



20TH  TORONTO JEWISH FILM FESTIVAL

MAY 3-13 TJFF.COM



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SCHEDULE

Thursday May 3

8:00 PM VC 99 MIN • A Bottle in the Gaza Sea

Friday May 4

1:00 PM ITH 55 MIN Kafka's Last Story
3:00 PM ITH 52 MIN The Brother Who Sent the Rosenbergs to the Electric Chair

Saturday May 5

1:00 PM ITH 75 MIN Notes and Frames: The Neglected Art of Film Music
3:00 PM ITH 72 MIN Music for the Movies: Bernard Herrmann
9:15 PM TU 100 MIN • OSS 117—Lost in Rio
9:30 PM AG 93 MIN • The Day I Saw Your Heart
11:30 PM TU 88 MIN This is Sodom

Sunday May 6

12:00 PM AG 98 MIN Music for the Movies: The Hollywood Sound
1:00 PM SC 63 MIN • Dressing America—Tales From the Garment Center w/ Needle and "Tread"
1:00 PM ITH 97 MIN The Art of Spiegelman w/ In the Shadow of No Towers
2:00 PM SC 100 MIN • Foreign Letters
2:30 PM AG 127 MIN • My First Wedding w/ Not Your Time: The Musical
3:00 PM SC 88 MIN In Search of Yiddish
3:30 PM ITH 112 MIN Planet of the Apes
5:00 PM SC 99 MIN • A Bottle in the Gaza Sea
5:15 PM AG 81 MIN • Life in Stills w/ Wolf Suschitzky—Photographer and Cameraman
5:30 PM SC 83 MIN • Follow Me: The Jonathan Netanyahu Story
7:00 PM ITH 113 MIN The Conversation
7:45 PM AG 93 MIN • Six Million and One
8:00 PM SC 60 MIN Memory After Belsen (work-in-progress)
8:30 PM SC 93 MIN • The Day I Saw Your Heart

Monday May 7

12:30 PM AG 88 MIN Women Unchained w/ Alone
1:00 PM BC 118 MIN Gilad's Liberation Army w/ Luxuries
3:00 PM SC 62 MIN The Lost Love Diaries w/ Letters Home
3:15 PM AG 52 MIN Evening Primrose
3:30 PM BC 101 MIN The Law in These Parts
4:00 PM SC 102 MIN Naomi
5:00 PM SC 94 MIN • Kaddish for a Friend
6:00 PM AG 90 MIN • The Trial of Adolf Eichmann
6:00 PM BC 105 MIN • My Australia w/ The Basketball Game
6:45 PM SC 81 MIN • Life in Stills w/ Wolf Suschitzky—Photographer and Cameraman
7:30 PM SC 93 MIN • Six Million and One
8:00 PM AG 90 MIN • Portrait of Wally
8:30 PM BC 110 MIN The Last Butterfly
9:00 PM SC 88 MIN • God's Fiddler

Tuesday May 8

12:30 PM AG 84 MIN Standing Silent
1:00 PM BC 100 MIN Salsa Tel Aviv
3:00 PM AG 52 MIN The Boys of Terezin
3:00 PM SC 90 MIN In Heaven, Underground
3:30 PM BC 88 MIN • God's Fiddler
4:00 PM SC 100 MIN • Tony Curtis: Driven to Stardom w/ Grandpa Looked Like William Powell
5:00 PM SC 95 MIN • Wunderkinder
5:30 PM AG 97 MIN Exile—A Myth Unearthed
6:00 PM BC 100 MIN • Foreign Letters
6:15 PM SC 98 MIN • Off-White Lies w/ Around Trip
7:30 PM SC 100 MIN • OSS 117—Lost in Rio
8:00 PM AG 99 MIN A People Uncounted
8:30 PM SC 94 MIN Obsession
8:45 PM BC 109 MIN • Dorfman w/ Flawed

Wednesday May 9

12:30 PM AG 81 MIN • Inventing Our Life: The Kibbutz Experiment
1:00 PM BC 121 MIN An Article of Hope w/ The Last Flight of Petr Ginz
3:00 PM AG 87 MIN Michael Nyman in Progress w/ A Composer's Dream
3:00 PM SC 96 MIN Nicky's Family
4:00 PM BC 105 MIN • Remembrance
4:00 PM SC 88 MIN • How to Re-Establish a Vodka Empire w/ Woody Before Allen
5:30 PM AG 75 MIN Born in a Concentration Camp w/ Through the Eye of the Needle
5:30 PM SC 119 MIN • Free Men w/ Scheherazade and the Kosher Delight
6:00 PM SC 121 MIN • The Prize
6:30 PM BC 88 MIN • My Dad is Baryshnikov
8:00 PM AG 112 MIN Something Wild
8:00 PM SC 124 MIN • My Australia w/ Stitches
9:00 PM BC 98 MIN • Off-White Lies w/ Around Trip
9:00 PM SC 109 MIN • Dorfman w/ Flawed

Thursday May 10

12:30 PM AG 100 MIN • Tony Curtis: Driven to Stardom w/ Grandpa Looked Like William Powell
1:00 PM BC 72 MIN Torn
3:00 PM SC 90 MIN • Portrait of Wally
3:00 PM AG 63 MIN • Dressing America—Tales From the Garment Center w/ Needle and "Tread"
3:30 PM BC 70 MIN Deaf Jam
4:00 PM SC 106 MIN • Roth on Roth w/ Howard Fast: Being Red
5:30 PM SC 97 MIN • The Flat
6:00 PM BC 83 MIN • Follow Me: The Jonathan Netanyahu Story
6:00 PM AG 70 MIN Miss Judy w/ Baghdad Twist
6:30 PM SC 81 MIN • Inventing Our Life: The Kibbutz Experiment
8:00 PM SC 112 MIN Invisible w/ Reality Check
8:00 PM AG 121 MIN • The Prize
8:30 PM SC 127 MIN • My First Wedding w/ Not Your Time: The Musical
9:00 PM BC 96 MIN Polish Bar

Friday May 11

12:00 PM AG 94 MIN • Kaddish for a Friend
1:00 PM BC 104 MIN The Dreamers w/ Thou Shalt Not Dance
2:15 PM AG 95 MIN • Wunderkinder
3:15 PM BC 119 MIN • Free Men w/ Scheherazade and the Kosher Delight
4:30 PM AG 77 MIN American Musical Theatre: Elmer Bernstein w/ House, Tops

Saturday May 12

12:00 PM BC 78 MIN Sensory-Friendly Screening
230 PM BC 48 MIN Ladies and Gentleman...Mr. Leonard Cohen
4:00 PM BC 70 MIN Film Music Masters: Jerry Goldsmith
7:00 PM BC 70 MIN Movie Music Man: A Portrait of Lalo Schiffrin
9:30 PM ITH 70 MIN Cabaret-Berlin, the Wild Scene
9:30 PM BC 100 MIN Let My People Go
9:30 PM AG 106 MIN My Best Enemy

Sunday May 13

11:00 AM BC 90 MIN The New Yiddish Cinema: Renaissance or Curiosity?
12:00 PM AG 120 MIN Simon and the Oaks
1:00 PM SC 87 MIN The Kissinger Saga
1:30 PM BC 106 MIN • Roth on Roth w/ Howard Fast: Being Red
2:00 PM SC 88 MIN • My Dad is Baryshnikov
2:45 PM AG 97 MIN • The Flat
3:00 PM SC 105 MIN • Remembrance
4:00 PM SC 90 MIN • The Trial of Adolf Eichmann
4:30 PM BC 88 MIN • How to Re-Establish a Vodka Empire w/ Woody Before Allen
5:00 PM AG 66 MIN Hitler: the Comedy Years w/ You Nazty Spy!
7:30 PM BC 100 MIN A.K.A. Doc Pomus

AG Al Green Theatre, 750 Spadina Ave. **BC** Bloor Cinema, 506 Bloor St. W. **ITH** Innis Town Hall, 2 Sussex Ave. **SC** Cineplex Odeon Sheppard Cinemas, 4861 Yonge St. **TU** Toronto Underground Cinema, 186 Spadina Ave. **VC** Cineplex Odeon Varsity & VIP Cinemas, 55 Bloor St. W. • Indicates film has additional screening(s). **Please Note** Running times do not include guest speakers where applicable. All films shown in their original language. Films not presented in English are shown with subtitles.

TICKETS

IN-PERSON ADVANCE BOX OFFICES

April 18–May 3

**Toronto Jewish Film Festival
Downtown Advance Box Office***

19 Madison Avenue (one block east of Spadina, ½ block north of Bloor)

Monday–Sunday

Noon–6:00 pm

**No wheelchair access. Please call 416 324 9121 for assistance.*

April 20–May 5

**Cineplex Odeon Sheppard Cinemas
TJFF Box Office**

4861 Yonge Street at Sheppard (Sheppard subway station)

Monday–Sunday

2:00 pm–6:00 pm

FESTIVAL BOX OFFICES

May 4–May 13

Al Green Theatre

Miles Nadal JCC
750 Spadina Avenue at Bloor (Spadina subway station)

May 7–May 13

Bloor Hot Docs Cinema

506 Bloor Street West at Bathurst (Bathurst subway station)

May 6–May 13

**Cineplex Odeon
Sheppard Cinemas**

4861 Yonge Street at Sheppard (Sheppard subway station)

Venue box offices open 1 hour before the first scheduled screening of the day and close 30 minutes after the start of the last screening of the day.

Credit card payment only available for advance ticket purchases (Visa, MasterCard).

Cash only at door.

PURCHASE TICKETS

Order tickets online at tjff.com
Or by phone at 416 324 9121
(phone lines open Noon–6:00 pm)

PASSES

The Flexible Pass: \$160

Valid for 20 films/events (excluding Opening Night/Closing Night and Special Presentations) Any combination of tickets. Subject to availability.

The Weekday Pass: \$80

Allows access to all films beginning prior to 5:00 pm Mondays–Fridays. Tickets subject to availability.

Pass Information

With a pass you must still obtain a ticket for each screening. Tickets can be selected in person only, from any TJFF Box Office. Passes can be redeemed beginning April 18, 2012. Pass tickets cannot be selected online or over the phone. **N.B. Passholders join ticket-holder line for entry into theatre.**

SINGLE TICKETS

Opening Night: \$20

Cineplex Odeon Varsity & VIP Cinemas

Closing Night: \$18

The Bloor Hot Docs Cinema

General Admission: \$13

Seniors/Students: \$9 (ID required)

Weekday Matinees: \$8

(Mon–Fri, screenings before 5:00 pm)

FREE STUDENT ADMISSION

Subject to availability. Five minutes prior to each screening, students with valid ID will be admitted for free from the Rush Line.

FREE EVENTS

All free events are ticketed. Free programmes can be booked in advance, at any TJFF box office or at the door, subject to availability.

TICKETING POLICIES

All sales are final. No refunds. Seating is guaranteed until 15 minutes before the screening. There will be no admittance 15 minutes after the start of the programme. Latecomers will be admitted at the discretion of TJFF staff.

Students and seniors will be required to show ID. Programmes are subject to change. All films are presented in their original language with English subtitles. Please check our website, tjff.com, for film ratings.

Charitable Registration No.

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Premier of Ontario - Premier ministre de l'Ontario

On behalf of the Government of Ontario, I am delighted to extend warm greetings to everyone attending the 20th annual Toronto Jewish Film Festival (TJFF).

Film is a powerful means of sharing our own stories, and offers us a glimpse into other cultures, lives and experiences. For two decades, this popular festival has provided a wonderful showcase of the artistry and vision of Jewish filmmakers from Canada and around the world.

I would like to congratulate the hard-working staff, board members and volunteers of the TJFF on marking your 20th anniversary! I commend you for your commitment to ensuring the continued success of this event—and for the vital role you play in enhancing our province's cultural landscape.

Please accept my sincere best wishes for a memorable and enjoyable 20th anniversary festival—and for much continued success.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Dalton McGuinty".

Dalton McGuinty
Premier

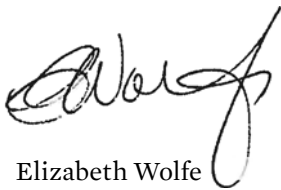
How fitting it is that this year's 20th anniversary of the Toronto Jewish Film Festival is a focal point of the first ever Jewish Heritage Month in Ontario.

From its modest beginnings, the TJFF has projected the breadth and depth of international Jewish documentary and feature films. It has provided our community with a unique opportunity to explore the cultural, historical, social and political facets of Jewish life, past and present. Like no other vehicle, the TJFF helps us to understand the issues, challenges, and opportunities that we face as a people. It is hard to imagine that 20 years have passed since the TJFF began to deliver the finest Jewish films to Toronto audiences. Its success is evident as TJFF has become a central feature of Jewish culture in Toronto. It is no coincidence that the TJFF is considered one of the preeminent Jewish film festivals around the world.

I am among the thousands of faithful participants who look forward to the Toronto Jewish Film Festival each year. It informs us, it entertains us, it brings us to laughter and tears. I applaud the TJFF on its unique ability to attract and engage so many viewers, year after year, by featuring the broadest spectrum of Jewish themes. Our community benefits immeasurably from the efforts of all those associated with the TJFF and, on behalf of UJA Federation of Greater Toronto, I sincerely thank you.

Kol Hakavod, and Happy 20th! Here's to another 20 years.

With appreciation,



Elizabeth Wolfe
Chair of the Board

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S WELCOME



PHOTO: TIM LEYES

HELEN ZUKERMAN

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Let me welcome all of you, as our second decade of presenting the best International Jewish content film comes to an end.

We've learnt a lot as we traveled the road from our first 5-day Festival in 1993 of 35 films, to 2012 and the presentation of 96 films from 15 countries and still counting as I write.

Personally, I have learned so much from seeing so many films that exposed me to the diverse facets of Jewish identity around the world. Other programmers feel the same. Our meetings are often peppered with phrases like "I didn't know that", or "I didn't know he/she was Jewish" or "Who knew the story of the Jews that went to Bolovia?" We keep learning and it's always a blast!

I hope that over the past twenty years, we have taken you on this journey with us—that's our mission. Jewish or not, on some level, film speaks to all lovers of the medium.

Notice the new look of our catalogue. We asked some of you to help us design a book that would enable our audience to better navigate the breadth of our program, and here is the result!

The colour coding should make it easier to zero in on any special interests you would like to explore, and you can browse the book thematically. Some days, all you want is a good laugh and other days, a good documentary. We hope it works for you.

When I was surfing the web, looking for a "hook" for this address, I discovered that platinum and yellow diamonds—both symbols noted for their strength and endurance—are associated with 20th anniversaries. This Festival is like those elements. Its strength is greater than any one of us and endures

because of the support of the diverse Toronto community.

The next phase of the Festival, to enhance its endurance, will be the creation of an archive for the 1500–2000 films we have screened over the years.

Most independent films have a short life limited to the festival circuit, after which they often gather dust on shelves. Some are fortunate enough to get limited distribution; others can be found sporadically through detective work.

We, at the Festival, feel that the films we screened over our 20 years have value beyond that—as research tools for scholars of Jewish history, culture and identity around the world, as well as Israeli history.

We would also like to capture our 20 years of programming and make these available not only as research tools, but also for their entertainment value. We hope to generate some revenue for the filmmakers but most importantly, we want their work to live on. In this boldly interactive world, possibilities exist for filmmaker-audience interactions through webcasts. Technology gallops along; new possibilities become a reality every day.

That's our next mission—exploring the possibility of creating an archive to honour the hundreds of films that made us laugh and made us cry over the past two decades. A naming opportunity exists for the creation of this archive. Perhaps, I can tempt you to make it yours!

I know I speak for everyone at the Festival, when I wish you a wonderful journey on these 11 days, and tell you what a privilege it is for us to make this special time happen!

Bon Voyage.

CO-CHAIR'S MESSAGE



BARBARA PELTZ & DAYLE RAKOWSKY

CO-CHAIRS

Welcome to the twentieth year of the Toronto Jewish Film Festival (TJFF). It has been a wonderful journey of growth, learning, development and so many successes. It is all a function of its Board of Directors and a fine staff headed by Helen Zukerman. Helen's passion got everything started. Her vision and tireless efforts over the past twenty years have ensured that the Festival is both stimulating and professionally run.

In celebration of this milestone we take great pride in honouring one of our own, a local hero, Judy Feld Carr. Many of you know Judy's story and her historic rescue of Syrian Jews. This year we have the opportunity to preview a film produced about her ventures. Don't miss the screening of *Miss Judy* on Thursday, May 10th at the Al Green Theatre!

How proud we are to be chairing this world renowned Festival. TJFF has been at the forefront of film; exploring social issues, heart-wrenching drama, rich comedy and out-

standing documentaries. Over the years the films have made us laugh and cry, demanding our attention and giving us insight into the experiences of individuals from around the world.

We love the Festival. To us it is educational, engaging, stimulating, and entertaining. Every year we look to increase our audience and share the experience with as many people as possible. Our goal is to focus on exposing more and more people to the wonderful world of film both within and outside the GTA, and with the younger generation, the future of the Toronto Jewish Film Festival.

Last, but not least, we thank you, our supporters, who ensure the Festival goes on year after year. Your contributions and support mean everything to us.

Enjoy this outstanding eleven days of film, friends, laughter, and, yes, sometimes tears. We look forward to sharing the 2012 Toronto Jewish Film Festival with you.

SIDEBAR SERIES



PHOTO: TIM LEYES

ELLIE SKROW

CURATOR, SPECIAL PROGRAMMES

THE SOUND OF MOVIES: MASTERS OF THE FILM SCORE

"The motion picture score is a musical form equal to the opera or the symphony."

—Erich Wolfgang Korngold

"A teapot is made for a purpose, but it can also be a work of art."

—Max Steiner

"I have often felt that if you could perform a magical act of alchemy and combine some of the great Russian-Soviet composers, say Shostakovich or Prokofiev, with Duke Ellington or Billy Strayhorn, you might produce a wonder such as Alex North."

—John Williams

The Toronto Jewish Film Festival celebrates the lives and work of Jewish composers who create the music for the movies, through the artistry of the film score. The 12-part series includes rarely-seen documentaries, feature films, and special guests.

The Sound of Movies marks another chapter in a fascinating story, as the Festival continues its exploration of the predominant and extraordinary role that Jewish composers have played in the popular culture.

Rhythm & Jews focused on the connections between Jewish and Black music, and how this phenomenon resulted in "the American songbook"—from the vaudeville, Tin Pan Alley and Brill Building eras, through to Broadway and the heyday of jazz and blues. **Gotta Sing, Gotta Dance** looked at the American Musical, through such luminaries as Irving Berlin, the Gershwins, Rogers & Hart, Harold Arlen and so many more. **The Three Lennys** showcased the musical genius of Leonard Bernstein and Leonard Cohen.

In the same way that Jewish songwriters and lyricists excelled in their respective genres, most of the "greats" in the world of the film score have been Jewish. Many of them are classically trained or jazz-oriented, and creators of orchestral works and popular songs, as well as movie scores. The first wave—the group who actually invented film music—were exiles from Nazi Germany, Europe and Russia, and they had a profound influence on those who followed.

"Erich Korngold persuaded you that Errol Flynn was really Robin Hood. Max Steiner told you what it was like for a southern aristocrat to lose a war and a way of life, Miklos Rozsa let you know how Ray Milland felt on a lost weekend, and Bernard Herrmann terrified you as some weirdo butchered Janet Leigh in the shower... If your heart went out to Gary Cooper as he waited for those gunmen at high noon, you might give a thought to Dimitri Tiomkin ... and Joan Fontaine was absolutely right when she felt Manderley was haunted, but it wasn't the spirit of Rebecca—it was Franz Waxman's music."
—Tony Thomas, "Music for the Movies"

The musical soundtrack is an aspect of movie-making that is neglected in film discussions, and is often mistakenly regarded as an inferior art form. Yet the role of the film score—in creating mood and atmosphere, and serving as a key character—is profound. Movie music has the unique ability to reach an audience—at a very deep, unconscious level—through the powerful convergence of image and sound.

The lengthy list of exceptional Jewish movie composers (in addition to the roster above), includes: **Alex North** (*A Streetcar Named Desire*), **Elmer Bernstein** (*The Great Escape*), **Jerry Goldsmith** (*Chinatown*), **David Shire** (*The Conversation*), **Aaron Copland** (*The Heiress*), as well as: **Lalo Schifrin**, **Michael Nyman**, **David Raksin**, **Leonard Rosenman**,

Danny Elfman, Toronto-born **Howard Shore**, **Laurence Rosenthal**, **Philip Glass**, and the entire Newman dynasty (including **Alfred**, **Lionel**, **David**, **Thomas** and cousin **Randy Newman**).

Why so many Jews? Danny Elfman, composer of the music for most of Tim Burton's movies, as well as the theme music for "The Simpsons", told the Jewish Journal: "*Anybody who spends time around orchestras will tell you Jews tend to have the musical gene. You see how hard it is to do an orchestra call on Passover ... That's not cultural. It's genetic. It's in your blood. It's a part of our Jewish roots.*"

The creativity involved—the mysterious process of writing music for motion pictures—is one of the themes of the series, which also poses the "bigger picture" questions: Where did movie music come from, where is it now, and where is it heading? How memorable should a film score be, and what makes it great?

There are several highlights of the series that need to be singled out. The Festival is honoured to welcome Grammy and Academy Award®-winning composer **David Shire** as a special guest. Mr. Shire (whose film credits include *Saturday Night Fever*, *The Taking of Pelham One Two Three*, *Norma Rae*, *All the President's Men*, *Farewell, My Lovely*, and *Zodiac*) will introduce the screening of *The Conversation* (featuring his masterful score), as well as *Evening Primrose* (a teleplay he worked on with Stephen Sondheim), and will talk about his remarkable body of work in film, television, theatre and popular music, with film critic and author **Kevin Courrier**.

Alex North was the first composer to break from the European tradition—startling the world with his groundbreaking jazz score for *A Streetcar Named Desire*. Referred to by John Williams as "*the father of modern film music ... an inspiration, a role model, and a hero*", North's masterworks (he was nominated for an Oscar® 15 times, and received a Lifetime Achievement Academy Award® in 1986) include: *Spartacus*, *Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf*, *Death of a Salesman*, *The Misfits*, *Prizzi's Honor*, and the original, discarded score for *2001: A Space Odyssey*. He also wrote for ballet, theatre and symphony orchestra. His song, "Unchained Melody", was recorded over 500 times, most famously by The Righteous Brothers. North's last score was for the film *The Last Butterfly*. This award-winning feature, which has been unavailable for many years, will have a rare screening at the TJFF. We are thrilled to welcome **Steven North**, Alex North's son and Emmy Award-winning producer of *The Last Butterfly*, to talk about his film and his father's life and illustrious career, with film music journalist **Mark Hasan**.

The Festival is also delighted to welcome celebrated Canadian film composer **Mychael Danna** (*Moneyball*, *The Sweet Hereafter*, *Capote*). Mr. Danna (who is currently working on the score for *The Life of Pi*, directed by Ang Lee), will introduce a movie of his choice with a soundtrack by a Jewish

composer: the original *Planet of the Apes* (1968, a rare, 35mm archival print). Mr. Danna will talk about the amazing score by Jerry Goldsmith, and answer audience questions about film music from a composer's perspective.

There are additional surprises in the series, including a rare indie film with a score by Aaron Copland (*Something Wild*, 1961). Many of the documentaries include a wealth of entertaining film clips. There are too many interesting facts about the series' guests and individual composers to relay in this introduction—check out the bios and links on our website for additional background material: www.tjff.com

We hope that **The Sound of Movies** gives audiences a unique chance to experience movies in a whole different way; to come away with a new appreciation of the artistry involved in writing a truly great film score (as well as the crucial role it plays); and to have an opportunity to discover some of its outstanding Jewish creators.

THE SOUND OF MOVIES: MASTERS OF THE FILM SCORE

- 35 **American Musical Theater: Elmer Bernstein**
- 35 **The Conversation**
(score by David Shire)
- 35 **Evening Primrose**
(score by Stephen Sondheim, David Shire)
- 35 **Film Music Masters: Jerry Goldsmith**
- 36 **The Last Butterfly**
(score by Alex North)
- 36 **Michael Nyman in Progress**
- 36 **Movie Music Man: A Portrait of Lalo Schifrin**
- 37 **Music for the Movies: Bernard Herrmann**
- 37 **Music for the Movies: The Hollywood Sound**
- 16 **Notes & Frames: The Neglected Art of Film Music**
(Kevin Courrier talk)
- 37 **Planet of the Apes (1968)**
(Composer's Choice: Mychael Danna)
- 38 **Something Wild (1961)**
(score by Aaron Copland)

Plus excerpts from TVO's *Saturday Night at the Movies* archives—interviews with **Miklos Rozsa**, **David and Thomas Newman**, and **Laurence Rosenthal**. Also: a short film on **Howard Shore**, and excerpts of an interview with **Danny Elfman** and **Tim Burton**.

PROGRAMME DIRECTOR'S NOTES



PHOTO: TIM LEYES

LARRY ANKIEWICZ

PROGRAMME DIRECTOR

It's my favourite time of year again—it's Toronto Jewish Film Festival time, which means 11 days of great movies.

This year we celebrate the 20th year of our Festival. This is my 8th Festival as Programme Coordinator/Programme Director. Before that, I spent a number of years on the Programming Committee, and I wrote about the Festival for a number of local publications even before that. So in one way or another, I have been around for most of those 20 years.

Despite that long connection to the Festival, I still marvel at the fact that so many "Jewish" films are being produced. Every year we get more than 400 submissions to the Festival and every year I wonder whether it will ever end. Not that I want it to. I love watching films; more so, I love that it is part of my job.

The other thing that always surprises me is where these films come from. This year we have close to 100 films in the Festival from 15 countries. We even have 12 films from Germany. Who would have thought?

And we had a bumper crop of "Holocaust" films this year. Our only problem was finding room for all of them.

We have a German film called *Wunderkinder* about two Jewish musical prodigies who save the family of a non-Jewish friend and this friend later hides the Jewish family from the Nazis.

We have two films about Israeli heroes. *Follow Me* tells the story of Yonatan (Jonathan) Netanyahu, the commander of the rescue mission at Entebbe. *An Article of Hope* is about Ilan Ramon, the pilot who became the first Israeli astronaut to orbit the earth.

We have a beautiful film about the largest Jewish cemetery in Europe (*In Heaven Underground*). Although located in the Berlin area, this cemetery survived the Nazis.

We have Holocaust films that show a different side of the story. *Born in a Concentration Camp* tells of seven women who gave birth in Kaufering, a satellite camp of Dachau. And

one of the women, along with her son who was born there, will be in attendance at the screening.

As a special treat, we are showing a "work in progress". *Memory After Belsen* is a film that looks at the challenges of Holocaust awareness in art and education. The producer, Joshua Green, will be in attendance and will show about 45 minutes of clips from the still-unfinished film, and will talk about the project and the people he has interviewed and filmed.

These last two films strike a special resonance with me. Not only did I live in a DP camp in Germany for two years as a child, but my best friend when I attended John R. Wilcox Public School here in Toronto, was born in the Bergen Belsen concentration camp several weeks before the camp was liberated. He is now a film professor at a university in the United States.

We also have two interesting events for those of us who speak Yiddish or are interested in the Yiddish language. *In Search of Yiddish* follows a Russian scientist/poet/singer on a journey to the areas of the former Soviet Union where he was born. He is searching for any Yiddish speakers who may have survived the War, and trying to determine whether any Yiddish is still spoken in those areas. And Eric Goldman, an expert on Jewish and Yiddish films, will give a lecture on modern Yiddish cinema and will show clips.

Finally let me talk about our Opening and Closing presentations. Both are outstanding films. We open the Festival with *A Bottle in the Gaza Sea*, a Canadian, French and Israeli co-production, about a teenage girl in Israel who has her brother throw a bottle into the sea. Inside the bottle is a note with her email address. A young man in Gaza finds the bottle and the two begin a correspondence that eventually leads to a special friendship.

Our closing night presentation is a very special film that we are presenting as a "Sneak Preview" and has never been seen. It tells the story of Jerome Felder, better known as Doc Pomus, who overcame a great deal of adversity in his life to become one of the great composers of the early rock era.

As a youngster, Pomus began listening to African American music. He was one of the first and only white soul singers of the late 40's and early 50's. Then when he began writing songs, he composed such classics as *Save The Last Dance For Me*, *This Magic Moment*, *A Teenager In Love*, and many more. He also wrote many of the songs that appeared in the Elvis Presley films of the 60's. This promises to be a memorable evening and we will have one or two special guests at the screening, including Doc Pomus' daughter, Sharyn Felder.

These are a few of the highlights of a wide-ranging slate of films we will be presenting this year. No matter what your taste or your interest, there is sure to be a lot for you to enjoy.

PROGRAMMER'S PICKS



"I had a real problem picking my favourites this year. There were many I wanted to mention, but I knew other members of our Programming Committee would choose them, so I limited myself to films that made me fall in love. I hope you fall in love. I hope you laugh at the silliness, cry at the touching moments, and I hope you enjoy the varied nature of my personal favourites this year as we celebrate twenty incredible years of unspooling the best of what we see."

Helen Zukerman

Executive Director

HELEN ZUKERMAN

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

- 18 A Bottle in the Gaza Sea
- 27 The Flat
- 27 Hitler: the Comedy Years
- 29 Life in Stills
- 24 OSS 117—Lost in Rio
- 34 Roth on Roth
- 24 This is Sodom

ALLEN BRAUDE

PROGRAMMING COMMITTEE

- 23 Let My People Go
- 29 The Lost Love Diaries
- 21 The Prize

AMIT BREUER

PROGRAMMING CONSULTANT

- 20 Invisible
- 29 The Law in These Parts
- 31 Six Million and One

STUART HANDS

PROGRAMME MANAGER

- 25 The Brother Who Sent the Rosenbergs to the Electric Chair
- 26 Cabaret-Berlin: The Wild Scene
- 27 Exile—A Myth Unearthed
- 28 How to Re-Establish a Vodka Empire
- 31 The Trial of Adolph Eichmann

SUSAN STARKMAN

FILMMATTERS/PROGRAMMING COMMITTEE

- 26 Deaf Jam
- 19 Foreign Letters
- 21 My Dad is Baryshnikov

RANI SANDERSON

PROGRAMMING COMMITTEE

- 29 Kafka's Last Story
- 30 A People Uncounted
- 30 Portrait of Wally

LARRY ANKLEWICZ

PROGRAMME DIRECTOR

- 25 Born in a Concentration Camp
- 32 Follow Me: The Jonathan Netanyahu Story
- 28 In Heaven Underground
- 28 In Search of Yiddish
- 30 Memory After Belsen
- 22 Remembrance
- 22 Wunderkinder

ELLIE SKROW

SIDEBAR SERIES CURATOR/PROGRAMMING

- 18 A.K.A. Doc Pomus
- 32 The Art of Spiegelman
- 35 The Conversation
- 35 Film Music Masters: Jerry Goldsmith
- 36 The Last Butterfly

DAVID A. STEIN MEMORIAL AWARD



DAVID A. STEIN

(1970–2004)

The David A. Stein Memorial Award is presented in memory of a gifted Toronto filmmaker who passed away in 2004 at age 34. The “Tzimmie”—named after his production company, Tzimmies Entertainment—is an annual \$5,000 award to the director of the best documentary making its Canadian premiere at the Toronto Jewish Film Festival, and supports documentary filmmakers in creating works that would have interested David, and that carry on his passion for storytelling.

Largely self-taught, David began his film career in 1993, first as a production manager and later as writer, director and editor of short films, as well as corporate identity and music videos. He made his first documentary—*Toward a Just Society*, a study of race relations in Canada—in 1998 for the Canadian Council of Christians and Jews. David also worked on television’s *Betrayal* series, where he strived to give meaning to the stories of Mordechai Vanunu and Jonathan Pollard. David worked closely with the TJFF, producing comedic trailers that also reflected his understanding of the human condition. In many ways the TJFF was a second home for him, with his love of film and Yiddishkeit.

This year, on our 20th anniversary, we are re-showing David’s short film called *Needle and “Tread”* (p 40) David made this short to honour his Bubbe, who worked in the factories on Spadina Avenue. It is playing with *Dressing America—Tales From the Garment Center*, (p 26) the story of the New York fashion garment trade.

As we celebrate our 20th Festival, we remember those people who made us great. David was certainly one of them.

THIS YEAR’S AWARD JURY

2012 PANEL

Jason Anderson is a film critic and columnist for *The Grid* and writes regularly about movies for *The Toronto Star*, *Cinema Scope*, *FFWD* and *Artforum.com*. His arts journalism has also been published by *The Globe and Mail*, *The Walrus*, *Saturday Night*, *Chatelaine*, *Fashion*, *Toronto Life* and *Entertainment Weekly*. His other endeavours include programming for the Kingston Canadian Film Festival, teaching film criticism at the University of Toronto and playing keyboards (albeit with only two fingers) in The Two Koreas.

Sean Farnel is an independent film consultant specializing in festivals, curation, acquisitions and creative development. Prior to a recently concluded six year stint as Director of Programming at HotDocs, he was a staff programmer with the Toronto International Film Festival®.

Jane Schoettle is an International Programmer for the Toronto International Film Festival®, responsible for programming films from Australia, New Zealand and Israel, as well as American independent cinema.

Schoettle is the founder and former Director of the Sprockets Toronto International Film Festival for Children. During her tenure at Sprockets, she also established the John VanDuzer Children’s Film Collection, which provides teachers with the opportunity to screen educational films not otherwise available in Canada. She also established Reel Comfort, which brings screenings and workshops to patients in acute care psychiatric wards, and Special Delivery, a filmmaking workshop for at-risk youth in under-served communities.

David A. Stein Memorial Award Winners

2012 The Flat
2011 Ingelore
2010 Not Idly By: Peter Bergson,
America and the Holocaust
Lone Samaritan

2009 My First War
2008 Stealing Klimt

FILMMATTERS



STUDENT EDUCATION OUTREACH

BLOOR HOTDOCS CINEMA · MAY 7–11 · 10:00 AM

Many students and teachers are familiar with the story of Hana's Suitcase and have encountered Hana's brother, George Brady, through the book and the film. This year, FilmMatters will be introducing them to George's inspiring life story featured in the film *The Boys of Terezin*. As part of a group of young boys imprisoned in Terezin, George and his friends started an underground magazine called *Vedem*, where they could express themselves through words and art in order to keep up their spirits in such horrible conditions.

Today, only 6 of the Terezin boys are alive and 5 of them, including George, are reunited in this documentary. We are honoured to have George attend the screening to discuss his experience with students. He will also be attending the screening of the film *The Last Flight of Petr Ginz*, which chronicles the story of the founder of *Vedem*. Sadly, Petr was killed in Auschwitz, but his art lives on in this beautiful documentary that brings his drawings to life in vivid animation. As one of Petr's roommates in Terezin who was transported to Auschwitz with him, George will also be speaking to students about his friend after the screening.

The other two films in the FilmMatters line-up deal with Israeli-Palestinian relations, albeit in very different ways. In the documentary *Deaf Jam*, Aneta Brodsky, a deaf Israeli-born young woman enters a poetry slam competition and is paired with Tahani Salah, a Palestinian poet who can hear.

Together, the two create a unique performance piece combining the spoken word with ASL sign language. Tahani will be joining the students for the screening. In the feature film *A Bottle in the Gaza Sea*, a French teenager living in Israel begins an email correspondence with a young Palestinian man living in Gaza, and, despite their initial wariness, the two develop a virtual friendship through their email exchanges. Based on the novel by Valérie Zenatti, the film takes an even-handed approach to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict by high-lighting its effects on those poised on the brink of adulthood.

HILLEL SPOTLIGHT



HILLEL SPOTLIGHT ON ISRAELI FILM



CINEPLEX ODEON SHEPPARD CINEMAS · MAY 9–10 · 8:00 PM

For the second year, the Toronto Jewish Film Festival is partnering with Hillel of Greater Toronto for a screening series that attempts to shed some light on Israeli culture, society, and day-to-day life. This two-evening event also emphasizes the state of Israeli filmmaking today, by showing works of both film students and seasoned directors.

On the first evening, the narrative feature, *My Australia* (p 20) will be shown with a short film produced at the Sam Spiegel Film School, *Stiches*. The second evening offers the award-winning narrative feature, *Invisible* (p 20) and its accompanying short film, *Reality Check* (p 40), which were both made by film professors at Tel Aviv University.

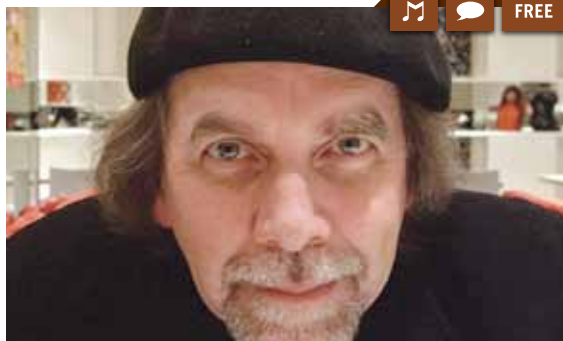
The films were selected by a committee of students studying in various arts-based programs at different universities in Toronto. They spent many hours reviewing and grading films and are excited to present the selected films.



Sponsored by:

Eileen & Shoel Silver

FREE TALKS



NOTES AND FRAMES: THE NEGLECTED ART OF FILM MUSIC

75 MIN

► SATURDAY MAY 5 · 1:00 PM · ITH

Even though music has always been an integral part of movies, many believe that the best film score is the kind that you don't notice. But how effective would films like *Gone With the Wind*, *The Adventures of Robin Hood*, or *Psycho!* be without their respective composers' mastery in evoking emotion? Film critic and author **Kevin Courrier** traces the fascinating history of movie music and the role of its great Jewish composers—from the silent era to the present day—using film clips as illustration. He explores whether or not a good score can save a bad picture (or whether a bad score can ruin a good one) and the impact of pop music on films.

Guest: **Kevin Courrier** is a writer/broadcaster, film critic, teacher and author. His forthcoming book is *Reflections in the Hall of Mirrors: American Movies and the Politics of Idealism*.



THE NEW YIDDISH CINEMA: RENAISSANCE OR CURIOSITY?

90 MIN

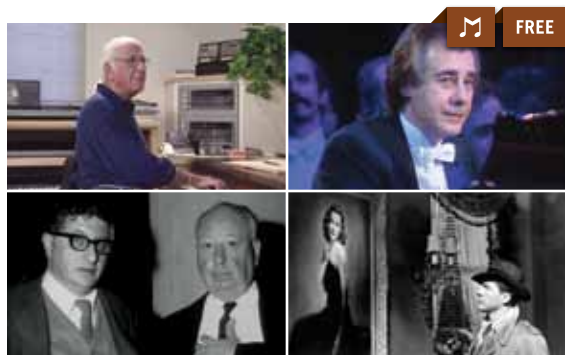
► SUNDAY MAY 13 · 11:00 AM · BC

In 1980, Belgian filmmaker Samy Szlingerbaum wrote and directed *Brussels Transit*, the first Yiddish feature-length film narrative to be made in thirty years. Since that time, filmmakers in France, Israel and the United States have turned to Yiddish as the central language of their films, and future productions have been announced. Just why is there renewed interest and what are the various factors that have brought about new Yiddish filmmaking? This lecture, containing film clips, will delve into how each sphere—Europe, Israel and America—has produced such fascinating films.

Guest: Lecturer **Eric Goldman** has documented the renaissance in Yiddish filmmaking in his revised and expanded pioneering book on Yiddish film, *Visions, Images and Dreams: Yiddish Film Past and Present*. Goldman is founder and president of Ergo Media, a DVD publishing company specializing in Jewish film, and adjunct associate professor of cinema at Yeshiva University.

Dedicated to the memory of Jesse Habermeld Freedman, Louis Freedman and Morris Habermeld.

FREE FILMS



- 35 Film Music Masters: Jerry Goldsmith
- 36 Movie Music Man: A Portrait of Lalo Schifrin
- 37 Music for the Movies: Bernard Herrmann
- 37 Music for the Movies: The Hollywood Sound

Ladies and Gentlemen...Mr. Leonard Cohen
(see tjff.com)

TJFF CINEPHILE



The TJFF Cinephile programme provides an introduction to all the Toronto Jewish Film Festival offers year-round, in a casual and friendly environment. It is an outreach initiative designed to appeal to those with an active, social lifestyle. TJFF Cinephile hosts events matching great films and guest speakers with great food as a “Taste of the Toronto Jewish Film Festival” and an introduction to our Spring Festival. For information on the TJFF Cinephile programme, email us at cinephile@tjff.ca.

SENSORY FRIENDLY SCREENING: FOR FAMILIES AND CHILDREN AFFECTED BY AUTISM



JOSEPH AND THE AMAZING TECHNICOLOUR DREAMCOAT

UK, 1999, 78 MIN
DIRECTOR: DAVID MALLET
► SATURDAY MAY 12 · 12:00 PM · BC

Donny Osmond stars as Joseph in Tim Rice and Andrew Lloyd Webber's Biblical Broadway extravaganza, shimmering with elaborately-staged production numbers and a score full of hits. This screening provides a safe and welcome setting. The theatre will have the lights turned up and the sound turned down, and we invite audience members to get up, dance in the aisles and sing along!

OPENING NIGHT FILM



A BOTTLE IN THE GAZA SEA

ENGLISH-CANADA PREMIERE

FRANCE / CANADA / ISRAEL 2011, 99 MIN

FRENCH, HEBREW, ENGLISH

DIRECTOR: THIERRY BINISTI

► THURSDAY MAY 3 · 8:00 PM · VC

Tal experiences a terrorist attack at her local café, but refuses to succumb to

hatred and blame. She optimistically slips a message of peace in a bottle that she asks her brother to throw into the sea while he is on patrol near Gaza. Eventually, she receives an email response from Na'ım, a teenaged Palestinian who calls himself "Gazaman". The two develop a virtual friendship through their email exchanges. Based on the novel by

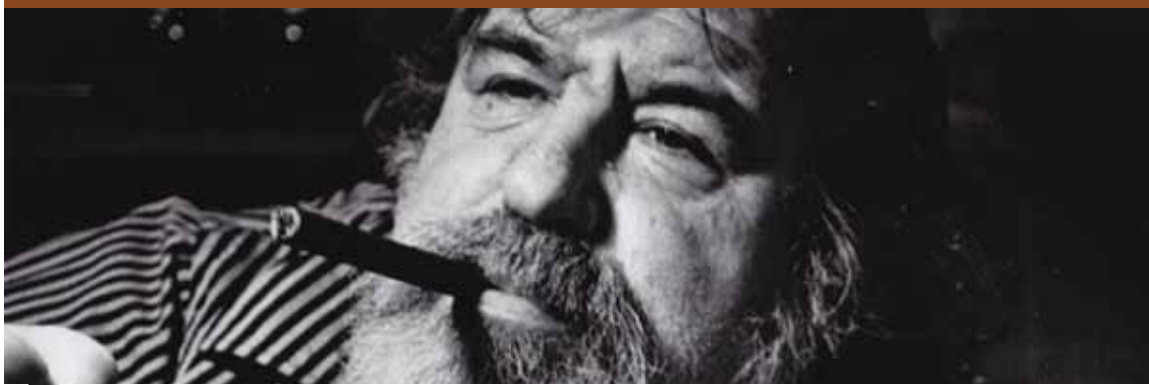
Valérie Zenatti, this lovely and hopeful film avoids any sentimentality or easy answers. Featuring a terrific cast that includes Hiam Abbass (*Lemon Tree*, *The Visitor*) and Salim Dau (*Arab Labor*). Refreshments served.

Guest: Producer, **Anne-Marie Gelin**

Sponsored by:

Jill & Joel Reitman

CLOSING NIGHT FILM



A.K.A. DOC POMUS

SNEAK PREVIEW

CANADA 2012, 100 MIN

DIRECTORS: WILL HECHTER & PETER MILLER

► SUNDAY MAY 13 · 7:30 PM · BC

"Save the Last Dance For Me" and "This Magic Moment" are only two of over 1,000 songs written by Jerome Felder, better known as Doc Pomus. This bio-

graphical documentary tells the story of one of the great founders of rock n' roll who took the pop music scene by storm in the late 1950's and 1960's. He wrote, or co-wrote, many of Elvis Presley's hits, as well as material for the Drifters, the Coasters, Ray Charles and even Andy Williams. Although crippled by polio when he was six years old, Pomus didn't allow that handicap

to keep him from his love of all kinds of music. The film includes interviews with his family members and many of his friends. Included are readings from his diary by his good friend, Lou Reed.

Guests: **Sharyn Felder** (daughter of Doc Pomus) and Directors, **Will Hechter** and **Peter Miller**

Sponsored by:

Kiki & Ian Delaney

NARRATIVE FEATURES:

LARGER THAN LIFE DRAMAS



FREE MEN

FRANCE 2011, 99 MIN

FRENCH, ARABIC

DIRECTOR: ISMAËL FERROUKHI

► WEDNESDAY MAY 9 • 5:30 PM • SC

► FRIDAY MAY 11 • 3:15 PM • BC

Free Men tells of an unlikely savior of Jews during the Nazi occupation of France—the rector of a Paris mosque (played by Michael Lonsdale). At this time, Paris is already home to a large North African population, both Jewish and Muslim. They speak the same language and share many traditions and habits. The mosque serves as a place to pray, a place to meet people, and to find food and comfort. The mosque rector provides refuge and certificates of Muslim identity for a number of Jews in order to save their lives. This is a largely-unknown aspect of the War that deserves to be told.

With: *Scheherazade and the Kosh*er Delight (20 min, p 40)

Sponsored by:



IN THE SHADOW OF NO TOWERS

CANADIAN THEATRICAL PREMIER

USA 2011, 53 MIN

DIRECTOR: MARCO CAPPELLI

► SUNDAY MAY 6 • 1:00 PM • ITH



A BOTTLE IN THE GAZA SEA

ENGLISH-CANADA PREMIERE

FRANCE / CANADA / ISRAEL 2011, 99 MIN

FRENCH, HEBREW, ENGLISH

DIRECTOR: THIERRY BINISTI

► SUNDAY MAY 6 • 5:00 PM • SC

Tal experiences a terrorist attack at her local café, but refuses to succumb to hatred and blame. She optimistically slips a message of peace in a bottle that she asks her brother to throw into the sea while he is on patrol near Gaza. Eventually, she receives an email response from Na'im, a teenaged Palestinian who calls himself "Gazaman". The two develop a virtual friendship through their email exchanges. Based on the novel by Valérie Zenatti, this lovely and hopeful film avoids any sentimentality or easy answers. Featuring a terrific cast that includes Hiam Abbass (*Lemon Tree*, *The Visitor*) and Salim Dau (*Arab Labor*).

Guest: Producer, **Anne-Marie Gelin**as

Sponsored by:

Jill & Joel Reitman



FOREIGN LETTERS

CANADIAN PREMIERE

USA 2012, 100 MIN

ENGLISH, HEBREW, VIETNAMESE

DIRECTOR: ELA THIER

► SUNDAY MAY 6 • 2:00 PM • SC

► TUESDAY MAY 8 • 6:00 PM • BC

A bittersweet coming-of-age film that is a love letter to the unshakeable bond between friends. Set in the pre-email era of the 1980s, young Ellie, newly arrived to the U.S. from Israel, anxiously waits for letters from her best friend back home. Suffering from homesickness, language difficulties and rejection at school, Ellie clings to her old life. Things brighten when she befriends Thuy, a Vietnamese immigrant who is also socially excluded at school. Based on director Ela Thier's personal immigration experience, *Foreign Letters* is a film about the healing power of friendship. Set to a lovely soundtrack of Chava Alberstein songs. A nostalgic trip to a bygone era of communication.

Guest: Director, **Ela Thier**

Sponsored by:



NARRATIVE FEATURES

NARRATIVE FEATURES

COMEDIES

DOCUMENTARIES

BIOGRAPHIES

SIDEBAR SERIES

SHORTS

A powerful and experimental adaptation of Art Spiegelman's graphic novel recounting his first-hand experience at ground zero on 9/11, as well as his grief and disillusionment that followed. Director Marco Cappelli makes creative use of Spiegelman's images through limited animation, while actor John Turturro narrates, and the band Syntax Error offers an experimental fusion of modern classical, rock, jazz, country, and cartoon music.

Guest: Director, **Marco Cappelli**

With: **The Art of Spiegelman**

(44 min, p 32)

Co-presented with:



INVISIBLE

TORONTO PREMIERE

ISRAEL / GERMANY 2011, 90 MIN

HEBREW, ENGLISH

DIRECTOR: MICHAL AVIAD

► **THURSDAY MAY 10 · 8:00 PM · SC**

Mixing fact with fiction, celebrated Israeli documentary filmmaker Michal Aviad fuses televised material, recorded testimonies, a well-structured narrative and strong memorable performances by Ronit Elkabetz (*Late Marriage*) and Evgenia Dodina (*Dear Mr. Waldman*). Two women carry a 20-year-old secret that has haunted their lives and relationships. A random meeting forces them to confront their past. An emotionally powerful and award-winning film.

Warning: Nudity

With: **Reality Check** (22 min, p 40)

Sponsored by:

Eileen & Shoel Silver



KADDISH FOR A FRIEND

CANADIAN PREMIERE

GERMANY 2011, 94 MIN

ARABIC, GERMAN, RUSSIAN

DIRECTOR: LEO KHASIN

► **MONDAY MAY 7 · 5:00 PM · SC**

► **FRIDAY MAY 11 · 12:00 PM · AG**

A Palestinian teenager and a Russian Jewish WWII veteran forge an unlikely friendship in this moving tragicomedy based on real events. When his family immigrates to Berlin from a Palestinian refugee camp, Ali Messalam tries to gain acceptance from the other Arab youths by vandalizing the home of his elderly Jewish neighbour with anti-Semitic graffiti. Caught in the act, Ali is forced to repair the damage in order to avoid deportation. Their relationship evolves from mutual distrust to genuine affection. Leo Khasin's debut feature embodies the spirit of building bridges and understanding.



MY AUSTRALIA

CANADIAN PREMIERE

ISRAEL / POLAND 2011, 100 MIN

HEBREW, POLISH

DIRECTOR: AMI DROZD

► **MONDAY MAY 7 · 6:00 PM · BC**

► **WEDNESDAY MAY 9 · 8:00 PM · SC**

A touching drama based on the filmmaker's own experiences. Set in the

1960s, ten-year old Tadek and his older brother Andrzej live in a working class neighbourhood in Poland where they are part of a gang with neo-Nazi affiliations. After being arrested for beating up Jews, their mother confesses to them that she is a Holocaust survivor who has kept their Jewish origins secret. Aware that she must remove her sons from their toxic environment, she tells them that they will be moving to Australia, when in fact, their destination is Israel. Questions of identity and loyalty are explored upon their arrival in this foreign land.

Guest: Director, **Ami Drozd**

With: **The Basketball Game** (5 min, p 39)

Monday, May 7;

Stitches (24 min, p 40)

Wednesday, May 9 (Hillel Spotlight)

Sponsored by: Eileen & Shoel Silver



MY BEST ENEMY

CANADIAN PREMIERE

AUSTRIA / LUXEMBOURG 2010, 106 MIN

GERMAN

DIRECTOR: WOLFGANG MURNBERGER

► **SATURDAY MAY 12 · 9:30 PM · AG**

An audacious narrative filled with role-playing, art forgeries, and elements of farce, *My Best Enemy* was greeted with much critical acclaim upon its premiere at last year's Berlin Film Festival. Victor is the child of wealthy Jewish art gallery owners in Vienna. Rudi is his trusted childhood friend and confidante. When Hitler annexes Austria, Victor is betrayed by Rudi. What follows is a tense caper, as the Nazis search for an authentic Michelangelo drawing that the Jewish family has hidden. "Hollywood-style storytelling, absurdist humor, and highly

entertaining plot twists in the style of *Inglourious Basterds*.” (Atlanta Jewish Film Festival).



MY DAD IS BARYSHNIKOV

CANADIAN PREMIERE

RUSSIA 2011, 88 MIN

ENGLISH, RUSSIAN

DIRECTOR: DMITRY POVOLOTSKY

► WEDNESDAY MAY 9 • 6:30 PM • BC

► SUNDAY MAY 13 • 2:00 PM • SC

Boris Fishkin's Jewish surname and limited talent set him apart from the other students at a prestigious Russian dance academy. Desperate to gain the respect of his peers, Boris convinces everyone that he is the son of Mikhail Baryshnikov. Set in Moscow in 1986, Dmitry Povolotsky's semi-autobiographical film perfectly captures the spirit of economic and political restructuring at the time. Though set in the world of dance, the film is ultimately about one boy's dream to be free.

Sponsored by:

Stephen & Cookie Sandler



NAOMI

CANADIAN PREMIERE

ISRAEL / FRANCE 2010, 102 MIN

HEBREW

DIRECTOR: EITAN ZUR

► MONDAY MAY 7 • 4:00 PM • SC

A middle-aged astrophysics professor in love with his beautiful younger wife, fears losing her. He discovers that his deepest insecurities have come true, and is unable to control himself. Things become even more complicated when he turns to his mother for advice. From director Eitan Zur (the Israeli version of *The Office*, TJFF 2011) comes this intriguing psychological study, filled with suspense and unpredictable plot twists. *Naomi* has previously been unavailable in Canada, and we're thrilled to present it.



OBSESSION

CANADIAN PREMIERE

ISRAEL 2011, 94 MIN

HEBREW

DIRECTOR: NISSIM NUTRIKA

► TUESDAY MAY 8 • 8:30 PM • SC

Set in a Jerusalem Sephardic neighborhood just after the Six Day War, this moving drama depicts characters rarely seen in Israeli cinema. Malka is a beautiful wife madly in love with her unfaithful husband. Refusing to give up on their marriage, she uses every available method to win him back—from consultations with rabbis, to witchcraft. Actor Reymond Amsalem (*Seven Minutes in Heaven*, TJFF 2010) is as radiant as ever, imbuing Malka with a powerful dignity. Told through the eyes of their six-year-old son, *Obsession* is based on the director's childhood experiences.

Guest: Director, **Nissim Nutrika**

Co-presented with:

RENDEZVOUS WITH
MADNESS
FILM FESTIVAL



POLISH BAR

CANADIAN PREMIERE

USA 2010, 96 MIN

DIRECTOR: BEN BERKOWITZ

► THURSDAY MAY 10 • 9:00 PM • BC

Vincent Piazza (*Boardwalk Empire*) is Reuben, a young man grappling with family, loyalty and his Jewish identity in this gritty indie drama set in Chicago. With visions of making it big as a nightclub DJ, he spends his days working at his uncle's jewelry store and his nights spinning discs and dealing drugs at a strip bar. He tells himself that he'll stop dealing once he has enough money to pay for his DJ equipment. As his need for money grows, so do the risks he takes. An unexpected visit from a Hasidic cousin causes Reuben to begin questioning his beliefs and actions. The great cast that includes Judd Hirsch, Richard Belzer, James Badge Dale, Golden Brooks and Meat Loaf.

Warning: Nudity, violence and drug use.

Guest: Director, **Ben Berkowitz**



THE PRIZE

TORONTO PREMIERE

ARGENTINA 2011, 99 MIN

SPANISH

DIRECTOR: PAULA MARKOVITCH

► WEDNESDAY MAY 9 • 6:00 PM • SC

► THURSDAY MAY 10 • 8:00 PM • AG

NARRATIVE FEATURES

Set during Argentina's "Dirty War" and based on the director's childhood experiences, *The Prize* is an atmospheric and emotionally nuanced story of a young girl struggling to adjust to a new life while trying to keep a family secret. Seven year-old Cecilia Epstein and her mother have recently arrived in a remote coastal town, following the disappearance of her father. Although preoccupied with their safety, Cecilia's mother allows her to go to school, as long as she promises never to tell the truth about who she is. Featuring strong performances, beautiful cinematography and layered sound design, accomplished screenwriter Paula Markovitch's first directorial feature is a touching film about growing up during challenging times. *The Prize* is co-presented by the Global Film Initiative and is part of the Global Lens 2012 film series. For more information, visit: www.globalfilm.org.

Guest: Director, **Paula Markovitch**



Sponsored by:

The Leonard Wolinsky Foundation



REMEMBRANCE

CANADIAN PREMIERE

GERMANY 2011, 105 MIN

ENGLISH, GERMAN, POLISH

DIRECTOR: ANNA JUSTICE

► WEDNESDAY MAY 9 · 4:00 PM · BC

► SUNDAY MAY 13 · 3:00 PM · SC

New York 1976. Hannah Levine sees a television interview being conducted with a man resembling her Polish lover, who she believed had died during the Second World War. Her mind races back to her incarceration in a concentration camp in Poland, where she fell in love with a Polish prisoner who saved her life. She now renews her efforts to find him. Director Anna Justice (*Max Minsky and Me*, TJFF 2008) offers a remarkable film based on actual events.

Presented by:



SIMON AND THE OAKS

CANADIAN PREMIERE

SWEDEN 2011, 120 MIN

SWEDISH, GERMAN

DIRECTOR: LISA OHLIN

► SUNDAY MAY 13 · 12:00 PM · AG

In the Swedish countryside during the late 1930's and the 1940's, young Simon Larsson is more interested in books than farm work. He connects with Isak, a Jewish boy and son of a wealthy bookseller. When Simon's family takes Isak into their home, the two families become close, stirring hidden rivalries, and long-buried secrets. These conflicts lead Simon on a path of self-discovery after the war's end. Director Lisa Ohlin

displays remarkable sensitivity to the private worlds of each character. A beautifully-shot film, which takes full advantage of the lush pastoral scenery.

Warning: Nudity



WUNDERKINDER

GERMANY 2011, 95 MIN

GERMAN

DIRECTOR: MARCUS O. ROSENMÜLLER

► TUESDAY MAY 8 · 5:00 PM · SC

► FRIDAY MAY 11 · 2:15 PM · AG

A haunting coming-of-age feature, *Wunderkinder* illustrates how the bonds of friendship are powerful enough to overcome barriers of religion and nationality. Jewish siblings Larissa and Abrascha are violin virtuosos who befriend Hanna, a young German girl, who shares their passion for music. Their friendship is put to the test when the Nazis invade their small Ukrainian town. The performances by the lead characters are made all the more authentic by the fact that the characters of Larissa and Abrascha are played by real-life violin virtuosos, who provide the film's beautiful and memorable soundtrack.

Co-sponsored by:

Renette & David Berman and
The Howard & Carole Tanenbaum
Charitable Foundation

COMEDIES: LAUGHING IN THE DARK



LET MY PEOPLE GO

TORONTO PREMIERE

FRANCE 2011, 100 MIN

FRENCH

DIRECTOR: MIKAEL BUCH

► **SATURDAY MAY 12 · 9:30 PM · BC**

Poor Ruben! His life is falling apart in this charmingly offbeat French comedy about a gay Jewish man who just can't catch a break. Ruben is enjoying an idyllic life as a postal carrier in a small Finnish town where he lives with his boyfriend Teemu. But a series of events finds Ruben kicked out of his house and on a plane back to his family in Paris for Passover. His mother thinks all Ruben needs is to find a nice Jewish girl! Then there's Mr. Goldberg, the family lawyer who declares his love for Ruben and won't take no for an answer. *Let My People Go!* is a wonderfully entertaining look at the ups and downs of love and family. The cast includes Amira Casar and Carmen Maura (*Volter*).
Warning: Sexual content



THE DAY I SAW YOUR HEART

TORONTO PREMIERE

FRANCE 2011, 93 MIN

FRENCH

DIRECTOR: JENNIFER DEVOLDÈRE

► **SATURDAY MAY 5 · 9:30 PM · AG**

► **SUNDAY MAY 6 · 8:30 PM · SC**

Director Jennifer Devoldère explores family relationships with gentle humour in this delightful dramatic comedy. Recently estranged from her latest boyfriend, 27-year old Justine is living on her sister's couch. Her father's announcement that his third wife is pregnant completely unhinges her. As Justine, Melanie Laurent (*Inglorious Basterds*, *La Rafle*, *Le Concert*) delivers a standout performance. Fans of last year's *The Names of Love* will be similarly enthusiastic about this film.

Sponsored by:

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DORFMAN

CANADIAN PREMIERE

USA 2011, 97 MIN

DIRECTOR: BRADLEY LEONG

► **TUESDAY MAY 8 · 8:45 PM · BC**

► **WEDNESDAY MAY 9 · 9:00 PM · SC**

Deb Dorfman is a mousy accountant who lives with her widowed father (Elliot Gould) in the San Fernando Valley. A hopeless romantic, Deb is besotted with her brother's friend, Jay, a war-zone reporter. When he asks her to cat-sit while he is in Afghanistan, Deb jumps at the chance. Befriended by two models and a handsome artist who live in the building, Deb undergoes a physical and personal metamorphosis. Clever writing and an enchanting performance by Sara Rue (*The Big Bang Theory*, *Popular*, *Less Than Perfect*) as Deb, make this a treat for romantic comedy addicts.

Guest: Screenwriter, **Wendy Kout**

With: **Flawed** (12 min, p 39)



MY FIRST WEDDING

CANADIAN PREMIERE

ARGENTINA 2011, 102 MIN

SPANISH

DIRECTOR: ARIEL WINOGRAD

► **SUNDAY MAY 6 · 2:30 PM · AG**

► **THURSDAY MAY 10 · 8:30 PM · SC**

COMEDIES

Adrián is Jewish. Leonora is Catholic. Their families have come together to celebrate their wedding. Adrián tries to delay the ceremony not because he's got cold feet, but because he's lost the wedding rings. Complete with a cast of eccentric family members, former lovers, and a priest and a rabbi who can't seem to find the wedding venue, this comedy of errors leads down a path of misunderstandings and disaster.

With: *Not Your Time: The Musical*

Starring Jason Alexander (25 min, p 40)

Sponsored by:

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OFF-WHITE LIES

CANADIAN PREMIERE

ISRAEL / FRANCE 2011, 86 MIN

HEBREW

DIRECTOR: MAYA KENIG

▶ TUESDAY MAY 8 · 6:15 PM · SC

▶ WEDNESDAY MAY 9 · 9:00 PM · BC

Straight from the Berlin Film Festival comes this offbeat Israeli comedy. After years of living in the U.S. with her mother, 13-year old Libby is sent to Israel to live with her estranged father, Shaul, a hapless inventor who is currently homeless. Libby's arrival coincides with the beginning of the second Lebanon war and, in order to provide a home for her, Shaul pretends that they are refugees from Northern Israel so that a wealthy Jerusalem family will agree to take them in.

Warning: Nudity

With: *Around Trip* (12 min, p 38)

Co-sponsored by:

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Toby & Aaron Brotman



OSS 117—LOST IN RIO

FRANCE 2009, 100 MIN

FRENCH

DIRECTOR: MICHEL HAZANAVICIUS

▶ SATURDAY MAY 5 · 9:15 PM · TU

▶ TUESDAY MAY 8 · 7:30 PM · SC

From Oscar®-winners Michel Hazanavicius and Jean Dujardin—the director and star of *The Artist*—comes this laugh-out-loud parody of 1960s spy films. French spy OSS 117 teams up with a beautiful Israeli Mossad agent to capture an ex-Nazi living in South America. Dujardin's performance recalls many classic comic spies from the past (Maxwell Smart, Austin Powers, Dean Martin's Matt Helm), but at the same time, offers something original and fresh. The filmmakers also mock the racist and colonialist attitudes of the French spy, and they find a perfect foil in actor Louise Monot's sexy and smart Mossad agent. Hazanavicius has as much fun with the kitschy 1960s art direction and cinematic style, as he does with the aesthetics of 1920s Hollywood in *The Artist*.



SALSA TEL AVIV

ISRAEL 2011, 100 MIN

SPANISH, HEBREW

DIRECTOR: JORGE WELLER

▶ TUESDAY MAY 8 · 1:00 PM · BC

Back by popular demand. We don't usually see screwball comedies made in Israel, and this one pulls out all the stops. Vicki, a voluptuous Mexican Salsa dancer disguised as a nun, meets Yoni, a naive bespectacled Israeli scientist who is on his way back to Israel, to marry his rich girlfriend. *Salsa Tel Aviv* integrates romance, slapstick, and salsa dancing into a plot exploring the struggles of migrant workers in Israel. The film boasts a top-notch spirited cast that includes popular Mexican stars Angelica Vale and Angelica Maria (mother-and-daughter in real life), alongside terrific Israeli actors.

Presented by:

TORONTO STAR
thestar.com



THIS IS SODOM

TORONTO PREMIERE

ISRAEL 2010, 88 MIN

HEBREW

DIRECTORS: ADAM SANDERSON &

MULI SEGEV

▶ SATURDAY MAY 5 · 11:30 PM · TU

The real inside scoop behind the bible story! Matching the outrageousness of Mel Brooks and Monty Python, this hilarious biblical farce follows a cast of characters that includes God, Abraham, Lot, and Lot's Wife, during the last few days of Sodom, the most famous Sin City in history. Upon its initial theatrical release, *This is Sodom* became the biggest Israeli blockbuster in 25 years.

Sponsored by:



DOCUMENTARIES: FASCINATING BUT TRUE



THE BOYS OF TEREZÍN

CANADIAN PREMIERE

USA 2011, 52 MIN

DIRECTOR: JOHN SHARIFY

► TUESDAY MAY 8 - 3:00 PM - AG

The teenage residents of Home One, a children's concentration camp within Terezín, created a secret weekly magazine called *Vedem* that chronicled their daily lives. In 2010, Music of Remembrance commissioned an oratorio based on the boys' experiences. The survivors of Terezín—among them, Toronto's George Brady, brother of Hana Brady (*Inside Hana's Suitcase*)—reflect on their own experiences. A testament to the inability of creativity to be stifled.

Guest: **George Brady**



THE BROTHER WHO SENT THE ROSENBERGS TO THE ELECTRIC CHAIR

CANADIAN PREMIERE

FRANCE 2009, 52 MIN

DIRECTORS: CLARA KUPERBERG &
ROBERT KUPERBERG

► FRIDAY MAY 4 - 3:00 PM - ITH

This French production expands on the interview that Ethel Rosenberg's brother, David Greenglass, gave to *60 Minutes* in 2001. Through revealing interviews, and revisiting of key documentation, the film uncovers a story of tragic dimen-



AN ARTICLE OF HOPE

TORONTO PREMIERE

USA 2010, 54 MIN

ENGLISH, HEBREW

DIRECTOR: DANIEL COHEN

► WEDNESDAY MAY 9 - 1:00 PM - BC

On Feb. 1, 2003, the Space Shuttle Columbia broke up as it was returning from an earth orbit. The entire crew—including Col. Ilan Ramon, Israel's first astronaut—perished. Also lost was a tiny Torah scroll carried into space by Col. Ramon, as a reminder of the ongoing history of the Jewish people. The scroll had been smuggled into a concentration camp during the Holocaust and safeguarded by a survivor. This film tells the story of Israel's first astronaut and the fascinating journey of this Torah, travelling from pre-World War II Europe, to Israel, and then into space.
With: *The Last Flight of Petr Ginz*
(67 min, p 33)

Presented by:

TORONTO STAR
thestar.com



BORN IN A CONCENTRATION CAMP

CANADIAN PREMIERE

GERMANY 2010, 45 MIN

GERMAN, HUNGARIAN

DIRECTORS: EVA GRUBEROVÁ &
MARTINA GAWATZ

► WEDNESDAY MAY 9 - 5:30 PM - AG

Eva and Miriam were young mothers who gave birth to children while they were concentration camp inmates. Both women managed to survive the Holocaust, along with their infants. Sixty-five years later, Eva's daughter, Marika, embarks on a journey to understand both the story of her birth and the connection she feels to the son born of Miriam, a woman who immigrated to Toronto after the war. A remarkable and moving story.
Guests: *Dr. Leslie Rosenthal* and *Miriam Rosenthal*, subjects of the film
With: *Through the Eye of the Needle*
(30 min, p 41)

Co-presented with:



SARAH AND CHAIM NEUBERGER
HOLOCAUST EDUCATION CENTRE
USA FEDERATION OF GREATER TORONTO

NARRATIVE FEATURES

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sions. Why did David Greenglass negotiate a deal with the US justice department that saved his wife and himself, but delivered his sister to the electric chair? Why did Julius and Ethel Rosenberg not accept the deal offered by the prosecution? Did the FBI really intend to follow through on their threats to execute them, or did someone call their bluff?

Guest: Professor and author, **Harold Troper**



CABARET-BERLIN, THE WILD SCENE

TORONTO PREMIERE

FRANCE / GERMANY 2010, 70 MIN
GERMAN

DIRECTOR: FABIENCE ROUSSE-LENOIR

► **SATURDAY MAY 12 • 9:30 PM • ITH**

Structured as a cabaret show and composed entirely of rare visual and sound archival material, *Cabaret-Berlin, The Wild Scene* explores Berlin during the Weimar Period, when it was home to Europe's most innovative and experimental artists, writers, and musicians, and where Jews played a leading role. Director Fabienne Rousse-Lenoir (TJFF audience favourite *From Shtetl to Swing*) has masterfully crafted an entertaining film that celebrates the modernity of Berlin's artistic scene of the 1920's and early 30's and the Jewish artists who contributed to it. *Cabaret-Berlin* also provides an insightful inside look at cultural history against the backdrop of an unfolding disaster that would envelope Germany, Europe and most of the world. A multi-award winning film.

Co-presented with:



DEAF JAM

CANADIAN PREMIERE

SPOKEN ENGLISH, ASL & ENGLISH
SUBTITLES

USA 2011, 70 MIN

DIRECTOR: JUDY LIEFF

► **THURSDAY MAY 10 • 3:30 PM • BC**

Aneta Brodski is a vibrant, expressive young woman who has much to say, but her potential to be heard was once limited to people who understand American Sign Language (ASL). This all changed after she discovered ASL poetry, a physical art form that combines facial expressions, hand gestures and body movement. Performing at poetry slam competitions, she dazzles the audience with her high-energy act. When Aneta is offered the chance to work with Tahani Salah, a hearing Palestinian slam poet, their differences do not prove to be obstacles. Instead, they prove to be artistic fodder for a brilliant performance piece. Director Judy Lieff mirrors the physical nature of ASL poetry with her use of fast-paced editing, animated graphic text and other innovative techniques that situate the viewer squarely in Aneta's world.

Guests: Director, **Judy Lieff** and **Tahani Salah**. ASL signer present for Q&A.

Sponsored by:

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Presented by:



THE DREAMERS

CANADIAN PREMIERE

ISRAEL 2011, 58 MIN

HEBREW

DIRECTOR: EFRAT SHALOM DANON

► **FRIDAY MAY 11 • 1:00 PM • BC**

Two ultra-Orthodox Haredi women are trying to make a movie for their community's female audience. Their film faces strict rabbinical censorship, with every frame subject to scrutiny. This beautifully-told documentary follows them as they fight their own families and community for the right to express themselves creatively, and become role models to their own daughters, sisters, mothers and friends. An inspirational story.

With: **Thou Shalt Not Dance**
(48 min, p 31)

Presented by:



DRESSING AMERICA—TALES FROM THE GARMENT CENTER

CANADIAN PREMIERE

USA 2011, 57 MIN

DIRECTORS: STEPHEN FISCHLER & JOEL SUCHER

► **SUNDAY MAY 6 • 1:00 PM • SC**

► **THURSDAY MAY 10 • 3:00 PM • AG**

This fun and informative documentary traces the Jewish immigrant roots of the New York garment industry. An assort-

ment of characters from the 'schmatte' business, along with cultural scholars, share stories about the 20 square block radius that made up New York's garment industry. Mixed with archival photographs, Hollywood movie clips and popular songs, *Dressing America* shows how these Jewish immigrants paved the way for the likes of Ralph Lauren, Donna Karan, Calvin Klein, Isaac Mizrahi and other Jewish fashion superstars.

Guest: Editor of *Tablet Magazine*, **Alana Newhouse**, who appears in the film (Sunday screening only)

With: *Needle and "Tread"* (6 min, p 40)

Co-sponsored by:

Shosh & Avi Alon **and**

Dorys & Murray Bernbaum



EXILE—A MYTH UNEARTHED

WORLD PREMIERE

CANADA / FRANCE 2012, 97 MIN

ENGLISH, HEBREW, ITALIAN

DIRECTOR: ILAN ZIV

► TUESDAY MAY 8 • 5:30 PM • AG

What if the exile of the Jewish people from their homeland in the first century AD, never happened? Filmmaker Ilan Ziv (*Six Days in June*, TJFF 2007) travels to Sepphoris, Masada, Jerusalem, and the catacombs of Rome, asking us to re-think the exile. The possibility that many Jews, such as those of Sepphoris, simply remained where they lived, raises some interesting questions. Leading historians and archaeologists invite us to discover a richer and more diverse past than we had ever imagined. A production by Amythos Media and the NFB / Alegria France / TAMI Israel.

Guests: Director, **Ilan Ziv**; Producer,

Amir Breuer



THE FLAT

CANADIAN PREMIERE

ISRAEL 2011, 97 MIN

HEBREW, ENGLISH, GERMAN

DIRECTOR: ARNON GOLDFINGER

► THURSDAY MAY 10 • 5:30 PM • SC

► SUNDAY MAY 13 • 2:45 PM • AG

Direct from its premiere at Tribeca, comes this "triumph of personal documentary filmmaking" (film scholar Amy Kronish). Filmmaker Arnon Goldfinger (*Komediant*, TJFF 2001) is on hand as his family begins to clear the apartment of their deceased German-Jewish grandmother. Along with the typical items that amassed over the 96 years of her life, they find Nazi propaganda material written by a nobleman by the name of Von Mildenstein. Arnon Goldfinger begins to explore the friendship that existed between the Von Mildensteins and his grandparents. Winner of the Israeli Oscar for best documentary and winner of the **2012 David A Stein Memorial Award**.

Guest: Director invited



GILAD'S LIBERATION ARMY

CANADIAN PREMIERE

ISRAEL 2011, 64 MIN

HEBREW

DIRECTOR: OFRA GAT-YELLIN

► MONDAY MAY 7 • 1:00 PM • BC

A look at how 'ordinary people' can make a difference. Meet Tsachi, a retiree; Ella, a young TV producer; Amir, a high school student; and Tsalik, a school teacher. They are 4 of the key activists who dedicated themselves to campaigning for the freedom of Gilad Shalit, the young IDF soldier who was captured by Hamas in June 2006, and held in captivity. While none of these activists had ever met Gilad, they are all passionately committed to coordinating a widespread public campaign to pressure the Israeli government to make a deal that will lead to his release.

With: *Luxuries* (54 min, p 29)

Presented by:

TORONTO STAR
thestar.com



HITLER: THE COMEDY YEARS

UK 2007, 48 MIN

DIRECTOR: JACQUES PERETTI

► SUNDAY MAY 13 • 5:00 PM • AG

Leave it to the Brits to make an irreverent and thought-provoking documentary like this! In 1939, as the British prepared for war with Germany, their plan was to try and turn Hitler into a caricature of himself. In fact, Prime Minister Neville Chamberlain asked the BBC to gather their best comedy writers, to create satire that would delegitimize Hitler as a world leader. The German Fuhrer was considered to be "comedy gold," because of his short stature, ridiculous hair and silly moustache. Filmmaker Jacques Peretti examines a long list of film and television satire that ranges from Chaplin's *The Great Dictator* to Russ Meyer's *Supervixens*. **Warning:** Nudity
With: *You Nazty Spy!* (18 min, p 41)

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HOW TO RE-ESTABLISH A VODKA EMPIRE

CANADIAN PREMIERE

UK 2011, 74 MIN

DIRECTOR: DAN EDELSTYN

► WEDNESDAY MAY 9 · 4:00 PM · SC

► SUNDAY MAY 13 · 4:30 PM · BC

"A barnstorming tale of vodka and revolution" (BBC Radio 4). Filmmaker Dan Edelstyn's travels to a village in the Ukraine, where he discovers his family once owned a vodka distillery. He decides to revive the village by rebranding and distributing the vodka back home in London. Every step of his humorous, fascinating, and, at times, heartbreaking journey is documented. We watch him struggle with suspicious villagers, British alcohol distributors, finicky vodka experts and his own friends and family. Intercut with beautifully-inventive and charming reenactments, this documentary also gives a unique look at Jewish history in both the Ukraine, and among the sectarian tensions in Northern Ireland.

With: Woody Before Allen (14 min, p 41)



IN HEAVEN, UNDERGROUND

GERMANY 2011, 90 MIN

ENGLISH, GERMAN, RUSSIAN

DIRECTOR: BRITTA WAUER

► TUESDAY MAY 8 · 3:00 PM · SC

One would think that a film about a Jewish cemetery would not make compelling subject matter. This award-winning documentary disproves such a thought. Filmmaker Britta Wauer's loving portrait about Weissensee Cemetery, the largest Jewish cemetery in Europe, is not only a beautiful and moving film, but also presents the history of the Jewish community in Berlin in a way you've never seen. The cemetery, containing over 115,000 graves and a meticulous archive record, was never destroyed, confiscated or expropriated during the entire Third Reich. It still remains a lush oasis in the middle of a bustling modern city. The film celebrates the indestructibility of memory, and follows an array of characters from around the world to tell its 130-year history.



IN SEARCH OF YIDDISH

RUSSIA / BELARUS 2008, 88 MIN

RUSSIAN, YIDDISH

DIRECTOR: ALEXANDER GORODNITSKY

► SUNDAY MAY 6 · 3:00 PM · SC

In this fascinating film about the fate and future of Yiddish culture, the well-known Russian poet and scientist, Alexander Gorodnitsky, travels to the area in Belarus where his parents were born and raised. Searching for remnants of the Yiddish language, he comes across a few people who still remember it, including a number of non-Jews. Using wonderful archival materials, the film also looks at some of the great figures that emerged from the Yiddish parts of the Russian Empire, such as

Sholem Aleichem, Marc Chagall, Chaim Soutine and Solomon Mikhols. Eventually Gorodnitsky comes full circle with his own children and grandchildren.

Guest: Anna Shternshis, the AI and Malka Green Associate professor of Yiddish and Diaspora Studies, University of Toronto.



INVENTING OUR LIFE: THE KIBBUTZ EXPERIMENT

CANADIAN PREMIERE

USA / ISRAEL 2012, 81 MIN

HEBREW

DIRECTOR: TOBY PERL FREILICH

► WEDNESDAY MAY 9 · 12:30 PM · AG

► THURSDAY MAY 10 · 6:30 PM · SC

A well-made and deeply comprehensive look at some of the most famous kibbutzim: Degania (the first, flagship kibbutz), Sasa, Ein Shemer, Hulda and others. In this film, not only do we have an opportunity to see and hear from some of the founders as they discuss the philosophies behind their creation, but also from second- and third-generation kibbutzniks, who talk of growing up on a collective. Most importantly, however, the film describes the changing faces of these kibbutzim, which were designed for a pioneering country that no longer exists. In 1987, a new concept—the "Urban Kibbutz"—was created. Is there hope for the future of those who thrive in a collective setting? Can technological sophistication and collective living exist side by side while providing a caring environment?

Co-presented with:

planet in focus



KAFKA'S LAST STORY

CANADIAN PREMIERE

GERMANY / ISRAEL 2011, 55 MIN

HEBREW, ENGLISH, GERMAN

DIRECTOR: SAGI BORNSTEIN

► FRIDAY MAY 4 • 1:00 PM • ITH

This compelling documentary follows the mystery of Kafka's legacy. After Kafka's death in 1924, writer Max Brod ignored his close friend's final wish to have his writings burned, and instead published them. Brod preserved Kafka's original manuscripts and diaries, and as a consequence made Kafka a cultural icon and one of the most highly regarded writers of the 20th century. Now Germany and Israel both lay historic claims to Kafka's work, culminating in a heated dispute over the fate of the writer's manuscripts and legacy. This amazing yet true story unfolds through stunning Kafkaesque visuals, which artfully reflect the writer's work.

Guest: Director, **Sagi Bornstein**



THE LAW IN THESE PARTS

ISRAEL 2011, 101 MIN

HEBREW

DIRECTOR: RA'ANAN ALEXANDROWICZ

► MONDAY MAY 7 • 3:30 PM • BC

Winner of the World Cinema Grand Jury Prize at this year's Sundance Film Festival, this intelligent documentary examines Israel's creation of a legal system for the West Bank and the Gaza Strip. Filmmaker Ra'anán Alexandrowicz (*James' Journey to Jerusalem*) interviews the lawmakers who develop and oversee a system of laws for these regions, while probing the complex judicial and moral dilemmas with which these men struggle.

Guest: Director, **Ra'anán Alexandrowicz**
Presented by:

TORONTO STAR
thestar.com



LIFE IN STILLS

ISRAEL 2011, 60 MIN

HEBREW, GERMAN

DIRECTOR: TAMAR TAL

► SUNDAY MAY 6 • 5:15 PM • AG

► MONDAY MAY 7 • 6:45 PM • SC

Within her small shop, 96-year-old Miriam Weissenstein is the guardian of nearly one million photographic negatives documenting Israel's defining moments, the result of her late husband's life work. As her "Photo House" is destined for demolition, she engages the help of her grandson Ben. This award-winning documentary follows this feisty woman's struggle to ensure its survival, and reveals a wonderful love story about a grandson's commitment to his grandmother. A portrait of a remarkable woman, who is cared for so tenderly and lovingly by her grandson.

Guest invited.

With: **Wolf Suschitzky—Photographer and Cameraman** (21 min, p 41)

Sponsored by:

Ganz Family Foundation



THE LOST LOVE DIARIES

CANADIAN PREMIERE

ISRAEL 2011, 53 MIN

HEBREW, ENGLISH, DUTCH

DIRECTOR: YASMINE NOVAK

► MONDAY MAY 7 • 3:00 PM • SC

When Ellis and Bernie, a young Jewish couple in Amsterdam, are forced by WWII to go separately into hiding, they promised to each keep a diary chronicling their experiences. After losing contact with Bernie mid-war, Ellis marries another man. On the morning of her wedding a mysterious package arrives—Bernie's diary! Sixty-five years later, following her husband's death, Ellis opens the diary for the first time and embarks on a journey to unravel what happened to her former sweetheart in this wonderfully charming film.

With: **Letters Home** (9 min, p 40)



LUXURIES

CANADIAN PREMIERE

ISRAEL 2011, 54 MIN

HEBREW

DIRECTOR: DAVID OFEK

► MONDAY MAY 7 • 1:00 PM • BC

Israel's blockade of Gaza allows only necessities to cross the border. However, what is considered to be a 'luxury'

DOCUMENTARIES

is unclear. Goods that were once allowed over the border become banned due to decisions made by an elusive “coordinator”. This policy results in Israeli merchandise bound for Gaza—from kiwis and roasted chickpeas to toys and shoes—being left to rot and go to waste in warehouses at the border. Filmmaker David Ofek’s (*No. 17, The Hebrew Lesson*) eye-opening documentary is sometimes comic and surreal, and often tragic.

With: *Gilad’s Liberation Army*
(64 min, p 27)

Presented by:



PHOTO: © STORIES TO REMEMBER

MEMORY AFTER BELSEN (WORK-IN-PROGRESS)

USA 2012, 60 MIN

DIRECTOR: SHIVA KUMAR

► SUNDAY MAY 6 · 8:00 PM · SC

The Bergen-Belsen Displaced Persons camp (1945–50) provides a compelling starting point to an ambitious examination of Holocaust memory. Do artists have an obligation to facts? How should teachers decide what gets taught or left out? Do creative interpretations fuel revisionism and denial? Shot in various locations around the world, the film features original interviews with survivors, children, grandchildren, painters, writers, musicians and scholars. A thought-provoking inquiry into the tensions and challenges of Holocaust memory. At the screening, the producer will present 45 minutes of film clips, which will be followed by a panel.

Guest: Producer, **Joshua Greene**

Sponsored by:

Ed & Fran Sonshine



NICKY’S FAMILY

TORONTO PREMIERE

CZECH REPUBLIC 2011, 96 MIN

DIRECTOR: MATĚJ MINÁČ

► WEDNESDAY MAY 9 · 3:00 PM · SC

This multi-award-winning film tells the story of Nicholas Winton, an Englishman who organized the rescue of 669 Czech and Slovak children just before the outbreak of the Second World War. His heroic deeds inspired thousands of children (some of them the grandchildren of the rescuees) to pursue their own humanitarian projects. At 102 years old, Winton tells his story, which was unknown until recently, when his wife found a suitcase in the attic fifty years later, that was filled with documents and transport plans. “An unashamedly heart-on-its-sleeve tale of tragedy, hope and bravery against the odds.”

(Daniela Boban, UK Jewish Film Festival)



A PEOPLE UNCOUNTED

TORONTO PREMIERE

CANADA 2011, 99 MIN

ENGLISH, GERMAN, HUNGARIAN, ROMANIAN, RUSSIAN

DIRECTOR: AARON YEGER

► TUESDAY MAY 8 · 8:00 PM · AG

After enduring centuries of persecution, the Roma people (Gypsies) were, like the Jews, tyrannized and subjected to

the Nazi genocide, with an estimated 500,000 murdered in the 1940s. Unlike the Jews, once the war ended, they had no community to embrace them, and nowhere to go. Toronto filmmaker Aaron Yeger takes us on an eye-opening journey, through interviews with Holocaust survivors (both Jewish and Roma), historians, activists and others, who share their—sometimes horrifying—stories, and give voice to the largely-overlooked struggles of this population. Their stories are relevant today, giving insight and understanding into Europe’s growing racism.

Warning: Graphic and disturbing scenes

Guests: Director **Aaron Yeger**, Producer **Marc Swenker**, Executive Producers **Tom Rasky** and **Lenny Binder** and Composer **Robi Botos**



PORTRAIT OF WALLY

INTERNATIONAL PREMIERE

USA / AUSTRIA 2011, 90 MIN

DIRECTOR: ANDREW SHEA

► MONDAY MAY 7 · 8:00 PM · AG

► THURSDAY MAY 10 · 3:00 PM · SC

When Egon Schiele’s “Portrait of Wally” appears at New York’s Museum of Modern Art in 1997, the heirs of a Jewish art dealer ask the museum to hold the painting. What starts as a simple story is made extraordinarily complicated by the MOMA and those involved in the art restitution case, making public the subject of the Nazi looting of art. This fascinating documentary traces the ownership of the famous painting—from Schiele’s gesture of affection toward his young lover; to the theft of the painting from Lea Bondi, a Jewish art dealer fleeing Vienna for

her life; to the post-war confusion and subterfuge that evoke *The Third Man*; to the surprise resurfacing of “Wally” at the MOMA. Filmmaker Andrew Shea follows the 13-year battle that ensues as the family attempts to restore “Wally” to its rightful owner.

Guest invited.

Co-sponsored by:

Henry Campbell and
Nancy Pencer



SIX MILLION AND ONE

CANADIAN PREMIERE

ISRAEL / GERMANY / AUSTRIA 2011, 93 MIN
HEBREW, ENGLISH, GERMAN

DIRECTOR: DAVID FISHER

► **SUNDAY MAY 6 · 7:45 PM · AG**

► **MONDAY MAY 7 · 7:30 PM · SC**

A unique and unexpectedly uplifting experience. Award-winning filmmaker David Fisher discovers his late father's memoir and reads about the horrors he endured surviving the Holocaust. David's siblings accompany him to Austria where they follow much of their father's journey of survival. The family dynamic among the siblings is intensely documented, as they observe contemporary life and contrast it with the details written by their father. Their shared humour, pain and self-reflection reveal how a father can be viewed both differently and the same by each of his children and, more, how assimilating one's past with one's identity is an on-going exploration.

Guest: Director, **David Fisher**

Sponsored by:

Apotex Foundation—
Honey & Barry Sherman



STANDING SILENT

USA 2011, 84 MIN

DIRECTOR: SCOTT ROSENFELT

► **TUESDAY MAY 8 · 12:30 PM · AG**

As the editor of *The Baltimore Jewish Times* and an Orthodox Jew, Phil Jacobs wrestles with a story that will polarize his readers and jeopardize his own standing within his insular community. He uncovers testimonies about sexual abuse by rabbis and other Orthodox authority figures, and is determined to expose the story to the public to prevent further occurrences. Rather than being supported, Jacobs faces backlash from those who want the scandal concealed. Director Scott Rosenfelt's powerful documentary is at once both a deeply personal account of one man's crusade to seek justice, and an indictment on the hypocrisy of those willing to protect criminals at the expense of their victims.



THOU SHALT NOT DANCE

CANADIAN PREMIERE

ISRAEL 2011, 48 MIN

HEBREW

DIRECTORS: EYAL SELA &

YOCHAI SHALOM HADOD

► **FRIDAY MAY 11 · 1:00 PM · BC**

This illuminating documentary explores the obstacles faced by three Orthodox men who establish a dance school for

religious males. The sensual nature of dance, particularly in a public forum, poses a unique challenge to those who live in a community where modesty is valued as the highest virtue. The film chronicles the struggles experienced by three dancers, as they try to reconcile their desire to express themselves physically while still maintaining an Orthodox life.

With: **The Dreamers** (58 min, p 26)

Presented by:

TORONTO STAR
thestar.com



THE TRIAL OF ADOLF EICHMANN

NORTH AMERICAN PREMIERE

FRANCE 2011, 90 MIN

HEBREW, GERMAN, ENGLISH, FRENCH

DIRECTOR: MICHAEL PRAZAN

► **MONDAY MAY 7 · 6:00 PM · AG**

► **SUNDAY MAY 13 · 4:00 PM · SC**

French filmmaker Michael Prazan (*Einsatzgruppen: The Death Brigades*, TJFF 2011) presents an impressively comprehensive film on the trial of Adolf Eichmann. It offers a detailed account of the capture of Eichmann; the drama that played out in the courtroom, as well as behind the scenes; the production of the worldwide television coverage; and the international media debates and reactions as it played around the world. Prazan leaves no stone unturned, as it features an exhaustive collection of archival materials and remarkable interview subjects. This is an immensely compelling piece of historiography, with which future films on the subject will have to contend.

Sponsored by:

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HISTORY
AND
OURSELVES



WOMEN UNCHAINED

TORONTO PREMIERE

USA 2011, 60 MIN

ENGLISH, HEBREW

DIRECTOR: BEVERLY SIEGEL

► MONDAY MAY 7 · 12:30 PM · AG

An exploration of the often-overlooked struggles of Jewish women to be granted a *get* (Jewish divorce). Narrated by Mayim Bialik (*The Big Bang Theory*), the film chronicles the heart-wrenching and scandalous stories of a group of women, each fighting her own personal, often lengthy, battle against the religious, patriarchal community that refuses to grant her a *get*, and subsequent freedom for both herself and her children. *Women Unchained* also provides illuminating historical background on the state of women's rights in Judaism and stories of the outlandish extortion schemes levied against some women in exchange for their freedom.

Guests: Joyce Eklove, past chair of Jewish Women For The Get.

With: *Alone* (28 min, p 38)

BIOGRAPHIES: PEOPLE YOU WOULD LOVE TO HAVE COFFEE WITH



THE ART OF SPIEGELMAN

CANADIAN PREMIERE

FRANCE / USA 2010, 44 MIN

ENGLISH, FRENCH

DIRECTORS: CLARA KUPERBERG &

JOELLE OOSTERLINCK

► SUNDAY MAY 6 · 1:00 PM · ITH

Spend some time with comic book artist, Art Spiegelman, his wife, *New Yorker* art director Françoise Mouly, and their children. In this intimate portrait, Spiegelman tells his story, as he evokes rich childhood memories. He reflects on his development into a key figure in the underground comics movement, the evolution of his seminal work, *Maus*—the Pulitzer Prize-winning Holocaust-themed graphic novel—and more. A rewarding experience for both Spiegelman fans and newcomers to his work.

Warning: Brief sexual content

With: *In the Shadow of No Towers*

(53 min, p 19)

Co-presented with:



FOLLOW ME: THE JONATHAN NETANYAHU STORY

CANADIAN PREMIERE

USA 2011, 83 MIN

ENGLISH, HEBREW

DIRECTORS: JONATHAN GRUBER &

ARI DANIEL PINCHOT

► SUNDAY MAY 6 · 5:30 PM · SC

► THURSDAY MAY 10 · 6:00 PM · BC

Jonathan (Yonatan) Netanyahu was a reluctant soldier, but one whose unbridled love for his country led him away from the world of academia and turned him into one of the greatest soldiers in Israeli history. By 1976, he had attained the rank of Colonel when he met his tragic death at the age of thirty, as the commander of the unit that stormed the airport terminal at Entebbe. Co-directed by Jonathan Gruber (*Jewish Soldiers in Blue and Gray*, TJFF 2011) and Ari Daniel Pinchot (producer of *Paper Clips*), *Follow Me* uses Yoni's deeply poignant letters and writings, as well as interviews with those who knew him.

Guest: Executive Producer Mark Manson

Sponsored by:

Marsha Bronfman



GOD'S FIDDLER

CANADIAN THEATRICAL PREMIERE

USA 2011, 88 MIN

DIRECTOR: PETER ROSEN

► MONDAY MAY 7 · 9:00 PM · SC

► TUESDAY MAY 8 · 3:30 PM · BC

Jascha Heifetz has been acknowledged for many years as the greatest violinist of the Twentieth Century. Even musician Itzhak Perlman says, "When I spoke with him, I thought, 'I can't believe it. I'm talking with God.'" Heifetz was a child prodigy who grew up to fulfill the promise he showed in his youth, and who set the standard as a violin virtuoso. Using home movies, family photos, archival footage, and personal recollections, Peter Rosen's enjoyable documentary gives us an intimate look at the man who was both an artist and a popular culture icon.

Sponsored by:

Marsha Bronfman



HOWARD FAST: BEING RED

CANADIAN PREMIERE

FRANCE 2004, 54 MIN

ENGLISH, FRENCH

DIRECTOR: RICHARD HAMON

► THURSDAY MAY 10 · 4:00 PM · SC

► SUNDAY MAY 13 · 1:30 PM · BC

A profile of the amazing life and career of American novelist Howard Fast (1914–2003), author of such famous books as *Spartacus*, *Freedom Road* and *Sylvia*. Through interviews with the writer and his daughter, the film follows Fast's story from a childhood lived in dire poverty in depression-era Harlem, exploring the path that led him to join the Communist party, and the consequences of his political convictions that he suffered during the onset of the Cold War.

With: Roth on Roth (52 min, p 34)



THE KISSINGER SAGA

CANADIAN PREMIERE

GERMANY 2008, 87 MIN

ENGLISH, GERMAN

DIRECTOR: EVI KURZ

► SUNDAY MAY 13 · 1:00 PM · SC

Not much is known about the private life of former US Secretary of State and National Security Advisor Henry Kissinger, and that's just the way he wanted it. For the first time, we learn about his family, his childhood in Germany, his fleeing the Nazis and starting a new life in America. We also hear about his younger brother Walter (dubbed "the younger, richer Kissinger" by Fortune magazine). Henry and Walter travel back to Fuerth, their hometown in Germany, and share their stories and memories. A revealing look at a life beyond the media headlines.

Guest: Historian, **Gerald Ziedenberg**

Sponsored by:

Marsha Bronfman



THE LAST FLIGHT OF PETR GINZ

CANADIAN PREMIERE

USA 2011, 67 MIN

DIRECTORS: SANDRA DICKSON &

CHURCHILL ROBERTS

► WEDNESDAY MAY 9 · 1:00 PM · BC

Little was known about child prodigy Petr Ginz until the Israeli astronaut Ilan Ramon carried his drawing of a lunar landscape aboard the ill-fated Columbia space shuttle mission. Ginz completed 5 novels, numerous short stories, and a diary about the Nazi occupation of Prague—all before he was killed at age 16. He was the editor of *Vedem*, the underground magazine created in the Theresienstadt Ghetto, and an artist who left behind 120 drawings and paintings. The filmmakers bring his art to life in a collage of animation, archival footage and interviews. **Guest:** George Brady, friend of Ginz **With:** *An Article of Hope* (54 min, p 25)

Presented by:

TORONTO STAR
thestar.com



MISS JUDY

INTERNATIONAL PREMIERE

ISRAEL 2011, 37 MIN

ENGLISH, HEBREW

DIRECTOR: EYAL TAVOR

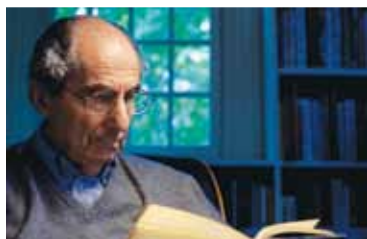
► THURSDAY MAY 10 · 6:00 PM · AG

BIOGRAPHIES

For 28 years, she was the best-kept secret in the Jewish world. Even though Syrian Jews were denied the right to emigrate, they had heard that there was a mysterious woman called "Mrs. Judy" who was working secretly to help them. To the world around her, Judy Feld Carr was a mother of six, a musicologist, and a synagogue president in Toronto. Clandestinely, she was a one-woman secret organization, who succeeded in enabling 3,228 Jews to be brought to freedom. Most of those rescued had no idea who was responsible for their release. Her amazing story is told for the first time on film. After twenty years of screening films about courageous individuals, the Festival welcomes the opportunity to honour a local hero!

Guest: Judy Feld Carr

With: Baghdad Twist (33 min, p 39)



ROTH ON ROTH

CANADIAN PREMIERE

FRANCE 2011, 52 MIN

DIRECTORS: WILLIAM KAREL & LIVIA MANERA

► THURSDAY MAY 10 · 4:00 PM · SC

► SUNDAY MAY 13 · 1:30 PM · BC

This engaging and intimate documentary offers the rare chance to see the reclusive and thoughtful Philip Roth share very personal reflections on his life and writing. When asked how his writing affects his family, he answers,

"When a writer is born into a family, the family is finished." At the same time, we get to see him talk about his parents with great love and affection, especially as he recalls his attempt to prepare them for the release of *Portnoy's Complaint*. The filmmakers also speak with friends of Roth, such as Mia Farrow, who describes him as "the best friend one could have." A charming film that will probably move you to re-read his work with new insight!

Guest: Co-Director, Livia Manera

With: Howard Fast: *Being Red* (54 min, p 33)



TONY CURTIS: DRIVEN TO STARDOM

CANADIAN PREMIERE

FRANCE 2011, 96 MIN

DIRECTOR: IAN AYRES

► TUESDAY MAY 8 · 4:00 PM · SC

► THURSDAY MAY 10 · 12:30 PM · AG

Born in New York to poor Hungarian Jewish parents, Bernard Schwartz grew up on the films of Cary Grant and Errol Flynn as an escape. He was ultimately able to transform himself into the handsome trend-setting Hollywood movie star, Tony Curtis, who even Elvis Presley would emulate. This comprehensive profile chronicles his stormy childhood, his meteoric rise, his artistic successes and failures, his contributions to the civil rights struggle, as well as his

romantic life. Filled with movie clips, anecdotes, rare home movies and interviews with friends, lovers and colleagues such as Harry Belafonte, Debbie Reynolds, Piper Laurie, Christine Kaufmann, as well as the late Curtis himself.

Guest: Thom Ernst, producer and host of TVO's *Saturday Night at the Movies*.

With: Grandpa Looked Like William Powell (4 min, p 39)

Sponsored by:

Marsha Bronfman



TORN

CANADIAN PREMIERE

ISRAEL 2011, 72 MIN

HEBREW, POLISH, ENGLISH, FRENCH

DIRECTOR: RONIT KERTSNER

► THURSDAY MAY 10 · 1:00 PM · BC

What does it mean to be Jewish? Romuald Jakub Weksler-Waszkinel's parents were Jewish. In order to save his life during the Nazi occupation of Poland, his mother gave him up to a Polish gentile family when he was still an infant. He joined a seminary at the age of 18. When he was 35 he discovered that he had been born a Jew. At the age of 67, he felt compelled to live in Israel, and obtain a better understanding of his Jewish roots. *Torn* gives us insight into his unrelenting search for where he belongs.

Presented by:

TORONTO STAR
thestar.com

SIDEBAR SERIES:

THE SOUND OF MOVIES: MASTERS OF THE FILM SCORE



EVENING PRIMROSE

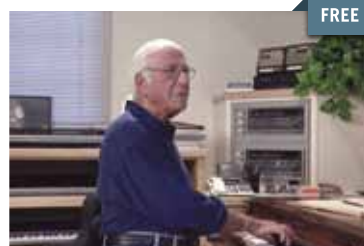
USA 1966, 52 MIN

DIRECTOR: PAUL BOGART

► MONDAY MAY 7 · 3:15 PM · AG

Televised only once on *ABC Stage 67*, this rare “chamber musical of the macabre”, written by composer/lyricist Stephen Sondheim and his *Follies* collaborator James Goldman, has become a cult classic. Anthony Perkins plays a poet who retreats from the world by hiding in a department store at night—only to discover that a bizarre group of people have been living there for years. He falls in love with one of them. Based on a short story by John Collier, this *Twilight-Zone*-like love story captivates with one of Sondheim’s most charming scores. Academy Award®-winning composer David Shire (*The Conversation*) contributed music for the chase scene.

Guest: Composer, **David Shire**



FILM MUSIC MASTERS: JERRY GOLDSMITH

USA 1995, 70 MIN

DIRECTOR: FRED KARLIN

► SATURDAY MAY 12 · 4:00 PM · BC

A rarely-seen gem, celebrating the work of Oscar®-winning film and television composer Jerry Goldsmith (*Chinatown*,



AMERICAN MUSICAL THEATRE: ELMER BERNSTEIN

USA 1961, 60 MIN

DIRECTOR: NEAL FINN

► FRIDAY MAY 11 · 4:30 PM · AG

Film composer Elmer Bernstein (*The Magnificent Seven*, *The Great Escape*, *To Kill a Mockingbird*) introduces high school students to the art of writing music for the movies, in this rarely-seen episode from a unique television series. Hosted by Jim Morske, the series brought artists together with students in an informal workshop setting. Elmer Bernstein, with the CBS Symphony Orchestra, demonstrates the impact of film music; illustrates how his jazz-influenced score for *The Man with the Golden Arm* worked in harmony with Saul Bass’ famous title sequence; conducts selections from his own scores; and takes questions from the audience.

Guest: Film music journalist, **Mark Hasan**
With: **House** (10 min, p 39) and **Tops** (7 min, p 41)



THE CONVERSATION

USA 1974, 113 MIN

DIRECTOR: FRANCIS FORD COPPOLA

► SUNDAY MAY 6 · 7:00 PM · ITH

Despite his resolve to not get involved in a case, surveillance expert Harry Caul, brilliantly played by Gene Hackman, begins to suspect that a couple’s marital infidelity is tied to a murder plot. Academy Award®-winning composer David Shire’s haunting score perfectly captures Caul’s loneliness and isolation, and contributes to creating a film experience that “does in aural terms what Antonioni’s *Blow-Up* does in visual terms” (Emanuel Levy). Considered one of Francis Ford Coppola’s masterpieces, *The Conversation* is both a taut, suspenseful thriller and an indelible character study. With its unsettling atmosphere of paranoia, and implicit issues of invasion of privacy, responsibility and guilt, the film has even more eerie resonance in this technological age. Also starring Harrison Ford, Robert Duvall, Allen Garfield, and Cindy Williams.

Guests: Composer, **David Shire** in conversation with film critic/author, **Kevin Courrier**

NARRATIVE FEATURES

COMEDIES

DOCUMENTARIES

BIOGRAPHIES

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SHORTS

SIDEBAR SERIES

NARRATIVE FEATURES

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SHORTS

Star Trek, *The Sand Pebbles*, *The Omen*). The intensely private and humble Goldsmith (who died in 2004), gave Fred Karlin (an award-winning composer in his own right) unprecedented access, including an inside look at a scoring session for the film *The River Wild*. Goldsmith talks about his early influences; his work in television (which included the original *Twilight Zone*); and his unique approach to each project. Directors Richard Donner, Paul Verhoeven, Curtis Hanson and others comment on Goldsmith's extraordinary talent. With extensive film clips interspersed throughout, this documentary is an illuminating homage to a musical genius.

With: An excerpt from the *TVO Saturday Night at the Movies* archives—an exclusive 1980 interview with composer Miklos Rozsa (14 min)

Guest: Film music journalist, **Mark Hasan**
Sponsored by:
Beverly & Andrew Lengyel



THE LAST BUTTERFLY

CZECHOSLOVAKIA / UK 1990, 110 MIN
DIRECTOR: KAREL KACHYNA
► MONDAY MAY 7 · 8:30 PM · BC

This poignant, award-winning feature marks the last score written by revered composer Alex North (*Spartacus*, *A Streetcar Named Desire*), and was also produced by his son, Steven North. Tom Courtenay stars as Antoine Moreau, a famous French mime artist who is blackmailed by the Nazis into presenting a children's performance at Terezin, in

order to deceive the visiting Red Cross delegation. Moreau gradually decides to subvert the propaganda campaign by staging an extraordinary version of "Hansel and Gretel". Based on the book of the same name by Canadian author Michael Jacot, with additional music by Czech composer Milan Svoboda. Also starring Brigitte Fossey.

Warning: Nudity

Guest: Producer, **Steven North** in conversation with film music journalist **Mark Hasan**. Mr. North will speak about the film and his father Alex North's remarkable life and work.



MICHAEL NYMAN IN PROGRESS

GERMANY 2010, 80 MIN
ENGLISH, GERMAN
DIRECTOR: SILVIA BECK
► WEDNESDAY MAY 9 · 3:00 PM · AG

Creator of the celebrated music from Jane Campion's *The Piano*, British composer Michael Nyman is known for his signature minimalist style and his collaborations with director Peter Greenaway. Nyman discovered his technique by playing a Mozart aria on the piano "in the style of Jerry Lee Lewis, which dictated the dynamic articulation of everything I've subsequently done." In this recent and excellent documentary, the composer is shown exploring his Polish Jewish roots and musical influences; performing internationally with the Michael Nyman Band; discussing

his passion for cinematographer and filmmaker Dziga Vertov (Nyman provided a soundtrack for *The Man with a Movie Camera*); and introducing his own recent foray into filmmaking.

With: **A Composer's Dream** (7 min, p 39)



FREE

MOVIE MUSIC MAN: A PORTRAIT OF LALO SCHIFRIN

FRANCE 1993, 60 MIN
DIRECTOR: RODNEY GREENBERG
► SATURDAY MAY 12 · 7:00 PM · BC

At the young age of six, Lalo Schifrin began studying piano in his native Buenos Aires under the tutelage of Enrique Barenboim, father of conductor Daniel Barenboim. Schifrin went on to become a multiple award-winning Hollywood film and television composer/conductor/performer, best known for his composition of the *Mission Impossible* theme, and his long-time collaboration with director Clint Eastwood. Other Schifrin film scores include: *The Cincinnati Kid*, *Cool Hand Luke* and *Bullitt*. Schifrin is most associated with jazz—his life-long passion. This enjoyable concert film blends film clips with a performance that Schifrin gave in Cannes, featuring the Orchestre National de Lyon and acclaimed guests Dizzy Gillespie, Ray Brown and Grady Tate.

With: An excerpt from the *TVO Saturday Night at the Movies* archives—an excerpt from an exclusive 1989 interview with composer Laurence Rosenthal (10 min)

Sponsored by:
Beverly & Andrew Lengyel



FREE

MUSIC FOR THE MOVIES: BERNARD HERRMANN

USA / FRANCE 1992, 58 MIN

DIRECTOR: JOSHUA WALETZKY

▶ SATURDAY MAY 5 · 3:00 PM · ITH

Academy Award®-nominated portrait of one of the most influential film composers of all times. The son of a New York Jewish family of Russian origin, Bernard Herrmann wrote music for radio, television and over 50 films—from *Citizen Kane* to *Taxi Driver*. He is perhaps best known for his 11-year collaboration with director Alfred Hitchcock. A master at evoking the emotional and psychological state, and creating dramatic tension (who can forget the shower scene in *Psycho*!) Herrmann was a complex man—irascible, difficult, and undeniably brilliant. With great film clips, and interviews with Martin Scorsese and Claude Chabrol, and composers Elmer Bernstein and David Raksin. **With:** An excerpt from an interview with composer Danny Elfman and Tim Burton (14 min)



FREE

MUSIC FOR THE MOVIES: THE HOLLYWOOD SOUND

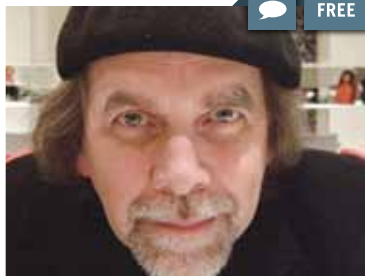
USA / FRANCE 1995, 85 MIN

DIRECTOR: JOSHUA WALETZKY

▶ SUNDAY MAY 6 · 12:00 PM · AG

Hollywood film music of the 1930s and 40s was virtually invented by the first wave of Jewish exiles from Nazi Germany, Europe and Russia. This entertaining and enlightening documentary (a great introduction to TJFF's sidebar series) is a "treasure trove of information" (David Cornelius, film critic), on such legendary composers as Max Steiner (*Gone with the Wind*), Erich Korngold (*The Adventures of Robin Hood*), Dimitri Tiomkin (*High Noon*), and Franz Waxman (*The Bride of Frankenstein*). Composer David Raksin (*Laura*) and conductor/host John Mauceri eloquently illustrate the role of music in film, and the extraordinary creativity involved in creating it. Incorporates a wealth of film clips, music and interviews.

With: An excerpt from the TVO *Saturday Night at the Movies* archives from an exclusive 1993 interview with composer David Newman (6 min) and an exclusive 1993 interview with composer Thomas Newman (7 min)



FREE

NOTES AND FRAMES: THE NEGLECTED ART OF FILM MUSIC

■ 75 MIN

▶ SATURDAY MAY 5 · 1:00 PM · ITH

Even though music has always been an integral part of movies, many believe that the best film score is the kind that you don't notice. But how effective would films like *Gone With the Wind*, *The Adventures of Robin Hood*, or *Psycho*! be without their respective composers'

mastery in evoking emotion? Film critic and author **Kevin Courier** traces the fascinating history of movie music and the role of its great Jewish composers—from the silent era up to the present day—using film clips as illustration. He explores whether or not a good score can save a bad picture (or whether a bad score can ruin a good one) and the impact of pop music on films.

Guest: **Kevin Courier** is a writer/broadcaster, film critic, teacher and author. His forthcoming book is *Reflections in the Hall of Mirrors: American Movies and the Politics of Idealism*.



PLANET OF THE APES (COMPOSER'S CHOICE: MYCHAEAL DANNA)

USA 1968, 112 MIN

DIRECTOR: FRANKLIN J. SCHAFFNER

▶ SUNDAY MAY 6 · 3:30 PM · ITH

Composer Mychael Danna (*Moneyball*, *Hulk*, *The Sweet Hereafter*) has selected a film of his choice—the classic, original version of the movie that spawned numerous sequels and TV series. Mr. Danna will speak about the amazing, groundbreaking score by Jerry Goldsmith (see also p 35) and the art of film music, from a composer's perspective. Charlton Heston stars as an astronaut who lands on a distant planet where apes are the masters. Also starring Roddy McDowall. A rare opportunity to see a 35mm archival print of this iconic sci-fi thriller on the Big Screen!

Guest: Composer, **Mychael Danna**



SOMETHING WILD

USA 1961, 112 MIN

DIRECTOR: JACK GARFEIN

► WEDNESDAY MAY 9 · 8:00 PM · AG

This gripping, deeply layered psychological drama (controversial when it was released, and rarely seen), features an astonishing score by Aaron Copland—jazzy and hard-edged to match the story. The Academy Award®-winning composer reused some of the same musical themes in his concert work, “Music for a Great City.” An innocent young girl (Carroll Baker, in a terrific performance) is raped by an unknown assailant in New York City. Traumatized by the ordeal, she attempts suicide but is rescued by a lonely garage mechanic (Ralph Meeker). Then things become strange.... Directed by Baker’s husband Jack Garfein, an Auschwitz survivor and member of the Actors Studio. An indie classic.

Warning: Disturbing content

Guest: Film critic/author, [Kevin Courier](#)

SHORTS:

GLIMPSES FROM AROUND THE WORLD



ALONE

ISRAEL 2011, 28 MIN

HEBREW

DIRECTOR: SHMUEL MINKOV

► MONDAY MAY 7 · 12:30 PM · AG

A rare glimpse into the lives of three divorced ultra-Orthodox women, who tell about their daily hardships, fears, and diminished status in the eyes of the community. A short documentary from Israel’s Ma’ale Film School.

With: *Women Unchained* (p 32)



AROUND TRIP

ISRAEL 2008, 12 MIN

HEBREW

DIRECTOR: GUR BENTWICH

► WEDNESDAY MAY 8 · 6:15 PM · SC

► THURSDAY MAY 9 · 9:00 PM · BC

A smartly-told tale of dating and casual sex in the cyber age. Starring, edited and co-produced by the director of *Off-White Lies*.

With: *Off-White Lies* (p 24)



BAGHDAD TWIST

CANADA 2007, 33 MIN

ENGLISH, ARABIC

DIRECTOR: JOE BALASS

► THURSDAY MAY 10 · 6:00 PM · AG

A film that pulls back the curtain on Iraq's once thriving Jewish community. Using a powerful collage of archival images, home movies and family photographs from Iraq, Baghdad-born filmmaker Joe Balass examines the fragmented memories of an Arab exile.

With: Miss Judy (p 33)



A COMPOSER'S DREAM

CANADA 2011, 7 MIN

DIRECTOR: BARBARA WILLIS-SWEETE

► WEDNESDAY MAY 9 · 3:00 PM · AG

An illuminating glimpse at the artistry of celebrated Canadian film composer Howard Shore (*The Lord of the Rings*, *Hugo*). Produced by the National Film Board of Canada on the occasion of the 2011 Governor General's Performing Arts Awards.

With: Michael Nyman in Progress (p 36)



GRANDPA LOOKED LIKE WILLIAM POWELL

USA 2010, 4 MIN

DIRECTOR: DAVID B. LEVY

► TUESDAY MAY 8 · 4:00 PM · SC

► THURSDAY MAY 10 · 12:30 PM · AG

Filmmaker David Levy examines his grandfather's high school autograph book in this whimsical animated film.

With: Tony Curtis: Driven to Stardom (p 34)



THE BASKETBALL GAME

CANADA 2011, 5 MIN

DIRECTOR: HART SNIDER

► MONDAY MAY 7 · 6:00 PM · BC

Can one game change everything? Set in Alberta, Hart Snider's autobiographical animated film explores the transformation possible when urban Jewish kids, and rural youth brought up with anti-Semitism, meet on the camp basketball court and dispel mutual distrust and stereotypes.

With: My Australia (p 20)



FLAWED

CANADA 2011, 12 MIN

DIRECTOR: ANDREA DORFMAN

► TUESDAY MAY 8 · 8:45 PM · BC

► WEDNESDAY MAY 9 · 9:00 PM · SC

An animated short that traces a woman's budding romance with a plastic surgeon.

With: Dorfman (p 23)



HOUSE: AFTER FIVE YEARS OF LIVING

USA 1955, 10 MIN

DIRECTORS: CHARLES & RAY EAMES

► FRIDAY MAY 11 · 4:30 PM · AG

Elmer Bernstein's musical score complements visual images of renowned designers Charles and Ray Eames' famous home.

With: American Musical Theatre: Elmer Bernstein (p 35) and Tops (p 41)

SHORTS

NARRATIVE FEATURES

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LETTERS HOME

USA 2010, 9 MIN

DIRECTOR: MELISSA HACKER

► MONDAY MAY 7 · 3:00 PM · SC

An elegantly-made film based on correspondence from the director's great-aunt Freda, written as she traveled through Germany and Austria in the American Army Women's Corps in 1945.

With: *The Lost Love Diaries* (p 29)



NOT YOUR TIME: THE MUSICAL

USA 2010, 25 MIN

DIRECTOR: JAY KAMEN

► SUNDAY MAY 6 · 2:30 PM · AG

► THURSDAY MAY 10 · 8:30 PM · SC

Seinfeld's Jason Alexander is hilarious as Sid Rosenthal, a would-be screen writer, reduced to working as a studio censor. When his latest screenwriting disappointment proves to be too much, he resorts to drastic measures.

With: *My First Wedding* (p 23)



SCHEHERAZADE AND THE KOSHER DELIGHT

FRANCE 2011, 20 MIN

FRENCH

DIRECTOR: AGNÈS CAFFIN

► WEDNESDAY MAY 9 · 5:30 PM · SC

► FRIDAY MAY 11 · 3:15 PM · BC

A young woman wearing a t-shirt that reads "I'm Muslim, Don't Panic" heads straight to the Jewish section of Paris to apply for the job of cook at a kosher restaurant. Starring Fanny Ardant.

With: *Free Men* (p 19)



NEEDLE AND "TREAD"

CANADA 1998, 6 MIN

DIRECTOR: DAVID A. STEIN

► SUNDAY MAY 6 · 1:00 PM · SC

► THURSDAY MAY 10 · 3:00 PM · AG

A lovely film made by the late David A. Stein to honour the life of his "bubbe," who spent her days in the sweatshops of Toronto. The annual David A. Stein Memorial Award was established by his family.

With: *Dressing America—Tales From The Garment Center* (p 26)

Screening dedicated to the memory of Adrienne Cooper, who appears in the film.



REALITY CHECK

ISRAEL 2011, 22 MIN

HEBREW

DIRECTOR: MICHAL VINIK

► THURSDAY MAY 10 · 8:00 PM · SC

Set on November 4th, 1995, *Reality Check* follows two teenage girls spending a night on the town. Inbar is looking to smoke her first joint, and Sveta cannot wait to lose her virginity. During the night, Sveta will meet some guys, Inbar will inhale and Prime Minister Rabin will be shot.

With: *Invisible* (p 20)



STITCHES

ISRAEL 2009, 24 MIN

HEBREW, ARABIC

DIRECTOR: DANA KEIDAR

► WEDNESDAY MAY 9 · 8:00 PM · SC

Nadine, a young Arab fruit picker, is engaged to be married. While her mother sews her wedding dress, Nadine's heart goes out to Shachar, her Jewish foreman. The two lead a forbidden love affair, which forces Nadine to confront her reality.

With: *My Australia* (p 20)



THROUGH THE EYE OF THE NEEDLE

USA 2011, 30 MIN

ENGLISH, YIDDISH

DIRECTOR: NINA SHAPIRO-PERL

► WEDNESDAY MAY 9 · 5:30 PM · AG

Years after surviving the trauma of losing her family during the Holocaust, Esther Krinitz decides to share her story of survival in the most extraordinary way. Through a series of 36 large fabric collages, intricately embroidered in vivid colour, Esther's history is conveyed in intricate, moving detail.

With: *Born in a Concentration Camp* (p 25)



TOPS

USA 1969, 7 MIN

DIRECTORS: CHARLES & RAY EAMES

► FRIDAY MAY 11 · 4:30 PM · AG

Elmer Bernstein's music accompanies this playful short, by renowned designers Charles and Ray Eames.

With: *American Musical Theatre: Elmer Bernstein* (p 35) and *House* (p 39)



PHOTO: © MISCHIEF FILMS

WOLF SUSCHITZKY— PHOTOGRAPHER AND CAMERAMAN

AUSTRIA 2009, 21 MIN

GERMAN

DIRECTOR: JOERG BURGER

► SUNDAY MAY 6 · 5:15 PM · AG

► MONDAY MAY 7 · 6:45 PM · SC

Meet the talented and charming 95-year-old Wolf Suschitzky. Using his own stunning photographs, Mr. Suschitzky tells us about growing up in pre-war Vienna, and his career as an influential photographer and cinematographer in the British film industry.

With: *Life in Stills* (p 29)



WOODY BEFORE ALLEN

FRANCE / GERMANY / RUSSIA /

USA 2011, 14 MIN

DIRECTOR: MASHA VASYUKOVA

► WEDNESDAY MAY 9 · 4:00 PM · SC

► SUNDAY MAY 13 · 4:30 PM · BC

A whimsical meditation on two former Konigsbergs: a Russian city, which was renamed Kaliningrad; and a renowned film director who changed his name to Woody Allen. Allen and the filmmaker Vasyukova discuss the family name and the city, where a statue is being erected in the comedian's honour.

With: *How to Re-Establish a Vodka Empire* (p 28)



YOU NAZTY SPY!

USA 1940, 18 MIN

DIRECTOR: JULES WHITE

► MONDAY MAY 13 · 5:00 PM · AG

The Three Stooges were the first American comics to spoof Hitler. In this groundbreaking satire, they are paper-hangers who take control of the country of Moronica.

With: *Hitler: The Comedy Years* (p 27)

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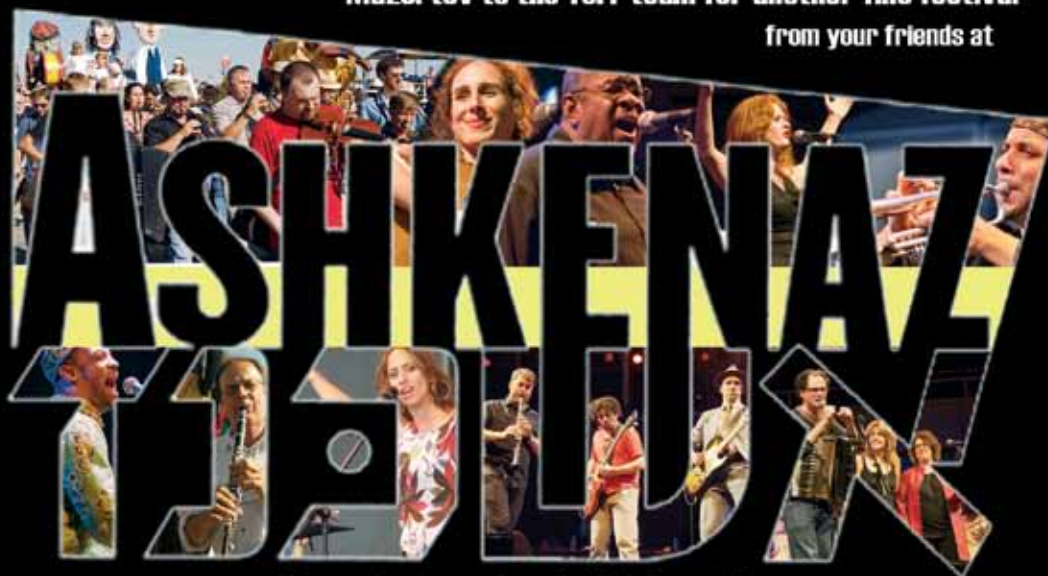


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