



A FILM BY

Maya Kenig

Written by
Maya Kenig & Dana Dimant

Produced by
Aurit Zamir & Yoav Roeh (Gum Films)

Israel - 2011 - 86' - HD - color - Hebrew - 1:1.85

OFF WHITE LIES



SYNOPSIS

After years of living apart from her dad, Libby, an introverted yet sharp-witted teenager is sent to live with him in Israel. Her arrival coincides with the outbreak of the second Lebanon war.



Libby quickly discovers that her Dad, Shaul, is an infantile eccentric, and that he is "in-between apartments" (in other words: homeless). Shaul comes up with a creative plan to put a roof over their heads- they pose as refugees from the bombarded northern region of Israel, and are taken in by a well-off family in Jerusalem.



Finally in a "normal" household, Shaul and Libby begin to build their father-daughter relationship, but their false identities can't last forever, especially as Libby unleashes teenage fury at the lies permeating her life; those she must tell now, and those she's been fed since childhood.

OFF WHITE LIES

ORIGINAL TITLE: ORCHIM LEREGA

CREDITS

Directed by: Maya Kenig
Script by: Maya Kenig, Dana Dimant

Producers: Yoav Roeh and Aurit Zamir – Gum Films
Co-Producer: Janja Kralj- Kinoelektron, France

Director of Photography: Itai Vinograd
Editor: Or Ben David
Sound editing: Michael Goorevich
Music by: Udi Berner
Still picture shooting credit: Itai Vinograd

Starring: Gur Bentwich, Elya Inbar
Supporting actors: Tzahi Grad, Salit Achi-Miriam, Arad Yeini, Shimon
Mimran, Roni Kuban, Sigal Arad Inbar

World Sales: Alpha Violet

SUPPORTING ORGANIZATIONS

Israel Film Fund
Jerusalem Film and Television Fund



PRODUCER'S BIOGRAPHY

Gum Films is a Tel Aviv based production house for feature films and documentaries, founded by Yoav Roeh and Aurit Zamir. Their slate includes the released documentaries "Under the Rug" (DocAviv 2011, Best Cinematography), "Long Distance" (Fipa Silver prize, London Doc Film Fest, San Francisco Film Fest, 2010), "Mama" (Doc Aviv 2010). Films in production include "The Lab" (IDFA Forum, Hotdocs), "Manpower" (Cinemart 2010), "Friends" (Copro 2010). Their latest narrative feature, "Off White Lies" premiered at the Jerusalem Film Festival in July 2011, where it won the Best Actor Award. It was also nominated for 7 Israeli Academy awards, screened in Busan International Film Festival and will have its U.S premiere at Palm Springs 2012.



SCREENINGS AND AWARDS

- Jerusalem Film Festival 2011 – Best Actor – Gur Bentwich
- Nominated in 7 categories for the Israeli Academy award 2011: best film, best director, best leading role – Gur Bentwich, best supporting actor – Tzahi Grad, best editing, best script, best sound editing.
- Flash Forward section, Busan International Film Festival 2011, South Korea
- Women's Film Festival 2011, Rehovot, Israel
- New Voices New Visions competition, Palm Springs Int'l Film Festival 2012, USA
- Generation 14 plus, Berlinale 2012, Germany

QUOTES FROM ISRAELI PRESS REVIEWS

"....Charming ... full of wit, sex appeal, vibrant with juicy young cinema"
- Yair Raveh, Cinemascope

"A brilliant, fun film. Touching... a film you want your friends to see because they deserve a good time too" - Avner Shavit, Walla

"Director Kenig builds a tale that has juxtaposes beauty with criticism, humor with pain... you'll leave with a smile of good taste" - Gidi Orsher, Galatz

"Fun and full of charm, captivates with it's natural grace" - Oron Shamir, City Mouse - Tel Aviv



DIRECTOR'S BIOGRAPHY

Maya Kenig was born in 1979 in Israel. She studied at the 'London Film School' and at the 'Sam Spiegel Film School' in Jerusalem. Throughout her studies she was awarded numerous grants for excellence. Her short films "Top of the world" (2005, fiction, 14 min) and "My Mom" (2005, Documentary, 15 min.) were screened at festivals worldwide and broadcast on TV in Israel and Europe. Since graduation she codirected "In Utero" (2006, fiction, 36 min) and "Around Trip". (2008, fiction, 20 min.)

"Off White Lies" is her first feature film, produced with the support of the Israel Film Fund and The Jerusalem Film Fund.



DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT

Just before the second war between Israel and Lebanon broke out, I became a Mother and so I found myself breastfeeding while watching the news on TV.

The images were hard to watch, disorienting, as it goes with war, and that's how I got my "baptism by fire" for being a Mom in this extreme country- Israel.

Amid all the horrors shown on TV, one positive item stood out- Ester from Kiryat Shmona (the most bombarded city in Israel) was sitting in the kitchen of Yael in Tel Aviv. They were drinking coffee and chatting.

The announcer said that until two days ago Ester and Yael were complete strangers but now they were close friends. Yael and her family offered hospitality to Ester and her family on account of the war, so instead of hiding in the bomb shelters, they were comfortably settled in a safe home. It was beautiful, amusing and mostly absurd.

At that time my Dad was homeless (not the kind that lives on the streets- as far as I know). His second ex-wife had sent over their daughter with whom she did not get along. And so it happened that my Dad and his daughter (my half-sister) were hanging around some bizarre places- and they had a blast.

I suggested them to act like the story of Ester from Kiryat Shmona to find a family to host them, as a courtesy of the war. He laughed but he didn't take me up on it.

I decided to make a film about it instead.

A film about a father and his daughter looking for shelter. Not just a place with walls and a ceiling, but a home, a safe place like the one I am trying to create for my daughter.

SCREENINGS IN BERLIN

10.02.2012, 19:40

DFFB KINO (FILMHAUS) - BUYERS ONLY

12.02.2012, 15:00

HAUS DER KULTUREN DER WELT KINO 1

13.02.2012, 14:00

CINEMAXX 3

19.02.2012, 12:30

HAUS DER KULTUREN DER WELT KINO 1

IN BERLIN

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