

Loomis Chaffee 2015

AVNER SHER @ LOOMIS CHAFFEE

Batchelder Road Windsor, CT, 06095

Israeli Artist Avner Sher Visits the Island
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Israeli architect and artist Avner Sher spent time working among and speaking with Loomis Chaffee students during his week-long stay as a Visiting Artist last week.

Mr. Sher, a graduate of the Israeli Institute of Technology, the Technion, and Haifa's University, is well known both for his innovative approach to architecture and his original aesthetic exhibited in his artwork.

Loomis's Sue and Eugene Mercy Gallery in the Richmond Art Center presented a collection of Mr. Sher's work in September. His dramatic drawings take shape through process of destruction — scratching, marring, and staining — on a thin sheet of cork surface. In that process, the forms and shapes come to tell his point of view. In his own words, Mr. Sher's work is "an expression of hope."

During his December visit, Mr. Sher addressed senior students in the Alvord Center for Global & Environmental Studies' Certificate program and presented a lecture to advanced visual art students.

The chaotic environment in the eastern Mediterranean known as the Levant, which encompasses his homeland of Israel, has greatly influenced Mr. Sher's work. In his presentation he pointed out that the relatively young nation of Israel is smaller in area than the state of New Jersey and its population of 8 million people is smaller than that of New York City. That small space includes areas of great significance to followers of three major world religions — Judaism, Islam, and Christianity — and draws pilgrims from around the globe.

"Israel's rich history is a great inspiration to my work both as an architect and an artist," he told students in his lectures.

Mr. Sher's works have been in solo and group exhibitions worldwide and have been reviewed in Arts Observer, Auction, and other publications. His work is part of public and private collections worldwide, including Israel, Germany, France, Belgium, and the United States. More information may be obtained on the artist's website.

AVNER SHER @ CHASE FAMILY GALLERY

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