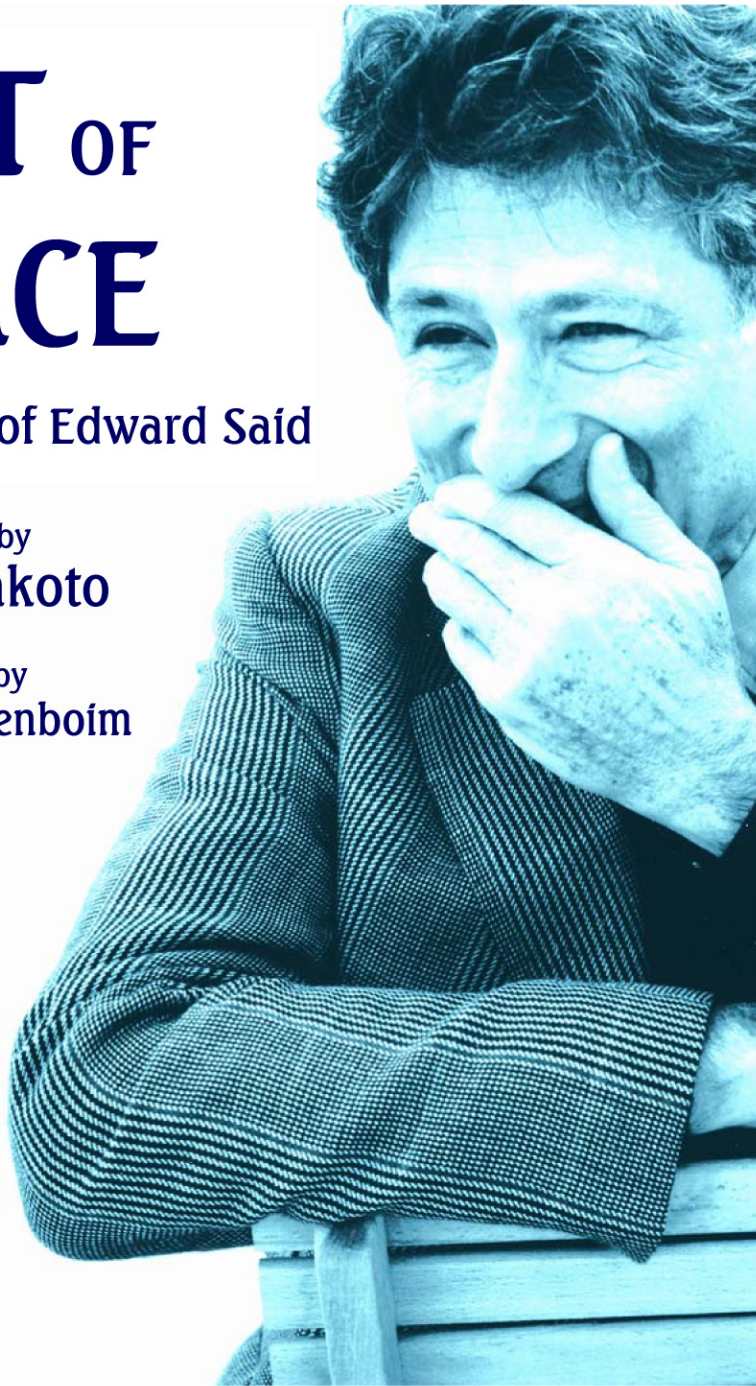


OUT OF PLACE

Memories of Edward Saïd

A Film by
Sato Makoto

Music by
Daniel Barenboïm



140 minutes / color-b&w / 2005
English, Arabic and Hebrew with English subtitles

"A wonderful meditative exploration of Edward's life, where the camera slowly directs the viewer into the world that Edward inhabited. Edward is all over the film, but not quite there and through all this his ideas and the narrative of his country and people comes through beautifully."

—Mariam C. Saïd

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Synopsis

Borrowing its title from his 2000 memoir, *OUT OF PLACE* traces the life and work of Edward Said (1935-2003), the Palestinian-born intellectual who wrote widely on history, literature, music, philosophy and politics. Filmed in Palestine, Israel, Lebanon, Egypt, and the U.S., this feature-length documentary traces Said's childhood influences and celebrates his intellectual legacy, especially the importance of his work in literary criticism and postcolonial studies, his love of music, his role on the Palestinian National Council, and his troubled relationship with Yasir Arafat.

Visiting his birthplace in Jerusalem, his boyhood homes in Beirut and Cairo, and his New York City apartment, *OUT OF PLACE* explores Said's status as a refugee, his sense of always feeling "out of place"—personally, geographically and linguistically—a theme he developed in his memoir, explaining how everyone, in a sense, is comprised of "multiple identities."

OUT OF PLACE imaginatively blends readings from Said's memoir and other key writings, family home movies dating back to 1947, and interviews with Arab, Israeli and American thinkers such as Elias Khoury, Azmi Bishara, Daniel Barenboim, Noam Chomsky and many others, who offer personal reminiscences as well as statements on the importance of his work.

The themes of reconciliation and coexistence that Said fought for throughout his life are further illuminated by a visit with a Palestinian family in a refugee camp in Syria and a family of Mizrahim (Arabic Jews) in Israel, a memorial conference held at Bir Zeit University on the West Bank, and scenes at other sites in Israel and the West Bank. *OUT OF PLACE* is thus both a fascinating biographical film on one of the most acclaimed cultural critics of the postwar world as well as an engaging examination of many of the cultural and political issues to which he devoted his life.



Review Excerpts and Festivals

"The serene, beautiful camera presses ever on through the landscape of Edward Said's absence. The many folds of the pain of Palestine and Israel are illumined. Said cuts across people's vibrant memories. And Said's hopes appear above us."

-OE Kenzaburo, Nobel Prize Winner for Literature

Official Selection
2006 Bangkok International Film Festival

Official Selection
2006 Singapore International Film Festival

Filmmaker Profiles

Director SATO Makoto

Born in 1957 in Hirosaki City, Aomori Prefecture. Majored in philosophy at the University of Tokyo (1982). Assistant Director for "Innocent Sea: Minamata 1982" (Directed by KATORI Naotaka) in 1982. Began living communally in 1989 in the mountains of Niigata with a film staff of seven to direct "Living on the River Agano." The film, completed in 1992, won the gold medal at the Nyon film festival and the grand prize at Sundance in Tokyo. He has directed a large number of documentaries, including "Artists in Wonderland" (1998, Siglo); "Self and Others" (2000, Eurospace), and "Hanako" (2001, Siglo). His latest film is "Agano Memories" (2004, Kasama Films).

In addition to directing films, Sato has produced television programs, edited films, and written books on film theory. He is chief lecturer in the documentary program at the Film School of Tokyo and professor of theatrical arts at the Kyoto University of Art and Design. Beginning in the fall of 2002, he spent a year in England as a Ministry of Education overseas fellow. His books of essays and criticism include *The Horizon of Documentary Film*.

Producer YAMAGAMI Tetsujiro

Born in 1954 in Kumamoto, Japan, Yamagami established the Tokyo-based independent film company Siglo, Ltd. in 1986 as its president and producer. He has produced and distributed more than 30 documentary films to date, including "Yuntanza, Okinawa" (1987), "Human Town, Osaka: Buraku Discrimination" (1988), "Uminchu: The Old Man and the East China Sea" (1990), "Artists in Wonderland" (1998) and "Whalers and the Sea" (1998). Yamagami's first feature film, "The River with No Bridge" (1992), won the grand prize in the Mainichi Film Competition among other awards. His next feature, "Village of Dreams" (1995), won a Silver Bear at the Berlin International Film Festival and over 20 other awards at festivals around the world. His 2001 production "Hush!" was an official selection of the Director's Fortnight at Cannes, and had a long-run theatrical release in Japan. The 2002 documentary "Power and Terror: Noam Chomsky in Our Times," featuring interviews and talks by the American linguist, sharply challenged American foreign policy and has been seen widely in Japan and throughout the world. A follow-up video, "Noam Chomsky on the Post-Iraq World," was produced in 2003. The 2003 feature, "My Grandpa," won the best Asian film award at the Montreal World Film Festival. Siglo's most recent feature, "Crying Wind," directed by HIGASHI Yoichi and written by the Okinawan writer MEDORUMA Shun, was released in spring 2004. Information about Siglo's films can be found at www.cine.co.jp.

Credits

Directed by SATO Makoto

Produced by YAMAGAMI Tetsujiro

Co-Produced by JOHN Junkerman

Camera: OTSU Koshiro, KURIHARA Akira, SATO Makoto, Boyd Estus

Sound Mix by TSURUMI Yutaka

Edited by HATA Takeshi

Location Sound: TOM Barkay, MUSTAFA Al-Hamid, JOHN Duvall

Assistant Directors: NAJB El-Khash, YAYAMA Kumiko, ISHIDA Yuko

Post-Production Coordinator: VALERIE Dhiver

Production Manager: SASAKI Masaaki

Music by DANIEL Barenboim and DUO Esperanto (GUY Kark & NIZAR Rohana)

Participants

Mariam C. Said
Wadie E. Said
Najla W. Said
Jean Said Makdisi
Shafiq Al-Hout
Gil Anidjar
Daniel Barenboim
Akeel Bilgrami
Azmi Bishara
Noam Chomsky
Rashid I. Khalidi
Tarif Khalidi
Elias Khoury
Ilan Pappe
Dan Rabinowitz
Michael Rosenthal
Rima Tarazi
Gauri Viswanathan
Michel Warschawski
Michael Wood

Muhammad Ismail
Mahmoud Ismail
Ahmad Ismail
Abu Abdo Hawwari
Zohar Barkay
Abed Charide
Najiya Sharara-Charide
Nabil Charide
Ibrahim Al-Aziz
Amiram Efrati
Nabil Haddad
Taisir Haddad
Nasrat Haddad
Zaher Jido'n
Aliza Kassin
Ezra Kassin
Shlomit Kassin

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