

**ILAN ZIV**

PRODUCER /DIRECTOR

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[www.tamouzmedia.com](http://www.tamouzmedia.com)**GENERAL INFORMATION**

**Ilan Ziv** was born in Israel in 1950 and came to the United States after fighting in the Yom Kippur (The October) War in 1973. **Ilan Ziv** is a graduate of New York University film school, and in 1978 he co-produced New York's first Middle East Film Festival. That same year he founded Icarus Films, an educational film distribution company, which he left in 1980 in order to devote himself to making documentary films, and since then he has directed dozens of documentaries dealing broadly with issues of human rights and investigations of contemporary history. His most recent film **Jesus Politics; The Bible and the Ballot**, a personal examination of the role of religion in American politics is currently playing on many PBS stations. The film premiered before the recent US elections in France, Germany, United Kingdom, Canada, Israel, Austria and Denmark. It was hailed by the Toronto Globe & Mail as a "*fascinating documentary...admirably balanced*". The Times of London called it "*an Eye opening film*". La Vie in France described it as "*gripping*" "*highly original...point of view...powerful imagery and spectacular editing*", wrote Israel Today.

In June 2007 his film **Six Days: the war that changed the Middle East** opened theatrically in New York and was broadcast around the world including on PBS in the United States. "*Helmet Ilan Ziv provides invaluable perspective and fresh insights while offering an enlightening history lesson with the narrative momentum of an engrossing drama*" -Variety. "*Six Days gives the Battle of Algiers, a run for its money*" -Time out . *With interviews with insiders and a number of key players, and a wealth of archival footage, Ziv's gripping film is as tense as any Hollywood movie and filled with a cast of larger-than-life personalities.* - TV Guide. His other critically-acclaimed films have included **On the Edge of Peace** (1995); **Tango of Slaves** (1994); and **Human Weapon** (2002) hailed by the New York Times as "*gripping and important*". His films have been broadcast by leading television networks and presented in film festivals around the world. Accolades include the

Prix Europa (Europe highest television award), Silver Nymph and International Jury Award in Monte Carlo, and Cine Eagle in the United States. The Best Documentary Award at Israel's Haifa International Film Festival.

Ilan Ziv has been a pioneer in the United States of developing a new kind of television documentaries where ordinary people working in collaboration with professionals are producing personal records of their lives. Ilan Ziv produced and co produced “Video Diaries” with the BBC, ARD, Israeli Television, IKON (Dutch TV), PBS (US) and Channel 4 in the UK. Some of these unique documentaries premiered in international film festivals including Sundance. Notable in this genre are:

### **Arab Diaries**

A Ford Foundation funded series of five groundbreaking films by young non-professional filmmakers presenting a fresh, insightful picture of contemporary life across the Arab world, including life in countries we know little about. They tell intimate stories of individuals confronting the hardships and conflicts related to the most basic milestones. Each film thematically centers on one of the universal phases of life - BIRTH, YOUTH, LOVE & MARRIAGE, WORK, and HOME.

*“ Highly recommended...presents a rare critical insight into contemporary life in the Arab World ... ”* **Educational Media reviews**

### **Teen Dreams**

Video Diaries by inner city youth in 3 American cities, Los Angeles, New York City and Philadelphia, provide a rare glimpse of the inner city as it is experienced by its youth.

The film premiered in Sundance Film Festival

### **Mezulam Ba’am**

A massive documentation project in which 31 cameras were distributed to Israeli citizens from every walk of life, who were asked to document their lives. Their 3 minute stories (edited by a team of professionals) were aired daily for six months before the main evening news.

Israel’s leading daily newspaper, Ma’ariv, referred to these diaries as *“pure moments of bliss”*.

The series was co produced with Israeli Television Channel 1, in association with the BBC.

Most recently Ilan Ziv expanded this experimental work to the Internet. **Miami /Havana** is a unique Internet series co produced by Ilan Ziv, Serge Gordey (in France) and Sanjeev Chatterjee and the Knight Center in Miami University. In this unique collaboration, media students in Miami University and young filmmakers in Havana have been producing 2-minute daily vignettes, focusing on the lives of 12 young people in Havana and Miami. The stories will appear on a specially designed web site co produced with ARTE (French, German Public TV) in partnership with the Miami Herald in the United States and the prestigious French newspaper Le Monde in France. The 72 episodes from Miami and Havana will be edited later into a 52-minute film to be broadcast internationally.

### **GRANTS:**

Ilan Ziv is recipient of the Guggenheim Fellowship, 1990  
New York States Council of the Arts, New York State Council for the Humanities,  
Ford Foundation, Rockefeller Foundation, J.Roderick MacArthur Foundation,  
European Economic Community Grant, Catholic Communication Campaign.

### **PRIZES & FESTIVALS:**

Some of the prizes that the films of Ilan Ziv received in international film and television festivals:

**In the Name of the Victims** (/Director/writer/ co producer)  
FIPA 2006

**Junction** (Director/ Co producer/ Writer)  
1st Prize Haifa International Film Festival 2003  
Chosen to represent the BBC in Britain's largest Art festival, May 2004  
Theatrical opening in New York City spring 2004

**Tahara** (Purity) (Co Producer)  
Winner of FI PPA D'OR 2003 France, 2003,  
Audience Award Yamagata International documentary festival (Japan)  
Mayor Award Jerusalem International Film Festival (2002)  
Amsterdam Film Festival

**Human Weapon** (Director/Writer/Co producer)  
Prix Europa 2002  
Amsterdam Film Festival, Jerusalem Film Festival 2002

Theatrical opening, Film Forum, NYC, June 2003

**Peru Fire in the Andes** (Director/Writer/Producer)

Emmy Nomination, Human Rights Film Festival, Native Americans Film Festival

**Safe Haven** (Director, Co Producer)

Silver Nymph Award and International Critics Award, Monte Carlo Television Festival, 1997, winner for Dutch Oscar for Current Affairs Documentaries.

Winner of Cine Golden Eagle Award 1996, Amsterdam Film Festival, Human Rights Film Festival, Amnesty International Film Festival, Palm Beach Film Festival, and Montreal World Film Festival.

**Embers of Change** (Director/Writer /Producer)

*Journalist of the Year Award*, by the Media Division of the Catholic Church in Germany.

**Consuming Hunger** (Director, Co Producer)

Global Village Film Festival - First Prize, World Hunger Media Award - First Prize, Blue Ribbon American Film & Video Festival, American Film Institute Video Festival.

**Tango of Slaves** (Director/Writer/ Producer)

Marseilles Film Festival, New York Jewish Video Festival, Amsterdam Film Festival, San Francisco Film Festival.

**People Power** (Director/Writer/Producer)

Winner of Japan Prize by NHK

**Teen Dreams** (Co Producer)

Sundance Film Festival

**Question of Conscience** (Director, Co Producer)

Human Rights Film Festival, Montreal Film Festival

**On the Edge of Peace** (Director, Writer, Co Producer) Input 1995, 1996, Flaherty

Seminars 1998, Human Rights Film Festival 1996, San Francisco Film Festival, 1996 Montreal World Festival

**REVIEWS:**

Ilan Ziv's films have been reviewed by major national and international publications (please ask for a press kit)

**FILMOGRAPHY****In Production:****Miami /Havana** (Co Producer)

A unique Internet series of 2-minute daily vignettes, focusing on the lives of 12 young people in Havana and Miami. The stories will appear on a specially designed web site co produced with ARTE (French, German Public TV) in partnership with the Miami Herald in the United States and the prestigious French newspaper Le Monde in France. The series will than Internet series co produced by Ilan Ziv, Serge Gordey (in France) and Sanjeev Chatterjee and the Knight Center in Miami University.

The site will be launched February 22<sup>nd</sup>. The series will be edited later in the year into a 52 min documentary

**EXILE** (Co Producer, Director and Writer)

An innovative 90 min. documentary weaving animation and verite scenes that attempts to trace the reality and myth of the Jewish Exile, from 70AD to the present.

Co Produced with ARTE (France, Germany), The National Film Board in Canada and CBC-Radio Canada. The film will be a multi platform documentary that will be accompanied by an elaborate web site and video installations.

To be released Spring 2011 with an accompanying web site and a video instlation

**EXECUTION CHRONICLES-** Producer/ Writer /Director

[www.executionchronicles.org](http://www.executionchronicles.org)

An anatomy of Texas' first hate crime after September 11. This 90 min. feature length film follows Mark Stroman, the perpetrator, from soon after the crime until his future execution more than 7 years later. This film too will weave animation and documentary sequences.

Co Produced with Maryknoll Media Productions

To be released before the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of September 11.

## **Past Productions:**

### **2008**

**JESUS POLITICS; THE BIBLE & THE BALLOT** (Director/ Writer/Co Producer)

[www.jesuspolicsthemovie.com](http://www.jesuspolicsthemovie.com)

After fighting as an Israeli soldier in the 1973 war, filmmaker Ilan Ziv left for America, which he considered a "safe haven" because of its separation between church and state. Thirty-five years later, alarmed by the prominent role of religion in the 2008 American presidential campaign, he decides to make a road trip to understand the phenomenon.

A co-production of Tamouz Media/Bo Travail and Independent Television Service (ITVS), Channel 4, ZDF/ART. In association with CBC The Passionate Eye, TSR, RTBF, CBC Radio Canada & ORF.

### **2007**

**SIX DAYS IN JUNE** (Director)

A 2 hour film (2X50) 107 min. feature length

The shooting lasted only six tense days in June 1967, but the June War has never really ended. The film molds immense archival material, re enactment and interviews shot in Moscow, Washington, London, Paris, Amman, Tel Aviv, Cairo and Damascus into a riveting narrative and a political thriller

A co production of Alma Films, Point du Jour, Instinct films for WGBH (US) ARTE (France) Channel 10 (Israel), Radio Canada (Canada)

### **2006**

**IN THE NAME OF THE VICTIMS** (Director/Writer, Co-Producer)

A probing look at how a restitution campaign launched in the name of the victims that began as a moral crusade, soon became a bare-knuckle battle that opened up painful debates about whether money can ever compensate for the horrors of the Holocaust

A Tamouz Media, Point Du Jour Co –production  
For ZDF /ARTE, (Germany) Channel 10 Israel, Planete (France)

## 2005

### **HIJACKED** (Director/ Writer/Co-Producer)

The story of the first major act of international terror: the hijacking and blowing up of several American and European planes, hijacked within 4 hours in various airports and blown up in the Jordanian desert. With a unique access to both militants and hostages, **HIJACKED** recreates the drama of these tense ten days in September 1970, considered the “blackest days” in aviation history, a dubious record broken only on September 11, 2001. Co Produced with American Experience (PBS), ARTE (France /Germany) National Geographic Channels, Keshet Broadcasting Israel

### **AUSTERLITZ The Battle that Shaped Europe** (Line Producer)

A 90 min. docu drama following Napoleon's Army's march from the Atlantic coast to the Moravian village of Austerlitz to fight the Russian and French armies in the battle that has been described by historians as the “perfect battle”. The docu drama, using actors, hundreds of re-enactors, original diaries and filming on location tells the gripping story of the battle that ultimately changed Europe.  
A Point du Jour/ Tamouz Media production for ARTE, NDR, ORF and RTBF

## 2004

### **LITIGATING DISASTER** (Director/Writer/Co-producer)

Following Rajan Sharma, an American lawyer born in India, as he and the survivors of the 1984 Bhopal gas disaster struggle to bring their case against Union Carbide, a U.S. multinational, in front of an American Jury and find legal closure after twenty years.

A Tamouz Media/ Point du Jour Co production for Arte (Germany France) TSR (Switzerland) SVT1 (Sweden) and Channel 4 (UK)

## 2003

### **JUNCTION** ( Director/Writer/Co Producer)

The story of an obscure junction in the Gaza strip separating the Israeli settlement of Nezarim from the Palestinian Refugee camp of Nusseirat and the stories of the Junction's first victims of the second Intifada, an Israeli soldier and a Palestinian youth, - a metaphor for the deadlocked Israeli Palestinian conflict.

A Tamouz Media/ Point du jour Co production for ARTE, IKON TV (Holland) TSR (Swiss TV) Channel 8 (Israel) in association with Storyville BBC. Broadcast premiere November 2003

## **2002-2003**

### **HUMAN WEAPON:** (Director/Co Writer/Co Producer)

Provides the first sober, in-depth examination of the complexities of the suicide-bombing phenomenon. Filmed in Iran, Lebanon, Sri Lanka, Israel, Palestine, Europe and the United States, HUMAN WEAPON weaves dramatic, previously unseen footage together with interviews of key militants whose organizations use suicide bombing as part of their strategy. It supplements these scenes with powerful human stories.

Tamouz Media / Amythos Films Point Du Jour co-production for MDR (Germany), ARTE and Europe Images

### **TAHARA (Purity)** (Co Producer)

A unique look into the secret world of Jewish strict purity laws as experienced by four rebelling women.

A Tamouz Media Production for Noga Communications (Channel 8 Israel) and The New Israeli Fund

### **RESCUE CHOPPERS** (Co Producer)

A first ever portrait of the Israeli elite Black Hawk Chopper rescue squadron  
A Tamouz Media/Amythos Films Production for National Geographic Channels.

### **MAN OF EXTREMES** (Co Producer)

An engaging portrait of Omer Median, one of the world's most daring Extreme Sports and Base Jumping athlete.

A Tamouz Media/ Amythos Films Production for National Geographic Channels

### **LIFE IS A BUS** (Director, Co- producer)

The human stories behind Israel's most dangerous forms of transportation –a bus.  
A Tamouz Media /Amythos Films Production for National Geographic Channels



## 2000-2001

### **ADRENALINE JUNKIES:** (Co –Producer, Director)

Portraits of 3 independent rescuers who have been followed around the world for over a year, as they rush to help areas hit by natural disasters.

A Tamouz Media Production for Granada Int'l & TLC (The Learning Channel)

### **BODY PIERCING** (Co-Executive Producer)

A riveting journey throughout Asia, Africa and the US exploring the fashion, religion and ethnography behind body piercing.

A Tamouz Media/ Gabriel Films Co Production for Discovery USA and Granada International

## 2000

### **ARAB DIARIES** (Executive Producer)

A groundbreaking 5 part series of Video Diaries genuinely reflecting the varied experiences of the diverse communities living within the modern Arab World

Funded by the Ford Foundation for International distribution

## 1998-1999

### **SHEALTIELS -A Family Saga** (Producer/Writer/ Director)

A 3X50 min. series (95 min. feature length documentary) history of one Jewish family from Medieval Spain to the present.

Produced for the BBC, IKON TV (Holland) IBA (Israeli Television) History Channel Canada. Broadcast on those stations plus Planete (France), RAI3, (Italy), PBS, ARD (3rd channel) (Germany)

### **MEZULAM BA'AM** (Executive Producer)

A national self-documentation project with Israeli Television (1st Channel). 31 Israelis from all walks of life have been given video cameras to document their lives. Their 3 min. daily “report “ aired daily for 6 months just before the main Evening News.

A project funded by the Ford Foundation, Cummings Foundation, Khanoff Foundation and Tolerance Foundation in Israel

## 1997

### **YELLOW WASPS: Anatomy of a War Crime (Co-Producer/Director)**

The story of the Yellow Wasps, A Serbian paramilitary unit, and the crimes they committed in Eastern Bosnia provides a microcosm into the “Ethnic Cleansing” campaign.

Co-Production of Tamouz Media, Point Du Jour (France) Global Vision (USA). In association with CBC/Canada, Channel 4 (UK), Planete Cable (France) and Rai TV (Italy), PBS and IKON TV in Holland.

### **SAFE HAVEN (Director/Co –Producer)**

A major international investigation into the role of the United Nations in the fall of the Bosnian town of Srebrenica.

A Tamouz -Point du Jour Reuters TV Co -Production in association with Channel 4 Television (UK) France 2(France) IkonTV (Holland), Broadcast on Public Television Stations in the US.

## 1996

### **ON THE EDGE OF PEACE (Co-Producer/Director)**

A unique documentary feature chronicling the first year of the implementation of the Israeli-Palestinian accords. 3 Palestinians and 3 Israelis were given video cameras to document over six months their lives and the lives of their communities during this dramatic and turbulent period.

A Tamouz, Thania, Amythos co production in association with Channel 4 (UK), IKON TV (Netherlands) and Channel 2 (Israel)

## 1995

### **LIFE ON THE ETHNIC FAULT LINE (Producer/ Writer/ Director)**

A multi layered documentary record of a train journey through Eastern Europe. Leaders from Eastern and Southern Europe met last fall to address the critical issues of ethnic and minority rights, which affect their regions. The film is the story of their journey through the physical and human landscape of the region as well as its history.

A Tamouz co-production with BBC TV and IKON TV (Holland)

**1994****TANGO OF SLAVES** (Producer / Writer/ Director)

A filmmaker's search for his family past in the Warsaw Ghetto has been transformed into a personal meditation on the interaction between history, memory and pictorial representation.

Co-Production of Israeli TV, IKON TV (Holland) Channel 4 (UK)

The film was broadcast also on PBS, Swiss TV, SBS TV (Australia) NDR (Germany)

**1993****A QUESTION OF CONSCIENCE: The Murder of Jesuit Priests in El Salvador** (Producer/ Writer/Director)

Homage to the murdered priests and a study of the power of religious commitment.

Broadcast by TVE (Spain), Vision TV (Canada), RAI2TV (Italy), IKON TV (Holland), Channel 4 (UK) SWISS TV, WDR (Germany), ABC (Australia)

**1991****SPARE PARTS** (Producer/ Writer /Director)

An investigation into the international trade of human organs.

Produced in association with BBCTV, RAI2 (Italy, RTL+(Germany) VARA (Holland) TVE (Spain) YLE2 (Finland).

The film was broadcast also on ABC (Australia), CBC (Canada), and Swedish TV 2

**1990****PALESTINIAN DIARIES and SETTLERS DIARIES** (Co Producer)

The first documentary filmed and told by three Palestinian youths who were given cameras to tell the stories of their lives under Israeli occupation. The first video diary by a Jewish settler on the West Bank recording the life of himself and his family.

Co Produced with Channel 4 (UK), IKON TV (Holland) , NDR (Germany)

**1989****PEOPLE POWER** (Producer/ Writer/ Director)

A personal essay on active non-violence as a political strategy.

Tamouz Media production in association with Channel 4 (UK) IKON TV (Holland), WDR (Germany). The film was broadcast in the US by P.O.V (Public Television)

**1988****CONSUMING HUNGER** (Co Producer/Director)

A 3 part series, which examines how the Ethiopian famine was portrayed on Western Television.

A Tamouz Media Maryknoll World Productions, co production.

Broadcast on Channel 4 (UK), IKON TV (Holland), NDR (Germany), WNET (NY), NHK (Japan), SBS (Australia), SWISS TV, Denmark TV

**1987****EMBERS OF CHANGE** (Producer/Writer/Director)

A film following over 2 years the arrest and trial on murder charges of two foreign priests in rural Philippines.

A Tamouz Media production broadcast by IKON TV (Holland), WDR (Germany), CBC (Canada) BBC TV (UK), DRS (Switzerland)

**GUATEMALA—A JOURNEY TO THE END OF MEMORIES** (Producer/Director)

A 60 min. documentary on the human rights of the indigenous population in Guatemala, reconstructing the story of one refugee from the Guatemalan highland then living in a refugee camp in Southern Mexico.

A Tamouz Media production in association with IKON TV (Holland), WDR (Germany). Broadcast also on ABC (Australia), DRS (Switzerland), Radio Quebec (Canada), WNET (NY) and several other PBS Stations.

**1986****PERU: FIRE IN THE ANDES** (Producer/Director)

A 45 min. documentary exploring the controversial murder of eight journalists set against the counter insurgency war that they died in covering.

A Tamouz Media production in association with Ikon TV (Holland), WDR (Germany) Broadcast on France 2(France) Israeli TV (1st Channel) SBS (Australia), PBS (US) Channel 4 (UK)

**1985****SHRINE UNDER SIEGE** (Producer / Writer/ Director)

A unique investigation into the coalition formed by Fundamentalist U.S. Christians and militant Israeli Jews to destroy the Dome of the Rock, Islam's third holiest shrine, and to build a new Jewish temple in its place. The documentary explores the theological background to this unusual coalition and places it within the context of the increased political power of fundamentalism in the U.S., and the rise of extremist religious parties in Israel. Co Produced with WDR(Germany), IKON TV (Holland), CHANNEL 4 (UK)

**1983****THE HUNDRED YEARS WAR** (Producer/Writer/Director)

Is a sweeping picture of history, changing lives, occupations and displacements on the West Bank, and political division within the Israeli Jewish community.

PART I begins with the invasion of Lebanon and then turns to the West Bank, where it documents Israeli land and labor policies, and the ongoing displacement of Palestinians.

PART II analyzes the impact of Israel's actions in the West Bank on the development of Israeli society, with emphasis on the Gush Emunim and the rise of forces acting for the annexation of the occupied territories to Israel

Educational Distribution -Icarus Films

