

NEW RELEASES

The Shoshani Riddle



Israel 2023 | 86' | Feature documentary
 Produced by : Michael Grynszpan
 Directed by : Michael Grynszpan
 Supported by : Kan 11, The Second Israeli Authority for Television & Radio, Geshet Film Foundation - Avi Chai Foundation, The Yehoshua Rabinovich Foundation for the Arts, Matanel Foundation

No one knows his real name; he is only known as Mr. Shoshani. He was an eternal nomad, a mad genius, who attracted disciples such as Nobel Prize winner Eli Weisel and renowned philosopher Emmanuel Levinas. Mr. Shoshani is one of the unsolved riddles of the 20th century, he is among the 10 most mysterious people of all time.



Only in Theatres

US 2022, 2023 International release | 93' | Feature documentary
 Produced by : Raphael Sbarge
 Directed by : Raphael Sbarge
 With appearances from : Cameron Crowe, Ava DuVernay, James Ivory, Nicole Holofcener, Alison Anders
 Original English version
 Theatrically released in US



The Laemmle Theaters in US, a beloved Arthouse Cinema chain with a Hollywood legacy, has elevated the art of filmmaking for 85 years, but is facing a series of seismic shifts. ONLY IN THEATERS, filmed over 2 1/2 years, chronicles this family-run business, and their determination to survive in a changing world. This is a story about our love of Cinema, resilience, and family.



Jews of the Wild West

US 2022, 2023 International release | 82' | Feature documentary
 Produced by : Amanda Kinsey, Electric Yolk Productions
 Directed by : Amanda Kinsey
 Supported by : Colorado Forum Fund, Rosalind P Walter Foundation, Rose Community Foundation, Heitler Fund
 Original English version



Widening the historical lens, this documentary focuses on an under-explored aspect of Jewish history: the role that Jews played in Western American expansion, both in real life and in the movies.



Lost Lines, Last Traces

Germany 2022 | 2x52' | 2part documentary
 Written and directed by: Martin Gressmann
 Produced by: Martin Gressmann
 German with English Subtitles, French and Spanish version available (2023)



Keep walking to escape with on's life... At the beginning of 1945, wherever the front comes close to the concentration camps, prisoners are evacuated in forced treks westward. More than seven decades later, director Martin Gressmann ("Das Gelände- The Grounds 2014") follows the main routes of the death marches through Brandenburg and Mecklenburg-Vorpommern, where some 200 memorial plaques now stand.

Gazozz

Israel 2023 | 88' | Feature film
 Produced by : Tommy Lang
 Directed by : Tommy Lang
 Cinematography : Tomer Slutzky, Omer Manor
 Hebrew with English subtitles



A story of one date over the course of one evening in the streets of Tel Aviv. . A simple and extremely touching minimalistic film in cinema verité style.

5th Paragraph – Invalids

Israel 2023 | 52' | Mid-length documentary
 Produced by : Zvi Sheffy Productions
 Directed by : Boris Maftsir
 Supported by : The New Fund for Cinema and TV, Ministry of Culture and Sport, Mifal Pais
 Russian and Hebrew with English subtitles



In the Soviet Union in 1990/1991, the 5th Paragraph referred to a long-standing discrimination faced by Soviet Jews, who were denied access to higher education and certain jobs due to suspicions of dual loyalty.



Mischmasch

Sweden 2023 | 30' | Short Documentary
 Written and directed by: Uta Arning
 Produced by: Uta Arning
 Hebrew with English Subtitles
 Aired in Sweden (SVT)



A Yiddish Proverb says: "What soap is to the body, laughter is to the soul" "Mischmasch" tells the story of a Yiddish Amateur Theatre Group in Stockholm performing Strindberg's "A Dream Play" in Yiddish.

Conquering time : Ágnes Keleti

Hungary, Israel 2022 | 78' | Feature Documentary
 Written and directed by: Katalin Oláh
 Produced by: Makabor Studio
 Co-produced by: Noemi Schory
 Hungarian, Hebrew with English Subtitles



A touching portrait of the life of Ágnes Keleti, the oldest living Olympic Champion, shown for the first time on screen. Inspiring sporting legend who defeated both her rivals and the existential threats to a Jew living through the turmoil of the 20th century.



Honey Trap

Israel 2022 | 60' | Mid-length Documentary
 Written and directed by: Aalam Warqe & Kobi Davidian
 Produced by: Black and White Films - Kobi Davidian
 Supported by: HOT8, Makor fund for Cinema and Television, The New Fund for Cinema and Television, She*Docs Accelerator - CoPro Fund.
 Hebrew with English Subtitles



Keryat Moshe, home of a large Ethiopian Jewish community, is considered in mainstream media one of the toughest neighborhoods in Israel, socially apart from modern "white" Israeli society.



Leaving to Remain

Slovakia, UK, Czech Republic 2022 | 91' | Feature Documentary
 Written and directed by: Mira Erdevicki
 Produced by: Pubres – Zuzana Mstrikova, Lubica Orechovska
 Co-produced by: Spring Pictures – Lucia Wenigerova, KRUTART – Martin Juza
 Czech, English with English Subtitles



Ondřej, Denisa, and Petr, three Romani suffering from discrimination, left Czech Republic and Slovakia to enjoy a world of opportunity in Britain. This multi-layered, yet rather intimate documentary depicts the everyday worries and small victories of the educated and ambitious, yet still vulnerable community of Europeans.



We Are Pentothal

Israel 2023 | 2x52' | 2part documentary
 Written and directed by: Tsipi Karlik
 Produced by: Itay Nevo
 Supported by: KAN Broadcasting
 Hebrew with English Subtitles



2 part documentary series that brings the audience inside one of the most sensitive and disturbing episodes surrounding Yom Kippur War)1973(. This year (2023), exactly 50 years after, this documentary is of high relevance.

TRILOGY – RAN TAL



The Museum

Israel 2017 | 72' | Feature Documentary
 Written & Directed by: Ran Tal
 Produced by: Lama Films - Ayelet Kait, Amir Harel, Ran Tal
 Supported by: Yes Docu, The new fund for cinema and TV, Mifal Hapais, The Leir Charitable Foundations
 Hebrew, English, Yiddish, Arabic with English subtitles

Housing one of the world's greatest collections of art and antiquities, the Israel Museum poses for its own complex portrait in this elegant observational documentary, revealing its central role in the complicated narrative of the nation.



The Garden of Eden

Israel 2012 | 74 min | Feature Documentary
 Written and Directed by: Ran Tal
 Produced by: Lama Films - Amir Harel, Ayelet Kait, Ran Tal



Story of Gan HaShlosha, better known as the "Sakhne", one of the largest, most famous and most visited parks in Israel. During the spring, summer, fall and winter seasons of one full year, the film documents the park's transformation with a spectacular expression of cinematic beauty.



Children of the Sun

Israel 2007 | 70' | Feature Documentary
 Written and Directed by: Ran Tal
 Produced by: Lama Films
 Supported by: ITVS International, USA; Yes Docu, The Rich Foundation, Rabinovich Foundation – Cinema Project, Geshet Multicultural Film Fund
 Hebrew with English subtitles



Born into the utopian dream of the early kibbutz movement, these "children of the sun" were destined to fulfill the hope for a new way of life. Fragments of found footage and audio create a moving collective memory.



Ruth Films
 World Sales & Distribution

Autumn
 2023

HIGHLIGHTS



Moving On

Israel 2022 | 72' | Feature Documentary
Produced by: Maya Mcmanus Ronen
Written & Directed by: Maya Mcmanus Ronen
Supported by: Geshar Multicultural Film Fund – The Arava Film Fund

In a remote desert area of Israel, every couple of years everybody switches houses. Nobody knows in advance to where he will move. A unique community is getting into a personal and shaking journey, where packing the house and renovating is arousing a questioning about existential aspects of life.



The Certainty of Probabilities

Romania 2021 | 89' | Feature Documentary
Produced by: Velvet Moraru - ICON production
Written & Directed by: Raluca Durbača
Supported by: The National Film Center - Romania, Publicis Groupe, Zenith Media, Romanian

Comprised of archival footage produced during one of the most optimistic years in the history of socialist Romania, this essay film surveys the efforts undertaken by the state in order to ensure social stability in a society claiming to have quashed all exploitative and alienating labour relations.



Truus Children

Netherlands 2022 | 90' | Feature Documentary
Directors: Pamela Sturhoofd and Jessica van Tijn
Produced by: Special Eyes Film Productions
Supported by: Prins Bernard Culture Fund, Foundation Democratie en Media, NPO/Omroep Max

In this powerfully moving documentary, Dutch resistance hero, Truus Wijsmuller, is presented on the world-historic stage. Her story was almost completely hidden for 75 years but is now brought to life by the memories of the courageous survivors who were saved with her help. The filmmakers dedicated over three years to researching the complete story of this Dutch Oskar Schindler, a woman so dedicated, stubborn, and convinced of her mission that she flew to Vienna in December of 1938 to negotiate a deal with Adolf Eichmann to let nearly 10,000 Jewish children leave their birth countries and flee to England.



What If? Ehud Barak

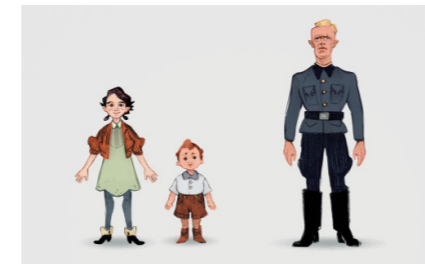
Israel 2021, 85 min, Feature Documentary
Produced by: Lama Films - Amir Harel, Ayelet Kait; Ran Tal
Written & Directed by: Ran Tal
Supported by: Rabinovich Film Fund, The Israeli Ministry of Culture and Sports, Other Israel Film Fund, The Israel Film Council,

Ehud Barak is one of the most controversial figures in Israeli politics. Criticized for the tremendous military and diplomatic risks he took, such as the attempt to assassinate Iraqi dictator Saddam Hussein, or the failed effort to put an end to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. In this film, Barak observes with disillusioned clarity his own history and the history of the State Israel.



Tacheles - The Heart of the

Germany 2020 | 104' / 55' | Feature Documentary
Produced by: Gunter Hanfgarn, Jana Matthes & Andrea Schramm
Written & Directed by: Jana Matthes & Andrea Schramm
Supported by: BKM, Conference on Jewish Material Claims Against Germany



Reconciliation with a Computer Game? Yaar is a young Israeli living in Berlin, refusing being a Jew.



In His Image

Netherlands 2020 | 72' / 55' | Feature Documentary
Produced by: Iris Lammertsma, Boudewijn Kooel
Written & Directed by: Tami Ravid
Supported by: EOdocs, NPO Fund, Dutch Cultural Media Funds
Language: Hebrew with English subtitles

Can we create life after death? Should we allow it? A first-time documentary approach, raising ethical and philosophical questions about postmortem preproduction.



Underground Ballet

Israel 2019 | 53' | Mid-Length documentary
Directed by: Lina Chaplin
Produced by: Daniela Reiss Razon
Supported by: Hot 8, The Yehoshua Rabinovich Foundation for the Arts
Hebrew and Russian with English



A decade ago Nadia and her mother, Nina Timofeyeva, a prima ballerina at the Bolshoi Ballet, left Moscow for Jerusalem and set up the studio. It was a professional suicide. Ballet and football make for a surrealistic combination.



In the Desert - A Documentary Diptych

Israel, Canada 2018 | 220/120' | Docu - Diptych
Produced by: Paul Cedieux, Shlomi Elkabetz, Hagar Saad Shalom, Danae Elon
Director: Avner Faingulernt
Supported by: The Israel Film Council, SODEC, The Canadian Film or Video Production Tax Credit
Hebrew and Arabic with English subtitles



A profound journey trying to defy what is commonly known about the Israeli-Palestinian conflict.



Standby Painter

Belgium, Israel 2018 | 52' | Mid-Length Documentary
Written & Directed by: Amir Yatziv, Guy Slabinck
Produced by: Kaat Camerlynck - Czar



An almost deserted museum, a guard wearing high heels, a cinephile thief and a Monet painting.



In Secret

Israel 2020 | 56' | Mid-Length Documentary
Produced by: Daniela Reiss Razon
Written & Directed by: Lina Chaplin
Supported by: Kan - The Israeli Public Broadcasting, The Film & Media Collaborative, Geshar Multicultural Film Fund and AVI CHAI Foundation
Hebrew with English subtitles



For the first time on screen, the latest film by veteran filmmaker Lina Chaplin, depicts the phenomenon of ultra-religious Jewish communities in Israel, secretly living as non-religious within their ultra-orthodox communities.



CLASSICS / RESTAURATIONS



The Komediant

Israel, USA 1999 | 82' | Feature Documentary
Produced by: Arnon Goldfinger, Amir Harel, Oshra Schwartz-Reim
Directed by: Arnon Goldfinger
Supported by: The New Israeli Fund for Cinema & TV, FilmForderAnstalt, Medienboard Berlin-Brandenburg, Deutscher FilmForderFond With ARTE, ZDF, SWR, Noga Communications/ Channel 8 Israel

The glory days of the Yiddish stage are brought to life in this funny-sad saga of a legendary theatrical family, The Bursteins.

Ruth Films is now re-releasing a newly restored digital copy of the film classic worldwide.



The Flat

2011 | 97' | Documentary
Directed by: Arnon Goldfinger
Produced by: Arnon Goldfinger & Thomas Kufus, zero one film
Supported by: The New Israeli Fund for Cinema & TV, FilmForderAnstalt, Medienboard Berlin-Brandenburg, Deutscher FilmForderFond, ARTE, ZDF, SWR, Noga Communications/ Channel 8 Israel

What begins with the emptying out of a flat develops into a riveting adventure, involving unexpected national interests, a friendship that crosses enemy lines, and deeply repressed family emotions. A film classic by Arnon Goldfinger. Since its release in 2011, THE FLAT is regularly listed among the 100 best movies in various film magazines.



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For over 20 years, Ruth Films has been a leader in world sales of quality independent films worldwide. Ruth Films catalogue represents artistically excellent and compelling works that address Israeli life, Arts and Culture, Jewish history and Middle East, while challenging the common forms in documentary cinema. Films from the catalogue have been shown widely at international film festivals in addition to broadcasts on global outlets. As one of the highly acclaimed Israeli distributors, Ruth Films works with organizations and institutions that integrate non-commercial, educational media into their programs. This includes colleges and universities, archives, art cinemas, libraries, museums, galleries, and symposiums. Keeping things intimate, Ruth Films focuses on character-driven stories that address broad and diverse audiences.