

# LEILA HELLER GALLERY.

**Leila Heller Gallery To Exhibit at Abu Dhabi Art – Abu Dhabi  
November 16 – 19, 2011  
Opening Preview, November 15  
Manarat Al Saadiyat Exhibition Centre – Saadiyat Island  
Design Booth D2, Gallery Booth B2**



**Rachel Hovnanian, *Object Petit*, 2011, 24 Karate gold plated Stainless steel  
18 x 10 x 11 in / 45.7 x 25.4 x 27.9 cm**

New York, NY- Leila Heller Gallery will present an exhibition of both artists Rachel Hovnanian and Rolf Sachs at the design sector of the third edition of Abu Dhabi Art. The exhibition will be comprised of a Rolf Sachs table and eight works from Rachel Hovnanian's *Preservation of the Narcissus* and *The Power & Burden of Beauty* series. This annual boutique fair is a platform for both modern and contemporary international art and design. Manarat al Saadiyat which means, a place that provides enlightenment, will host Abu Dhabi Art's five sectors: Design, Beyond, Galleries, Signatures and Bidaya. The fair will welcome 52 established galleries to the flourishing art market of Saadiyat Island's cultural district.

Hovnanian's eight works are a selection of sculpture, painting and installation that reflect a cohesive theme pervasive throughout all her work. There exists a satirical reference to the mold that pigeonholes women to the social pressures and perception of beauty. Her *Object le Petit*, a 24 Karate gold plated sculpture, from her *Preservation of Narcissus* series exemplifies her ongoing interest in beauty, its preservation and inevitable decay. The Narcissus flower is a symbolic capture and exploration of beauty's fleeting presence and is used in many of her work, where she explores capturing the essence of the narcissus flower. In her series *Reflection of a Narcissus I, II, III*, the narcissus flower is dipped in metal and preserved onto the canvas. Also on view are Hovnanian's three *Lightbox* installations, which connects our current cultural preoccupation with beauty to our aversion to the aging process

Rolf Saks's table, *On the Pulse*, is filled with a carbonized black pigmented mineral oil that exemplifies a cold black mirror finish surface. This cold dark tranquility is interrupted through the pulsating rhythmic sound beats from an installed speaker under the table. Through transmitted sound, the creation of a mechanical heartbeat generates a rhythmic ripple effect bringing to life a static piece of furniture. A personification is created, as death becomes life and energy flows through the structure of this table, representing the influx of human emotions and rationale.

Leila Heller Gallery, founded in 1982, is a leading gallery in the contemporary Middle Eastern art market. The gallery is well known for a commitment to artists from the Middle East and its Diaspora as well as its devotion to the expression of Middle Eastern culture in the contemporary art market.

Leila Heller Gallery is located at 39 E 78<sup>th</sup> Street and Madison Avenue with a second location at the art district of Chelsea at 568 W 25<sup>th</sup> street. For more information contact Lauren Pollock at [Lauren@Leilahellergallery.com](mailto:Lauren@Leilahellergallery.com) or (212) 249 7695.