**FROM KARKOM MOUNTAIN TO THE INCENSE ROUTE**

**AN EXPERIMENTIAL WORKSHOP OF JOURNEY AND MEMORY**

**MA Program -- Sapir College, Israel and The Film Academy, Baden Württemberg, Germany**

Facilitated by: Professor Avner Faingulernt, Professor Inge Van Staten

The Cinema Workshop of Journey and Memory links practical aspects with theoretical texts and documentary, cinematic and experimental filmmaking. During the workshop, we will learn texts of journey in film, poetry and prose. Applying Lacanian psychoanalysis, we will familiarize with text analysis: from Homer’s Odyssey to rock paintings at Karkom Mountain; paths marked by citadel remnants, wells and Nabatean agriculture along the Incense Route; and to current cinematography which converses with the mythology of the Odyssey, current poetry, and literary texts relating to the journey and nomadism.

The workshop will allow us to learn about the sources of nomadic creativity while simultaneously experimenting with filmmaking, free of the limitations of narrative, with emphasis on the image, and experiencing how to raise materials from archetypical and personal memory which you will include in your work.

Workshop schedule:

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| 21 – 27 March | | A week of studies and filming – in Israel |
|  | 21 – 22 /3 | For the first 2 days we will be at Sapir College, focusing on theoretical studies related to the concept of journey in European films compared to American films, how they link to Homer’s Odyssey, and an analysis of texts through Lacanian psychoanalytical readings.  At the end of studies on Thursday, 22/3, we will travel to Mitzpeh Ramon, staying at the guest center. |
|  | 23 – 26 /3 | 4 days of work in the desert, from Karkom Mountain to the Nabatean Incense Route. This constitutes the first experimental activity, where we will experience techniques of writing, photography and production as exercises in journey and memory. Each group will film an experimental and plot-based documentary in the desert, and link current reality to personal memory, ancient reality and ancient memory.  During these 4 days of work in the desert, we will live in a nomadic camp among the sites we are filming and learn about: Karkom Mountain, Ramon Crater, the Nabatean Incense Route and its citadels, Nekarot, Katzra, and Moa. We will be sleeping in tents and living under basic field conditions, much like the desert poetry filming workshop. |
|  | 26 – 27 /3 | On Monday evening, 26 March, we will arrive at Mitzpeh Ramon and sleep in the hosting hangar (and even enjoy a hot shower!). On Tuesday, 27 March, we will film in Mitzpeh Ramon and summarize this first part of the workshop. |

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| 15 – 22 April | | A week of editing and working in groups at the Film Academy in Baden Württemberg, Germany |
|  | Our time in Germany will be spent editing the materials filmed in Israel’s desert. We will also hold discussions on your experiences and conduct several visits to the Ludwigsburg School, currently one of Europe’s leading film centers, particularly for new media and animation. This is a relatively young school in German terms, in the peripheries, which became one of the most highly regarded centers of media and cinema in Europe. Near the school we also find production centers for animation, gaming and digital, opened and developed by the school’s graduates.  This workshop’s motto is to experiment with cooperative production methods in unfamiliar ways, to be explored by all participants during the practical-theoretical workshop. The desert workshop will be led by Avner, and the second half, held in Germany, will be jointly led by Avner and Inge. | |

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