

***ISRAELA HARGIL******IN LOVE WITH MARCEL DUCHAMP***

If you wish to deepen your knowledge of Duchamp, his philosophy, and his work, you can do so through Israela Hargil – a Polish-born sculptress who, after her years as a member of Kibbutz Ramat Yohanan, attended the Chicago Academy of Arts, studied in London, Los Angeles, Tel Aviv and New York and who, for the past twenty years, has exhibited her art work in the United States of America and Israel. She is an enthusiastic student of Duchamp and her exhibition at the Constant Gallery for Sculpture in Ramat Gan – part of the Ramat Gan Art Museum – is a tribute to Duchamp.

Art work of this kind, such as iron objects, scrap from workshops, car parts and home utensils, take on artistic meaning with the appropriate presentation. And, without prejudice, I admit that Hargil presents her ostensibly unaesthetic artwork in the most aesthetic manner. When a group of ten such objects – hollow exhaust pipes and parts from a sewer, are positioned upright in the proper order, given the name “bachelors” – then, with a little imagination and a desire to go towards the sculpture, you will see a group of men in clamorous dialog, each one according to his nature, tall, short, proud, pleading, exchanging ideas, chatting...

Israela Hargil does not exhibit random raw objects. She labors to shape them with humor and a fine sense of the aesthetic. To know Duchamp through Israela Hargil is an experience – if you so choose.

**Natan Gross**

**Al Hamishmar, 13.12.93**