

the Davis.

DAVIS MUSEUM AT WELLESLEY COLLEGE

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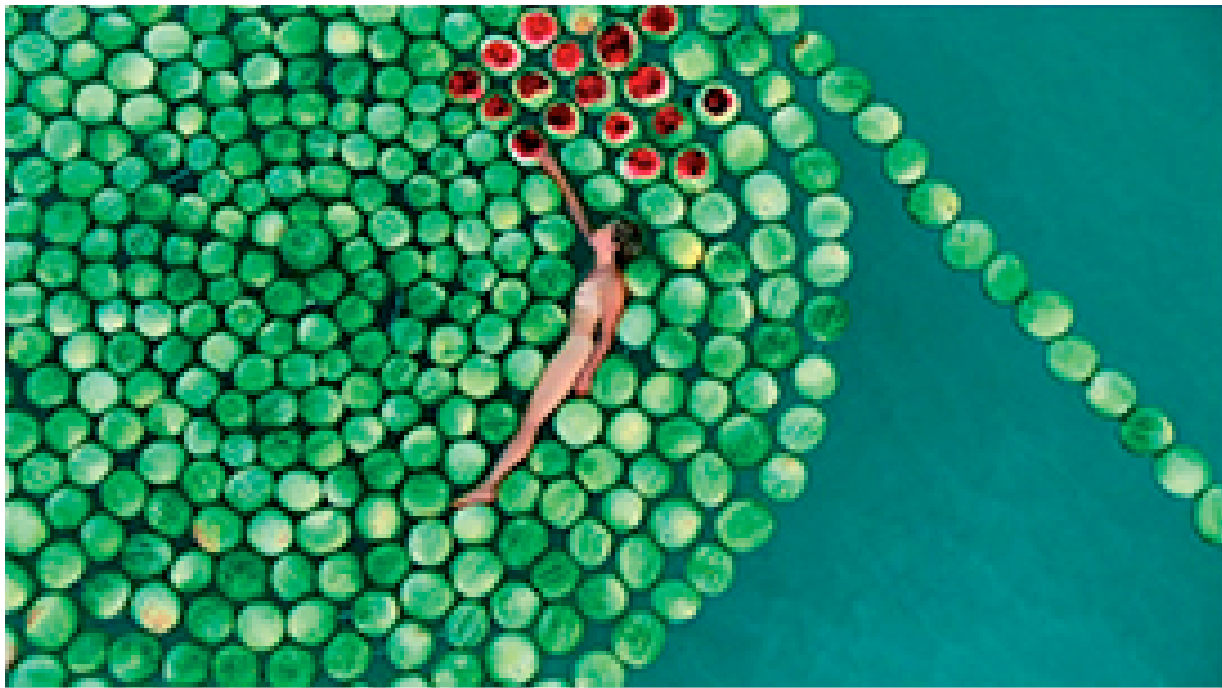
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High-resolution images and interviews upon request

**THE DAVIS MUSEUM AT WELLESLEY COLLEGE
PRESENTS SIGALIT LANDAU: DEADSEE
September 17 – December 21**

WELLESLEY, Mass. – The Davis Museum at Wellesley College presents ***Sigalit Landau: DeadSee***, a hypnotically beautiful performance video, September 17 – December 21. This will be the first exhibition of the internationally renowned Israeli artist's work in New England. On view in the Joan Levine Freedman '57 and Richard I. Freedman Gallery, the exhibition is free and open to the general public. An opening reception will be held on Wednesday, September 17 from 5:30-7:00 p.m.



Known for a performative art practice that explores the landscapes of Israel, **Sigalit Landau** works in video, installation, sculpture, and drawing. Her elegant video, *DeadSee*, embeds the artist's nude body within a spiral of 500 floating watermelons, gradually unfurling in the buoyant waters of the Dead Sea. The piece reinscribes the representational tradition of "still life" with unexpected layers of reference and movement.

According to **Lisa Fischman**, Ruth Gordon Shapiro '37 Director of the Davis, and curator of the exhibition, "Landau uses forms and sites that link the ancient and contemporary worlds; the spiral, the body, and the watermelon—with their allusions to antiquity—float in waters cited in the Bible and that today create common border among Israel, Jordan, and the West Bank. With the green skins and hot red interiors of the melon, the pale figure curled in their midst, and the brilliant cyan surface, Landau composes a refined study in formal contrasts. Yet she also creates an image of interdependence: both fruit and flesh are largely comprised of water, dynamic and organic, yet vulnerable in the harsh salinity of the sea."

Presented with generous support from Wellesley College Friends of Art at the Davis.

Photo Credit: Sigalit Landau, DeadSee, 2005, Video, 11:39 min. loop, silent. Courtesy of the artist.

ABOUT THE ARTIST

Sigalit Landau was born in Jerusalem, Israel in 1969, and studied at the Bezalel Academy of Art and Design in Jerusalem. During this time she also participated in a one-semester student exchange program at the Cooper Union School of Art and Design, New York. After several years in London, she settled in Tel Aviv, Israel, where she currently lives and works.

Landau works with a diverse range of media—including drawing, sculpture, video and performance—creating works and installations that sometimes stand on their own, and sometimes form immersive environments. Her complex work addresses social, humanitarian, and ecological issues, exploring topics such as homelessness, exile, and the relationships between victim and victimizer, between decay and growth. As Landau herself says, "my work is that of a bridge maker, looking for new and vital ways to connect the past with the future; the west to the east; the private with the collective; and the mundane, everyday object to the deepest epic narratives and mythologies."

Landau represented Israel in the Venice International Art Biennial in 1997 and in 2011, and has participated in numerous international exhibitions, among them Documenta X, Kassel 1997, the Armory Show, New York, 2005 and at the Museum of Modern Art, New York, 2008. In 2014, in addition to Wellesley, she will exhibit in Rome, Barcelona, Liege, Toronto, Jerusalem and Venice.

DAVIS MUSEUM GENERAL INFORMATION

Location: Wellesley College, 106 Central St., Wellesley, Mass.

Museum Hours: Tuesday–Sunday, 11:00 am–5:00 pm. Closed Mondays, holidays, and Wellesley College recesses.

Admission is free and open to the public.

Telephone: 781-283-2051

Website: www.theDavis.org

Parking: Free and available in the lot behind the museum. Additional parking is available in the Davis Parking Facility.

Tours: Led by student tour guides. Free. Call 781-283-3045.

Accessible: The Davis, Collins Café and Collins Cinema are wheelchair accessible and wheelchairs are available for use in the Museum without charge. For accommodations, please contact Jim Wice, director of disability services at 781-283-2434 or jwice@wellesley.edu.

ABOUT THE DAVIS MUSEUM

One of the oldest and most acclaimed academic fine arts museums in the United States, the Davis Museum is a vital force in the intellectual, pedagogical and social life of Wellesley College. It seeks to create an environment that encourages visual literacy, inspires new ideas, and fosters involvement with the arts both within the College and the larger community.

ABOUT WELLESLEY COLLEGE AND THE ARTS

The Wellesley College arts curriculum and the highly acclaimed Davis Museum are integral components of the College's liberal arts education. Departments and programs from across the campus enliven the community with world-class programming— classical and popular music, visual arts, theatre, dance, author readings, symposia, and lectures by some of today's leading artists and creative thinkers—most of which are free and open to the public.

Since 1875, Wellesley College has been the preeminent liberal arts college for women. Known for its intellectual rigor and its remarkable track record for the cultivation of women leaders in every arena, Wellesley—only 12 miles from Boston—is home to some 2300 undergraduates from every state and 75 countries.