

Best Director Award  
Israeli Competition  
**DOCAVIV**  
|2020|

**BEST  
DEBUT FILM**  
ISRAELI DOCUMENTARY  
COMPETITION  
2020

**BEST  
CINEMATOGRAPHY**  
ISRAELI DOCUMENTARY  
COMPETITION  
2020

Cinematography Award  
Israeli Competition  
**DOCAVIV**  
|2020|

OFFICIAL SELECTION  
**full frame**  
documentary film festival  
2021

OFFICIAL SELECTION  
MOSCOW INTERNATIONAL  
DOCUMENTARY FILM FESTIVAL  
2021  
**Doker**

# Война The War of Рай Синициной Raya Sinitsina

a film by  
**EFIM GRABOY**

Production **YAHALY GAT, EFIM GRABOY** Cinematography **EFIM GRABOY, DANIEL BINSTED**  
Sound supervisor **ANTON LEVKIN** Composer **OMRI BEHR** Editing **EFIM GRABOY** Additional Cameramen **DARIA TURETSKI,**  
**DIMA KONOPLOV, SHAI SKIFF, VIKTOR PETRENKO** Digital colorist **TOMER BAHAT** Graphic design **TAL BALTUCH**

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# THE WAR OF RAYA SINITSINA

ISRAEL, RUSSIA, 2020, 89 min, documentary

a film by EFIM GRABOY

Language: Russian, Hebrew | Subtitles: English

Screening Format: 2K DCP | 5.1 | Color and Black and White

## Synopsis

A young filmmaker meets and follows Raya, a 94-year-old Soviet war heroine who fought in the Siege of Leningrad. As Head of the World War II Disabled Veterans Club in her city, she introduces him to a vanishing generation in Israel. Her own fighting spirit and willpower are still fierce. As Raya faces the loss of her last comrades and her health deteriorates, the two become involved in a spiritual process that awakens the young woman within her; Through her eyes and dreams, they create their own reality in which time and age lose all meaning. Their growing closeness transforms a film about war and loss into a mystical story of love and friendship.





## Director's Statement

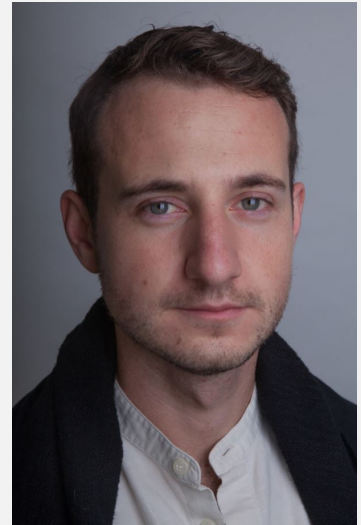
What brings a young man to dedicate four years of his life, making a film about a 94 years old woman or a war that he was always keeping a distance from? The universe mystically brought me to Raya Sinitsina - rational or emotional explanation of our connection simply cannot show all the layers of it, as our vibrations were on a different level of existence. I would dare to say that it is a karmic connection, and at the climax of our mutual journey I was lucky to get answers for the question I was asking in the beginning of this text. Together we touched a war trauma of Raya, in the deepest level of her soul. By making her feel a young woman, soldier, again, me and Raya were able to create a therapeutic space. I was there with her, but not as a director or a friend, rather as a soldier she met during a war. Then I realized that the film is beyond this particular life. For me this film is a prayer of a soul that intends to get free from the curse of war. The camera was just an excuse. When I just began this journey, I planned to portray World War II from a perspective of our time, a milestone in history - when an army of senior soldiers, witnesses - are almost gone, but instead I found love and peace. So this film is a farewell letter for those who participated in that war.



## Director's Biography

Efim Graboy is a young, award winning, filmmaker - Steve Tisch School of Film and Television alumnus.

His short fiction and documentary films were screened and awarded in international film festivals. In 2019 he was nominated for the prestigious IDA Awards for best short documentary with a film, Valley of The Rulers. His experimental short series was nominated for best video of 2019 award by Vimeo. Also his projects were exhibited in contemporary art museum exhibitions.



The War of Raya Sinitsina is Efim's first feature film, it won best director and cinematography awards at DocAviv 2020 and Best Debut Feature and Cinematography awards by Israeli Documentary Association.

## Credits

Writer, Director, Editor	Efim Graboy
Producer	Yahaly Gat, Efim Graboy
Cinematographer	Efim Graboy, Daniel Binsted
Composer	Omri Behr
Sound Design	Anton Levkin

## Awards

DocAviv 2020 | Best Director

DocAviv 2020 | Best Cinematography

Israeli Documentary Competition 2020 | Best Debut Film

Israeli Documentary Competition 2020 | Best Cinematography

## Festivals

Full Frame Documentary Film Festival 2021 | Official Selection

DOKer Moscow International Documentary Film Festival 2021 | Official Selection

[Trailer](#) | [Instagram](#) | [Facebook Page](#)

## Film Promotion, Screening Inquiries, Sales and Press Contact

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