

# ZEITGEIST FILMS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## DESTINIES COLLIDE IN TEL AVIV AS ZEITGEIST BOWS ISRAELI STUNNER "JELLYFISH" ON DVD

**New York, July 24, 2008** — Winner of the Caméra d'or at the 2007 Cannes Film Festival, *Jellyfish (Meduzot)* is an endearing and beautifully filmed meditation on fate, and a standout in the current resurgence of Israeli cinema. Co-directed by popular Israeli author Etgar Keret (*The Girl on the Fridge*, *The Nimrod Flipout*) and his wife Shira Geffen, the film garnered widespread critical acclaim during its national theatrical run in over 80 markets.

Dreamily weaving together strands of longing and regret, *Jellyfish* explores the lives of three women struggling to come to terms with their destinies in modern-day Tel Aviv. Reeling from a recent break-up and haunted by a history of neglect from her self-absorbed parents, catering waitress Batya (Sarah Adler, Godard's *Notre Musique*) meets a seemingly abandoned little girl on the beach and feels compelled to take care of her. Newlywed Keren (Noa Knoller) dashes her hopes of a Caribbean honeymoon by breaking her leg at the wedding reception. Holed up in a dingy seaside hotel in the city, she goes stir-crazy while her new husband encounters a mysterious woman in the hallways. Filipino migrant worker and non-Hebrew speaker Joy (Ma-nenita De Latorre) has been thrown into jobs caring for the elderly, where she is dismissed as an outsider. With a young son on the other side of the world, she is torn between her determination to provide something better for him, and the emotions that beckon her to return.

Setting aside the heated political issues that so often overwhelm many Israeli films, *Jellyfish* refreshingly delves into aspects of Israel's distaff sociological and cultural identity. With elegance and striking cinematic imagery, directors Keret and Geffen frame the intersecting plights of these three women against the vast but calming Mediterranean Sea.

***Jellyfish* streets on September 30, 2008.**

### DVD SPECIAL FEATURES INCLUDE:

- New anamorphic master, enhanced for widescreen televisions
- Video interview with filmmakers Etgar Keret and Shira Geffen
- U.S. Theatrical Trailer
- Optional English subtitles
- Filmmaker Statement

### JELLYFISH

2007 • 78 minutes • Israel/France • Color • In Hebrew with English subtitles • 1.85:1 original theatrical aspect ratio • Not Rated

**For DVD screener requests, contact Elizabeth McKee at [elizabeth@zeitgeistfilms.com](mailto:elizabeth@zeitgeistfilms.com)**

**For other DVD press inquiries, contact Shannon Attaway at [shannon@zeitgeistfilms.com](mailto:shannon@zeitgeistfilms.com)**

Celebrating its 20th Anniversary as one of America's preeminent independent distributors, New York-based Zeitgeist Films has built an impressively diverse catalogue of foreign, documentary and arthouse titles by such renowned directors as Todd Haynes, Jan Svankmajer, Peter Greenaway, Abbas Kiarostami, Guy Maddin, Kirby Dick, Atom Egoyan, Agnès Varda, François Ozon, Derek Jarman, Yvonne Rainer, Olivier Assayas, Philippe Garrel and the Quay Brothers. Recent releases include Oscar winner *Nowhere in Africa*; blockbuster doc *The Corporation*; dance doc hit *Ballets Russes*; Himalayan charmer *Travellers & Magicians*; Oscar nominee *Sophie Scholl—The Final Days*; Oscar nominee *My Country, My Country*; Sundance winner *Into Great Silence*; Caméra d'Or winner *Jellyfish*; and 2008 Golden Gate Award winner *Up the Yangtze*. Launched in 2001, Zeitgeist Video has released dozens of highly praised DVDs, including Varda's National Society of Film Critics honoree *The Gleaners and I* and two-disc box set *Greenaway: The Early Films*. Recently released: Garrel's masterful May '68 drama *Regular Lovers*; the remastered Two-Disc Collector's Edition of Quay Brothers shorts, entitled *Phantom Museums*; and a lavish Four-Disc Box Set of Jarman features, entitled *Glitterbox*.

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## CRITICAL ACCLAIM FOR *JELLYFISH*

"A magical glow! Altogether charming! The film's spirit is refreshingly playful!"

—A.O. Scott, *The New York Times* (Critic's Pick)

"A dreamy, arty, alluringly cockeyed tale!" —Lisa Schwarzbaum, *Entertainment Weekly*

"Keret and Geffen have fashioned something similar to Miranda July's *Me and You and Everyone We Know...*" —Ty Burr, *Boston Globe*

"A subtle and refreshing look at Israeli society." —*Salon.com*

"Poignant and fantastic!" —J. Hoberman, *Village Voice*

"Seductive and intoxicating, playfully surreal and inexplicably moving, *Jellyfish* is almost impossible to pin down or even categorize. Artistic, daring, surprising, it resists fitting into words."

—Kenneth Turan, *Los Angeles Times*

"A beautifully strange movie...shot with a dreamy lucidity..." —Stephen Rea, *Philadelphia Inquirer*

"Like *Amélie* with an attitude!" —*News Blaze*

"Subtle visual motifs and judicious moments of magical realism demonstrate cinema as its most elegant." —*Los Angeles CityBeat*

"*Jellyfish* seems to float in its viewers' consciousness; you'll remember its images long afterward." —*Seattle Times*

"Acclaimed fiction writers Etgar Keret and Shira Geffen's marvelous debut feature *Jellyfish* is an even greater triumph than *Beaufort* and *The Band's Visit*." —*Jewish Transcript*

"Poetic.... Each scene's beauty is a deliberate testimony to the ephemerality of life." —*The Forward*

"Another example of the remarkable cinematic explosion of Israeli films garnering critical acclaim at international film festivals." —*JewishJournal.com*

"Feels like a dream...one that pulses and shimmers like waves lapping on the shore." —*World Jewish Digest*

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