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STILL A BIG KID AT HEART

Aimee Scott

ARTIST Yaeli Ohana is happy to admit she's still a big kid and wants you to remember the joy of being a child.

Her new exhibition, "Games We Play", features multimedia paintings that use iconography from children's puzzles, mazes, books and games, as a metaphor for the games adults play.

"My work in this exhibition is about being happy to admit that I'm still a big kid," she said.

While created in a spirit of adventure and play, her pieces were inspired by serious events.

"I have been in some pretty dramatic situations in my life. I was living in New York when September 11 (attacks) happened and saw the second building collapse from a friend's apartment window.

"I was just leaving London when the 2005 tube bomb-

ings occurred, and I was in Jerusalem when a bomb went off in a cafe at the end of my street," Ohana said.

She hopes that while people who see her paintings appreciate the satire and layers of meaning, they are also able to see the light-hearted and nostalgic side of the works.

"Games We Play" opens at NG Art Gallery on June 22.

