

MILLENNIUM ETHIOPIA

Logline

A country internationally known for famine and poverty becomes an unexpected hope for an African future.

Synopsis

Ethiopia enters the new millennium on September 11, 2007 nearly eight years after the rest of the world. The celebrations are riotous. Traditional dance meets modern hip-hop, and a country internationally known for famine and poverty becomes an unexpected hope for an African future. It is a new chance for Ethiopia. It is a time for her people abroad to come home.

Desalin Goshu left his birthplace of Ethiopia seventeen years ago. As a young boy, his family immigrated to Israel for the opportunity to live in their holy land. Now for the first time, Desalin is returning to Ethiopia to remember his past and to celebrate the coming of a new era.

Filmmaker Bio

Ben Mandell is a documentary filmmaker with a focus on multicultural understanding. Ben's first film, *Bits and Pieces* received the Diversity Award at the 9th Annual Media That Matters Film Festival and was an Official Selection at the 63rd Annual Edinburgh International Film Festival. His second film, *Millennium Ethiopia* will be released in early 2010.

Previously Ben worked as a field producer and cinematographer for Project Explorer, a non-profit educational travel documentary company, and as a marketing manager for the distributor New Video. Before working in film, Ben received his MBA from Columbia University and worked as a development consultant in Nicaragua, South Africa and Ethiopia. For more information please visit www.vishwho.me.

