

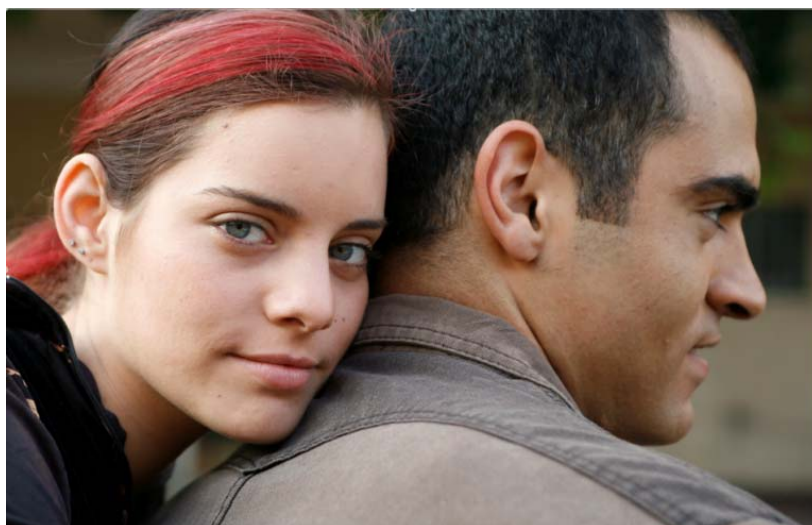


# ***FOR MY FATHER***

*(Sof Shavua B'Tel Aviv)*

**Directed by Dror Zahavi**

“Quite simply the most powerful and moving film I can remember seeing in years.  
A near perfect film!” - **The Huffington Post**



**Israel & Germany / 2008 / Drama**  
**In Hebrew with English subtitles / 100 min.**

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## **SYNOPSIS**

Tarek, a Palestinian forced on a suicide mission in Tel Aviv to redeem his father's honor, is given a second chance when the fuse on his explosive vest fails to detonate. Forced to spend the weekend in Tel Aviv awaiting its repair, Tarek must live amongst the people he was planning to kill. To his surprise he connects with several Israelis on the outskirts of society, including the beautiful Keren, who has cut off contact with her Orthodox family and upbringing. With nothing to lose, Tarek and Keren open up to one another, and an unlikely love blooms between two isolated and damaged individuals raised to be enemies.

However, with the deadly load of explosives still strapped to him, he must spend 48 hours in the city, caught between the men that sent him—who can blow up his bomb remotely--, the Israeli police patrolling the streets and his new-found companions. Spending this time with Keren and his new friends, Tarek discovers the spark of life returning to fill his soul, and when the weekend ends, Tarek must make the decision of his life.

## **FESTIVALS AND AWARDS**

**WINNER – Audience Award – Moscow International Film Festival**

**WINNER – Audience Award – Cinequest Film Festival**

**WINNER – Grand Prize – Stony Brook Film Festival**

**WINNER – Best Film – Asian Film Festival Mumbai**

**WINNER – Audience Award – New Jersey Jewish Film Festival**

**Nominated – 7 Israeli Film Academy Awards**

**Official Selection – Hamptons Int'l Film Festival, Montreal World Film Festival, Zurich Film Festival, New York Jewish Int'l Film Festival**

## **DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT**

**Dror Zahavi**

In November 2005, a suicide bomber blew himself up in the Carmel Market in Tel Aviv, killing four Israelis. That day I knew how necessary it is to make a film that tries to reveal the faces behind those masks worn by the kids in their 'farewell' videos. I believe that when hatred threatens to switch off sanity, it is as important as can be to make a film that shows the human beings on both sides. No monsters, just human beings with families and friends, joy and distress, people who dream to end the circle of pain and could very well live peacefully side by side.

## DIRECTOR'S BIOGRAPHY & FILMOGRAPHY

### Dror Zahavi

A graduate of Hochschule for Film und Fernsehen Konrad Wolf in Potsdam, Germany, Dror Zahavi produced the film Alexander Penn – “Ich will sein in allem”, which was nominated for a student Oscar in 1988.

He has since directed numerous television movies as well as episodes of television series, such as “Die Maenner vom K 3” and Doppelter Einsatz.” In 1999 he received the German Television Award, Deutscher Fernsehpreis, and the Bavarian Television Award, Bayerischer Fernsehpreis for his work on these television series. Recently he directed the television mini series “Luftbrue” and “Schliemann und Sophia”, both for the German SAT 1.

2009 **Mein Leben** (TV movie) – Director

2009 **Tatort** (TV series) – Director

2008 **For My Father** – Director

2007 **Der geheimnisvolle Schatz von Troja** (TV movie) – Director

2006 **Doppelter Einsatz** (TV series) – Director

1992 **Der Besucher** – Director/Writer/Producer

## SELECT ACTORS' BIOGRAPHIES & FILMOGRAPHIES

### Shredi Jabarin (Tarek)

This young Israeli Arab actor has appeared in a handful of features and TV series. As Tarek in FOR MY FATHER, Shredi faces his first lead role and expects to face criticism. “I have to play a character that everyone hates, yet I have to try to make the audience love him,” Jabarin says, “it’s complicated.”

2008 **For My Father** (dir. Dror Zahavi)

2006 **The Bubble** (dir. Eytan Fox)

2005 **Free Zone** (dir. Amos Gitai)

### Hili Yalon (Keren)

At 25, Jerusalem born Hili Yalon is becoming an increasingly popular Israeli Actress. With two feature films and nearly two-hundred television episodes, she has a large amount of experience at such a young age. Her powerful performance in FOR MY FATHER is bound to expedite her career and establish her as a serious Israeli star.

2008 **For My Father** (dir. Dror Zahavi)

2008 **Lemon Tree** (dir. Eran Riklis)

# CREDITS

## Crew

**Director:** Dror Zahavi

**Writer:** Ido Dror, Jonatan Dror

**Producers:** Shlomo Mograbi, Zvi Spielmann, Haike Wiehle-Timm,  
Eviatar Dotan, Rami Damri

**Line Producer:** Mathias Schwerbrock

**Cinematographer:** Carl F (Charly) Koschnick

**Production Designer:** Kuly Sander

**Edited by:** Fritz Busse

**Original Music:** Misha Segal

**Casting:** Liron Zhohar

## Cast

**Tarek:** Shredi Jabarin

**Keren:** Hili Yalon

**Katz:** Shlomo Wishinski

**Shlomi:** Michael Moshonov

**Abed:** Jony Arbid

**Salim:** Shadi Fahr-Al-Din

**Zipora:** Rosina Kambus

**Shaul:** Oren Yadger

**Sara:** Dina Golan

**Rehavia:** Chaim Banai

**Avinoam:** Amir Yerushalmi

**Fatma:** Khawlah Hag-Debsy

**Adina:** Avital Pasternak

**Ali Adel:** Abou Raya

**Saleh:** Yussuf Abu-Warda

**Dotan:** Uri Klausner

**Yakir:** Dani Israelis