

A film by
Dan Wolman

AN ISRAELI LOVE STORY

Based on a True Story





Synopsis

The film *An Israeli Love Story* is based on the true story of the love affair between Pnina Gary (Dromi) from Nahalal and Eli Ben-Zvi the son of Rachel Yanait and Yitzhak Ben-Zvi the second president of the State of Israel.

The film is set during the turbulent period of pre-state Israel 1947-1948.

Margalit (Pnina Gary) meets Eli by chance on a bus and instantly falls in love with him. She tries to get close to him, hoping he'll fall for her, but Eli is too preoccupied with the *Palmach** and with smuggling Holocaust survivors into Palestine. Finally the barriers come down and a compelling relationship develops between the two.

Margalit moves onto Eli's kibbutz, Beit Keshet and they set up a date for their wedding but Israel's harsh reality intervenes.

*Elite fighting force of the *Haganah* underground army during the British Mandate.



AN ISRAELI LOVE STORY

Director Dan Wolman

Screenwriter Dita Guary
Based on the true story of Pnina Gary

Producer Dan Wolman

2017, 93 min, Hebrew, Israel

Cast:

Adi Bielski

Aviv Alush

Maya Wertheim

Issac Hizkiyahu

Alex Anski

Amir Mugrabi

Crew:

Cameraman Ran Aviad

Lighting Elad Bracha

Recorder Yoav Damti

Set design Liron Lazar, Giyora Bergel



DAN WOLMAN

Dan Wolman is a veteran Israeli filmmaker whose films have been presented at Cannes, Venice, Berlin and many other film festivals winning awards and prizes globally.

His film *Valley of Strength* which was released in 2011, was a great success in Israel and won awards in Berlin, France, Rumania, India and China. Dan received a "Life time Achievement Award" at the Jerusalem International Film Festival and the Silver Hugo Award at the Chicago International Film Festival for his "unique vision and innovative work".

His films cover a wide range of subjects from the very commercial youth comedy *Lemon Popsical* to the highly personal *The Distance* and *Foreign Sister* both of which won the Volgin Award for "Best Film" at the Jerusalem International Film Festival.



Adi Bielski

Adi Bielski is a theater actress who has been performing in the one-woman show *An Israeli Love Story* for over 8 years. For her role in this play (by Pnina Gary) she won the "Best Actress" Award of the Israeli Fringe Theater and she has performed it close to 600 times in Israel, England and Canada.

Her role as the lead in the film *An Israeli Love Story* is her first major role in cinema. She has already won the "Best Actress Award" for a foreign film at the Golden Rooster-One Hundred Flower Film Festival in China, and she has had rave reviews by Israeli critics for her performance in the film which has just been released in Israel.



Aviv Alush

Aviv Alush is a very diverse and talented theater, cinema and television actor. Recently he starred in the features *The Red Hood Setup*, *The Women's Balcony* and *The Shack*.

In television he is known for his roles in *The Gordin Cell*, *Lehiyot Ita*, *Allenby* and *The Island*.



REVIEWS

Dan Wolman's new film avoids melodrama and sentimentality, and reinforces his stature as the most important independent filmmaker in Israeli cinema.

Uri Klein - Haaretz

I count *An Israeli Love Story* among Wolman's better films. With sensitivity and simplicity he weaves the love story between the two young idealists into the pivotal moments that gave birth to the State. Wolman pours honest romantic content into this cynicism free relationship from the country's age of innocence.

Nachum Mochiach - Habama

Unlike nationalistic- heroic films, *An Israeli Love Story* has a woman at its center, and its story is pathos free. With a great score and fine cinematography, veteran director Dan Wolman has filled the film with beautiful moments.

Shmulik Duvdevani - Ynet.com

An Israeli Love Story - An award winning new and artistic feature film by Dan Wolman. A strikingly human portrayal set against the backdrop of an historical period, mixing a personal story with the national narrative... Tragic and yet overwhelmingly compelling.

Amy Kronish - Israeli Film and Filmmakers

