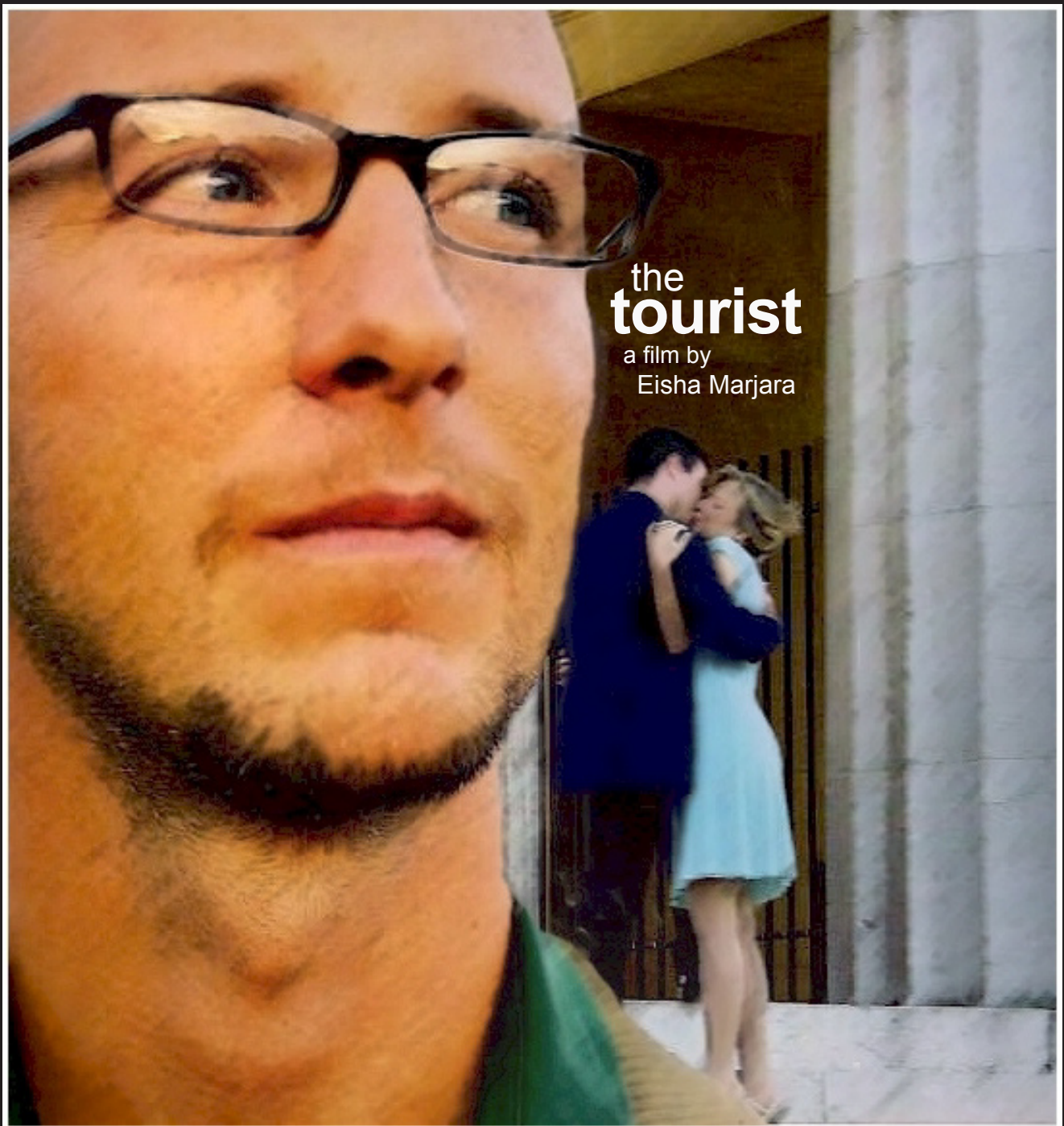


a magic carpet films production



PRESS INFORMATION

www.meet-the-tourist.com



Canada / Germany 2005

25 minutes, digital video, colour / B&W

(release date: Feb 22nd 2006, 24th Rendez-vous du Cinéma Québécois)

SYNOPSIS

(short version)

Ron, a Canadian tourist with a camera, is on a never-ending holiday recovering from a heartbreak after his wife left him for another man. When he winds up in Munich, he falls for a woman who is engaged to be married.

SYNOPSIS

(long version)

“I don’t know how a two week vacation had turned into a six month exile, but extended holidays always seemed to come naturally to me ... “

Ron

In Munich Ron’s holiday finally comes to an end ...

MUNICH is where Baroque opulence meets bucolic Bavarian custom: a town worthy of fables.

Some of the city’s architecture is a replica of buildings that were bombed during the war and the new replacements have an untainted brilliance that is both attractive and deceptively identical to their originals. The yearly Oktoberfest invites millions of tourists and upwardly mobile Münchenerers to deck out in traditional dress and participate in centuries-old Bavarian costumes. To a foreigner this raises the question: “is this for real ?” - a question relevant to anyone interested in knowing the truth, especially to a tourist who depends on the realism of the photographic image.

Especially to a traveller who has been deceived in love.

LOVE. Wanting it, losing it, getting over it: the struggle of the heart makes knowing the truth all the more troubling, especially to an “escape artist”. Ron, our tourist is on a holiday from reality. He has left home to forget a marriage that’s broken his heart – but then he meets Julia and Bernie whose relationship ironically plays out his own. A growing affection for Julia only adds to his confusion as Ron figures out the boundary between reality and projection.

In an attempt to escape his reality, Ron is forced to confront it head on in Munich, at the very place he sought evasion. Our tourist meanders through doubt, desire and his moral conscience in order to arrive to some place of truth in his search for love and resolve.

Eisha Marjara (writer / director)

Eisha Marjara first drew attention with the witty and incisive film "The Incredible Shrinking Woman" which received Honourable Mention at the Semana De Film Experimentale in Madrid in 1994. In 1999 she wrote and directed the feature docu-fiction "Desperately Seeking Helen", produced by The National Film Board of Canada which won the Jury Prize at the München Dokumentarfilm Festival in 2000 and the Critic's Choice award at the Locarno Film Festival. "The Tourist" is a German-Canadian co-production intended for international television sales and international film festivals. Eisha is currently preparing the production of her next feature films "360°", another Canadian / German co-production, as well as the documentary "Lolita Diaries".



2007 **"Lolita Diaries"** - writer / director
(documentary – in development)
prod: pma productions inc. / NFB

"360° over Berlin" - writer / director
(feature drama – pre-production – Canada / Germany)
prod: Magic Carpet Films / Alienus Mediaconsulting

2005 **"The Tourist"** - writer / director / editor
(25 min. - short drama – Canada / Germany)
prod: Magic Carpet Films

24th Rendez-vous du Cinéma Québécois
5th Female Eye Film Festival FeFF (nominated best short film)

1999 **"Desperately Seeking Helen"** - writer / director / editor (82 min. – docu-fiction)
prod / Story editor: David Wilson;
Exec. prod: Adam Symansky / Sally Bochner NFB / ONF

15. Internationales Dokumentarfilmfestival München, 2000 (Special Jury Price)
Mumbai Int'l Film Festival, 2000
52. festival internazionale del film Locarno, 1999 (Prix de La Semaine Critique)
9. Desh Pardesh Intra-National Festival, Toronto, 1999
6. Chicago Asian American Film Festival, 1999- 18. Int'l Women in the Director's Chair, Chicago 1999- 9. St. John's Int'l Women's Film and Video Film Festival

1994 **"The Incredible Shrinking Woman"** - writer / director / producer
(fiction, 16 mm)

Asian American Int'l Film Festival, NY 1995.
Rendez-Vous with Madness Film & Video Festival Toronto, 1995
Images Festival of Independent Film & Video Toronto, 1995
WTN, "Eye of the story", TV series, 1995.
Semana de Cine Experimental de Madrid, Spain, 1995 (Honourable Mention)

1993 **"SILO"** - director / editor / producer (experimental, 16 mm, 5 min)

1991 **"24 HRS"** - director / editor / producer (docu, 17 min)
Montreal Int'l Film Festival, 1992





Jean-Luc Julien (Ron)

Jean-Luc began his acting career in the theatre, playing the role of the Scarecrow in *The Wizard of Oz* at the tender age of 14. In 1992 he graduated from California State University, Los Angeles with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Theatre. Since then, he has spent over two decades of his life in the theatre: acting in approximately 25 plays and producing and directing over a dozen productions in Los Angeles, Munich, Dubai and Cape Town. In addition to his work in the theatre, he has also been involved in the international film industry: working as a writer, producer, director, production manager, cameraman, editor, assistant director, dialogue director/coach and actor. He currently lives in Munich, Germany.



Katharina Schwarz (Julia)

Since 1987 Katharina appeared in numerous tv movies, shorts and stageplays. Before graduating from acting school, she earned fame as a host for half a dozen tv shows. Apart from her regular acting Katharina also dedicated her skills to various charity theatre projects and documentaries on previously convicted young people in the streets of Berlin. 2005 had her appear as the female lead in the highly praised German thriller "Happy End". Katharina currently lives in Berlin, Germany.



Johannes Raspe (Bernie)

Johannes has been working as an actor since 1988. His credits include feature films, commercials and shorts. He has been working with such notable directors as the German Klaus Lemke and James Devereux. To a German audience Johannes is also known for his voice which can be heard in the dubbed versions of "Final Destination", "The 4400", "Empire", "Traffic" and many more. Apart from working as an actor Johannes also did various shorts of his own and is working on a feature-length film. He currently lives in Munich, Germany.





CAST & CREW

A Magic Carpet Films Production

The Tourist

A Film by Eisha Marjara

Ron	Jean-Luc Julien
Julia	Katharina Schwarz
Bernie	Johannes Raspe
Jan	Barret Jones
Flea Market Saleswoman	Lenny Daeghsels
Written, directed and edited by	Eisha Marjara
Produced by	Eisha Marjara Patrick Lange Ken Duken Bend Katzmarczyk Thomas Lenz
Consulting Producer	Bartek Latosinski
Cinematography	Sydney Alzate Chen, Hans Molar
Music	Dieter Wagner
Art design	Patricia Constantini
Production design	Cristobal Urbina
Sound editing	Sabrina Hellmig
Makeup	Christian Genzel
Continuity	
Production support	Alienus Mediaconsulting Picture Elements National Film Board of Canada Grand Hotel Pictures Main Film

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“The Tourist” was nominated as best short film at the 5th Female Eye Film Festival (FeFF)



layout by www.alienus.de

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