

**An unflinching look at the most  
urgent humanitarian crises  
around the globe.**

COHEN MEDIA GROUP PRESENTS

# THE WILL TO SEE



MADISON FILMS

Gaumont  
A Time Warner Company

COHEN MEDIA GROUP

# ABOUT

## DIRECTORS

Bernard-Henri Lévy & Marc Roussel

## PRODUCER

Kristina Larsen (*House of Pleasures, Lady Chatterley*)

## DURATION

1h32



## SYNOPSIS:

An old-time war reporter, philosopher and writer, Bernard-Henri Lévy is sent by a group of newspapers (Paris Match, La Repubblica, The Wall Street Journal, Der Stern and others) to bear witness and report from places in the world where suffering and misery is at its peak, where wars are going on under our noses, where the world's destiny is being determined and no one, it seems, is paying attention. **An unflinching look at the most urgent humanitarian crises around the globe.**



**Shocking never-before-seen images.  
Hard-hitting international reporting.  
An unforgettable story.  
An enlightening perspective.**

# THE DIRECTOR

## BERNARD-HENRI LEVY

“Bernard-Henri Lévy does nothing that goes unnoticed. He is an intellectual adventurer who brings publicity to unfashionable political causes.”

– *New York Times*

“We need Mr. Lévy’s voice—clear, unconstructed, unconstrained, real—to help us.”

– *Wall Street Journal*

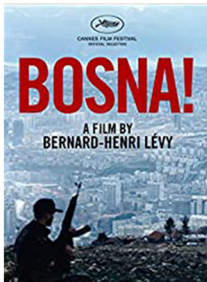
“Like his British literary heroes Lord Byron and TE Lawrence, he [Bernard-Henri Lévy] is a man of action who aims to change the world.”

– *Financial Times*

### Selective filmography:



FESTIVAL DE CANNES



(1994)



FESTIVAL DE CANNES



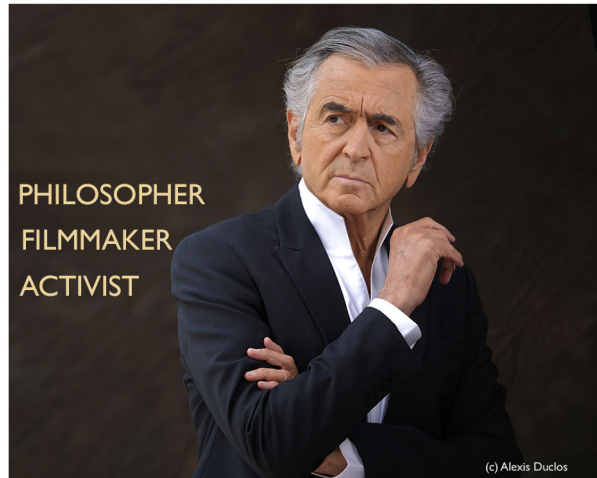
(2012)



FESTIVAL DE CANNES



(2016)



PHILOSOPHER  
FILMMAKER  
ACTIVIST

(c) Alexis Duclos

**Bernard-Henri Lévy is a French philosopher, filmmaker, activist and the author of over 30 books.**

*Lévy's work as an intellectual has been uniquely intertwined with humanitarian activism since he replied, at the age of 23, to the call of French author Andre Malraux for the formation of an international brigade to support the Bangladesh liberation struggle in 1971.*

**Since then, his taste for bearing witness to the horrors of the world has not wavered.**

# CO-DIRECTOR

## MARC ROUSSEL



A French photographer, director and journalist, Marc Roussel is also the founder of two film production companies and Orizon, a collective of photographers.

Marc has directed many reporting features for television since the 1990s and created and produced numerous photo exhibitions and publications.

He first met Bernard-Henri Lévy in 2001, following a series of articles by Lévy for *Le Monde* on forgotten wars. Since then, they have often covered war zones together such as in Libya, Syria, Iraq, Ukraine and Afghanistan.

# FESTIVAL SELECTIONS



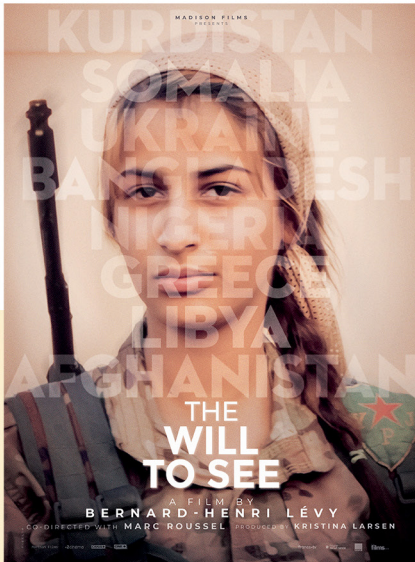
**FESTA  
DEL CINEMA  
DI ROMA**  
OCTOBER 14/24 2021

**JFF** JERUSALEM  
FILM  
FESTIVAL

Jewish  
New York



The Jewish Museum  
Jewish Museum  
Film Festival



**“Lévy, in his film, has brought back footage of active warfare from places that most news organizations no longer cover.” – FORBES**

**“[The movie] challenges viewers to examine their prejudices and preconceptions”**  
– THE JERUSALEM POST

**“[The movie] is a damning indictment of a selfish and callous Western world that turned inward in 2020.”**  
– THE WASHINGTON POST

**“It raises questions that are rarely posed so starkly.”**  
– THE ATLANTIC

**“Striking”**  
– LE FIGARO



Watch here the exclusive interview of Bernard-Henri Lévy about the conflict *Ukraine/ Russia* on Fox News



Watch here the exclusive interview of Bernard-Henri Lévy about the film on CNN

*“The best soldiers are those who fight  
without loving it.”*



# FOCUS

## UKRAINE

Since 2014 and Ukraine's Maidan revolution, Donbas (an important mining region of eastern Ukraine) has fallen prey to an armed conflict between pro-Russian separatists in the pay of Putin and the Ukrainian army. This now no longer under-the-radar war had claimed over 13,000 victims prior to Russia's official invasion of Ukraine on February 24, 2022.



## NIGERIA

Nigeria is Africa's wealthiest and most populous country and here, as Lévy explains, in the Wall Street Journal, "a slow-motion war is under way.... a massacre of Christians, massive in scale and horrific in brutality. And the world has hardly noticed." Comparing the violence and persecution executed by Islamic terrorist groups in Nigeria "to Rwanda in the 1990s and to Darfur and South Sudan in the 2000s," Lévy asked, "Will the West let history repeat itself in Nigeria?"

## LESBOS

Named "the worst refugee camp in the world" by Doctors without Borders, Moria, the infamous reception center, on the Greek island of Lesbos, was constructed for 2,000 refugees but until last year, housed nearly 20,000 souls. With horrific and inhumane conditions, the camp was a tragedy waiting to explode and that it did. In September 2020, the camp burned to the ground.



# FOCUS



## SOMALIA

Independent since 1960, the country has been ravaged by endless wars over decades. The capital, Mogadishu, has become a hotbed for violence and terrorism. Al-Shabab, the Islamist group affiliated with Al-Qaeda, has wreaked havoc on the country and few Westerners have been back since the tragedy of Black Hawk Down.

## LIBYA

In 2011, Muammar Gaddafi was overthrown by a NATO-led international coalition including the United States, the United Kingdom and France. This military intervention was encouraged by Bernard-Henri Lévy who saw looming a massacre of the civilian population akin to what would later happen in Syria under Assad. Ten years later, Lévy returned for the first time to launch an appeal for unity to the Libyan people and visit the killing fields of Tarhouna, only to have his car attacked in a dangerous ambush...



## BANGLADESH

In 1971, Bangladesh's war of liberation against Pakistan commenced. For nearly a year, the Pakistani army committed acts of barbarism against the civilian population. Between 1.5 and 3 million people perished, 8-10 million people fled and estimated 30 million civilians were displaced. At the conclusion of the war, the country was left free, but horribly devastated by the atrocities.

In the moment, the western world woke up, and public intellectual André Malraux issued a call for an international brigade. The young Bernard-Henri Lévy answered, went on the ground, following the Mukti Bahini, Bangladesh's guerilla resistance fighters against the Pakistanis. Nearly fifty years later, he remains the rare Western witness of this forgotten war.



# FOCUS

## AFGHANISTAN

After 20 years in Afghanistan, the United States and its allies concluded this “forever war” and the floodgates opened for the Taliban to retake the country. Now with devastating humanitarian, political and economic consequences, severe restrictions on human rights and a dark cloud descending over the country, the son of legendary Commander Ahmad Shah Massoud, young Ahmad Massoud holds the sole flame of resistance in the Panjshir Valley. The leader of the Resistance against the Taliban regime, Massoud continuously calls for international support but has yet to receive help.



## KURDISTAN

Numbering 30-40 million, the Kurds are the world's largest stateless nation and are divided between Turkey, Iraq, Syria and Iran. Often terrorizing and repressing the Kurds, these countries will not sacrifice an inch of territory to create a Kurdish state.

When ISIS extended its Caliphate throughout Syria and Iraq, the Kurds led the fight, with their Western allies, to extinguish this terrorism, horror and chaos. But when Erdogan invaded their small autonomous region in Syria, the international community left them in the dust and at the mercy of powerful and hostile neighbors.

Now the Kurds of Iraq and of Syria continue to combat and suppress dangerous flare-ups from ISIS – which has not disappeared - and are alone in this battle against extremism.





# LEARN MORE

## EXCLUSIVE INTERVIEW WITH AHMAD MASSOUD

OPINION | COMMENTARY

### The Afghan Who Won't Surrender to the Taliban

Ahmad Massoud leads the resistance in the province of Panjshir. Can he and his fighters hold out?

By Bernard-Henri Lévy  
Aug. 23, 2021 12:56 pm ET



Ahmad Massoud in Panjshir province, September 2020.  
PHOTO: MARC ROUSSEL

**WALL STREET JOURNAL (USA)**  
Read the article



**Ahmad Massoud: "Wir geben den Kampf nicht auf. Unser Widerstand gegen die Taliban hat erst begonnen"**

Im Panjshir-Tal sammelt der Sohn des Nationalhelden Ahmad Shah Massoud Kampfwillige um sich, zum Widerstand gegen die Taliban. Im exklusiven Interview mit Bernard-Henri Lévy sprach er über Verhandlungen mit den Taliban, amerikanische Waffen und warum die Welt nun helfen muss.

**DER STERN (Germany)**  
Read the article



**BERLINGSKE (Denmark)**  
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**KATHIMERINI (Greece)**  
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**LA REPUBBLICA (Italy)**  
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\* articles in French version only



# THE PRODUCER

## KRISTINA LARSEN

Selective filmography:



Internationale  
Filmfestspiele  
Berlin

SELECTED AT THE  
BERLIN FILM  
FESTIVAL



Internationale  
Filmfestspiele  
Berlin

SELECTED AT THE  
BERLIN FILM  
FESTIVAL

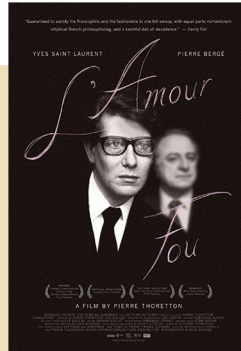


FESTIVAL DE CANNES

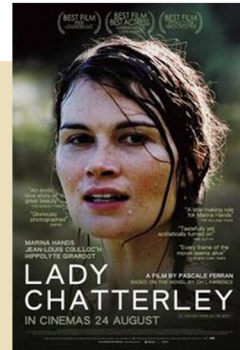
SELECTED AT THE  
CANNES FILM  
FESTIVAL



SELECTED AT THE  
TORONTO FILM  
FESTIVAL



TRIBECA  
FILM  
FESTIVAL



# PRODUCTION CREDITS

A FILM BY  
CO-DIRECTED BY  
EDITORIAL ADVISOR  
IMAGES  
SOUND  
EDITING  
ORIGINAL MUSIC  
FOREIGN EXECUTIVE PRODUCER  
PRODUCTION DIRECTOR  
POST-PRODUCTION DIRECTOR  
EXECUTIVE PRODUCTION

BERNARD-HENRI LEVY  
MARC ROUSSEL  
GILLES HERTZOG  
MARC ROUSSELL and OLIVIER JACQUIN  
NICOLAS VELASCO and ANTOINE BAILLY  
THIERRY HUMBERT and ELODIE CODACCIONI  
NICOLAS KER  
EMILY HAMILTON  
AUDE CATHELIN  
ANTONINE MEURET-GOSSELET  
LES FILMS DU LENDEMAIN

## **PRODUCTION**

DELEGATED PRODUCTION  
PRODUCTION  
COPRODUCTION WITH  
WITH THE PARTICIPATION OF  
WITH THE PARTICIPATION OF  
WITH THE SUPPORT OF

WITH THE SUPPORT OF  
WITH THE SUPPORT OF  
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EN PARTENARIAT AVCE LE CENTRE NATIONAL  
DU CINEMA ET DE L'IMAGE ANIMEE  
FRANCOIS PINAULT  
ORANGE  
GAUMONT  
LES FILMS DU LENDEMAIN

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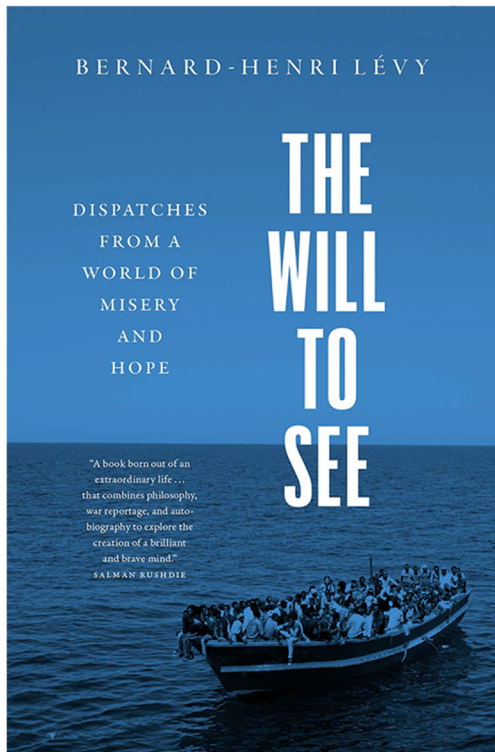
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# LEARN MORE ABOUT THE BOOK



"A book born out of an extraordinary life... that combines philosophy, war reportage and auto-biography to explore the creation of a brilliant, brave and passionate mind."

- SALMAN RUSHDIE

"Bernard-Henri Lévy: the will to see, the ability to act, the drive to inspire."

- FORBES

"A powerful essay [written with] passion and indignation."

- THE WALL STREET JOURNAL

"Call[s] on people not just to see the world, but to be moved and interested by what they find there, and to do something about it."

- THE ATLANTIC

"Fierce and elegant... demands that we face and document the words horrors."

- KIRKUS REVIEWS

"The Will to See seeks big answers to impossible questions on humanity, brotherhood, and the concept of just and unjust wars. (...) The Will to See is the testimony of a man whose life has spanned some of the most remarkable moments in history".

- FOREIGN POLICY