

# THE GIFT OF IMPERMANENCE

*To remember death is to awaken to life*

a film project by Gabrielle Lubtchansky & Patrizia de Libero



There are infinite moments on the path, —despite all our efforts, teachings, and practices—when we fall deeply asleep. Even those of us who have dedicated our lives to inner work, to awakening, to the sacred, find ourselves drifting... forgetting the very reasons we began.

We meditate. We pray. We vow, again and again, to stay present—yet something stronger always pulls us away.

This film project is being born from the depth of this question:

What can shake us awake—again and again—to the reality of life? What can root our spiritual search so deeply that it withstands even the strongest winds of forgetfulness?

An answer, whispered across all great spiritual traditions—from the Tibetan Bardo to Christian mysticism, from Sufism to the ancient yogic paths—is this: **Death**.

Not as fear. Not as morbid fixation. But as a master. A companion. A sacred reminder. Death, embraced consciously, becomes a portal back into presence. It strips away illusion. It reawakens reverence. It tells us the truth we forget: this life is fleeting. This moment is precious. **And from that recognition, compassion is born. Humility. Urgency. Purpose.**

But in today's world, we have lost this truth.

We have hidden death away—in hospitals, in language, in silence. We have tried to outrun it with creams, pills, selfies, and screens. We have forgotten that death, far from being the end, is a sacred teacher.

This documentary is not another exploration of funeral rituals or cultural customs. It is a call to return death to the center of life— To honor it as the force that gives life its value. To let it guide our practice, our decisions, our words, our relationships— **Knowing that all things are impermanent.**

This film will also speak to the quiet truth that each of us will one day sit beside someone who is dying and may be able to provide insight and guidance to stay present and silently tuned to our loved ones during the sacred transition.

We are a small, devoted team, who feel a sacred duty to bring this message forward now.

We are filming in places where the wisdom of death is still alive: in Tibetan monastic communities, in Christian contemplative monasteries, in indigenous lineages that remember.



We are in contact with teachers who embody this knowledge. And we are hoping—by grace—to include an interview of **His Holiness the Dalai Lama** or some recognized teacher of the Tibetan tradition, speaking directly to the power of cultivating compassion through the awareness of death. We are also seeking to involve a few widely recognized voices—**figures of international standing and spiritual teachers of different traditions**—who may help carry this project to a wider public.

**We believe this film can touch something deep—not just in minds, but in hearts.** We believe it can help people remember what they came here for. We believe it can bring healing where there is numbness and awakening where there is sleep.

If you've ever felt the pain of forgetting yourself— If you've ever glimpsed the sacredness of life through the passing of someone you loved— If you long to see more beauty, more truth, more meaning brought into the world—

**We invite you to help us.**

To make this possible, we have structured our fundraising in two phases.

### Phase One of Fundraising:

Our immediate goal is to raise \$20,000 by the end of september 2025, to be able to film the trailer for the film. This trailer will help establish the tone, depth, and vision of the project. It will include preliminary filming, traveling, and the purchase of essential tools and equipment. It will also serve to open doors and to help communicate the soul of the film for future support.

This trailer will also draw upon an earlier work by the filmmaker Gabrielle Lubtchansky "[Living Prayer](#)" film series by the well-known French documentary and television director, Jean-Claude Lubtchansky, which gently evokes the presence of death through sacred images and sound. While our film will not be focused on traditions per se, this offering will help point toward the deeper inquiry we are pursuing, where nature and life are embracing those spiritual questioning. How can the remembrance of death become an experience—not merely a thought, but a living force that shapes our being each day?

Despite the fact that many of us carry the idea of death within us, the inner urgency—the fire of presence that true awareness of death brings—is still lacking. How can we awaken that? What did the spiritual teacher G.I. Gurdjieff mean when he said that another organ would be needed, a kind of counterpart to the Kundabuffer, to help human beings remember death—their own and that of others?

**This film is a meditation on that mystery.**

### Phase Two of Fundraising:

Following the creation of the trailer, we will enter Phase Two: the full development and filming of the documentary. At that time, we will reach out again to invite those who feel called to continue supporting the deeper realization of this vision.

We are grateful to share that the fundraising campaign will be facilitated through **Mulberry Tree**, the non-profit founded by Jon Pepper, created to support sacred writings and spiritual work. Mulberry Tree also supported the documentary film: "The Gates of Shinto" directed by Jean-Claude Lubtchansky and co-directed by Gabrielle Lubtchansky. For our American friends, this means that donations are tax-deductible and made through a trustworthy and spiritually aligned platform.

**Your donation, large or small, will go directly to making this film possible.** But more than that, it becomes part of an act of love for the entire worldwide community.

A reminder, for all who will see it, that death is not the enemy— but the master who transforms forgetfulness into the wish to be.

Please share this letter with people who may be interested in supporting our project.

## How to donate:

For further info regarding donations and general inquiry please contact:

Patrizia for Mulberry Tree and Everything is Life: [p\\_delibero@hotmail.com](mailto:p_delibero@hotmail.com) +1 978 353 9200.

Donation can be made by money transfer or check payable to:

Mulberry Tree Films  
65 Roe Avenue  
Northampton, MA 01060

Bank of America  
Routing Number: 026009593 (for domestic wire transfers)  
Account Number: 466001263299  
SWIFT code (for international wires): BOFAUS3N

Please put as reason: Movie on death



**Gabrielle Lubtchansky**

Film Director & Co-producer: [gabrilub@mac.com](mailto:gabrilub@mac.com)

Born in Paris, to a family of film makers.

She studied graphic design and moving images at Central Saint Martins in London. After her B.A. she worked in Paris as a graphic designer for online video content and the production of large-scale projections. In between jobs, she was offered to assist her father on editing his latest film, a documentary on Christianity. He transmitted to her the love of film both his technical knowledge and artistic flair for a craft he honed for over 60 years. She edited his last 5 documentary films.

For Peter Brook, she co-directed a 26 minute film on his career and made image projections for his play WHY. She also directed over one thousand video recipes for the chef Alain Ducasse. She recently started her own career as a documentary film director and completed a short writing course at La Femis school in Paris.



**Patrizia De Libero**

Co-director & Co-producer: [p\\_delibero@hotmail.com](mailto:p_delibero@hotmail.com)

Patrizia is co-founder of [Everything Is Life](#), part of Kairos Journeys, and a bridge to Tutto è Vita, Italy's pioneering school for death education, she holds a Master's in Death Studies and is a certified death doula and coach. A spiritual seeker for over 30 years, her path is shaped by Christian mysticism and Central Asian traditions. Through Kairos Journeys, Patrizia leads pilgrimages, Yoga Trainings in India, and creates a space for serious practitioners to engage with teachers from diverse traditions, and to explore the intersection of science and spirituality. As a psychologist and researcher, she studies the effects of meditation on advanced practitioners. Co-director and co-producer of the docufilm, she brings her contribution in death awareness and the certainty passed on by her main teacher: that remembering death is key to discovering love for life and recall a sincere wish to be.