

**Avner Ben-Gal**

**Opening Saturday 4 October, 6 pm  
4 October - 15 November 2008**

**Fabio Tiboni Arte Contemporanea  
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Tuesday - Saturday 2 - 8 pm**

On Saturday the 4th of October the Fabio Tiboni gallery will open the first solo exhibition in Italy of the Israeli artist Avner Ben-Gal. Born in Ashkelon in 1966, Ben-Gal, who lives and works in Tel Aviv, has exhibited in prestigious museums and exhibition spaces in Europe and in the United States (Gegenwartskunst, Basel; Aspen Art Museum, Aspen, Colorado) and has participated in some important international reviews (the 50th Biennial of Venice; Infinite Painting, Villa Manin).

Through a style of painting that is liquid, of thick and fluid brushstrokes, the canvases and drawings of Ben-Gal create the impression of ungraspable and slippery images (to the gaze) and a feeling of disembodiedness (though in the presence of the full-bodiedness of the painting) and of undefined forms. Apocalyptic and violent atmospheres, as prefigurations of an imminent end or a primordial time (and with a reference to a mythological imaginary) get confused with a vision of contemporaneity whose signs manifest in stratified images and fragmentary and broken narrations. In this way, ambiguous figures (in his paintings, men and animals live together in hybrid forms) refer to a vaguely surrealistic dimension and end up appearing as dark and threatening, but fragile and vulnerable presences at the same time.

The solo show at Fabio Tiboni gallery includes a group of paintings and a series of drawings on paper that belong to the most recent production of the artist, created purposely for the exhibition.