

## **Ayelet Carmi** (pp. 86-87)

### **Paintings to My Beloved - The Maccabiah, 2005**

Wall-painting, tempera with oil on wood, 13x8

Courtesy of the artist

The heroine of Ayelet Carmi stands on the champions' podium at the Maccabiah, and holds aloft objects which characterize the Olympics: flags, branches, and wreaths. Carmi challenges the concept of a "Jewish" Olympics, the personal ambitions of the Jewish athletes, guests from abroad who want to be champions, and the story of an Israel which has re-invented itself. The absurdity grows greater with the collapse of the bridge connecting the Yarkon to the Ramat Gan Stadium. The bridge, poorly constructed, dropped the athletes into the waters of the Yarkon. Whose polluted waters were a man-made product.