



AMIT HAI COHEN

Full Press Kit | Feb 24



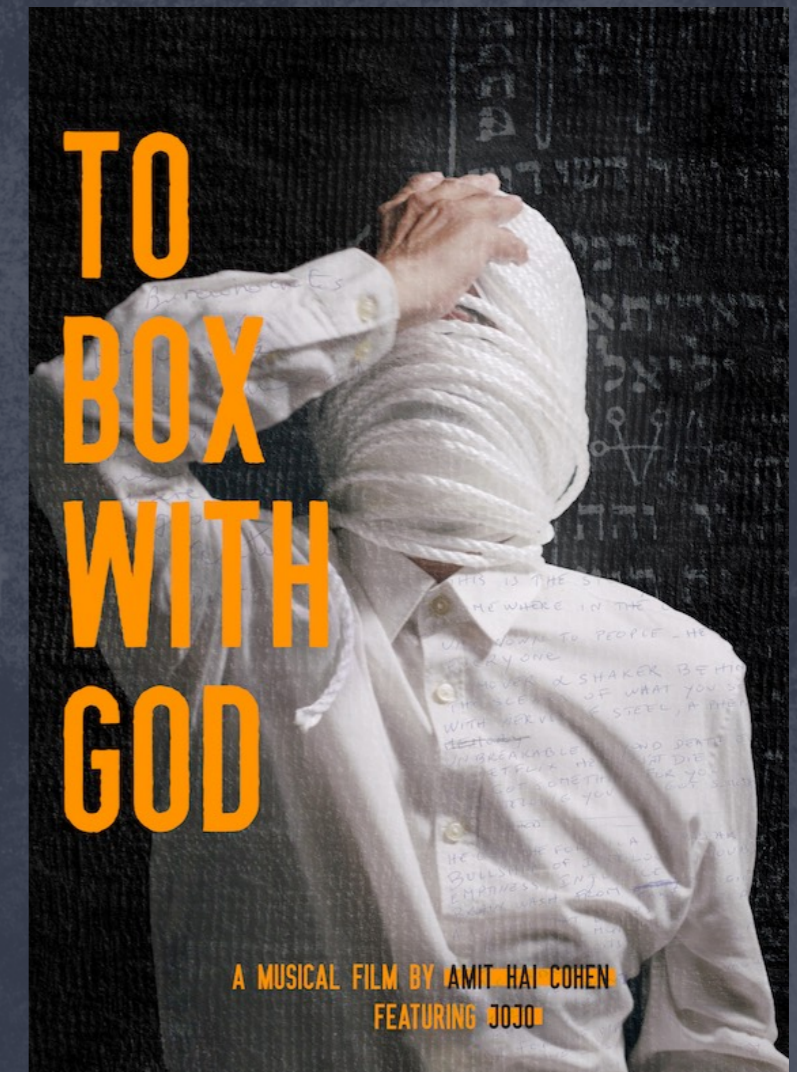
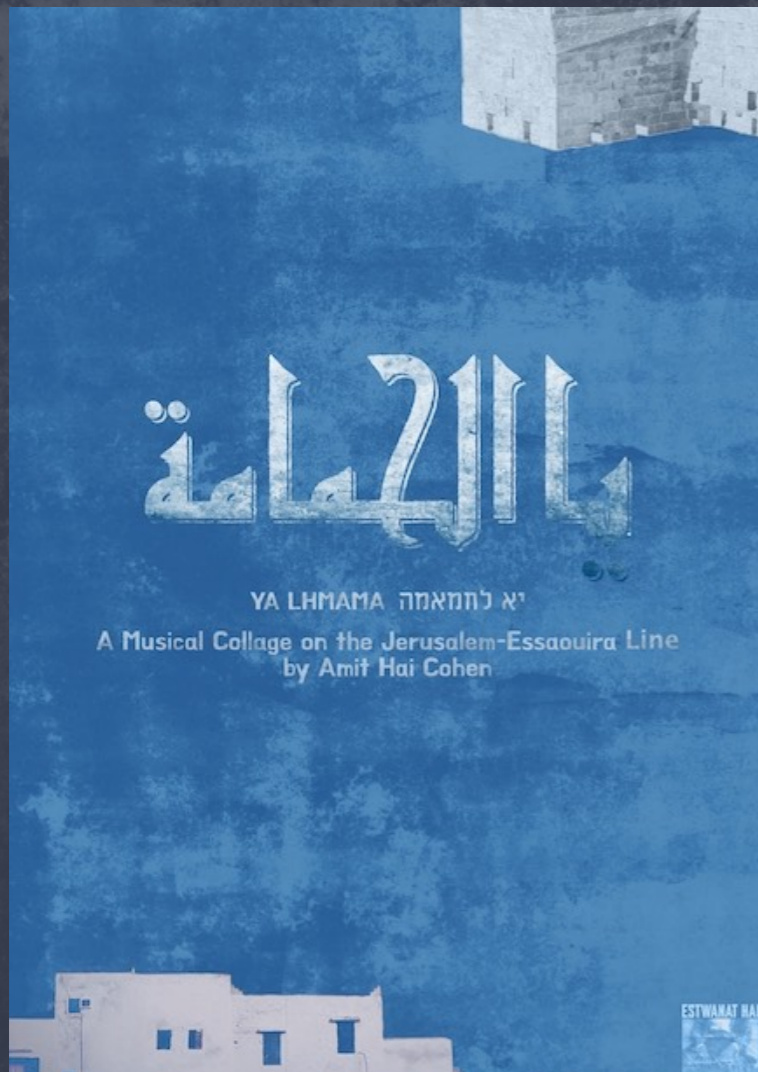
Musician, visual maker, and self-taught curator, Amit Hai Cohen works on the Jerusalem-Morocco axis, creating rich universes with mixed identities, languages, and aesthetics through his highly multidisciplinary creative process. He composes music for film and dance, including works like "King David" (2023) and 'Oil on Water,' for which he co-wrote the script and he has created several films such as "Stop the Evacuation" and the musical "To Box with God" (2021), along with numerous video clips and other visual projects.

Amit has produced numerous international musical projects, including 'Abiadi' and the electro-atlas show Arénas, collaborating with artists from the North African scene such as Moktar Gania, Karim Ziad and Kabareh Cheikhats. In 2019, he curated "Ziara", the Jerusalem Biennale's flagship exhibit featuring works by top contemporary Moroccan artists from around the world. Since then, he has been creating content for museums, including a recent contribution to the permanent exhibit of the 'Tower of David' .

Amit, along with his life and stage partner Neta Elkayam, starred in director Kamal Hachkar's documentary film 'In Your Eyes I See my Country' (2019), which explores their early careers. In 2019, they were awarded the Erez Biton Prize for 'Originality, Courage, and Breakthrough'. In 2022, Amit and Neta collaborated to create 'Hilula,' a multidisciplinary opera.

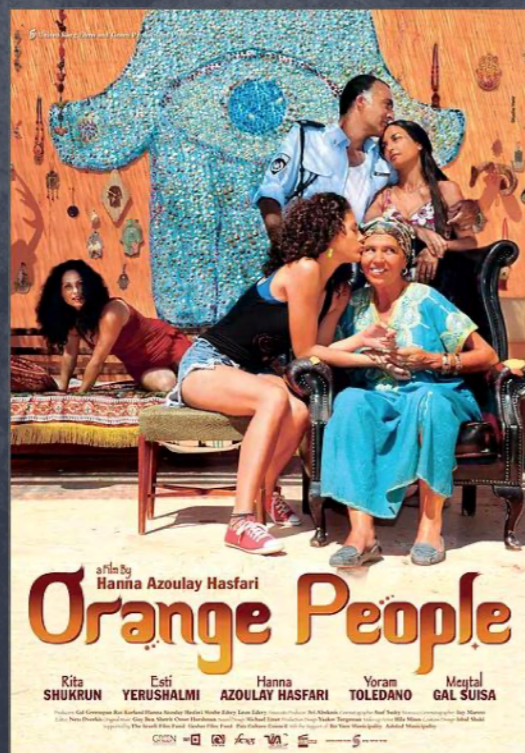
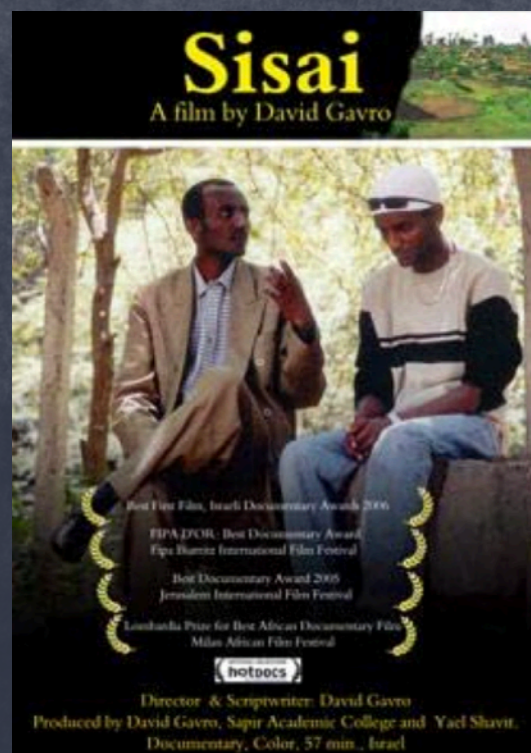
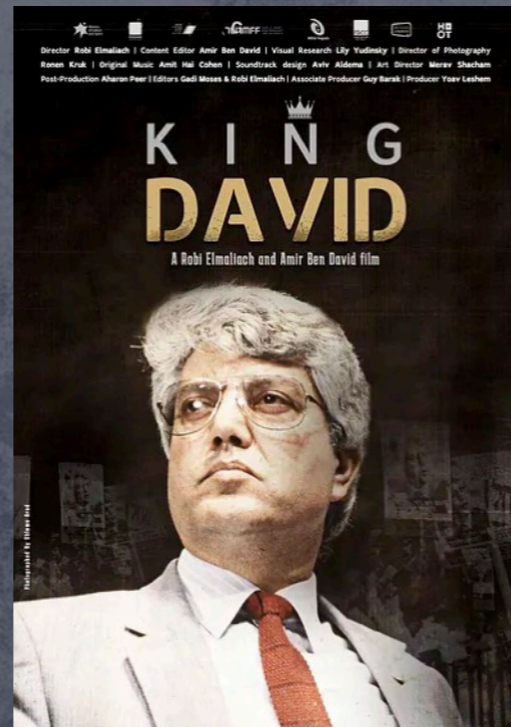
FILMS

Amit Hai Cohen created several films, including 'Traf Traf,' (2009) 'Stop the Evacuation,' (2012) which is part of a series of films within the struggles he took part in, and the docu-music films 'Ya Lhmama' (2013) and 'To Box with God' (2021).



Contributing his unique musical touch to various projects, Amit has composed numerous soundtracks for cinema and dance, including works such as 'King David', 'Levantinit', 'Oil on Water', for which he also co-wrote the screenplay, and the theme song for Hana Azoulai Hasfari's film 'Orange People'.

SOUNDTRACKS





Curating 'ZIARA', the international flagship exhibition of the 2019 Jerusalem Biennale, Amit Hai Cohen brought together top Moroccan artists from around the globe to showcase shared wisdom. Held at the historic YMCA building for two months, it became one of the most highly attended events in the Biennale's history.



**CURATION
CREATION**

As part of his work as a content creator for museums, Amit recently collaborated with illustrator David Polanski to create an immersive video installation for the Tower of David Museum's permanent exhibition. This portrayal of Jerusalem's yearly cycle across three religions showcases Amit's concept, scripting, and a soundtrack blending prayers and songs from over 60 worshippers and musicians.





עמית חי כהן מביא לירושלים את מרוקו החדשה

"זיירה", תערוכה חדשה שאצר המייקפי עמית חי כהן, תוצרת בירושלים אמנים מישראל ומוחזגה לה, עמית כהן יחד עם המורשת המרוקאית של אבותיו. בראיון עמו הוא מסביר מדוע נחמד לו לתפוס את המוקד הירוק הזה ומדוע הוא רוצה להציג את מרוקו החדשה.



Culture 404
LE MAROC À LA BIENNALE DE JÉRUSALEM: QUAND L'ART RÉUSSIT LÀ OÙ LA POLITIQUE ÉCHOUE
Par Zineb Ibnouzahr (@ZinebIbnouzahr) le 01/11/2019 à 17h32



HAARETZ

New Exhibition Brings Contemporary Morocco to Jerusalem

In "Ziara," featuring local and international artists brought together by their shared roots, curator Amit Hai Cohen aims to harness the force of the 'global social network' of Moroccan-ness to show the modern face of this North African culture



Jewish Moroccan Musician Filmmaker Amit Hai Cohen Curates Main Exhibition At 4th Jerusalem Biennale



nt : DR
nière fois depuis sa création en 2013, la Biennale s'ouvre aux artistes non juifs et aux relations interreligieuses... le Maroc y participe.

création, en 2013, la Biennale de Jérusalem a pour vocation de révéler le monde juif à travers l'art contemporain. Scène artistique par plusieurs lieux emblématiques à travers la ville, c'est ici que aux ans se retrouvent des artistes venus du monde entier pour à travers le prisme de la judaïté leurs idées, leurs esprits, leurs expériences.

incement, la Biennale de Jérusalem accueillait les œuvres de près de 100 artistes, pour la plupart originaires d'Israël, autour d'une thématique : «Qu'est-ce que l'art juif contemporain?» tout en s'interrogeant sur l'existence même de cette catégorie d'art. Depuis, l'événement a continué à évoluer en décidant de s'ouvrir au monde.



During the installation of 'ZIARA' exhibition at the Jerusalem Biennale 2019. Photo by Emil Salman



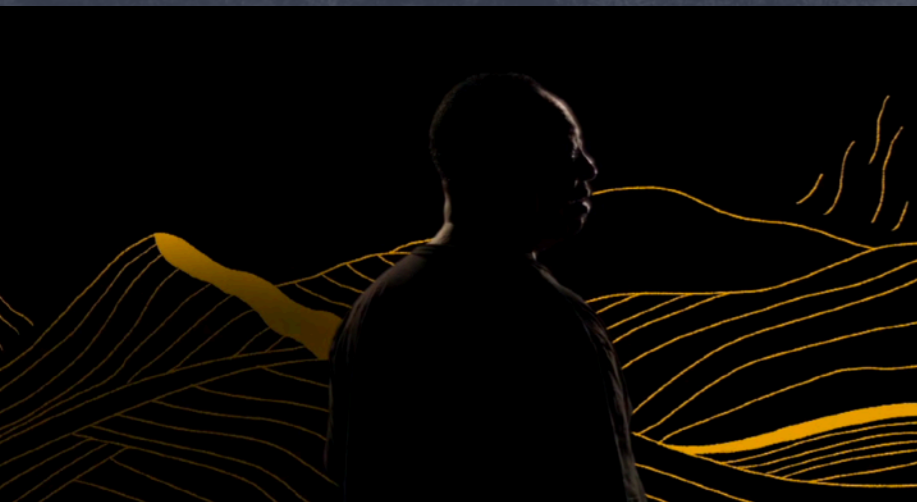
MUSICAL COLLABORATIONS

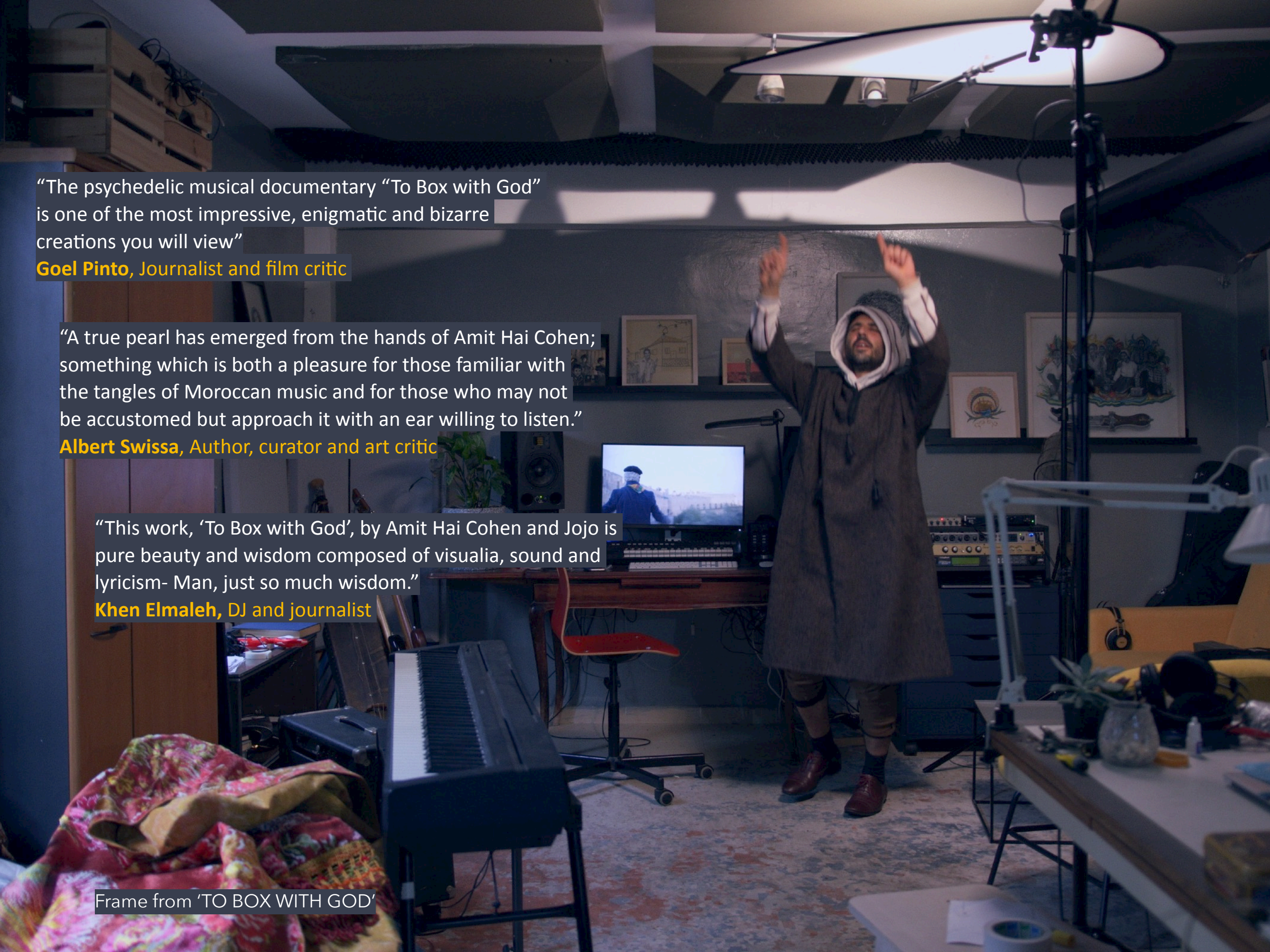
Known for his distinctive sound, Amit has played with musical icons like Rabbi Haim Louk and Maurice El Madiuni. He has produced for the renowned Gnawa master, Moktar Gania, and arranged for ensembles and orchestras such as the Andalusian Orchestra of Ashdod and Montreal. Additionally, he has shared the stage with Karim Ziad, Kabareh Cheikhats, the poet Roy Hasan, and others.



VISUAL WORKS

Directing music, dance, and art videos has played a vital role in Amit's body of work in recent years, collaborating with The Piyut ensemble, choreographer Tzvika Hizikias, Moktar Gania, leading organizations, museums, and others





“The psychedelic musical documentary “To Box with God” is one of the most impressive, enigmatic and bizarre creations you will view”

Goel Pinto, Journalist and film critic

“A true pearl has emerged from the hands of Amit Hai Cohen; something which is both a pleasure for those familiar with the tangles of Moroccan music and for those who may not be accustomed but approach it with an ear willing to listen.”

Albert Swissa, Author, curator and art critic

“This work, ‘To Box with God’, by Amit Hai Cohen and Jojo is pure beauty and wisdom composed of visualia, sound and lyricism- Man, just so much wisdom.”

Khen Elmaleh, DJ and journalist

Frame from ‘TO BOX WITH GOD’



With partner in life and creation
NETA ELKAYAM



Together with the international artist and singer, Neta Elkayam, Amit performed around the world arranging and musically producing projects such as 'Abiadi', the tribute to Zohara Elafsia, and the electro show 'Arenas'. Together they collaborated with top artists in the North African scene and gathered around them a large audience and worldwide recognition. In 2022, they created the multidisciplinary opera "Hilula" for the Israel Festival.



'In Your Eyes I See My Country' (2019), a film by Kamal Hachkar, documents the early musical journey of Amit Hai Cohen and Neta Elkayam along the Morocco-Jerusalem axis. The film aired multiple times during Moroccan prime-time television and was screened at festivals worldwide.



*In your Eyes,
I see my Country*
في عينيك كشوف بلادي
A FILM BY
Kamal Hachkar



At the premiere of the 2019 Marrakesh Film Festival

PRODUCER Kamal Hachkar, HK'ART STUDIO / CO-PRODUCER Sébastien Marques, TIMBIA FILMS / CINEMATOGRAPHY Philippe Bellaïche
EDITING Yaël Bitton & Nadia Ben Rachid / SOUND ENGINEERING Yassine Bellouquid & Tully Chen

The couple participated in several documentaries, including Ron Cahli's 'Tsafrokaim' and Jumana Mana's 'A Magical Substance Flows into Me'



À travers le parcours de la chanteuse Net Elkayam c'est toute l'histoire de la diaspo marocaine installée en Israël qui se dessine création en exil, c'est ici.



NETA ELKAYAM & AMIT HAI COHEN
POUR L'AMOUR DU PATRIMOINE JUDEO-MAROCAIN !

LELKO JUIF MAROCAIN DE TROUBADOUR REVIENT AVEC UN NOUVEL EP COMPOSÉ DE TROIS PROLOGES: NETA ELKAYAM & AMIT HAI COHEN FRONTIÈRE DU CONFINEMENT POUR ENRIGESTIR LA REPRISE QUI LES ONT RENUS CÉLÈBRES: HAKA A HAMA DE ZAHRA EL FASSIA, JUNDI QUE « MURAI, NIKLARI » ET « MEPIKA ». UNE ODE AU PATRIMOINE CHALDI JUDEO-MAROCAIN. PAR YANNA GOMEZ



Amit Hai Cohen : « En Israël marocaine vous accueille à ci Amit Hai Cohen est un musicien et cinéaste son, le visuel et les mots afin de raconter



Amit Hai Cohen and Neta Elkayam currently reside in New Orleans, Louisiana, where they pursue their creative passions. They participate as visiting artists for the 'BAMAH' program at Xavier University, sharing insights about their art, life experiences, and everything in between.

