

# An Israeli Love Story

Monodrama in English

Written and Directed by: **Pnina Gary**

Actress: **Adi Bielski**

(Winner of "Actress of the year" award 2008, Fringe)

## Critical Acclaim:

*The performance is excellent in every respect. Pnina Gary has directed the play in the correct tone and style as living, relevant, authentic and direct theatre, a moving, very touching experience... Adi Bielski shapes a credible and authentic figure, a rare achievement for an actress. Living and direct theatre that is impressive and moving, in short, not-to-be-missed experience.*

**Ben-Ami Feingold, Makor Rishon**

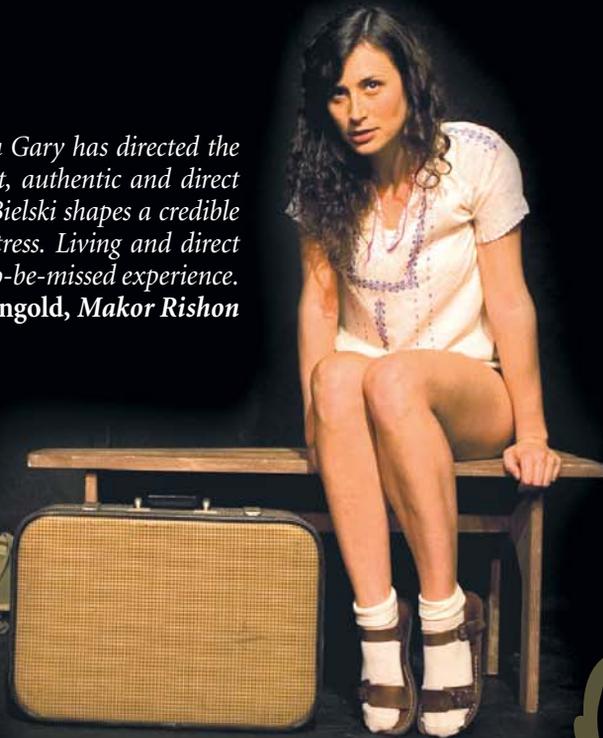
*It is both a fragment of history-nostalgia, which is a personal life experience, ...which is universal, and one cannot remain indifferent to it.*

*...Adi Bielski has a captivating presence...*

**Michael Handelzalts, Ha'aretz**

*This is a monodrama that evokes identification. It presents a fascinating life story, ...this story remains relevant to this day.*

**Shai Bar-Yaakov, Yedioth Ahronoth**



Musical arrangement: **Yaniv Levi** • Choreography: **Rina Sharett**

Set Design: **Avi Wertzel** • Lighting: **Liad Malone**

It begins in the summer 1942 through a chance meeting at a bus stop, between Margalit, young and vibrant and Ami, an idealistic Kibbutz pioneer and soldier in the "Palmach", (The unofficial army pre-state Israel). Despite the many hardships and dangers of those times, their relationship develops. This innocently told love story is intricately interwoven with the values and problems of an era gone by, and vividly captures the characters and atmosphere of pre-state Israel.

Running time: 70 minutes

## About the Play

“This meeting revealed a new world to me. I felt pain; I felt I missed something I never knew. A world of joy at being a Tsabar, that working the land was a source of true pride, a world of hoes and cows, of celebrations, singing and dancing till dawn, of lovers hiding in the meadows or barns. But this love story was cut down a day before the wedding day. That shocked me. And yet, what has changed? The innocence of youth, the will to sacrifice oneself for the greater good? For there was no "mine" then, but "ours": Clothes, food, money, guarding duty, work etc. Maybe it was the modesty, the ability to live with less rather than more, the desire to chase values and ideology rather than money, publicity or power Pnina's tale is an Israeli one, and like Israel it is strong, beautiful, humorous and tragic. It is our story.” **Adi Bielski**

## Adi Bielski

Born in Jerusalem and grew up in Ra'anana.

**In the army:** Education officer.

**2004-2007:** Graduated the School of Dramatic arts: "Yoram Levenstein"

**Recent productions:** “*Alma & Ruth*” - Bet-Lessin theatre.

“*We used to Laugh*” - Comedy festival - Habima theatre.

“*Runs in the family*” - Tzavta theatre.

## Pnina Gary

Was born in Nahalal, Israel. Studied acting in New-York with Herbert Berghof and Lee Strassberg.

**1958** - Among the founders of "Zavit" theatre, one of the first fringe theatres in Israel.

**1968** - Joined Habima National Theatre as an actress and founded their experimental small stage theatre "Habimartef".

**1981-1990** - Artistic Director of the Theatre for Children and Youth (now the "Orna Porat" Theatre).

Mrs. Gary also adapted Israeli novels to the stage: "*Different Place*" and "*The Right Kind of Rest*" by Amos Oz, "*Terra*" by Tzruia Shalev and more.

**2006** - Winner of "Life Achievement Award" by the Ministry of Education and Culture and the ASSITEJ foundation.

**2008** - The play is dedicated to the memory of my fiance Eli Ben-Zvi, who was killed in the war of Independence in 1948.

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