SOCIAL BAUHAUS
28-30.11 2019

Ronit Shany, Postcards from father's shop, 2019.
Welcome!

Welcome to Haifa, to the Social Bauhaus Urban Experience, Marking the Centenary of Bauhaus, including performances and exhibitions in iconic venues at Hadar Hacarmel, such as the Talpiot Market and Ora Cinema, to name but two. Most of these places have been abandoned, but they’re open to the public for the three days of the “Social Bauhaus,” with dozens of exhibitions, lectures, and tours. “Social Bauhaus” is held in conjunction with “Open House,” which offers architectural tours. An international conference on architecture has taken place at the City Hall, under the auspices of the Built Heritage Research Center, the Faculty of Architecture.

The Mayor of Haifa, Dr. Einat Kalisch-Rotem, remarks: “One of Haifa’s principal assets is its historical city centre, with its profusion of architectural works and, in particular, its unique Bauhaus structures that make Haifa a city of charm and uncommon qualities. A city that does not know how to respect its past is one that has no future. I said so before the elections and since coming into office I have been acting ceaselessly in this direction. Haifa deserves to become a World Heritage Site, largely by virtue of its ever so unique modern architecture and its combination of Occident and Orient, Western design and local Arab technologies. Once the city centre becomes an historical and touristic monument, Haifa will flourish.”

The “Social Bauhaus” event, in concert with the Municipality of Haifa and Beit Ha’Gefen, Mifal Hapayis, the Faculty of Architecture, and the University of Haifa (via the Faculty of the Humanities) is made possible, among other things, by a contribution from the Chair of the Board of Governors, Mr. Brad Bloom. The academic adviser is Prof. Yossi Ben-Artzi.

The curator, Dr. Galia Bar Or, is into her second year of research on Haifa. (Last year, she focused on Wadi Salib.) Four centres in the Hadar Hacarmel neighborhood demarcate the route of those who visit the “Social Bauhaus” event in places that used to be central:

At the Hadarion building (the former Bosmat School, corner of Balfour and Massada Streets), an exhibition titled “Haifa Bauhaus—Is There Such a Thing?” is presented. At the Bet HaKeranot (corner of Balfour and Herzl Streets) you will find “The Countdown,” which includes an installation in the underground passageway (Balfour—Herzl). In the heart of Red Haifa, at the erstwhile Ora Cinema (41 Herzl Street), is the exhibition “The Pink Sanctuary Comes to Life.” Across from there, in the passageway via the stairs, you can visit the Labour Council House on Hehaluts Street and the “Red Haifa” exhibition. Downhill from this building, at what remains of the Amphi-Theatre cinema—now a parking lot (on Syrkin Street)—an “automobile ensemble” sound performance is presented. Further along the street, in the Talpiot Market structure, all the floors of which have been cleared and cleaned (Syrkin 35), is an exhibition and performances—“With Our Love, A Body Becomes A Place,” comprising presentations by dozens of artists along with dance and sound events.

“Social Bauhaus” is held in conjunction with “Open House,” which offers tours of the city in a way that integrates the perception of the event, the boundaries of which sprawl from Massada–Balfour Streets to Syrkin–Barzilai. Additional “Open House” tours are held in distinctive buildings around town (consult the program).

One can reach the “Social Bauhaus” by train. Get off or park at the Merkaz Hashemonot station and take the Carmelit up from the Paris Square station to Massada. From there, continue on foot to Hadarion, to the sites and tours in Hadar Hacarmel and the Talpiot Market. Alternatively, park your car in the vicinity of the Talpiot Market and Syrkin Street or at the Hanevi’im parking facility, within walking distance of the market. For your information, walking from the Talpiot Market to Hadarion includes some hill-climbing, particularly on Balfour Street.

For updates and additional information, visit socialbauhaus.co.il or the Social Bauhaus Facebook page. Entrance to all exhibit sites, tours, performances, and activities is free of charge.

Opening the gate

Three focal types of public space undergird the Hadar Hacarmel neighbourhood as it was originally designed by the architect Richard Kaufmann. The cooperative triangulation that evolved among all the institutions in the area, together with the urban core where commercial activity took place, made the area grow and gave it its unique reputation.

The “Social Bauhaus” events are held in the throbbing public heart of Hadar Hacarmel of that time—the Technion campus, Bet Hapoalim, and the Amphi-Theatre as far as the Talpiot Market. Many of the structures have been sold off; the land where they used to sit now accommodates diverse populations and living tapestries that are undergoing rapid change. The entire event is an opportunity to engage in remembering, getting acquainted, and encountering, in a way that also creates a point of departure for future activity. “Social Bauhaus” invites its visitors not only to form an impression of these fascinating places but also to get a sense of what churns beneath the surface: the overt and covert, the open and the obstructed, in places that were once a core of meaning, for Haifa and for the whole country.

This complex activity, which reveals Haifa’s inner power, is the product of cooperation between diverse populations all over the town: civil-society associations, academic institutions, social groups, artists living in Haifa and the public at large. They collaborate in this event due to their conviction that a “place” has a great deal of pent-up power. A space makes room for the footprints of human experience along with change, vigour, accommodation of memory, the raising of conflict to the surface, and a forum for dialogue.
Hadarion: “Haifa Bauhaus—Is There Such a Thing?”

The Technion campus in Hadar Hacarmel, a large unbroken parcel of education institutions and gardens, was designed to include not only the Technion (the vanguard of Israel’s institutes of technological education) but also two high schools: one “reali” (science-based) and the other vocational. Behind every successful Bauhaus architect stand technological skills and inventions, workshops, and artisans. It was for this purpose, due to the initiators’ foresight, that the spacious and unbroken parcel of land from Herzl Street all the way to Massada Street was purchased back in the early twentieth century.

Construction of the Technion began in 1909 but got bogged down due to wars and regime changes until the school opened officially in 1925 — by which time the area had become a cultural and social focal point. The Faculty of Architecture was the first to operate there; the Faculty of Civil Engineering came in alongside it. The Faculty of Architecture was also the last to leave the area and move to the new Technion campus on Mount Carmel.

Hadarion, the host of a number of “Social Bauhaus” exhibitions and performances, is an octagonal structure that used to belong to the vocational high school (which evolved into Bosmat School). It opened back in 1928 and in 1933 it reopened as a vocational school that combined technical and academic subjects under the Technion’s management. It became renowned; its alumni went on to the Technion and played an active role in the Hagana by producing various implements and instruments while overhauling British military aircraft. In 1938, a naval school opened there as well; it moved out in 1955.

In 2007, Bosmat School was shut down by decision of the Technion Senate. The buildings of the vocational school were abandoned, including the oldest of them, built in the Bauhaus style (architect: Yohanan Ratner) and the octagonal structure that housed the library (architect: Shlomo Gilead). The building was renovated in 2016 by the Faculty of Architecture and Town Planning for use as the faculty’s extension in Hadar Hacarmel.

A tribute exhibition, including rare items from Bosmat that were found shortly before the “Social Bauhaus” was inaugurated, is positioned in the middle of the structure.

A sprawling exhibition at Hadarion honors the architect Moshe Gerstel, who in addition to being a gifted architect was a multi-talented painter. The pulse of local relations seems to pound in the contents of Gerstel’s archive: writings, documents, sketches of buildings and portraits painted by Gerstel, many revealed for the first time at the “Social Bauhaus” event. Gerstel’s paintings of his Arab colleagues and the story of their cooperation project reflects onto the nature of Haifa’s diverse texture. The collaboration among those who take part in this story — Arabs and Jews, planners, artists, and artisans — allowed tradition and innovation to mate.

On the occasion of the “Social Bauhaus,” an encounter between Gerstel’s grandson and Sami Karaman, the son of Taher Karaman, with whom Architect Gerstel collaborated, documented by the artist Mali De-Kalo, is shown at the exhibition.

Also on display at Hadarion is a tribute to Gilbert Herbert, a doyen and dean of the Faculty of Architecture and a co-founder of the Architecture Documentation Unit that the Faculty set up in 1975, before the importance of legacy documentation was acknowledged. Herbert developed the unit into an architectural legacy research center in 1990. Here, for the first time, are excerpts of interviews with him by the cinema documenter Michael Hanan in 2017, shortly before Herbert’s death. The excerpts make reference to the subtitle above (“Haifa Bauhaus—Is There Such a Thing?”) and, inter alia, to the Bauhaus conception of Walter Gropius, with whom Herbert maintained research and personal relations. Students from the Center co-produced the exhibition.

Drawings by the architect Sergio Lerman of International Style structures in Haifa are also on display at Hadarion. Lerman was part of a Tel Aviv-Yafo team that acted in the 1990s, under Professor Shamai Assif (then the Tel Aviv-Yafo municipal engineer), to save the Ajami quarter of Yafo. The exhibition is presented to demonstrate a modus operandi that may also be applied in Hadar Hacarmel and to enhance the public’s awareness of preservation. This exhibition, too, was put on in conjunction with students from the Built Heritage Research Center.

Nira Lev’s paintings, including memories of childhood near the Technion campus and the “Clock Building” intersection, are displayed at the heart of Hadarion. In the entrance foyer, which served as a commemoration center, Leor Grady and Nardeen Srouji placed installations that connect with the domain of a complex memory. On the ground floor is an exhibition of 100 International Style structures in Haifa, initiated and produced by the architect Walid Karkabi and the Haifa Municipal Preservation Department. At the heart of this exhibition stands an installation that addresses architectural discourse, created by Lena Arbov Atuar and Yaacov Chefetz.

At the focal area of the ground floor, artist Naama Hadany has created an installation composed of tiles into which pieces of fabric have been inserted. Roni Hajaj’s installation dialogues with works by Mordechai Gumpel, historically the renowned public space artist of Haifa. A sound work by Roy Cohen is also on display.

In the underground area (still under construction), Alina Rom-Cohen has placed a glass and mixed-technique work concerning construction and fragility and states of migration.

Hadarion — enter from 23 Balfour Street, Haifa.
Open Thursday, November 28, 10:00 a.m.—8:00 p.m.; Friday, November 29, 10:00 a.m.—10:00 p.m.; Saturday, November 30, 10:00 a.m.—10:00 p.m.
At the heart of the intersection of Balfour and Herzl stands the “Clock Building.” Across from it is Bet HaKeranot, built in 1935 as a joint project of the Technion and the Reali High School, co-funded by the Foundation Fund (Keren Hayesod) and the Jewish National Fund (Keren Kayemet)—whence its name, which means “house of the funds.” This innovative commercial and office building energized the development of Herzl Street and served as a public forum and an important venue for Shavuot festival parades, dance events, May Day celebrations, and more. (Its architect, Joseph Klarwein, also designed the Dagon grain elevators and the Kneseet building in Jerusalem, among other works.)

On the occasion of the “Social Bauhaus,” photographs of the 1957 May Day parade at Bet HaKeranot, taken by Gerda Cohen-Litman, a fashion photographer from the Netherlands, are revealed for the first time, printed large scale and suspended from the top floor of the building (courtesy of the Younes and Soraya Nazarian Library, University of Haifa; and the Bruck-Cohen Family). In the display windows of the half-abandoned structure, artist Shay Zilberman has installed works that correspond with visions of modernity and Zionism.

Iddo Markus’ exhibition of paintings on the theme of parades “not from here” appears in the display windows at the foot of the building. On both sides of the underground passageway at Balfour Street, visitors contemplate mosaics of processions by Mordechai Gumpel in the 1950s and a sculpture installation created by Ofer Lellouche in conjunction with artists from Haifa and the vicinity.

Across from there, the motionless clock of the Clock Building (architect: Gideon Kaminka, 1934–1936) observes the scene. Every self-respecting city has a clock tower and Bauhaus Haifa had the Clock Building, which came to symbolize the entire city. Atop the relatively tall and dignified building, a large and accurate clock was installed. Visible from far and wide, it allowed passersby to calibrate their own watches. This beloved municipal landmark and icon, disseminated on postcards and in photos, appears on the leading image of the “Social Bauhaus”—a collage created by artist Ronit Shany on an historical postcard showing Bet HaKeranot and the Clock Building. Artist Belu-Simion Fainaru wished to revive the dormant clock for the three days of the “Social Bauhaus” but was denied by the real-estate entrepreneur who owns the Clock Building. Therefore a living statue spent the three days demonstrating across from the building—a living sign, atop which the hands of the clock move in backward motion: Are they issuing a wake-up call?

The Balfour Street passageway is open Thursday, November 28; Friday, November 29; and Saturday, November 30, 10:00 a.m.–8:00 p.m.

“The Pink Sanctuary Comes to Life”

Exhibition at the Ora Cinema

The Ora Cinema, the throbbing heart of Hadar Hacarmel, was dedicated in 1935 “to disseminate the culture of the spirit and the soul” (architects: Oskar Kaufmann and Eugen Stolzer). The first film shown there was Crime and Punishment. Built in accordance with the principles of the International Style, it blossomed and flourished until a fire forced it to suspend operations in 1941. When it reopened six years later, an elated journalist reported: “In its beauty and its fine appurtenances, it surpasses the Ora Cinema of yore.” Years later, however, the building was abandoned and sold to a real-estate entrepreneur who modified it. Part of the original balcony is open to the public during the three days of the “Social Bauhaus.” The exhibition is dedicated to the memory of Professor Uri Katzenstein, a highly regarded artist who was active at the Haifa University School of the Arts and died a year ago. The artist Hadi Kalil, Katzenstein’s pupil, put up a sculpture installation accompanied by sound, projection and movement. Starring in the middle are sculptural wheels that propel the set of elements in a centrifugal movement, assembled by Kalil in collaboration with artists and other sound professionals. Hila Chessen presents a film where the present-day reality of abandoned movie theatres in Hadar Hacarmel is pondered. Revital Lessick presents a theatrical tribute to the abandoned Ron Cinema down the street. Avinoam Caspi Greenfield dubs memories from his childhood home, which bordered the Ora Cinema. The “Screech Orchestra” from Holon performs amid other performances and encounters. There’s popcorn too.

Ora Cinema, 41 Herzl Street. Thursday, November 28: 10:00 a.m.–10:00 p.m.; Friday, November 29: 10:00 a.m.–4:00 p.m.; Saturday, November 30: 5:00–10:00 p.m.

“Red Haifa”

Exhibition at the Labor Council House

Here is the heart of "Red Haifa": the Ora Cinema, Bet Hapoalim and the Labor Council House and the Amphitheatre, now a parking lot. When you exit Ora Cinema you’ll notice a bridge that leads to the building across, which looks like an unbroken structural continuum that follows the bend along Hehaluts Street. It wasn’t always like this. It’s hard to detect the features to the right of the bridge: Bet Hapoalim (Workers’ House), dedicated in 1927, and the Amphitheatre alongside it, which spilled down the slope in harmony with the topography (architect: Yohanan Ratner; see our article on the topic at the end of this booklet.)

The structure to the left of the bridge is the Labor Council House, dedicated in 1950 (architects: Munio Gitai Weinraub and Alfred Mansfeld). The ironwork, still suspended on the wall, is Mordechai Gumpel’s creation. Visitors of “Social Bauhaus” are invited to the hall situated to the left of Gumpel’s sculpture. The place is tenant by the Dror Yisrael cooperative, which refurbished the place
after it went up in flames several years ago and operates it with a social and educational emphasis. During the three days of the “Social Bauhaus” members of the group will take visitors on a guided tour of the “Red Haifa” district.

Another way to experience “Red Haifa” is by contemplating the paintings of Nira Lev and Dan Lavie, based on childhood memories of the city. The artists of “Red Haifa,” Mordechai Gumpel and Gershon Knispe, are represented by their early relief works. The exhibition is accompanied by excerpts from the artist Mali De-Kalo’s interviews with Gershon Knispe in 2018, about half a year before Knispe died. The “Dinosaurs in the Streets” Exhibition documents the extinct movie theaters of Hadar Hacarmel, the product of a documentation course and curatorship workshop facilitated by Dr. Irit Carmon Popper and Dr. Orit Shahar of the Technion Faculty of Architecture and Town Planning.

Orna Oren Izraeli returns to her grandfather’s professional haunts in “Reading Party,” which integrates posters and archive materials from his estate. Izraeli establishes the local inhabitants’ presence by producing portraits of them. Her grandfather, Nachman Tamir (Mirski), was the go-to person of culture in the Labour Movement in 1940’s Haifa. The exhibition blends the old and the new in furniture, archive materials, and new population groups that are invited to a “reading party.”

At the parking lot where the Amphi-Theatre used to be, an environmental work by Doron Gazit is presented along with a great evening concert for cars. In this movie-set venue that still reflects its bygone glory, an ensemble of automobiles performs new sound works written especially for the occasion. Students from Musrara (Jerusalem), facilitated by Amir Boltzmann (the New Music Department and an advanced study program in experiential music and sound art) participate in sound works for an ensemble of automobiles, radio transmitters, and memories of what the place used to be.

Labor Council House, 45 Hehaluts Street. Open Thursday, November 28, 10:00 a.m.–8:00 p.m.; Friday, November 29, 10:00 a.m.–10:00 p.m.; Saturday 10:00 a.m.–10:00 p.m.

“With Our Love, a Body Becomes a Place”
Exhibition at the Talpiot Market

In August 1937, the Carmel Committee announced a contest for the design of Talpiot Market. It was the most-subscribed architectural competition to date, with some 100 proposals submitted.

The winning bid, presented by the architect Moshe Gerstel, envisioned a conventional European-style city marketplace with natural lighting, a central space that appears to be drawn upward like a cathedral and five levels that project horizontally and symmetrically from the sides of the entrance hall. At the opening ceremony the Mayor, Shabtai Levi, thanked the architect: “His imagination and creative genius have given the future city a structure it can be proud of.”

Mirebile dictu, the construction began in 1938 and the market was dedicated on April 9, 1940! The complex building project, including final touches, took only two and a quarter years in one of the most difficult periods of all—marked by the Arab–Jewish Confrontation, publication of the White Paper and sealing of the country’s borders to Jewish refugees, economic crisis, the eruption of World War II and aerial bombardments of Haifa by the Italian air force. Despite it all, the structure did not stint on costs. Its frame was built of reinforced concrete in view of its important location on the food chain. Also, impressive technological novelties were promptly installed there: a ramified internal telephone system among the sections of the building and between it and the outside; electric freight and passenger elevators; electric refrigeration rooms and innovative conveniences, to name but a few.

On the bottom floor are storerooms, a repair garage for trucks and passenger cars and a filling station. On the ground level are fruit, vegetable, dairy, and general goods departments (seventy-two stalls). One floor up are the fish and meat departments (fourteen shops), seventeen shops for related merchandise and handsome balconies that open onto the landscape. On the second floor are an exhibition hall, fabric shops and haberdasheries and open balconies. A restaurant and broad terraces sit on the roof.

After having tenancy difficulties for a short time, the market began to develop and also accommodated government and municipal offices. In 1980, in the spirit of privatization, City Hall tried to sell the place (Davar, August 5, 1980). From 1982 on, the market was leased out, and in 1997 the city investigated the possibility of turning it into a shopping centre.

The exhibition, encounters and performances at the Talpiot Market within the “Social Bauhaus” framework are with the goal of preserving the building and making it once again one of the city’s crown jewels, a public space devoted to culture and art.

Participating artists: Tziki Eisenberg, “Haifa-Erfurt-Shared Modernism,” Nissan Assad Hayek, Alexander Geht, Valeria Geselev, Doris Arkin, David Behar Perahia, David Benarroch, Shwarma Boutique; Yael Balaban, Guy Bar- Amotz, Orna Bromberg, Avital Bar-Shay, Hamody Gannam, Tomer Dekel, Amnon Wolman, David Wakstein, Mika Hazan Bloom, Doris Hakim, Orit Hasson Walder, and Eli Lulai (Rockfour), Ziv Yonatan and Lily Rattok, Penny Hes Yassour, Aviv Itzhaky, Shira Legmann with Adi Kaplan and Shahar Carmel, Haim Luski, Mark Yashavaev, two Roy Cohens, Ofri Cnaani, Shir Leib, Motti Mizrachi, Daphna Markman Zipinemas, Maria Saleh Mahameed, Nitzan Satt, Orit Siman-Tov, Iris Cinatra, Yuval Feiglin, Or Fainaru, Belu-Simion Fainaru, Tal Bechor with “The Art Savers Unit,” Stav Forgas with Hagar Efrat, Beini Bouquet and Turn the Tables at the Shwarma Boutique, Alon Peretz, Limor Tsror, Yanai Kellner, Zvika Kantor, Guy Raivitz, Mor Reimer, Noam Toran, Leah Abir, and Adam Haj Yihye. Also participating are fourth-year students at the WIZO Department of Photography, facilitated by the artist Reuven Kuperman: Shahar Tishler, Asraa Atamleh and Adi Avutbul. Students from Haifa Reali High School took part in the photography as well. To be screened: the film Bauhaus Women, courtesy of the Goethe Institute in Tel Aviv.

Talpiot Market, 35 Syrkin Street. Activities: Thursday, November 28, 10:00 a.m.–10:00 p.m.; Friday, November 29, 10:00 a.m.–4:00 p.m.; Saturday 5:00–10:00 p.m.
Social Bauhaus

an Urban Experience
Thursday 28.11.19

Exhibition: Talpiot Market - With Our Love, a Body Becomes a Place
10:00–22:00, Talpiot Market, 35 Syrkin St.

Exhibition: “Haifa Bauhaus” – Is There Such a Thing?
10:00–22:00, Hadarion and Bosmat School, 23 Balfour St.

Exhibition: Beit HaKeranot, “Countdown”.
10:00–16:00, Balfour Street corner Herzl st.

Exhibition: Ora Cinema- The Pink Sanctuary Comes Alive.
10:00–22:00, 41 Herzl St.

Guided tour of the “Reading Party” installation with orna oren israeli
10:00, 12:00, 16:00, 18:00, Bet Hapoalim, 45 Hehaluts St.

International conference: Bauhaus on Mount Carmel
09:00–17:30, City Hall, 14 Hassan Shukeiry St.

Sizing Up the Bauhaus: Drawing Workshop
14:00, Benjamin Park, Nordau pedestrian mall

The 18th Floor: a Panoramic View of Hadar Hacarmel
13:00–17:00, Market Hotel, 63 Herzl St.

Gallery talk with the curator
Galia Bar or
14:30, Talpiot Market, 35 Syrkin St.

Guided tour: David Maayan, "To be a tourist in Your Country" 15:00,
Staging point: Hadarion, 23 Balfour St.

Exhibition: "Carmel, International Style in Haifa", Photo: Stephanie Kloss
16:00, Haifa City Hall, Hassan Shuqri 14

“A Shining Meteor will Light the Path of the Worker” Female Workforce:
Noam Toran, Dr. Hannah Safran, Manar Hasan, prof. Deborah Bernstein. 17:00, Talpiot Market, 35 Syrkin St.

Launching of event at City Hall
18:00, City Hall, 14 Hassan Shukeiry St.

A Room for a Song: The Book A Room of Your Own Turns Ninety
18:30, Goldmund Books, 6 Ekron St.

The Automobile Ensemble
19:00, Amphi Syrkin

Sound Tour: A Day and Its Voice with Elad Bardas
19:00, 21:00, point: 64 Hehaluts St.

Dance: Dega Feder and the Beta Ensemble - Premiere Performance
20:00, Talpiot Market, 35 Syrkin St.

Deejaying at the Talpiot Market
20:30, Talpiot Market, 35 Syrkin St.

Launching a Neo-Apollonian Fanzine
20:30, HaKeren, 5 Syrkin St.

Guided tour: David Maayan, "To Be a Tourist in Your Country" 11:00,
Staging point: Hadarion, 22 Balfour St.

Friday 29.11.19

Exhibition: Talpiot Market—With Our Love, a Body Becomes a Place
10:00–16:00, Talpiot Market, 35 Syrkin St.

Exhibition: “Haifa Bauhaus”— Is There Such a Thing?
10:00–22:00, Hadarion and Bosmat School, Balfour 23 St.

Exhibition: Beit HaKeranot, “Countdown”.
10:00–16:00, Balfour Street corner Herzl st.

Exhibition: Ora Cinema—The Pink Sanctuary Comes Alive
10:00–22:00, 41 Herzl St.

Exhibition: Bet Hapoalim—Red Haifa
10:00–22:00, 45 Hehaluts St.

Naïve Tour: In the Footsteps of Nira Lev’s Paintings
09:30–12:30, Staging point: Hadarion, 23 Balfour St.

Guided tour of the “Reading Party” installation
10:00, 12:00, 16:00, 18:00, Bet Hapoalim, 45 Hehaluts Street

The Dovecote: Open Recording Studio for Musicians
10:00–12:00, HaNevi'im Street, by advance registration

Performance, Sound, and Sculpture: Self-Preservation in the Digital Era
12:00–16:00, Ora Cinema, 4 Herzl St.

“A Shining Meteor will Light the Path of the Worker”, Noam Toran. Talk and lecture about “Cosmopolitan Haifa”
Nadeem Karkabi, Haya Zaatry and Atallah Tannous.
12:00, Talpiot Market, 35 Syrkin St.

Plexus - sing on so you could hear: a workshop/performance with Faye Shapiro
12:00–14:00, Hadarion Auditorium, 22 Balfour St.

The 18th Floor: a Panoramic View of Hadar Hacarmel
13:00–17:00, Market Hotel, 63 Herzl St.

Sound Tour: A Day and Its Voice with Elad Bardas
14:00–16:00, Staging point: 64 Hehaluts St.

Reunion of Bosmat School Alumni
17:00, Hadarion Auditorium, 23 Balfour Street

The Orchestra of Screechings at the Ora Cinema
11:00–12:00, Ora Cinema, 4 Herzl St.

Gallery talk with the curator
Galia Bar or
11:00, Talpiot Market, 35 Syrkin St.

Amnon Wolman, "Watch the Space" Sound Outing
10:00–10:30 and 12:30–13:00, Staging point: Bet Hapoalim, 45 Hehaluts Street

The Dovecote: Open Recording Studio for Musicians
10:00–12:00, HaNevi‘im Street, by advance registration

Amnon Wolman, "Watch the Space" Sound Outing
10:00–10:30 and 12:30–13:00, Staging point: Talpiot Market, 35 Syrkin St.

Tour: the Women of the Hadar Hacarmel Streets with Lilach weber and Adi sadaks
11:00, Staging point: fork at Yosef Hagidam and Melchett St.

Guided tour: David Maayan, "To Be a Tourist in Your Country” 11:00,
Staging point: Hadarion, 22 Balfour St.
Saturday 30.11.19

Exhibition: Talpiot Market—With Our Love, a Body Becomes a Place 16:00–22:00, Talpiot Market, 35 Syrkin St.

Sergio Lerman, The Lesson of Ajami: saving Hadar HaCarmel
14:00, Hadarion, 22 Balfour St.

Exhibition: “Haifa Bauhaus”—Is There Such a Thing? 10:00–22:00, Hadarion and Bosmat School, Balfour 23 St.

Mali De-Kalo with Galia Bar Or: Three films at Social Bauhaus
15:00, Hadarion 22 Balfour st.

Exhibition: Beit HaKeranot, “Countdown”. 10:00–22:00, Balfour Street corner Herzl st.

Screening the film "Bauhaus women" (Bauhausfrauen, by Susanne Radelhof) Courtesy Goethe Institut Tel Aviv 16:00 Hadarion
22 Balfour st.

Exhibition: Ora Cinema—The Pink Sanctuary Comes Alive
16:00–22:00, 41 Herzl St.

The 18th Floor: a Panoramic View of Hadar HaCarmel
13:00–17:00, Market Hotel, 63 Herzl St.

Exhibition: Bet Hapoalim—Red Haifa
10:00–22:00, 45 Hehaluts St.

Performance, Sound, and Sculpture: Self-Preservation in the Digital Era
16:00–19:00, Ora Cinema, 4 Herzl St.

Naïve Tour: In the Footsteps of Nira Lev’s Paintings with Lea Poper
09:30–12:30, Staging point: Hadarion, 23 Balfour St.

Naïve Tour: In the Footsteps of Nira Lev’s Paintings with Lea Poper
15:00–18:00, Staging point: Hadarion, 23 Balfour St.

“Ma’agalim”—Tattoo Performance
16:00 – 22:00, Talpiot Market

Guided tour of the “Reading Party” installation with Orna Oren Israeli
10:00, 12:00, 16:00, 18:00, Bet Hapoalim, 45 Hehaluts St.

The Missing Piece: Family Activities and Urban Picnic 11:00–16:00, Staging point: Hadarion, 23 Balfour St.

Tour: Text and Poetry with Lilach weber and Yehonatan Israel
18:00, Staging point: fork at Yosef HaGidam and Melchett St.

Housh Tours: Touring with Merav Tzur with eyes closed
11:00–15:00 (four cycles), Hadarion, 23 Balfour St.

Meeting, Daphna Markman with Merchants in the Talpiot Market
18:30 Talpiot Market, 35 Syrkin St

Naïve Tour: In the Footsteps of Nira Lev’s Paintings with Lea Poper
15:00–18:00, Staging point: Hadarion, 23 Balfour St.

“Ma’agalim”—Tattoo Performance
16:00 – 22:00, Talpiot Market

The Automobile Ensemble with Amir Bolzman 19:00–23:00, Amphi Syrkin

Guided tour of the “Reading Party” installation with Orna Oren Israeli
10:00, 12:00, 16:00, 18:00, Bet Hapoalim, 45 Hehaluts St.

Dance: Mr. and Mrs. Katt. Ella Rotchild and Bikurey Ha’Itim
19:00, Talpiot Market, 35 Syrkin St.

Social Bauhaus, Music Show: Eli Lulai (Rockfour) and Orit Hasson Walder
20:00, Talpiot Market, 35 Syrkin St.

“The Street of Steps”, (Judith Hendel)
18:30, Bet Hapoalim, 45 Hehaluts St.

The story of Hadar—festive screening
18:00, Ora Cinema, 41 Herzl St.

To Sleep with the Shutter Open,” launching of artist’s book and exhibition 20:30, HaKeren, 5 Syrkin St.

Tour: Text and Poetry with Lilach weber and Yehonatan Israel
18:00, Staging point: fork at Yosef HaGidam and Melchett St.

Meeting, Daphna Markman with Merchants in the Talpiot Market
18:30 Talpiot Market, 35 Syrkin St

Performance: Tamar Nissim, "The Street of Steps", (Judith Hendel)
18:30, Bet Hapoalim, 45 Hehaluts St.

Dance: Mr. and Mrs. Katt. Ella Rotchild and Bikurey Ha’Itim
19:00, Talpiot Market, 35 Syrkin St.

Social Bauhaus, Music Show: Eli Lulai (Rockfour) and Orit Hasson Walder
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Avinoam Caspi Greenfield
Cinema Ora, Memory of the child who lived next door
17:30 Ora Cinema, 41 Herzl St.

Avinoam Caspi Greenfield
Cinema Ora, Memory of the child who lived next door
17:30 Ora Cinema, 41 Herzl St.

The story of Hadar—festive screening
18:00, Ora Cinema, 41 Herzl St.

The story of Hadar—festive screening
18:00, Ora Cinema, 41 Herzl St.
1 Takwin’s Offices
The corner of 39 Ha’atzmaut Rd. and Sha’ar Palmer, 3rd floor
Building architect: Clifford Holliday;
Interior design: DZL - David Lebenthal Architects, 2015
A visit at the offices of the Takwin venture capital fund in the Lower City, which are located in an International Style office building that is part of the Holliday Façade designed by the British architect, Clifford Holliday, in the 1930’s. It was constructed after the Ha’atzmaut Road strip (formerly called Kingsway) was drained, creating the longest façade of a government building in the Middle East at the time. The building has a number of International Style features, such as horizontal windows and rounded corners. The interior spaces of the building now house the offices of the Takwin venture capital fund, which invests in startup companies run by Arabs entrepreneurs, as well as Takwin Labs that hosts some of the companies in the fund’s portfolio. The offices include individual workspaces and coworking spaces, whose unconventional design is based on a simple, recurring element: birch panels that serve as partitions, desks and facings.
Thursday, November 28, 13:00-18:00.
Tours for the first 20 people in line will start every 30 minutes.
Open tour. Reservations not required.

2 Bauhaus Elegance
Meeting place: the corner of 34 Bar Giora St. and 2 Rashi St.
The Hadar neighborhood, which was built between the 1920’s and 1940’s, has an extraordinary concentration of Bauhaus buildings. Led by the architect Omri Zilka – a lecturer and owner of the “Pinat Rehov” blog that deals with architecture, design and urbanism in Haifa – the tour will spotlight unique Bauhaus features in Hadar, and in Haifa in general. Zilka will talk about the historical backdrop that led to adopting the International Style when building the neighborhood, while pointing out some important Bauhaus buildings and reviewing the current state of Bauhaus architecture in Hadar. The tour will touch on the following topics: urban renewal, preservation, the development of public spaces, commerce in the neighborhood, landscape issues, social issues and more. The tour lasts about two-and-a-half-hours and most of the 3-kilometer route is downhill, ending at Talpiot Market.
Saturday, November 30, 14:30
Open tour. Reservations not required.

3 Brilliantly Designed?
Meeting place: the parking garage under Talpiot Market; the entrance is from Syrkin St.
Architect: Moshe Gerstel, 1940
Talpiot Market is considered one of the most important structures built in the International Style in Haifa, and was also called a wonder of the world by the local press in the 1940’s. It was built following an architectural competition (its design was chosen among close to 100 competing proposals) and, as soon as it was completed, became one of the symbols of the Hadar neighborhood and of Haifa, in general. But despite all its qualities, the structure with its splendid modernist space and transparent ceiling has been deserted for many decades. The tour, led by the architect Guy Arbel who is in charge of restoring the structure, will focus on its history and architectural features.
Friday, November 29, 12:00
Open tour. Reservations not required.

4 The International Corner
Meeting place: Masaryk Square, next to the Nevi’im branch of the Postal Bank, Hadar
Dr. Arch. Liora Bar-Am Shahal leads this tour along Herzl Street in Hadar HaCarmel. The focus will be on the special corner buildings on the street, most of which are situated at intersections and on squares, with each of them creating a different urban space. During the tour, Bar-Am Shahal will talk about the different buildings – the majority of which were designed in the International Style – and point out the local Haifa architectural features of this architectural style.
Saturday, November 30, 11:00
Open tour for the first 30 people in line. Reservations not required.

5 Graffiti in Wadi Salib
Meeting place: the plaza in front of the Haifa courthouse, 12 Pal-Yam St. (across from Bezeq)
Even though large sections of the Wadi Salib neighborhood in Haifa are not populated, its buildings and history continue to draw researchers, artists and architects. A number of street art masterpieces have cropped up among the ruins of the neighborhood, whose past knew revolutions and protests and whose present is a real estate hotspot. This 90-minute tour, led by Naomi Koren from Alternative Tel Aviv art tours, will talk about the street art works and recount the story of the neighborhood, the urban renewal processes taking place there, and their impact on life in Wadi Salib and on the nearby flea market, including from an artistic perspective.
Thursday, November 28, 17:00
Advance reservations required; the tour is limited to 30 participants.

6 Anglo-Palestine Bank
1 Natanson St.
Architect: Alexander Baerwald, 1928
A look at the impressive interior of one the most important historic buildings in Haifa – a monumental stone structure that was originally the Haifa branch of Anglo-Palestine Bank. It now houses the offices of the law firm Yaacov Salomon, Lipschutz & Co. The brief tours, led by members of the Haifa History Society, will recount the story behind the construction of the building and talk about the Land of Israel architectural style that the architect, Alexander Baerwald, sought to create in it: an eclectic style that blends Western, Middle Eastern and Jewish architectural elements, such as pointed arches and ancient coin decorations.
Thursday, November 28, 17:00-19:00
Advance reservations required.

7 The Technion Campus as a Museum of Israeli Architecture
Meeting place: Neve Sha’anan Gate (after the security check)
The Technion campus is an open-air museum of Israeli architecture, where since the institution’s founding, buildings have been designed in different styles by
leading architects. The architect Omri Zilka – a lecturer and owner of the "Pinat Rehov" blog that deals with architecture, design and urbanism in Haifa – will review the design history of the campus, show participants some of the buildings from the outside, and a few from the inside. Zilka will try and explain what rendered them masterpieces and what makes the campus unique. The tour lasts around two hours (and involves walking about 1.5 kilometers, most of which are downhill).

Friday, November 29, 13:00
Open tour. Reservations not required.

8
Anna Forta
16 Herzliya St.
A visit at an apartment in a 1930’s building, which was converted into an interior design studio that hosts cultural and enrichment events. Because its original layout has remained unchanged, the apartment offers visitors an opportunity to become acquainted with the residential experience that characterized Haifa at the beginning of the 20th century, which included spacious living areas, high ceilings, decorative floor tiles and wood windows.

Friday, November 29, 10:00-14:00
Saturday, November 30, 13:00-16:00
Open house. Reservations not required.

9
Albi House
15 Amir St., Hadar
A glimpse of an apartment situated in an old stone building, whose features are characteristic of Arab homes that were built at the beginning of the 20th century:

high ceilings, arched windows and decorative floor tiles. The apartment was recently purchased by a young couple who are architects, who live there with their toddler daughter. Because they had a limited budget for renovating the apartment, they were compelled to incorporate creative solutions, such as Polygal partitions. The apartment was designed in line with their lifestyle – without doors, with few partitions and little storage space - in order to create an open and well-lit living area.

Thursday, November 28, 10:00-13:00
Friday, November 29, 10:00-13:00
Open house. Reservations not required.

The architects’ website: https://brizaarchitects.wixsite.com/website

10
The Apartment on Keller Street
5 Keller St., HaCarmel
Interior design: Dana Broza, Danka Design, 2016
A visit at a 100 m2 apartment that overlooks Manya Shochat Garden in the old Carmel area. It underwent extensive renovation and was redesigned, while making use of bold elements such as colorful flamingo wallpaper, a black kitchen with gilded hardware, decorative cornices, works of art and a design inspired by the world of nature. (The apartment is located on the third floor with no elevator).

Friday, November 29, 10:00-13:00
Saturday, November 30, 10:00-13:00
Open house. Reservations not required.

The designer’s website: www.danka-design.com

11
The Tree Fighters
Meeting place: 23 HaTzolelet Dakar St., New Romema
In recent years, Haifa has experienced a number of wildfires that destroyed hundreds of acres of brush and forest. Led by the agronomist Hanoch Burger, the tour will concentrate on the area where the huge fire occurred in November 2016, which obliterated large stretches of land covered with trees and vegetation.

He will explain what caused the fire to grow out of control and what lessons have been learned from the disaster. During the 90-minute tour, Burger will describe the unique work methods that were devised and implemented to rehabilitate the land damaged by the fire and restore the brush and forest to their original state within a short time. He will also talk about the measures currently in place, which are designed to give firefighters quick access in the event of another fire.

Friday, November 29, 10:00-13:00
Saturday, November 30, 10:00
2 open tours for the first 40 people in line. Reservations not required.

12
A Shared Building
Meeting place: the corner of 2 Janusz Korczak St. and 31 Horev St., on the steps of the arched entrance
Architect: Ram Karmi, 1998
An unusual residential complex that was designed by the architect Ram Karmi, who won the Israel Prize in 2001. It constitutes an additional stage in a concept he tried to develop: residential life that is avant-garde, on the one hand, and residential life that remains anchored in tradition and connected with its surroundings, on the other hand. The tour, which will be led by the architect Oren On, will ‘wander around’ the spacious common areas, where participants will hear about the architectural language and style of the building. Issues pertaining to residential design will also be discussed: localness and climate, neighbor relations, functionality and efficiency, movement and material, perspectives and light.

Thursday, November 28, 16:30
Friday, November 29, 10:30
Advance reservations required; each of the 2 tours is limited to 25 participants.

13
A Boutique Hotel in a Building
Designated a Historical Landmark
Johannes PFÄNDER Hotel, 26 HaZionut St.
Guided tours of a house that was built on the fringes of the German Colony at the end of the 19th century. The building materials that were used (wooden steps, decorative floor tiles and concrete roof shingles) were manufactured by Templar craftsmen. The house was originally owned by the Katoni family, who were merchants that also had a shipping company. In 1935, the ownership of the house was transferred to Aziz Mikati, a Muslim merchant from Lebanon who owned a cigarette factory and served on the Haifa City Council. Towards the end of the British Mandate period, the building was converted into a restaurant called The Old Bell. Following the establishment of the State of Israel, it housed a teachers college.

The Johannes PFÄNDER boutique hotel is scheduled to open shortly in the building – whose restoration is nearing completion. The hotel is named after the Templer artist whose grotesque and Neoclassical-style paintings decorate the walls.
and ceilings of the building. Tours dealing with the ceiling frescoes that were uncovered during the restoration process, led by the restorers Shay Farkash and Eli Shaltiel from Studio Tchelet, will be held on Thursday, November 28th at 12:00, on Friday, November 29th at 10:00, and on Saturday, November 30th at 10:00. Tours led by the hotel’s interior designers, Tsili Giladi and Bosmat Almagor, will be held on Thursday, November 28 at 13:00 and 14:00, on Friday, November 29 at 11:00 and 12:00, and on Saturday, November 30 at 11:00 and 12:00. The tours will last about 45 minutes.  
9 open tours for the first 30 people in line. Reservations not required.

15  
Israel Railways Museum  
1 Hatvat Golan St. The tours will leave from the Museum ticket office. Tours at the Israel Railways Museum, which is located in the stone buildings of the historic Haifa East train station – the point of departure of the legendary Jezreel Valley Train. The tours will recount the history of railway transportation in the Land of Israel, starting with the dedication of the first line between Jaffa and Jerusalem in 1892 and up to the accelerated development of Israel Railways that is now underway. Tour participants will be shown a variety of antique steam engines and railroad cars stored at the Museum and will also become familiar with basic concepts relating to railway transportation. 45-minute guided tours will start every hour on the hour. It is advisable to directly access the Museum using the Museum Train, which leaves from the Haifa Center – HaShmona station every 40 minutes. Timetable information can be found on the Israel Railways website.  
Friday, November 29, 9:00–14:00 (the last tour will start at 13:00)  
Open tours. Reservations not required.

16  
Tracking the Lost Master Plan  
Meeting place: the entrance lobby (a.k.a. as the Mushroom) to the Faculty of Aerospace Engineering, Technion campus  
A tour of the Technion campus with the preservation architect, Amir Freundlich, who will present the two master plans that were made for the campus: one that was designed by Prof. Alexander Klein in 1953, whose centerpiece was a main green pathway flanked on both sides by the different faculty buildings – and a later one designed by the architect Shlomo Gilad in the 1960’s, which transformed the face of the campus and left a mark on it to this very day. The two-hour tour will begin with an instructive view from the famous patio of the Faculty of Aerospace Engineering. After that, participants will be shown the Forum, the Student Union, the Ullmann Center, the Faculty of Earth Engineering and Geology, and the Physics and Chemistry faculties. The tour will also stop at the botanical garden and end in the parking lot of the Engineering Faculty.  
Friday, November 29, 10:00  
Open tour. Reservations not required.

17  
A Forest Campus  
Meeting place: Churchill Plaza, next to the Chuchill Building and Senate House in the middle of the Technion campus  
A two-hour tour of the Technion campus led by Rakefet Sinai, a landscape architect and lecturer at the Faculty of Architecture and Town Planning. The tour will review the design history of the open spaces on campus, starting in its early days and up to the 1970’s. Sinai will focus on the special design concept that stemmed from the physical attributes of the area, which used to be forestland and later turned into a symbol and feature of the Technion.  
Friday, November 29, 10:00  
Open tour. Reservations not required.

18  
The Avie and Sarah Arenson Built Heritage Research Center  
Amado Building, Faculty of Architecture and Town Planning, 2nd floor, Room 221, Technion campus  
A visit at the archive of the Built Heritage Research Center located in the Faculty of Architecture and Town Planning. It contains rare collections that have been stored there since the early days of the Technion – including the rare book collection that belonged to Alexander Baerwald (who designed the old Technion building), a collection of negatives on glass that depict the construction of public buildings during the British Mandate period, and a collection of student projects starting in the 1960’s. Tour participants will also be shown collections received by the archive in recent years, such as the collection of the Yaar architecture firm and the collection of the architect, Shmuel Yavin.  
Friday, November 29, 13:00  
A session limited to the first 15 people in line. Reservations not required.

19  
Urbanization and Modernization in Ottoman Haifa  
Meeting place: 7 Hassan Shukri St.  
Keren Ben Hillel, who does research on architecture and is also an artist and curator, leads this tour that will focus on local Arab construction and the changes it underwent in the latter part of the Ottoman period. The tour will start with a view of the Lower City from the mountain terrace in the lower section of Hadar and continue from there to Wadi Salib. Ben Hillel will explain the modernization and urbanization processes that took place in the city, which had an impact on the development of the urban grid and changed the residential model that existed at the time. The two-hour tour will end at the Pyramid in Wadi Salib.
20 Abandoned Movie Theaters in Hadar HaCarmel
Meeting place: Workers House, between 41 and 43 HeHalutz St, next to the entrance to Mercaz Siach
Led by Dr. Irit Carmon Popper and Dr. Oryan Shachar and the students: Asma Abu-Raya, Nardeen Elias, Jana Omari, Hadeel Said and Lavi Vanounou at the Faculty of Architecture and Town Planning, Technion IIT, this tour on HeHalutz and Syrkin Streets will trace what happened to two former movie theaters: the first and the last to be built in Hadar HaCarmel: Amphi (built in 1926) and Ron (built in 1962). The first part of the tour will stop at what is left of the theaters and tell their story. Participants will then visit the exhibition "Dinosaurs in the Streets" that is part of the Social Bauhaus events being held at Mercaz Siach, which is located in the former Workers House. The exhibition deals with the documentation relating to these two lost movie theaters. The tour and the exhibition are based on academic research outcomes of the course "Sites and Archives: Build Heritage Preservation."
Friday, November 29, 14:00
Open tour. Reservations not required.

21 Morphological Roofs
Meeting place: the entrance to the Danziger Mechanical Engineering Building, Neve Sha'an'an campus
This odd and pioneering building that houses the Danziger labs is no less avant-garde and controversial today than it was when it was built between 1959 and 1965. The tour, led by the architect Ruth Liberty-Shalev, will focus on the unique features of the building as well as Alfred Neumann, the architect and professor who introduced Morphology studies at the Technion's Faculty of Architecture. Assisted by his student, Zvi Hecker, Neumann applied the theory that evolved from those studies to this building. The tour will continue from there to other morphological roofs that were built on the Technion campus, designed by faculty members of the Faculty of Architecture in the 1950’s and 1960’s. The hourlong tour will end at the meeting place.
Friday, November 29, 13:00
Advance reservations required; the tour is limited to 30 participants.

22 The First Building
Meeting place: the plaza in front of the Faculty of Aerospace Engineering, Neve Sha'anan campus
A tour led by the architect Aurelia Kirmayer (the former campus architect) at the first building constructed on the Technion campus in 1954. During the 90-minute tour, she will talk about Prof. Yohanan Ratner, the architect who designed the building, and the developments leading up to its construction.
Kirmayer will also describe how the Faculty of Aerospace Engineering was opened by Prof. Sydney Goldstein and will share the story of the late student, Neve-Ya Durban.
Friday, November 29, 9:00
Open tour. Reservations not required.

23 Bauhaus for Artists
34a Yosef HaGidem St., Apt. 7, top floor
Interior design: the architect Aya Auerbach, 2016
A glimpse of a rooftop apartment in a Bauhaus building from the 1940’s, which was renovated by the couple who own it – an architect and an artist – for their own use. Located in the heart of the historic zone of the Hadar neighborhood, the apartment has a large patio with an abundance of plants, alcove seating and studios, which exemplifies a contemporary and modest adaptation to Haifa roof living.
Because there is no elevator, visitors will have to climb around 70 steps to reach the apartment.
Friday, November 29, 16:00-19:00
Saturday, November 30, 12:00-15:00
Open house. Reservations not required.

24 Preservation With a Small "P"
Meeting place: the entrance to Talpiot Market when coming from the direction of Syrkin St.
An active dialog about 'sustainable preservation' and what constitutes 'an act of preservation.' Held as part of a tour of the iconic Talpiot Market building, the discussion topics will include demolition, neglect, ideological, social and economic changes, values and challenges. One of the questions that will be raised is what should be preserved and for who. The architect and Technion and Bezalel lecturer, Dalia Nachman Farchi, and the architect, Noa Gantz, who will lead the tour, will also talk about an interdisciplinary course that was offered at the Technion, which dealt with the restoration of the structure and its outcomes.
Friday, November 29, 12:00
Open tour. Reservations not required.

25 Renewal on Jaffa Road
Meeting place: Paris Square, Natanson St., (next to the Carmelit)
Jaffa Road was the first street in Haifa to be built outside the old city walls - built in the 18th century by Daher al-Omar, the founder of modern Haifa. By the 19th century, elegant buildings lined the street, most of which belonged to the local Christian population or to churches. During the British Mandate period, Jaffa Road became a main commercial thoroughfare, but later suffered from neglect and a continuing state of decline. This tour with the landscape architect Hila Rotem-Halevi, from Greenstein – Har-Gil Landscape Architecture, will describe the rehabilitation plan that was implemented on Jaffa Road in 2014 as part of the overall revitalization of the Lower City (carried out by the Israel Government Tourist Corporation and the Haifa Municipality). She will also talk about the development surge that the area is experiencing as a result of the project. The hourlong tour will end at the intersection of Jaffa Road and Habankim Street.
Friday, November 29, 10:00
Open tour. Reservations not required.

26 The Big Flour Mills
40 Hativat Golani St. (parking is available inside the compound)
Architect: the engineer Arpad Gut, 1922
An opportunity to become acquainted with the imposing structure of the mills that are still...
in operation today and are among the last remnants of the industrial-agricultural zone established next to Haifa Port during the British Mandate period. The mills were built by Baron Rothschild and were the first in the country to be powered by steam. To make loading and unloading the flour an easier task, a train track ran directly into the yard. The structure was designed by the Hungarian Jewish engineer, Arpad Gut, who was one of the leading architects of his time and an expert on reinforced concrete. Apart from the mills, he also designed a number of water towers, bridges and Tel Aviv's sewer system. Motifs reminiscent of the walls of Jerusalem are incorporated in the structure’s windows and capitals.

Baby carriages cannot be brought into the compound. Children under the age of 13 will be allowed to participate if closely supervised by a parent.

Friday, November 29, 9:30 and 11:00
2 open tours for the first 20 people in line. Reservations not required.

27 Exterior Wall Art in Haifa
Meeting place: 1 Khuri St., (next to the Solel Boneh building)
A tour with Dr. Ora Gazit, which will trace the exterior wall art scene that flourished in Haifa in the mid-20th century and left dozens of works of art throughout the city. The monumental wall art works on public buildings had formal and ideological foundations and were used, among other things, to convey messages in the public space of the workers' city. The works are still considered urban assets that have social, cultural, artistic and historical value. The tour will pass through the streets of the Hadar neighborhood, where Gazit will point out the works that have survived. She will talk about their importance and characteristics, the artists who created them, the issues surrounding their restoration, and more. The two-hour tour will end on the corner of Herzl Street and Barzilay Street, next to Giberim Bridge.

Saturday, November 30, 10:00
Advance reservations required; the tour is limited to 30 participants.

28 Placemaking: The Case of HaNadiv Boulevard
Meeting place: 2 HaNadiv Blvd., at the beginning of the boulevard
HaNadiv Boulevard is an old Haifa street lined with elegant International Style buildings. The 45-minute tours will be led by the landscape architect Sivan Ornai from the David Aljanati landscape architecture firm, during which he will recount the history of the boulevard and describe the facelift it underwent in 2013. He will talk about the challenges that the planners faced, which included restoring the boulevard to pedestrians, creating places for relaxation and fun, introducing regulated parking areas, and upgrading infrastructures.

Friday, November 29, 16:00
Saturday, November 30, 16:00
2 open tours. Reservations not required.

29 Getting a Sense of Bauhaus: A Drawing Workshop
Meeting place: Binyamin Garden on Nordau St., next to the fountain (in case of rain, the workshop will be held at HaPina Café located on 43 Massada St.)
An open urban drawing workshop led by the architect Aya Auerbach – held in the heart of the historic center of the Hadar neighborhood, surrounded by Bauhaus buildings. The 90-minute workshop is suitable for both beginners and more advanced drawers. Participants should come equipped with drawing tools, sketching paper and a hard surface / sketchbook. It is also advisable to bring a hat and a folding chair.

Thursday, November 28, 14:00
Open workshop. Reservations not required.

30 The House in Bat Galim
41 HaSharon St., Bat Galim
Architect: Levav Shachar, 2017
Tours with the architect, Levav Shachar, at a building that he developed and designed in Bat Galim, which illustrates the neighborhood’s renewal potential. He will explain why the building stands out thanks to its wood facades and contemporary architectural style, and will also share his experiences from the design and construction stages. In addition, Shachar will talk about the residential living approach that was adopted there, which aims to create a community within a city apartment building through use of the common areas. He will also point out some unusual choices that were incorporated in the project, which is founded on an ideology of ethical real estate development. Those choices include the open stairwell, shared gardening and irrigation systems, and the connection between the large-windowed building and the street. During the 45-minute tours, participants will be shown some of the apartments as well as the penthouse. Use of the elevator will be restricted to persons with disabilities.

Friday, November 29, 9:00, 10:00 and 11:00, Saturday, November 30, 10:00, 11:00 and 12:00
6 open tours for the first 25 people in line. Reservations not required.

31 The Templer Community House and Templer School
11 Ben Gurion Blvd.
Years of construction: 1869 and 1902; Restoration and conversion of the buildings into a museum: the architect Dagan Mochly, 2004
Guided tours of the compound that currently houses the Haifa City Museum and includes two Templer buildings: the community house – the first Templer building constructed in the country – and the Templer school. The tours will recount the story of the Templer community in Haifa and the changes that the buildings have undergone over time: the community house, originally built in 1869 as a gathering place, also served as a German school for the members of the Templer Society (who came to the country in the 19th century out of a belief that settling here would lead to the world’s redemption), and the school that was built in the compound in 1902 to accommodate the growing community.

On Friday at 11:00, there will be a tour of the exhibition currently on display: "Demolition Party: From Public Housing to Residential Tower.” It will be led by the curator, Hadas Shadar.

Thursday, November 28, 16:00 and 17:00,
Friday, November 29, 11:00, Saturday, November 30, 11:00 and 12:00
5 open tours for the first 30 people in line. Reservations not required.
Struck House

Hermann Struck Museum, 23 Arlozorov St., Hadar HaCarmel
Architect: Alexander Baerwald, 1924

An opportunity to become acquainted with the home of Hermann Struck – a highly accomplished printmaking artist who worked in Germany and pre-State Israel in the first half of the 20th century. The house, built in an eclectic style, served as Struck’s private residence and studio. It currently houses the Hermann Struck Museum, which is devoted to his works and also features changing etching exhibitions. The displays at the museum include original furniture that belonged to Struck, some of his personal belongings, and the original printmaking machine that still works after being repaired and restored. The tours will be led by the museum’s education coordinator, Anna Yamlina.

Thursday, November 28, 17:00 and 18:00
Friday, November 29, 11:00 and 12:00

4 open tours for the first 30 people in line. Reservations not required.

The Archive

Haifa City Archive, 2 Gottlieb Schumacher St.

A special opportunity to visit the Haifa City Archive. During these hourlong sessions led by Dr. Shuli Linder Yarkony, the archive’s director of community relations, participants will be shown some of the treasures stored in the archive, including historical photos and maps. Additional materials will also be shown, including historical documents and blueprints of iconic Bauhaus buildings in Haifa.

Thursday, November 28, 13:00 and 14:30

Advance reservations required; each of the 2 sessions is limited to 15 participants.

Carmelhim and the Bauhaus

Meeting place: Manya Shochat Garden, next to the fountain

A tour with the preservation architect Tal Friedman Raudnitz, from the firm Ma’ase Shimur, and the preservation architect, Anat Esterlis. They will focus on the Haifa Bauhaus as well as the German design heritage found in the Carmelhim neighborhood, which was designed by Richard Kaufmann in 1923. They will describe how the design of the neighborhood evolved from a German Templer colony at the beginning of the 20th century into a ‘relaxation area’ in the 1920’s and 1930’s, and from that into a garden city in the 1940’s. They will also talk about the landscaping in the neighborhood, which was designed by the architect Adolf Rading in 1941. Throughout the tour, Friedman Raudnitz and Esterlis, who prepared the preservation survey for the neighborhood, will point out buildings, boulevards and compounds that have kept their original character, while explaining the challenge inherent in preserving them in face of real estate development pressures. The two-hour tour, which will end at 5 Keller Street, includes an uphill walk on the boulevard.

Saturday, November 30, 10:00
Advance reservations required; the tour is limited to 30 participants.
The firm’s website: https://mshimur.co.il

Urban Renewal at Talpiot Market

Meeting place: Kanafeh Talpiot on 29 Syrkin St. (next to the municipal parking lot in the middle of the market)

Talpiot Market has been undergoing a fascinating urban renewal process in recent years, part of which has resulted in the opening of various restaurants and eateries in the vicinity. This 90-minute tour with Naama Sobol, who is engaged in culinary and culture research and also owns the "Tarbut Achila" (Eating Culture) blog, will describe the renewal process taking place at the market. She will do so through a culinary lens that includes meeting with key people involved in the food and restaurant industry in the area as well as visits at business establishments and spaces that have been opened there.

Friday, November 29, 13:00
Advance reservations required; the tour is limited to 35 participants.
Link to the Tarbut Achila blog:

The House on 8 Noga Street

8 Noga St., Carmelima
Architect: Leopold Krakauer, 1938

This tour in Carmelima with the preservation architect Giora Solar will focus on the house on 8 Noga Street – the oldest one in the street. Solar will talk about the history of the house, which was designed by Leopold Krakauer, one of the most important international Style architects who started working in the country in the mid-1920’s. Solar will present materials from the preliminary documentation file that he prepared for the building, including historical photographs and documents. During the hourlong tour, he will also point out the architectural features of the neighborhood, which was designed as a “garden city” by Richard Kaufmann in the 1930’s. Mention will also be made of the struggle led by the neighborhood’s residents to preserve the house on 8 Noga Street.

Friday, November 29, 12:00
Open tour. Reservations not required.

In the Footsteps of Two Forgotten Planners: Benjamin Orell and Yehezkel Zohar

Meeting place: 26 HaNevi’im St., on the plaza

Benjamin Orell and the engineer Yehezkel Zohar, who designed dozens of International Style buildings in Haifa during the British Mandate period, left a significant mark on the Hadar neighborhood. This tour with the architect Omri Zilka – a lecturer and owner of the "Pinat Rehov" blog that deals with architecture, design and urbanism in Haifa – will point out buildings that were designed by Orell and Zohar and trace the work of these two important planners, which has been forgotten by history. The 90-minute tour will end on the corner of Arlozorov Street and Herzl Street.

Thursday, November 28, 14:00
Open tour. Reservations not required.

The Carmelite Monastery and Mendelssohn Building

Meeting place: on the plaza in front of the monastery, to the right of the main entrance to the Rambam Health Care Campus, 8 HaAliyah HaShniyah St.

An opportunity to learn about...
the history of two buildings on the Rambam Health Care Campus that were designated historical landmarks: the Carmelite monastery that was designed in 1894 by the architect and nun, Marie de la Croix, and the Mendelsohn Building that was designed by the architect Erich Mendelsohn, and completed in 1938. The tour will be led by Dr. Zvi Ben Yishai, the former deputy director of the Rambam Health Care Campus, during which he will recount the history of the monastery, its construction and restoration. He will point out some unique features of the structure (which is built out of 20,000 stones without any iron rods) and its cellar, whose design is reminiscent of the Knights Halls in Akko and was used as a well. Ben Yishai will also share the story about the nuns who lived there. Tour participants will be able to enter some parts of the building. The second part of the hour-long tour will focus on the Mendelsohn Building – the only government hospital that was built by the British in Palestine and one of the iconic Bauhaus structures in the city.

Thursday, November 28, 9:00
Open tour. Reservations not required.

39
The Battle Over the Space
Meeting place: the intersection of Rashi St. and Bar Giora St., across from 45 Bar Giora St.
A short journey between privately-owned and public spaces in the Hadar neighborhood, which will shed light on the processes that we as a society have experienced over the years as well as the space we live in. Led by the architect, town planner and social activist, Amir Dominitz, the tour will begin with a visit at a private home on Bar Giora Street and continue from there to Binyamin Garden – the first public garden established in pre-State Israel (1923). The rest of the route will include Jerusalem Street, Madatech, Ahad Ha’am Street and the skyscraper currently under construction there, ending at HaNevi’im Square.

Friday, November 29, 10:00
Open tour. Reservations not required.

40
The Bohemian Eclectic One
18 Henrietta Szold St., 1st floor, Carmel
Interior design: Vered Fichmann, 2014
A visit at an apartment in a 1960’s building that was renovated by the interior designer for use by her family. Its eclectic and bohemian design incorporates vintage furniture and artifacts that were bought at flea markets around the world. The items were either inherited from family members and friends or found on the street and restored by the apartment owners.

Friday, November 29, 11:00-14:00
Saturday, November 30, 11:00-14:00
Open house. Reservations not required.

41
A Duplex in Upper Hadar
51A Hess St., Hadar
Interior design: Merav Sade, 2017
An open house at an apartment in a 1945 building, located on a street lined with buildings from the 1940’s to 1960’s (including International Style buildings). The street is also characterized by steps that lead up to the Carmel and descend to the Lower City. Another floor and roof were added to the building in 1962, where the apartment is situated. It consists of four rooms that extend across two levels, but its sense of spaciousness does not reveal its actual size – which totals only 70 m². The new layout of the apartment, made two years ago, took into account the view of Haifa Bay that can be seen from it. The design also facilitates the display of the owners’ diverse collections.

Friday, November 29, 10:00-12:00
Saturday, November 30, 10:00-12:00
Open house. Reservations not required.

42
The Schreuer Residence
17A Tsafririm St., Carmel
A glimpse of an apartment located in a row house built in 1937 by Rassco (a rural and urban settlement company founded by the Jewish Agency). The building was one of Rassco’s first projects on the Carmel and was intended for middle-class new immigrants, and in particular for new immigrants from Germany of Polish origin. Although the apartment was renovated in 1995, the original Terrazzo staircase and railing were left untouched, as were various carpentry elements and the windows.

Saturday, November 30, 11:00-17:00
Open house. Reservations not required.

43
Between the Water Tower and the Guardhouse
Meeting place: the corner of 1 Massada St. and Balfour St., Hadar
The Technion-Hadar compound, whose cornerstone was laid in 1912, currently contains a cluster of buildings and institutions that provide physical proof of what existed in the past: the Hebrew Technion in Haifa, which paved the way for other academic institutions established in pre-State Israel as well as technology, vocational and marine education, the pioneer of Jewish settlement in Hadar HaCarmel, and one of the harbingers of the Land of Israel architectural style that was advanced by the architect, Alexander Baerwald.
The tour will be led by the conservation architect, Amir Freundlich, who prepared the restoration appendix for the site – which is one of Haifa’s important built heritage assets and symbols. During the tour, Freundlich will describe how the construction and institutions evolved at one of the city’s most interesting architectural compounds for more than 100 years. He will also talk about its role in the history of Zionist settlement in pre-State Israel at the beginning of the 20th century.
The 90-minute tour route will cross the compound from top to bottom, passing between two buildings that no longer exist – the water tower at the intersection of Masada St. and Balfour St., and the guardhouse at the intersection of Herzl St. and Shmaryahu Levin St., where the tour will end.

Saturday, November 30, 9:00
Advance reservations required; the tour is limited to 20 participants.

44
An International Journey
Meeting place: Haifa Auditorium Plaza, 138 HaNassi Blvd., Merkaz HaCarmel (Carmel Center)
The heyday of the modernist International Style – in the 1930’s and 1940’s – was a period in which the city experienced widespread development. During those years, Haifa expanded and new
neighboring neighborhoods in Merkaz HaCarmel, Hadar and Bat Galim became part of the city. Later on, in the 1950's and 1960's, the spaces between those neighborhoods also filled up with modernist buildings. This unusual 7-hour tour will be led by the geographer and architect Guy Shachar, who heads the Projects Unit at the Haifa Municipality's Building and Sites Conservation Department. The 10-kilometer route will focus on Haifa's Bauhaus and modernist architecture from two perspectives: the chronological-stylistic perspective – ranging from the 1930's to the 1970's – and the geographical perspective – from Mount Carmel to the sea. Tour participants will have a rare opportunity to become familiar with Haifa and its landscapes as well as its rich array of modernist buildings. Shachar will point out different types of buildings: some apartment buildings, International Style buildings, modernist office buildings, a modernist city square and examples of the best row houses in the city, located in Ramat Hadar, Kiryat Elyahu and Bat Galim. The tour will start at the Haifa Auditorium Plaza and include Merkaz HaCarmel, Ramat Hadar, Hadar HaCarmel, the Lower City, Kiryat Elyahu, Kiryat Eliezer and Bat Galim, ending at the Quiet Beach in Bat Galim. Throughout the day, updates will be provided on the Open House Weekend Facebook page, where visitors can track where the tour group is at any given time and join them at different spots along the route.

**Saturday, November 30, 9:00–16:00**
*Open tour. Reservations not required.*

**45**
**The Skatepark**

**Haifa Skatepark, Hecht Park**  
Design: Avi Luzia in collaboration with the Greenstein Har Gil Landscape Architecture firm, 2016  
Come and hear the story behind the establishment of the Haifa Skatepark, which extends across an area of 1,600 m² and includes high ramps, tracks for professionals, and surfaces that simulate urban streets and situations. The 30-minute sessions will be led by Avi Luzia, a professional skateboarder who has won international competitions and specializes in the design of skateparks, and was one of the designers of this project. He will describe the stages of designing the park as well as the technologies that were used in its construction (that were handmade, such as cast sculptures).

**Saturday, November 30, 12:00, 12:30, 13:30 and 14:00**  
*4 open sessions. Reservations not required.*

**46**
**The Israel Electric Corporation's Haifa "A" Power Plant**  
Haifa Power Plant, Tovim St., Shemen Beach. The tours will leave from the cafeteria building. Parking is available at the power plant compound.


Preservation architect: Farah Goldman Architects.  
Restoration and preservation of Pinhas Rutenberg's office: the late architect Saadia Mandel.

Tours led by the preservation architect, Farah Goldman, at the Haifa "A" power plant and Iraq Petroleum Company (IPC) compounds – an ensemble of buildings that illustrates modern architecture at its best, as well as a harmonious design of production, operations and management facilities surrounded by spacious gardens.

During the tours, Goldman will explain how Pinhas Rutenberg, who founded the Israel Electric Corporation, spearheaded the design of the compound. It combines impressive engineered designs made of concrete with modern "white" architecture in the huge and high-standard industrial facilities, whose construction was carried out by the Solel Boneh.

The tours will also include a visit at the restored office of Pinhas Rutenberg, where a background lecture will be delivered and participants will hear about the past, present and future story of the compound and buildings. They will also be shown original documents from the company's archive.

Participants must wear closed-back shoes and be over the age of 16. Entry into the compound is contingent on presenting an ID.

**Friday, November 29, 11:00 and 12:30**  
*Advance reservations required; each of the 2 tours is limited to 40 participants.*

**47**
**The History of Heinrich Heine Square**  
Meeting place: next to the fish pond in Shmuel HaCohen Garden  
Ron Mandel, who owns the blog "Touring the Streets of Haifa Without Getting Out of Your Chair" and is a member of the Haifa History Society, will lead these short, 30-minute tours of Heinrich Heine Square and its vicinity. He will recount the history of the square and the Lev HaCarmel building situated in the middle of it – which is one of the most prominent International Style icons in Haifa.

The building, designed by the architect Moshe Heth, was opened in 1938. During the tours, Mandel will talk about the people who owned land in the square and how and why the water tower was erected. He will also touch on questions pertaining to preservation as opposed to property as well as the names that were given to the neighborhood's streets and gardens.

**Friday, November 29, 9:30**
**Saturday, November 30, 9:30**
*2 open tours. Reservations not required.*
provided by the social activist and resident of the Hadar neighborhood, Adi Ozdoba, will be held at 14:00, 14:45 and 15:30.
Following them, participants will be able to see one of the apartments in the building where the artist, Yelena Oskotski, lives.

Friday, November 29, 14:00-16:30
Open tours and open house.
Reservations not required.

49
The History of Public Housing in Israel
Meeting place: 71 HaAliyah HaShniyah St., Bat Galim, in front of the Absorption Center
Tours with the architect, Zvi Skolnik, the former manager of the Town Planning Department at the Haifa Municipality, who was also a member of the Ministry of Housing staff during the period of the large wave of immigration (1991–1993). He will focus on residential projects consisting of at least 200 housing units (public housing) that are built on Israel Land Authority property, and discuss whether the state has an obligation to provide its citizens with a place to live. He will also describe the ideological and social changes that have occurred in Israel regarding this matter.

During the tours, Skolnik will review the history of public housing in the country as seen through a set of buildings in the Bat Galim neighborhood, which were constructed in different periods and represent different approaches to public housing. One of them was the first immigrants' house in the country, which was designed by an engineer named Vamos and built in 1923 for the British Mandatory Government. It underwent changes in the 1940's by the Jewish Agency and was later converted into an absorption center in the 1990's. Other buildings in Bat Galim include the Brigade housing project that was designed in 1947 by the architect, Adolf Rading, for British soldiers who served in World War II, whose modernist style is reminiscent of similar public housing that was built in that period in Austria and Germany – as well as "The Project" that was built in 1994 by Diur U’Pituach and marks the start of a revised approach to public housing in Israel.

Friday, November 29, 13:00
Saturday, November 30, 13:00
2 open tours. Reservations not required.

50
Raja Reiss and the Garden Mansions
Meeting place: the corner of 9 Yitzhak Sadeh St. and Radak St.
A tour of the "Residences for Rent" compound that was established by the real estate developer, Raja Reiss, in 1936 and designed by the leading Lebanese architect of the period – Antoine Tabet.
The architect and researcher, Adeeab Daoud Naccache, who researched the history of the compound while studying at the Technion, will be leading this tour. He will talk about the architectural style that characterizes the buildings, which he defines as "Levantine modernism" – a blend of Eastern and Western styles that makes use, among other things, of modernist architectural elements (such as horizontal "visors") for decorative and climatic purposes. Naccache will also recount the story behind the construction of the buildings, which were sold to the highest bidders – whether senior British Mandate clerks, employees of the Iraq Petroleum Company (IPC), foreign consulates, and even a public housing. One of them was different approaches to public housing. One of them was the first immigrants' house in the country, which was designed by an engineer named Vamos and built in 1923 for the British Mandatory Government. It underwent changes in the 1940's by the Jewish Agency and was later converted into an absorption center in the 1990's. Other buildings in Bat Galim include the Brigade housing project that was designed in 1947 by the architect, Adolf Rading, for British soldiers who served in World War II, whose modernist style is reminiscent of similar public housing that was built in that period in Austria and Germany – as well as "The Project" that was built in 1994 by Diur U’Pituach and marks the start of a revised approach to public housing in Israel.

Friday, November 29, 13:00
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design; 11:45 – a tour with the artist, Gil Goren, dealing with the works of art in the hotel.
**7 open tours for the first 20 people in line. Reservations not required.**

33 What Happened to Hadar?
**Meeting place: the corner of 1 Nordau St. and Balfour St.**
Most of Hadar HaCarmel, which was built in the 1920’s, was designed according to Richard Kaufmann’s ‘garden city’ plan made by Richard Kaufmann. It was designed, built and, for a period of time, also functioned as an upscale neighborhood that was meant to improve the living conditions of Haifa’s Jewish residents. This tour with Yevgeny Kobliv, who researches Haifa’s history, will review the historical processes and their impact on the conditions in the neighborhood, and will try to explain how Hadar reached its current state. He will also talk about the changes that the neighborhood is undergoing today.
The 90-minute tour will be conducted in Russian.
**Friday, November 29, 14:00**
**Open tour. Reservations not required.**

11 Under the Radar
**Meeting place: 33 Jerusalem St., at the entrance to Binyamin Garden**
There are many abandoned buildings in the Hadar neighborhood.
This tour led by Vitali Dubov-Dotan, an urban economics researcher who specializes in abandoned buildings and also founded the Abandoned Buildings in Haifa Facebook page, will point out those buildings, explain the reasons for their condition, describe what is being done to repopulate them and make them functional again, and what else can be done.
The 90-minute tour does not include entry to the buildings and will end at Talpiot Market.
**Friday, November 29, 9:00**
**Open tour. Reservations not required.**

55 Demolition Party: From Public Housing to Residential Tower
**Haifa City Museum, 11 Ben Gurion Ave.**
This tour of the exhibition “Demolition Party: From Public Housing to Residential Tower,” which is currently on display at the Haifa City Museum, will be led by the curator and architect, Dr. Hadas Shadar.
The exhibition deals with public housing complexes that were torn down in order to put up new residential towers and the values that were lost in the process: equality, modesty, the State’s commitment to provide its citizens with a place to live, and communality, which have been replaced by financial gain, individualism and an achievement orientation. During the hourlong tour and lecture, Shadar will raise a number of questions: does public housing in Israel have values, are those values original, and if they are – what are they.
**Friday, November 29, 11:00**
**Open tour for the first 30 people in line.**

56 Gerstel in Great Detail
**Meeting place: the corner of Syrkin St. and Naftali Herz Imber St.**
A tour that will trace the works of the Viennese-Haifa architect, Moshe Gerstel, who came to the country in the 1930’s. The tour will focus on the architectural and stylistic features of his work, which was influenced by the spirit of the modern period that underscored the totality of the building down to the smallest detail. The tour will begin at Talpiot Market, which Gerstel designed and where the exhibition ”Talpiot Market: Contemporary Art in an Iconic Structure” is currently on display, and continue from there to other public buildings he designed, including Industry House, and to some apartment buildings.
The tour will be led by the architects Shira Ben Ezra and Hanan Peretz.
**Friday, November 29, 13:30**
**Open tour. Reservations not required.**

57 Involving the Community in the Planning
**Tsipora Zeid St., at the entrance to the garden**
For many years, the Tsipora Zeid Garden, located in the heart of the Hadar neighborhood, served as a pass-through garden with large slopes. During this tour, the architects Orna Ben Ziony and Liat Oren will talk about the efforts currently underway to rehabilitate and revamp the garden. The works, carried out at the initiative of the Haifa Municipality, aim to meet the needs of the population living in the neighborhood that includes a large number of children. Ben Ziony and Oren will describe how the plans are dealing with the challenging topography and how the various local communities living nearby are involved in the process.
**Friday, November 29, 14:00**
**Open tour. Reservations not required.**

58 Cosmopolitan on the Carmel
**Meeting place: 23 HaTishbi St.**
A tour with the preservation architect, Noa Schek, a resident of the neighborhood who conducted the preservation survey for the French Carmel and Ramat HaTishbi on behalf of the Council for Conservation of Heritage Sites in Israel. The tour will focus on prominent buildings in the neighborhood, the features of the International Style found on the French Carmel, and the local appearance of the Arab International Style. The tour route will include a number of streets – HaTishbi, Ovadia, and Beit El, HaYovel and Tchernikovys, as well as homes that were designed by various architects for homeowners from different populations and ethnic groups, which are a reflection of Mandatory Haifa’s cosmopolitan diversity.
**Friday, November 29, 14:00**
**Open tour. Reservations not required.**

59 The Underground Emergency Hospital
**Meeting place: Greidinger Hall, Ruth Rappaport Children’s Hospital, Building 15, ground floor**
Architects: Arad Sharon, Sharon Gur – Ze’ev Sharon Architects, 2014
An opportunity to become acquainted with the emergency hospital at the Rambam Health Care Campus – the largest facility of its kind in the world – which extends across an area of three levels that can accommodate up to 2,000 beds during a state of emergency.
The architect, Arad Sharon, will deliver a lecture about the hospital, followed by a tour he will lead. He will explain how the underground
hospital can continue functioning even if cut off from the outside world for 72 hours, while providing protection from conventional and unconventional attacks. In peacetime, the facility serves as a 60,000 m² parking lot (with 1,500 parking spots). The medical gas supply lines that are built into the walls will be activated during a state of emergency, as will filters that protect against chemical and biological attacks and systems that supply secure water and fuel. The second part of the tour will be devoted to the Ruth Rappaport Children’s Hospital. Saturday, November 30, 11:00
Advance reservations required; the tour is limited to 50 participants.

60 Bauhaus on the Carmel — A Symposium
Haifa City Hall, 14 Hasan Shuqri St.
An international symposium of the Avie and Sarah Arenson Built Heritage Research Center at the Technion’s Faculty of Architecture and Town Planning, held in cooperation with the Haifa Municipality. The symposium will bring together speakers from Germany, Austria and Israel, who will present their researches on the German and Austrian modernisms and discuss the location of Haifa at the crossroads of colonial, Central European and Middle Eastern influences on architects and planners working in Mandate Palestine, in general, and in Haifa, in particular.
The symposium is being held with the support of Anhalt University of Applied Sciences, the Bauhaus Dessau Foundation and the Austrian Cultural Forum.
The conference will be held in English and is open to the public.
Thursday, November 28, 9:00-17:30
Advance registration is required: https://tinyurl.com/wk4gvd2

61 Home and Preschool
Meeting place: Intel parking lot, Haifa (Waze), at the entrance to the preschool
Architects: Orna Freifeld Best, Lital Szmuk Fabian, Yinon Levi Altschul and Yael Margalit, 2019
A tour of Na’amat’s new daycare centers and preschools at the Matam Hi-Tech and Business Park, led by the architect Yinon Levi Altschul, a member of the project’s planning team. During the 45-minute tour, he will talk about out the preschools that were built for the children of Matam employees, which were designed like a cluster of houses in order to create a sense of home for the children that is comparable to the size of a regular home, where they can enjoy multiple indoor-outdoor connections: yards and balconies with trees and vegetation. The homes are linked together by a main corridor that has lockers, benches and windows that look out on the vegetation in the yards.
Friday, November 29th, 13:00
Open tour. Reservations not required.

62 The MadaTech Building
Meeting place: the entrance to MadaTech, 25 Shmaryahu Levin St, Hadar
An opportunity to become acquainted with the old Technion building, which since 1983 has served as a science museum for children, and discover its architectural qualities. These 50-minute tours with the architect, Amos Wachman, will talk about the history of the building and its importance to the annals of Haifa, to Israeli architecture and to the history of Zionism. Wachman will point out the renovation works and the various additions that were made to the building in recent years: the construction of the Fab-Lab complex in the old workshop facility, the renovation of the ground floor of the main building and new elevator, the discovery of the roof of the cistern – the old well – in the north garden, and more.
Saturday, November 30, 13:30 and 14:30
Advance reservations required; each of the 2 tours is limited to 50 participants.

63 The Historic Archive at the Technion
Meeting place: the entrance to the Sego Building, Technion campus
A guided session with the archivist, Itay Keren, following the completion of a large-scale digitization project, which made thousands of documents and photographs from the Technion’s historic archive available on the Internet. The materials recount the Technion’s story through a historical lens. During the tour, participants will be shown some of the original documents.
Friday, November 29, 10:00
Open tour. Reservations not required.
Setter Architects website: https://www.setter.co.il/
Michal Kantor’s website: http://www.mk-lightingdesign.com/

64 The Offices of General Electric HealthCare
Meeting place: 1 Netiv HaOr St., Matam Hi-Tech and Business Park
Building architect: Moshe Tzur Architects; Office design: Setter Architects; Lighting design: Michal Kantor, 2017
An opportunity to visit the offices of General Electric HealthCare and hear about the main design considerations from the project’s lead designer, Bella Ventura, from Setter Architects, and from Michal Kantor, who designed the lighting in the offices. During the 45-minute tours, they will also talk about the design choices that were incorporated in the offices and how the lighting is meant to draw attention to the architectural design, while at the same time creating a lighting hierarchy and a distinction between the different spaces, their respective roles and the user experience.
The project won design awards at international competitions.
Friday, November 29, 10:00
Open tour. Reservations not required.
Setter Architects website: https://www.setter.co.il/
Michal Kantor’s website: http://www.mk-lightingdesign.com/

65 Life Sciences Park
Meeting place: the lobby of the Life Sciences Building, Matam Hi-Tech and Business Park
Architect: Moshe Tzur Architects, 2017
A tour at the first of five buildings that are scheduled to open at the Life Sciences Park in Matam. During the tour, Gennady Agranovich from Moshe Tzur Architects will
talk about the first building, which extends across an area 13,100 m², the principles that guided its design and how it will connect with the other planned buildings. The 45-minute tour will begin in the lobby of the building, continue from there to the floor where the offices are located, and end outside the building with an explanation about its shell and planned future additions.

Friday, November 29, 9:00
Open tour. Reservations not required.

66  
Matam West  
Meeting place: the entrance to the Matam West Building, about 100 meters from the front gate  
Architect: Moshe Tzur Architects, 2016  
The architect Gennady Agranovich from Moshe Tzur Architects leads this tour of a building located at the southern gateway to Haifa next to the Coastal Road. It belongs to the first row of buildings that mark the boundary of the Matam Hi-Tech and Business Park and directly face the Mediterranean. During the tour, Agranovich will talk about the features of the building, which extends across an area of about 29,400 m², is situated above a 4,700 m² underground parking lot, and offers long-term office rentals to hi-tech companies. He will describe the limitations of the lot and the height restrictions that dictated the construction of a long and narrow building, as well as the design considerations that were taken into account. The building won the Design Award for 2016.

Thursday, November 28, 11:30  
Open tour. Reservations not required.

67  
The Stadium  
Meeting place: Maccabi Haifa box office, Sammy Ofer Stadium  
Architects: KSS Architects (UK) and Mansfeld-Kehat Architects, 2014  
Guided tours at the largest football (soccer) stadium in the city – and one of Haifa’s symbols – which includes 30,000 original seats, sky boxes and boxes for fans. During the tours, participants will hear about the European football stadium design standards that pertain to the comfort of spectators, players and referees, the angle from which the game should be watched, the quality of the seats and how far the last rows of the bleachers should be from the field, accessibility, and even the nature of the concession stands – and how all these standards have been applied at Sammy Ofer Stadium. The tours, led by the architects Yuli Wittenberg and Haim Kehat from Mansfeld-Kehat Architects, will also include the state-of-the art locker rooms, the referees’ rooms, control room and the press box. Participants will also hear about the eco-friendly systems that have been installed in the stadium, which include water recycling, acoustic coating beneath the roofing material, floodlights mounted on the roof that illuminate the grass and do not disrupt the environment, a noise-reduction, decentralized public address system, and more.

Thursday, November 28, 13:00 and 15:00  
Advance reservations required; each of the 2 tours is limited to 50 participants.

68  
The Bridge  
Meeting place: Neve Sha’anani Gate, at the entrance to the Technion  
Architects: Schwartz Besnosoff Architects, 2019  
Come and see the new bridge at the entrance to the Technion – the Technion Gates Project – that was designed for the purpose of linking the Technion with the city. The new bridge connects two promenades – the Ziloni promenade and the future science promenade – and merges them into a single promenade that starts at the Ziv Center and ends at Senate Square. It has consequently restored the original function of Senate Square as the main square on campus that can host farmers’ markets, exhibitions and various events. During the tour, the architect, Gabi Schwartz, will describe how the topography was utilized for the benefit of the design. He will also talk about the automated vehicle entry system that was incorporated in the bridge, which improves the safety of pedestrians and bike riders and shortens the vehicles’ waiting times.

Friday, November 29, 9:00  
Open tour. Reservations not required.

69  
The British Vision  
Meeting place: the bus stop at the entrance to the Sail Tower (The Rocket) when coming from Ha’atzmaut Rd.  
The British conquered Haifa from the Ottomans 101 years ago. When part of the Ottoman Empire, the city was relatively peripheral. But within a period of three decades, the British turned it into a modern city – a gateway to the Middle East – with regional strategic importance.
BET HАPOALIM (WORKERS’ HOUSE):
“NEW PERTINENCE”

When Bet Hapoalim was opened in 2017, the Hadar Hacarmel quarter boasted two public buildings: the Technion, at the heart of the public space in the neighborhood’s northwestern sector, and Bet Hapoalim, on public land along its eastern flank. The contrast between the two structures was startling. In the former, Alexander Baerwald’s Technion loomed: a ponderous, imposing stone building decorated with Oriental arches and surrounded by a garden. The latter, Bet Hapoalim—a stucco-faced concrete structure adjacent to a place of gathering that was exposed to the elements, like a bird’s nest in the middle of a cityscape.

The architect Yohanan Ratner held Alexander Baerwald, his experienced elder colleague, in enormous esteem. Ratner served Baerwald as his assistant at the Technion Department of Architecture (which Baerwald headed) and partnered with him in designing the nearby Histadrut Kupat Holim building, where the trade-union federation’s health-maintenance organization was quartered (dedicated in 1931). Ratner, however, did not believe in reiterating a style from the past, as would happen if he mimicked the Technion building, and ruled out the faddish adoption of modern gestures. In fact, he spurned stylistic mannerism of every kind and strove for what he called “new pertinence.” The correct spatial and material approach to take toward the surroundings was, he ruled, “localism.” He affirmed abstraction, but only the kind that strives for attentiveness to the surroundings by applying sensitive spatial-technology thinking that responds to needs. Bet Hapoalim’s concrete structure was radical in its day. With its clarity, straight lines, and simplicity, it fit into the surrounding fabric amazingly. Ratner designed the Amphi-Theatre with mathematical calculus, tailoring it to the topography and making its stage visible from everywhere.

Departments of architecture inscribe Ratner as a pioneering, innovative, and influential professional. Although hardly a memory remains of the façade of Bet Hapoalim, The Worker’s House, the building, has a constitutive place in modern Israeli architecture.

Just as Baerwald and Ratner are separate but complementary, so were the institutional buildings that they designed. The mating of Bet Hapoalim and the Technion spurred growth in the neighborhood and throughout Haifa. Here the question of the source of Hadar Hacarmel’s vitality finds its answer. Three focal public locations rest at the base of the plan for the neighborhood (produced by Richard Kauffmann pursuant to a memorandum by the Scots town planner Patrick Geddes). Apart from the two buildings mentioned thus far, the public space of Benjamin Park and Bet Ha’am deserves mention. Each of these three public places in Hadar Hacarmel has its own character and meaning. It was the cooperative web that took shape among these institutions, however—combined with a city center comprised of commerce, offices, and public buildings—that poured effervescent life into the neighborhood and made its reputation.

The pulsating heart of Red Haifa was the complex of Bet Hapoalim, the Amphi-Theatre, and the Ora Cinema—the last-mentioned dedicated by the Haifa Labor Council in 1935. Included in Bet Hapoalim, among other facilities, were the Betenu hall, where people gathered ahead of performances or public gatherings, a kindergarten for working mothers, a workers’ kitchen, the Borochov workers’ library, a reading room, a labor exchange, and trade-union offices. The Kupat Holim and a dental clinic were set up nearby.

Construction of Bet Hapoalim

It was in 1925 that Haifa first celebrated May Day. Two years later, a crowd gathered for this purpose for the first time at Bet Hapoalim, which was still under construction. Those years, which saw the construction and dedication of Bet Hapoalim and the Amphi-Theatre, were the years of social and economic crisis that typified the Fourth Aliya. Many despaired and left the country, e.g., a large group of members of the Labor Brigade that headed surreptitiously to Russia. In Haifa, unemployment was so bad that about one-third of all workers, including several leaders of the city’s labor movement, left town on this account.

The decision to build Bet Hapoalim and the Amphi-Theatre had been made by the Hadar Hacarmel committee several years earlier and the land for the project was set aside...
on May 1, 1923. In view of the escalating crisis, construction was expedited on the rationale that the jobless needed the work and that the power of “together,” reflected in the construction of a building that would be “Our Home” (in Hebrew: Betenu), would create something to identify with. Bet Hapoalim and the Amphi-Theatre kept their promise. They became institutions in the deepest sense of the word—places of encounter and focus for all forms of civic activity, far beyond the bureaucratic context of party affiliation.

Work on the building did not stop after the dedication; both the Amphi-Theatre and Bet Hapoalim saw continual improvements in ensuing years. In 1929, wooden seats were affixed to the stone benches. In 1931, a machinery room was set up on the ground floor and the Amphi-Theatre, which entered the cinema era—first with silent films and then with sound—was rented out to its management company for half of the week. Scores of posters, writings, documents, and photos attest to the activities that went on there: “Hehaluts Street is the living artery of the New City,” a journalist wrote. “It’s a pleasure to step through the gates [of Bet Hapoalim], which is “truly a center for the public around it.” In other cities, he continued, workers do not visit their labor council when jobs are scarce. “[But] that’s not how it is in Haifa—There’s something that attracts people to this place” even in the cold of winter, “[when] the movie projector doesn’t move.” “The building is very successful” and the active institutions—the library, the reading room (set up in the waiting area), the Labor Youth club, and the kindergarten for working mothers’ children—are praiseworthy (Yitzhak Yatsiv, “To the Flank of [Mt.] Carmel,” Davar, February 8, 1932). By 1934, a third floor and balconies connecting to the exterior were added to the building. A 1936 photo shows Ratner’s building at its loveliest, before a fourth floor and an entrance colonnade floor were installed (Architect S. Dori, 1949) and before a fifth floor was clapped on and its façade was altered unrecognizably to reconcile it with that of the Haifa Labor Council building (early 1950s).

To finance the project, the workers held a week of festivities on the Technion grounds. Architect Baerwald submitted a proposal for a massive structure connected by a bridge over Hehaluts Street. City Hall rejected his proposal and adopted Ratner’s modest alternative instead. (No documentation of Baerwald’s plan has been found.) Construction was completed in 1926 and the Haifa Labor Council, headquartered on Allenby Street until then, moved into the new edifice on April 1, 1927.

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**Experiencing the era: The workers’ kitchen and sundry activities at Bet Hapoalim**

By means of contemporary photos and texts, we can experience something of the spirit and realia of the time. The Bet Hapoalim workers’ kitchen, inaugurated in November 1934, was described as “the country’s fanciest restaurant”—a spacious, airy, and well-lit venue that boasted electric elevators, walk-in refrigerators, and swanky heating fixtures. The lavishly equipped workers’ club and loan fund were about to open just then. “The veteran comrades in this city, who still remember the kitchen in the suffocating confines of a narrow Arab house, and the loan fund wedged into a corner of the Haifa Labor Council’s apartment, greeted the building with tears of joy in their eyes and the shehehiyanu blessing [on their lips]” (“Dedication of the Workers’ Kitchen in Haifa,” Davar, November 14, 1934).

Thirteen years later, Yehuda Amichai described a magic moment at the kitchen (November 9, 1947):

At 3:00 p.m., I walked over to the workers’ kitchen. [...] Suddenly the sun burst through the clouds, casting an abundance of light over each table. Hairs turned golden, eyeglasses glittered, eyes flashed, and the sky was dark apart from the slot of azure through which the sun protruded. Suddenly, almost everyone fell silent. Some stopped eating; others slowed the pace of their eating distractedly. The sun. the sun.
Having a meal at the workers’ kitchen was part of the daily routine of many Haifa-ites, women and men alike. The facility surfaced in interviews as a childhood reminiscence that penetrated the senses and the soul, accompanied by the presence of parents who worked near Bet Hapoalim and tied into additional activity at the club or watching a film at the Amphi-Theatre (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pFKXVKhIIs0). Bet Hapoalim had a significance that exceeded the sum of its parts. Its matrix of conference rooms, non-bureaucratic activities, and its dining and cultural venues suggested a potential that left imprints. By nourishing its visitors, the workers’ kitchen allowed cultural events that could not be offered elsewhere to take place. As a case in point, the kitchen hosted an annual Passover seder for soldiers and recently arrived immigrant families. The person behind the idea was the director of the Culture Department of the Haifa Labor Council, Nahman Tamir, whose inaugural seder, in 1946, accommodated some 250 celebrants. In an undated press clipping in our archive, the Passover meal, prepared by and served at the workers’ kitchen, “met all the rules and regulations, and the matzo balls were just like those at father’s home.” A special haggada (seder text) was prepared for the event and two members of the Habimah Theatre joined up to read from “the words of the elders and the more recent about freedom and the struggle to attain it.”

Every society has the right repertoire of social activities for its time, and Red Haifa throbbed with a ramified assortment of activities including the integrated use of the urban space and the Amphi-Theatre for parades, dancing, and more. Writings, photos, and dozens of posters from Nahman Tamir’s archive attest to the complexity of the cultural activity that also managed, in its way, to express criticism—for example, through the performative medium of the public trial. One of the posters in the archive documents a public trial that took place at the Amphi-Theatre at 8:00 p.m. on January 25, 1946, on the topic of “The Unorganized Worker.” Abba Khoushy played the prosecutor, Nahman Tamir the defense counsel, members of trade unions as witnesses, and an attorney as president of the court. The trial exposed to the public to a rift and a trenchant struggle at the Histadrut in Haifa after World War II and gave Tamir an opportunity to rationalize the defense of non-unionized labor (against which the Histadrut inveighed) in various ways. In a draft that he prepared ahead of the trial, Tamir presented troubling data and described problematic aspects of actions by Histadrut representatives in Haifa, which, he thought, deserved scrutiny. The theatrical setting of the dramatized trial allowed something that was repressed, that could not be developed directly in public, to be viewed in a controlled manner.
Tamir’s archive makes its public debut at the “Social Bauhaus” exhibition at an installation crafted by his granddaughter, the artist Orna Oren-Israe, “Reading Party.” In the installation, set up at the home of the Haifa Labor Council, where a Hadar Hacarmel cooperative group is active, the archive serves the artist as the point of departure for a contemporary reading of textual and visual material. Oren-Israe chooses to co-opt demographically diverse women and men in the area of Syrkin and Hehaluts Streets into a reading of Ushpizin.

Closing the Open Space and Building the Home of the Haifa Labor Council

The public trial—set for 8:00 p.m. in January 1946—could not have taken place if the Amphi-Theatre had not been roofed. In 1942, it became a full-fledged movie theatre. Although this novelty dimmed its splendor as an open space in a local landscape, it gave the venue broader potential for action. It happened due to the war-induced need to impose blackouts. Namely, the flickers that split the air when films were shown at the open Amphi-Theatre endangered the population, making roofing an urgent necessity. With building materials (mainly steel) in short supply, early plans by the architect Abraham Gerstenfeld6 for a temporary building using metal latticework elements were set aside. Also rejected, due to the threat of firebombing, was the inexpensive alternative of a wooden structure covered with rolled asbestos. Memories of the Ora Cinema fire were still fresh. The proposal that won the day included the construction of a skeleton of reinforced-concrete frames that would not be connected to the existing building—thus not burdening it with additional weight—and roofing of latticework strips. The construction work took only four months, including the addition of conveniences on the flanks of the stage, the creation of a regular entrance hall, expansion of the machinery room, and solutions in matters of acoustics, ventilation, and aesthetics (in consultation with the architect Eugen Stolzer).7

The roofing of the Amphi-Theatre seems to have changed the perception of expansion plans for the Haifa Labor Council building. In 1938, the world war yet some time away, the Council decided to put up another building, one that would link the Kupat Holim, the healthcare center, premises—which would be expanded parallel to Syrkin Street—with the other side of the plot, where the Labor Youth movement had its rudimentary home. It was the Council’s wish to house in this structure, in addition to the expanded Kupat Holim, the offices of the Tax Bureau and the Labor Youth clubhouse.

In early April, a contest for the architect of the facility was announced (“Expanding the Histadrut House,” Davar, April 27, 1938). Although the competition evidently had to be called off due to the dire situation at the time, Munio Gitai Weinräub and Alfred Mansfeld’s plan for the expansion appears to have been submitted under its auspices. The building that they proposed would also serve as the Amphi-Theatre’s screen.

Munio Gitai Weinräub’s and Alfred Mansfeld’s Bet Hapoalim expansion plan, 1938, courtesy of the Munio Gitai Weinräub Museum, Haifa

In 1946, after the war ended, the Haifa Labor Council continued to plan the expansion of its headquarters. The architect Eugen Stolzer, then busy renovating the Ora Cinema (designed together with his colleague, the architect Oskar Kaufmann), submitted a detailed plan for this purpose. It rounded the Hehaluts Street façade to match the bend in the street and left the original Amphi-Theatre unchanged (as it would remain for years to come). Stolzer’s plan also included the construction of a bridge from Herzl Street to the building on Hehaluts Street—an idea that had surfaced earlier in Baerwald’s plan for Bet Hapoalim.

Stolzer’s scheme wasn’t carried out for unclear reasons. The floors above the cinema were planned and built by the architects Munio Gitai Weinräub and Alfred Mansfeld. The building was arch-shaped and had staircases at its extremes that were linked by a hallway lined with offices.

The building was dedicated in 1950 and again in 1952. Also designed and built by Weinräub and Mansfeld was a pedestrian bridge over Hehaluts Street, connecting the events hall at the Labor Council building with Herzl Street. The bridge boasted the architectural distinction of an innovative design with no supports, two concrete arches, and a steel balustrade.

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6 The architect Avraham Gerstenfeld (b. 1892 in Galicia) did his studies in Vienna and practiced in Lwów. He served in the Austrian army as an officer in World War I and was taken prisoner in Siberia. He immigrated to Mandate Palestine in 1936 and opened an office at 29 Balfour Street in Haifa. He designed multiple buildings in Haifa in 1941–1956, including the Rosener residence at 122 Moriah Bld., today a postal center, and the Derekh Hayam residences at 30 Derekh Hayam. His children, Shmuel and Ora (Yaar), were architects.

7 Oskar Berger, “Roofing of the Amphitheatre in Haifa,” Engineering and Architecture, journal of the Society of Engineers, A (March–April 1943). Berger took part in this project as its construction engineer.
Afterword

In 1982, the Amphi-Theatre Cinema was leased to Pesel, Ltd. (the operator) for a twenty-month term. It was shut down five years later; the Ora Cinema, leased to the same firm, met the same fate three years afterward.

For nearly ten years, the Amphi-Theatre remained shuttered and crumbling, the lessee refusing to hand it back to its owner, the Histadrut.

On October 4, 1996, the Mayor of Haifa and the chair of the Histadrut met and agreed to turn the Amphi-Theatre Cinema into a parking lot.

On December 9, 1996, the Municipal Inspectorate declared the building hazardous. The next day, the Histadrut and Pesel received a summary demolition / renovation order.

A year later, the Histadrut sued Pesel for having failed to make restitution. The court found for the plaintiff. The trial delayed the demolition, but in February 1998 the Municipality of Haifa sued the Histadrut for its failure to demolish the structure. On May 20, 1998, the wreckers showed up, the Amphi-Theatre went down, the slope was leveled, and the parking lot came into being.

No preservation file exists; also absent is detailed documentation of any of the buildings described here.
THE ORA CINEMA: THE PINK SANCTUARY COMES TO LIFE

To passersby on Herzl St., the pink structure on the corner looks like just another half-abandoned building that’s got nothing inside to search for. Well, they’re in for a surprise. “Social Bauhaus” is bringing the place back to life for three days by opening a side gate to a staircase that leads up to the last remaining part the magnificent balcony hall of what was once the Ora Cinema. One can imagine this part of the route as it looked when the theatre/cinema building was dedicated almost ninety years ago; it was also documented in historical photographs (courtesy architects Yael and Yaron Granot). Watch the ascending stairs converge, some dressed in red mosaic as they lead to the balcony, and others in green as they pivot toward the spacious hall. Although the lavish approach to the Ora Cinema has become a toy shop, you can still identify the ceiling as it sprawls over the wall like a gigantic elastic cap. At the rear you’ll find the glass light-admitting ceiling and remnants of what was once a snack bar, now paved with colorful ceramics.

Although the black-and-white photography obscures the color of the building’s walls, it is indeed the original paint, as the preservation expert Walid Karkabi tested and confirmed.

Here’s the Ora Cinema/Theatre in its full grandeur! In the background, festooned in Latin characters, the screening of the first film, Crime and Punishment, is heralded. The balcony area that’s been opened up for the “Social Bauhaus” is at the top row of the windows on the protruding northwestern façade.

Yitzhak Kalter, a photographer who studied architecture in Haifa, was invited to photograph the building ahead of its dedication on December 23, 1935. Fortunately, the high-quality photos that he took were left in a forgotten loft at the Hadar and Rami Ron Architects’ House and were discovered just as Yaron Granot was preparing the documentation file. Left to the imagination is the blast of the gong that signaled the opening of the event, the dimming of lights on both sides of the hall, and the purple velvet curtain drawn aside left and right to reveal the depth and the immense height of the stage. No one seemed to miss the khaki in the color scheme; the normative style was well received by the owner of the building, the Labor Movement in Mandate-era Red Haifa, which commissioned the work. Abba Khoushy, representing the Labor Movement, expressed his gratitude to those who contributed to the project, “from the simple laborer up to the artist, the author of the plan, Professor Kaufmann.” The Haohel Orchestra played, the workers’ choir sang, and the audience in the hall cheered in its 1,100 seats for the Haohel Theatre actress, Leah Deganit, for “her oratory and her explanation” of Jacob Orland’s “The Roofers” and for Leah Goldberg’s “New Hora,” with music by Verdina Shlonsky.

Truth to tell, the architect Oskar Kaufmann displayed modernistic restraint in the case at hand, relative to the much more regal theaters that he had designed in the capitals of Europe. His early structures, such as the Neue Stadttheater (1907) and the Volksbühne in Berlin (1913), seem to flicker from a world of legend.
The Ora hall bears a visible resemblance to Kaufmann’s Renaissance Theatre in Berlin (1926). The beauty of the clean sweep of Ora’s balcony railing compensates for the lack of the breathtaking artistry that bedecked the Berlin edifice. Indeed, it is the cleanliness of the International Style, disseminated by architects who reached Mandate Palestine in the mass immigration era, that made the wondrous miracle possible. With cheap materials and under difficult conditions, they created something truly new—simple and reductive, malleable, and inspiring.

Oskar Kaufmann and his veteran partner Eugen Stolzer built this structure as the Habima Theatre in Tel Aviv was going up. Both architects had been born in Hungary and finished their professional training in Germany (Karlsruhe and Munich, respectively); both emigrated to Mandate Palestine when the Nazis acceded to power. Kaufmann, twenty years Stolzer’s senior (and already past sixty when he reached the country), left Palestine in 1939 en route to Britain but got stuck in Europe and was unable to return. After the war, he enjoyed a rebirth in Hungary, where he practiced his craft until his death in 1956. Stolzer married the architect Judith Segall, who at an early stage joined his office; together they designed important buildings in Haifa and all over the country.

Here our story returns to the efflorescence of the Ora Cinema, as its managers wished upon it in their dedicatory benediction. May the structure, they intoned, “disseminate the culture of spirit and the psyche,” adding, “Our joint efforts made it possible to put up this building, the loveliest in the heart of Hadar Hacarmel, on a desolate plot that only a year ago was an obstruction to all passersby” (December 2, 1935, Lavon Institute, 1926–1931).

The movie theater indeed flourished. In 1940, however, as though nothing has changed since then, tensions in Red Haifa between ultra-Orthodox and secular Jews surged. The flaring tempers focused on two things: public bus service on the Sabbath and Sabbath desecration at the Ora Cinema, which, although privately owned, had been “built on Jewish National Fund land” (Hatzofe, December 26, 1940).

A year later, a disastrous fire cut the Ora Cinema down in its prime. At 2:00 a.m. on November 26, 1941, a blaze broke out in the auditorium. By the time it was extinguished several hours later, it had destroyed the performance hall and grievously damaged the rest of the building. Police opened an investigation.

After lying derelict for six years, the structure was rededicated on November 27, 1947. “In its beauty and its fine appurtenances,” a journalist cheered, “it surpasses the Ora Cinema of yore.” Said another: “Along with the abundant taste invested in it (by the architect, Stolzer, and the engineer, Y. Neumann), it has been modernized in its stage instrumentation and facilities and its modern projection equipment, imported from the United States.” Expressing the zeitgeist, it was emphasized that all the rest was locally made: the rubber carpeting, the meticulously crafted furniture, and all the accessories (Hamashkif, November 27, 1947). From then on, a gigantic sixteen-spotlight chandelier starred in the hall; dangling the ceiling, it was reminiscent of the fixture at the Renaissance Theatre in Berlin, which Stolzer had designed in conjunction with Kaufmann. The impressive chandelier, which by dimming its lights signified the opening shot of the film being shown, remains engraved in the memory of anyone who experienced events at the Ora Cinema. The only change in the building’s façade was the addition of a colonnaded entrance on the side facing Herzl Street.
on keeping it well maintained. It seems that even by obtaining a ruling from the Histadrut tribunal, the architect Munio Gitai Weinräub thwarted the tenants’ initiative to place wall paintings in the auditorium (Ingersoll, Munio Gitai–Weinräub, 2009, p. 83).

In the 1980s, dozens of movie houses in Haifa (including fourteen in Hadar alone) began to shut down one after another. In 1986, it was reported that the Ora Cinema, which at the Mayor’s behest had not operated on Sabbath eves until then, joined five other movie theaters in offering Friday night screenings (Ma’ariv, June 12, 1986). However, it was not only the worldwide shift in the perception of cinema houses that doomed the amazing concentration of cinemas in Hadar. The Hadar neighborhood itself collapsed. Its passel of judicial and governmental institutions was transferred to the Lower City; the ascendancy of malls dried up its businesses and took away local and national public traffic. Hadar was gradually abandoned and lost its place among City Hall’s priorities.

The story of the Ora Cinema, however, did not end when the institution closed its doors in 1990. The company that rented it refused to return it to its owner, the Histadrut; similarly it held onto Ora’s elder sibling, the Amphi-

Theater (which had gone out of business three years earlier). As we know, the wheels of justice grind at their own pace. Thus, all that time the tenant continued to retain the abandoned buildings and abetted their growing decrepitude. In 2003, the Supreme Court ordered the restitution of the buildings to the Histadrut. The derelict Ora had been sold off a year earlier.

In an interview with the coordinator of the Council for Preservation in the Northern District, the movie-theatre scholar David Schalit tried to understand how the Ora had been left off the list of structures for preservation and added, “She [the Preservation coordinator] finds it hard to explain.” Unsurprisingly, due to this puzzling preservation policy, the district zoning board authorized the rezoning of the Ora and the construction of a commercial center in its place (David Schalit, Globes, September 19, 2001).

In a preservation survey commissioned by the new ownership, the architect Yaron Granot stressed the importance and architectural values of the building. (The architects Danny Tatsa and Tzvika Koren from Y.Y. Granot Architects participated in the survey.) Pursuant to this, the Haifa Municipal Preservation Committee demanded that the building be added to the preservation list and that proposed modifications that would make it fit for commercial needs be approved. In her talk with Schalit, the coordinator of the Northern District Preservation Committee noted that the committee’s two decisions, which “contradicted each other,” were symptomatic of its action at large and its blindness to the cause of preservation in Haifa. Those who persuaded the developers to preserve the façade of the building, Schalit notes, were the new owner’s architects (from the Granot office). However, the conclusions in regard to the interior of the building remain open in accordance with uses, because the structure did not appear on the preservation list at the time.

The outer appearance of the building has been preserved, as have the entrance lobby and the staircases, which are used today as a toy shop.

Did this process have to happen, and at what points in time? What process might have placed matters on a different course, and what can one learn from the past in regard to the future?
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SOCIAL BAUHOUS
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