

# LAND OF THE LITTLE PEOPLE



**NORTH AMERICAN DISTRIBUTOR**

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NOESCAPETEAM



A young boy with brown hair, wearing a green polo shirt and dark shorts, is balancing on a large, rusted metal pipe. He has his arms outstretched to the sides for balance. The pipe is part of a larger, rusted metal structure that looks like a piece of old machinery or a fence. The background is a clear blue sky and a field of dry grass. The overall scene is one of a child playing in a somewhat desolate, industrial environment.

# LAND OF THE LITTLE PEOPLE

WHERE BOUNDARIES ARE BROKEN AND NO ONE IS INNOCENT



# FOUR CHILDREN



# TWO SOLDIERS

# SYNOPSIS

Four young kids who live in a village of military officers' families, form a small gang. An old abandoned army base, located in the surrounding wild fields, turns into their base camp. Another war begins in Israel, and most men are drafted to serve their country. The mothers are sitting worried in front of the television and listen to the constant news reports, while the kids, with no one to supervise them, return to their camp in the wild. To their surprise, they discover two soldiers who deserted from their units, using their camp as a hideout. The children try to regain control over their stolen territory, but the soldiers hold their grounds. Ruthless struggle develops between the groups, and the soldiers, who sought refuge from the war outside, find themselves in another war, which turns out to be as dangerous and bloody.

**Land of the Little People** is an ambitious project by Palestinian film producer **Tony Copti** and Israeli director **Yaniv Berman**. Political and uncompromising in its social statement, the story touches at the very core of the Israeli inner conflict. Children growing up in a militaristic society with an everlasting war raging in the background know they have to toughen themselves up in order to be prepared for when they are called to serve. Now these children are covered with two soldiers' blood as their own private war rages in the woods while a "real" war rages in the outside world.





# DIRECTOR STATEMENT

As a child I used to play with my friends within the barriers of an abandoned military camp. That captivating place gave us the feeling of living in a wild world that we could rule.

In my film I want to tell about Israeli children that grow up like I did, in a militant society, with the war always in the background. I would like to raise the question of how this ongoing conflict can ever come to an end, when generations of children grow up in this environment and have come to know only the aggressive solutions to their problems.

In order to point that out I decided to portray the world in rough realism from the view point of the children, as they run and hunt in the apocalyptic-like landscape of an abandoned military camp, which is overcome by the wild nature that surrounds it. The conflict between the children and the soldiers is violent and uncompromising, showing how surreal and decadent our world has become.

## LAND OF THE LITTLE PEOPLE

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# DIRECTOR | YANIV BERMAN

Born in Haifa, Israel, Yaniv is a graduate student from the MFA program at the Film and Television Department, Tel-Aviv University. His short film **EVEN KIDS STARTED SMALL**, about school children taking over the school, was official selection of the CINÉFONDATION, Cannes Film Festival in 2006. He filmed for six years a documentary about a military company of reserve soldiers in the IDF, which was made into the award winning documentary **THE ALPHA DIARIES**. **LAND OF THE LITTLE PEOPLE** is his first narrative feature film, which like his previous works deals with the traumatic process of becoming a child-soldier in a violent militaristic society.

Yaniv is also a producer and director of commercials. He lives in Israel with his wife and two daughters.

### Filmography

- 2006 **Even Kids Started Small** (Short Narrative)
- 2007 **The Alpha Diaries** (Documentary)
- 2016 **Land of the Little People** (Narrative Feature)

### Contact

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## LAND OF THE LITTLE PEOPLE



# PRODUCER | TONY COPTI

A Palestinian producer from Jaffa, has worked on the production team of dozens of films, including the Academy Award-nominated feature AJAMI (Best Foreign Film), directed by Scandar Copti with Yaron Shani (Inosan Productions), THE GOLGOTHA FILES, directed by Zoltan Spirandelli (UFA Fernseh Production), Nadav Lapid's POLICEMAN (Laila Film) which won the Grand Jury Prize at Locarno, and the Jerusalem Int'l Film Festival award-winning feature DISSOLUTION by Nina Menkes (Transfax Film Productions).

In 2011, Tony and his brother Jiries joined forces and created FRESCO, a dynamic company that provides production services and finance structuring to films with the highest artistic standards. FRESCO was the executive production company of the feature film THE ATTACK by Ziad Doueiri and GIRRAFADA by Rani Massalha.

In 2016 Tony produced LAND OF THE LITTLE PEOPLE, directed by Yaniv Berman.

Having worked together successfully on LAND OF THE LITTLE PEOPLE, Copti and Berman collaborate again on a project called LILLEHAMMER, which tells the story of the assassination of Fatah's rising star Ali Hassan Salameh by the Mossad.

### Contact

972-54-482-2255 | [tony@frescofilms.com](mailto:tony@frescofilms.com)

# CAST & CREDITS



## Cast

Chemi - **Lior Rochman**  
Tali - **Mishel Pruzansky**  
Yonatan - **Amit Hechter**  
Louie - **Ido Kestler**

Omer - **Ofer Hayun**  
Yaron - **Maor Schweitzer**

Jacky - **Nimrod Hohenberg**  
Dvir - **Nadav David**  
Meni - **Michael Galansky**

Rita - **Shimrit Turner**  
Aliza - **Meital Paran**  
Yaki - **Ben Sela**  
Ronit - **Hen Saban**

## Credits

Writer and Director: **Yaniv Berman**  
Producer: **Tony Copti**  
Executiv Producers:  
**Sergio Bezerukoff, Josh Yablon**

Line Producer: **Eyal Boers**  
Cinematography: **Rami Katzav**  
Editor: **Oz Guttman**  
Sound Designer &  
Re-recording Sound Mixer: **Michael Goorevich**  
Art: **Eden Ohana**  
Prop Master: **Maayan Sokol**  
Colorist: **Sergio Bezrukoff**  
Music: **Gad Emile Zeitune**  
VFX & Compositing: **Itzik Nadel**  
Make-Artist: **Carmit Buzaglo**  
Assistant Director: **Einav Markel**  
Assistant Camera: **Mickey Langental**  
Unit Manager: **Ibrahim El-Atawna**  
Costume Designer: **Rachel Ben Dahan**



### Technical Details

Original Title: **Medinat Hagamadim**

English Title: **Land of the Little People**

Genre: **Drama, Thriller**

Country of Production: **Israel**

Year of Production: **2016**

Lengths: **83 min**

Shooting Format: **Red Epic 4K**

Screening Format: **DCP (Scope 1:2.39, 24fps)**

Sound: **Surround 5.1, 24 KHz 24 Bit**

Language: **Hebrew**

Subtitles: **English**

Color or B/W: **Color**

Production Companies: **Fresco Films,  
Royal Rat Productions, NOESCAPETEAM**

World Sales: **Pluto Film**

Supported by: **Other Israel Film Fund, The Israeli Film Fund**