

Rocket Men

Guy Nissenhaus

Ramat Gan museum for Israeli art

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documents a jam-session performance created by Guy Nissenhaus **Rocket Men** The video together with his father in the family metal workshop, founded in 1925 and passed down by Elton John, while *Rocket Man* through the men of the family. The son sings and plays the father responds by drumming on an industrial press.

Engaging with the relationship between production and creation, and between matter and spirit, the video raises questions of continuity, generational gaps and family, masculinity, industry, dreams, and love.

The motivation for the film was to dedicate a song to my father and to try to connect his “ production and my creation within the context of a 91-year-old family business. I belong to ”the business, yet I chose to interrupt the legacy of craftsmanship in favor of making art.

The video offers a glimpse into the world of small workshops—family businesses that are gradually disappearing in favor of large conglomerates. Opposed to this reality stands the that, in a sense, preserves the concept of the ‘profession’ field of visual art—an ancient workshop.

In the exhibition space, barrels are installed that originally serve as containers for the various products manufactured in the family workshop, alongside two wooden reliefs. One depicts a flamenco dancer at the peak of the dance, hands planted firmly on the ground while his arms are powerfully raised upward. The second relief shows a wrestler at the climax of a wrestling s head and overpowering him’match, hands gripping his opponent

The reliefs are carved from wood, using a traditional technique that embodies creation emerging from raw material, and are painted in metallic and fluorescent colors.