Ben-Gurion epilogue Go₂Films **Press Kit**





Cover photo: David Ben-Gurion on the set of the 1968 interview Photo Courtesy of David Marks

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"42:6" A FILM BY DAVID PERLOV -PHOTO ALBUM

22 CREDITS





IN MEMORY OF

"42:6" PHOTO ALBUM

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Ben-Gurion epilogue

TECHNICAL DETAILS

DOCUMENTARY (70 MIN. / 60 MIN.) ISRAEL, FRANCE, GERMANY, 2016 ENGLISH, HEBREW

WRITTEN & DIRECTED BY Yariv Mozer

EDITED BY

Yael Perlov

PRODUCED BY Yael Perlov, Yariv Mozer, Juliette Guigon, Patrick Winocour

> DAVID BEN GURION ON THE BALCONY OF THE NEGEV COLLEGE LIBRARY OVERLOOKING THE WILDERNESS OF ZIN ON HIS 82ND BIRTHDAY AT SDEH BOKER. Photo: COHEN FRITZ (GPO)

BEN-GURION, EPILOGUE



LOGLINE

Based on archive material only, the film reveals the final years of Israel's founder, David Ben-Gurion. Excluded from leadership, he allowed himself a hindsight perspective on the Zionist enterprise.

Synopsis 50 words:

A six-hour interview with David Ben-Gurion emerges from the obscurity of an archive where it has lain unrecognised for decades. Ben-Gurion is 82 years old and lives in the desert, remote from all political discourse, which allows him a perspective on the Zionist enterprise, and a surprising vision for the future of Israel.

Synopsis 100 words:

A six-hour interview with David Ben-Gurion, one of modern history's greatest leaders, emerges from the obscurity of an archive where it has lain unrecognised for decades. It is 1968, and Ben-Gurion is 82 years old. He lives in the seclusion of his home in the desert, remote from all political discourse, which allows him a perspective on the Zionist enterprise. His introspective soul-searching is the focus of this film, and his reflections provide a surprising vision for today's crucial decisions and for the future of Israel.

BEN-GURION, EPILOGUE

Full Synopsis

From depths of an archive a stack of 35mm film reels emerge. They contain six hours of a never before seen interview with David Ben-Gurion, one of the Zionist movement's most iconic figures, and one of modern history's great leaders.



David Ben-Gurion Photo Courtesy of David Marks

It is 1968. Ben-Gurion, Israel's founder and first prime minister, is 82. He lives in a secluded home in the Negev desert, a symbol of his devotion to the settlement of the southern reaches of Israel, and the place he will live out his days. Nearly six decades after the filming of the interview, and now interlaced with newsreel and other film archives, radio recordings, and still-photographs, all dating from the events described, the film revisits Ben-Gurion's opinions and his prophecies. The final ten years in the life of the leader, after he had declined futher office, and distanced himself from all leadership discourse, allowed him a hindsight perspective on the entire Zionist enterprise.

Ben-Gurion was now able to express his frank opinions about all that was going on around him, and to engage in truly introspective soul-searching. This would become the focus of the film.

Anticipating a future that would call for critical decisions to ensure the survival of Israel, the film turns back in time, in order to listen to Ben-Gurion's lucid voice and to seek answers for today and for tomorrow.

DAVID BEN-GURION

(16 Oct. 1886 – 1 Dec. 1973) was the primary founder of the State of Israel and the first Prime Minister of Israel.

SOURCE: WIKIPEDIA.COM



The New York Times

"Ben-Gurion on Israel, Peace and Back Pain: A Lost Interview Is Brought to Life"

By ISABEL KERSHNER Publication date: AUG. 12, 2016 http://nyti.ms/2aH4dXB

It was April 1968, and "The Old Man," as Ben-Gurion was nicknamed for much of his life, had been largely abandoned by his own political protégés. Paula, his rather brusque and devoted wife, had died that January, leaving him in near isolation in his chosen retirement home in Sde Boker, a remote communal village in the Negev desert.

"The most important thing which I learned, I learned by living here," he said. "I want to live in a place when I know that my friends, and myself, we did it. Everything. It's our creation." He sat for two hours a day, over three consecutive days, and spoke in English. He wore a turtleneck sweater, his casual uniform for cooler days. When the interviewer said he was ready to wrap up the final session, Ben-Gurion protested that they still had 10 minutes to go.

But the reels of silent footage and the soundtrack languished for decades in separate archives. Excerpts from the recently rediscovered conversation form the core of a new documentary, "Ben-Gurion, Epilogue," in which the Zionist luminary offers a raw, contemplative self-analysis of his life's work...

Interwoven with other footage from the period – of meetings with foreign leaders, a speech in Israel's Parliament, birthday celebrations – the film is, in part, a wistful ode to a lost generation of leaders who viewed simplicity as a virtue even as they strove for giant goals. Above Ben-Gurion 1968 Interview Photo by Malcolm Stewart

"The most important thing which I learned, I learned by living here," he said.

"I want to live in a place when I know that my friends, and myself, we did it! Everything. It's our creation."





David Ben-Gurion Photos Courtesy of David Marks and Perlov family

"There is an absence of leadership with those values and that vision," said Yariv Mozer, the Israeli writer, director and producer of the movie, which premiered last month at the Jerusalem Film Festival. The film, and the recent book by Avi Shilon on which it is based, Mr. Mozer added, "reflect the interest of some young Israelis to turn back to our history, to our past, in order to find answers for today and maybe for the future."



Yariv Mozer and Yael Perlov uncovered the lost interview almost by chance, in the **Steven Spielberg** Jewish Film Archive in Jerusalem. There, while working to restore an old feature film about Ben-Gurion by Perlov's late father, David Perlov, they tripped across the silent film reels. It took six months to find the soundtrack, which they did in the Ben-Gurion Archives in the Negev.

David Ben-Gurion Photo PRIDAN MOSHE GPO



THE STORY BEHIND BEN-GURION EPILOGUE

Written by Yariv Mozer

Israeli Film Director, **David Perlov** (1933-2003), was the first and only filmmaker ever to have made a film about Ben-Gurion's life, but the film a fiction film - **"42:6" (1970)** was forgotten and subsequently vanished.

While working on the reconstruction of Perlov's film, together with his daughter, **Yael Perlov,** also a filmmaker and The Hebrew University's Spielberg Archive, I was surprised to unearth six hours of rushes containing a filmed interview in English with Ben-Gurion.

The interview was conducted as part of the pre-production work on Perlov's film. It was a unique interview with David Ben-Gurion, in which he delved into many issues relating to the Zionist enterprise.

The interview, which was initiated by the British producer of "42:6", Melville Mark, had never been shown, and much of its sound track appeared to be missing. A long search led us to acclaimed British sound recordist, Malcolm Stewart, who had kept the original sound reels safe until he eventually donated them to the Ben-Gurion University of the Negev and the Ben-Gurion Archive, though he had no knowledge of where the matching picture reels of the interview were.

We immediately began the process of matching the sound with the image at the end of which, for the first time, the unique and intimate interview with David Ben-Gurion was revealed.

The interviewer was **Dr. Clinton Bailey**, a recent immigrant to Israel, who had come to live at Kibbutz Sde Boker in the footsteps of Ben-Gurion.

The interview took place in April, 1968. Ben-Gurion was 82. His wife had died only four months earlier, but he continued to live on his own, with his bodyguards, in his desert home.

Director's Statement

Through this unique archive material we have uncovered, I wanted to revisit the man upon whose vision and perception the State of Israel was established and to represent his ideas.

In the midst of this present day period when several major decisions impacting the future of Israel seem imminent, especially concerning the most fundamental of political subjects and the Israel-Palestinian conflict, Ben-Gurion's vision offers a clear cut, accurate and surprising point of view on these core issues.

One cannot help but feel that if we were still under the leadership of a man as brave as he was, then reality would surely look altogether different.





David Ben-Gurion Photo Courtesy of David Marks

THE PEOPLE BEHIND BEN-GURION EPILOGUE

MOZER Writer, Director, Producer

Yariv Mozer graduated with distinction from Tel-Aviv University's Film and Television Department in 2004. Since then he has directed documentary and feature films, among them are "Ben-Gurion, Epilogue" (Israel-France-Germany 2016), "Snails in the Rain" (Israel-Spain 2013), "The Invisible Men" (Israel-The Netherlands 2012), and "My First War" (Israel 2008). His films have been shown in film festivals worldwide and won several awards.

Mozer has also produced more than 15 films among them are "The Heart of Jenin" (Germany 2008) and "Inheritance" (Israel-France-Turkey 2012). Mozer, former head of Entrepreneurial Producing Program at the Jerusalem Sam Spiegel Film School (2007-2010), and former director of the 10th Tel Aviv International Student Film Festival (June 2004).

Mozer is a graduate of The European Audiovisual Entrepreneurs (EAVE) Producer's workshop. He is a member of the European Film Academy and The Israeli Academy of Motion Pictures. Above Yariv Mozer Photo by Moti Milrod.

Director's Filmography: "Ben-Gurion, Epilogue" (Israel-France-Germany 2016)

"Snails in the Rain" (Israel-Spain 2013)

"The Invisible Men" (Israel-The Netherlands 2012)

"My First War" (Israel 2008),

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PERLOV

Producer, Film Editor

Israeli Academy Award-winner for her editing work on Late Marriage (2001), directed by D. Kosashvili, Perlov is also the recipient of the Ministry of Education and Culture's Film Art Prize.

She has led, produced and edited multiple feature and documentary films, among them: Diary (1973-1983) directed by her father, Israeli Prize Winner, David Perlov, The Settlers (2002) directed by Ruth Walk and co-produced with BBC, My First War (2008) directed by Yariv Mozer and coproduced with Zdf-Arte, the documentary series about Israeli women writers and poets, A Room of Your Own (2006-2011). Over the last five years, alongside the Tel Aviv University film department, Perlov initiated and worked as artistic director and producer on the Israeli-Palestinian feature film project, Water (Israel-France, 2012), premiered at the Venice International Film Festival and winner of The 2012 France Amnesty International Award. She has also produced Sport (Israel-France. 2015) released in 2015.

Yael Perlov teaches film studies and for the past two decades has been lecturing at Tel Aviv University's Department of Film & Television Studies. Above Yael Perlov

Selected Filmography: "Sport" Producer (Israel, France 2015)

"Water" Producer (Israel, France 2012)

"My First War" Film Editor & Producer (Israel 2008)

"The Settlers" Film Editor (Israel, UK 2002)

"Late Marriage" Film Editor (Israel, France 2001)

"DIARY" Film Editor (Israel 1990)

DR.CLINE BAILEY

מלון עבו

Above Clinton Baily and Ben-Gurion Photo by Arie Bar-Lev

Interviewer

The former prime minister had chosen the interviewer, Clinton Bailey, who was then a recent immigrant from the United States. Mr. Bailey had been befriended by the Ben-Gurions after Paula invited him in for tea one day when he was wandering near their home in Tel Aviv.

Ben-Gurion helped Mr. Bailey secure a teaching job at the academy he had established at Sde Boker, and Mr. Bailey would sometimes join the aging politician on his brisk walks around the kibbutz. Mr. Bailey went on to become an eminent scholar of Bedouin culture — and mostly forgot about the 1968 interview. Recalling the period, Mr. Bailey said the simplicity of the Ben-Gurions' cabin at Sde Boker was "a statement," adding: "I don't think Ben-Gurion wanted the perks of power."

For many years, in addition to his research and writings on Bedouin life, Dr. Bailey has championed the cause of Bedouin rights in Israel. In 1994, he was awarded the prestigious Emil Grunzweig Human Rights Award, presented annually by the Association for Civil Rights in Israel.



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SHILON

Author "Ben-Gurion, Epilogue" (Am Oved)

Dr. Avi Shilon holds a Ph.D in Political Science (Bar-Ilan University) and an M.A. in Jewish History (Tel Aviv University). His dissertation was entitled, The Revisionist Movement Leaders' Attitudes Toward Jewish Religion, 1925-2005. His main research interests are in modern Jewish and Israeli history, with a particular focus on the Zionist right wing and Israeli politics. He is the author of Menachem Begin: A Life (Yale, 2012) and Ben Gurion, Epilogue (Am-Oved, 2013). He was previously a 2015 post-doctoral fellow at the Ben-Gurion Research Institute for the Study of Israel and Zionism and a research fellow at The Minerva Humanities Center, Tel Aviv University. Shilon has served as a correspondent and editor for multiple Israeli news media; he is currently a columnist for Haaretz.

Publications:

Ben Gurion: His Later Years in the Political Wilderness (Rowman & Littlefield, 2016)

BEN-GURION

His Later Years in the Political Wilderness

Avi Shilon

Ben Gurion, Epilogue (Am-Oved, 2013)

Menachem Begin: A Life (Yale, 2012)



STEWART

Malcolm Stewart on the set of "The Bridge on the River Kwai" (1957) Below, Malcolm Stewart and David Ben-Gurion Photos Courtesy of Malcolm Srewart

The 1968 Interview Sound Recorder

Born in 1929, Malcolm flew as a cadet as early as 1943. In 1944 he joined the BBC, working in Forces Broadcasting in Hamburg.

As well as television, Malcolm has worked on numerous feature films, including: "The Italian Job" (1969) directed by Peter Collinson, "2001: A Space Odyssey" (1968) directed by Stanley Kubrick, "Darling" (1965) directed by John Schlesinger, "Lawrence of Arabia" (1962), and "The Bridge on the River Kwai" (1957) both directed by David Lean. Stewart, a British Jew, volunteered to work on the set of the 1968 interview with David Ben-Gurion. Following his admiration for the elder statesman, he traveled especially from the UK to Israel to contribute his talent and professional expertise to the unique production. He retained the original 1/4-inch sound reels in his possession, until he recently donated them to the Ben-Gurion Archive at Midreshet Ben-Gurion in Sde Boker, part of The Ben-Gurion University of the Negev.

Stewart was chairman of De Lane Lea in London, the largest Post-Production facility in Europe, recently taken over by WARNER BROS. He retired in 1987.



KELTONIC

Above Composer John Keltonic Photo by Scott Elmquist

Music Composer

JOHN

John Keltonic has been creating original music scores for US national film and television projects for over twenty years. Clients have included PBS, BBC, Discovery Channel and CNN.

An Emmy award winning composer, he has written scores for Ken Burns, the Olympics, and dozens of network specials. Films that he scored have won national Emmys, Peabody Awards, and countless filmfestival awards, among them are Academy Award Nominee for best documentary"Autism Is A World" and "Over Alaska" Emmy for best original music. Selected Filmography:

The Power of Forgiveness (2007)

Bonhoeffer (2003)

Bringing Down a Dictator (2002)

Korean War Stories (2001)

A Force More Powerful (1999)

David Perlov

IN MEMORY OF (1930-2003)

David Perlov was born in Rio de Janeiro and grew up in Belo Horizonte.

In 1958, Perlov emigrated to Israel, settling with his wife Mira on Kibbutz Bror Hayil. They later moved to Tel-Aviv. In 1963, Perlov made a 33minute documentary, "In Jerusalem", which came to be recognised as one of the most important films in Israeli documentary cinema.

Although by 1972 Perlov had made two feature films ("The Pill" and "42:6"), his film proposals were often rejected by the Israel Broadcasting Authority and Israeli film board, which found his work too lyrical.

In early 1973, Perlov bought a 16 mm camera and and began to film his everyday life alongside the dramatic events taking place in Israel at the time. He continued for 10 years until in 1983 the UK network, Channel 4, expressed an interest in the project. The result was Perlov's acclaimed work DIARY (Yoman).

From 1973 Perlov taught in the department of film and television at Tel Aviv University. In 1999, Perlov was awarded the Israel Prize for his contribution to cinema.

David Perlov Photo Courtesy of Perlov Family

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Melville Mark

IN MEMORY OF (1921-1997)

Melville Mark, who has died aged 76, was one of the unsung heroes of Israel's 1948 War of Independence. Born in Manchester, from his earliest years he was associated with socialist Zionist youth organizations.

Melville took part in post-war Jewish underground movements in Europe, smuggling Holocaust survivors onto the ships that would carry them to Palestine. He later joined the 'Haganah' and fought in Israel's battle of liberation.

The end of the 48 war saw him enlisted in the Mossad, using his six-foot height, ginger hair, and British passport in the no less dangerous role of secret agent in Turkey and elsewhere. The Mossad chapter has remained a closed book: he would never discuss it.

He had established himself in Geneva as a correspondent for United Press, and became involved with film producers, setting up the first Montreux International Golden Rose TV Festival. In Israel in 1976 he established the first World Jewish Film and Television Festival.

In the late 1960s he produced "42:6" a film based on David Ben-Gurion's life story. The collaboration with Ben-Gurion in 1969 consisted of filmed interviews, but Ben-Gurion was then pressured into withdrawing from a joint publishing venture he and Melville had agreed.

In his seventies, Melville joined his architect son David in the Millenium Wheel Company, established to build the London Eye, however, he died in 1997, before its opening in 2000. Melville Mark Photo Courtesy of David Marks







On the set of 42:6 Photos Courtesy of David Marks and Perlov family



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SOON TO BE RELEASED, A FILM RESTORED 42:6 A feature Film by David Perlov

Perlov's second film, "42:6," is a biography of David Ben-Gurion, following Israel's first prime minister from his childhood in Poland to his move to Sde Boker, the kibbutz in the Negev where he lived the latter half of his life. The film's title refers to the Bible, Isaiah 42:6: "I will keep you and will make you to be a covenant for the people and a light for the nations,"

DAVID PERLOV & DAVID BEN-GURION PHOTO COURTESY OF DAVID MARKS AND PERLOV FAMILY

Credits.

Written and Directed by Yariv Mozer

Producers Yael Perlov, Yariv Mozer, Juliette Guigon, Patrick Winocour

Edited by Yael Perlov

Executive Producer Schaul Scherzer

Co-Producer Nathan Hevroni

Based on "Ben-Gurion, Epilogue" by Avi Shilon

Sound designer Ami Arad

Original Music John Keltonik

Interviewer Dr. Clinton Bailey

Research Yariv Mozer Hila Aviram Yael Perlov

A co-production of

Mozer Films Quark Productions ARTE France NDR Germany Yael Perlov

In association with HOT 8 The Ben-Gurion Heritage Institute Société Radio-Canada and ICI RDI

With the support of

Israel Film Council, Ministry of Culture and Sport The Rabinovich Foundation for the Arts Makor Foundation Gesher Multicultural Film Fund Avi Chai foundation

And with the collaboration of

HaPais Council for the Culture and Arts The Ben-Gurion Research Institute for the Study of Israel & Zionism The Jewish National Fund Other Israel Film Fund World Sales Go2Films | www.go2films.com

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66 **DO YOU FEAR FOR YOUR COUNTRY? OH, I ALWAYS FEARED. NOT ONLY NOW. (THIS) STATE DOES NOT YET** EXIST. IT'S ONLY THE BEGINNING.

"

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