

SUZANNE LANDAU

Anne and Jerome Fisher Director of the Israel Museum

2025

Suzanne Landau was born in Czechoslovakia to Holocaust survivor parents and immigrated to Israel in 1968, receiving her education in art history at Comenius University in Bratislava and the Hebrew University of Jerusalem.

She dedicated over thirty years to the Israel Museum, culminating in her role as **Chief Curator of the Edmond and Lily Safra Fine Arts Wing from 1998 to 2012**. She then served as **Director and Chief Curator of the Tel Aviv Museum of Art** until the end of 2018. In **September 2023**, she returned to the **Israel Museum as Director**.

A prominent figure in the art world, Suzanne played a pivotal role in elevating the Israel Museum's international stature. In 1982, she founded the **Department of Contemporary Art**, demonstrating an exceptional ability to identify and support emerging artists well before their global recognition. Among those she championed were Jean-Michel Basquiat, Damien Hirst, Maurizio Cattelan, and Yinka Shonibare.

Her keen eye and extensive expertise helped shape the **Museum's Contemporary Art Collection** into one of world-class caliber. She curated an annual **Artist-in-Residence** program featuring James Turrell, Mario Merz, Julian Opie, Richard Deacon, Nedko Solakov, Kiki Smith, and Rosemarie Trockel, among others.

Additionally, she oversaw numerous high-profile exhibitions, including solo and group shows featuring Anselm Kiefer, Jenny Holzer, Barbara Kruger, Christian Boltanski, Gerhard Richter, and William Kentridge. Her contributions also extended to scholarly publications.

Suzanne played a key role in the development of the Museum's renowned **Billy Rose Art Garden**, overseeing site-specific projects by Richard Serra, James Turrell, Magdalena Abakanowicz, Sol LeWitt, Mark Dion, Micha Ullman, Roxy Paine, and Anish Kapoor.

In 2007, she curated the **Yehudit Sasportas** exhibition in the **Israel Pavilion at the Venice Biennale**. She was named the most influential person in the world of Israeli art by *Haaretz* newspaper in 2013 and received the ***Chevalier de L'ordre des Arts et des Lettres*** in 2016.

On February 14, 2025, the Exhibition: ***Flowers. Art from the Renaissance to Artificial Intelligence***, opened at **The Chiostro Del Bramante, Rome**. The exhibition, curated by Franziska Stöhr and Roger Diederer in collaboration with Suzanne, is regarded as Italy's most significant exhibition dedicated to the beauty and power of flowers, to date.

The exhibition delves into the artistic, scientific, and technological significance of flowers, featuring over 90 works spanning five centuries. It has brought together contributions from museums across ten countries, including The Israel Museum, Jerusalem, where its ***Crafted by Bees*** exhibition is being presented.