

**JERUSALEM
FILM FESTIVAL**
OFFICIAL SELECTION

A Nurit Kedar film

SCHOOLYARD

WRITTEN & DIRECTED & PRODUCED BY **NURIT KEDAR** EDITOR & SCRIPT **Yael Perlov** ASSISTANT EDITOR **Noa Dulberg** PRODUCER & RESEARCH **Sahera Dirbas** ART DIRECTOR **Ran Slavin**
CINEMA PHOTOGRAPHERS **Avner Shahaf** **Steffan Strandberg** **Nasser Kadmani** ON LINE EDITOR **Ran Slavin** ORIGINAL SCORE **Avner Ben Shach**
SOUND DESIGN **Itzik Cohen** JUNGLE SOUND SOUND **Amos Zipori** GRAPHIC DESIGN **Miri Dahan**

NFC
National Film Center

IKD

**CAT
DOCS**

#Schoolyard

Directed by *Nurit Kedar*

#Schoolyard An Untold Story about the anatomy of a 1982 war crime in Lebanon. A Powerful Expose bringing together witnesses, perpetrators and victims 40 years later.

Logline

In 1982, during the Israeli invasion of Lebanon, an Israeli paratroop company was ordered to guard hundreds of Lebanese war prisoners for 24 hours.
#Schoolyard: "Schoolyard: An Untold Story is the anatomy of a war crime - the step by step, blow by blow, memory by memory chronicle of a horrific moment in Israeli military history.



#Schoolyard

An Untold Story

Synopsis

In 1982, Israel invaded Lebanon. What was thought to be a simple operation to dislodge PLO forces from the southern border region turned into a massive war with an ensuing military occupation that lasted almost two decades.

The invasion and its aftermath were a quagmire with tragic consequences that have reverberated ever since.

One of the first complications occurred in the coastal town of Sidon on the 4th day of the war when a company of Israeli soldiers were given the task of guarding more than 1,000 Lebanese war prisoners in a schoolyard. Among the war prisoners were a handful of militants, many civilians, and a few doctors from the adjacent Red Crescent Hospital.

What was thought to be a simple task turned horrific and deadly. The soldiers who took part in that tragic event, the doctors who witnessed their war crimes, and the detainees who endured their torture - have never been exposed.
Until now.

Trailer: <https://vimeo.com/572255001/fa942805db>



Nurit Kedar
Director / Producer
Director's Statement

The role of any documentary filmmaker is to illustrate events that one does not always want to see or remember and often tries to hide.

The documentary filmmaker must accurately state the truth.

Israel's war in Lebanon remains a black box of untold stories, as well as calamitous overreach. The past cannot be changed, but it cannot be forgotten or erased.

In this film, recovering the details of a war crime elicits the possibility of confronting our past and accounting for the consequences. Moral transgression may be a story of any war, but we have failed to understand how this particular war reshaped our moral universe, and how a line extends from Lebanon to our present predicament.

BIO

Nurit Kedar is an acclaimed Israeli documentary filmmaker

Kedar was awarded "The Art Of Cinema Award". The award was given by the Israeli Ministry of Culture 2016.

Won the Lifetime Achievement Award for the year 2015 awarded by the Israeli Academy of Film and Television.

Kedar won the Van Leer Group Foundation Award for Best Documentary Film, for the film "**Life Sentences**" at the 2013 Jerusalem Film Festival.

Life Sentences" won the Objectif d'or, grand award, also the Audience Award at the Millenium Film Festival.

Her television credits include Senior Producer at the CNN bureau in Jerusalem. Executive producer of Israeli Channel 12 (commercial channel) in which she produced and directed 12 films and 5 documentary series. All her films were aired on Israeli broadcasting networks.

Most of her films were aired on international networks, amongst: ARTE, ARD, VPRO, Canal Plus, NHK, Multi-Canal-Spain, RAI-Italy, Planete-France, to name a few.

Kedar directed the award-winning
Lieberman (2019)
Catch 73 (2013)
Life Sentences (2013)
Concrete (2011)
Wasted (2007)
Hanuszka (2006)
One Shot (2004)
Asesino (2002)
Lebanon Dream (2001)
Borders (2000)



#Schoolyard

Facts & Figures

On 6 June 1982, Israeli forces under direction of Defense Minister Ariel Sharon launched a three-pronged invasion of southern Lebanon in "Operation Peace for Galilee". Roughly 60,000 troops and more than 800 tanks, heavily supported by aircraft, attack helicopters, artillery, and missile boats, crossed the Israel–Lebanon border in three areas.

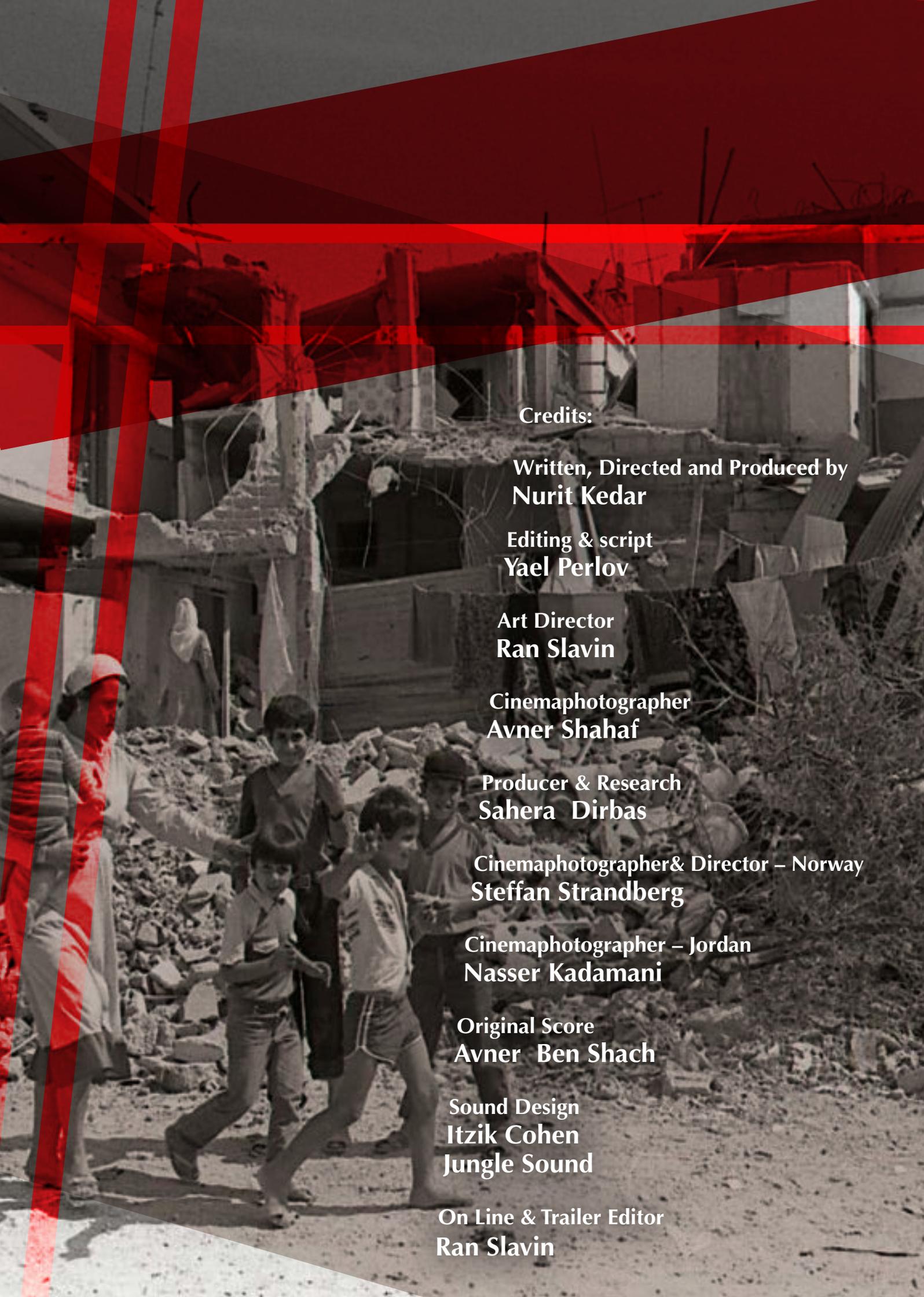
Simultaneously, Israeli armor, paratroopers, and naval commandos set sail in amphibious landing ships from Ashdod towards the Lebanese coast north of Sidon.

In January 1985, Israel started to withdraw most of its troops, leaving a small residual Israeli force and an Israeli-supported militia, the South Lebanon Army in southern Lebanon in a "Security Zone", which Israel considered a necessary buffer against attacks on its northern territory.

The Israeli withdrawal to the security zone ended in June 1985. Israel withdrew fully from Lebanon in 2000. According to Lebanese sources, between 15,000 and 20,000 people were killed, mostly civilians.

According to American military analyst Richard Gabriel, between 5,000 and 8,000 civilians were killed.

1,216 Israeli soldiers were killed, between 5 June 1982 and 31 May 1985. One of its first and most important victims was the national consensus. For the first time in the history of Israel not only was the conduct of war debated - for this there had been ample precedent - but the very justification of the war. Prime Minister Menahem Begin himself provided the watchword: a War of Choice, unlike all previous wars, which were perceived as dire necessities.



Credits:

**Written, Directed and Produced by
Nurit Kedar**

**Editing & script
Yael Perlov**

**Art Director
Ran Slavin**

**Cinematographer
Avner Shahaf**

**Producer & Research
Sahera Dirbas**

**Cinematographer & Director – Norway
Steffan Strandberg**

**Cinematographer – Jordan
Nasser Kadamani**

**Original Score
Avner Ben Shach**

**Sound Design
Itzik Cohen
Jungle Sound**

**On Line & Trailer Editor
Ran Slavin**



Participants:

Dr. Chris Giannou

Idan Harpaz

Itzik Hemed (Hamuz)

Itzik Ben Bachar

Meir Karsenti

Dr. Nabih Shuaby

Shmulik Ben Dor

Dr. Steinar R. Berge

Tzur Shezaf

Zvika Keizler

*My gratitude to dear colleagues and friends
who helped in the making of the film.*

Robert Fisk Lebanon, Ireland
Alain Mingam, Gamma - France
Professor Raya Morag, Israel
Alan Berliner, USA
Shalev Vayness and Reuven Hecker for Bokito (1984)
Mya Shone and Ralph Schoenman, USA
Dr. Chris Giannou, Greece
Sergi Dolade, Spain
Dr. Steinar R. Berge, Norway
Dr. Shafiqul Islam, Sweden
Øyvind Otterdahl Møller, Norway
Odd Karsten Tveit, Norway
Seth Anziska, England
Boaz Lanir, Israel
Dov Yermiya, Israel

Without you the film would not have been possible.

International Sales



Poster & Press kit designer
Miri Dahan



www.catndocs.com
Catherine Le Clef
cat@catndocs.com