



AMIT HAI COHEN

Full Press Kit | May 26



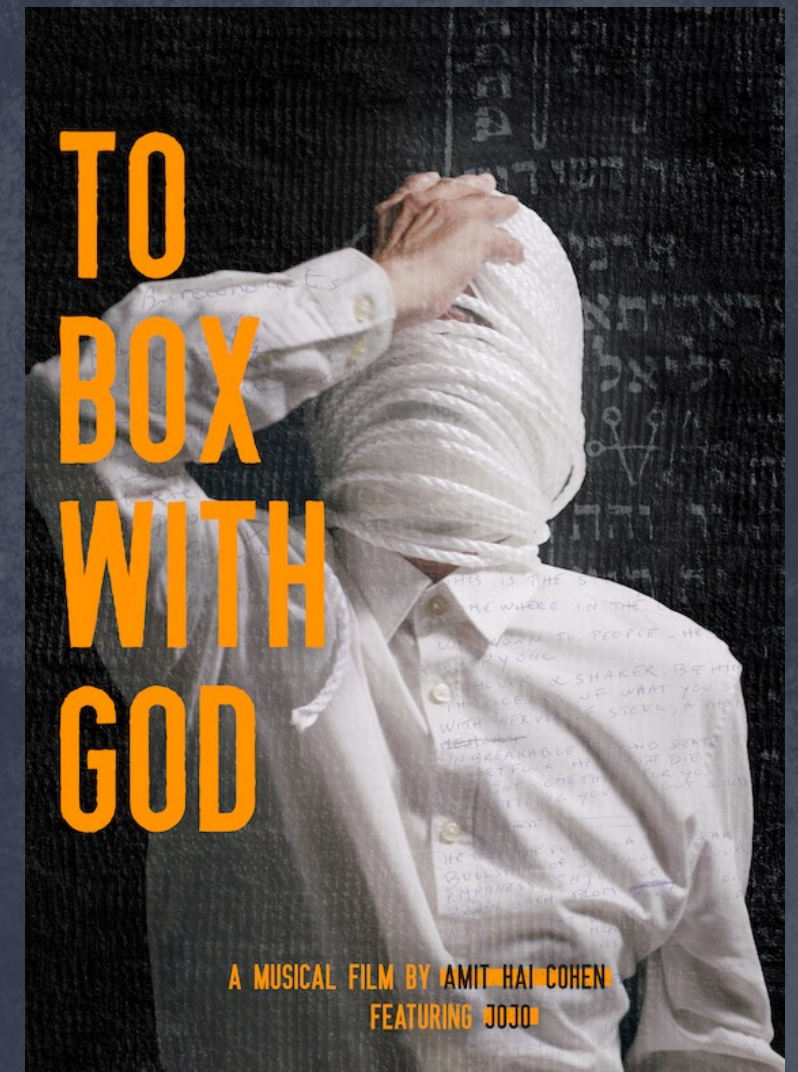
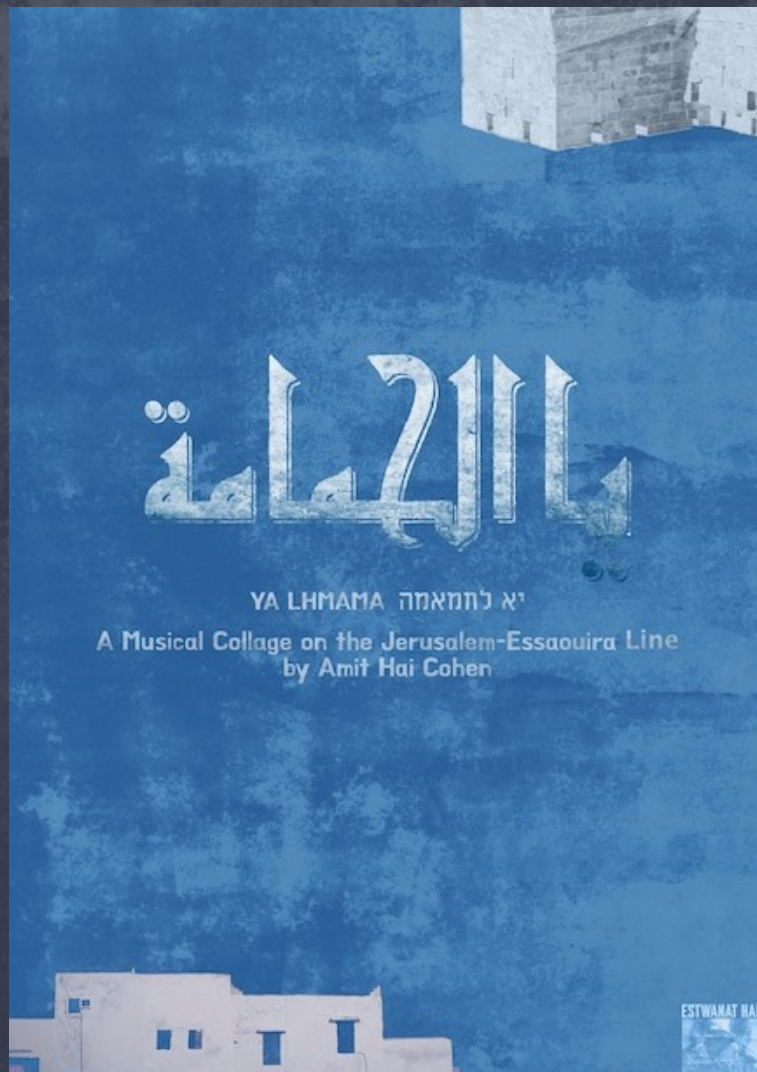
Musician, filmmaker, and media artist Amit Hai Cohen works on the Jerusalem-Morocco axis, creating rich universes with mixed identities, languages, and aesthetics through his highly multidisciplinary creative process. He composes music for film and dance, including works like "King David" (2023) and 'Oil on Water,' for which he co-wrote the script and he has created several films such as "Stop the Eviction" and the musical "To Box with God" (2021), along with numerous video clips and other visual projects.

Amit has produced numerous international musical projects, including 'Abiadi' and the electro-atlas show Arénas, collaborating with artists from the North African scene such as Moktar Gania, Karim Ziad and Kabareh Cheikhats. In 2019, he curated "Ziara", the Jerusalem Biennale's flagship exhibit featuring works by top contemporary Moroccan artists from around the world. Since then, he has been creating content for museums, including a recent contribution to the permanent exhibit of the 'Tower of David' .

Amit, along with his life and stage partner Neta Elkayam, starred in director Kamal Hachkar's documentary film 'In Your Eyes I See my Country' (2019), which explores their early careers. In 2019, they were awarded the Erez Biton Prize for 'Originality, Courage, and Breakthrough'. In 2022, Amit and Neta collaborated to create 'Hilula,' a multidisciplinary opera.

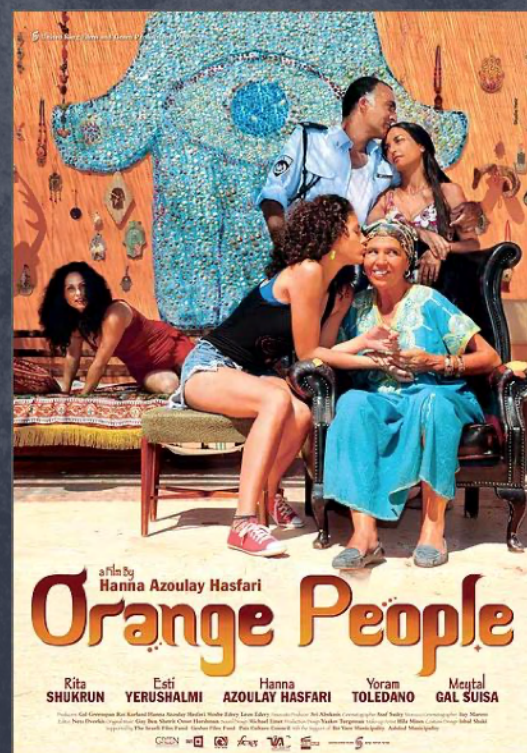
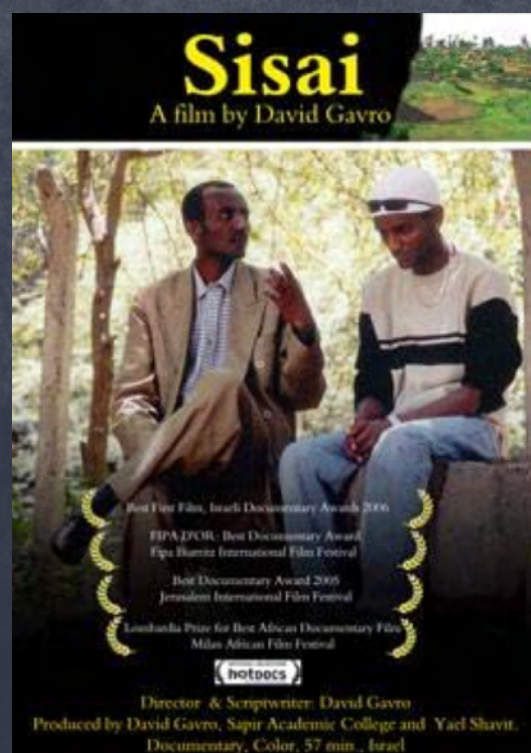
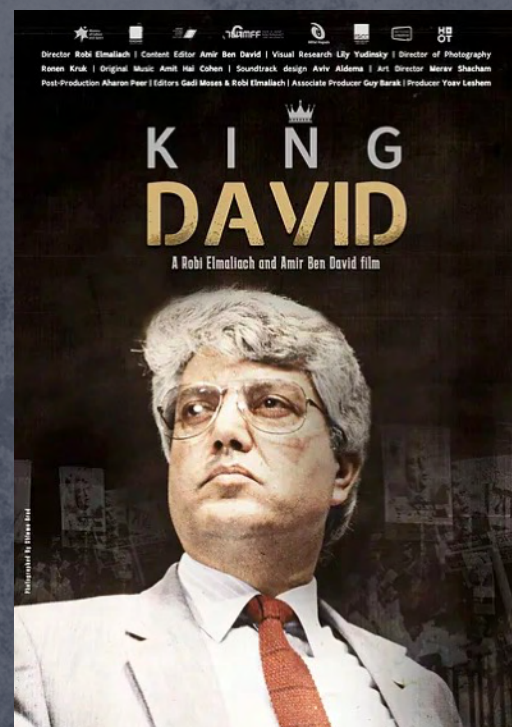
FILMS

Amit Hai Cohen created several films, including 'Traf Traf', (2009) 'Stop the Eviction', (2012) which is part of a series of films within the struggles he took part in, and the docu-music films 'Ya Lhmama' (2013) and 'To Box with God' (2021).



Contributing his unique musical touch to various projects, Amit has composed numerous soundtracks for cinema and dance, including works such as 'King David', 'Levantinit', 'Oil on Water', for which he also co-wrote the screenplay, and the theme song for Hana Azoulai Hasfari's film 'Orange People'.

SOUNDTRACKS





Curating 'ZIARA', the international flagship exhibition of the 2019 Jerusalem Biennale, Amit Hai Cohen brought together top Moroccan artists from around the globe to showcase shared wisdom. Held at the historic YMCA building for two months, it became one of the most highly attended events in the Biennale's history.



CURATION
CREATION

As part of his work as a content creator for museums, Amit recently collaborated with illustrator David Polanski to create an immersive video installation for the Tower of David Museum's permanent exhibition. This portrayal of Jerusalem's yearly cycle across three religions showcases Amit's concept, scripting, and a soundtrack blending prayers and songs from over 60 worshippers and musicians.





During the installation of 'ZIARA' exhibition at the Jerusalem Biennale 2019.
Photo by Emil Salman



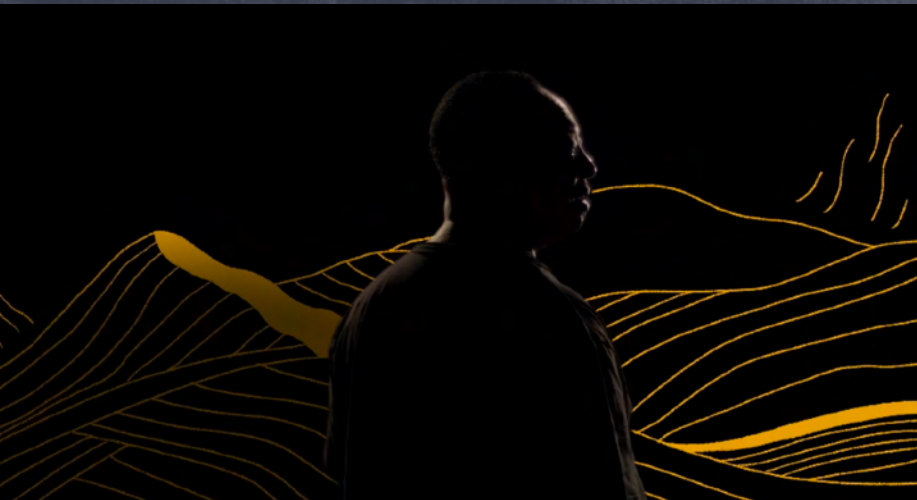
MUSICAL COLLABORATIONS

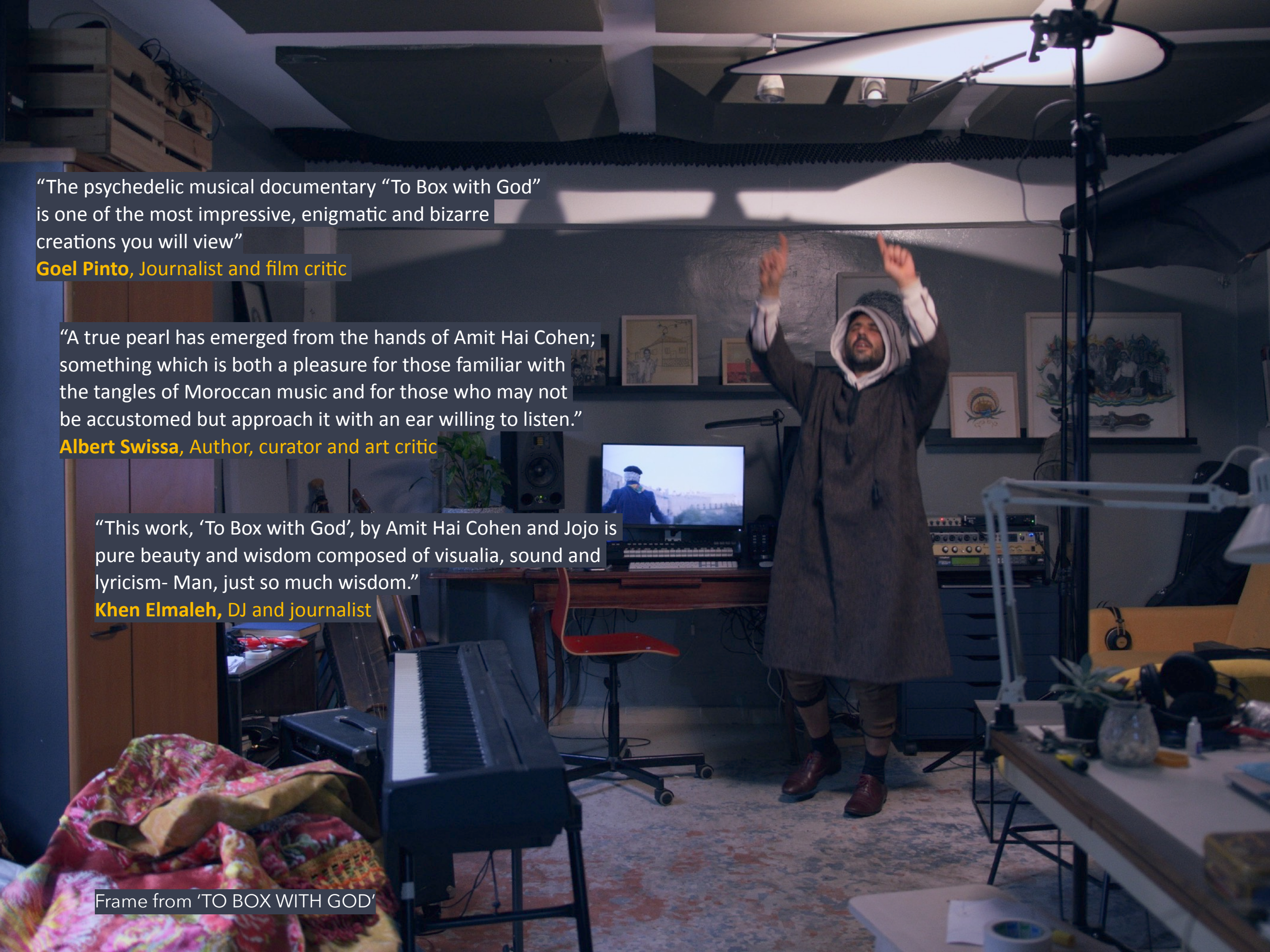
Known for his distinctive sound, Amit has played with musical icons like Rabbi Haim Louk and Maurice El Madiuni. He has produced for the renowned Gnawa master, Moktar Gania, and arranged for ensembles and orchestras such as the Andalusian Orchestra of Ashdod and Montreal. Additionally, he has shared the stage with Karim Ziad, Kabareh Cheikhats, the poet Roy Hasan, and others.



VISUAL WORKS

Directing music, dance, and art videos has played a vital role in Amit's body of work in recent years, collaborating with The Piyut ensemble, choreographer Tzvika Hizikias, Moktar Gania, leading organizations, museums, and others





“The psychedelic musical documentary “To Box with God” is one of the most impressive, enigmatic and bizarre creations you will view”

Goel Pinto, Journalist and film critic

“A true pearl has emerged from the hands of Amit Hai Cohen; something which is both a pleasure for those familiar with the tangles of Moroccan music and for those who may not be accustomed but approach it with an ear willing to listen.”

Albert Swissa, Author, curator and art critic

“This work, ‘To Box with God’, by Amit Hai Cohen and Jojo is pure beauty and wisdom composed of visualia, sound and lyricism- Man, just so much wisdom.”

Khen Elmaleh, DJ and journalist

Frame from ‘TO BOX WITH GOD’

With partner in life and creation

NETA ELKAYAM



Together with the international artist and singer, Neta Elkayam, Amit performed around the world arranging and musically producing projects such as 'Abiadi', the tribute to Zohara Elafsia, and the electro show 'Arenas'. Together they collaborated with top artists in the North African scene and gathered around them a large audience and worldwide recognition. In 2022, they created the multidisciplinary opera "Hilula" for the Israel Festival.



'In Your Eyes I See My Country' (2019), a film by Kamal Hachkar, documents the early musical journey of Amit Hai Cohen and Neta Elkayam along the Morocco-Jerusalem axis. The film aired multiple times during Moroccan prime-time television and was screened at festivals worldwide.



At the premiere of the 2019 Marrakesh Film Festival

The couple participated in several documentaries, including Ron Cahlili's 'Tsafrokaim' and Jumana Mana's 'A Magical Substance Flows into Me'



Amit Hai Cohen : « En Israël marocaine vous accueille à ci
Amit Hai Cohen est un musicien et cinéaste
son, le visuel et les mots afin de « raconter



Amit Hai Cohen currently lives in New Orleans, where he continues his multidisciplinary work across music, film, and visual art. Alongside Neta Elkayam, he serves as a visiting artist at the historically Black and Catholic Xavier University of Louisiana, sharing his artistic vision and cultural research with students and the wider community.

