FUTURESPAST

A FILM BY JORDAN MELAMED

You can't predict the future, but you can let go of the past.

IDFA Competition for First Appearance idfa

OFFICIAL SELECTION CHICAGO INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL 2016

北京国际电影节

san francisco jewish film festival 2017 OFFICIAL SELECTION

2017 OFFICIAL SELECTION DENVER FILM FESTIVAL

OFFICIAL SELECTION Maryland International Film Festival 2018

ATLANTA JEWISH FILM FESTIVAL

INSPIRE FILM FESTIVAL THE WOODLANDS, TX

AN OUTCRY FILMS PRODUCTION A FILM BY JORDAN MELAMED EDITED BY MELISSA NEIDICH SUZANNAH HERBET DANNIEL DANNIEL
CINEMATOGRAPHY BY SID LUBITSCH SETH HENDRICKSON SLAWOMIR GRÜNBERG PRODUCED BY DOUG BLOCK EXECUTIVE PRODUCER VINCENT VIOLA
CO-PRODUCER ALEXANDER JANIUK FRANK RAINONE WRITTEN, PRODUCED AND DIRECTED BY JORDAN MELAMED

"...it's in his conversations and confrontations with Leo that Jordan strikes documentary-film gold. Both of them articulate, conflict-hungry men with personal scores to settle, which they proceed to chew over on camera for our delectation."

— HOLLYWOOD REPORTER

INFO

WEBSITE: www.futurespastmovie.com
TRAILER: www.futurespastmovie.com/#trailer
FACEBOOK: @FuturesPastMovie
TWITTER: @FuturesPastFilm
STILLS: Dropbox

SALES

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SYNOPSIS

Futures Past captures the power struggle between filmmaker Jordan Melamed and his father, Leo Melamed, Holocaust survivor and kingpin of the Chicago Mercantile Exchange. Set against the last days of trading in the legendary Chicago pits, what begins as a document of the end of an era, becomes a deeply personal exploration by a son returning to "the kill or be killed" world he was raised in.

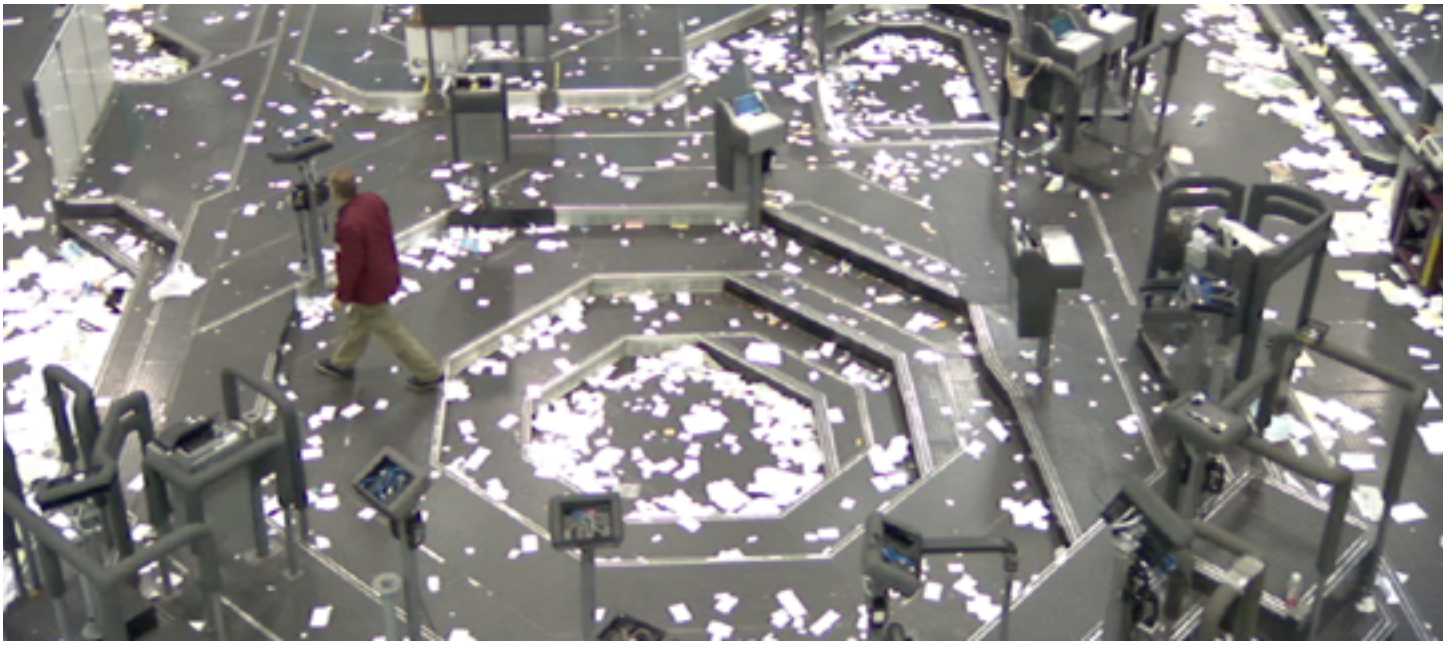
"I was blown away by this film…..One of the best films I've seen this year by far."

— RICHARD ROEPER, FOX 32 CHICAGO

DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT

Futures Past is not the film I came home to make. My original idea was to make a film about the last traders in the Chicago pits as they struggled to hold on against the inevitable march of technology. Naturally, I asked my father to be in the film as a voice of authority for the industry, but I had no idea we'd end up dealing with the long-dormant anger and lifelong distance between us. When my father said, "You left me," during one of the interviews and expressed his disappointment in my leaving Chicago to make films, I was awestruck that this seemingly indestructible man could be hurt by my actions. Suddenly, the consequences of my choice to leave his world behind loomed large. And so began a personal journey that spanned almost ten years. Ten years of trying to break through with my father and break the code of the film, until my life and the movie became inextricably connected. Eventually, I ended up broke, living with my parents and away from my daughter. For a period of time, I cursed the film and everything about it.

At first my father was reluctant to deal with these issues on camera. He's accustomed to being in control; the camera put us on an even keel and in his mind, put his son in a position of power. Was it right to use the camera to solve something so personal? Did the end justify the means? Eventually, my father came around, and when he did, it was not only the turning point in the film – but in our relationship. Finally, I could see my father for who he is: a complex and charismatic man whose character was formed under the extreme duress of a world at war and a visionary whose choice of career was a kismet meeting of character and fate. It would be foolish to think we solved all of the issues between us, but we did get to the heart of the matter. It is not hyperbole to say that making this film was a life-changing experience. It tested me, it scarred me, but it made me into a better man.



LEO MELAMED MAIN CHARACTER

Leo Melamed, a Holocaust survivor, was born in the Bialystok, Poland in 1931. At the age of seven, along with his parents, he fled Nazi occupation, miraculously outwitting the Gestapo and the KGB in an odyssey that took two years, spanned three continents, and six languages, arriving in the United States in 1941.

Leo Melamed is globally recognized as the founder of financial futures. As chairman of the Chicago Mercantile Exchange (CME Group), he revolutionized the markets with the launch of currency futures in 1972, followed by a diverse group of financial instruments including Treasury Bills in 1976, Eurodollars in 1981, and stock index futures in 1982. In 1987, Melamed revolutionized futures trading again with the founding of Globex® the world's first futures electronic trading system. Today the CME Group is the world's largest futures exchange where Melamed serves as Chairman Emeritus, and chairman of its Strategic Steering Committee.

Leo Melamed was named by Chicago Tribune "among the ten most important Chicagoans in business of the 20th Century." Melamed's prize-winning memoirs, "Escape to the Futures," (1996), as well as his continuation memoirs, "For Crying Out Loud," (2009), have been translated into Chinese, Japanese, Korean, Russian and Portuguese. He is the recipient of the 2008 William F. Sharpe Lifetime Achievement Award, the 2016 State of Illinois Order of Lincoln Award. In 2017, Melamed received The Order of the Rising Sun Gold and Silver Star, the highest award bestowed on an individual by the Emperor of Japan for achievements in initiating financial futures markets worldwide. Leo Melamed holds a Doctor of Laws degree from John Marshall Law School, 1998,. He is Chairman and CEO of Melamed & Associates, Inc., a global consulting enterprise founded in 1993.

JORDAN MELAMED DIRECTOR/WRITER/PRODUCER

Director Jordan Melamed spent twelve years in the Chicago trading pits before attending the American Film Institute in Los Angeles where his thesis film, **A Corner in Gold**, won the Student Emmy for Drama. His first feature, **Manic**, starred Joseph Gordon-Levitt, Zooey Deschanel, and Don Cheadle, and told the story of a violent adolescent placed in a juvenile psychiatric facility against his will. Manic premiered at the Sundance Film Festival, played at Toronto and film festivals worldwide, and was released theatrically by IFC Films. Showtime bought the rights to create a television series based on the film and Melamed co-wrote the pilot with Davis Entertainment producing. Melamed wrote and produced **Twelve**, based on the best-selling novel by Nick McDonell. Directed by Joel Schumacher, with Chace Crawford, Emma Roberts, 50 Cent, and Ellen Barkin, Twelve premiered as the closing night film at the Sundance Film Festival in 2010 and was released worldwide by Hanover. Jordan is currently developing Fountain of Youth, a hybrid documentary/fiction project about beauty and aging set in South Miami Beach.

DOUG BLOCK PRODUCER

Producer Doug Block is a New York-based documentary producer and director whose films have won countless awards, screened in dozens of leading film festivals, shown in theaters, and broadcast on television worldwide. Block's credits as producer include: **Silverlake Life** (Sundance Grand Jury Prize, Peabody, Prix Italia) and **Jupiter's Wife** (Sundance Special Jury Prize, Emmy). His directing credits include **112 Weddings**, the opening night showing of the 2014 Full Frame Documentary Film Festival; the film premiered on HBO and was distributed theatrically in Canada and Europe. Block's previous film **The Kids Grow Up** (Special Jury Prize, Silverdocs) was released theatrically and broadcast on HBO in 2011. His 2006 film **51 Birch Street** was named one of the Ten Best Films of the Year by a number of leading critics, including A.O. Scott of the New York Times, and was selected as one of the outstanding documentaries of the year by the National Board of Review. Block is also the founder and co-host of The D-Word (www.d-word.com), the web's leading forum for documentary professionals.

MELISSA NEIDICH EDITOR

Editor Melissa Neidich is an award winning documentary editor working in the field for twenty years. Particularly drawn to documentaries that experiment with form and style, her past films include **Soul in the Hole** (Independent Spirit Award), **Dark Days** (Independent Spirit Award and a Sundance Audience Award), **Two Towns of Jasper** (Dupont Award), and **Out of the Clear Blue Sky**. Most recently she edited **The Rest I Make Up**, focusing on the life of acclaimed playwright Maria Irene Fornes.

LINDA MORGENSTERN CONSULTING PRODUCER

Linda Morgenstern has been working in film production for thirty years with credits including award winning feature length documentaries that have premiered at Cannes, Toronto, The New York Film Festival, and Sundance. It has been her good fortune to have collaborated with notable directors Ross McElwee, Robb Moss, Lucia Small, Ed Pincus and Doug Block. Her films have screened on BBC, Arte, HBO, PBS, and Netflix with domestic commercial theatrical runs and international acquisition. In addition to producing, Ms. Morgenstern provides consulting services to independent filmmakers.

REVIEWS & PRESS

SLASH FILM

"The creeping dominance of technology, familial issues, a dying art, there is enough here to keep Freud busy for eons."

http://www.slashfilm.com/this-week-in-trailers-life-to-come-futures-past-hungry-chinas-van-gogh-the-b rand-new-testament/

CHICAGO TRIBUNE ARTICLE

"Serious Psychological Gamesmanship"

http://www.chicagotribune.com/entertainment/movies/ct-futures-past-view-from-tall-mov-1014-201610 13-column.html

KEEPING IT REEL CIFF REVIEW

"...what resonates the most is the touching persistence and stubbornness on display between two men who are more similar than they could ever admit."

https://keeping-it-reel.com/2016/10/18/ciff-2016-futures-past/#more-14767

RICHARD ROEPER, FOX 32 CHICAGO

"I was blown away by this film. ... One of the best films I've seen this year by far"

http://www.fox32chicago.com/mornings/212438150-video

HOLLYWOOD REPORTER

"A fascinating portrait of Melamed's ever-tempestuous relationship with his father Leo, kingpin of said exchange."

http://www.hollywoodreporter.com/review/futures-past-idfa-review-403084

ATLANTA JEWISH TIMES

"A fascinating look at the American dream as it rises and falls like a stock index and ripples through one Jewish family."

http://atlantajewishtimes.timesofisrael.com/ajff-review-american-dreams-exchanged

SPECIFICATIONS

FILM TYPE: Documentary
RUNTIME: 88:34
COMPLETION DATE: October 12th, 2016
COUNTRY: USA
LANGUAGE: English
SHOOTING FORMAT: Digital

FESTIVALS

IDFA (Work in Progress)
Chicago Int. Film Festival, October 2016 (Premiere)
Beijing Int. Film Festival, April 2017
San Francisco Jewish Film Festival, July 2017
Denver Int., November 2017
Palm Beach Jewish, Jan. 2018
Atlanta Jewish, Jan. 2018
Inspire Film Festival, Feb. 2018
San Antonio Barshop, Feb. 2018
Boca Raton Jewish, March 2018
Maryland Int., April 2018
Los Angeles Jewish, May 2018
Upcoming Festivals:
Rochester Jewish, July 2018
Boston Jewish, November 2018