

Ami Raviv (b. 1975, Israel)

Ami Raviv is a sculptor-painter whose works resemble reliefs of a body locked in internal struggle. Isolating fragments of bodily postures or limbs, he anchors them onto the relief's surface in gestures that oscillate between tenderness, solidity, and petrification. The echo of the body, its external contours, evokes the features of a landscape viewed from above, as if in an aerial photograph. Using a technique he developed himself, Raviv traces his bodily projections and topographic shadow on industrial wood panels. With a chisel, he carves into the wood, wrapping its wounds in linoleum as if cladding it in a new layer of skin, and coaxes fields of color to grow on the surfaces. Through the illusion of a geographical terrain, alongside the manipulation of the wood, a silent experience stirs, neither literal nor narrative. The decision to increasingly reduce the figurative functions as an anesthetic, seeking to mute the struggles of a body steeped in pain, injury, and trauma.