

# THE DRIVER IS RED

## EXPLORATION GUIDE

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# 1

The Driver is Red is a film that doesn't fit easily into one film genre. The Director/Illustrator, Randall Christopher, utilizes a unique sketch drawing form of animation. Many festivals programmed the film in the animation category. The film was inspired by actual historical events so some festivals decided to categorize it as a documentary short film. And, yet it also takes an imaginative approach to some of the events to explore what some of the main characters might have been thinking, so it has a narrative feel to it as well.

**How did you respond to the unique style the film took to tell this story? Did the unfolding sketch animation enhance the experience of the spy thriller aspects of the story? At what point in the film were you aware of the true identity of Ricardo Klement? Did the simple sketch drawings of the characters and locations enable you to use your imagination to fill in the rest of the details? How did you respond to the closing scenes which included actual photos of the two main characters?**

# 2

One purpose of this film is to remind people about the Holocaust and explore one of the lesser known stories at the end of World War II. As more time passes since these actual events took place fewer people know much about the causes behind the rise of anti-Semitism, the actual details of the Holocaust, the ways that people and countries supported or resisted the plan to exterminate the Jews, and the consequences facing the people who carried out these crimes against humanity.

**Evaluate your own knowledge about the causes and events connected to the Holocaust? How much do you remember from your formal schooling, content from the media or popular films, or your own research into the actual historical events. Were you familiar at all with the story told in this film? Did the film create a desire for you to go back and learn about anything else related to the Holocaust?**

# 3

Even if you are already knowledgeable about the Holocaust and the story of Adolf Eichmann, you have likely never heard about Zvi Aharoni, the unsung hero who committed his life to tracking down Nazi war criminals and bringing them to justice.

**The film is told from a first-person perspective so that you understand Zvi Aharoni's motivation for this life work. You are also invited to imagine what it was like when for the first time Zvi saw Adolf Eichmann, the person responsible for the death of so many members of his family. Explore the reasons why it is important to hear these kinds of first-person accounts when learning about some of the most troubling events in history (the Holocaust, slavery in the US, genocides in various parts of the world, etc).**

# 4

The Holocaust and the planned extermination of the Jews is a pivotal event in human history. This horrific plan was conceived when the West was characterized as the civilization that offered the rest of the world the best of culture, technology, science, religion, and the humanities.

**In The W, the Director describes the ongoing importance of learning about the Holocaust. If a crime of this magnitude can happen in a country like this at this time in human history, it could happen again and it can happen anywhere. What historical insights do you take from this film and the lens it offers on the lasting lessons of the Holocaust?**