



WEST BANK STORY

**Academy Awards USA 2007 - Oscar- Best Short Film,
Live Action**

Ramon staged the elaborate dance numbers that showcase West Bank Story as a true musical in homage of Hollywood's legacy. He hopes his contribution to the film will shed light on the progress to a unified co-habitation in the Middle East.

"Set where else but the West Bank, this sharp and funny mock musical features a forbidden love between Israeli soldier David and the Palestinian Fatima, a love that cannot be because their families operate the deadly rival snack stands Hummus Hut and Kosher King. Expertly made and impressive down to the finger snapping of the rival gangs and the mugging of a camel named stormy, West Bank Story shows that short films done right retain the power to surprise and delight the way they always have." **Kenneth Turan, Los Angeles Times, Sunday**

"Technically superior staging of a mini-musical amidst the unlikely source material of the Israel-Palestine conflict. Arguably one of the most creative and free-wheeling works of 2006!!"

Film Short Reviews

"It's all the singing and dancing that's the highlight of the show here. Well executed DANCE numbers, catchy tunes, great production value and a whole lot of ridiculousness make this the most entertaining fast food feud since McDowell's took on McDonald's." **Film Threat**

"The highlight of the program has to be the totally-out-of-left-field West Bank Story, an all-dancing, all-singing, stereotype-whacking production!!" **Pegasus News**

"Writers Kim Ray and Ari Sandel's disarming and insightful musical comedy gets everything right from the song parodies of West Side Story to the fun house mirror of Middle East politics and allegiances. A really incredible response from the audience made this film one of the rare short films to capture the festival's grand prize." **FILMS IN REVIEW, Stony Brook Film Festival**

"West Bank Story, a re-telling of the conflict in the Middle East filtered through West Side Story was the funniest and most perfect short of the festival." **FILMS IN REVIEW, Hamptons Intl Film Fetsival**

"Well executed dance numbers, catchy tunes, great production value and a whole lot of ridiculousness make this the most entertaining fast food feud since McDowell's took on McDonald's." **Eric Campos, Film Threat Magazine**