THE END OF LOVE

JUDITH CHEMLA • ARIEH WORTHALTER
SYNOPSIS

Julie and Yuval live in Paris, are in love and have just had a baby. When Yuval needs to return to Israel to renew his visa, they start sharing their family routine via video call. Watching each other obsessively through a screen, however, begins to take its toll on their relationship. Will their love survive the perils of this new form of “interaction”? 

Keren Ben Rafael was born in Israel in 1978. She studied Philosophy and French Literature at Tel Aviv University while working as a director and content editor on television documentaries. She graduated from the prestigious French School La Femis, directing department in 2009. Her short films “I’m your man”, “Northern lights” and “At the beach” won several prizes at various festivals and were all screened on television. Her debut feature, “Virgins”, premiered at Tribeca in 2018 where its female lead won Best Actress. It also won the Fipresci Prize at the Jerusalem Film Festival, Best Director and Best Actress at the Montenegro Film Festival, and Best Film at the Sguardi Altrove women’s Film Festival, Milan. “The End of Love” is her second feature film.

As a woman, a mother and a director, I am continually confronted with how to manage it all. Nothing in the school of life prepares us for the effect of this clash of desires and objectives. For me, this film is first and foremost an exploration, a study almost, of a couple’s quest to meet their individual and collective needs and aspirations, coming from different backgrounds and cultures. Considering this, they are inevitably on collision course.

Years ago, being away from each other meant sending letters, romantically imagining the life of the other. When apart nowadays, we continue to live together through the screen. This is just another element that fuels jealousy, paranoia and tension in an already explosive relationship. The obsession to communicate, pushed to the extreme by modern technology, is probably one of the greatest ills of our century. The most exciting part of the film for me was the challenge of its unique form: a film that shows relationships through video calls, without the slightest speck of tech film traits, without ever showing the screen itself. In this film, the video calls therefore acquire a film language of their own, the new language of relationships.

“The End of Love” is brought to life by two magnificent actors, Judith Chemla and Arieh Worthalter, who, in taking on the challenge of this unique form, make us delve immediately into their intimacy, taking us on a deep journey into the core of their relationship.
CAST
Julie
Yuval
Lenny
Chantal
Yali
Aner
Charles
Roméo
Yuval’s mother
Yuval’s father
Judith CHEMLA
Arieh WORTHALTER
Lenny DAHAN
Noémie LVOVSKY
Joy RIEGER
Gil WEISS
Bastien BOUILLON
Vassili SCHNEIDER
Odeya KOREN
Nathan DATNER

CREW
Director
Keren BEN RAFAEL
Delphine BENROUBI
Elise BENROUBI & Keren BEN RAFAEL
Damien DUFRESNE
Elton RABINEAU
Laura FROIDEFOND
Julie RIVIERE
Flore GUILLET & Keren BEN RAFAEL
Benjamin LAURENT
Pauline DAHAN
Adrien BERNARD
Gigi AKOKA
Nurith BARKAN
Elie AKOKA

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