

**STRAND  
RELEASING**

*presents*

# THE CAKEMAKER

**A FILM BY OFIR RAUL GRAIZER**

***Starring Tim Kalkhof, Sarah Adler, Roy Miller,  
Zohar Strauss and Sandra Sade***

## **PRESS NOTES**

*Official Selection:*

*Karlovy Vary International Film Festival, WINNER, The Ecumenical Jury Award  
Chicago International Film Festival  
Palm Springs International Film Festival  
New York Jewish Film Festival  
Miami Jewish Film Festival, WINNER, Critics Award  
BFI London Film Festival*

Country of Origin: Israel | Germany  
Format: DCP/2.39/Color  
Sound Format: 5.1 Surround Sound  
Running Time: 105 minutes  
Genre: Drama  
Not Rated  
In Hebrew, German and English with English Subtitles

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**Please download photos from our website:**  
<https://strandreleasing.com/films/the-cakemaker/>

## **LOGLINE**

A German pastry maker travels to Jerusalem in search for the wife and son of his dead lover.

## **SYNOPSIS**

Thomas, a young German baker, is having an affair with Oren, an Israeli married man who has frequent business visits in Berlin. When Oren dies in a car crash in Israel, Thomas travels to Jerusalem seeking for answers regarding his death. Under a secret identity, Thomas infiltrates into the life of Anat, his lover's newly widowed wife. The encounter with the unfamiliar reality will make Thomas involved in Anat's life in a way far beyond his anticipation, and to protect the truth he will stretch his lie to a point of no return.

## **DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT**

“The Cakemaker” is a melodrama set in Jerusalem. The narrative moves, the settings and the characters, are of my own private memory and experience that have shaped during the 6.5 years I've worked on this film. Man-woman, gay-straight, religious secular, berlin-Jerusalem, Middle East – Europe – from these conflicts I was obliged to create a cinematic story where there are no answers to all the questions, like in life, and instead there is love for people and cinema. It's a story about the attempt to put aside definition of nationality sexuality and religion. It's my story.

## **ABOUT THE CAKEMAKER**

The Cakemaker, which was produced by Itai Tamir (Laila Films) and co-produced by Mathias Schwerbrock (Film Base Berlin) and Ofir Raul Graizer, star the Israeli actors Sarah Adler, Roi Miller, Zohar Strauss, Sandra Sadeh and the child Tomer Ben Yehuda. In the main role plays the uprising German actor Tim Kalkhof. Due to his acting in The Cakemaker, he was selected by Variety as of the 10 European actors to watch in the upcoming years.

The film was produced with the support of the Jerusalem Film and Television Fund and the Rabinovich Foundation of the Arts. It was made in a low budget of less than 180K.

The film was premiered in Karlovy Vary International Film Festival, one of the most important festivals in Europe, where it received a 10 minutes standing ovation. Following that the film has been invited to more than 70 international film festivals, bought for release in 15 countries including France, USA, Spain, Australia and more, and has won 6 international awards.

## **OFIR RAUL GRAIZER (DIRECTOR)**

Ofir Raul Graizer is Israeli-born film director and video artist who lives and works on the line Berlin-Uckermark-Jerusalem. He is a graduate of the Film School in Sapir College, Sderot. His first year's short film "Prayer in January" participated in 20 film festivals and was sold to distribution. His graduation film "Dor" won first prize in Katowice Film Festival and participated in festivals such as Clermont Ferrand, Max Ophuls and more. After his graduation he participated in Berlinale Talents. In 2015 co-directed "La Discotheque" during Chile Factory, that premiered in Cannes Director's Fortnight. His first feature film "The Cakemaker" was premiered in Karlovy Vary International Film Festival, in the Main Competition section, and was picked to be released in USA, Canada, Spain, Argentina and Chile. Currently he is working on several film projects, and writing a book of recipes and stories.

### **FILMOGRAPHY**

#### **LA DISCOTHEQUE**

*Fiction, 15 Minutes. Chile/France, 2015*

Co-directing with Teresita Ugarte

A retired militant visits a strip-club in Santiago and confronts his past as a torturer.

- Director's Fortnight, Cannes
- Winner - Golden Prize for best film - Basta Fest , Serbia
- Valdivia Film Festival, Chile
- Cinema South Festival, Israel
- Lakino Film Festival, Berlin
- Fesalp, Argentina
- Poitiers Film Festival, France

#### **MINYAN - THE GATHERING OF THE TEN**

Experimental Video Documentary, 46 Minutes. Israel/Germany, 2015

This feature video documentary tells through subtitles without voice a story about a childhood memory that intervenes with an immigrant's visit to his homeland.

- Curated for the Special Documentary Award, Cinema South Festival 2015

#### **DOR**

*Fiction, 27 Minutes. Israel, 2009*

An Israeli soldier starts doubting the values and ideas on which he was raised.

- Winner – Short Film Competition – REGIOFUN Film Festival, Katowicz, Poland
- Winner for Best Cinematography - Cinema South Festival, Sderot 2009
- 32e Clermont Ferrand - International Competition 2010
- 24th Fribourg International Film Festival 2010
- Circucircuito, Santiago De Compostela 2010
- Filmcaravan, Italy 2010
- San Francisco Jewish Film Festival 2010
- Shortini Film Festival, Italy 2010
- Ourense International Film Festival 2010
- Festival des 3 Continents, Nantes 2010
- Film festival Max OphUls, Saarbrücken 2011

## A PRAYER IN JANUARY

*Fiction, 10 Minutes. Israel, 2007*

Two lovers on their last day together. The film's trailer has been viewed more than 2.8 million times on YouTube, and is being purchased for viewing for 10 years.

- Sold to Salzgeber & Co. Medien GmbH – Distribution Company in German speaking world.
- Vuez Den Face – Festival International du film Gay et Lesbien de Grenoble 2007
- Outtakes - The New Zealand Reel Queer Film Festival, 2007
- Pink Apple 10 – Schwullesbisches Film Festival in Zurich 2007
- TLVFest – The Second Tel Aviv International LGBT Film Festival 2008
- Phillyfest – Philadelphia International Film Festival, 2007
- Queer Lisbon – Lisbon Gay and Lesbian Film Festival, 2007
- 52nd Corona Cork Film Festival 2007
- FICGLB - Festival Internacional de Cinema a Gai i Lèsbic, Barcelona, 2007
- Victoria Independent Film Festival, Australia, 2007
- Lesgaicinemad – Madrid Gay and Lesbian Film Festival 2008
- Reeling – The 26 Chicago Gay and Lesbian International Film Festival 2007
- Inside Out - Toronto Gay and Lesbian Film Festival, 2008
- INKLUSIVE – 5th Bukarest Film Festival 2008
- NEWFEST – New York Gay and, Lesbian Film Festival 2008
- Milwaukee LGBT Film/Video Festival 2008
- Roma Kolno'a Film Festival of Jewish and Israeli Films, 2008
- Seoul – South Korea GLBT Film Festival, 2009

## **ABOUT THE PRODUCER**

Laila Films was established as boutique Production Company for high quality independent cinema intended for emerging Israeli and international filmmakers. As well as providing constant support from script to screen, we believe in an intimate approach to achieve personal, innovative and distinct cinema. Since its founding in 2010 Laila Film produced: Policeman by Nadav Lapid, Not in Tel Aviv by Nony Geffen, Sharqiya by Ami Livne, Alice by Dana Goldberg, Arabani by Adi Aduan; Laila Translation by Nurith Aviv, Above the Hill by Raphael Najadri, Ben Zaken by Efrat Corem, Awakening by Guy Meirson, and many more.

## **CAST**

Anat	Sarah Adler
Moti	Zohar Strauss
Thomas	Tim Kalkhof
Hanna	Sandra Sade
Oren	Roy Miller
Sophia	Stephanie Stremler

## **CREW**

DIRECTOR	Ofir Raul Graizer
WRITER	Ofir Raul Graizer
PRODUCER	Itai Tamir
COPRODUCERS	Mathias Schwerbrock Film Base Berlin Ofir Raul Graizer
CINEMATOGRAPHY	Omri Aloni
EDITING	Michal Openheim
COSTUME DESIGNER	Lilu Goldfine
PRODUCTION DESIGN	Daniel Kossow Yael Bibelnik
MUSIC	Dominique Charpentier

Filmed with the support of The Jerusalem Film and Television Fund and The Rabinovich Foundations for the Arts – Cinema Project