

## TOONY NAVOK: ORIGINS, AT NOGA GALLERY TEL AVIV

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First off, this is just a fun show to visit, not in the light fun of eating popcorn, but in a refreshing profound fun of seeing something intriguing. [Origins](#) for me is totally foreign and familiar at the same time. Familiar because of the mediums used. Cleaning supplies, hoses, plastic, nice pastels and other colors; foreign because at first I have no idea what is going on, yet I immediately trust [Toony Navok](#).

In dusty Tel Aviv, and in fact in the dusty Levant, nothing is more sacred than a clean floor, a clean house, a clean environment, something distant from the street. We were all raised on stories of the Yekkim, the German immigrants who washed the floor twice a day. Toony Navok takes to a new level and forms her own lexicon, one that is deeply imbedded in modernism and its discontents. Nahum Tevet, Isa Genzken, even Imi Knoebel come to mind as a sort of base or a launching pad for the show.

Whats great is that nothing really seem to work, the hose doesn't work, nothing is being cleaned, the materials that are so "known" have become a part of something bigger than themselves. And again, this is the great thing about Origins, the purpose of "things" has been "drained" out and re-invented to be used as, well, nothing!

Serious and still very funny, Origins is a thoughtful and worthy show.

Install shots by [Elad Sarig](#)



EMAIL:  
[guy.yanai@telavivian.com](mailto:guy.yanai@telavivian.com)

ABOUT:  
 Guy Yanai was born in 1977 in Haifa, Israel. Raised and educated in Boston, New York, and Amherst, he currently lives and works in Tel Aviv. His writing features various aspects of the city through the lens of art.

Guy Yanai is an artist. His recent solo exhibitions include "Battle Therapy Living Room" at Rothschild 69 art space, "First We Feel Then We Fall" at Alon Segev Gallery, and "Four Guys In A Subaru Drinking Grape-juice" at the Spaceship at HaYarkon 70. Recent groups exhibitions include "Domesticated Souls" at A.L.I.C.E Brussels, and "Sense of the Mediterranean" at Hangar Bicocca Milan and Ashdod Museum of Art.

Forthcoming projects in 2013 include group shows in the U.S. and Europe, a collaboration with Band of Outsiders, and a solo show at La Montagne Gallery in Boston.

Guy is represented in Tel Aviv by Alon Segev Gallery.

Photo by Jennifer A Bessira.

Guy alone is responsible for the content of this blog.