

## Tisch

Nir Yahalom, Sala-Manca, Samuel Rotman

*Tisch (table)*

The *Tisch* is a ritual that takes place at the Hassidic leader's courts, meaning The Rebbe (*Admor* – leader of Hassidic following) setting the table for his followers. The *Tisch* ceremony is held mainly on the Sabbath and holidays, but also on other occasions such as the *Melave Malka* festive meal and other festivities.

At the *Tisch* held on the Sabbath and holidays, many of the Rebbes eat their entire meal or part of it there, at the Hassidic table. The followers watch the Rebbe, sing tunes and listen to his sermons and teachings. At most Hassidic courts, a graded tribune is built (called *forentches* in Yiddish), upon which the Hassidim stand and look at their Rebbe.

The Ethnographic Department contains a “Restored *Tisch*”: a tribune constructed of original timber from the Hansen leper hospital; a synagogue bench that has been replaced; *Keter* plastic folding tables; electric Sabbath candles, a work by Samuel Rotman for his parents in Argentina; various chairs; and a plastic tablecloth. On the ceiling are traces of Hadas Ophrat's work “*unseen*”.

The *Tisch* will serve not only as an installation but also as a platform for workshops for the duration of the exhibition, turning the museum installation into the arena of a non-museum event.

▼ Shabbes *Tisch*. Sala-Manca and Nir Yahalom. Installation. 2014



