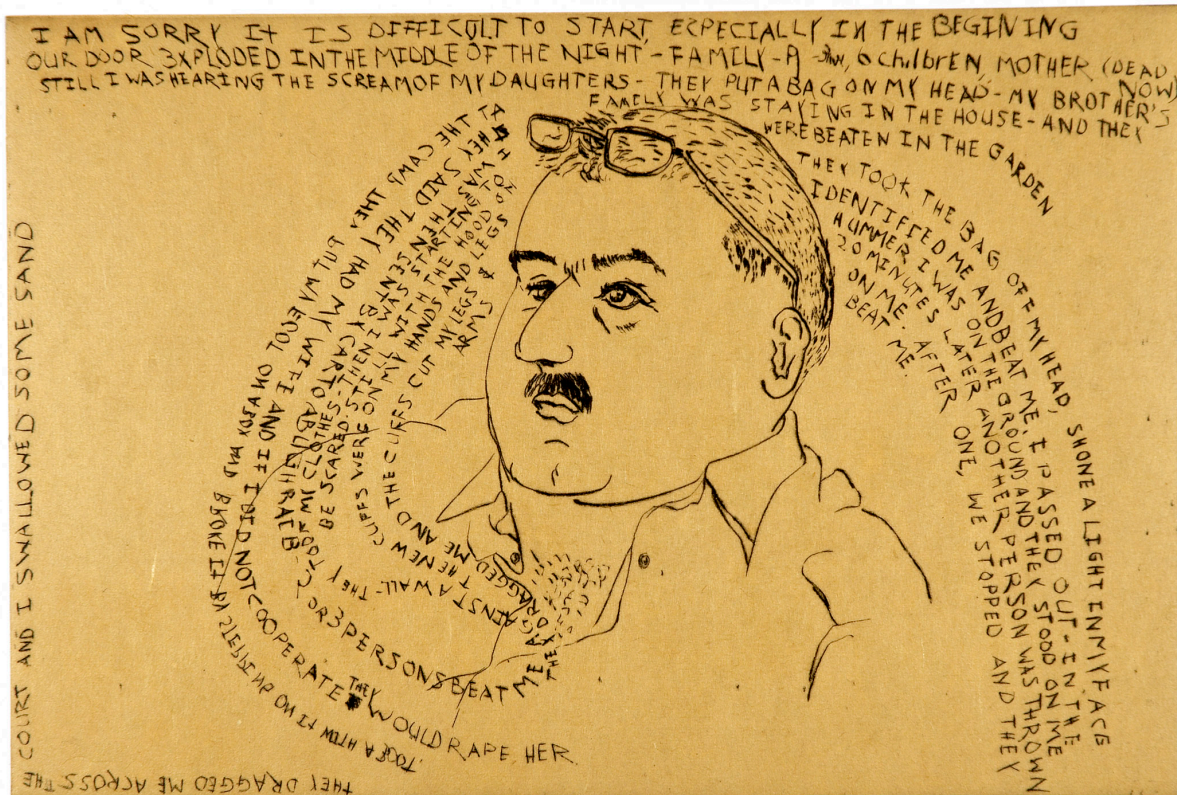


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Brown University's Bell Gallery examines War in Iraq



I Am Sorry It Is Difficult to Start 2006, drypoint and chine collé, 22x15.25 inches

Image is Courtesy of The Artist and Cade Tompkins Projects

PROVIDENCE, RI.- The David Winton Bell Gallery presents two solo exhibitions featuring responses to the aftermath and consequences of the wars in Iraq. The American premier of *The Ashes Series* by Iraqi-American artist Wafaa Bilal and *I am Sorry It is Difficult to Start* by American artist Daniel Heyman both running until Sunday, May 26, 2013. In addition, a screening of the documentary film *Ghosts of Abu Ghraib* by Brown alumna Rory Kennedy will be held on Thursday, April 18, at 5:30 p.m. in the List Auditorium.

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I am Sorry It is Difficult to Start by Daniel Heyman

Daniel Heyman's Iraqi Portraits give voice to the former detainees of Abu Ghraib Prison. Between 2006 and 2008, Heyman traveled to Jordan and Turkey with American lawyer Susan Burke to witness the testimony of former prisoners held at Abu Ghraib and later released without charges. While lawyers collected statements for the lawsuit, Heyman sketched the likenesses of the detainees. Moved by the power of the Iraqis' words, he began transcribing their testimonies directly onto his images. The exhibition, continues with portraits of witnesses of the Blackwater/Nisour Square shootings and a 10-by-12 foot expressionistic etching entitled *When Photographers are Blinded, Eagles' Wings are Clipped*. While the Iraqi Portraits serve a dualpurpose as art and document, *When Photographers are Blinded...* represents Heyman's personal response to the war. Painter and printmaker Daniel Heyman lives in Philadelphia and teaches at

the Rhode Island School of Design and Princeton University. An exhibition of his Iraqi War images entitled *Bearing Witness* traveled throughout the United States between 2010 and 2012, and his work has been exhibited in major institutions including the Philadelphia Museum of Art, Renaissance Society at the University of Chicago, Minneapolis Institute of Art, the Princeton University Museum of Art, and the New York Public Library. The Heyman exhibition is curated by Jo-Ann Conklin. Daniel Heyman is represented by Cade Tompkins Projects, Providence, RI.

Art and War in Iraq

The "Art and War in Iraq" symposium brings together American, Iraqi, and Middle Eastern artists, scholars, and critics to address the impacts of the wars in Iraq and the wider conflicts in the Middle East, with special attention to contemporary artistic practices in Iraq and its diaspora. Participants include Wafaa Bilal, Daniel Heyman, Meir Wigoder, Susanne Slavick, Rijin Sahakian, and Nada Shabout.