

filmb Blanc

presents

# Milk

A FILM BY Noemí Weis



2015 - Canada      Feature Film      (1 x 90 HD)

[www.milkhood.com](http://www.milkhood.com)

Official Selection

Hotdocs Canadian International Documentary Festival (2015)  
World Showcase Program

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## SYNOPSIS



TAG LINE: Born into this world

### SHORT SYNOPSIS

Through an intimate and artistic lens, *Milk* brings a universal perspective on the politics, commercialization and controversies surrounding birth and infant feeding over the canvas of stunningly beautiful visuals and poignant voices from around the globe. Inspiring, informative, provocative and sensitive, *Milk* celebrates bringing a new life into this world with a strong call to action and reflection.

### LONG SYNOPSIS

Through an intimate and artistic lens, *Milk* brings a universal perspective on the politics, commercialization and controversies surrounding birth and infant feeding over the canvas of stunningly beautiful visuals and poignant voices from around the globe. Inspiring, informative, provocative and sensitive, *Milk* celebrates bringing a new life into this world with a strong call to action and reflection.

From the presence of milk donations in emergency situations, to the challenges of establishing milk banks after the closures faced in the 80's due to the HIV outbreak, to new mothers battling to get the appropriate medical support, to the judgment placed on women who bottle feed their babies, to the stigma surrounding mothers who breast-feed their toddlers, and to the controversy of breastfeeding in public, this polarized topic surrounding birth and infant feeding sets off an emotional and personal debate. In a highly eroticized culture it is hard for some to remember that breasts have uses beyond selling cars, beer, and, well, sex.

Overall *Milk* investigates the overarching themes surrounding the commercialization of infant feeding and its effects on child mortality, as well as the challenges it presents to adequate health worker training and the judgment placed on women regardless of how they choose to feed their babies. *Milk* also contrasts the roots of Mother Nature juxtaposed with the institutional industrialized way in which we receive a new life into this world. In a seamless narrative, *Milk* follows stories of mothers from different cultures on a world journey spanning 11 countries, as it reveals the universal issues and challenges facing motherhood and birth today. The women and their personal and compelling stories epitomize the important global phenomenon of beliefs and actions taking place and presenting serious obstacles to women during this important time in their lives.

## DIRECTOR'S VISION



Having worked on a variety of social issues and human rights films for many years, this time, I decided to go back to roots of Mother Nature and explore what happens when we receive a new life into this world.

I ventured into this topic with an open mind. As a mother myself, I always thought that doctors knew best and that in this day and age, women were well supported to make their own informed decisions. Unfortunately, that's not what I learned during the making of *Milk*.

The more I heard women's stories, the more I knew that this was a documentary that needed to be made. I was compelled to hear that advocates from around the world, who have been working on protecting women for decades, were still battling on communicating truths on issues surrounding malnutrition and infant mortality. Even more surprisingly, was to learn how little awareness there is about infant nutrition in emergency and disaster response in many areas around the globe.

As I talked to mothers from different countries, I realized that the problems and challenges they faced were similar, no matter what country, what culture or what language they spoke. They were all talking about the same issues, united by a strong feeling of motherhood that clearly had no borders.

I decided then, that I would embark on a world journey and offer a platform that would unite these voices. Thanks to the support of funders that believed in my vision and my mission, and to a talented group that joined me in the process of making this film possible, I went where the story took me, without limitations, traveling to eleven countries and casting the strongest and most passionate women, as well as the most vulnerable and ignored.

I embarked on the mission with the hope to ignite a conversation, bring awareness and influence change within governments, industry, health workers and anyone dealing with the mother and child, in order to help future generations of children live healthier lives.

As big as the journey and the stories are, I was keen in creating intimate moments, where the camera is just an observer. I stayed away, as much as possible, from formal interviews and illustrated visual situations and moments of great emotion told by the protagonists themselves. I encouraged intimate and personal conversations between women with the intention of steering new dialogue upon the audience. Each woman represents a symbol the public can identify with, thinking “that could be me...” that could be my sister... my wife... my friend...”

*Milk* celebrates life in all its glory as we follow the passage from labor to birth in an indigenous community in Brazil and end with a celebration on the other side of the world as the Maasai women in Kenya bless a new life. This is juxtaposed with the compelling, personal and political stories at task.

I stayed primarily focused on the human element. *Milk* is visually set against the stunning backdrop of landscapes from around the world bringing many shades of the stories from extraordinary men and women dedicated to this cause, mixed with personal journeys united by an emotional thread that bonds women globally.

The camera is unobtrusive to the participant, and allows audiences to immerse themselves and be carried away by the film as they witness stories swaddled by a strong sense of esthetic and visual storytelling.

*Milk* offers reflection and ignites conversation. I am hoping that by uniting women from around the world in the universal topics of motherhood, birth and life, together, we will create the much-needed change to offer new lives bright and healthy futures.



## PRODUCTION NOTES



Research for *Milk* took place over a three-year period. As simple as the matter might seem, the complexities and variances on the issue are endless. Writer/Director Noemi Weis started on her own, and by year three, a full team had joined her to help bring the film to life.

It was a very ambitious project that required an enormous amount of organization, coordination, positive attitude and stamina, not only on the road, but at the office in Toronto as well. Traveling to 11 countries, and visiting 35 different cities in the process, was not an easy task. Very long hours were worked both on the road and at the office, as the plan was to make it all happen simultaneously, was carried out. With a production map that called for reaching the world, the only way to achieve this efficiently, was to plan in shooting legs as production approached. While traveling and shooting in remote locations, the Toronto team kept the research and business moving forward and thanks to the time difference, Weis was able to extend her day, and make decisions whenever needed.

The team travelled on planes, trains, boats and automobiles - carrying equipment, crossing borders and adjusting to the different times zones, languages, climate and culture. Part of their many small adventures, included being trapped by a typhoon in Manila, shut down by one of the communities in Kenya, having one of the crew members get violently ill and having to rush him to the only doctor in the slum community, and trying to sleep in rural areas while being awoken up by bugs, just to name a few.

What kept production going were the encounters with extraordinary people that would open their hearts and share their stories. It was an exhilarating experience, especially to have the privilege of witnessing multiple births -also recorded on film- to be in the desert and valleys of Kenya surrounded by wild animals, to live with the Pankararu community in Brazil, immersed in their culture and rituals, and the overwhelming experience of being with the Maasai community in the border with Tanzania at the foot of the Kilimanjaro, witnessing the blessing of a newborn. It was overpowering to be in the presence of so many people that passionately and tirelessly have been working on making a difference for women and children for decades and that so enthusiastically, were ready to participate in the film.



On the other hand, it was emotionally difficult to witness the aftermath of the typhoon in the Philippines, and its malnourished babies and desperate mothers in so many different situations.

“As much as I promised to myself to be objective and not get carried away by the stories, I could not help but cry with all of them” says Writer/Director Noemi Weis. “The fact that they were willing to share their stories with the hopes of change, increased my responsibility to bring their voices and plead for a difference.”

Post-production was planned simultaneously as well, and editing started while the last 30% of principal photography was being finished. As the last part was being completed, in the editing room began the challenge of compiling a story that will unite the women of the world. After several of months, and many nights of reading transcripts and thinking and rethinking, this powerful story was locked. Then started the next exciting stage, bringing in the right music that would enlighten each and every frame.

The production of *Milk* was possible thanks to the support from the producers, the production and post production teams who all believed passionately in its necessity, worked diligently and maintained a great commitment in the mission and the message of the film.

The production of *Milk* will be a memorable one for all involved.



the  
hOOd

*Milk* is complemented by iOS App thehOOd, which is the only iOS App in the marketplace that uses GPS technology to help parents and caregivers find kid-friendly places and make friends nearby. It is a seamless and comprehensive one- stop shop user experience for mothers and caregivers. The interactivity of both *Milk* and the Hood App, bring it all together in its website, [milkhood.com](http://milkhood.com)

Users can easily go to the *Milk* website to download thehOOd or go through the iTunes App Store. The App will be a handy tool. Not only can mothers and caregivers find resources while on the go, they can pick and choose based on the ratings by people they trust - their own friends and peers who are also on App. In addition, while thehOOd App helps to find nearby services, mothers and caregivers can choose to take this one step further, by finding real-time and real-life interaction, making new friends with likeminded adults anywhere they are located. Through its geographic information system technology, the App will give mothers and caregivers the freedom to move away from their neighbourhoods, travel with their children, and still be able to find suitable locations, services and friends

## PARTICIPANTS



**Francesco Branca** - Director of the Department of Nutrition, WHO, Head Quarters.

Dr. Francesco Branca is the Director of the Department of Nutrition for Health and Development in the World Health Organization, Geneva and is currently the acting Executive Secretary of the Standing Committee of Nutrition.

He has been a Senior Scientist at the Italian Food and Nutrition research Institute where he was leading studies on the effects of food and nutrients on human health at the different stages of the life cycle and on the impact of public health nutrition programmes. He has been President of the Federation of the European Nutrition Societies in 2003-2007.

Dr. Branca graduated in Medicine and Surgery and specialized in Diabetology and Metabolic Diseases at the Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore, Roma and obtained a PhD in Nutrition at Aberdeen University.



**Terry Wefwafwa** - Head of the Division of Nutrition, Ministry of Health, Kenya

Terry Wefwafwa has been involved in policy changes regarding nutrition since the early 70's. Thirty-four years later, as Head of the Division of Nutrition for Kenya's Department of Public Health and Nutrition, Terry has not forgotten the challenges of her early days in Western Province. In her work advising the government on nutrition policy, convening partners, and mobilizing resources at the national level, collaboration and coordination have become top priorities. Since Terry took office in 2008, she has been a leader and made significant changes to improve the implementation of nutrition activities at the Ministry of Health resulting in significant reduction of child mortality for the country as a whole.



## **Congresswoman Carolyn B. Maloney, US**

First elected to Congress in 1992, Carolyn B. Maloney is recognized as a national leader with extensive accomplishments on financial services, national security, the economy, and women's issues.

Her career has been a series of firsts. Maloney is the first woman to represent New York's 12th Congressional District; the first woman to represent New York City's 7th Councilmanic district (where she was the first woman to give birth while in office); and was the first woman to Chair the Joint Economic Committee, a House and Senate panel that examines and addresses the nation's most pressing economic issues. Only 18 women in history have chaired Congressional committees.

A champion for domestic and international women's issues, Maloney helped pass legislation that targets the 'demand' side of sex trafficking; provides annual mammograms for women on Medicare; the Debbie Smith Act which increases funding for law enforcement to process DNA rape kits, termed 'the most important anti-rape legislation in history.' Her legislation to create Women's Health Offices in five Federal agencies was part of the landmark health care reform legislation signed by President Obama.



## **Ines Fernandez - Executive Director of Arugaan, Philippines**

Inez Fernandez is the executive director of Arugaan, a Philippine-based mother support group as well as the International Baby Food Action Network (IBFAN) and the World Alliance of Breastfeeding Action (WABA). Ines has dedicated her life to the protection of child survival and nutrition, achieving remarkable changes in the protection of malnutrition and child mortality.



## **Elisabeth Sterken - Director, INFACT Canada**

Elisabeth Sterken became a founding member of IBFAN's Canadian group in 1980, the Infant Feeding Action Coalition (INFACT Canada). In 1990 she became its national director.

In Canada, she has maintained a network of those working in maternal and child nutrition, addressing the implementation of various UN instruments, especially the International Code of Marketing of Breast-milk Substitutes, WHO World Health Assembly resolutions, and the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child. Elisabeth Sterken is a spokesperson to the media, a writer on infant maternal and child feedings concerns, and a speaker at conferences.

Internationally, she has participated in the Steering Committee of the UN Standing Committee on Nutrition, as convener or alternate of the UN Standing Committee on Nutrition Civil Society Group.

The group in Canada is a core global partner of the World Alliance for Breastfeeding Action (WABA), and also a core partner of the joint IBFAN-WABA Global Breastfeeding Initiative for Child Survival. IBFAN is the proud recipient in 1998 of the Right Livelihood Award, known as the Alternative Nobel Prize.





**Dr. Jack Newman** - Paediatrician, Lactation expert, Author, Canada

Dr. Jack Newman is a Canadian physician specializing in breastfeeding support and advocacy. He has written many articles and produced many videos about breastfeeding which are distributed widely by breastfeeding resource centers and websites, opened the first hospital breastfeeding clinic in Canada in 1984, speaks regularly at conferences and has been a consultant for UNICEF's Baby Friendly Hospital Initiative. He is also the co-author of *Dr. Jack Newman's Guide to Breastfeeding* (published as *The Ultimate Breastfeeding Book of Answers* in the United States) with La Leche League Canada's Executive Director, Teresa Pitman, and a video titled *Dr. Jack Newman's Visual Guide to Breastfeeding*.



**Marie McGrath** - Director, Emergency Nutrition Network, UK

Marie McGrath started out her working life as a paediatric dietitian, before heading overseas to work on emergency nutrition programmes with the NGO, Merlin, in Sierra Leone, Afghanistan, Congo-Brazzaville, and South Sudan. This was followed by a period in FYR Macedonia during the 1999 Kosovo crisis, working with Save the Children and the Institute of Child Health, University College London, to document the humanitarian response to infant and young child feeding in the crisis.

In 2002 she began working with the UK based charity, Emergency Nutrition Network (ENN), as a sub-editor on their flagship publication, "Field Exchange", that documents field worker experiences on nutrition programming in humanitarian crisis and where malnutrition is a chronic problem. Stemming from her background in paediatric nutrition and the Kosovo crisis experiences, she became active in the IFE Core Group, an inter-agency collaboration on infant and young children in emergencies hosted by the ENN.

In 2004 she became co-Director of the ENN and co-ordinator of the IFE Core Group. Since then, she has driven policy guidance and training material development, organized workshops and meetings and created research programmes around infants and young children in emergencies.



**Gabrielle Palmer**, Nutritionist, Author, UK

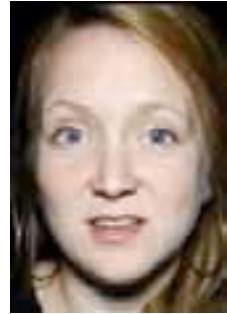
Gabrielle Palmer is a nutritionist and a campaigner. She was a breastfeeding counsellor in the 1970s and helped establish the UK pressure group Baby Milk Action. In the early 1980s she lived and worked as a volunteer in Mozambique. She has written, taught and campaigned on infant feeding issues, particularly the unethical marketing of baby foods.

In the 1990s she co-directed the International Breastfeeding: Practice and Policy course at The Institute of Child Health in London until she went to live in China for two years. She has worked independently for various health and development agencies, including serving as HIV and Infant Feeding Officer for UNICEF New York. She recently worked at The London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine where she had originally studied nutrition.



**Hollie McNish, Poet, UK**

Hollie McNish is a published UK poet and spoken word artist, based between London and Cambridge. She has released two poetry albums, *Touch* and *Push Kick*, both to critical acclaim, and a first collection of written poetry, "Papers", published by Greenwich Exchange, London. She performs across the UK as well as abroad. She was the UK Slam poetry champion 2009, through which she represented the UK in the Slam du Monde finals in Paris, coming 3rd behind the USA and Canada. She now runs Cambridgeshire's youth poetry slam for young people ages 12 - 25.



**Élisabeth Badinter, Philosopher, Professor, Author, France**

Elisabeth Badinter is a world renowned author, historian, and professor of philosophy at the École Polytechnique in Paris. She is author of numerous books related to women's issues, maternity and feminism that have reached the globe with much success and controversy.



## ABOUT filmblanc



Filmblanc is a film production company created in 1998 with a clear mission of bringing the world together. Before globalization was a common term and long before emails were the way of communication, Noemi Weis envisioned interconnected partnerships between producers from around the world in order to nurture and provide creative people the means to produce their dreams anywhere. With much success, Noemi created associations in 20 markets around the globe, bringing people together under one roof.

In the ensuing years, Filmblanc has effectively worked in virtually all forms of production adding, as a natural progression, the production of social justice and human rights films in 2004. Since then, Filmblanc is proud to have successfully brought forward the voices of the world's most vulnerable and those in greatest need of an advocate by covering issues surrounding women and children's rights, domestic violence, gay rights, education and violence, both in Canada and around the world.

As a multiple award winning, entrepreneurial, visionary company with a pristine track record of excellence, Filmblanc continues to create and develop films to promote human rights and social justice.

For more information, please visit our website at [www.filmblanc.com](http://www.filmblanc.com)

## ABOUT THE FILMMAKERS



**Noemi Weis**  
Director /Producer/Writer - *Milk*  
Producer - thehOOd

Weis's work as a Director, Writer and Producer is guided by a keen sense for compelling storytelling, integrity, and a fearless passion to tackle important human rights issues in an intimate, emotional and humane way. Her past films continue to gain recognition, awards and distinctions but more importantly they make a difference by promoting awareness and giving a voice to the voiceless.



Noemi's success in the entertainment industry is due to the experience, dedication and passion she brings to each one of her films after having spent over 20-years telling stories on the big and small screens, from her worldwide advertising projects, to her globally acclaimed documentaries accompanied by the most respected Canadian Directors including Oscar Nominee Director Deepa Mehta and Vic Sarin, to name a few.

Her award winning documentaries have sold in more than 30 countries worldwide and traveled the international festival circuit, receiving numerous awards in the process. Some of her films include: *The Forgotten Woman*, selected as part of the Elite Series at the Academy of Motion Pictures, and winner of Best Documentary at the Hollywood Film Festival; *Desert Riders*, winner of the Best Documentary award from One World, the Canadian Cinematography Association, and the Allan Kings Award of Excellence; *Let's Talk About It* and *Gloriously Free*, both winners of Best Documentary of the year by the Canadian Broadcast Association; and *Abuelas*, Noemi's directorial debut, and winner of the Jury Award at the International Festival of Cinema Politico in Buenos Aires, and nominated at the Yorkton Film Festival in the Arts and Politics Competition.

Noemi is a proud member of the Unesco, part of Team Canada's Trade Missions and a Business Ambassador of Ontario, promoting the merits of Canadian production abroad. In this capacity,

she has participated in numerous trade missions and has been honoured with the nomination of "Woman Entrepreneur of the Year" for three years in a row, the last one by Export Development Canada. In 2004, she was nominated as a finalist for "Woman Entrepreneur of the World," as the sole Canadian nominee.

*"Director/Producer Noemi Weis, has built an exceptional documentary portfolio. Her tangible skills are guided by moral integrity and a keen sense of balance. Noemi is an articulate and sensitive filmmaker with purpose. Noemi is an accomplished and important Canadian filmmaker."*  
Says Bruce Cowley- Creative Head CBC Network.

*"As both a Producer and a Director, Noemi is a thorough and competent professional that despite her many achievements remains a very modest individual."* says Paritosh Mehta- Director Independent Production, Rogers Media.

Born in Buenos Aires and educated in Argentina and Canada, Noemi brings her skills and love for humanity to every project. She continues to create and develop films to promote human rights and social justice. She is fluent in English, French, Italian and Spanish and has a good command of Portuguese.

### **Carolyn Monique Allain** **Producer - *Milk* | Producer, UX/Content Writer, the hOOd**

Carolyn is an award-winning producer who has been a driving force behind a number of film, TV and digital media projects. She specializes in proposal writing, financing projects as well as bridging creative with challenging schedules, budgets and contractual compliance. Carolyn's strong production roots as well as her understanding of the creative process gives her the ability as a producer to support and anticipate challenges, resulting in cost savings and putting more on screen.

Carolyn first came on board *Milk* in October 2013 to help augment financing and has never looked back, and thanks to her digital media experience she was also able to support financing and the production of *Milk's* complementary iOS mobile application "thehOOd".



*Milk* is not Carolyn's first altruistic human rights calling, her CBC documentary "A Safer Sex Trade" went on to garner the largest audience share for its documentary program on the CBC, while her feature *Fetching Cody*, a dramatization of the drug culture on Vancouver's Downtown Eastside, premiered at the Toronto International Film Festival. Carolyn's projects have also screened at dozens of festivals worldwide. Carolyn's versatility as a producer has allowed her to work in many genres. In recent years, Carolyn helped finance and was series producer for the Leo and Shaw Rocket Prize nominated animated series, "Animism: The Gods' Lake", as well she helped finance and was a producer on its transmedia project "The Sacred Sites". Carolyn also has funder experience, having worked for Telefilm Canada as a CMF bilingual television and digital media business analyst.

Presently, Carolyn is juggling a variety of her own projects and supports clients, which include broadcasters, production companies and independent producers, on a wide range of development, financing, production and distribution needs across many genres and platforms.



**Eugene Weis**  
**Editor - *Milk***

Eugene has worked in the film industry as an Editor for the last 10 years entrusted by the top Directors and industry professionals in the Canadian industry. His most recent work as Editor of *Milk* to be launched in the spring of 2015, proceeds his latest film, *The Poet of Havana*, and *Who The F\*\*K Is Arthur Fogel*, for which Eugene has been nominated for "Best Picture Editor" by the Canadian Academy of Motion Picture (2015).



Select titles from his filmography include: *Positive Women: Exposing Injustice* with Producer and Director Alison Duke, a film uncovering the criminalization of HIV women living in Canada for non-disclosure; *Desert Riders* with Director Vic Sarin, an exploration on the controversial issue of child trafficking in the UAE; *Teaching the Life of Music* with Director David New, a film that examines music education as a form of outreach with children living in poverty; "Let's Talk About It", which gave Weis the opportunity to work alongside Academy Award nominated Director Deepa Mehta; *The Forgotten Woman*, which won the Best Documentary award at the Hollywood Film Festival in 2008; and *Make Goals Not War*, a documentary that follows the story of Maty Campeonismo's journey to the 2006 FIFA World Cup in Germany.

Weis gained further experience working as an editor at MZTV, Moses Znaimer's production company. Projects included: IdeaCity '08, CARP Conference '08 and Telus Community Television on Demand, among many others. Weis has worked with renowned Composer and Producer Jack Lenz of Lenz Entertainment on a variety of projects.

Eugene continues to work hard and is enthusiastically trying to bring his films to the public eye.

**Sarah Moffatt**  
**Cinematographer - *Milk***

The cinematography of Sarah Thomas Moffat has reached TIFF, the Scotland Highland, Hamilton Music and Film, Toronto Urban, and Calgary International Film Festivals, and has received multiple awards including Best Dramatic Short at the Toronto Independent Film Festival, Award of Excellence at the LA Movie Awards, Best Documentary at the COMMFFest Global Community Film Festival and the Moving Image Film Festival, Award of Recognition at the Best Shorts Film Competition, Best Cinematography at the We Like 'em Short Film Festival, and her last nomination, by The Canadian Society of Cinematographers, Best Cinematography in a Performance for *Glorious*.



Her work has been broadcast on Bravo, APTN, Discovery, CBC as well as commercial air time and online HD web series. With nearly 20 years in the industry, documentary to factual to narrative, Sarah has lit and filmed every genre.

## Mark Ellam

### Cinematographer - *Milk*

Mark's vast career as a cinematographer brings a distinctive look to all his work. His passion to visual story telling has been globally recognized in all his films. He works alongside the Directors, understanding their vision and bringing that emotion through the lens a unique quality that has earned acclaim all through his career of over 15 years.

Cinematographer Mark Ellam's work has been featured in a number of award winning films for both cinema and television. His theatrical work as a cinematographer has screened in over 40 countries and aired internationally on National Geographic, TV5, Channel 4, SBS, History Television, Tele5 Espana, Dutch A1 and at home in Canada on the CBC, RDI, CTV, TVO, SCN, Bravo, Showcase and the Doc Channel.



Highlights include *The Take*, directed by Avi Lewis and written by Naomi Klein (AFI - best feature documentary), *Big Sugar*, for which he went undercover to shoot Haitian plantation workers under conditions of slavery (Prix Gemeaux, Golden Sheaf Award best documentary), *Epmz 4 Life*, Allan King's new film on Black youth in a high-risk Toronto community (nominated for both Best Cinematography and the Donald Brittain Award at the 2007 Geminis), *A Promise to the Dead*, Peter Raymont's film short-listed for a 2008 Academy Award and "Secure Freedom", Alexandre Trudeau's CTV doc about Canada's stance on the War on Terror.

Recent large-scale recreations include Brian McKenna's "The Great War", an epic period docu-drama for the CBC, and Bill Cobban's "Medak Pocket", a re-creation of Canada's peacekeeping battles in Croatia - a film which the director of documentary production at History TV hailed as "the new standard by which the network will rate its recreations".

### Composers - *Milk*

**Matthew Davies** has been working as an audio engineer and composer since 1986. During that time he has worked on over 500 episodes of television, numerous documentaries and feature films.



**Rob DeBoer** has been composing and performing professionally for almost 30 years. Though originally trained as a classical pianist, he is a multi-instrumentalist who is comfortable in a wide variety of musical styles. Film In addition to working on many television and film projects, Rob tours internationally as one-half of the contemporary jazz group Four80East.



**Tony Grace** is the other half of Four80East, and an award-winning percussionist and composer. He spent the '90s as one of Canada's top remix artists, and continues to keep one foot in the dance music world.



**Rogério Oliveira Soares**  
**Production Supervisor - *Milk***

Rogério joined the group at Filmb Blanc as Production Supervisor of MILK in January, 2014. His vast experience in the film industry as a Director, Producer and Content Manager for several TV Stations, made Rogério a valuable asset for the production of MILK.

Rogério was instrumental in the production of the Brazilian leg, as much as his involvement in all areas of production from research to implementation of each segment during the shooting of MILK.

Rogério's experience in the film industry, account for roles as Television Director as head of programming, acquisitions, content & formats, new media. He is also a documentary director. He holds a Master's Degree in Global Media (Transmedia Storytelling) and a BA Film and Video, both in the UK.. In 2012 and 2013 he was jury for the Canadian Media Fund (Experimental Streaming)

Rogério continues to develop and produce new documentaries. Presently working as Director /Producer in two documentaries being filmed in Brazil.



**Nestor Gaetan**  
**Strategic Consultant - *Milk***

Nestor is a graduate of the University of Toronto with a degree in Sociology and Spanish Literature. He has been working as part of the Filmb Blanc team since 1998 in the capacity of strategic planning, sales, research and creative development. He has been actively involved in the strategic planning of *Milk* since its inception.

As a Sales and Marketing representative, Nestor has brought Filmb Blanc's projects to the Montreal market and presently, he is the sole European representative for the company, in Barcelona, Spain, developing and promoting films. Nestor actively travels to Film Festivals around the world representing Filmb Blanc's properties.



**Nadine Weis**  
**Author/Content Manager, Content Writer - the hOod**

Nadine is a teacher and a mother of three who has been actively involved in education for over ten years, teaching in Canada and abroad. Her extra curriculum activities as a dynamic and energetic young mother, bring her to many mother-and-children circles.

Nadine was inspired with the idea for the hOod as she saw the need for mothers and caregivers to communicate with one and another, and the common need they all share in finding activities to entertain their little ones and reduce isolation.

Nadine has been involved in the development of the app since its inception and overseeing all aspects of the production. Nadine will continue to actively bring her lively and creative energy during the launch and beyond.



## CREDITS



filmbblanc



In association with



Present

A film by Noemí Weis

### Milk

Written and Directed by  
Noemí Weis

Produced by  
Noemí Weis

Produced by  
Carolyn Monique Allain

Executive Producers  
Noemí Weis    Bruce Cowley    Avi Federgreen

Associate Producer  
Del Mehes

Production Supervisor  
Rogerio de Oliveira Soares

Cinematographers  
Sarah Thomas Moffat    Mark Ellam

Editor  
Eugene Weis

Composers  
Mathew Davies    Rob DeBoer    Tony Grace

**Participants in order of appearance**

Maria das Dores Silva Nascimento ( Dora)

Cynthia Cristina Da Silva

Kela McLean

Maria Esther de Albuquerque Vilela

Katherine Elliopolous

Ines Fernandez

Terry Wefwafwa

San Pedro Binga

Elisabeth Badinter

Murielle Bourbao

Megan Smith

Dr. Francesco Branca

Dr. Jack Newman

Andrea Throulavas

Edith Kernerman

Ana Maria dos Santos

Nadine Weis

Alessandra Piccione

Olive Au

Stevie Baker

Debbie Zinman

Shannon Greenberg

Dr. Livia Martins Carneiro

Elisabeth Sterken

Congresswoman Carolyn B. Maloney

Velvet Escario-Roxas

Verna McClean

Gabrielle Palmer

Marie McGrath

Jasmine

Dr. Sharon Unger

Amanda Oram

Mauro Sergio de Oliveira Francisco

Joselita Machades Mendes de Saiza

Ozeane Batista de Azevedo

Dr. Miriam Santos

Cyrell Caparanga

Iana Abigail Gatchaman

Joyce Camille P. Ramos

Emmiyou Catimbane

Lan Perez

Cristina Carrantes

Luzel Dastg

Solenne Boquero

Swaan Levy Janssen

Veerle Snijders

Esther Van Schaik

Miriam Evers

Martine Herzog-Evans

Hollie McNish



**For documentary Channel**

Creative Head of Digital Channels  
Production Executive  
Acting Production Executive  
Manager, Business and Rights

Bruce Cowley  
Jordana Ross  
Susan Baker  
Cheryl Grossman

**For TELUS Fund**

Executive Director

Elizabeth Friesen

**For CMF**

Interim Director, English Market  
Business Analyst

Melissa Amer  
Julie Venerus

**For OMDC**

Director, Industry Development  
Manager, Industry Initiatives  
Consultant, Industry Initiatives -Film & TV  
For TV5 Quebec Canada  
Director of Programming  
Director of Original Programming  
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Picture Online & Colour Grading  
Colourist  
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Laybacks  
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Poem "Embarrassed"

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Courtesy of IBFAN-ICDC, Penang

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Dedicated to Sebastian, Julien and Mia

In loving memory of my father, Isaias Jeifetz

January 5, 1923- June 26<sup>th</sup>, 2014

In loving memory of my life long friend and partner, Oscar Weis

September 16, 1951- July 17, 2014

Produced in Association with documentary Channel



Produced with the participation of



Produced with the collaboration of TV5 Quebec Canada



The production company contacted several formula companies as well as the International Formula Council to request their participation in the film, however, they all declined to participate.

The stock footage used during the recitation of the poem “ Embarrassed” is for illustrative purposes only.

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