



Gay Days



"Gay Days (Hazman Havarod) chronicles the evolution of the GLBT rights movement in Israel, from 1985 until the current day. It's a personal story told through the eyes of the director Yair Qedar, the editor of the GLBT paper, The Pink Times. The film begins in 1985 when there are only a handful of openly gay people within Israeli society. But by 1998 this number has increased to over 3000. Using archive materials from television, film and home videos alongside photographs and extracts from Yair's own diary, the film tells intimate, moving and humorous stories of the fight for equality through the movement's key players, shedding light on their personal struggles as well those of the movement in general." - Lucy Kaye & Marc Isaacs

A few historical landmarks

- Same-sex sexual acts legalized in Israel in 1988. In USA: 2003
- "Don't ask don't tell" introduced in to the US military in 1993. Repealed 2011.
- Israel – 1993 all restrictions on gays in the army removed entirely.
- Gay marriage legalized in USA in 2013.
- In Israel all marriages are conducted by orthodox religious authorities. There are no civil marriages at all.



Some of the heroes

Gal Uchovsky

Journalist turned broadcaster, hit the big time as a judge on A Star is Born – the Israeli version of American Idol



Yonatan Danilovich

Sued El Al Airlines for not granting his partner equal benefits as heterosexual partners. Each of Danilovich's wins in court were appealed against by El Al, until the Supreme Court ruled in his favor in 1994. In the meantime the Equal Opportunities Law of 1992 had already specifically forbidden discrimination on grounds of sexuality.

Shimon Shirazi

Set-designer and club manager, who established the famed Hanger 17 in Jerusalem

Uzi Even

One of Israel's top nuclear scientists, and the first openly gay member of Knesset (1993). He married Amit Kama (pictured) in Canada in 1994, and succeeded in having the marriage recognized in Israel by 1996. In 2012 he and Kama fought the courts again, and succeeded again – this time in having the courts grant them a divorce...



Elliot

Rock singer, activist, and sound-track composer (she composed the music for this film).

Amalia Ziv

Academic and activist, published widely on Queer and Feminist issues.



Adir Shteiner

Sued the army in for the right to be recognized as the widower of his partner of 8 years, and won after a 5 year battle. He then fought and won for the right to be mentioned on his late partner's grave-stone, and in 2004 won the right for his new partner to inherit his apartment as common-law spouse.



A Wider Bridge works to bring the LGBTQ communities of Israel and North America closer together. Our programs include educational and cultural activities here in the U.S., including this film series, LGBTQ trips to Israel, and our online magazine, www.awiderbridge.org.

A Wider Bridge commissioned these study guides from Makom, and consulted fully in their development. Makom is the think-and-do tank for adult Israel engagement. You can find Makom at www.makomisrael.org and at facebook.com/makomisrael.

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