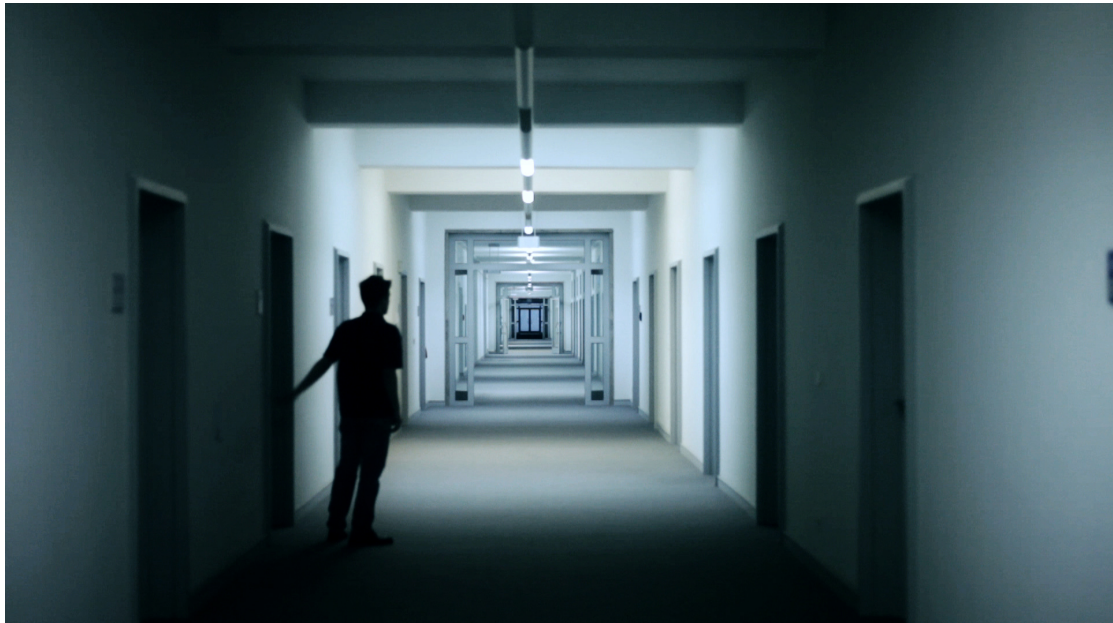


# MIRRORS FOR PRINCES

A STORY IN THREE CHAPTERS



HORST GÜNTER MARX as A FATHER

IMRI KAHN as A SON

HAYEDEH as A DEAD MOTHER

RABBI GEORGES as A GRANDMOTHER

LIAM WARD as A DEAD POSTMAN

in a motion picture by LIOR SHAMRIZ

A father sent a message to his son,  
at that time the son, having gone

to a far off place  
to a distant place,  
was far away.

The city dwelling father  
He precious brilliance found  
    in a distance mountain  
He a man who made words pleasing  
He who had a tall figure  
    and altogether was powerful  
He, wise in divine plans  
    and an ornament of the assembly  
He who was a man of truth, god-fearing,  
He, not eating,

was stricken with illness  
  
was stricken with illness  
was stricken with illness  
  
was stricken with illness  
  
was stricken with illness  
was stricken with illness  
was stricken with illness  
and was languishing away.

Having closed his mouth,

he ate no food and lay famished.

According to a tablet, the warrior,  
    a wanderer,

did not move a foot.

From his sick bed

    he was consumed with  
Heart anguished, overcome by

wailing for his children.  
wailing,  
the scholar died  
a violent death in Nibru.

This matter reached his son  
Like a son who  
he had not returned the message

on the distant journey.  
does not depend closely on his father,  
which had been sent to him.

Now the son shed tears,  
and performed a musical song for him.

threw himself to the dust

*(from An Elegy on the Death of Nannaya, ca.1900BC, Sumer)*





They told my father                      that I was dead  
But I wasn't dead.

They took                      my blood  
They took it                      to him  
They showed it                      to him  
They asked him:                      "Is this the blood of your son?"  
And my father looked at the blood,  
And my father said:                      "This is the blood of my son."

They told my father                      that I was dead                      but I wasn't dead.  
They didn't want to tell him                      that I was alive                      because I was poor,

And not only was I poor                      but jobless,  
And not only was I jobless                      but a bum,  
And not only was I a bum                      but a drug addict,  
And not only was I a drug addict                      but a fag,  
And not only was I a fag                      but a bottom,  
And not only was I a bottom                      but a slut,  
And not only was I a slut                      but a communist,  
And not only was I a communist                      but an anarchist,  
And not only was I an anarchist                      but an opportunist.

*(from the original dialogue in the film)*



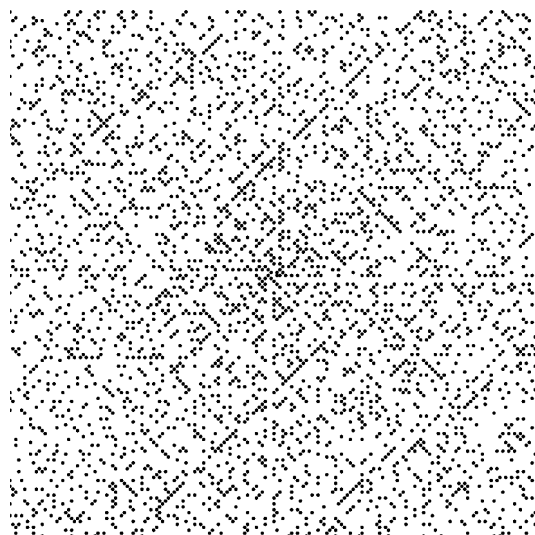
**written and directed by**  
**LIOR SHAMRIZ**



Born 1978 in Ashkelon (Israel), resides in Berlin. A prolific filmmaker, churning out experimental shorts and two features, he channels the trickster spirit of the 60's auteurs in his cinema of humorous/political deconstruction, using cinema as the perfect space to discuss ideas - about being, truth, class, sexuality and the Other.

At 18, skipping the army, moved to Tel-Aviv and started making films, music and taking part in collective art projects. Studied film at the *Jerusalem Film School* and media at the *UdK, Berlin*. His featurette *JAPAN JAPAN* (2006/7), produced independently with a micro-budget, showed at ca. 50 intl film fests, inc. *Locarno*, *Sarajevo*, *MoMA's ND/NF*, *BAFICI*. His debut full-length *SATURN RETURNS* (2009) premiered opening *Torino Film Festival's Onde*, was nominated to the *Max Ophüls Preis* in Germany and co-won the *New Berlin Award* of the *Achtung Berlin film festival*. *RETURN RETURN* (2010), a non-narrative video based on clips from *SATURN RETURNS*, premiered at the *60<sup>th</sup> Berlin Film Festival's Forum Expanded*.

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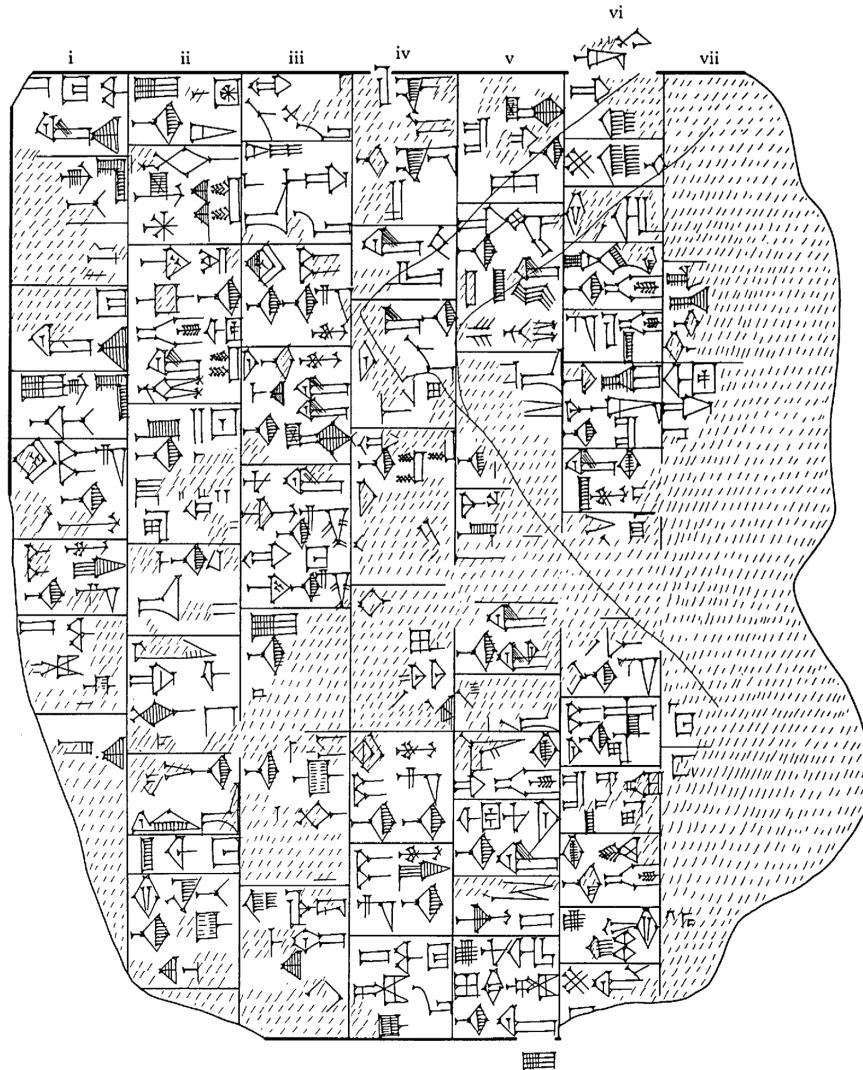
**Mirrors for Princes** (Latin: *specula principia*) refers to a genre – in the loose sense of the word – of political writing, best known in the form of textbooks which directly instruct kings or lesser rulers on certain aspects of rule and behavior

**The Instructions of Šuruppag** from ca. 2500BC Sumer (south Iraq), the earliest known example belongs to the earliest literary tablets known.

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PLATE 111



Obverse  
No. 256



**Written and Directed** by Lior Shamriz

**Based on** ancient Sumerian literature and the biblical story of Joseph

**Camera:** David Schmitt

**Production Designer:** Ole Kloss

**Sountrack:** Hayedeh, Valentin Silvestrov, Georges Moustaki, J.S Bach et al

**Sound Designer:** Assaf Gidron

**Mix:** Jochen Jezussek, **Titles:** Jan Bachmann

**Sound Recording:** Johanna Tauber, **Assistant Director:** Aline Rojas

**Camera Assistant:** Sander Houtkruijer, **Color:** Andreas Nehls

63 minutes. Germany 2011. 16x9.

Spoken Languages: English, German and Gibberish. With English subtitles

Filmed '09 on location&studio in Berlin-Brandenburg, in HD (Canon 7D)

Exhibition Format: HD 1920x1080. Surround

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Hi-Res Press Images, Filmmaker Textual Introduction,  
Trailer, Clips and this presskit are available for download at  
**[www.spektakulativ.com/mirrors-for-princes/download/](http://www.spektakulativ.com/mirrors-for-princes/download/)**

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