



Critical Acclaim for P.O.V.'s "9 STAR HOTEL"

By Ido Haar

"Israeli filmmaker Ido Haar draws us into the precarious world of young Palestinian construction workers scrabbling to survive in and around the Israeli city of Modiin."

— **Jeannette Catsoulis, *The New York Times***

"*9 Star Hotel*" resists casting [the Palestinians] as victims, or their unseen Israeli employers and security forces as demons. Rather, it presents — without rancor and with deep pathos — the irony of dispossessed young men . . ."

— **Ann Hornaday, *The Washington Post***

"A simply made but riveting work. Israeli director Ido Haar followed Palestinian workmen . . . and gives us a gritty insider's look at their lives."

— **Pat Aufderheide, *In These Times***

"It is both a work of art and a fine piece of reportage from the unseen underside of the modern world."

— **George Robinson, *The Jewish Week***

"You think America has issues with illegal labor? Israeli filmmaker Ido Haar would like you to see what's in his native country: young Palestinian men, fed up with the poverty and corruption in their own country, spilling over into Israel to work on construction projects there."

— **Aaron Barnhart, *Kansas City Star***

"Ido Haar's surprisingly apolitical *9 Star Hotel* on P.O.V. captures a moment in time."

— **Roger Catlin, *Hartford Courant***

"A personal and heartbreaking story."

— **Mike Hughes, *Gannett News Service***

"See it and ponder the multiple levels on which this snapshot from a far shore will touch you."

— **David Crumm, *ReadTheSpirit.com***

"Characters tell their own story through words and action, without talking heads offering their two cents. . . . The end result is something just as engaging — and perhaps more thought-provoking — than a Hollywood product. Haar simply lets the camera roll, capturing action as it unfolds."

— **Jonas Beals, *The Free-Lance Star*, Fredericksburg, VA**

"An affecting documentary."

— **Cynthia Fuchs, *Pop Matters***

"A superb piece of reality filmmaking."

— **Lawrence Maxted, *Library Journal***

"Middle Eastern director Ido Haar helms the haunting cinema-direct documentary *9 Star Hotel*."

— **Nathan Southern, *All Movie Guide***

“An unusually intimate real-life portrait of the personalities, camaraderie, fears, and hopes of men who are otherwise considered by the media to be just the flotsam of politics and economics.”

— **Nora Lee Mandel, *Film-forward.com***

“Haar captures the workers dedication to providing for their families.”

— **Dusti Rhodes, *Houston Press***