

Strand Releasing presents

Yossi

A film by Eytan FOX

**Starring Ohad Knoller, Lior Ashkenazi,
Orly Silbersatz, Oz Zehavi, Ola Schur Selektar**

Nominated: Best Narrative Feature – Tribeca Film Festival

Official Selection:

Tribeca Film Festival

Outfest

Newfest

Philadelphia Film Festival

Montreal World Film Festival

Country of Origin: Israel

Format: 35mm/Color

Sound Format: Dolby Digital Surround

Running Time: 84 minutes

Genre: Drama

Not Rated

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SYNOPSIS

Ten years after *Yossi and Jagger*, the tragic love story of two IDF officers serving in Lebanon, director Eytan Fox returns to find out what has happened with Yossi. Dr. Yossi Hoffman has become a valued and dedicated cardiologist, often using his work as a way to escape from dealing with his anguished life. He lives alone, still closeted, unable to break through the walls and defenses built around him since the death of his lover. Even his co-workers – a recently divorced doctor, who tries to sweep Yossi into his world of women and drugs, and a lonely nurse, who is secretly in love with him – find it almost impossible to get close to him. His daily routine at the hospital is shaken up by the arrival of a mysterious woman. He follows her, and through the surprising connection they make, receives a rare opportunity to deal with his trauma. Yossi then travels to the southern city of Eilat. Surrounded by the sea and sand dunes he meets a group of young Israeli IDF officers, among them Tom, a handsome and self confident openly gay man, who represents a new world, different from the one that shaped Yossi.

Ohad Knoller returns to the role that won him the Best Actor award at Tribeca Film Festival 2003, surrounded by an ensemble of Israel's finest actors.

ABOUT EYTAN FOX (DIRECTOR)

Eytan Fox was born in New York City, but relocated with his family to Israel as a child. He grew up in Jerusalem and studied at Tel Aviv University's School of Film and Television. His first film, *TIME OFF*, a 45-minute drama about sexual identity in the Israeli army, won the first prize at the Munich international student film festival and led to the making of his first feature, *SONG OF THE SIREN*, a romantic comedy about life in Tel Aviv during the Gulf war. The film became Israel's biggest box office success in 1994 and was Fox's first time at the Berlin Film Festival. It was shown on TV worldwide, including Germany's ARD and France's Arte. In 1997, Fox created the prize winning TV drama series *FLORENTINE*, which examined the life of young people in Tel Aviv before and after the Rabin assassination.

In 2002, Fox directed the acclaimed *YOSSI & JAGGER*, which became an immediate critical and box office success in Israel. Premiering at the Berlinale in 2003, it went on to become a worldwide box office and DVD success. It was an instant hit in NY and other major cities in the US, and remained on Stephen Holden's "recommended" list in the New York Times for over a month. *YOSSI & JAGGER* continues to enjoy a cult-like status around the world.

In 2004, Fox's film *WALK ON WATER* premiered at the Berlinale and became the most successful Israeli film ever abroad. Released in over 25 countries, the story of a Mossad secret service agent who befriends the gay grandson of an ex-Nazi officer was later nominated for Best Foreign Film in the 23006 French César Awards.

His next hit, *THE BUBBLE*, enjoyed a worldwide premiere at the Toronto Film Festival, followed by a successful European premiere at Berlinale. Telling the story of two men who fall in love, one Israeli and the other Palestinian, the film moved audiences around the world and won over 20 jury and audience awards.

In 2009, Fox directed the Israeli Emmy Award winning musical mini-series *MARY LOU*. Based on the songs of famous Israeli singer, Tzvika Pik, the modern fable with a musical message tells the story of a young homosexual who goes to Tel Aviv to find his estranged mother and ends up finding himself. *MARY LOU* has enjoyed both local and worldwide success, with continued demand at both festivals and on DVD.

EYTAN FOX - FILMOGRAPHY

Director

- 2012 Yossi
- 2009 Mary Lou (TV series)
- 2006 The Bubble
- 2006 Boys Life 5 (video short) (segment "Time Off")
- 2004 Walk on Water
- 2002 Yossi & Jagger
- 1998 Ba'al Ba'al Lev (short)
- 1997 Florentine (TV series)
- 1994 After
- 1994 Shirat Ha'Sirena

ITAY SEGAL - FILMOGRAPHY

Writer

2012 Yossi

Directed by Eytan Fox

ABOUT OHAD KNOLLER (YOSSI)

Ohad Knoller attended the Thelma Yellin High School of the Arts in Tel Aviv. In 1990, at the age of 14, he landed his first Israeli television role. At the age of 18, in 1994, Knoller appeared in the movies, *Under the Domim Tree*, alongside Israeli powerhouse actress, Ms. Gila Almagor. Upon completing his military service, he began his professional training as an actor at the Nissan Native Acting Studio in Tel Aviv. His theatrical credits with the Jerusalem Kahn Theatre include the starring role in the play, *The Miser*. Knoller is best-known for his roles in the Eytan Fox films, *Yossi and Jagger* and *The Bubble*. He has also appeared in the Steven Spielberg film, *Munich*. In 2003, Knoller won the Tribeca Award for Best Male Actor for his performance in *Yossi & Jagger*.

OHAD KNOLLER – SELECTED FILMOGRAPHY

Actor

2012	Yossi	Directed by Eytan Fox
2011	Anachnu Lo Levad	Directed by Lior Har-Lev
2008	Tail (short)	Directed by Veronica Kedar
2008	Halakeh	Directed by Avigail Sperber
2008	Ha'yom Shel Adam (short)	Directed by Jonathan Ofek
2007	Redacted	Directed by Brian De Palma
2007	Beaufort	Directed by Joseph Cedar
2006	The Bubble	Directed by Eytan Fox
2005	Munich	Directed by Steven Spielberg
2005	Bruno's in Love (TV movie)	Directed by Ilan Heitner
2004	Delusions	Directed by Etsion Nimrod, Lachmi Saar
2004	Year Zero	Directed by Joseph Pitchhadze
2003	Knafayim (TV mini-series)	Directed by Shmuel Imberman
2002	Yossi & Jagger	Directed Eytan Fox
1995	Etz Hodomim Tafus	Directed by Eli Cohen

ABOUT OZ ZEHAVI (TOM)

Oz Zehavi is an Israeli actor and model. He graduated from the SELA Performing Arts Studio, founded by renowned Israeli acting teacher, Yoram Loewenstein, and is best known for his role in the Israeli hit television show, *Asfur*. Zehavi has appeared in television, films and in theatre, in addition to having modeled for Israeli menswear brand, Renuar. On the heels of portraying the character of Tom in Eytan Fox's *Yossi*, Zehavi scored a guest appearance on American cable network, TNT's top-rated cop show, *Southland*, as well as a role on *Midnight Sun*, an NBC drama pilot, co-starring Julia Stiles.

OZ ZEHAVI – SELECTED FILMOGRAPHY

Actor

2012	Yossi	Directed by Eytan Fox
2012	Southland (TV Series)	Directed by Guy Norman Bee
2010	Miral	Directed by Julian Schnabel
2010	Infiltration	Directed by Dover Koshashvili
2010	Ha-Bilti Mishkahim	Directed by Matan Guggenheim
2006	Winning with Miki	Directed by Ori Inbar

ABOUT LIOR ASHKENAZI (MOTI)

Lior Ashkenazi studied acting at Israel's prestigious Beit Zvi School of the Performing Arts. Ashkenazi earned a lot of experience onstage before making the transition onto the screen. After graduating Beit Zvi in 1994, he found work with Israel's national theatre, Habima, as well as with the Beersheba Theatre. Ashkenazi starred in many plays, which ran at the Beit Lessin Theatre; in addition to appearing in many Cameri Theatre plays in Tel Aviv. He is best known for his roles in the films *Late Marriage* and *Walk on Water*; both of which earned him the Best Actor award at the Ophir Awards, and also for appearing in the Oscar-nominated film, *Footnote*.

LIOR ASHKENAZI – SELECTED FILMOGRAPHY

Actor

2012	Yossi	Directed by Eytan Fox
2011	Footnote	Directed by Joseph Cedar
2010	Kalevet	Directed by Aharon Keshales, Navot Papushado
2009	Ultimatum	Directed by Alain Tasma

2008	Hello, Goodbye	Directed by Graham Guit
2008	Eli & Ben	Directed by Ori Ravid
2007	Rak Klavim Ratzim Hofshi	Directed by Arnon Zadok
2006	Melah Ha'arets	Directed by Uri Barbash
2004	Walk on Water	Directed by Eytan Fox
2003	Gift From Above	Directed by Dover Koshashvili
2003	Sima Vaknin Machshefa	Directed by Dror Shaul
2003	Rutenberg	Directed by Eli Cohen
2001	Late Marriage	Directed by Dover Koshashvili
1999	Enemy Scoop	Directed by Amnon Rubinstein
1999	Southwest (short)	Directed by Danny Soffer
1997	Mother Knows Best (short)	Directed by Liat Kaplan

ABOUT ORLY SILBERSATZ (VARDA)

Orly Silbersatz is an esteemed Israeli actress and singer. Winner of two Ophir Awards and the Israeli Academy of Cinema and Television award, Silbersatz is best known for her roles in Eytan Fox's *Song of the Siren* and in the film, *Broken Wings*. Silbersatz has an impressive theatre and film resume that has helped to establish her as one of Israel's most formidable, leading actresses.

ORLY SILBERSATZ – SELECTED FILMOGRAPHY

Actress

2012	Epilogue	Directed by Amir Manor
2012	Yossi	Directed by Eytan Fox
2010	Intimate Grammar	Directed by Nir Bergman
2010	Bein HaShmashot	Directed by Alon Zingman
2008	Lost Islands	Directed by Reshef Levy
2002	Broken Wings	Directed by Nir Bergman
2002	Levana Yakirati (TV movie)	Directed by Dina Zvi-Riklis

1998	Hatulot Hara'am (TV short)	Directed by Irit Linur
1997	Marco Polo: The Missing Chapter	Directed by Rafi Bukai
1996	Saint Clara	Directed by Ari Folman, Ori Sivan
1994	Shirat Ha'Sirena	Directed by Eytan Fox
1984	Lahatz (short)	Directed by Michèle Ohayon
1981	Ha-Ayit	Directed by Yaky Yosha
1981	Am Yisrael Hai	Directed by Assi Dayan
1979	Dizengoff 99	Directed by Avi Neshet

ABOUT OLA SCHUR-SELEKTAR (NINA)

Ola Schur Selektar studied acting at the Beit Zvi School of the Performing Arts where she received the Zvi Kalir Award, given to outstanding students. Since then, Schur has appeared in numerous plays at the Cameri Theatre in Tel Aviv, most recently playing the timeless Sally Bowles in the Hebrew stage version of Bob Fosse's *Cabaret*. Schur has also appeared in numerous television shows as well as in Eytan Fox's *Yossi* and in the film, *The World is Funny*.

OLA SCHUR-SELEKTAR – SELECTED FILMOGRAPHY

Actress

2012	The World Is Funny	Directed by Shemi Zarhin
2012	Yossi	Directed by Eytan Fox
2012	Welcome and...Our Condolences (short)	Directed by Leonid Prudovsky

CAST

OHAD KNOLLER
LIOR ASHKENAZI
ORLY SILBERSATZ
OZ ZEHAVI
OLA SCHUR SELEKTAR

Yossi
Moti
Varda
Tom
Nina

CREW

Director
Writer
Producers

EYTAN FOX
ITAY SEGAL
MOSHE EDRY
LEON EDRY
EYTAN FOX
AMIR HAREL
AYELET KAIT
Yael AVIV
MIRA KARMELY CHEN CARMİ
NILI LEVI
MOR BARAK
KEREN ANN
RONEN NAGEL
ASHI MILO
YOSEF GRUNFELD
GUY RAZ

Casting
Costume Design
Makeup Design
Production Design
Music
Sound Design
Sound Recording
Editing
Director of Photography