

THE ISRAEL FILM FUND – STAYING RELEVANT

Established in 1979 the Israel Film Fund is a nonprofit organization that supports the production of full-length feature films primarily aimed for the cinemas. The main goal of the Fund is to create supportive and creative conditions that will enable and encourage the Israeli filmmakers to fulfill their cinematic vision. The Fund invests in the development of scripts, supports the production of films, supports the distribution and exposure of the films to local and international audiences and strengthens the cultural understanding and relevance of Israeli cinema.

During the last twenty years, Israeli cinema has gone through a dramatic period – Israeli films found and reconnected with local and international audiences and gained recognition and acclaim. The Israel film Fund took an active part in this process of renewal initiating hundreds of actions with the aim of regaining the local audience trust in Israeli Cinema. The Fund opened up new support schemes, held public screenings throughout Israel and produced educational programs and professional workshops. Side by side, the Israel Film Fund has been strengthening the ties and connections with filmmakers and colleagues abroad, opening the local industry to international co-productions and has been an active partner promoting Israeli cinema worldwide.

Katriel Schory: Executive Director
David Lipkind: Head of Productions & Finance
Noa Mendel: International

All this was made possible due to the creativity and imagination of the filmmakers and their ability to bring the many stories, conflicts, dramas, cultures and opinions that inhabit Israel to the screen. The variety of stories is vast and they come from all corners of Israel's multifaceted society. The films that were produced with the support of the Fund demonstrate that in contrast to the 80's and 90's, today Israeli filmmakers tell stories that are based more on personal stories, encounters and experiences and to a lesser extent deal with the political and the many angles of the main conflict in the region.

Safeguarding the free spirit has been one of the main goals of the Fund as it set out to encourage the filmmakers to create with total honesty an unflattering voice and with courage to follow their creative spirit. The Israel Film Fund is committed to freedom of creation and expression, pluralism and a path that enables filmmakers with different tastes, ideals, opinions and styles to enrich Israeli cinema. The fund's policy wishes to ensure that the Israeli cinema as a major art form stays significant, meaningful and relevant.

CURRENT TRENDS: THE VETERANS SUPPORT TRACK

One of the goals of the Israel Film Fund is supporting the creative aspirations of the filmmakers that make up the Israeli film community. The fundamental thought behind the Fund's goals and actions has always been centered on creating the conditions, which will enable filmmakers with different cinematic merits and interests to create films. We wish to stay focused on what will be beneficial to the filmmaking community at large and of course; the public/audience. This vision has led the Fund to open up a special support track for veteran and established filmmakers who have at least 35 years of experience and a filmmaking record behind them. The Veterans track keeps the door open, acknowledging, honoring and respecting the filmmakers who created and established the Israeli Film community and also gives a sense of continuity.

In the last decade, the Israeli filmmaking industry has enjoyed the emergence of many new and talented filmmakers, which revived the Israeli film industry. Currently every year, hundreds of scripts are submitted to the Fund, but only 5%- 8% of all submitted projects are supported. With this thought in mind and out of respect and appreciation, the Fund founded the veterans support track, which addresses experienced and established filmmakers and ensures a special support track that enables them to keep on creating and telling their stories.

Among the distinguished Filmmakers who have enjoyed the veterans support track are Judd Ne'eman, Moshe Mizrahi, Michal Bat Adam, Dan Wolman, Danniell Wachsmann, Uri Barabash and more.

In 2018 the film "Laces" directed by Jacob Goldwasser received the support of the Fund within the veterans support track. Goldwasser has been directing for over 45 years and this is his most personal film. "Laces" was one of the most successful Israeli films of 2018 with over 100,000 viewers.

In a fast changing and growing film industry there is a general tendency to prioritize the emergence of new voices and talents. Respecting the past and creating, a supportive creative environment for accomplished filmmakers is not all that common. The special veterans track honors the filmmakers who have a special place in the "Pantheon" of Israeli cinema. It ensures that there is a consistent lineage of filmmakers, which stay relevant and enrich the filmmaking community.



2019

NEW FILMS FROM ISRAEL

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INFO@FILMFUND.ORG.IL / WWW.FILMFUND.ORG.IL

ISRAEL FILM COUNCIL



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THE OPERATIVE

A FILM BY YUVAL ADLER



Based on the best-selling Israeli novel "The English Teacher", "The Operative" is a taut psychological thriller of a woman recruited by the Mossad to go undercover in Tehran who becomes entangled in a complex triangle with her handler and her subject.

Cast: Diana Kruger, Martin Freeman, Cos Anwar
Director & Script: Yuval Adler
Producers: Eitan Mansuri, Jonathan Doweck, Viola Fügen, Michael Heimler, Anne Carey
D.O.P.: Nola Brandt
Editors: Hansjörg Weißbrich
Production: Spiro Films
Tel: +972 52 686 1170
Email: info@spiro-films.com
World Sales: Bloom

LOVE TRILOGY: CHAINED

A FILM BY YARON SHANI



Rashi has been serving in the police for 16 years. Two years ago, he married Avigail, a single mom to a young girl. Rashi's tough character clashes with his step-daughter's delicate nature. This, together with the constant exposure to violence at work, cannot overshadow his hope of becoming a father to a new baby. His world is shaken when two young boys, suspected of selling drugs at a local school, accuse him of sexual harassment. Rashi is suspended until he is found innocent. As time passes, he is pushed to extremes, where he reunites with his childhood, and suppressed dimensions in his personality are exposed.

Cast: Eran Naim, Stav Almogor, Stav Patay
Director & Script: Yaron Shani
Producers: Saar Nегey, Naomi Levati
Ex/Co Producers: Michael Reuter
D.O.P.: Shai Skiff, Nizan Lotem
Editor: Yaron Shani
Production: Black Sheep Films, The Post Republic
Tel: +972 74 703 9009 **Email:** info@bssheepfilms.com
www: www.bsheepfilms.com

RED FIELDS

A FILM BY KEREN YEDAYA



"Red Fields" is a musical film based on the 80's Israeli rock opera "Mami" that generated a cult following. This is the story of Mami, a young woman who was born and raised in a small impoverished town down south. She works at the snack bar at the local gas station and is in love with Nisim, her neighbor. One day the strong hand of fate strikes her. A few days after their wedding, Nisim is wounded in the war and succumbs to a vegetative state. Mami doesn't give up. She takes her wheelchair bound husband to faraway Tel Aviv, maybe there fortune will shine down on them.

Cast: Neta Elkayam, Dudu Tassa, Ami Abu, Eran Zur, Yuval Bonai, Riki Gal, Riyad Sliman
Director & Script: Keren Yedaya
Producers: Marek Rozenbaum, Moshe Edery, Michael Rozenbaum, Michael Eckalt
D.O.P.: Laurent Brunet
Editor: Sari Ezouz
Production: Transfax Film Productions, United King Films, Kiva Films
Tel: +972 3 6871202 **Email:** sarai@transfax.co.il
Web: www.ucm-film.com

GOLDEN VOICES

A FILM BY EUGENY RUMAN



Victor and Raya Frenkel were the golden voices of the Soviet film dubbing for decades. All the western movies that reached Soviet screens were dubbed by them. In 1990, with the collapse of Soviet Union, the Frenkels decided to do Aliyah – immigrate to Israel, just like hundreds of thousands of Soviet Jews. There's no need in Israel for Russian speaking dubbing artists, and Victor's and Raya's attempts to use their talent will cause bizarre and unexpected events during their first months in Israel, and turn the beginning of the new chapter of their life into an amusing, painful, and absurd experience.

Cast: Vladimir Fridman, Maria Belkin, Evelin Hagoel, Uli Klauzner, Alexander Senderovich
Director: Evgeny Ruman
Script: Evgeny Ruman, Ziv Berkovich
Producers: Avraham Pirchi, Chilik Michaeli, Tami Leon, Eitan Eran, Moshe Edery, Leon Edery
D.O.P.: Ziv Berkovich **Editors:** Evgeny Ruman
Produced by: UCM, Evanstone Films
Web: www.ucm-film.com
Tel: +972 3 627 6200 **Email:** info@ucm-film.com

BORN IN JERUSALEM AND STILL ALIVE

A FILM BY DAVID OFEK & YOSI ATIA



A black comedy. Ronen Matalon, born and raised in Jerusalem, makes a living as a tour guide. His tour leads people through terror attack sites mainly on Jaffa Street in Jerusalem. When Ronen meets Noa, a young and vibrant woman, the intense conflicts between his anxieties and trauma and his new relationship leads him to open a new page in his life.

Cast: Yosi Atia, Lili Komowski
Director: David Ofek, Yosi Atia
Script: Yosi Atia
Producers: Jonathan Doweck, Eitan Mansuri, Roni Levy
D.O.P.: Shai Skiff
Editor: Noa Geva
Production: Spiro Films
Tel: +972 52 686 1170 **Email:** info@spiro-films.com

HERE AND NOW

A FILM BY ROMAN SHUMUNOV



A social drama about four young immigrants, living in the slums of Ashdod. Striving to adapt to Israeli society, they form a hip-hop band, aspiring to participate in an international music festival. Their dream of taking part in the competition is all but shattered when Andrey, the main hero, suffers a crisis at home. Andrey's father has been in the hospital for months, leaving Andrey responsible for his life's sake and payments on their mortgage. He struggles between caring for his family, work, and the band's rehearsals.

Cast: Vlad Dubinsky, Eduard Hmelitskiy, Zura Kartvelishvili, Renat Hasanov
Director: Roman Shumunov **Producers:** Itai Tamir, Ami Livne
Script: Alexander Plavnik & Roman Shumunov
D.O.P.: Ziv Berkovich **Editors:** Haim Tabakman, Maor Keshet
Production: Laila Films
Tel: +972 54 456 4144 **Email:** Laila.film2010@gmail.com
World Sales: Go2Films info@go2films.com

ASIA

A FILM BY RUTI PRI BAR



Asia is 35-years-old. She has her whole life ahead of her. Her only daughter, Viky is just 17, and she's dying. Viky's worsening condition forces Asia to finally accept her motherhood and take responsibility – first for Viky's life, and eventually for her death.

Cast: Alona Evi, Shira Hazi, Gera Sandler
Director & Script: Ruti Pri Bar
Producers: Orli Zamir, Yoav Roeh
D.O.P.: Daniella Nowitz
Editors: Neta Dvorka
Production: Gum Films
Tel: +972 3 6205194
Email: info@gumfilms.com
www: www.gumfilms.com

VIRGINITY

A FILM BY MAOR ZAGURI



A bitter sweet coming of age story of a 15 year old youth, "Boy", that grows up in an isolated community in the southern "Arava" desert region. Every day, at 2 pm all the kids from school get on a bus and drive off, all except "Boy" and his unbridled friend Munbaz who urges him in every possible way to grow up as the time has come to lose his virginity.

When does a boy turn into a man? When he starts thinking about death and sex. That's the thought that keeps resonating in the heart and mind of "Boy", the hero of the film. And indeed a tragedy strikes his family and the only possible thing "Boy" can do is to turn into a man and save himself.

Cast: Maor Levi, Or Adi, Ilanar Kigler, Amos Tamam, Chen Amaloni, Lana Ayan
Director & Script: Maor Zaguri
Producers: Ronen Ben-Tal
Ex-Producers: Moshe Edery, Leon Edery
D.O.P.: Soaz Yehonatan Yacov **Editors:** Ron Omer
Production: Plan B Productions Ltd
Tel: +972 54 664 9771 **Email:** ronbenatal@gmail.com

ECHO

A FILM BY AMIKAM KOVNER & ASSAF SNIR



Avner suspects his wife Ella is having an affair. Secretly recording her telephone conversations, he turns into a spy in his own home, listening to them again and again. But while searching for one thing, he discovers another – the woman he listens to is a stranger to him, so very different from the one he thought he knew. He tries to understand that woman, to decode their relationship, but the more he knows, the less he understands.

Cast: Yoram Toledano, Yael Abecassis, Guri Allit, Tzachi Halevi, Ilan Ben Yaakov, Aliza Rosen
Directors & Script: Amikam Kovner, Assaf Snir
Chief Producer: Yehonatan Paran
Executive Producers: Rachel Paran, Idit Paran
Producer: Ra'anan Gershoni
D.O.P.: Daniel Miller
Editors: Joelle Alexis
Production: Dorimedia Paran
Tel: +972 34 4811007 **Email:** korenmich@gmail.com
World Sales: Go2Films info@go2films.com

THE DAY AFTER I'M GONE

A FILM BY NIMROD ELДАР



A middle-aged widower is forced to re-examine his past and embrace his future after his teenage daughter attempts suicide. He takes her on a journey to the southern primordial Israeli desert. The events lead to a rapprochement with both his young daughter and with his own stunted self, while pushing him to finally free himself from his grief and come back to life.

Cast: Zohar Moidan, Menashe Noy
Director & Script: Nimrod Eldar
Producers: Eitan Mansuri, Jonathan Doweck, Moshe Edery, Leon Edery
D.O.P.: Itay Marom
Editor: Nimrod Eldar
Production: Spiro Films
Tel: +972 52 686 1170 **Email:** info@spiro-films.com
World Sales: Luxbox

HONEYMOOD

A FILM BY TALYA LAVIE



A bride and groom arrive at a lavish hotel suite on their wedding night. They're drunk, tired and overwhelmed, but instead of celebrating or winding down, they get into an enormous fight. What was supposed to be a sweet, magical, romantic night becomes a bitter, dazed urban odyssey that confronts them both with past loves, repressed doubts and the single life they've left behind.

Cast: Ron Danker, Avigail Harari
Director & Script: Talya Lavie
Producers: Eitan Mansuri, Jonathan Doweck
D.O.P.: Yaron Shani
Editors: Arik Lahav-Leibovich
Production: Spiro Films
Tel: +972 52 686 1170 **Email:** info@spiro-films.com
World Sales: WasiEnd Films

SKY RAIDERS

A FILM BY LIOR CHEFETZ



13-year-old Yotam is obsessed with flying, but his overprotective mother won't let him anywhere near planes, especially after he lost his father a few years ago. When Yotam and his classmate Noa find a rare antique plane in the local junkyard, they team up with Morris, an 80-year-old grumpy loner who used to be a pilot. Together they try to bring the plane back to life, just in time for the annual Air Show. "Sky Raiders" is an uplifting adventure feature film for the entire family.

Cast: Amir Tessler, Arieh Tcherner, Hila Natanson, Nathan Ravitz, Riki Blich
Director & Script: Lior Chefetz
Producers: Udi Zehrfeld, Ian Dickinson and Joe Swanson
Inspired by a book by: Oded Marom
Producers: Avraham Pirchi, Chilik Michaeli, Tami Leon, Moshe Edery, Leon Edery
D.O.P.: Ofer Inav **Editors:** Omer Zaitman
Production: UCM - United Nations Movies
Web: www.ucm-film.com
Tel: +972 3 627 6200
Email: info@ucm-film.com

NELSON

A FILM BY LUDI BOEKEN



Inspired by a true story. A one man's journey to settle an account... Eliahu B. (later known as "Tony Nelson") an Israeli soldier, stands accused in the Martial Court in 1953 for desertion. During the 846 days of desertion, he made his way from Israel via Italy to France and eventually to the swamps of Vietnam, in search of justice – and revenge.

Cast: Paul Diaconescu, Julia Levy-Boeken, Cristian Balint, Eitan Anwar, Tamir Kananan
Director: Ludi Boeken
Script: Ludi Boeken, Adi Shoval
Producers: Udi Zehrfeld
Co Producers: Alex Osmolovsky and Michael Katirj
D.O.P.: Giora Betzch
Editor: Benny Shkolosky
Production: Izafilm Productions LTD
Tel: +972 54 440 0055
Email: synd@zohov.net.il & syndsynd@gmail.com

TEL AVIV ON FIRE

A FILM BY SAMEH ZOABI



Salam, a charming 30-year-old Palestinian living in East Jerusalem, works as an intern on a popular soap opera "Tel Aviv on Fire" in which a Palestinian female spy has a love affair with an Israeli General in 1967. Every day, he has to pass by a check-point to reach the studio. At the checkpoint he meets Assi, the checkpoint commander, whose wife is a huge fan of the soap. Assi puts a lot of pressure on him to try and influence the involving story of the soap. Salam soon understands that Assi's creative vision can get him a promotion as a screenwriter, at least until Assi and the show's producers start disagreeing on how it should all end, leaving Salam uncomfortably caught in the middle...

Cast: Kais Nashif, Yaniv Biton, Lubna Azabal, Salim Daw, Maysa Abd Elhadi **Director:** Sameh Zoabi
Producers: Amir Harel, Ayaleh Kati, Barnoud Michaux, Milena Poyko, Gilles Saccuto, Patrick Quinet **Script:** Sameh Zoabi, Dan Kleinman **D.O.P.:** Laurent Brunet **Editors:** Catherine Schwartz
Production: Laila Films, Sameh Films, IS Productions, Antamis Productions **Tel:** +972 3 685 0430
Email: amir@lailafilms.com **World sales:** Indie Sales, Nicolas Eschbach, meschbach@indiesales.eu

LOVE TRILOGY: STRIPPED

A FILM BY YARON SHANI



Invasive images in which her naked body is being abused are tormenting 34-year-old Alice, a shining star in the literature world. She locks herself in her apartment and falls into a nightmare. Right across the street lives 17-year-old Ziv, a gentle and gifted musician. The demands of adulthood are falling hard on him and change him forever. The meeting of these two characters reveals how a crisis can produce both destruction and growth, violence and grace.

Cast: Lital Sivan, Bar Goffried
Director & Script: Yaron Shani
Producers: Saar Nегey, Naomi Levati
Co Producers: Michael Reuter
D.O.P.: Shai Skiff, Nizan Lotem
Editor: Yaron Shani
Production: Black Sheep Film Productions Ltd. In Co-Production with: The Post Republic
Tel: +972 74 703 9009
Email: info@bssheepfilms.com
www: www.bsheepfilms.com

GOOD MORNING SON

A FILM BY SHARON BAR-ZIV



A realistic drama. Omer, a young soldier, was injured in a military operation. His loving family and loyal friends are fighting to bring him back to life. They all go through emotional, funny and human moments which connect them to Omer and to each other. A family trying to cope with the sudden change in their lives.

Cast: Keren Mor, Sharon Bar-Ziv
Director & Script: Sharon Bar-Ziv
Producers: Jonathan Rozenbaum, Marek Rozenbaum, Michael Rozenbaum
D.O.P.: Ziv Berkovich
Editor: Eva Kaplan
Production: Transfax Film Productions
Tel: +972 3 6871202
Email: sarai@transfax.co.il

RED COW

A FILM BY TSIVIA BARKAI-YACOV



Benny (17), an only child who lost her mother at birth, lives with her (adoptive) father in a Jewish settlement in East Jerusalem. As her father becomes more and more obsessed with a red heifer that he believes will bring the redemption, Benny drifts further away and into the arms of Yael, a young new woman in her life. She embarks on a personal journey that will shape her religious, political and sexual consciousness.

Cast: Avigayil Koveary, Moran Rosenblatt, Gal Toren
Director & Script: Tsivia Barkai-Yacov
Producers: Itai Tamir
Co-prod.: Ami Livne, Ronen Ben Tal
D.O.P.: Boaz Yehonatan Yacov
Editors: Haim Tabakman
Production: Laila Films
Tel: +972 54 456 4144, +972 54 550 2961
Email: Laila.film2010@gmail.com
World Sales: Alma Cinema

LACES

A FILM BY JACOB GOLDWASSER



A complicated relationship between an aging father and his special-needs son, whom he abandoned while he was a young boy. Reuben's (60) kidneys are failing and his son, Gadi (35), wants to donate one of his own kidney's to help save his father's life. However, the transplant committee objects to the procedure claiming that Reuben, acting as Gadi's sole legal guardian, does not have the right to authorize such an invasive procedure. Gadi, who recently lost his mother, is afraid of losing his father as well. He feels he finally has the chance to do something meaningful; to become a man and stand on his own. His father with the committee's decision and sets out to fight for his right to save his father's life.

Cast: Dav Glickman, Nevo Kimchi, Evelin Hagoel
Directors: Jacob Goldwasser
Producers: Marek Rozenbaum, Michael Rozenbaum
Script: Haim Merin
D.O.P.: Boaz Yehonatan Yacov
Editors: Haim Goldwasser
Production: Transfax Film Productions
Tel: +972 3 687 1202 **Email:** sarai@transfax.co.il
www: www.transfax.co.il