCULPTURE IS SURE TO MAKE ANYONE SMILE. THIS SIMPLE YET SOPHISTICATED PIECE DECONSTRUCTS THE NOBLE BIRD INTO A SINGULAR CURSIVE LINE FILLED WITH LIFE AND A BOLD, HIGH-GLOSS COLOR. A BALL AT ITS CORE, THE BIRD BECOMES A SYMBOL OF LIFE, RISING FROM THE GROUND INTO THE SKY, CENTERED BY THIS GRAVITATIONAL SEED.



Bird Of Paradise, Colored Bronze, 170x57x45 cm

GADI IS FASCINATED BY BIRDS, IN PARTICULAR THE GRACEFUL SWAN, REPRESENTING PURITY AND SERENITY. IN THIS BEAUTIFUL SCULPTURE, GADI EXPLORES THE NOTION OF THE BLACK SWAN. RARE IN SIGHTING, THE ANIMAL SYMBOLIZES A SURPRISING AND UNLIKELY EVENT THAT ACTS A BIG OPPORTUNITY FOR GROWTH. THIS COLORFUL SCULPTURE REMINDS US THAT MISTAKES OR SEEMINGLY UNFORTUNATE EVENTS IN LIFE CAN ACTUALLY BE A GREAT CATALYST FOR BEAUTY.

Black Swan, Colored Bronze, 68x45x53 cm

GADI SCULPTS BUTTERFLIES AS A SYMBOL OF FREEDOM. “A BUTTERFLY LEVITATES, IT DOES WHAT IT WANTS. IT IS FREE.” AS IF IN A SINGLE BRUSH STROKE, GADI CREATED THIS DANCING, QUIVERING AND COLORFUL BUTTERFLY RHYTHMIC, CONTEMPORARY PLAYING WITH ITS OWN SHADOW.

 Butterfly, Colored Bronze, 125X45X80 cm

Dating Battle, Colored Bronze, 30X30X24

Magic, Colored Bronze, 40X40X73

A depiction of human movement and flexibility, Gadi sculpted a pose performed by his gymnast daughter. "It's always so surprising to see an unexpected human pose in day to day life" he says. He reveals the potential of humans to become long, elegant, bird-like negating the laws of gravity.

Flowing, interconnected infinite rings meet as a golden wedding band at the center. A symbol of the union of two souls, two figures dance together in a deep, colorful everlasting bond of trust.

THE NEW EYES SERIES

THE EYES SERIES EXPLORES HUMAN BEINGS' OBSESSION WITH ATTENTION IN OUR PRESENT-DAY ERA. ACCORDING TO GADI, WE ARE ENTERING A NEW ICE AGE, A SPIRITUAL ICE AGE, CHARACTERIZED BY ATTENTION DEFICITS OF THE MIND AND A CONCURRENT DEEP YEARNING FOR MOMENTARY EMOTIONAL THRILLS. INFINITE CONTENT OVERWHELMS THE HUMAN SUBCONSCIOUS; HERDS OF AIMLESS EYES ROAM RAPIDLY FROM PLACE TO PLACE, SHEPHERDED BY PULSATING GLITCHES. AT A TIME WHEN THE NUMBER OF FOLLOWERS AND VIEWS DETERMINE HOW MUCH YOU'RE LOVED AND THE ATTENTION SPAN SHORTENS, THE BATTLE BECOMES AGGRESSIVE. GOOD LUCK, DIGITAL COWBOYS!

Mobile eyes, Colored stainless steel, 100x80x140 cm

Gray follower, Colored stainless steel, 25 X 25 cm

Blue follower, Colored stainless steel, 25 X 25 cm

BRONZE

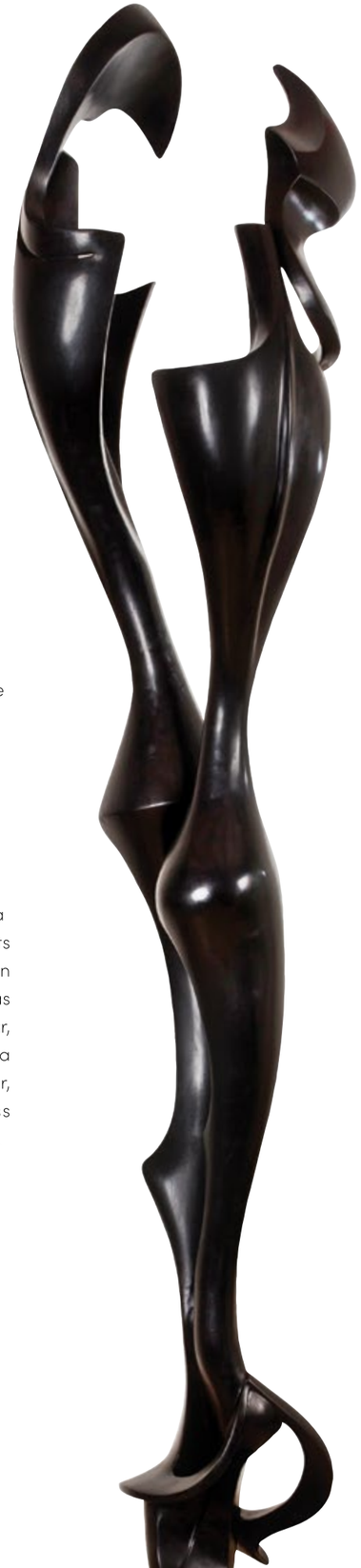
Driven by a gust of curiosity, Gadi expanded to working in bronze after several years of sculpting in stone. If Gadi's work with stone consists of subtracting matter, in bronze the works come to life by adding material into three-dimensional space. Gadi creates a simple structure, a 'spine' out of metal, then builds the model of the sculpture out of plaster. It is then taken to a casting foundry, where it is molded, then cast in bronze: boiling hot liquid poured into a cast, becoming a hard, durable form. Although the bronze sculpture is created by bronze casting professionals, Gadi accompanies the entire process from casting to pouring, to the finishing touches, to ensure his work is as he had in mind, and of highest quality.

The process of bronze sculpting allows movement and flexibility that is simply not feasible in stone. Gadi's love of movement can be explored more intimately in bronze, where he does not hold the same type of responsibility that he bears to stone. "In bronze I can arrive at very thin and fragile densities," he says, being able to explore thinner lines, like when drawing. His forms suddenly become lighter, more airy like underwater structures that he is so inspired by.

Dance with a Shadow, Bronze, 226x35x35 cm

Chess, Bronze, 185x35x90 cm

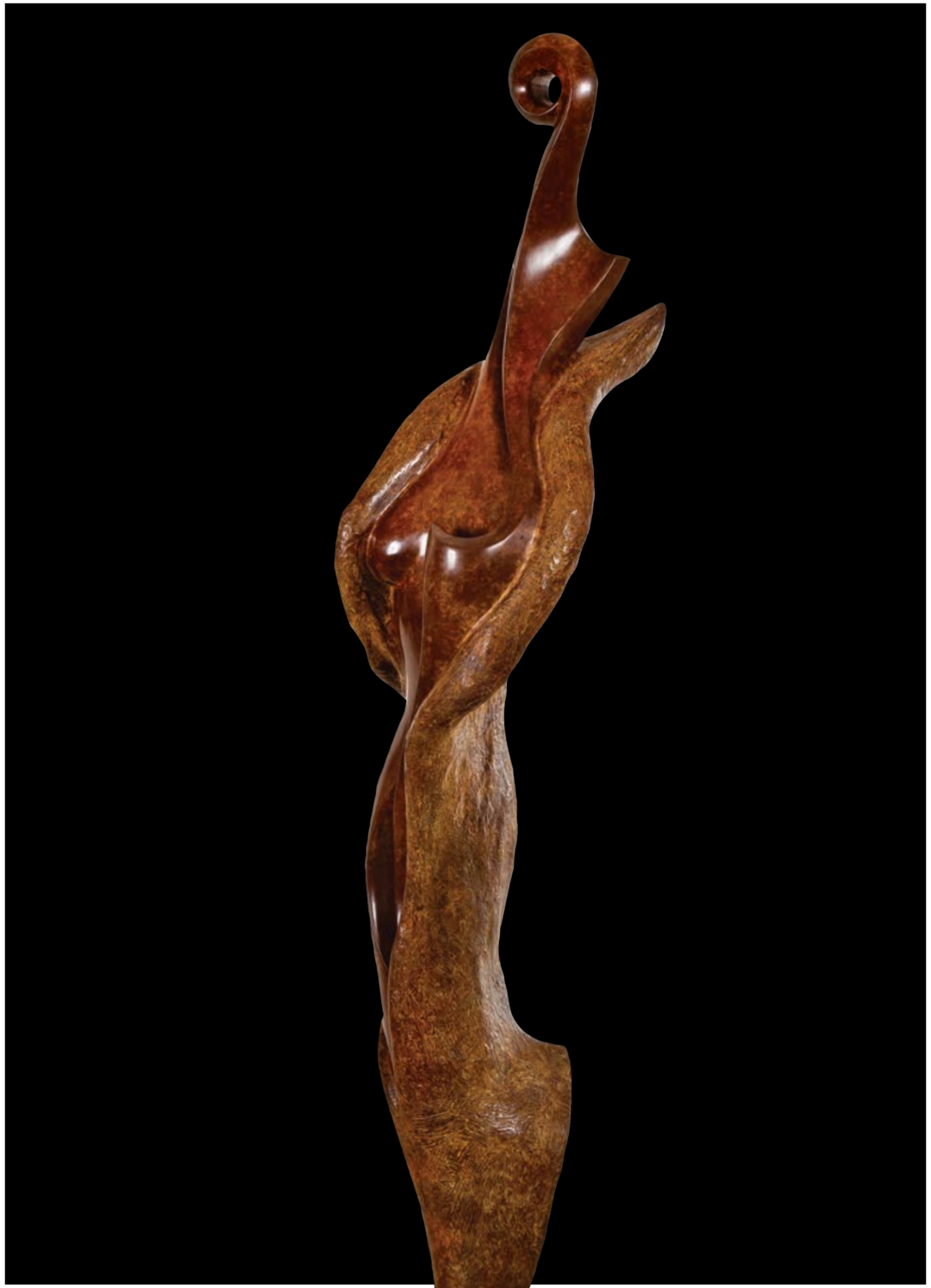
Gadi's relationship series refers to the complexity of human nature and human relations. "Dynamics are a vital part of human nature," Gadi reveals. Inspired by his own process of living in companionship with others, his stone and bronze sculptures relating to this theme depict often two or several joined figures, or sometimes a singular character, battling against its own powers. Often the line between 'battle' and 'togetherness' is blurred, as several forces meet together in matter, either fighting eachother like cats in a sack, or learning to accept eachother, referring to the endless process learned in daily human relationships.



 Shadows, Bronze, 60X60X250 cm

Shadows, Colored Bronze, 60X60X250 cm

Sin, Bronze, 40X45X130 cm



Mysterious Woman, Bronze , 180x40x40 cm

GADI'S BUTTERFLIES IN STONE AND BRONZE REFER TO THE SYMBOL OF FREEDOM. "A BUTTERFLY FLOATS. IT GOES TO WHICHEVER FLOWER IT WANTS, WHENEVER IT WANTS. WITH THAT, THERE'S A SENSE OF SHAKING OFF OF ALL CONVENTIONS, HUMAN EXPECTATIONS AND OF FITTING INTO MOLDS." MOREOVER, FOR GADI THIS WINGED CREATURE REPRESENTS SOMETHING ETHEREAL: AN ANGEL, A FAIRY. "I THINK IN SOME WAY EVERY PERSON WISHES A GUARDIAN ANGEL COULD ACCOMPANY THEM. SO I CREATE THESE BUTTERFLIES THAT LIVE WITH ME. IT GIVES ME A SENSATION OF FLIGHT, MOVEMENT. IT CREATES FREEDOM."

Momentum, Bronze, 34x26x18 cm

THE GOOD IDEAS ARE
BORN-IN SPORADIC
BURSTS WHEN-YOU
HAVE A BURNING DESIRE
TO LET SOMETHING OUT.
IT'S SOMETHING INTERNAL
YOU HAVE NO CONTROL OVER.
IT'S NOT SOMETHING THAT ICAN
JUST GIVE UP TOMORROW,
IT CAN'T HAPPEN.

Angel, Bronze, 45X50X187 cm

A CHARMING FAIRY WINGED WITH BUTTERFLY WINGS IS REACHING OUT TO A GROUP OF SMALL LUMINESCENT BUTTERFLIES. FOR GADI THIS FAIRY ANGEL SYMBOLIZES FREEDOM AND MAN'S CHANCE IN LIFE TO LIVE AS HE LIKES, NOT AS HE MIGHT BE EXPECTED TO. WE ARE LEFT WITH THE QUESTION: IS THE FAIRY RAISING THE BUTTERFLIES, OR ARE THEY RAISING HER? OR PERHAPS THEY ARE RAISING EACH OTHER, DANCING TOGETHER IN COMPLETE FREEDOM.

Freedom, Bronze, 187x33x35 cm

THE FEMALE FIGURES DEPICTED IN GADI'S WOMEN SERIES APPEAR AS SOLID AND GROUNDED AS THE MATTER FROM WHICH THEY ARE CREATED. THEIR PRESENCE IS STRONGLY SURE OF ITSELF, DECISIVE, POWERFUL, AND AT THE SAME TIME LIGHT, FLOWING, DANCING. THERE IS A CALM SENSE OF PATIENCE AND LOVE EMANATING FROM THEM. "A WOMAN HAS MORE FLOWY LINES, SHE IS MORE CREATIVE, MORE THREE DIMENSIONAL, THINKS MORE AND OFTEN KNOWS BETTER THAN A MAN!"

62 Repose, Bronze, 50X180X90 cm

Freedom, Bronze, 187x33x35 cm 63

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