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Dalia Johananoff Kenneth Mistaken Memories A Love Letter To My Father

Edited by Eldad Rafaeli
Texts by Or Ernest, Eldad Rafaeli, Yael Shafir
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Visual dialogue between the artist and her memories of her father

Following the death of her father in 2014, photographer Dalia Johananoff Kenneth (b. 1960 in Israel) discovered a forgotten treasure of tens of thousands prints shot by him in the 1950's and 1960's, and self-developed in a tiny space turned into a darkroom at home. While sieving and scanning through his prints, she found photographic language sometimes incredibly compatible, other times foreign but always resonating within. The images, whether hers or her father's, enable and compel her to revisit their relationship, and her identity as a woman and an artist. Using visual sentences, timeless fragmented collages, *Mistaken Memories*. A Love Letter To My Father portrays a platform of visual dialogue between the artist and her memories.

From the text *Gaze* by **Or Ernst**:

Mistaken Memories cannot be reined in to fit some organized, coherent structure, nor can a family chronology be drawn from it. No family album, this, but rather, illusions of memory, the shadow of things, wanderings and wonderings. Dalia is not satisfied with a singular entrapment and presents her and her father's photographic treasure for an up-close study in her laboratory. There she abstracts forms and redresses them, snips and welds, carries out fixes with the fractions of moments and memories, with connections and people: among them her father, who consolidates through Dalia's gaze and is not necessarily his true portrait. This act of disassembling and reassembling is not merely a format but an essence. Right from the get-go, she goes for the surgical incision into her father's body of work, extricating only that which will serve her in preparing assemblages on her chosen image, serving as the host body. In this way, through processes of experimentation and fusion, she creates hybrids and establishes a new taxonomy.

From the text A Dialog Beyond Space and Time by Eldad Rafaeli: The book Mistaken Memories presents Moshe's discovered works in an artistic action that fuses contemporary photography with archival curation and connects different temporal spaces. The departed is resurrected, and new truths are crystallized in a complex and intriguing dialog initiated by Dalia. By curating parts of Moshe's corpus alongside photographs from her own body of work, Dalia illuminates their newly found artistic relationship tenderly yet confidently. Through their photographs, Dalia and Moshe communicate, echo each other, generate a complex truth that travels in different directions at the speed of light, and feeds each other's mistaken memories. In this visual sequence of thoughts and insights, Dalia tells a new independent story, part of which no longer relies on reality, taking us along on a voyage of love, beyond time and space.

Dalia Johananoff Kenneth, (b.1960) studied Filmmaking at the London Film School, and later on with the Continuous Education Program at the International Center of Photography, New York City. Dalia edited, produced, and developed content for the BBC as well as for the Israeli television and movie industry; exhibited her work, curated and was the co-art director of the Israeli International Photography Festival.

www.mistakenmemories.com

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