

**Los Angeles Filmforum presents**  
***Gaza Ghetto*, by Per-Åke Holmquist, Joan Mandell, Pierre Bjorklund**  
**Sunday, March 24, 2024, 7:30 pm**  
**At 2220 Arts + Archives**

Los Angeles Filmforum is the city's longest running organization dedicated to weekly screenings of experimental film, documentaries, video art, and experimental animation. 2024 is our 49th year. [www.lafilmforum.org](http://www.lafilmforum.org)

**Remote Conversation with co-director Joan Mandell and filmmaker Zaina Bseiso**

**Rare 16mm screening!**

In the first documentary film made in Gaza, *Gaza Ghetto* highlights the historical precedents that fuel the current cycles of violence at the heart of the Israeli occupation. Intimate scenes of family life (a child born, a grandmother dies) in Jabalia, the largest Palestinian refugee camp, are intercut with visits to the architects of the Israeli military occupation. Ariel Sharon, Benyamin Beneliezar and soldiers on patrol candidly discuss their responsibilities. Spend 82 minutes with the Abu el-Adel family to gain a glimpse into the recurrent historical nature of the aggression and multifaceted manifestations of the siege that paved the way to today's events.

Special Thanks to Sebastian Di Trolio, Kathleen Quillian, Shapeshifters Cinema, Joan Mandell, Patricia Ledesma Villon

**Joan Mandell** is a documentary filmmaker, oral historian and journalist. She co-directed the feature-length documentary, *Gaza Ghetto: Portrait of a Palestinian Family 1948-84*. She co-founded Al-Fajr, an English-language newsweekly, and was an instructor at Birzeit University in the occupied Palestinian territories. She served for two decades on the editorial board of Middle East Report, has worked extensively with the Arab American National Museum in Dearborn, and now teaches at Georgetown University's Center for Contemporary Arab Studies.

**Zaina Bseiso** is a film director, producer, and curator working primarily in documentary and experimental cinema. Her work explores the relationship between the materialities of place and issues of memory, surveillance, corporeality, and nationalism. She received her master's degree in film and video from the California Institute of the Arts. Bseiso is based in Los Angeles and was raised in Egypt by Palestinian parents. Her practice mainly traverses Egypt, Palestine, Cuba, Mexico, and the US. She is co-founder of Bahía Colectiva, a community of filmmakers that collaborate in practice and curation.

Palestine Children's Relief Fund: <https://pcrfl.app.neoncrm.com/forms/general>  
Medical Aid for Palestinians: <https://www.map.org.uk/>

**Program:**

***Gaza Ghetto: Portrait of a Palestinian Family***

(1985, 16mm, color, sound, 95 min. )

Directors: Per-Åke Holmquist, Joan Mandell, Pierre Bjorklund

Producers: Per-Åke Holmquist, Joan Mandell

Cinematography: Per-Åke Holmquist

Sound: Pierre Bjorklund

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This program is supported by the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors through the Los Angeles County Arts Commission, the Department of Cultural Affairs, City of Los Angeles, and the Mike Kelley Foundation for the Arts. We also depend on our members, ticket buyers, and individual donors.

Coming Soon:

April 2 - Scott Stark: Alternating Frames

April 17 - *Race d'Ep*

April 21 – The Films of Nora Sweeney

April 28 – Films by Pat O’Neill with live music by Vinny Golia, Holden King and others

May 5 – Co-present short films from Eastern Europe with SEEFest

June 2 – Prismatic Ground Festival West

Memberships available, \$40 Student \$75 Individual, \$125 Dual, or \$225 Silver Nitrate

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