

# THE NEGEV

PAINTINGS BY ABE PINCHUK



The exhibition of these paintings at Masada  
is dedicated to the memory of  
**MOISHE AND BESSIE PINCHUK**  
parents of the artist.

### THE NEGEV

*One cannot help but be overwhelmed by the beauty of the desert, which makes up about half the landmass of Israel. The hills and valleys, which nature has sculpted, the heavy clouds, brilliant sun and sharp shadows, produce a visual sight that is both breathtaking and humbling. I hope my paintings and writings reflect the majesty and mystery of the Negev and that they will inspire the viewer to savour this beautiful and historical part of Israel.*

*Abe Pinchuk, June 2012*





In the Timna Valley  
Majestic pillars  
Touch the clouds  
The earth a mystery holds  
Solomon the Wise  
Found treasure buried deep  
For all to share



KING SOLOMON'S MINES (2005) Oil on Canvas, 48 x 60

Rain clouds above  
Enrich the earth  
From the dark skies  
A sunburst erupts  
Sending rays of hope and peace



SUN RAYS OVER THE NEGEV (2005) Oil on Canvas, 30 x 40



Sculptures carved from mountains  
A rainbow of colours grace the land  
Grandeur of untold beauty  
Shaped by nature's hand  
No artist can compete

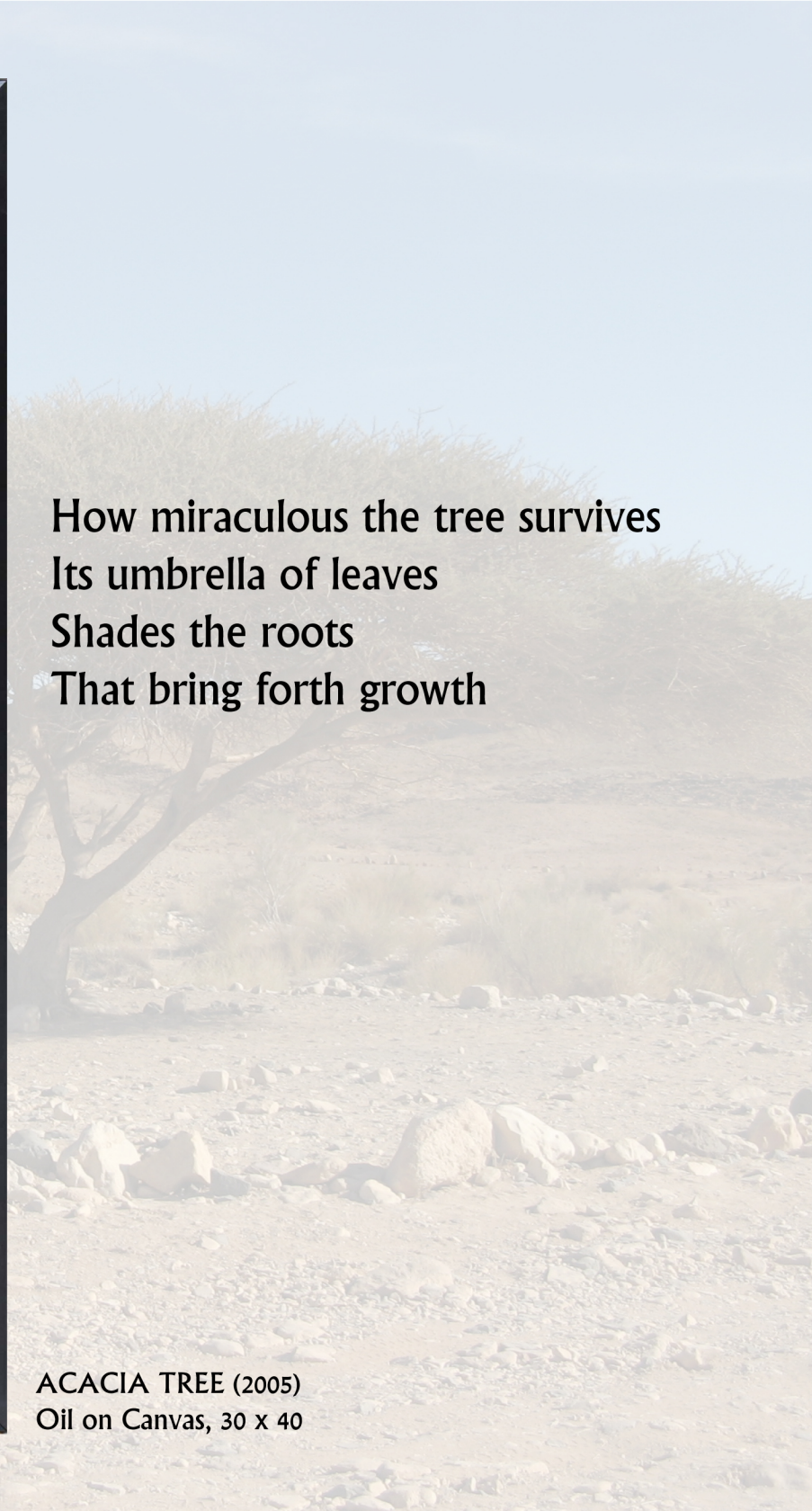


NATURE'S SCULPTURE (2005) Oil on Canvas, 30 x 40



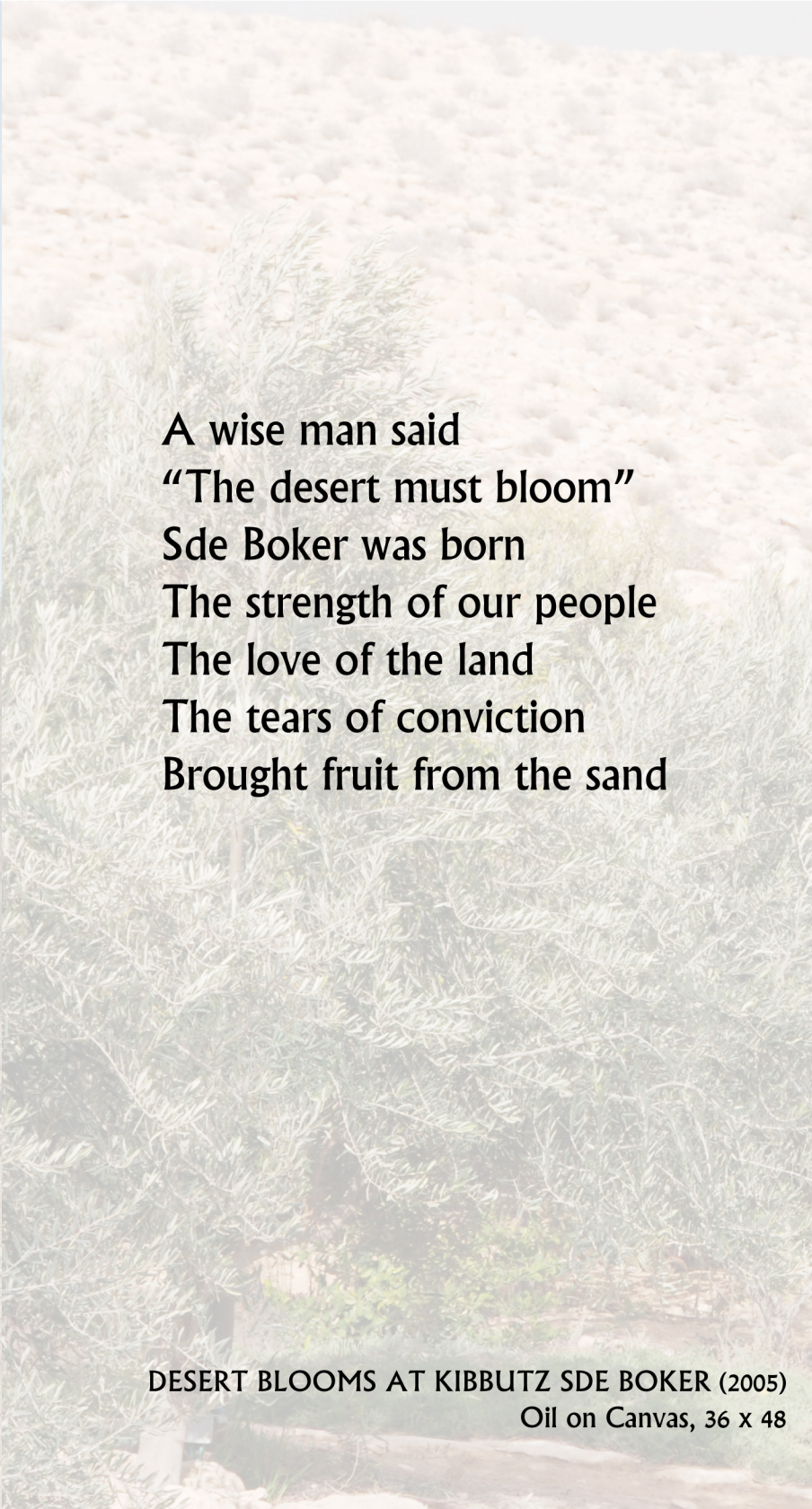
How miraculous the tree survives  
Its umbrella of leaves  
Shades the roots  
That bring forth growth

ACACIA TREE (2005)  
Oil on Canvas, 30 x 40



A wise man said  
"The desert must bloom"  
Sde Boker was born  
The strength of our people  
The love of the land  
The tears of conviction  
Brought fruit from the sand

DESERT BLOOMS AT KIBBUTZ SDE BOKER (2005)  
Oil on Canvas, 36 x 48





The land is unforgiving  
Scarce is the grass  
A Bedouin tends her goats  
Calm fills the air



A BEDOUIN CAMP (2005) Oil on Canvas, 36 x 48



Clouds float by an aging mountain  
The trees shed their seeds  
A forest springs out of the earth  
A gift from the barren desert



WINTER CLOUDS IN THE NEGEV (2005) Oil on Canvas, 36 x 48



Wherever the eye wanders  
In the vast crater of shapes  
Visions of beauty appear  
How spectacular is nature  
When not disturbed



THE RAMON CRATER (2005) Oil on Canvas, 30 x 40



What joy the evening brings  
When the sun begins to set  
The clouds reflect its colours  
As the desert prepares to rest



A DESERT SUNSET (2005) Oil on Canvas, 36 x 48

Masada, what do you hide in your mountain?  
Your stones are soaked with blood and  
sorrow  
Yet your history is rich with courage and  
hope  
You are an island of strength for our  
people  
Determined to build a future in  
peace.



MASADA: A MOUNTAIN OF COURAGE AND DEFIANCE (2011) Oil on Canvas, 48 x 60

## ISRAEL NATURE AND PARKS AUTHORITY

EXTERNAL RELATIONS DEPARTMENT



April 23, 2012

Abraham Pinchuk  
6005 Cavendish Blvd, Apt. 501  
Montreal, Quebec, Canada H4W 3E2

Dear Mr. Pinchuk,

On behalf of the Israel Nature and Parks Authority, I would like to express our deepest thanks and appreciation for your gift of 10 oil paintings of the Negev and Masada.

The paintings, which so wonderfully dovetail our ethical missions, will be on display at the main entrance pavilion at Masada National Park, where hundreds of thousands of visitors a year from all over the world will enjoy them.

Masada National Park, as a symbol of heroism and sacrifice and as a World Heritage site, is a worthy backdrop for your marvellous works of art and they are sure to augment the cultural experience of our visitors.

Again, please accept our gratitude to you and your family and our good wishes for many more fruitful years of creative endeavor.

Sincerely,

Salman Abu-Rukun  
Director, Foreign Relations Department  
Israel Nature and Parks Authority



Sincere thanks to Jeremy Pinchuk and Daniel Meland  
for their help in designing this book and having it printed.