

—Glenn Kenny, VANITY FAIR



# Harold and Lillian

## A Hollywood Love Story

A FILM BY DANIEL RAIM "HAROLD AND LILLIAN: A HOLLYWOOD LOVE STORY"  
HAROLD MICHELSON LILLIAN MICHELSON MEL BROOKS FRANCIS FORD COPPOLA DANNY DEVITO  
ORIGINAL STORYBOARDS BY PATRICK MATE CINEMATOGRAPHY BY BATTISTE FENWICK DANIEL RAIM  
PRODUCED AND EDITED BY DANIEL RAIM JENNIFER RAIM ORIGINAL MUSIC BY DAVE LEBOLT  
EXECUTIVE PRODUCED BY DANNY DEVITO WRITTEN AND DIRECTED BY DANIEL RAIM

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## HAROLD AND LILLIAN: A HOLLYWOOD LOVE STORY

A FILM BY DANIEL RAIM

A ZEITGEIST FILMS RELEASE



2016 . USA . 94 mins . Color . In English . Dolby 5.1 . Digital . 1.85:1 aspect ratio

Available formats: DCP, Blu-ray

### Theatrical & Festival Booking Contacts:

Nancy Gerstman or Emily Russo / Zeitgeist Films  
nancy@zeitgeistfilms.com • emily@zeitgeistfilms.com / 212-274-1989

**Filmmaker Contact:** Daniel Raim • adamafilms.com • daniel@adamafilms.com

**Press Contact:** Sasha Berman • sashaberman@me.com

**Website and Trailer:** haroldandlillian.com

**Hi-Res Stills & Press Materials:** <http://adamafilms.com/press>

## **HAROLD AND LILLIAN: A HOLLYWOOD LOVE STORY**

### **SYNOPSIS**

A fascinating and moving account of the romantic and creative partnership of storyboard artist Harold Michelson and film researcher Lillian Michelson: two unsung heroes of Hollywood's Golden Age.

Harold and Lillian worked on hundreds of renowned films including *The Ten Commandments*, *The Apartment*, *The Birds*, *Who's Afraid Of Virginia Woolf?*, *The Graduate*, *Rosemary's Baby*, *Fiddler On The Roof*, *Scarface*, *Full Metal Jacket* and many more.

Although the couple was responsible for some of Hollywood's most iconic examples of visual storytelling, their contributions remain largely uncredited. Through an engaging mix of love letters, film clips and candid conversations with Harold and Lillian, Danny DeVito, Mel Brooks, Francis Ford Coppola and others, this deeply engaging documentary from Academy Award®-nominated director Daniel Raim chronicles their remarkable marriage and extraordinary careers through six decades of movie-making history.

**HAROLD AND LILLIAN will open in theaters in Spring 2017**





## **HAROLD AND LILLIAN: A HOLLYWOOD LOVE STORY**

### **DIRECTOR'S BIOGRAPHY**

#### **DANIEL RAIM - WRITER/DIRECTOR**

Daniel Raim is an Oscar®-nominated film director born in Israel and raised in the US. From 1994 to 1997, Daniel served in the Israeli Defense Forces (Education Corps) as a documentary filmmaker. During his service, Daniel made short films about soldiers who performed music and theater for communities living in underground air raid shelters in the Northern borders of Israel during wartime. In 1997, Daniel attended the American Film Institute Conservatory in Los Angeles where he studied under one of Alfred Hitchcock's most esteemed collaborators, Production Designer Robert F. Boyle.

Daniel is known for his "informative and deeply moving" (*Variety*) trilogy of documentaries about unsung heroes of Hollywood's Golden Age. His debut film, an intimate profile on Boyle entitled *The Man on Lincoln's Nose* (2000, 40 min), was nominated for the 2000 Academy Award® for Best Documentary Short Subject. His second film, *Something's Gonna Live* (2010, 78 min), confirmed his talent as a director and storyteller and premiered at the AFI Film Fest. *Something's Gonna Live* was critically acclaimed during its theatrical release, and received a *Los Angeles Times* Critics' Pick from Kenneth Turan. His third film, *Harold and Lillian: A Hollywood Love Story* (2015, 94) premiered as an Official Selection of the 2015 Cannes Film Festival, and nominated for The Golden Eye Award.

Daniel has a passion for education, and in 2016 he embarked on an academic tour through India, where he screened his trilogy and lectured on cinema literacy and the art and craft of documentary filmmaking.

Daniel is currently writing and directing an original series for Criterion Collection, to be launched on FilmStruck in mid-2017. *Harold and Lillian* will be theatrically released in April 2017, followed by the television premiere on Turner Classic Movies (TCM). Daniel lives in Los Angeles with his wife Jennifer and their son Akiva.

You can follow Daniel's work on:  
[AdamaFilms.com](http://AdamaFilms.com)  
[HaroldAndLillian.com](http://HaroldAndLillian.com)



## **HAROLD AND LILLIAN: A HOLLYWOOD LOVE STORY**

### **EDUCATIONAL SCREENING AND DISCUSSION WITH OSCAR-NOMINATED DIRECTOR DANIEL RAIM**

#### **FOR PROGRAM EVENT CONSIDERATION**

SOMETHING'S GONNA LIVE (2012) and the follow up documentary feature HAROLD AND LILLIAN: A HOLLYWOOD LOVE STORY (2015) are now available for educational screenings for film schools, design schools, colleges, university programs, and media centers.

#### **FILMMAKER AVAILABLE**

Daniel Raim, whose earlier film about production designer Robert Boyle, *The Man on Lincoln's Nose* (2000), was nominated for an Oscar, is available for appearances, discussions and post-screening Q&As. Local professional cinema artists are encouraged to participate in post-screening discussions.

#### **DISCUSSION TOPICS**

- Our goal is to use the compelling stories told in the films to stimulate conversation about the craft of cinema literacy, documentary filmmaking, production design, cinematography, film history, visual art and the importance of learning from our elders.
- The aim is to inspire critical thinking about how one can capture the authenticity of filmmaking, what it means to be an artist, and what can be gained – as individuals, artists, and a society – when collaboration and conversation is encouraged between generations.

#### **SCREENINGS TO DATE INCLUDE**

- \* AFI Conservatory: Harold Lloyd Master Seminar
- \* Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences
- \* Walt Disney Imagineering
- \* Pixar Animation Studios
- \* AFI FEST
- \* DreamWorks Animation SKG
- \* Canadian Film Center/TIFF Bell Lightbox

Photo: Director **Daniel Raim** presenting "Harold and Lillian" at the 2015 Cannes Film Festival.



## **HAROLD AND LILLIAN: A HOLLYWOOD LOVE STORY**

### **AWARDS AND FESTIVALS**

#### **NOMINEE - GOLDEN EYE AWARD**

CANNES FILM FESTIVAL - OFFICIAL SELECTION

#### **OPENING NIGHT FILM**

HOT DOCS DOC SOUP SUNDAYS

#### **WINNER**

BEST DOCUMENTARY AUDIENCE AWARD  
SONOMA INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL

#### **WINNER**

BEST DOCUMENTARY AUDIENCE AWARD  
SAN LUIS OBISPO INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL

#### **WINNER**

BEST DOCUMENTARY  
THE NIAGARA INTEGRATED FILM FESTIVAL

#### **AUDIENCE FAVORITE**

INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL ROTTERDAM

#### **BEST OF FEST**

SANTA BARBARA INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL

#### **OFFICIAL SELECTION**

JERUSALEM INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL

MIAMI JEWISH FILM FESTIVAL

SAN FRANCISCO JEWISH FILM FESTIVAL

DOC NYC FEST

INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL INDIA, GOA

RIVERRUN

BUENOS AIRES INTERNATIONAL FESTIVAL OF INDEPENDENT FILM

JEONJU INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL

TCM FEST

EDINBOUGH INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL

VANCOUVER INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL

HOT SPRINGS DOCUMENTARY FILM FESTIVAL

## **HAROLD AND LILLIAN: A HOLLYWOOD LOVE STORY**

### **DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT – DANIEL RAIM**

I first encountered Harold Michelson as a student at the AFI Conservatory in 1997. He was a sharp-witted, loveable and gifted storyboard artist and production designer. Harold taught a class at AFI called “Camera Angle Projection” and confounded us with his detailed knowledge of drawing storyboards that establish what the camera, fitted with a particular lens, sees in any given shot. His boards often included a miniature plan detailing the camera’s lens, height, and tilt. However, Harold’s talent reaches far beyond technical wizardry—his *ideas* for cinematic compositions would become some of the greatest ‘shots’ in film history.

On *The Birds* and *Marnie*, Harold helped bring Hitchcock’s visions to life on paper—often times long before the script was written. Cinematographer Robert Surtees set up just about every shot in *The Graduate* per Harold’s innovative storyboards. *The Ten Commandments*, *Spartacus*, *Cleopatra*; from *Ben-Hur* through *Spaceballs*, Harold lent his cinematic genius to hundreds of movies. Yet, most of his work is uncredited.

Lillian Michelson is considered “the dean of film research,” and has contributed to hundreds of classic American movies in her own right, including *The Birds*, *Fiddler on the Roof*, *Chinatown*, all the *Rocky* movies, *Annie Hall* and *Manhattan*. From period dramas to crime thrillers, Lillian’s tenacity, research ability, and acquaintances on both sides of the law contributed to the *authenticity* of hundreds of films. Most of her work is uncredited as well.

I wanted to bring to light these little-known parts of the filmmaking process.

Harold and Lillian’s story humanizes Hollywood—an industry sustained by numerous hard-working cinema artisans; master craftsmen and craftswomen who give their lives, their genius and their hearts to the movies.

Beyond Harold and Lillian’s contribution to cinema, their story can’t be told without weaving in their 60-year marriage—a creative, challenging, and profoundly loving partnership.

HAROLD AND LILLIAN: A HOLLYWOOD LOVE STORY spans the Golden Age of Hollywood through New Hollywood and beyond. It’s a portrait of a time, and an intimate chronicle of their epic journey of life, love, family, and making great movies.

You’ve never met anyone like Harold and Lillian.

—Daniel Raim

# **HAROLD AND LILLIAN: A HOLLYWOOD LOVE STORY**

## **END CREDITS**

### **FEATURING**

Written and Directed by  
DANIEL RAIM

Featuring  
HAROLD MICHELSON – storyboard artist, production designer  
LILLIAN MICHELSON – film researcher  
GENE ALLEN – production designer  
JAMES D. BISSELL – production designer  
MEL BROOKS – actor, director  
FRANCIS FORD COPPOLA – writer, director  
STUART CORNFELD – producer  
RICK CARTER – production designer  
DANNY DEVITO – actor, director  
GABRIEL HARDMAN – storyboard artist  
BILL KROHN – journalist, film critic  
PATRICK MATE – animator  
ANAHID NAZARIAN – producer  
NORM NEWBERRY – art director  
RICHARD SYLBERT – production designer  
TOM WALSH – production designer  
MARC WANAMAKER – archivist, historian

Produced and Edited by  
DANIEL RAIM JENNIFER RAIM

Original Storyboards of Harold and Lillian by  
PATRICK MATE

Cinematography by  
BATTISTE FENWICK DANIEL RAIM

Music by  
DAVE LEBOLT

Executive Producer  
DANNY DEVITO

### **A ZEITGEIST FILMS RELEASE**

247 CENTRE ST • 2ND FL • NEW YORK • NY 10013  
www.zeitgeistfilms.com • [mail@zeitgeistfilms.com](mailto:mail@zeitgeistfilms.com) (212) 274-1989 • FAX (212) 274-1644