

# Permission to Touch

"The beginning  
of all art  
is touch."

Sophie Albers Ben Chamo

This statement encapsulates the essence of artist Avi Albers Ben Chamo's work. The art of touch has captivated audiences from different cultures and backgrounds sparking conversations about the intersection of art, sensation, and emotion.

The first installation, "Touch "1" was first introduced this year in the San Rocco Museum of contemporary art in Sicily. "Touch "1" invites viewers to step into a dimly lit room filled with naked primed fabrics that beckon to be touched. As visitors tentatively reach out, they are enveloped in layers of textures – smooth touch, rough touch, cold touch – each evoking a different emotional response. The room pulsates with a holy energy, as if the very walls are alive with the vibrations of human connection.

"I was searching for a way to create a space where touch becomes the language of the soul, where words are unnecessary, and emotions speak out loud." Albers Ben Chamo

In a society increasingly dominated by screens and virtual interactions, Touch serves as a poignant reminder of the power of human touch to bridge divides and forge connections. The climax of the installation comes when two strangers, hesitant at first, tentatively reach out and grasp each other's hands. In that fleeting instant, a spark ignites between them, a silent understanding that transcends words. It is a moment of pure vulnerability and trust, a testament to the transformative

potential, a permission to touch and to be touched. As the viewer stands there, hands intertwined, bathed in the white canvas, it becomes clear that Chamo's touch is not just about sensation, it is about the profound higher beauty of human connection.

Avi Albers Ben Chamo's touch is a representation of spirituality, primal sensuality, and sensory experience that challenges traditional artistic norms. Through this innovative approach, Chamo invites viewers to engage in a transformative journey that transcends the physical realm and delves into the depths of human consciousness. By intertwining touch with spiritual and primal elements, "Touch" creates a unique sensory experience that resonates on a profound emotional level. Despite potential skepticism, Chamo's work serves as a testament to the enduring power of touch as a medium for artistic expression and self - discovery.