

# The human resources manager

a film by Eran Riklis



**M (Coarse language) | Run Time: 103 minutes**

**POTENTIAL**  
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Publicity Contact: Coreen Haddad, Potential Films  
(03 9328 5000 – [coreen@potentialfilms.com](mailto:coreen@potentialfilms.com))

Sydney Publicist: Linda Airey, L.A. Publicity  
(02 9819 6982 – [la.publicity@bigpond.com](mailto:la.publicity@bigpond.com))

Press kit and stills available at  
[www.potentialfilms.com.au](http://www.potentialfilms.com.au)

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## SYNOPSIS

The Human Resources Manager of Jerusalem's largest bakery is in trouble. He's separated from his wife, distanced from his daughter and stuck in a job he hates.

When one of his female employees, a foreign worker, is killed in a suicide bombing and her body remains unclaimed, the bakery is accused of inhumanity and indifference. The Human Resources Manager is sent on a mission to make things right. He embarks on a complex journey, beginning in the mystical streets of Jerusalem and continuing in frozen Romania.

The Manager finds himself leading an awkward convoy to the dead woman's village including her rebellious son, a pesky journalist determined to ruin him, a quirky consul, an old veteran driver and a coffin.

Far from home, on a mission to honour a woman he didn't even know but has somehow grown to admire, the Human Resources Manager rediscovers his own humanity and his ability to truly care for human resources.

## FESTIVALS AND AWARDS

**WINNER Audience Award Locarno Int'l Film Festival**

**WINNER 5 Awards of the Israeli Academy Awards® including Best Picture**

**WINNER Best Actor Haifa Film Festival**

**NOMINATION Best Actor Asia Pacific Screen Awards**



## OFFICIAL SELECTION

Toronto Int'l Film Festival  
AFI Film Festival  
Israel Film Festival (closing night film)  
Brisbane Int'l Film Festival  
Festival of Jewish Cinema  
Festival of Perth

## DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT

**We all have a mission in life. And if we don't – we should always strive for one.** I guess mine is to try and highlight people's lives, track changes in society, observe old and new trends, take a hard yet loving look at people's hearts and minds, put a mirror to our face, suggest new or alternative options to traditions and fixed, static states of mind.

My mission is to make films. The mission of the Human Resources Manager attracted me because I felt his mission was one of discovery – very much like making a film. And so I decided to make a film about him...His mission is obscure, his mission is forced upon him but then becomes a part of him, his mission is personal yet national, emotional yet physical, a mission in the best tradition of Greek drama or Shakespearean magnitude. And it is about learning how live through the dead or better still – exploring, revealing life through death, a concept which I find fascinating, magical and extremely challenging. And death wears the face of a striking woman with an enigmatic Mona Lisa smile – and who can resist that? Not the Human Resources Manager and certainly not me...

So I embarked on this journey with him and her and all the other fellow travelers, hoping that at the end of the journey lies a humble yet significant statement on the human condition now, yesterday and tomorrow.

**Eran Riklis**



## BIOGRAPHIES | FILMOGRAPHIES

### ERAN RIKLIS Director

Director Eran Riklis was born in Jerusalem in 1954 and grew up in Canada, the US, Brasil and Israel. He is a Graduate of The National Film School, Beaconsfield, England. Eran Riklis directed over 300 commercials, promos and corporate videos, many TV dramas and TV series, and directed and produced 9 feature films, including *Lemon Tree* (2008 Berlin International Film Festival Audience Award), *The Syrian Bride* (Montreal Grand Prix, Public, Fipresci & Ecumenical Awards, Locarno Public Award, Ghent Public and script Awards, Bastia Best actor, Script and Jury Awards, Auxerre Grand Prix), *Vulcan Junction* (1999 Haifa Best Film Award) and *Cup Final* (Official Selection, Berlin and Venice Film Festivals, won prizes in Salerno, Valencia, Montpellier). Riklis' next feature film, *Playoff*, will release in 2011.

### Filmography

2008 **LEMON TREE**  
2004 **THE SYRIAN BRIDE**  
2002 **PITUY**  
2002 **HA-MASA'IT** (TV series)  
1999 **VOLCANO JUNCTION**  
1999 **VEGVUL NATAN** (documentary)  
1995 **SIPUREY EFRAIM** (TV series)  
1993 **STRAIGHT VE-LA'INYAN** (TV series)  
1993 **ZOHAR**  
1992 **GMAR GAVI'A**  
1984 **B'YOM BAHIR RO'IM ET DAMESHEK**



**MARK IVANIR**  
**HR Manager**

Born in Ukraine, Mark Ivanir immigrated to Israel with his family in 1972. After serving in the Israeli Army, Ivanir studied in a Circus school and ended up working in a Parisian Circus - Cirque Pawelles. Leaving the circus, Mark entered into formal theatrical training, studying at Israel's top acting school Nissan Nativ, later co-founding a theatre company Geshar Theatre.

After being cast by Spielberg in *Schindler's List*, Ivanir moved to London to study with Philippe Gaulier and the actors of the Theater De Complicite. During that time, he landed roles in *The Man Who Cried* (with Johnny Depp) and *Secret Affair*, which encouraged him to relocate to Hollywood.

Mark Ivanir has been working as a professional film and television actor in Los Angeles since 2001. His first major film role was in Steven Spielberg's 1993 Oscar winning epic *Schindler's List*. He then played a pivotal role in *The Good Shepherd*, directed by Robert De Niro. He has booked over 25 guest star and guest lead roles on television shows such as *24*, *NYPD Blue*, *Law and Order*, *CSI*, *Monk*, *The Unit*, *Boomtown*, *CSI: NY* and many others.

**Selected Filmography**

- 2010 **BUNRAKU**
- 2010 **HOLY ROLLERS**
- 2008 **WHAT JUST HAPPENED**
- 2007 **THE HUNTING PARTY**
- 2006 **THE GOOD SHEPHERD**
- 2006 **WHEN DO WE EAT?**
- 2005 **MR. & MRS. SMITH**
- 2004 **THE TERMINAL**
- 1993 **SCHINDLER'S LIST**



## CREDITS

### CAST

HR Manager **MARK IVANIR**  
Widow **GILA ALMAGOR**  
Weasel **GURI ALFI**  
Boy **NOAH SILVER**  
Consul **ROZINA CAMBOS**  
Vice Consul **JULIANNE GULESCO**  
Ex-Husband **BOGDAN STANOEVITCH**  
Divorcee **REYMOND AMSALEM**  
The Grandmother **IRINA PETRESCU**  
Daughter **RONI KOREN**  
Driver **PAPIL PANDURU**  
Secretary **DANNA SEMO**  
Nun **SYLWIA DRORI**  
Morgue Worker **OFIR WEIL**

### CREW

Director **ERAN RIKLIS**  
Scriptwriter **NOAH STOLLMAN**  
Based on a novel by **A.B. YEHOSHUA**  
Photography **RAINER KLAUSMANN**  
Editor **TOVA ASCHER**  
Production Designers **DAN TOADER, YOEL HERZBERG**  
Costume Designers **LI ALEMBIK, ADINA BUCUR**  
Composer **CYRIL MORIN**  
Producers **HAIM MECKLBERG, ESTEE YACOV-MECKLBERG,**  
**ELIE MEIROVITZ, THANASSIS KARATHANOS,**  
**KARL BAUMGARTNER, TUDOR GIURGIU,**  
**TALIA KLEINHENDLER**  
Executive Producers **MOSHE EDERY, LEON EDERY, YGAL MOGRABI**  
Associate Producer **MEINHOLF ZURHORST**  
Production Company **2-TEAM PRODUCTIONS**  
Co-Production Companies **PALLAS FILM, EZ FILMS, HAI HUI**  
**ENTERTAINMENT, PIE FILMS**

### TECH INFO

**Israel / Germany / France / Romania – 2010 – 35MM – 103 MIN**  
**1:1.85 – Dolby SRD / Languages: Hebrew, English and Romanian**