





CDP and Agav Films present



**MOSTRA INTERNAZIONALE  
D'ARTE CINEMATOGRAFICA**

## VENICE SCREENINGS

**MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 3<sup>RD</sup> – 11 A.M.**

SALA GIARDINO  
PRESS & INDUSTRY SCREENING

**MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 3<sup>RD</sup> – 5:15 P.M.**

SALA GIARDINO  
OFFICIAL SCREENING

**TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 4<sup>TH</sup> – 9:00 A.M.**

SALA GIARDINO  
PUBLIC SCREENING

**TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 4<sup>TH</sup> – 7:30 P.M.**

SALA PASINETTI  
PUBLIC SCREENING

*Each screening of A TRAMWAY IN JERUSALEM will start with the screening of  
A LETTER TO A FRIEND IN GAZA by Amos Gitai (34').*

# A TRAMWAY IN JERUSALEM

A FILM BY AMOS GITAI

WITH MATHIEU AMALRIC, NOA, PIPPO DELBONO, HANNA LASZLO

2018 – ISRAEL – 94'

PRECEDED BY

## A LETTER TO A FRIEND IN GAZA

2018 – ISRAEL – 34'

### INTERNATIONAL SALES

**ORANGE STUDIO**

21 rue Jasmin

75016 Paris

FRANCE

Tel: +33 6 13 35 22 23

andrei.kamarowsky@orange.com

### INTERNATIONAL PRESS

**RICHARD LORMAND – FILM | PRESS | PLUS**

[WWW.FILMPRESSPLUS.COM](http://WWW.FILMPRESSPLUS.COM)

Email: IntlPressIT@aol.com

Tel: +33-9-7044-9865



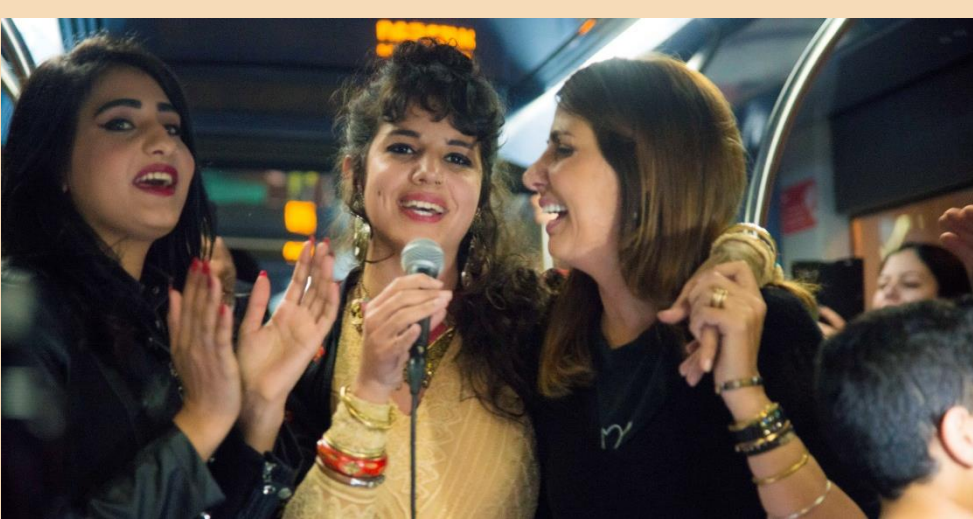


# A TRAMWAY IN JERUSALEM

## SYNOPSIS

In Jerusalem, the tramway connects several neighborhoods, from East to West, recording their variety and their differences. This comedy looks with humor at moments of the daily life of a few passengers, a series of brief situations that occur on the way to Jerusalem's « red » tram line, unfolding a whole mosaic of human beings.

A TRAMWAY IN JERUSALEM is a situation comedy that juxtaposes stories and human situations in the context of the current Israeli Palestinian society in 2018. In Jerusalem the tramway connects several neighborhoods, from East to West, recording their variety and differences. The film brings together a whole mosaic of human beings unfolding in this city which is also the spiritual center of the three great monotheistic religions, Judaism, Christianity and Islam. We observe the daily life of this human landscape, a series of encounters that take place along the Light Rail Red Line, from the Palestinian neighborhoods of Shuafat and Beit Hanina in East-Jerusalem to Mount Herzl in West-Jerusalem. This theme comedy observes with humor a series of short situations, moments of the everyday life of a few passengers. For us, the filmmaker, the visitor during this trip, the human reality of Jerusalem is a juxtaposition of the fragments of life, of conflicts and reconciliations that appear in the film. As if we would like to project the daily life and its inertia power against the demagogism which aims to distill hatred. Let's hope for the best.



# DIRECTOR'S COMMENTS

A TRAMWAY IN JERUSALEM is an optimistic and ironic metaphor of the divided city of Jerusalem in which we, Israelis, Palestinians and others, try to simulate how life can happen in this microcosm or "sardine can" of a tramway, in the utopian days to come. Beyond the current days of conflict and violence, how can people accept each other's existence, their differences and disputes, with no killing.

Is this tram the sign that a peaceful coexistence is possible? In Jerusalem, the tramway connects several neighborhoods, from East to West, recording their variety and differences. The film brings together a whole mosaic of human beings unfolding in this city which is also the spiritual center of the three great monotheistic religions, Judaism, Christianity and Islam. We observe the daily life of this human landscape, a series of encounters that take place along the Light Rail Red Line, from the Palestinian neighborhoods of Shuafat and Beit Hanina in East-Jerusalem to Mount Herzl in West-Jerusalem. These are all fragments of stories and memories that make up the contemporary reality of Israel. But the existence of men and women is no different from that of other countries, with its rifts, its love conflicts, its politics, as everywhere.

My film sets are often meeting places for people of different origins. This was the case of A TRAMWAY IN JERUSALEM: Israeli, Palestinian and European actresses and actors found themselves together in this tramway that crosses Jerusalem. Working with Israeli singer Noa, Italian actor Pipo Delbono and French actor Mathieu Amalric was a great way to further enrich this mosaic of paths and sensibilities that coexist in the film. Noa is a long time friend and I have great respect for her commitment to peace. She's the one who composes the opening scene in a very delicate way. Pippo gives a touching

intimacy to his role of a Catholic priest torn by the drama of the Passion of Christ. And I have always admired Mathieu's work as an actor as well as a director. When I invited him to come to Jerusalem with his son Elias to play the role of a tourist reading text by Gustave Flaubert on Jerusalem, proposed by my coscenarist Marie-Jose Sanselme, he immediately accepted. This text offers a secular, critical counterpoint to the religion that has permeated Jerusalem for a very long time.

A TRAMWAY IN JERUSALEM describes an ironic almost utopian situation in which most conflicts will be contained and this beautiful city charged with thousands of years of history will facilitate people's way of living side by side. It's almost a fantasy full of contradictions and irony. A LETTER TO A FRIEND IN GAZA responds to the current crisis between Israel and Gaza. It is a civic gesture that sometimes cinema should offer in order to create a direct dialogue with reality. With 2 Palestinian actors and 2 Israelis, we evoke the essential crisis looming over the Palestinian-Israeli relationships through texts by Mahmoud Darwish, Yizhar Smilansky, Emile Habibi, and Amira Hass. And all as an homage to the famous letter that Albert Camus wrote in 1943, which gives its title to the film.

I think that we live today in a tsunami of xenophobic and racist climate. Almost everywhere we look, politicians get elected by diffusing nationalism and hate of others. In this context it's essential that the arts keep borders open and promote dialogue. That's the essence of A TRAMWAY IN JERUSALEM and A LETTER TO A FRIEND IN GAZA - to reflect about the culture of coexistence and dialogue rather than hate.



## CAST

ACHINOAM NOA NINI - MATHIEU AMALRIC - ELIAS AMALRIC -  
PIPPA DELBONO - KEREN MORR YUVAL SCHARF - HANNA LASZLO - ROTEM  
AVUHAV - EINAT SAROUF - RAMI HEUBERGER - MEITAL DOHAN - LIRON  
LEVO - SRULIK PNIEL - MORAD HASAN - HAIM WEISSMAN - MENACHEM  
DAVID - KADER HERINI - MAIA NASHASHIBI - MOSHE FERSTER - MAISA  
ABD ELHADI - HILLA VIDOR - JIL BEN DAVIA - LUNA MANSOUR - AHINOAM  
KAPON - RAM SPINOZA - LUNA MANSOUR - MOSHE SHAHAR - YEHUDA  
ASHASH - MICHAEL GREILSAMMER - MARIE-LOUISE BISHOFBERGER -  
LOUIS SCLAVIS TOMER RUSSO - MUSTAPHA DJABAR

## CREW

<b>Director</b>	AMOS GITAI
<b>Screenplay</b>	AMOS GITAI, MARIE-JOSE SANSELME
<b>Casting director</b>	ILAN MOSCOVITCH
<b>Cinematography</b>	ERIC GAUTIER
<b>Editing</b>	YUVAL ORR
<b>Sound designer</b>	ALEX CLAUDE
<b>Sound mixer</b>	STEPHANE THIEBAUT
<b>Art</b>	YARON RAVID, MARIA VOLFMAN
<b>Music</b>	LOUIS SCLAVIS, ALEX CLAUDE
<b>Line producers</b>	GADI LEVY, SHUKI FRIEDMAN
<b>Produced by</b>	AMOS GITAI, CATHERINE DUSSART, LAURENT TRUCHOT
<b>In association with</b>	ORANGE STUDIO (FRANCE), UNITED KING FILMS, C.D.P PRODUCTIONS
<b>Associate producers</b>	LEON EDRY, MOSHE EDRY
<b>Press attache</b>	RICHARD LORMAND (INTERNATIONAL) AGNÈS CHABOT (FRANCE) HADAS SHAPIRA (ISRAEL)
<b>International Sales</b>	ORANGE STUDIO
<b>French distributor</b>	UGC DISTRIBUTION FOR ORANGE STUDIO DISTRIBUTION



# A LETTER TO A FRIEND IN GAZA

2018 – ISRAEL – 34'

As you prepare the breakfast, think of others  
(do not forget the pigeon's food).

As you conduct your wars, think of others  
(do not forget those who seek peace).

As you pay your water bill, think of others  
(those who are nursed by clouds).

As you return home, to your home, think of others  
(do not forget the people of the camps).

As you sleep and count the stars, think of others  
(those who have nowhere to sleep).

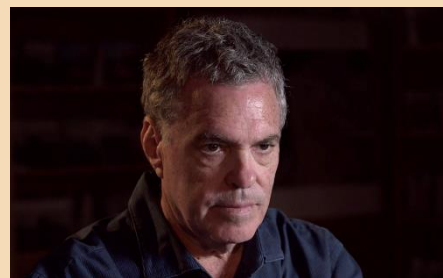
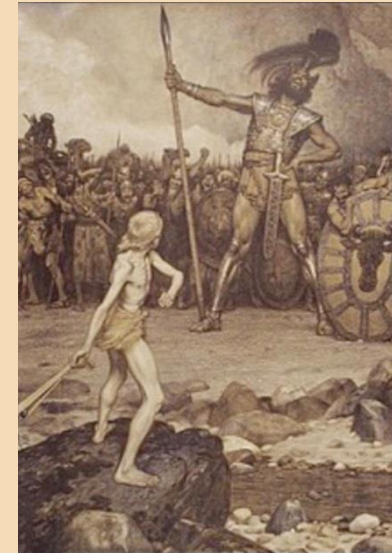
As you liberate yourself in metaphor, think of others  
(those who have lost the right to speak).

As you think of others far away, think of yourself  
(Say: "If only I were a candle in the dark").

**Mahmoud Darwish – "Think of Others"**

We sink in our choosing to go along with the herd,  
wicked and enjoyable in its own right. What nadir  
must we reach before the young people are shocked  
about what their parents and grandparents did and  
stop imitating them, an emulation for the worst. Let  
us allow ourselves a minute of optimism and  
assume that the question will be asked before it is  
too late.

**Amira Hass – « How did you destroy villages?  
One daughter will ask »**





## CAST

MAKRAM KHOURY

CLARA KHOURY

HILLA VIDOR

AMOS GITAI

## CREW

**Director** AMOS GITAI

**Director of photography** ODED KIRMA

**Sound** YANIV LEVY

**Editing** YUVAL ORR

**Music** ALEX CLAUDE

**Produced by** AGAV FILMS

**International Sales** CINEPHIL  
PHILIPPA KOWARSKY  
+972 54-4961114

## TEXTS INSPIRED BY:

"Think of Others" by Mahmoud Darwish

"Khirbet Khizeh" by S. Yizhar

"The secret life of Saeed the Pessoptimist" by Emile Habibi

"How did you destroy villages? One daughter will ask" by Amira Hass

"How many times will it be over" by Mahmoud Darwish

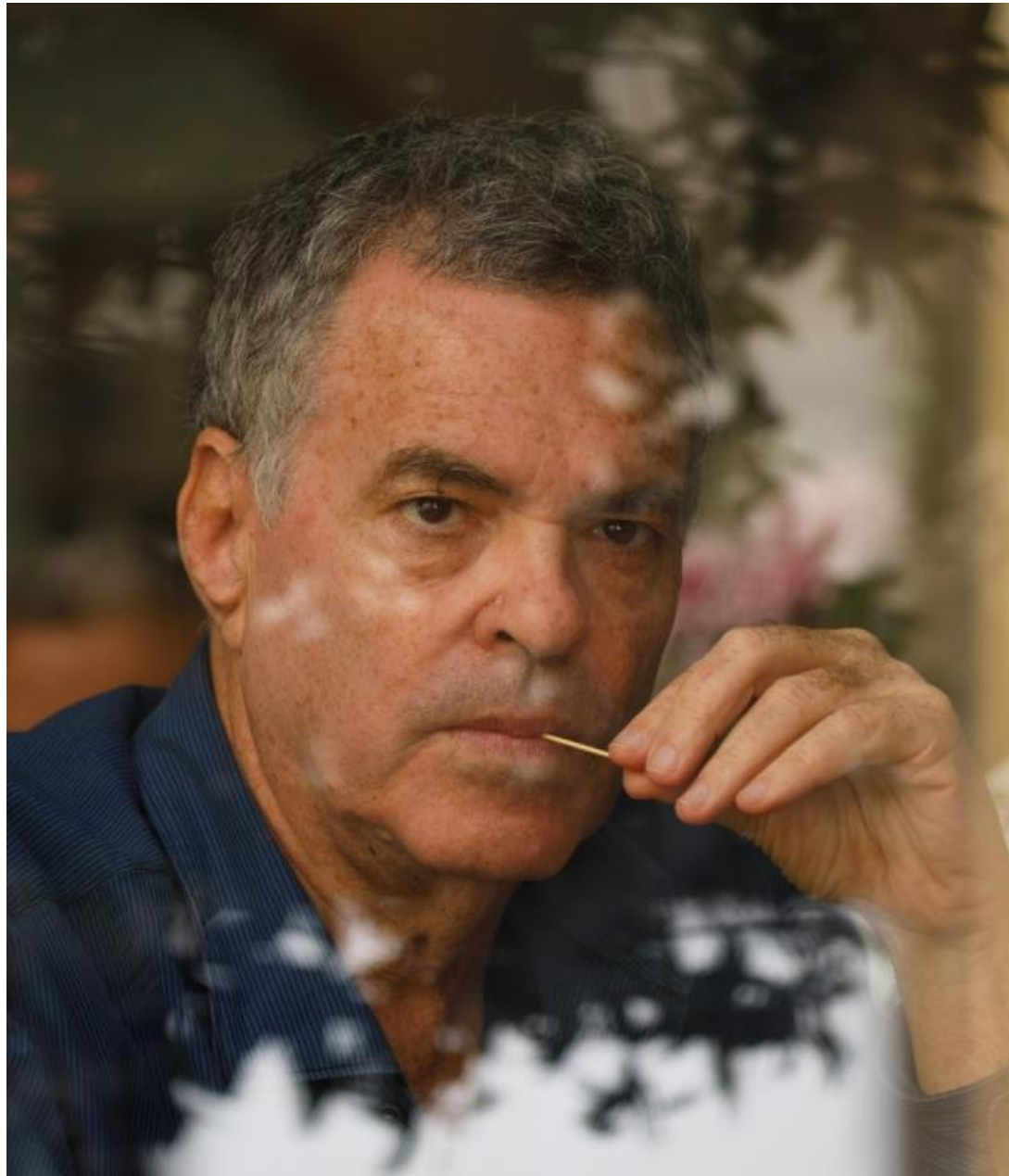
"Letter to a Friend" by Albert Camus

## AMOS GITAI

Filmmaker who was trained as an architect, Amos Gitai directed an extensive kaleidoscope of films observing the Middle East and the Israeli society. Among them are features films as well as documentaries, installations and performances. He was awarded the Rossellini and the Robert Bresson Prizes, as well as the Legion d'Honneur.

Gitai's work was presented in several major retrospectives in Pompidou Center Paris, the Museum of Modern Art (MoMa) New York, the Lincoln Center New York, and the British Film Institute London.

To date, Amos Gitai has created over 90 works of art throughout 38 years. Between 1999 and 2017, ten of his films entered the main competition of the Cannes Film Festival as well as the Venice Film Festival.



# FILMOGRAPHY

**2017 WEST OF THE JORDAN RIVER** (A l'ouest du Jourdain)  
DIRECTORS' FORTNIGHT OFFICIAL SELECTION

**2015 RABIN, THE LAST DAY** (Le Dernier Jour d'Yitzhak Rabin)  
VENICE INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL OFFICIAL COMPETITION

**2014 TSILI**  
VENICE INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL OUT OF COMPETITION

**2013 ANA ARABIA**  
VENICE INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL OFFICIAL COMPETITION

**2011 LULLABY TO MY FATHER**  
VENICE INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL OUT OF COMPETITION

**2011 ROSE A CREDIT** – TV

**2010 THE WAR OF THE SONS OF LIGHT AGAINST THE SONS OF DARKNESS** (La Guerre des fils de lumière contre les fils des ténèbres) – TV

**2009 CARMEL**

**2008 ONE DAY YOU'LL UNDERSTAND** (Plus tard tu comprendras)  
– TV

**2007 DISENGAGEMENT** (Désengagement)

**2005 FREE ZONE**  
CANNES INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL AWARD FOR BEST ACTRESS –  
HANNA LASZLO

**2004 PROMISED LAND** (Terre Promise)

**2003 ALILA**

**2002 KEDMA**  
CANNES INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL OFFICIAL COMPETITION

**2001 EDEN**

**2000 KIPPUR** (Kippour)  
CANNES INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL OFFICIAL COMPETITION

**1999 KADOSH**  
CANNES INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL OFFICIAL COMPETITION

**1998 YOM YOM**

**1995 ZIHRON DEVARIM** (Devarim)

**1993 GOLEM, THE PETRIFIED GARDEN** (Golem, le jardin pétrifié)

**1992 GOLEM, THE SPIRIT OF THE EXILE** (Golem, l'esprit de l'exil)

**1991 BIRTH OF A GOLEM** (Naissance d'un Golem)

**1989 BERLIN-JERUSALEM**

**1985 ESTHER**



**Hanna Laszlo** (on the left), Best Actress Award winner at the Cannes International Film Festival in 2005 for *Free Zone*, here in *A Tramway in Jerusalem*.

