

"FOR THE DEAD AND THE LIVING
WE MUST BEAR WITNESS."

ELIE WIESEL

"AN UNBELIEVABLE JOURNEY"
TO REMEMBER THE PAST."

BEN COOPER (LIBERATOR OF DACHAU KL)



"A VERY WELL DONE FILM WITH
HIGH EMOTIONAL IMPACT."

FRANK GRUNWALD (AUSCHWITZ SURVIVOR)



A FILM BY ASHTON GLECKMAN

WE SHALL NOT DIE NOW

THE STORY OF HISTORY'S DARKEST HOUR

BLACKBIRD PICTURES PRESENTS, A FILM BY ASHTON GLECKMAN, PRODUCED BY BERNARD HILLER, SAMANTHA MAYNARD, MIRIAM STERNLICHT AND GI ORMAN
MAIN THEME BY BENJAMIN WALLFISCH, ORIGINAL MUSIC COMPOSED BY ASHTON GLECKMAN AND MICHAEL FRANKENBERGER, SCHOLARS DR MICHAEL BERENBAUM
AND STEVE CARR, ADDITIONAL FOOTAGE BY THE UNITED STATES HOLOCAUST MEMORIAL MUSEUM AND CLAUDE LANZMANN SHOAH COLLECTION IN ASSOCIATION
WITH THE USHMM ORAL HISTORY COLLECTION FEATURING CANTOR MOSHE TAUBE, FRANK GRUNWALD, ANITA LASKER WALLFISCH AND JACK BETTEL

DECEMBER 5TH

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FILM SYNOPSIS

We Shall Not Die Now is an upcoming documentary film that explores the SHOAH, when between 1939 and 1945, over seventeen million individuals were systematically murdered by the Nazi regime.

Seventy-five years after the conclusion of the war, this film explores not only the horrific human tragedy and what we can learn from it, but also the resilience of those that rebuilt their lives in spite of the unimaginable. Told by the survivors, liberators, and others who experienced it first hand, *We Shall Not Die Now* is an exploration into the darkest and brightest sides of the human spirit.

PROJECT HISTORY

We Shall Not Die Now was filmed in over a dozen states in the US, throughout Poland at all of the various historical landmarks and death camps, and also in the UK. The filmmaker, Ashton Gleckman, personally filmed over 25 interviews with survivors, liberators, scholars, and more. Ashton spent over a decade starting at the young age of eight studying the Holocaust before making the film. He also spent a great deal of time researching at the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum and speaking to scholars in preparation for filming.

Those interviewed include the world's preeminent scholar of the Holocaust, Dr. Michael Berenbaum (*Director, Sigi Ziering Institute*), Cantor Moshe Taube (#22 on *Schindler's List*), Jack Betteil (*survivor of six concentration camps*), Auschwitz survivors Frank Grunwald and Ben Lesser, Ben Ferencz (*the last living prosecutor of the Nuremberg Trials*), and Ben Cooper (*one of the last living liberators of the Nazi concentration camps*).

The film incorporates a collection of archival footage, photographs, interviews, and footage captured during the making of Claude Lanzmann's iconic documentary, *Shoah*, filmed over the span of eleven years in the 1970s and 1980s. The goal of the film is to create a platform for the interviewees to share their stories and lessons of peace, tolerance, respect, and the dangers of hate. Messages that are relevant now, and will continue to be relevant for the generations that follow.

THE FILMMAKER

Ashton Gleckman is a filmmaker from Indianapolis, Indiana. He directed, edited, composed the music for, and filmed *We Shall Not Die Now*. Ashton became interested in WW2 and Holocaust studies when he was just seven-years-old after visiting a local Anne Frank exhibition. Ashton is also connected to the Holocaust through his great uncle, Harold Kerzner, who was one of the liberators of the Buchenwald concentration camp. Aside from filmmaking work, Ashton has also worked as part of Academy Award-winning composer Hans Zimmer's company Bleeding Fingers Music, and has contributed his original music to various feature and short films.





CREDITS

A Film by

Ashton Gleckman

Historical Consultation by

Michael Berenbaum

Original Score by

Ashton Gleckman &
Michael Frankenberger

Edited and Shot by

Ashton Gleckman

Archival Sponsors

United States Holocaust
Memorial Museum

Executive Produced by

Ben Park

Diane Simon

Rachel Simon

Ari Gleckman

Jennifer Gleckman

Produced by

Bernard Hiller

Samantha Maynard

Gi Orman

Miriam Sternlicht

Poland Production

Sponsored by the

Auschwitz, Majdanek,
Chelmno, and Belzec
Memorial Sites

Sound Mix by

Rich Aitken

Main Theme by

Benjamin Wallfisch



FAQ

Q: Where will I be able to watch the film?

A: *The film will be released via digital distribution/streaming platforms. There will also be a series of screenings, including our premiere at the Heartland Film Festival in October, 2019.*

Q: There's so many Holocaust documentaries out there. What makes this different?

A: *Told exclusively by the testimonies of survivors, liberators, scholars, prosecutors, and perpetrators - We Shall Not Die Now brings together a wide range of varying perspectives that unite to tell one story. The film also features the words and messages of many of those who haven't yet had the chance to share their stories. We Shall Not Die Now also includes a collection of new footage filmed in Poland at locations rarely spoke about or featured. This includes the sites of the Treblinka, Belzec, and Chelmno death camps, where collectively over two million people perished in the Holocaust.*

Q: Is there a backstory to the title?

A: *In 1952, a notebook was found near the Auschwitz gas chambers. It contained entries written by an unknown prisoner between 1943-1944. One entry recounted the story of a young Polish woman who gave an impassioned speech in the gas chamber shortly before she, and hundreds of others, were killed. The women said, "Tell our brothers, our nation, that we went to meet our death in full consciousness and with pride. The history of our nation shall immortalize us, our initiative and our spirit are alive and flourishing. We Shall Not Die Now."*

Q: What inspired the project?

A: *"Ever since I was seven-years-old and first visited the Anne Frank Exhibition which had just been installed at the Indianapolis Children's Museum, the subject has been lingering in my mind over the past twelve years. In addition, my great uncle was one of the liberators of Buchenwald, so it's always been a strong part of who I am. Then... I saw Claude Lanzmann's documentary, Shoah. There was something about how quiet, solemn, and meditative it was. It haunted me for weeks and still is to this day - but it really opened my eyes to whats possible in regards to storytelling and set me out on the journey of making the film." - Ashton Gleckman (Director)*

LINKS

Official Website:

weshallnotdienowmovie.com

Facebook Page:

facebook.com/weshallnotdienow

Watch the Trailer:

<https://vimeo.com/349343457>

CONTACT

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Director

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