

Beyond Creative and HOT8 present:

Official Selection
DOCAVIV
|2020|



HONORABLE MEN

T H E R I S E A N D F A L L O F E H U D O L M E R T

Directed by **Roni Aboulafia** | Cinematographer **Avner Shahaf** | Editors **Gal Goffer** **Ran Landau**
Research **Reli Zuri** **Ilan Sheizaf** **Daniella Reiss Razon** | Music **David Klemes** **Oren Polack** | Production Design
Merav Shacham | Sound Design **Michael Emmet** | Post Production **Miki Shalom** | Producer
Hagar Alroey | Associate Producers **Assaf Peretz** **Nancy Pomgrin** | Executive Producer **Yoav Leshem**



Mediawan rights





Synopsis

February 2016. for the first time ever, an Israeli Prime Minister is going to jail. Severe corruption allegations forced him to resign and after eight years of trials and appeals he starts to serve his 2-year sentence.

Prime Minister Ehud Olmert is now a convict at Maasiyahu Prison.

In his last public appearance he holds himself with dignity and authority, not letting-on how desperate he feels inside. Not revealing the incredible story he has to tell.

The filmmaker and her crew obtained an exclusive access to Mr. Olmert throughout his ordeal.

In weekly phone-calls the former prime minister, intimate and unhinged, tells all.

'Honorable Men' follows the story of former Israeli Prime Minister Ehud Olmert's unexpected rise to power and his dramatic fall from grace, from the highest office in the land to Ward 10 at Maasiyahu Prison. Set as a political thriller, it follows the events that elevated Mr. Olmert to power and set the stage for his epic fall in the summer of 2008, as he was offering a far-reaching Israeli-Palestinian peace deal to Palestinian President Abbas. Providing a



behind-the-scenes look at the mechanisms and machinations that control politics, justice, war and peace.

Exposing never-before-seen footage and exclusive interviews 'Honorable Men' highlights how cruel and boundless political struggles have become, shaping our reality in ways we don't even fathom.

As criminal investigations against heads of

state become more common, the exposure of their use as a political tool raises many ethical questions. Does that mean that justice was miscarried? Does that absolve the crime? Was Olmert a corrupt man? Does that change the way we see the story?



Roni Aboulafia – Director

Born in Jerusalem, Roni has spent parts of her childhood and adolescence in Sao Paulo, Brazil. After graduating from the Sam Spiegel Film and Television School in 1999 she moved to New York to specialize in documentary film production. Since returning to Israel in 2004 she has been directing documentary films and creating TV series for television. Her projects won critical acclaim both in Israel and in international film festivals including Sundance Film Festival, Jerusalem Film Festival and more. In 2017 she won an Israeli Academy Award for Best Documentary Series for School of Hope. Honorable Men, her new film was debuted at DocAviv 2020.

Selected Filmography

- 2020 Honorable Men Documentary, Produced by Beyond Creative
- 2018 Designing Israel Documentary series • 3 Episodes, Produced by Beyond Creative
- 2017 School of Hope Documentary series • 3 Episodes, Produced by HSCC and Dana Cohen Productions
- 2016 Measures of Merit Documentary, Produced by Dana Cohen Productions
- 2015 Betrayal Documentary, Produced by Dana Cohen Productions
- 2012 Perfect Family Documentary, Produced by Goren Films
- 2009 Ida Fink, Traces Documentary, Produced by RR Film
- 2004 Meet Michael Oppenheim Documentary, Produced by Tapuz Films



Yoav Leshem – Producer

After 15 successful years as an executive producer and partner of 2-Shot Films Yoav founded Beyond Creative, a production company based in Tel Aviv.

[Beyond Creative](#) quickly became one of the local hubs for high-end documentary films and series, working with leading filmmakers and partnering with KAN - Israeli Public Television, and commercial broadcasters in Israel and worldwide. As the leader of a 'couture' operation that produces many hours of documentary content every year, Yoav chooses to take-on and develop projects that highlight social values and social change, which are close to his heart.

Selected Filmography

- 2020** 10 Days in October Documentary • 52 minutes, Director: Eyal Datz
- 2020** Rabenu (Our Rabbi) Documentary series • 3 Episodes (52 min. each), The Israeli Public Broadcasting Corporation, Director: Ori Gruder
- 2020** War with No Name Documentary series • 3 Episodes (51 min. each), The Israeli Public Broadcasting Corporation, Creators: Israel Rosner, Mati Friedman
- 2020** Storiez Documentary series • 4 Episodes (42 min. each), The Israeli Public Broadcasting Corporation, Director: July Shlez
- 2019** The Third League Documentary series • 5 Episodes (40 min. each), The Israeli Public Broadcasting Corporation, Director: Robi Elmaliach
- 2018** Hidden Face Documentary • 52 minutes, Director: Eyal Datz



HAARETZ

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It has been two years since Netflix's "House of Cards" ended, but for viewers still craving dark intrigues and cruel twists surrounding powerful political figures, the new documentary "Honorable Men" – on Israel's shamed former prime minister Ehud Olmert – may fill that gap. At its heart is a powerful man who climbed to the top of the political ladder, only to come crashing down due to hubris, back-stabbing political rivals and criminal wrongdoing.

Itay Stern, Haaretz 6.9.2020

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The Crew

Director:	Roni Aboulafia
Executive Producer:	Yoav Leshem
Associate Producers:	Assaf Peretz, Nancy Pomagrin
Production:	Beyond Creative
Cinematography:	Avner Shahaf
Editors:	Gal Goffer, Ran Landau
Original Score:	David Klemes
Research:	Ilan Sheizaf, Reli Zuri, Daniella Reiss Razon
Art Director:	Merav Shacham
Sound Design:	Michael Emmet
Color Grading:	Aharon Pe'er

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