

LAILA FILMS AND FILM BASE BERLIN
PRESENT



Karlovy Vary
International Film Festival
Official Selection – Competition



האופה מברלין

THE CAKEMAKER



LAILA FILMS & FILM BASE BERLIN PRESENT A FILM BY OFIR RAUL GRAIZER SARAH ADLER TIM KALKHOF "THE CAKEMAKER" ROY MILLER ZOHAR STRAUSS SANDRA SADE TOMER BEN YEHUDA
MUSIC BY DOMINIQUE CHARPENTIER EDITOR MICHAL OPPENHEIM DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY DANIEL KOSSOW Yael Bibelnik EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS LILU GOLDFINE PRODUCED BY OMRI ALONI ASSISTANT DIRECTOR GILAD AVNIY SHARON RYBA-KAHN CO-PRODUCED BY MATHIAS SCHWERBROCK OFIR RAUL GRAIZER
PRODUCED BY ITAI TAMIR WRITTEN AND DIRECTED BY OFIR RAUL GRAIZER



film base

BERLIN

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THE CAKEMAKER

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A Film by OFIR RAUL GRAIZER

2017 | DCP | 2.39 | 5.1. | 105 Min
Israel/Germany
English, Hebrew, German with English subtitles

INTERNATIONAL PRESS

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LOGLINE

A young German pastry maker travels to Jerusalem in search for the wife and son of his dead lover.

SYNOPSIS

Thomas, a young German baker, is having an affair with Oren, an Israeli married man who has frequent business visits in Berlin. When Oren dies in a car crash in Israel, Thomas travels to Jerusalem seeking for answers regarding his death. Under a fabricated identity, Thomas infiltrates the life of Anat, his lover's newly widowed wife, who owns a small Café in downtown Jerusalem. Thomas starts to work for her, creating German cakes and cookies that bring her Café to life. Thomas finds himself involved in Anat's life in a way far beyond his anticipation. To protect the truth he will stretch his lie to a point of no return.



DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT

Set in a melancholic yet vivid portrait of Jerusalem, and based on a personal experience, the film tells of characters who wish to put aside their definitions of nationality, sexuality and religion. It is a story full of love for people, life, food and cinema. It is my story.

The story travels between Berlin and Jerusalem, between east and west, between past and present. In this journey Thomas, who goes to find a cure for a private loss, will encounter an inner-Israeli conflict of religion and secularism. The subject of Kosher, the importance of Shabbat (Saturday), the place of tradition in secular society become a barrier in Thomas's way to absolution, leads him to doubt every aspect of his own being, and provides him with a different perspective of his love memories.

The metaphoric cure to the wound of the personal tragedy is baking. A sensual, visual, and erotic act, it reminds me of childhood, motherhood and family, with the smell of a yeast spreading in the house on Friday morning. In Judaism baking has a special meaning due to the traumatic



memory of ‘there is no food’, which rises specially in the German-Jewish context; and the Jewish religious aspect of baking has a whole system of rules that define what is allowed and what is forbidden. Thomas and Anat must defy these rules and thus defy their surroundings in order to overcome pain and anger and find the path to forgiveness and reconciliation.

SPECIAL MENTIONS

Winner - Cinelab Award, Pitch Point Jerusalem Film Festival 2016
Talent Project Market - Berlinale Talents - 64 Internationale Filmfestspiele 2014
Crossroads - Agora Film Market, 54th Thessaloniki Film Festival 2013
Winner - Development Grant - Jerusalem Film & Television Fund 2012
Jerusalem Film Festival Speed Dating Pitch Program 2012
The Nipkow Program - berlin 2011



BIOGRAPHY OF OFIR RAUL GRAIZER

Ofir Raul Graizer is an Israeli film director and video artist. After working for years in different branches, from textiles to gastronomy, he went to study film in Sapir College, Sderot, in the south of Israel. During his studies, he directed several short films that were shown in numerous festivals and received worldwide acclaim. After his graduation he co-directed “La Discotheque” which was screened in Cannes Director’s Fortnight and other film festivals. In parallel, he was accepted for the Nipkow Program, Berlinale Talents, Agora Film Market and other film workshops. “The Cakemaker” is his first feature film. Currently he lives on the line of Berlin-Jerusalem-Uckermark, teaching middle eastern cuisine and developing his next film projects.



FILMOGRAPHY

LA DISCOTHEQUE

Fiction, 15 Minutes. Chile/France, 2015 - Co-directing with Teresita Ugarte

A retired militant visits a strip-club in Santiago and confronts his past as a torturer.

- Director's Fortnight, Cannes
- Winner - Golden Prize for best film - Basta Fest, Serbia
- Valdivia Film Festival, Chile
- Cinema South Festival, Israel
- Lakino Film Festival, Berlin
- Fesalp, Argentina
- Poitiers Film Festival, France

MINYAN - THE GATHERING OF THE TEN

Experimental Video Documentary, 46 Minutes. Israel/Germany, 2015

In subtitles without a voice-over, this documentary video feature tells the story of a childhood memory that interferes with an immigrant's visit to his homeland.

- Curated for the Special Documentary Award, Cinema South Festival 2015

DOR

Fiction, 27 Minutes. Israel, 2009

An Israeli soldier starts doubting the values and ideas on which he was raised.

- Winner - Short Film Competition - REGIOFUN Film Festival, Katowicz, Poland
- Winner for Best Cinematography - Cinema South Festival, Sderot 2009
- 32e Clermont Ferrand - International Competition 2010
- 24th Fribourg International Film Festival 2010
- Circucircuito, Santiago De Compostela 2010
- Filmcaravan, Italy 2010
- San Francisco Jewish Film Festival 2010
- Shortini Film Festival, Italy 2010
- Ourense International Film Festival 2010
- Festival des 3 Continents, Nantes 2010
- Filmfestival Max Ophüls, Saarbrücken 2011

A PRAYER IN JANUARY

Fiction, 10 Minutes. Israel, 2007

Two lovers on their last day together. The film's trailer has been viewed more than 2.8 million times on youtube, and is being purchased for viewing for 10 years.

- Sold to Salzgeber & Co. Medien GmbH - distribution company in German speaking world.
- Vuez Den Face - Festival International du film Gay et Lesbien de Grenoble 2007
- Outtakes - The New Zealand Reel Queer Film Festival, 2007
- Pink Apple 10 - Schwullesbisches Film Festival in Zurich 2007
- TLVFest - The Second Tel Aviv International LGBT Film Festival 2008
- Phillyfest - Philadelphia International Film Festival, 2007
- Queer Lisboa - Lisbon Gay and Lesbian Film Festival, 2007
- 52nd Corona Cork Film Festival 2007
- FICGLB - Festival Internacional de Cinema a Gai i Lèsbic, Barcelona, 2007
- Victoria Independent Film Festival, Australia, 2007
- Lesgaicinemad - Madrid Gay and Lesbian Film Festival 2008
- Reeling - The 26 Chicago Gay and Lesbian International Film Festival 2007
- InsideOut - Toronto Gay and Lesbian Film Festival, 2008
- INKLUSIVE - 5th Bukarest Film Festival 2008
- NEWFEST - New York Gay and, Lesbian Film Festival 2008
- Milwaukee LGBT Film/Video Festival 2008
- Roma Kolno'a Film Festival of Jewish and Israeli Films, 2008
- Seoul - South Korea GLBT Film Festival, 2009



ABOUT THE PRODUCER

Laila Films was established as a boutique production company for high-quality independent cinema intended for emerging Israeli and international filmmakers. As well as providing constant support from script to screen, we believe in an intimate approach to achieve a personal, innovative and distinct cinema. Since its founding in 2010, Laila Film produced: *Policeman* by Nadav Lapid, *Not in Tel Aviv* by Nony Geffen, *Sharqiya* by Ami Livne, *Alice* by Dana Goldberg, *Arabani* by Adi Aduan; *Laila Translation* by Nurith Aviv, *Above the Hill* by Raphael Najadri, *Ben Zaken* by Efrat Corem, *Awakening* by Guy Meirson, and many more.



CAST

Tim Kalkhof, Sarah Adler, Roy Miller, Zohar Strauss, Sandra Sade

CREW

Director of Photography **Omri Aloni**

Music by **Dominique Charpentier**

Editor **Michal Openheim**

Costume Designer **Lilu Goldfine**

Production Design **Daniel Kossow, Yael Bibelnik**

Produced by **Itai Tamir, Laila Films**

Co-produced by **Mathias Schwerbrock - Film Base Berlin, Ofir Raul Grazier**

Written and directed by **Ofir Raul Graizer**

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