



BAS CINEMATECH

“EIZE MAKOM NIFLA”

“What a Wonderful Place”

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 15, 2009

7:00 PM

FOLLOWED BY COFFEE, DESSERT, & FACILITATED DISCUSSION

This poignant and disturbing film raises questions about the changing face of Israeli culture and highlights the universal need for human dignity . . .

In the dead of night somewhere along the Israeli border near the Dead Sea, ex-cop Franco rounds up a group of female illegal immigrants to be sold as hookers and domestics by his unscrupulous current employer, local gangster Boss.



Among those corralled is Jana, a Ukrainian maid ultimately saved from the brothel by the birthmark on her face and a defiant attitude that rubs Boss the wrong way but has a certain allure to Franco, whose relationship with wife Ahuva, is painted as loving but tense.

Jana's lost purse falls into the hands of pudgy farmer Zeltzer, who is fascinated by a photo inside the purse of Jana.

Zeltzer has his own tense domestic situation salvaged only by a good relationship with one of his Thai workers, Vissit. Inevitably, the paths of these human chess pieces cross and cross again, illustrating the pitfalls of a changing world and the deceptive surface beauty of that wonderful place.

Winner of four Israeli Academy Awards, including Best Picture, Best Film at the Jerusalem International Film Festival, and Israel's 2005 official Oscar submission for Best Foreign Film. Adult content.

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