

NY CULTURE

People and Windows on Places

Photography Exhibitions of August Sander, Bernd and Hilla Becher, Barry Frydlender and Lee Friedlander

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By WILLIAM MEYERS

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BARRY FRYDLENDER | Noach | 2014 | Yaffo- Tel Aviv is on view at Andrea Meislin Gallery

Yaffo – Tel Aviv: Barry Frydlender

Andrea Meislin

534 W. 24th St.

(212) 627-2552

Through June 21

By 1838, Louis-Jacques-Mandé Daguerre had figured out how to take photographs, and one of the first things he did was to stick his camera out the window and take a picture. More than a century and a half later, Barry Frydlender was doing the same thing.

The eight pictures at Meislin were taken by Mr. Frydlender from his studio window between 1998 and 2014 with digital equipment and printed from files that had been

ANDREA MEISLIN GALLERY

manipulated with Photoshop; overlapping images were merged to make very broad cityscapes, and parts of images were selectively replaced. The people Mr. Frydlender left on the streets are the ones he wanted us to see.

The ancient city of Yaffo (or Jaffa) was incorporated into the modern city of Tel Aviv in 1950. Mr. Frydlender's studio window overlooked the point where the two were stitched together, and his images record the renovation and gentrification of the immediate area.

One particular building recurs; in "Composite Horizon (180 degrees)" (1998) its ground-floor stores are shuttered and the shabby top two floors seem vacant.

In "The Flood" (2003), water comes up to the doorsill, and in "Raid," from the same year, a police action is taking place outside. Musicians occupy the top floor a decade later in "Rehearsal" (2011-2014), and in "Noach" (2014) it is a pristine white apartment building with a chic couple on the balcony. In the distance of several pictures, construction cranes are seen erecting skyscrapers that proliferate and advance toward Mr. Frydlender's studio.