



### **ONE-LINER**

Landlords without faces. Apartments without renters. A documentary exploring the new, unliveable city.

# LOGLINE

Housing prices are skyrocketing in cities around the world. Incomes are not. PUSH sheds light on a new kind of faceless landlord, our increasingly unliveable cities and an escalating crisis that has an effect on us all. This is not gentrification, it s a different kind of monster.

# **SHORT SYNOPSIS**

Housing prices are skyrocketing in cities around the world. Incomes are not. PUSH sheds light on a new kind of faceless landlord, our increasingly unliveable cities and an escalating crisis that has an effect on us all. This is not gentrification, it s a different kind of monster. The film foll ws Leilani Farha, the UN Special Rapporteur on Adequate Housing, as she's travelling the globe, trying to understand who's being pushed out of the city and why. "I believe there's a huge difference between housing as a commodity and gold as a commodity. Gold is not a human right, housing is," says Leilani.

### **CREDITS**

DIRECTOR & WRITER FREDRIK GERTTEN • PRODUCER Margarete Jangård • EXECUTIVE PRODUCER Fredrik Gertten • EDITOR Erik Wall Bäfving • CINEMATOGRAPHERS Janice d'Avila and Iris Ng • COMPOSER Florencia Di Concilio • SOUND DESIGNER Martin Hennel • COLORIST Michael Cavanagh • NARRATIVE CONSULTANTS Jesper Osmund and Niels Pagh Andersen • IN CO-PRODUCTION WITH SVT, Film i Skåne, ZDF / ARTE With support from Swedish Film Institute, Nordisk Film & TV Fond, Bertha Foundation, Omidyar Network, Malmö City and The Creative Europe programme of the European Union • WORLD SALES Autlook Filmsales

# **PRODUCTION INFORMATION**

Original title: PUSH International title: PUSH Running time: 92 min Country of production: Sweden Year of production: 2019 Production company: WG Film World Sales: Autlook Filmsales Languages: English, Spanish, Italian, German, Korean

# <u>PUSH – TRAILER</u>

EPK CLIPS

# CONTACT

Production company: film@wgfilm.c World sales: salma@autlookfilms.co

# **PEOPLE IN THE FILM**

### **LEILANI FARHA**



With a background in advocacy for the homeless, Leilani has for the past three years been the UN Special Rapporteur on Adequate Housing, with the right to hold governments accountable if they don't meet the human rights obligations in the UN Human Rights Charter. She believes that if we really want to make change to ensure people can live in the city, then we have to be able to hold someone responsible for what is going on.

### **JOSEPH STIGLITZ**



Joseph Stiglitz, Nobel Laureate in Economy, explains how the private equity firms managed to grow throughout every crisis in the financial system, ending up becoming the biggest landlords in the world. Stiglitz also explains the big shift in history when the deregulation of the financial markets opened the floodgates for investors. SASKIA SASSEN



Saskia Sassen, Professor of Sociology at Columbia University, has studied the impacts of globalization for 40 years and coined the term "global cities".Sassen helps us to understand why an empty apartment is sometimes a better asset than its use as a home. She describes the investments in housing as high-end land grabs.

#### **ROBERTO SAVIANO**



Roberto Saviano, Italian journalist and author of Gomorrah, was forced into hiding after exposing the business side of organized crime. "Tax havens are where criminal capitalism and legal capitalism meet and merge. Mafia organizations were the first to create and facilitate money-laundering mechanisms through tax havens."





### FREDRIK GERTTEN

Fredrik Gertten is an award-winning Swedish director and journalist. His latest works BECOMING ZLATAN (2016), BIKES VS CARS (2015), BIG BOYS GONE BANANAS!\* (2012) and BANANAS!\* (2009) have met audiences in over 100 countries and screened at leading festivals. In 1994, Fredrik founded the production company WG Film. He previously worked as a foreign correspondent and columnist for radio, TV and press in Africa, Latin America, Asia and around

PHOTO: Gerhard Jörén

Europe. Today he combines filmmaking with a ole as a creative producer at WG Film – one of Sweden's most prominent documentary production companies, famous for local stories with a global understanding and impact.

In October 2017 Fredrik was named Honorary Doctor at Malmö University's Faculty of Culture and Society for his work as a documentary filmma er.

SELECTED FILMS AS DIRECTOR: Becoming Zlatan, co-directed with Magnus Gertten (2016) Demmer Bikes vs Cars (2015) Big Boys Gone Bananas!\* (2011) BANANAS!\* (2009) M.Korkeasalo The Socialist, the Architect and the Twisted Tower (2005) An Ordinary Family (2005) (co-producer) Bye Bye Malmö/Just a Piece of Steel (2003) The Way Back, True Blue 2, co-directed with Magnus Gertten Milkbar (2006) dir. Terese Mörnvik & Ewa Einhorn and Stefan Berg (2002) The Death of a Working Man's Newspaper (2001) Walking on Water, co-directed with Lars Westman (2000) True Blue, co-directed with Magnus Gertten and Stefan Berg dir. Erik Bäfving (1998)

SELECTED FILMS AS PRODUCER: Dead Donkeys Fear No Hyenas (2017) dir. Joakim Maria and Her Shadow (2013) dir. Fredric Ollerstam Love Always, Carolyn (2011) dir. M. Ramström & Burma VJ's (2008) dir. Anders Östergaard, Final Image (2009) dir. Andrés Habegger, (co-producer) Thin Ice (2006) dir. Håkan Berthas. Belfast Girls (2006) dir. Malin Andersson Boogie Woogie Daddy (2002) short,

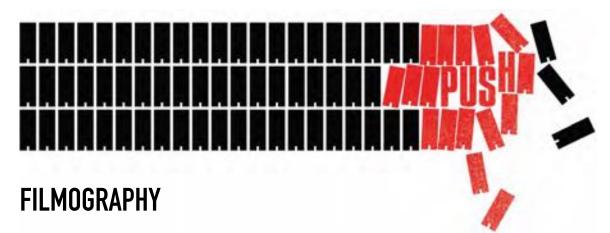


### MARGARETE JANGÅRD

Margarete Jangård has a long track record of producing internationally successful creative documentaries. She stands behind films such as BANANAS!\*, Big Boys Gone Bananas!\*, Love Always, Carolyn, and Dead Donkeys Fear No Hyenas. As the manager of operations at WG Film for the past 14 years, Margarete has widened the company's network around the world and internationalised its slate and outlook.

SELECTED FILMOGRAPHY AS PRODUCER Becoming Zlatan, dir. Fredrik Gertten & Magnus Gertten (2016) Bikes vs Cars, dir. Fredrik Gertten (2015) Big Boys Gone Bananas!\* (2011) Love Always, Carolyn, dir. Maria Ramström & Malin Korkeasalo (2011)

BANANAS!\*, dir. Fredrik Gertten (2009) Burma VJ (co-producer), dir. Anders Östergaard (2008) Milkbar dir. Terese Mörnvik & Ewa Einhorn (2008) Belfast Girls, dir. Malin Andersson (2006) An Ordinary Family, dir. Fredrik Gertten (2005)





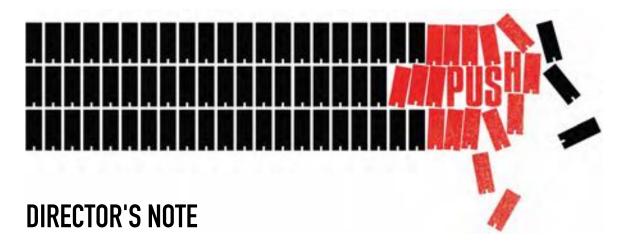
<u>Erik Wall Bäfving, Editor</u> was born in 1973 in Malmo, Sweden, and has been working as a director and editor since 1996. In addition to directing documentaries he is working as a narrative consultant and editor for both documentary and feature films. redrik and Erik have a long history together, having first started orking together almost 20 years ago. Since then, Erik has edited a number of WG Film documentaries, including I Bought a Rainforest and Belfast Girls.



<u>Janice d'Avila, DOP</u> has a degree in Cinema from ECA–USP and has worked as a camera assistant in several feature films and comme cials since 1996. Director of Photography since 2010, she curates the photo of films su h as Elena, by Petra Costa, Estela Renner's Lifetime, Never Dreamed of Me and White Tarot by Coco Rhoden, several branded content films and comme cials for big brands and series such as HBO, Netflix, NatGeo, UFC Channel and Globo



Iris Ng, DOP is recognized as a versatile cinematographer who lends her patience, creativity, intuition, and skill to bring a director's vision to the screen. She is known for her work on Sarah Polley's multi award-winning documentary Stories We Tell (2012), and for collaborating with award-winning directors on a variety of documentaries and films for artists. Along with her co-credit on the 4-time Emmy Award-winning documentary series Making A Murderer, other recent work includes Migrant Dreams which won the Hiller Prize for Journalism in 2017, A Better Man (Hot Docs, DOC NYC 2017), Michelle Latimer's short fil NUUCA (TIFF, Sundance, and The Berlin Film Festival), and Sandi Tan's Sundance Award-winning Shirkers.



PUSH is my journey to understand why life in our cities is getting so unaffordable. For two years I filmed with Leilani Farha, we had daily Whatsapp chats discussing the issue. Early on it was clear that we were lacking a language to describe the ongoing development. Words like gentrification are not sharp enough at describing the issue. It's a global disease when homes are turned into assets in a financial game. The gentrification talk creates a divide. Blaming a hip coffee shop or an art gallery for pushing out the poor is just silly. There are other – much stronger forces in action. If citizens and politicians want to push back the invasion of speculative money from hedge funds and criminals, we need a deeper understanding.

My hope is that PUSH will form a platform for better conversation. That people in countries around the world realise that the development in their town is not unique. There's a global pattern, a business model repeated over and over again. A new kind of landlord, a hedge fund whose customers are not the tenants but the investors. PUSH is now out on a global journey, at cinemas and festivals. Everywhere, I meet people who through the film now feel less lonely. Just more angry.

Fredrik Gette



# PRESS COVERAGE

"Push: a gripping new film about how global finance is fuelling the housing crisis and making cities unaffordable to live in."

- Patrick Butler, editor of society, health and education policy for The Guardian.

"The film is fantastic. It's incredible in how it shows the current conflict in which we live when housing is seen as a commodity."

- Maria Lúcia de Pontes, Brazilian lawyer, public defender and activist.

"Fredrik Gertten's lively, approachable documentary on the global housing crisis should leave audiences feeling engaged, enraged and with plenty to discuss afterwards...Potentially depressing material is handled with a light touch and a welcome edge of humour."

- Allan Hunter, Screen Daily.

"Fredrik Gertten's rousing investigation into the global housing crisis plays like a real-world conspiracy thriller, with an inspiring hero at its heart."

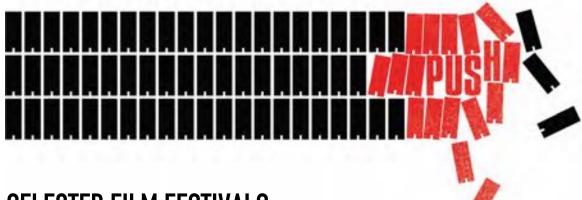
- Demetrios Matheou, Little White Lies.



-Oliver Wainwright, The Guardian.

PAPA (DT

- P1 Kulturnytt, Nina Asarnoj.



# **SELECTED FILM FESTIVALS**

2019 CPH:DOX. WORLD PREMIERE. WINNER OF AUDIENCE AWARD 2019 HOTDOCS CANADIAN INTERNATIONAL DOCUMENTARY FESTIVAL, INTERNATIONAL PREMIERE 2019 DOXA DOCUMENTARY FILM FESTIVAL, VANCOUVER PREMIERE, 2019 DOKFEST. MÜNCHEN. GERMAN PREMIERE 2019 DOCSBARCELONA INTERNATIONAL DOCUMENTARY FILM FESTIVAL, SPANISH PREMIERE, WINNER OF YOUNG JURY **RETEENA AWARD** 2019 MILLENIUM DOCS AGAINST GRAVITY, POLISH PREMIERE **2019 BEAT FILM FESTIVAL, RUSSIAN PREMIERE** 2019 SHEFFIELD DOC/FEST. UK PREMIERE. 2019 BIOGRAFILM FESTIVAL. ITALIAN PREMIERE 2019 NEW ZEALAND INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL 2019 BERGEN INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL, NORWEGIAN PREMIERE 2019 IRISH FILM INSTITUTE'S DOCUMENTARY FILM FESTIVAL, IRISH PREMIERE 2019 REYKJAVIK INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL. ICELANDIC PREMIERE 2019 EBS INTERNATIONAL DOCUMENTARY FILM FESTIVAL 2019 SAN FRANCISCO GREEN FILM FESTIVAL, US PREMIERE, BEST FEATURE AWARD 2019 DOKUFEST KOSOVO, KOSOVO PREMIERE 2019 DOCSMX, MEXICAN PREMIERE 2019 LIFE AFTER OIL FILM FESTIVAL, SPECIAL MENTION