



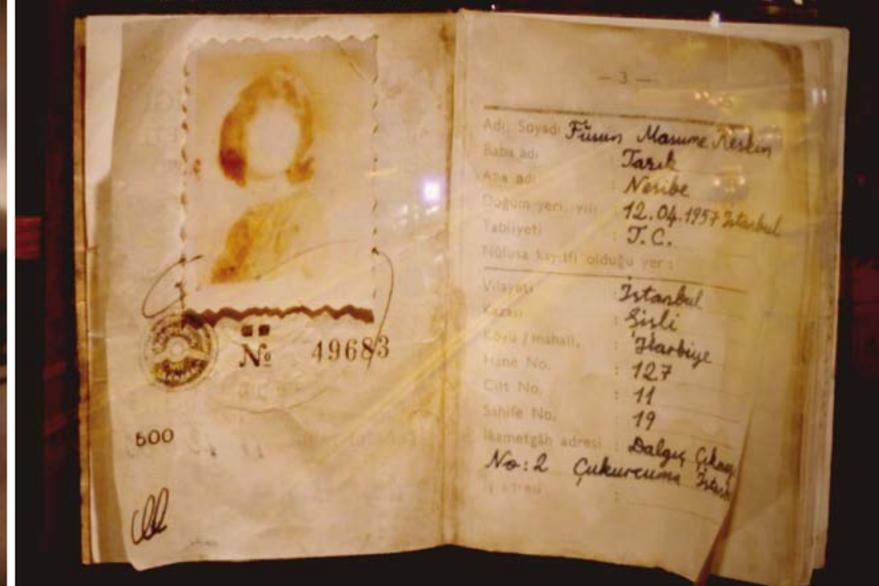
GIORNATE
DEGLI AUTORI
VENICE DAYS

INNOCENCE OF MEMORIES

ORHAN PAMUK'S MUSEUM & ISTANBUL

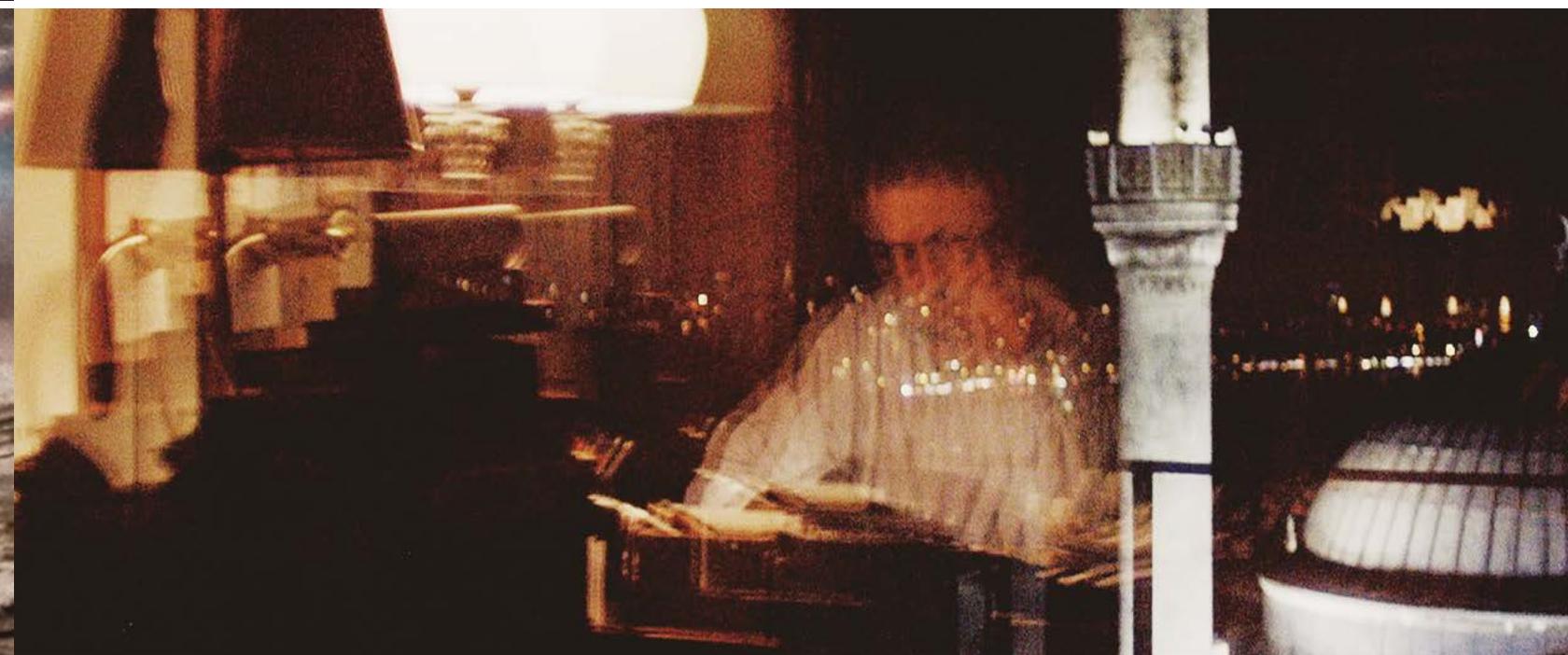
Original narration written by
ORHAN PAMUK

A documentary feature by
GRANT GEE



SYNOPSIS

Orhan Pamuk – Turkey's Nobel laureate for Literature – opens a museum in Istanbul. A museum that's a fiction: its objects trace a tale of doomed love in 1970's Istanbul. The film takes a tour of the objects as the starting point for a trip through love stories, landscapes and the chemistry of the city.





DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT – GRANT GEE

Istanbul is one of the world's great cities. Orhan Pamuk is one of the world's great novelists, his work has been translated into over 63 languages and sold over twelve million copies worldwide. He is the writer of Istanbul.

“He has defined his own beloved city as much as Dickens did London.” – Philip Dodd.

Like many people, when I first visited Istanbul, I read Orhan Pamuk. From the very start, my view of the city was through the prism of his imagination.

And I knew that Orhan had imagined a place called The Museum of Innocence and in 2008 published a big novel of that name. What I didn't know was that, two months after my first visit to Istanbul in 2012, Orhan would open the doors to the real Museum of Innocence. A real, 5 story museum of real objects - the debris and treasure of a tragic love affair from 30 years ago. A museum which immediately became established as part of Istanbul's real cultural itinerary: Bosphorus Cruise, Hagia Sophia, Blue Mosque, Grand Bazaar, Museum of Innocence...

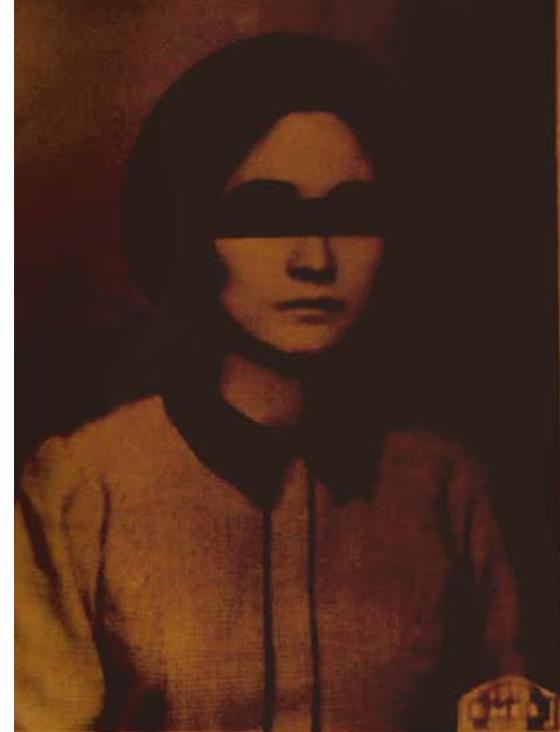
A real museum that's a fiction.

My films superimpose the art I love on landscapes that I see and film. The art can be high or low (literary fiction or rock music) and the landscapes can be urban or rural.

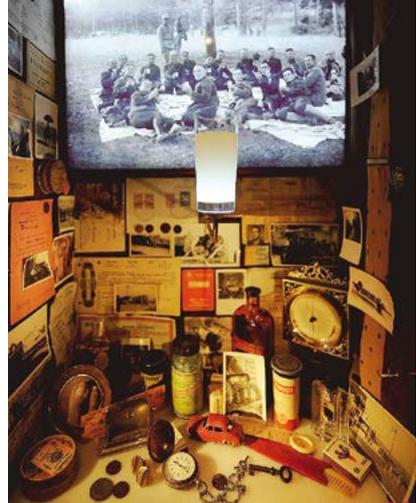
For INNOCENCE OF MEMORIES the task was to devise a form that could move between documentary and fiction, B-movie-noir and tearjerking melodrama, City Symphony and Portrait of the Artist. All in the course of one fictional night in Istanbul.

In Istanbul, not only has a great writer's imagination become part of the image of the city, but the writer's imagination has resulted in actual bricks and mortar construction and change.

Pamuk has constructed a unique place that bridges imagination and reality. INNOCENCE OF MEMORIES is a depiction of that unique place.







BIOGRAPHY – AUTHOR ORHAN PAMUK

Orhan Pamuk is the author of eight novels, the memoir *Istanbul*, three works of non fiction, and is the winner of the 2006 Nobel Prize in Literature. The Swedish Academy praised Pamuk, ‘who in the quest for the melancholic soul of his native city has discovered new symbols for the clash and interlacing of cultures.’

One of Europe’s most prominent novelists, his work has been translated into over 60 languages and sold over twelve million copies worldwide. In Spring 2012, Orhan Pamuk’s *Museum of Innocence* opened in Istanbul. The culmination of a decade-long project, the museum is counterpart to the novel of the same name, and is accompanied by a catalogue, *The Innocence of Objects*, published by Abrams. In 2014, the museum was the winner of European Museum of the Year Award.

By Orhan Pamuk: *Cevdet Bey ve Oğulları* (1982), *Silent House* (1983), *The White Castle* (1985), *The Black Book* (1990), *The New Life* (1994), *My Name is Red* (1998), *Snow* (2002), *Istanbul* (2003), *My Father’s Suitcase* (2006), *Other Colors* (2007), *The Museum of Innocence* (2008), *The Naive and the Sentimental Novelist* (2010), *The Innocence of Objects* (2012), *A Strangeness in My Mind* (2015).

BIOGRAPHY – DIRECTOR GRANT GEE

Grant Gee is a filmmaker based in Brighton, England. He has made films about anarchists, rock groups, rock climbers and writers.

His 1997 film *Meeting People is Easy* about Radiohead was nominated for a Grammy. He also directed the iconic music video for the group’s song *No Surprises*. His film *Joy Division* won the UK’s Grierson Award for Best Theatrical Documentary (2008). His film *The Western Lands* won Best Short Film at the Banff Film Festival (2008). His 2012 film *Patience (After Sebald)*, about W. G. Sebald’s unclassifiable masterpiece, *The Rings of Saturn* premiered at the New York Film Festival and enjoyed successful theatrical runs in both the UK and US.

He is currently developing his first drama – adaptations of Alison Moore’s *The Lighthouse*.





KEY CREDITS

Directed and photographed by *Grant Gee*
Original Narration written by *Orhan Pamuk*
Produced by *Janine Marmot and Keith Griffiths*
Co-Producer *Andrew Freedman*
Film Editor and Sound Designer *Jerry Chater*
Music Composed by *Leyland Kirby*
Animation *Andersen M Studio*
Orhan Pamuk Interview by *Emre Ayvaz*

Executive Producers
Beatrice Bordone Bulgari
Marta Donzelli
Lizzie Francke
Amy Gardner
Teresa Gilchrist
Gregorio Paonessa
Keith Potter
Luciano Rigolini
Associate Producer Turkey
Anna Maria Aslanoglu

CAST

Ayla Pandora Colin
Kemal Mehmet Ergen
Photographer *Ara Güler*
Taxi Driver *Süleyman Fidaye*
Ragpicker *Dursun Saka*
Actress *Türkan Şoray*
Ferry Man *Alparslan Bulut*

BFI and BORD SCANNÁN NA hÉIREANN/ THE IRISH FILM BOARD present a Film by GRANT GEE a HOT PROPERTY PRODUCTION
in co-production with ILLUMINATIONS FILMS, VENOM, IN BETWEEN ART FILM and VIVO FILM and in association with FINITE FILMS and in association with ARTE FRANCE-LA LUCARNE
"INNOCENCE OF MEMORIES – Orhan Pamuk's Museum and Istanbul" Ayla PANDORA COLIN Kemal MEHMET ERGEN
Editor & Sound Designer JERRY CHATER Music composed by LEYLAND KIRBY Animation by ANDERSEN M STUDIO Associate Producer Turkey ANNA MARIA ASLANOGLU
Executive produced by BEATRICE BORDONE BULGARI, MARTA DONZELLI, LIZZIE FRANCKE, AMY GARDNER, TERESA GILCHRIST, GREGORIO PAONESSA, KEITH POTTER and LUCIANO RIGOLINI
Co-produced by ANDREW FREEDMAN Produced by JANINE MARMOT and KEITH GRIFFITHS Original narration written by ORHAN PAMUK Directed & photographed by GRANT GEE



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INTERNATIONAL PRESS

Wolfgang W. Werner Public Relations
Christiane Leithardt & Wolfgang Werner
Tal 46 / 80331 Muenchen / Germany
phone: +49 89 38 38 67 0 / fax: +49 89 38 38 67 11
e-mail: info@werner-pr.de
in Venice:
Christiane Leithardt, cell +49 175 588 80 86
Wolfgang Werner, cell +49 170 333 93 53

TECHNICAL DETAILS

United Kingdom, Ireland, Italy
97 minutes
cinemascope
colour, 5.1
DCP
original language:
English, Turkish

INTERNATIONAL SALES

The Match Factory
Balthasarstrasse 79-81 / 50670 Cologne / Germany
phone: +49 221 539 709 19
fax: +49 221 539 709 10
e-mail: info@matchfactory.de
www.the-match-factory.com
in Venice:
Thania Dimitrakopoulou +49 172 8512 109