

On behalf of AIDA's artists, board of directors and staff I would like to thank you for your continued support and wish you a happy and healthy holiday season.

This issue of our newsletter highlights AIDA's recent activities at SOFA CHICAGO. I would like to extend a special thank you to SOFA founders Mark Lyman & Anne Meszko at Expressions of Culture, Inc. for their continuing commitment in helping AIDA realize it's dreams.

This year marked AIDA's 5th year at SOFA CHICAGO. In addition to bringing seven decorative artists from Israel, AIDA also co-sponsored "Offering Reconciliation" a thought provoking exhibition of works created by prominent Israeli and Palestinian artists. Both exhibits inspired an admiration for the region's art and hope for reconciliation.

For more information on these and our upcoming 2008 programs please visit our website [www.AIDAarts.org](http://www.AIDAarts.org) or feel free to contact me at [erikavogel@AIDAarts.org](mailto:erikavogel@AIDAarts.org) or (212) 931.0089.

Happy Holidays!



Erika Vogel, Director



AIDA artists on opening night

### AIDA Exhibit

AIDA's Special Exhibit at SOFA showcased seven Israeli artists working in metal, glass, jewelry, fiber and ceramic: Deganit Stern Schocken, Nati Amoils, Ronit Dagan, Itay Noy, Samy D, Galya Rosenfeld and Tova Carmon.

Special thanks to Norm & Lis Sandler at Sandler Architects for once again designing this year's booth!



from left to right. Top: Galya Rosenfeld, Sharon Shaked, Deganit Stern Schocken, Assaf Dagan, Ronit Dagan, Samy D, Erika Vogel. Bottom: Itay Noy, Nati Amoils, Tova Carmon

### AIDA Artists

Three of this year's artists—Ronit Dagan, Itay Noy and Nati Amoils—received gallery representation from the Jane Sauer Gallery, Yaw Gallery and Ferrin Gallery respectively. The Racine Art Museum acquired a work by Galya Rosenfeld.

After her return home, Ronit Dagan said, "I would like to thank AIDA for believing in my work, for giving me the challenge of participating in SOFA, and making me a member of the AIDA family! I enjoyed every moment of it."

## GET INVOLVED

### Israeli Art Month at the Armory Art Center March 2008 - Palm Beach, FL

AIDA partners with the Armory Art Center in Palm Beach, Florida. Events include a show of Israeli fiber art, workshops by AIDA jewelers and a trunk show of Israeli jewelry by the Yaw Gallery.



Nirit Dekel, 2007,  
Necklace,  
Italian Moretti Glass

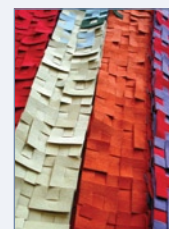
### SOFA CHICAGO November 6-9, 2008

AIDA presents a curated show of works by AIDA alumni commemorating Israel's 60th anniversary and AIDA's 6th year at SOFA.



### Philadelphia Craft Show November 12-16, 2008

The craft show has selected Israel as the 2008 guest artist country. AIDA will present work by twenty six Israeli artists at the show.



Galya Rosenfeld, 2007,  
"Modular Scarves",  
Ultra Suede and Felt



Viewers at the exhibit

**Offering Reconciliation**

This special exhibition created by Palestinian and Israeli artists offering their interpretation of reconciliation and hope was seen by SOFA's 34,000 visitors. The exhibition was conceived by the Parents Circle – Families Forum, a grass roots organization of bereaved Palestinian and Israel families who lost relatives due to regional conflict. AIDA, having seen the exhibit in Israel, arranged to bring the artwork to the U.S. where it toured Brandeis University, the World Bank, the Bellevue Art Museum, The U.N., the Pomegranate Gallery and finally SOFA CHICAGO.

In response to the partnership, Robi Damelin from the Parents Circle said, "It seems to me that thank you is not an adequate word for the support and love we have received from AIDA. I could not believe that so many people at SOFA wanted to be part of this message of hope. I hope this experience will make a difference in the lives of Palestinian and Israeli children."



top left to right: Polly Ullrich, Ali Abu Awwad, Rivka Saker, & Robi Damelin

**Panel Presentation**

Moderated by freelance art critic and curator Polly Ullrich, the creators of "Offering Reconciliation" discussed art as a vehicle for social change. Panelists included Robi Damelin and Ali Abu Awwad from the Parents Circle – Families Forum and Rivka Saker, Sotheby's Europe/Israel and board member of AIDA and the Parents Circle.



Entrance to the "Offering Reconciliation" exhibit

**Live Auction**

Each of the 135 works of art in the "Offering Reconciliation" exhibit were part of an auction, proceeds of which benefit the Parents Circle's programs in Israeli and Palestinian communities. 92 pieces sold including 15 works which sold during a live auction on Friday, November 2nd. Opening remarks at the live auction were made by Mark Lyman (Expressions of Culture, Inc.), Sandy Baklor (AIDA) and Robi Damelin & Ali Abu Awwad (Parents Circle) and the auctioneer was Helyn Goldenberg of Sotheby's Chicago.



Opening night of "Yofi"

**"Yofi" at the Flow Gallery in London**

On November 15th "Yofi" opened. The show, sponsored by AIDA and the Israeli Embassy in London, has works by 15 Israeli jewelers and ceramists. The opening reception was an overwhelming success with over 200 people in attendance including Aviva Ben Sira, AIDA's project director in Israel, along with a number of the exhibiting artists. Yvonna Demczynska, the founder of the Flow gallery, curated the exhibition and personally selected each of the participating artists in a trip to Israel in May.

Yofi is on exhibit until January 5th, 2008. Be sure to stop by the gallery if you are in London. [www.flowgallery.com](http://www.flowgallery.com)

ABOUT AIDA

AIDA's mission is to foster the development of contemporary decorative artists from Israel by connecting them to an international audience of galleries, institutions, and collectors.

AIDA is driven by a dedicated network of volunteers, supporters and friends.

If you would like to get more involved or make a tax deductible contribution, please contact Erika Vogel at [erikavogel@AIDAarts.org](mailto:erikavogel@AIDAarts.org) or (212) 931.0089.

AIDA is a certified 501(c)3 organization.



110 east 59th st. 26th floor  
 new york, ny 10022  
 t: 212 931 0089  
[www.AIDAarts.org](http://www.AIDAarts.org)