

# MISCHMASCH



# מישמאש



"WHAT SOAP IS TO THE BODY, LAUGHTER IS TO THE SOUL"



STARRING JUDITH HOLLANDER & BEN AUERBACH, DIRECTED BY UTA ARNING,  
PRODUCED BY UMA PICTURES AND SHOOT & POST,  
CINEMATOGRAPHY CHARLOTTA TENGROTH,  
SOUND JONAS GOLDMANN, EDITOR CHRISTOFFER SEVHOLT



“What Soap is to the body, laughter is to the soul” (Yiddish Proverb)

Mischmasch is a Documentary that tells the story of a Yiddish Amateur Theatre Group in Stockholm. For the first time they are performing on a professional stage playing Strindberg's "A Dream Play" in Yiddish.

Known Swedish theatre director Judith Hollander adapted the drama to suit the comic traditions of Yiddish theatre, and even includes a cardboard figure of Strindberg himself watching the actors perform. For one night even Strindberg might laugh watching their version of his play at Strindberg's Intima Theatre in the heart of the Swedish capital of Stockholm.

The diverse performers include the old and young as well as believers and non-believers, all with different proficiency levels of Yiddish. Their common goal is to preserve the language and bring it to the general public. The troupe is like a family to them; some have known each other since childhood.

At the center of the film is Ben a pensioner, an active member of the Yiddish association who has been part of the group for years along with his wife Bella. Stockholm is his New York, and at the night of the Premiere Stockholm becomes his Broadway.

TECHNICAL DETAILS:

Short Documentary

Black and White

Length: 26:28 Minutes

Languages: Swedish, Yiddish

Subtitles: English



Director Uta Arning and Camerawoman Charlotta Tengroth chose to portray the journey of the theatre group in black and white. The documentary opens up with a beginning that reminds of Woody Allan's film Manhattan. The Yiddish Voice Over and the Gershwin like music reflect the atmosphere of the theatre. The director takes the audience backstage during the preparations and the night of the premiere, letting them witness the actors stage fright, the struggles and their success.



Uta Arning is an award-winning writer, director and producer. After a Master in Business in Germany and Japan she studied Film Directing at the MFA Program of New York University Tisch School of the Arts in Singapore. For her short film "The perfect woman" she received support from the German Embassy in Singapore and was invited to screen at the Directors Guild of America as a Wasserman Award Finalist. During her studies, she had the opportunity to work with directors such as Oliver Stone, Roger Spottiswood, Shekhar Kapur, and Todd Solondz. Uta has taught film classes in Sweden and China and is also working as a book author. Her titles are currently represented by Mohrbooks Agency Switzerland.

In 2011 she realised her first feature film in Japan. The film was awarded at the Moscow International Filmfestival in the Section "Perspectives". It had its German premiere in competition at Filmfestival Max Ophüls, Saarbrücken, screened in the New German Films Section in Cannes 2012, and received the Jury Award at the Peace and Love Filmfestival in Sweden. For her second feature film "Boatgirl" she won a script competition organised by the Swedish Film Institute and Film Fund West. The story also received regional Swedish funding. Currently, she is in development of a Yiddish-Swedish comedy feature, for which she received funding from the Swedish Film Institute and in production of a Horror VR-Experience supported by the MOIN Film Fund Hamburg.



Team:

Director - Uta Arning

Director of Photography - Charlotta Tengroth

Sound - Jonas Goldmann

Producer - UMA Pictures, Uta Arning

Co-Producer - Shoot & Post, Michael Sevholz

Editor - Christoffer Sevholz

Soundmix - Måns Abrahamsson

Grading - Alex Vikström

Subtitles - Leif Freilich

Title Cards and Posters - Johanna Sevholz



**Ruth Films**  
World Sales & Distribution

**Hadar Porubanova** - Managing Director  
hadar@ruthfilms.com  
<https://www.ruthfilms.com>

Ruth Films  
Hamagid Street 1  
Hamoshava Hagermanit  
Jerusalem, 9311401  
ISRAEL

Tel:++972-2- 6724256

Fax:++972-2- 6724210