

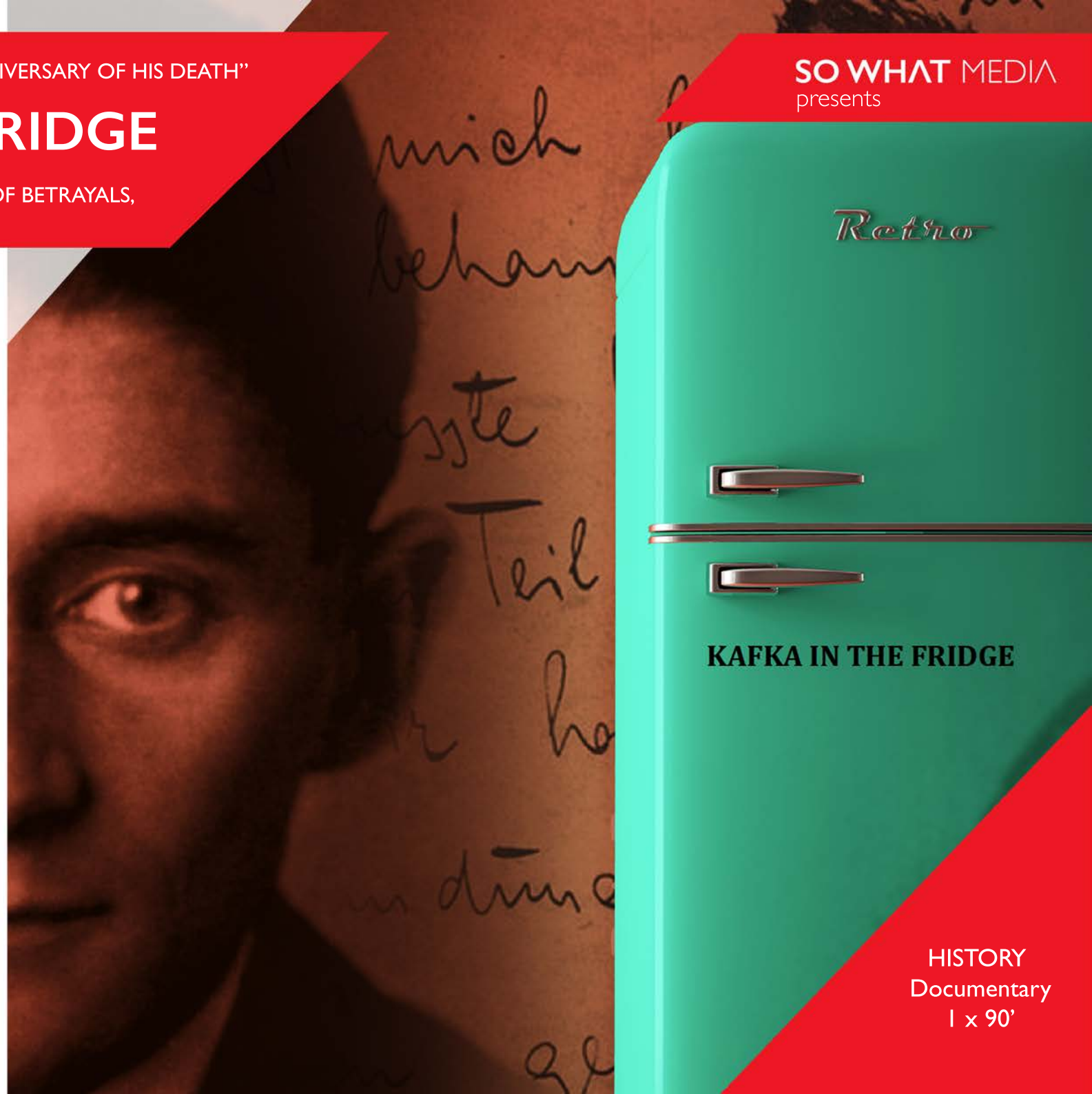
SO WHAT MEDIA  
presents

“ON THE OCCASION OF THE 100 - YEAR ANIVERSARY OF HIS DEATH”

# KAFKA IN THE FRIDGE

THIS IS A CENTURY-LONG STORY, A STORY OF BETRAYALS,  
LOVE AFFAIRS, INTERESTS.

On the occasion of the centenary of the death of the Prague writer, the docufilm "Kafka in the fridge" tells the long story of the legacy of Kafka's "papers". A one hundred years long detective story that started on the 3rd of June 1924. It was then that Franz Kafka, devastated by tuberculosis, unable to swallow and while editing his short story "The Faster", starves to death.



**KAFKA IN THE FRIDGE**

HISTORY  
Documentary  
1 x 90'

SO WHAT MEDIA

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From the death of the great writer, the manuscripts, letters, diaries and drawings of the author of the "Metamorphoses" began an incredible and exciting adventure, involving Kafka's friends, such as Max Brod, who refused to burn them, betraying his friend's plea; his last great love, Dora Diamont; gradually the soldiers of the Gestapo, who confiscated part of the letters, Comintern officials, and afterwards, the war archivists, historians and scholars from Oxford, Israel and from the post-war Germany. And especially in recent years the heirs of some boxes of unpublished material by Kafka, which hold an unparalleled historical and cultural value: the daughters of Max Brod's secretary and lover in Israel, Ilse Hoffe, Eva and Ruth.

Ruth died in 2012. Eva, who awkwardly kept some boxes with original manuscripts in the refrigerator of her apartment on Spinoza Street in Tel Aviv, in the company of dozens of cats, began a long legal battle with the State of Israel. It is the "last trial of Kafka" which features Eva herself, the National Library of Jerusalem and the archive of Marbach, Germany, which already owns the original manuscript of the "Process".

The narrators of this story, which is still surrounded in mystery and papers not yet found, will be Stephan Litt, chief archivist and scholar of the National Library of Israel, who will show us Kafka's recovered documents and drawings; Benjamin Balint, author of the highly successful book "Kafka's Last Trial", the only eyewitness of the all the stages of the trial; Khati Diamant, the Californian scholar who dedicated her entire life to researching the material of Kafka and Dora Diamant, which were seized by Gestapo long before.

The narration will be entrusted to the MC of a Cabaret, which will become the symbolic place of the magical Prague of Golem and Kafka, an extraordinary and fascinating setting for the story of the Bohemian writer. In the theatre, a series of extras and a live orchestra will impersonate and relive the salient and most dramatic moments of the story, while thanks to the MC we will be able to listen to some extraordinarily modern pieces from Kafka's books. The film will end with the reading of the beginning of the Trial, while the images of Kafka's tomb will scroll on the screen: a small tombstone, resting on the ground, commemorates Franz's three sisters, all of whom disappeared in the Nazi concentration camps.

**Written and directed by**

Michele Mally  
 With Stefan Litt, Chief Archivist National Library of Jerusalem  
 Khati Diamant, writer  
 Benjamin Balint, journalist  
 Isabel Kershner, New York Times correspondent in Jerusalem  
 Ulrich von Bulow, archive director of Marbach  
 Richard Ovenden, Bodley Librarian



**Places**

- Prague
- Zurau
- Berlin
- Vienna
- Tel Aviv
- Jerusalem
- San Diego
- Marbach
- Oxford

**Institutions**

- National Library of Israel, Jerusalem
- Franz Kafka Museum, Prague
- Kafka Project, San Diego, California
- Kafka Society of America
- Franz Kafka Society, Prague
- Prague Film Commission
- National Archives, Prague
- Museum of Czech Literature, Prague