

afterthought

EZ Films & Spiro Films
present



OFFICIAL SELECTION
FESTIVAL DE CANNES

A film by Elad Keidan



synopsis

Haifa on a sunny day. Moshe is a crumbling man walking up the Carmel Mountain on yet another work day. Will this day mark his collapse? Uri walks down the mountain to board a ship and leave behind all the things he loves and despises. His sense of belonging is losing ground. He is likely to miss his military reserve service-call, thus risking jail. Will the two collide or pass through one another? An existential comedy, where the overbearing mountain with its endless stairs takes control over destinies in this unique panorama of the Mediterranean port city.





interview with elad keidan

Walking is a big part of my life, giving me a sense of freedom. Born in Haifa, I've often walked up and down Mount Carmel and I've always wanted to tell a story that would encompass the whole city, top-to-bottom. From the old lower parts through layers of socialism in the middle and up to capitalist squeaking efforts at the peak, all inter-connected by dozens of public staircases. Another part of this exploration was the textural quality of human surroundings, exploding with meaning and stories while at the same time lonely and dull. It was Heraclitus who said: "The most beautiful world is like a heap of rubble tossed down in confusion". For me it sounds like Heraclitus was living in modern Israel where the urge to build and run over previous histories turns reality into, well, a heap of rubble.

My hometown of Haifa was a very distinct socialist city with modernist style tenement housing, naïve folk dancing and an unusual quota of nature allotted for the blue collar workers and their neighborhoods. One day the Berlin Wall fell. And strangely, even though we were part of the "West", change came. Cooked up and watered down American dreams for second rate nations were quickly taking over what was the social bedrock of our identity. Shopping centers, cableTV, tower housing sprouting everywhere. It happened very naturally. Our parents themselves were already cynical about social ideas, increasingly sanctifying personal gain and individual interests. The old mountain side of Haifa was a barometer of the old value system turning hollow. It's like a dried up lizard from a different geological age. Capturing it before it's lost forever was also one of my aims.





The dream to emigrate is a mutual dream of many in conflict ridden areas. Uri, my young protagonist, a hazy poet and thinker, is on his way to flee the country. He's evading military reserve service, cutting all strings behind him. His story identifies that ephemeral thing which makes us belong to a place. Contrary to Uri, who always seems to have the last retort, my second protagonist, Moshe, is a crumbling man who starts his day only to find his life flipping upside down. His story will lead him to be at a loss for words but perhaps also grant him a new hope. With their stories I've examined subjects such as loyalty, betrayal and human bondage. In a way, my protagonists are an allegory of the country I live in – unable to choose a path, even though the ground keeps rolling under its feet.



Elad Keidan is an Israeli film maker, writer and director. A graduate of the Sam Spiegel film school in Jerusalem, Elad continues to study arts and film at the Tel-Aviv University. In addition to making films, his experience includes TV work, academic writing and teaching.

His short films were screened worldwide, amongst them **Anthem** which won the Cinéfondation 1st prize at Cannes 2008, a unique accomplishment for an Israeli short film. **Afterthought** is his debut feature. Born in Haifa, Elad is a father of two.

Anthem (Israel, 2008) 36'.

1st prize Cinéfondation, Cannes Film Festival. Won altogether eight best film awards worldwide, and participated in 41 festivals. Was purchased and screened by ARTE France and ARD Germany.

And on he walks (Greece-France, 2012) 10'. Pardi di Domani competition, Locarno Film Festival 2013 and several other international short film festivals.







cast & crew

Cast: Itay Tiran, Uri Klauzner

Crew: D.O.P. – Yaron Scharf / Editing – Arik Lahav-Leibovitch / Sound – Aviv Aldema, Vitaliy Grinshpun, Jean-Yves Rousseaux / Original music – Thierry Caroubi / Art director – Dina Kornveits / Costumes – Keren Eyal-Melamed / Makeup – Or Sapir / 1st assistant director – Adin Weiner / Casting – Emmanuelle Mayer / Line producer – Sol Goodman / Co-producers – Sylvain Fage, Jean-Yves Rousseaux, David Danesi / Producers – Elie Meirovitz, Eitan Mansuri, Danny Goldberg, Jonathan Doweck

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INTERNATIONAL PRESS

BRIGITTA PORTIER
Alibi Communications
brigittaportier@alibicomunications.be
www.alibicomunications.be
Office:
UNIFRANCE - Village International
phone: +33 - (0)6 - 28 96 81 65

TECHNICAL DETAILS

Production: Israel, France
Duration: 105 minutes
Format: 1.33 / DCP
Sound format: 5.1

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WORLD SALES

THE MATCH FACTORY
Balthasarstraße 79-81
50670 Cologne · Germany
Tel: +49 - 221 - 53 97 09 -0
Fax: +49 - 221 - 53 97 09 -10
info@matchfactory.de
www.the-match-factory.com