

NEW RELEASES

On Thin Ice



Israel 2026 | 70' | Feature Documentary
 Directed by: Udi Kalinski, Irit Hod
 Produced by: Provid Films - Udi Kalinski, Irit Hod
 Hebrew with English subtitles



For more than 55 years, the Druze of the Golan Heights remained loyal to Syria, refusing Israeli citizenship. After the October 7 war, that loyalty began to fracture as survival and peace forced a historic shift. On Thin Ice follows 19-year-old Aya, an aspiring ice hockey player, and her uncle Ayoub, a family elder, revealing a community torn between identity, history, and the urgent need to live safely on their land.

In Protest

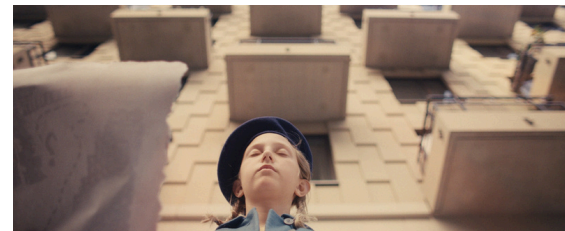


USA 2026 | 26' | Short Documentary
 Directed by: Paula Kweskin & Carli Fogel
 Produced by: THE 49% - Paula Kweskin
 Hebrew with English subtitles



Before October 7, Moran Zer Katzenstein emerges as a leading feminist voice in a deeply divided Israel, mobilizing thousands in a fight for women's rights and secular democracy. When war reshapes the nation, her movement—and her beliefs—are put to the test. As unity replaces protest and global pressures mount, the film follows a woman navigating leadership at a moment when speaking out becomes both risky and essential.

Dockan Glick



Sweden 2026 | 11' | Short Film
 Directed by: Uta Arning
 Produced by: UMA PICTURES AB - Uta Arning
 Swedish, Yiddish with English subtitles



On her ninth birthday, a magical suitcase opens a Yiddish-speaking doll modeled after her beloved grandfather, guiding a lonely girl on a music-filled journey that bridges past and present.

Accidental Happiness



Israel 2026 | 58' | Mid-length documentary
 Directed by: Lina Chaplin
 Produced by: Daniela Reiss Razon
 Hebrew with English subtitles

Rarely do we encounter truly happy protagonists in cinema—here, we do. After October 7, a unique voluntary "year of service" is launched in Israel, embraced not by youth but by retirees. Sent to the Gaza border, they run clinics, tend gardens, and help revive daily life. What begins as volunteering becomes a journey of renewal, belonging, and unexpected happiness—found where no one thought possible.

Problems in the airplanes



Israel, Poland 2026 | 6:20' | Short Documentary
 Directed by: Dorel Gilerman
 Produced by: Dorel Gilerman & Agatha Wichrowska
 Hebrew with English subtitles

On October 7, a father searches for the right words to explain a shattering reality to his six-year-old daughter.

The Art of Remembering



Greece 2025 | 81' | Feature Documentary
 Directed by: Annetta Papathanassiou
 Produced by: Mikis Modiano, Ilia Papaspyrou
 Greek with English subtitles



Visual artist Artemis Alcalay unpacks her family's hidden past — weaving together personal narrative, Holocaust memory, and collective trauma through her powerful body of work. As she creates, she reflects: How much of our inheritance is spoken? How much do we carry without knowing? An intimate, artistic journey through memory, trauma, and healing. Through art, Artemis confronts silence — and transforms it.

Following the Jager Report



Israel, Lithuania 2026 | 120' / 2x60' | Feature documentary
 Directed by: Boris Maftzir
 Produced by: Ron Katzenelson, Stasys Baltakis
 Lithuanian, English, Yiddish, Hebrew with English subtitles

Between July and October 1941, nearly 100,000 Jews—half of Lithuania's Holocaust victims—were murdered in local shtetls. How did such atrocities unfold in a land of former coexistence? Through six chapters, the film traces events from Soviet occupation and Nazi invasion to present-day commemoration, combining archival material and testimonies to examine complicity, memory, and the challenge of reconciliation for future generations.

Hanging Without Walls

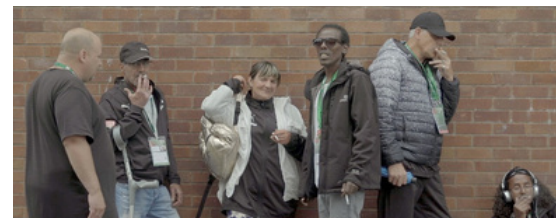


Slovakia 2024 | Feature documentary | 78'
 Written & Directed by: Jana Ďurajová, Lena Kušnieriková
 Produced by: PubRes – Zuzana Mistríková, Lubica Orechovská, Arkaitz Basterra Zalbide.
 Slovak with English ST

A Kafkaesque documentary debut over ten years in the making that sheds light on the absurdity of a bureaucratic system, set within the never-ending process of renovation of the Slovak National Gallery.



One More Win



Israel 2024 | Debut documentary | 60'
 Written & Directed by: Roi Alon
 Produced by: Pardes Films – Stav Meron
 Original Hebrew and English version with English subtitles



Eight characters living on the streets of Jerusalem come together to form the Jerusalem Lions and embark on a life-changing journey to compete in the International Homeless World Cup. More than just a tournament, this challenge becomes their chance for redemption, hope, and one more chance to change their lives.

CLASSICS / RESTAURATIONS



The Komedian

Israel, USA 1999 | 82' | Doc.
 RESTORED VERSION
 Produced by: Arnon Goldfinger, Amir Harel, Oshra Schwartz-Reim
 Directed by: Arnon Goldfinger
 Supported by: The New Israeli Fund for Cinema Berlin-Brandenburg, TV, FilmFörderAnstalt, Medienboard Deutscher FilmFörderFond With ARTE, ZDF, SWR, Noga Communications/ Channel 8 Israel
 Hebrew, German and English with English subtitles



This lively documentary brings the golden age of Yiddish theater to life through the colorful saga of the legendary Burstein family. Blending rare archival footage with vivid interviews, it captures the humor, heartache, and charm of a vanished world—full of drama, laughter, and the unmistakable spirit of the Yiddish stage.



The Flat

2011 | 97' | Feature doc.
 Directed by: Arnon Goldfinger
 Produced by: Arnon Goldfinger & Thomas Kufus, Zero one film
 Supported by: The New Israeli Fund for Cinema & TV, FilmFörderAnstalt, Medienboard Berlin-Brandenburg, Deutscher FilmFörderFond, ARTE, ZDF, SWR, Noga Communications/ Channel 8 Israel
 Hebrew, German and English with English subtitles



After his grandmother's death at 98, a filmmaker clears his grandparents' Bauhaus flat in Tel Aviv and uncovers objects and letters revealing a hidden past that links Berlin and Israel in unexpected ways. What begins as a personal archive becomes a gripping journey into buried family secrets, unlikely friendships across enemy lines, and shared national histories. An award-winning documentary by Arnon Goldfinger, widely regarded as one of the greatest films of his kind.

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For over two decades, Ruth Films has been a key player in the international sales of outstanding independent films. Our catalogue brings together compelling, artistically ambitious works that explore Israeli life, arts and culture, history, human rights, and the Middle East, while pushing the boundaries of documentary storytelling.

HIGHLIGHTS

Jews of the Wild West



USA 2023 | 82' | Feature documentary
 Directed by: Amanda Kinsey
 Produced by: ELECTRIC YOLK PROD.
 English VO



From Levi Strauss to Golda Meir, the film tells a positive immigration story and highlights the dynamic contributions the Jewish Diaspora made to shaping the Western United States. The film shines a bright light on a critical chapter of the American Jewish story that deserves to be told.

Only in Theatres



USA 2023 | 93' | Feature documentary
 Directed by: Raphael Sbarge
 Produced by: Raphael Sbarge, Thomas Cassetta
 English VO



In 1938, two brothers fled fascist Germany just before the outbreak of World War II and found a new beginning in America by opening a small movie theater. By the 1960s, the Laemmle family had grown their enterprise to six theaters across Los Angeles, shaping the city's cinematic landscape. For over four generations, Laemmle Theatres have been champions of European and international independent cinema, leaving an indelible mark on Hollywood and film culture worldwide.

5th Paragraph – Invalids



Israel 2023 | 52' | Mid-length documentary
 Directed by: Boris Maftsir
 Produced by: ZVI SHEFFY PRODUCTIONS
 Hebrew, Russian with English ST



In the Soviet Union, equality was proclaimed—but Jews were systematically marked as outsiders. Having "Jew" listed on an ID card meant lifelong stigmatisation. Through archival footage, photographs, and testimonies of Soviet Jews who later emigrated to Israel, the film traces everyday antisemitism from the 1950s to the 1990s. Official propaganda of equality collides with lived experiences of discrimination, revealing how Jewish identity was hidden, defended, or imposed—often violently—in a society that claimed to treat all citizens alike.

Francesca



Israel 2024 | 64' | Feature documentary
 Directed by: Lina Chaplin
 Produced by: Daniela Reiss Razon
 Hebrew, Slovak, Yiddish with English ST



In 1945, at Auschwitz, a Jewish ballerina from Warsaw was said to have wrestled a gun from an SS officer and shot him near the gas chambers. Her name was Francesca Mann. Long shrouded in myth and conflicting testimonies, her story has become legend. Drawing on rare archival material and survivor accounts, this documentary unravels the truth behind one of the Holocaust's most enigmatic acts of resistance.

Moving On



Israel 2022 | 72' | Feature documentary
 Directed by: Maya Mcmanus Ronen
 Produced by: Maya Mcmanus Ronen
 Hebrew with English ST



In Neot-Semadar, a unique self-learning community nestled in Israel's remote desert, residents participate in a ritual every few years where everyone switches houses—never knowing in advance where they will move. This collective experience sparks a deeply personal and transformative journey, as packing and renovating become moments of self-reflection, prompting questions about identity, belonging, and the very meaning of life.

Conquering time : Ágnes Keleti



Hungary, Israel 2023 | 78' | Feature doc.
 Directed by: Katalin Olah
 Produced by: MAKABOR STUDIO
 Hungarian with English ST / English VO



An intimate portrait of Ágnes Keleti, Olympic legend and ten-time medalist, filmed in the year before her 101st birthday. Born into a Jewish family in Budapest, she survived war, loss, and exile while remaining devoted to gymnastics. Through footage, interviews, diaries, animation, and archives, the documentary celebrates her resilience, courage, and enduring legacy.

What If? Ehud Barak on War and Peace



Israel 2021 | 85' | Feature documentary
 Directed by: Ran Tal
 Produced by: LAMA FILMS, Ran Tal
 Hebrew with English ST



Ehud Barak remains one of Israel's most polarizing and complex figures—his bold choices now cast in a new light amid the ongoing war shaking the nation. Admired by some, condemned by others, Barak's strategic risks—from the attempted assassination of Saddam Hussein to fragile peace negotiations—have left a lasting mark on Israel's history. In this urgent film by Ran Tal, Barak reflects on his own legacy and the state's turbulent journey with stark, disillusioned clarity, offering a powerful perspective as the war continues to unfold.

SHORTS

Decryption

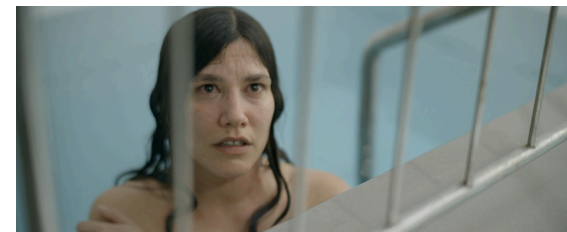


Israel 2024 | 12'26" | Short documentary
 Directed and produced by: Maya Zack
 Hebrew with English subtitles



When memories of her mother begin to fade, artist Maya Zack returns to a morbid childhood poem to reconstruct her mother's presence. Decryption is a cinematic ritual exploring memory, loss, and the fragile bond between mothers and daughters across generations.

Still Waters



Israel 2023 | 17' | Short Film
 Directed by: Tsvia Barkai Yacov
 Produced by: LAILA FILMS
 Hebrew with English subtitles



Desperate to escape an abusive relationship during lockdown, Rona slips away to a women's mikveh. Vulnerable and exposed, she encounters a compassionate attendant whose own pain runs deep and offers no easy refuge. Confronted with this shared fragility, Rona finds the inner strength to break free, emerging from the waters — and leaving her past behind in their stillness.

DIRECTOR'S LENS : RAN TAL

The Museum



Israel 2017 | 75'1" | 52' | Feature doc.
 Directed by: Ran Tal
 Produced by: LAMA FILMS - Amir Harel
 Hebrew with English ST



Set atop a Jerusalem hill, this observational documentary offers a glimpse into the Israel Museum, home to priceless art and artifacts—from the Dead Sea Scrolls to Rembrandt masterpieces. Through encounters with curators, guards, visitors, and a resident rabbi, the film explores how art, history, and national identity intertwine. While highlighting the museum's cultural and educational role, it also reveals ideological tensions, as staff navigate the complex politics of displaying contested heritage. Ultimately, the museum stands as a symbol of the nation's highest aspirations.

The Garden of Eden



Israel 2012 | 74' | Feature doc.
 Directed by: Ran Tal
 Produced by: LAMA FILMS
 Hebrew with English ST



The Garden of Eden tells the story of Gan HaShlosha, or the Sakhne, one of Israel's largest and most popular parks. Over the course of a full year, through all four seasons, the film captures the park's stunning transformation in breathtaking cinematic detail.

Children of the Sun



Israel 2007 | 70' | Feature doc.
 Directed by: Ran Tal
 Produced by: LAMA FILMS
 Hebrew with English ST



Born in the early 20th century to hopeful young parents, the first kibbutz children were known as the *Children of the Sun*, seen as heirs to Israel's revolutionary spirit. This film traces their journey, exploring the fading memories and ideals that have passed out of the world.



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