

ALL ABOUT THE LEVKOVICHES

A FILM BY ÁDÁM BREIER



A MENEMSHA FILMS RELEASE. ULAB PRESENTS IN CO-PRODUCTION WITH PROTON CINEMA AND KRAFT RENTAL WITH THE SUPPORT OF THE NATIONAL FILM INSTITUTE HUNGARY. 'ALL ABOUT THE LEVKOVICHES'
ZOLTÁN BEZÉREDI - TAMÁS SZABÓ KIMMEL - LEO GAGEL - ROLAND VÁRADI - ÁGNES MÁHR - ANDRÁS TÖRÖK - RÓBERT KARDOS - TAMAR AMIT JOSEPH - ASSISTANT DIRECTOR TÍMEA MÁTE - CASTING KATA BARTSCH - COSTUME DESIGNER ILOKÓ THANYI - PRODUCTION DESIGNER ÁGNES BOBOR
SOUND DESIGNER RUDOLF VÁRHEGYI - MUSIC COMPOSER ALBERT MÁRKOS - EDITOR BALÁZS GÖTTHÁRDYI - DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY ZOLTÁN DÉVÉNYI - PRODUCTION MANAGER VERONIKA NEMES-JELLES - ASSOCIATE PRODUCERS JÚLIA BERKES - VIKTÓRIA PETRÁNYI - BALÁZS ZACHAR
CO-PRODUCER ÁDÁM BREIER - ZOLTÁN MÁRTONYFI - PÉTER GRÜLL - ANDRÁS JUHÁSZ - EXECUTIVE PRODUCER CLAUDIA SÜMEGHY - PRODUCERS ÁDÁM FELSZEGHY - ANDREA AUSZTRICS - MIKLÓS KÁZMER - SCREENPLAY BY ÁDÁM BREIER - BALINT CSABA - DIRECTED BY ÁDÁM BREIER

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NFI WORLD SALES

ALL ABOUT THE LEVKOVICHES

LEFKOVICSÉK GYÁSZOLNAK

a film by **Ádám Breier** - First Feature

Hungary, 2024, 85 min., 2K, DCP, Color

Hungarian release: 22 February 2024 by Mozinet

LOGLINE

After his wife's death, the stubborn boxing coach agrees with his estranged Jewish orthodox son to let him mourn in his house. During the seven day long shiva, father and son are obliged to face their old grievances.

[TRAILER TO WATCH](#)

SYNOPSIS

Although the big-hearted but stubborn boxing coach TAMÁS (70) has a kind word for everyone, he and his son, IVÁN (35), an Orthodox Jew living in Israel, refuse to talk to each other for years. In fact, their relationship has deteriorated to the point where Tamás has never even met his own grandson, ARIEL (6)

When ZSUZSA (69), Tamás' beloved wife, who has been trying to mend the two men's relationship for years, collapses and dies, Tamás is faced not only with the loss of his wife but also with his son's desire to come home for the funeral. Moreover, Iván insists that in accordance with religious regulations, he must move in with his father for a whole week to mourn. Even though Tamás doesn't want to see him, he allows Iván to come on one condition: he has to bring Ariel with him.

The atheist boxing coach's living room thus becomes the site of religious rituals. His son along with nine other Orthodox Jews dressed in black huddle around him and prays the Kaddish three times a day, and his grandson not just evidently keeps his distance from him, but also gets obsessed with the idea that his grandma's spirit is still lingering in the house to get ready for the journey to the Eternal Light.

As the days pass, and tension between father and son are rising, past grievances surface in a way that it cannot be kept secret from Ariel anymore. The young boy, as children usually, responds to this with even more fantasies. He starts to believe that there is not only grandma's spirit who is in the house, but a scary and evil ghost as well, whose mission is to block grandma's journey to the Eternal Light.

Tamás and Iván have different approaches to calm down the confused and scared kid. While Iván tries to explain to Ariel that ghosts are just symbols, Tamás teams up with his grandson in the child's fantasy to hunt and kill the evil ghost of the house.

Iván disdains the newly formed bond between his father and son, as the previously obedient Ariel now disregards the religious teachings, and concentrates on building bunkers and learning how to box. The conflict between father and son thus deepens, and after almost losing Ariel in an accident, Tamás has to face the fact that it was his behaviour in the past that made Iván rebel and leave the family, and it is time to change and admit some of his guilt from the past and present.

All About the Levkoviches is a realist dramedy, where there is sadness and mourning, yet the confrontation between the two protagonists, the battle with non-existent ghosts, is so absurd that we can recognize our own pettiness in it.

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Format (shooting): 2K
Format (screening): DCP, 1.85
Duration: 85 min
Genre: Drame
Language: Hungarian, Hebrew

Supported by the *Hungarian National Film Institute*



Directed by	Ádám Breier
Scriptwriter	Ádám Breier, Bálint Csaba
Cinematographer	Zoltán Dévényi
Music Composer	Albert Márkos
Editor	Balázs Gotthárdi
Sound Designer	Rudolf Várhegyi
Art director	Ágnes Bobor
Costumes	Ildikó Tihanyi
Producer	Ádám Felszeghy, Andrea Ausztrics, Miklós Kázmér
Production company	ULab

MAIN CAST

TAMÁS LEFKOVICS	Zoltán Bezerédi
IVÁN LEFKOVICS	Tamás Szabó Kimmel
ARIEL	Leo Gagel
FERI	Roland Várad
ZSUZSA LEFKOVICS	Ági Máhr
ZSIGA	András Török
SARI	Tamar Amit Joseph
RABBI HORWITZ	Róbert Kardos

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DIRECTOR'S NOTE

"In my first film, I wanted to tell something personal, and since I come from a dysfunctional Jewish family (or at least it seemed like that from the inside), it was evident for me to focus on the causes of the dysfunctionality, and frame the story around a Jewish holiday or tradition so that the audience can gain insight into this special diaspora, which is simultaneously full of sarcastic humor, sentimentalism and, at the same time, a lot of pain.

For me, it is extremely important to talk about family issues and unchangeable dynamics with humor and acceptance, and thus show that there is hope. Therefore, in terms of genre, All About the Levkoviches is a dramedy, which mixes the toolbox of family comedies with the issues of a classic drama.

I see quite a lot of dysfunctional families around me, and I believe that the main reason for this is the lack of honest communication. The heroes of our story finally learn to talk to each other in a different way during a week of shiva, which is also our goal with this film: to talk about dysfunctional families in a different way than what we have seen so far."



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ÁDÁM BREIER

Adam Breier has received an MA degree specialized in Media Studies in Hungary, he took screenwriting courses in New York, and later on he graduated from the EICTV (Escuela Internacional de Cine y Television) in Cuba majoring in fiction directing.

His short fiction and documentary films have been shown at festivals in more than twenty countries of the world.

He has also directed commercials and radio-plays in Hungary and France. Adam has lived and worked in France, Cuba and USA and he is fluent in French, Spanish, English, and Hungarian. *All About the Levkoviches* is his first feature film.

Filmography

2024 **ALL ABOUT THE LEVKOVICHES** (Feature)

2021 **ONE LIFE IS JUST NOT ENOUGH** (Documentary Mini-Series)

2020 **WHISPER** (Short Film)

2018 **THE BARON RETURNS** (Documentary)

2016 **HAVANA, ONE WAY** (Documentary)

2014 **TIDES / MAREA** (Short Film)

2012 **THE FIGHT** (Short Film)

2009 **THE PRIVATE LIFE OF CATHRINE** (Short Film)



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'Told with delightfully mordant humor and a genuine warmth, this appealing domestic story from Hungarian filmmaker Ádám Breier follows a Jewish family on the winding path toward reconciliation. Tamás (a gruff but tender Bezerédi Zoltán) is an aging boxing coach in present-day Budapest whose relationship with his son, Ivan (Szabó Kimmel Tamás), has frayed to the point of estrangement. After converting to Orthodox Judaism, Iván moved to Israel, where he had a son, Ariel (Leo Gagel), whom Tamás has never met. Now, Iván and Ariel have come back to Budapest for the funeral of Tamás's wife, forcing father and son to face one another. Breier's film is masterfully acted and directed, maintaining a perfectly balanced tone between comedy and pathos.' (filmlinc.org)



'The tradition of dysfunction in the Levkovich clan comes to a turning point in this brisk bittersweet comedy, with the sudden death of Zsuzsa, the family matriarch. Husband Tamás (Bezerédi), a strict old-school boxing coach, and his somber and bookish adult son Iván (Szabó Kimmel) haven't spoken a word to each other in eight years. Iván, now an Orthodox Jew living in Israel, arrives for the funeral with his little boy Ariel. The two men are soon butting heads in the same old way. Ariel, meanwhile, is blithely communing with Grandma's spirit, who seems to have taken up residence in a living room cabinet. It could seem like child's play, but the film's light and gentle humor serves to poignantly underline the issues at stake – death, family separation, generational conflict and reconciliation.' (kravis.org)

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'An aging boxing coach's affecting journey of reconciliation unfolds in contemporary Hungary as he reunites with his estranged offspring after a family tragedy. Following his wife's unexpected passing, Mr. Levkovich reaches out to his Orthodox son, now living in Israel, unearthing old wounds and religious discord. The funeral reignites familial tensions, with the stubborn atheist father seeking peace with his devout son and endearing young grandson. In shared sorrow, they confront longstanding disputes and seek healing, inspired by the memory of Mrs. Levkovich, once the unifying force in their lives. This multigenerational dramedy poignantly explores the complexities of family, faith, and forgiveness, brought to life by a talented ensemble cast.' (atlantajewishconnector.com)



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