

The Van Leer Jerusalem Institute is proud to announce the projects and filmmakers selected to participate in the first Intellectual Incubator for Documentary Filmmaking

The Intellectual Incubator for Documentary Filmmakers, at the Van Leer Jerusalem Institute, was formed in conjunction with the Israeli Documentary Filmmakers Forum, and the Jerusalem Cinematheque. It is a framework for thought and critique about the intellectual, social, and cultural contexts in which documentary films are conceived, produced and received, and it is also a place for developing ideas and for the collaborative work of filmmakers and researchers.

The incubator offers filmmakers an opportunity for more thorough research and thought at the basis of their cinematic endeavors. We hope that the filmmakers and films who participate in the incubator will benefit from greater intellectual depth and creative momentum, thus enriching documentary filmmaking in Israel.

We congratulate the filmmakers who have been selected to participate in the first incubator, taking place in 2019.

These are the selected projects (in alphabetical order):

Yuval Abraham, Adi Toledano, Neomi Nur-Zahor, Rachel Szor, *Crossing Lines* (a web series)

Yuval and Naomi set out to find the most daring activists between Cairo and Amman. By talking to them in fluent Arabic, the filmmakers explore their own place as young Jews in the Middle East.

Rafael Balulu, *Sidna Baba Sali – Rabbi Israel Abuhatzeira, of Blessed and Saintly Memory*

How, with the aid of Kabbalah, wonders and miracles, white magic, black magic (Sh'Chur), and Muslim mystical practices that merged with Jewish mysticism, did Sidna Baba Sali become not only the greatest Jewish holy man of the twentieth century but also the harbinger of the new political revolution in Israel?

Ayelet Bechar, *Moving Places*

This documentary project for television, digital media, and radio is about a hot-button issue for young Arab adults in Israel: Where to live, here or there? Should one stay where one has grown up, move to another place, or move back to live with one's parents? Writer and director,

Ayelet Bechar; producer, David Ofek; co-producers, Nicholas Jacob and Ahlam Canaan , Kumera House Productions. The series is supported by *Kan*, the Israel Broadcasting Corporation in Arabic.

Yaniv Berman and Tony Copti, *The Man Who Dreamed Books*

The Man Who Dreamed Books is the story of a local Don Quixote who embarks on an ideological journey of research and discovery aimed at reintroducing the books written in Arabic to Arab society and culture in Israel.

Netalie Braun, *The Third Temple*

The political aspects of the desire to build the Third Temple have received unprecedented attention in recent years. This film weaves together philosophical-theological, cultural, and political inquiry into the historical and contemporary forces involved in this struggle. Together with the film's protagonist, a moony but clever Jerusalemite, the viewers will come to realize that the Temple contains the seeds of violence, but perhaps also the possibility of healing. The film is supported by the New Fund for Cinema and Television. The film is accompanied by a virtual reality project, Temple Starter, supported by the Makor Foundation and the Gesher Foundation.

Lev Brodinski and Yael Perlov, *Caravan #44*

This film describes the experience of migration from the former Soviet Union of the 1990s through the Etgar mobile home site, from the point of view of those who grew up there.

Amichai Chasson and Yair Qedar,

Gershom Scholem – Breaking the Spell

This documentary, part of "The Hebrews" series, is about the life and writings of one of the greatest Jewish intellectuals, who opened the gates of the Kabbalah and Jewish mysticism to the entire world.

Danae Elon and Ron Ofer, *The Master Plan – Architects of a United City*

The Master Plan consists of a documentary film and a virtual reality project. The film *Master Plan* examines the fundamental relationship between architecture and political ambition in Jerusalem, and is supported by the Makor Foundation. The virtual reality project, *Moshe Safdie: A Journey to the Consciousness of the Architect* focuses on the planning of two of his iconic works—the Mamilla project in Jerusalem and Habitat 67 in Montreal. It is supported by The Jerusalem Film and Television Initiative, the Canadian Media Foundation (CMF), and the Makor Foundation.

Yotam Feldman, *Prisoner of Love*

The story of the political and erotic journey of a young person.

Doron Tsabari, *Homemade Turkish Melodrama*

This is a documentary series about fatherhood.

Iris Rubin and Dafna Shalom, *Girls Look Back*

What happens when girls lift up their gaze for a moment from the thousands of screens around them, start taking pictures, look outside and within, and learn about feminism? *Girls Look Back* follows a group of girls from Holon who are studying photography and feminism, as they fall in love, dream, experience fear, and develop an independent and defiant feminine consciousness.