TORONTO JEWISH FILM FESTIVAL

June 9 - 26, 2022 In-Person and Online

CELEBRATING





TO PURCHASE TICKETS AND TO SEE THE FULL FESTIVAL SCHEDULE VISIT TJFF.COM

MAZEL

FESTIVAL AT A GLANCE

JOIN US FOR IN-PERSON EVENTS BEGINNING JUNE 9TH AND **ONLINE EVENTS BEGINNING JUNE 16TH**

IN-PERSON EVENTS 🛱			DOWNTOWN
Thursday, June 9th	HD	8:00 PM	Plan A (109 min)
Friday, June 10th	ITH	1:00 PM	The Fourth Window w/ Two Women (102 min)
	ITH	3:30 PM	Chess Story (112 min)
Saturday, June 11th	HD	9:15 PM	Deception (102 min)
Sunday, June 12th	HD	1:00 PM	Broken Barriers (78 min) IN-PERSON ONLY
	HD	4:00 PM	Four Winters (97 min)
	HD	7:00 PM	Perfect Strangers (99 min)
Monday, June 13th	HD	7:30 PM	Let It Be Morning (101 min)
Tuesday, June 14th	HD	7:30 PM	Rock Camp (87 min)
Wednesday, June 15th	HD	7:30 PM	The Rhapsody (104 min)
Sunday, June 26th	ZH	2:00 PM	From Ancient Egypt to the Hit Parade: IN-PERSON ONLY
			A Marilyn Lightstone Scrapbook (75 min) FREE
	HD	7:30 PM	Neighbours (124 min) IN-PERSON ONLY
Tuesday, July 5th	DD	9:30 PM	'The Chosen Film' Award Winner Encore Screening

ALL FILMS SHOWN IN THEIR ORIGINAL LANGUAGE. FILMS NOT IN ENGLISH ARE SHOWN WITH SUBTITLES. RUNNING TIMES DO NOT INCLUDE GUEST SPEAKERS WHERE APPLICABLE.

FOLLOW US! TorontoJewishFilmFestival

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tjffgrams

Schedule continues on the next page ...

TJFFtweets

FESTIVAL AT A GLANCE

IN-PERSON EVENTS 🚇

UPTOWN

Friday, June 10th	LP	2:00 PM	Reckonings (74 min)
Saturday, June 11th	EW2	9:15 PM	One More Story (91 min)
Sunday, June 12th	EW2	2:00 PM	Alegría (113 min)
	EW2	5:00 PM	Image of Victory (129 min)
	EW2	8:00 PM	Rose (102 min)
Monday, June 13th	LP	7:30 PM	The Replacement (113 min)
Tuesday, June 14th	LP	7:30 PM	The Wedding Day (133 min)
Wednesday, June 15th	LP	7:30 PM	Wet Dog (103 min)
Thursday, June 23rd	LG	9:00 PM	A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum (98 min) FREE IN-PERSON ONLY

ONLINE SCREENINGS					
June 16 - June 26	VC	WATCH WHAT YOU WANT, WHEN YOU WANT! All online film selections are available to watch at your convenience from Thursday, June 16 to Sunday 26. Viewing available in Ontario only.			

ALL FILMS SHOWN IN THEIR ORIGINAL LANGUAGE. FILMS NOT IN ENGLISH ARE SHOWN WITH SUBTITLES. Running times do not include guest speakers where applicable.

THE LOCATIONS &

- **DD** = Lavazza IncluCity Festival at the Distillery District
- EW2= Cineplex Cinemas Empress Walk, 5095 Yonge Street (North York Centre subway station)
- HD = Hot Docs Ted Rogers Cinema, 506 Bloor Street West (Bathurst subway station)
- ITH = Innis Town Hall, 2 Sussex Drive (St. George subway station)
- LG = Lipa Green grounds, 4600 Bathurst Street (Sherman Campus)
- LP = Leah Posluns Theatre, 4588 Bathurst Street (Prosserman JCC)
- VC = TJFF Virtual Cinema stream at WATCH.TJFF.COM
- **ZH** = Zoomer Hall, at ZoomerPlex, 70 Jefferson Avenue (Liberty Village)

Please check TJFF.COM/HEALTH-SAFETY for updated Audience Safety Measures

FILM SELECTION: Pick your films here or visit TJFF.COM for more information including any schedule additions and/or changes that may occur.

ORDER TICKETS:

Online anytime at TJFF.com

By Phone at 416-324-9121 May 12 – June 15 12PM – 6PM June 16 – June 26 12PM – 8PM

PRICES (HST included):

\$15 Single In-Person Ticket / Online Household Ticket
\$12 Senior / Student In-Person Ticket
\$20 Live Opening Night / Live Special Event
\$20 Online TV Series

TJFF2022 ONLINE ALL ACCESS PASS \$249

(Value: \$650) This pass allows access to watch ALL Festival screenings being presented online from June 16 - 26.

FREE TICKETED SCREENINGS:

All free screenings require tickets to be ordered in advance on TJFF.COM. Tickets are subject to availability. One ticket per person per free in-person event. One ticket per household per free online event.

IN-PERSON SCREENINGS: The festivities begin on Thursday, June 9, 2022 with opening night at the **Hot Docs Ted Rogers Cinema** and then continue at **Innis Town Hall**, **Cineplex Cinemas Empress Walk** and the newly opened **Leah Posluns Theatre**. Join us for free ticketed programming at **Zoomer Hall** (ZoomerPlex, Liberty Village) and a free outdoor screening on the grounds of the Lipa Green Centre for Jewish Community Services at **The Sherman Campus**. **Please visit TJFF.COM for updated audience safety measures**.

ONLINE SCREENINGS: Build your own schedule!

All films presented online are available from June 16 - June 26 and accessible to view in Ontario.

Watch what you want, when you want. THERE ARE SO MANY VIEWING OPTIONS

FOR ENJOYING THE FESTIVAL

Watch on your television using:



or connect your computer/mobile device using an HDMI cable ♦ On your computer ♦ On your tablet

• On your smartphone

Need a little help? TECH SUPPORT available at 416-924-9121 May 12 - June 15 12PM - 6PM June 16 - June 26 12PM - 8PM To configure your preferred viewing set-up, order a **FREE** ticket now for the short film **CINEMA REX**.



In the divided city of Jerusalem in 1938, a Jewish boy and an Arab girl form a special friendship at The Cinema Rex based on one mutual language - the language of cinema.

Try it Out BEFORE the Festival! Visit TJFF.COM/TEST for more details Have more questions about how it all works? Visit https://tjff.com/fag

FOR COMPLETE TICKET POLICIES AND TO SEE THE FULL FESTIVAL SCHEDULE VISIT TJFF.COM



PRIME MINISTER · PREMIER MINISTRE

June 9-26, 2022

Dear Friends:

I am pleased to extend my warmest greetings to everyone attending the 2022 Toronto Jewish Film Festival (TJFF).



Now in its 30th year, this festival showcases films devoted to themes of Jewish culture and identity. I am certain that audiences will be both entertained and engaged by the wide selection of works fr

will be both entertained and engaged by the wide selection of works from both Canada and around the world being screened this year, and I would like to thank all of the filmmakers for sharing their talent, stories and perspectives.

It continues to be a challenging time for planning and hosting events. That is why I would like to thank the TJFF organizers for their hard work and dedication in making this year's edition of the festival a hybrid experience with both virtual and inperson programming so that it could still take place safely.

Please accept my best wishes for a memorable and enjoyable experience.

Sincerely,

The Rt. Hon. Justin P. J. Trudeau, P.C., M.P. Prime Minister of Canada



June 9 – 26, 2022

Welcome to the Toronto Jewish Film Festival!

This year marks the 30th anniversary of this cherished and dynamic cultural institution in the City of Toronto. For three decades now, this festival has heightened awareness of the global Jewish experience for audiences of all backgrounds through the presentation of international and Canadian films. Such efforts have helped to build social cohesion and encourage significant dialogue. In this moment of recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic, events like this one are vital —providing us all with a platform to reconnect and strengthen the bonds between us.

As The Queen's representative in Ontario, and on behalf of the people of Ontario, I applaud the festival's board of directors, staff, volunteers, and artists, and thank you for your contributions to arts in Ontario. Please accept my very best wishes for an enriching experience.

Masurs/

Elizabeth Dowdeswell





Message from the Mayor

It is my pleasure to extend greetings and a warm welcome to everyone participating in the Toronto Jewish Film Foundation's Film Festival.

Congratulations to the Toronto Jewish Film Festival on your 30th anniversary. Over the past three decades, the Toronto Jewish Film Festival has grown to become one of the largest festivals of its kind representing Jewish arts and culture. I am delighted that you are able to offer a hybrid experience for this year's festival with virtual and in-person screenings showcasing works from Canadian and international filmmakers.

Throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, the arts including film have played an integral role in the lives of residents across the city. The arts have helped connect people with one another while providing inspiration and a way to navigate these challenging times. Screening the best in Jewish film is an excellent way to promote the unique talent within our city.

Toronto's film industry is among the best in the world, it is a significant component of Toronto's cultural and economic fabric that enriches and enhances the lives of many. Arts and culture can be incredible forces for the development of an individual, group or community, and they promote intercultural connections including tolerance, understanding, friendship and social cohesion.

On behalf of Toronto City Council, please accept my best wishes for an enjoyable event and continued success.

Yours truly,

ul

John Tory Mayor of Toronto

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR 100 QUEEN STREET WEST, TORONTO, ONTARIO, M5H 2N2

CHAIR'S MESSAGE

ALLISON MARTIN

Chair

On behalf of the board of directors, welcome to TJFF 2022! We are thrilled that you will be joining us in celebrating our 30th Anniversary!

As I write this greeting, several weeks before the Festival, I am also preparing to shoot a video interview



commemorating our 30th anniversary tomorrow afternoon. One question I was asked to consider is "What does TJFF mean to you". In considering that question, I immediately reflect on the last film I saw, Persian Lessons, our first in-theatre screening in two years. As I looked around the theatre that day, I noted that in the audience, were some of the founding TJFF board members who have been attending screenings religiously since 1993, and others who were attending their first TJFF film. Some attended on their own, others with their children, parents or grandparents. Many viewed from the comfort of their own homes via the TJFF virtual cinema.

For some TJFF is all about the cinema – our talented programmers never fail to curate a stellar selection of films that are entertaining and thought provoking, eliciting laughter, tears, discussion, and sometimes even anger.

For others TJFF is about community – an opportunity to connect with old friends or make new ones; the ability to share in meaningful discussions via the Q&A sessions or even standing in line waiting to see your next film.

To mark this special milestone year, I have asked our devoted Board of Directors, present and past, to share what TJFF means to each of them:

At its inception, the Festival was an exciting artistic, educational, community sustaining concept. When Helen asked me to join the Board, it was a thrill to be part of this venture. It was with great joy that I was able participate as Co-Chair of the Board. And here we are 30 years later and I still love the Festival! – Dayle Rakowsky, Advisory Committee Member& Past Co- Chair

TJFF – Each word has powerful meaning to me. Toronto has always been my home, one I am proud of. Jewish is my religion, my tribe, my culture. Film teaches me, inspires me, delights me. And the Festival is when all of that comes together. I look forward to being together soon. Shmoozing in line brings joy to my heart. – Barbara Peltz, Advisory Committee Member & Past Co- Chair

For me, TJFF means sharing and celebrating. Thanks to both in-person and remote Q & A's with international and local filmmakers, I have enlarged my world and shared the artistry with my fellow TJFF supporters. It has been deeply satisfying to be a part of TJFF and to contribute to the life of our thriving Toronto Jewish Community. – Phyllis Angel Greenberg, Board Member & Past - Chair

TJFF provides an opportunity to learn the stories of people or places that fascinate me, move me and often inspire me to dig deeper in order to understand the challenges and triumphs that most of us can never imagine. – David Beutel, Treasurer & Board Member

It's our connection to our Jewish Culture and TJFF helps in its own way to expose aspects of our history to all multi-cultural communities and to say to the world NEVER AGAIN.

- Betty Eisenstadt, Board Member

Each spring I look forward to the festival. I love the diversity of films from numerous countries that spotlight Jewish stories. Whether they are documentaries, dramas or comedies, these films speak to the human spirit and can be enjoyed by all.

– Karen Leitner, Board Member

TJFF provides a lens into the rich and diverse Jewish culture with stories from around the world that inspire, inform, and delight. – **Talia Rovinski, Secretary & Board Member**

I began attending TJFF with my friend Vicki Campbell (z"I) more than 15 years ago. She was a festival Patron and encouraged me to do the same. During my years on the Board of Directors, I organized many Patron Circle events. Going to the Festival is like coming home, seeing all my Festival friends and experiencing films from all over the world. We're all looking forward to being together again at the theatre. A constant reminder of my dear friend Vicki (z"I).

– Barbara Bernstein, Advisory Committee Member, Past Board Member & Secretary

TJFF is an opportunity to tell stories and visually describe the Jewish experience and its place in the world.

- Robbie Cooper, Board Member

TJFF is a vital community resource, utilizing film to open our eyes and hearts to the many dimensions of our local, national and global world. Informed through a Jewish lens, its many programs are carefully and professionally curated by the talented TJFF team. With TJFF we laugh, we cry and learn from and about each other. – **Ed Segalowitz, Board Member**

The TJFF unites, educates and inspires our community. It gives us the opportunity and pleasure of viewing diverse films with Jewish content, from around the world. TJFF is my cultural highlight of the year! 30 years and going strong.

– Paula Zivot, Board Member

TJFF has touched each of us in its own unique and special way. On behalf of the Board of Directors, I invite you to join us in embracing everything the Festival has to offer and celebrating our 30th year! Sincerely,

Allison Weiss Martin

ARTISTIC DIRECTOR'S WELCOME

HELEN ZUKERMAN

Artistic Director

My annual message seems to come about more and more quickly each year but, "*Why is this year different from all other years at TJFF*"?

Because this is TJFF's 30th year of celebrating Jewish culture through film.



I feel as though everything I could say about the pandemic, has been said. Those of us who came through unscathed are lucky, grateful and probably vaccinated. We all know people who were not so fortunate.

As we move forward to celebrate our $30^{\rm th}$ year, l'm thinking of how the Festival has changed and yet how it has remained the same.

The pandemic forced us to transition online, which enabled us to expand our audience to the province of Ontario. That is a good thing.

Online viewing has also made it easier for some of us to take advantage of the films from the comfort of our homes. And for the man who said he preferred screenings in the TJFF Virtual Cinema because "it was closer to his refrigerator", thank you for making us laugh.

This year you have a choice. For those of you that miss the

social part of the Festival, you can attend our in-person screenings, or if you prefer to watch from home at your convenience, that will be possible as well. But what is different this year, is that you may watch the films we are presenting online whenever you wish from June 16 - 26.

Hopefully, we are beginning to be able to return to more normal times—whatever that will be, and by next year we will have more in-person screenings with more guest filmmakers in attendance.

We will, of course continue with virtual screenings to accommodate everyone.

But for now, let us celebrate our victory — the 30 years of wonderful experiences we have had through the medium of film — a feat that you have helped us achieve.

Thank you for your loyalty as we worked through the worst of times on our way to the best of times to come. Each year, people ask me what my favourite films are and I say: "Like my children, I love them all, differently"

Newsflash...and for the next 30!

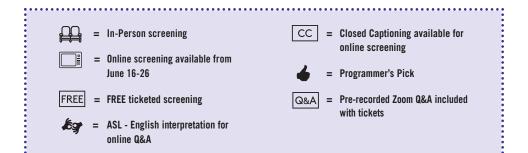
We have embarked on the creation of the TJFF Legacy Endowment Fund to ensure the future of the Festival for our children, grandchildren and the many filmgoers that appreciate the existence of films celebrating Jewish culture all over the world.

If you are interested in learning more about the need for such a fund, please do not hesitate to contact me either at the inperson screenings or by e-mail: helenz@tjff.ca

As we reach this milestone year, we gratefully acknowledge the inspiration and direction provided by the founding team of The First Toronto Jewish Film Festival held May 1 - 5, 1993:

Helen Zukerman, Producer Linda Bronfman, Co-Producer Debra Plotkin (z"l), Festival Director John Stuart Katz (z"l), Program Consultant





THE CHOSEN FILM People's Choice Award

For the favourite film as chosen by Festival audiences. We invite you to cast your vote, in-person or online, following each Festival film you see.

Vote for as many films as you like. Results announced following the Festival.

Encore presentation of the winning film on **Tuesday**, **July 5** in the Distillery District at the Lavazza IncluCity Festival. More info at TJFF.COM/CHOSEN-FILM

Sponsored by: Delaney Capital Encore presentation in partnership with: [icff]





– OPENING NIGHT –



ONTARIO PREMIERE

GERMANY / ISRAEL 2021, 109 MIN DIRECTORS: DORON PAZ & YOAV PAZ HURSDAY JUNE 9 • 8:00 PM • HD

Directed by the Paz brothers (*JeruZalem*), this intense thriller is based on the little-known story of a group of Holocaust survivors determined to seek revenge after the war. Based on a book by Israeli historian Dina Porat, *Plan A* offers a compelling cast that includes Ishai Golan (*Hatufim*) and Michael Aloni (*Shtisel*).

In-theatre Guests: Directors Doron and Yoav Paz

BIOGRAPHY

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ALEGRÍA

SPAIN 2021, 104 MIN DIRECTOR: VIOLETA SALAMA

SUNDAY JUNE 12 • 2:00 PM • EW2

Having long since rejected her Jewish heritage, Alegría's life is disrupted when her family arrives at her home in Melilla to organize her niece's Orthodox wedding. With her best friend and a Moroccan helper, Alegría endeavours to ensure the wedding will reflect the unique traditions of Melilla that blend Jewish, Christian and Muslim customs.

WITH: FINE (9 MIN)



AMEN-AMEN-AMEN: A STORY OF OUR TIMES



UNITED STATES 2021, 72 MIN DIRECTORS: DAVID GIBSON & THOMAS LEO GALLAGHER

Marking a historic first, a Torah Scroll made in Israel was dedicated to a Muslim-Arab leader in 1999. The gift was presented to the sheikh and the Crown Prince of Abu Dhabi by the Jewish community of the Emirates. A fascinating glimpse behind the scenes.



BERENSHTEIN ONTARIO PREMIERE ISRAEL 2021, 110 MIN DIRECTOR: ROMAN SHUMUNOV

Leonid Berenshtein is the last surviving member of the great partisans who located the hidden facility where the Germans were developing their secret weapon, the V2 missile. A Ukrainian Jew now living in Israel, Berenshtein recounts his experiences during the war as a Jewish battalion commander in the Red Army. This confessional film is brought to life with stunning dramatic scenes.



BLUE BOX

ISRAEL / CANADA / BELGIUM 2021, 82 MIN DIRECTOR: MICHAL WEITS

Celebrated as the 'father of forests', Yosef Weitz introduced the iconic Jewish National Fund Blue Boxes, which symbolized support of Israeli agricultural development. Through his private diaries and papers, granddaughter and filmmaker Michal Weits discovers a darker side to his legacy.

– SPECIAL EVENT –



BROKEN BARRIERS (KHAVAH) CANADIAN PREMIERE OF RESTORATION

UNITED STATES 1919, 78 MIN DIRECTOR: CHARLES E. DAVENPORT

SUNDAY JUNE 12 • 1:00 PM • HD

Long-thought lost, but recently discovered and restored by the National Center for Jewish Film, this 1919 silent film is the first American cinematic adaptation of Sholem Aleichem's Tevye stories, famously brought to life in *Fiddler on the Roof.* This film focuses not on Tevye the milkman, but on daughter Khavah, who falls in love with the gentile boy Fedka.

WITH LIVE MUSICAL ACCOMPANIMENT BY THE MAMALIGA KLEZMER BAND



CAPTURED / VASTGELEGD

CANADIAN PREMIERE

NETHERLANDS 2022, 63 MIN DIRECTORS: ARNOUD HOLLEMAN & BATYA WOLFF In order to understand how her father's Holocaust trauma has affected her life, director Batya Wolff searches her father's archive of nearly 100,000 photos of pre and post-war life. This film is an evocative exploration of the memory and family dynamics that often plague children of Holocaust survivors. WITH: REQUIEM FOR A FISH (47 MIN)

CAROL OF THE BELLS UKRAINE / POLAND 2021, 81 MIN DIRECTOR: OLESYA MORGUNETS-ISAENKO

Adapted from a popular Ukrainian folk melody, the Christmas classic *Carol of the Bells* came to represent the spirit of brotherhood over the world. Set in pre and postwar Ukraine, this ultimately life-affirming film centres on three families— Polish, Ukrainian and Jewish—who share a large house and musical evenings. Their peaceful existence is shattered by the Nazi and Soviet occupations. In order to ensure their survival, these families must learn to trust one another. With an enchanting orchestral soundtrack, the film's emphasis on the resilience of the Ukrainian people is particularly resonant today.

- TWO FREE ARCHIVAL SERIES -



Honouring Marilyn Lightstone

From a working class Jewish family in Montreal, Marilyn Lightstone emerged as one of Canada's foremost actors. TJFF honours her lengthy career as an actor, writer and producer with five special archival screenings, **all free to the public**.

ONLINE PROGRAMMES

- Slow Dance on the Killing Ground (1967)
- Spoken Art: A Letter to Harvey Milk (1995)
- The Tin Flute (1983)
- The Wild Pony (1983)

IN-PERSON PROGRAMME

• From Ancient Egypt to the Hit Parade: A Marilyn Lightstone Scrapbook (1967-2021)



ONLINE PROGRAMMES

- Adding Up to Zero (1978)
- An Evening with Zero Mostel (1963)
- Jack Gilford Rarities (1936-87)
- The World of Sholom Aleichem (1959)

INCLUDING SEVERAL SPECIAL RECORDED Q&A'S.

Jack + Zero

A special screening series honouring two legends of American theatre, film and television--Jack Gilford and Zero Mostel. Children of Jewish Immigrants, best friends, and survivors of the Blacklist.

This special curated series explores their unique talents, performance styles, as well as the history that shaped them.

All programmes available free to the public.

IN-PERSON PROGRAMME

• A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum (1966)

BIOGRAPHY

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CHESS STORY / SCHACHNOVELLE

ONTARIO PREMIERE

GERMANY / AUSTRIA 2021. 112 MIN DIRECTOR: PHILIPP STÖLZL

FRIDAY JUNE 10 • 3:30 PM • ITH

An intelligent expressionist drama starring Oliver Masucci (Fantastic Beasts: The Secrets of Dumbledore) and based on the Stefan Zweig novella. When Nazi troops march into Vienna, Josef Bartok is arrested by the Gestapo and thrown into solitary confinement. He is psychologically tormented for months until he steals an old book about chess that sets him on a course that overcomes his mental suffering.



CINEMA SABAYA

TORONTO PREMIERE ISRAEL 2021, 95 MIN DIRECTOR: ORIT FOUKS ROTEM



Winner of the Audience Award, Jerusalem Film Festival. Nine women—Jewish and Arab. secular and devout-enrol in a filmmaking course. Each week, they share their personal video footage with their classmates. Though the process highlights the stark differences in their circumstances, it also underscores profound points of connection. An inspirational drama about the unifying power of art. WITH: OUR NAPPY HAIR (17 MIN)



DECEPTION / TROMPERIE **ONTARIO PREMIERE**

FRANCE 2021. 102 MIN DIRECTOR: ARNAUD DESPLECHIN

SATURDAY IUNE 11 • 9.15 PM • HD

Official Selection, 2021 Cannes Film Festival. Based on the 1990 Philip Roth novel of the same name. French auteur Arnaud Desplechin (A Christmas Tale) presents an engrossing portrait of a Jewish American writer as seen through the lens of his various relationships with women. Lea Sevdoux (Blue is the Warmest Colour) is outstanding as the English actress who visits his studio regularly, as much for intellectual conversation as for their romantic trysts.



THE FOURTH WINDOW TORONTO PREMIERE

ISRAEL 2021, 87 MIN DIRECTOR: YAIR QEDAR

FRIDAY JUNE 10 • 1:00 PM • ITH

A sober, unvarnished portrait of Amos Oz, Yair Qedar's documentary examines the writer's complicated life and stellar career. Though celebrated internationally, Oz was haunted by his mother's suicide and devastated by his daughter's accusation of abuse. The film includes conversations with his biographer and literary peers, including David Grossman and Etgar Keret.

WITH: TWO WOMEN (15 MIN)

– CENTREPIECE FILM –



FOUR WINTERS: A STORY OF JEWISH PARTISAN RESISTANCE AND BRAVERY IN WWII

CANADIAN PREMIERE UNITED STATES 2020, 97 MIN

DIRECTOR: JULIA MINTZ



SUNDAY JUNE 12 • 4:00 PM • HD

A celebration of the 25,000 Jewish Partisans who escaped into the forests of Eastern Europe to resist the Nazis. Featuring interviews with five of the last surviving fighters, this important documentary highlights the ways Jews fought back, and honours the bravery, cleverness and leadership of the Partisans. In-theatre Guest: Director Julia Mintz

– FREE OUTDOOR SCREENING –



A FUNNY THING HAPPENED ON THE WAY TO THE FORUM FREE

UNITED STATES / UNITED KINGDOM 1966, 98 MIN DIRECTOR: RICHARD LESTER

🛱 THURSDAY JUNE 23 🛛 9:00 PM 🗨 LG

Zero Mostel plays an idle slave in Ancient Rome in the anarchic and bawdy musical comedy, presented in honour of the late Stephen Sondheim, who wrote the play's music and lyrics. The film is buoyed by a ton of comic energy, thanks to the cast featuring Mostel, Jack Gilford, Michael Crawford, Phil Silvers and Buster Keaton and the direction of Richard Lester. **Don't forget your lawn chair and picnic blanket.**

BIOGRAPHY



FROM ANCIENT EGYPT TO THE HIT PARADE: A MARILYN LIGHTSTONE SCRAPBOOK FREE

CANADA 1967-2021, 80 MIN

SUNDAY JUNE 26 • 2:00 PM • ZH

This eclectic collection of rare television performances, readings, songs and behind-the scenes footage reveals Marilyn Lightstone's screen persona as well as demonstrates the breadth of her acting and writing career. Highlights include her performances as Egyptian queen Nefertiti and anarchist Emma Goldman on Patrick Watson's historical series, *Titans and Witness to Yesterday*.

In-theatre Guests: Marilyn Lightstone in conversation with Mark Wigmore of The New Classical FM



GAUDIOPOLIS, THE REPUBLIC OF CHILDREN / 1945, LA RÉPUBLIQUE DES ENFANTS PERDUS

FRANCE 2019, 52 MIN DIRECTOR: FRÉDÉRIC TONOLLI

Together with the Red Cross, Lutheran Minister Gabor Szhetlo established an orphanage to rescue Budapest's Jewish children during WWII. Founded on democratic principles and with its own parliament, constitution and newspaper, it became the basis of a children's republic called Gaudiopolis (City of Joy). WITH: KINDERLAND (33 MIN)



GREENER PASTURES / SHEIFA LEHAIM I Q&A ISRAEL 2020, 90 MIN

DIRECTORS: ASSAF ABIRI & MATAN GUGGENHEIM Nominated for 12 Israeli Academy Awards, this charming comedy stars Shlomo Bar-Aba (*Footnote*), Dov Glickman (*Shtisel*), and Joy Rieger (*Past Life*). When admitted to a nursing home against his will, Dov (Bar-Aba) is determined to return to his old house at any cost, setting him on a path involving crime, romance and cannabis.



GROSSMAN ONTARIO PREMIERE ISRAEL 2021, 54 MIN DIRECTOR: ADI ARBEL

An intimate portrait of David Grossman, one of Israel's most acclaimed writers, exploring the connections between his novels and his personal life. The film follows Grossman, as he discusses the impact of his son's death on his work, and his struggle to balance the solitary nature of writing with the demands of family life. WITH: THE LAST CHAPTER OF A.B. YEHOSHUA (58 MIN)

BIOGRAPHY

ARCHIVAL



IMAGE OF VICTORY / TMUNAT HANITZAHON TORONTO PREMIERE



ISRAEL 2021, 129 MIN DIRECTOR: AVI NESHER

SUNDAY JUNE 12 • 5:00 PM • EW2

Nominated for 15 Israeli Academy Awards, the latest film from Avi Nesher (*Turn Left at the End of the World*) depicts a little known battle from the War of Independence in which residents of Kibbutz Nitzanim were forced to surrender to the Egyptians. The film explores the battle from both Israeli and Arab perspectives, grounding the story on two real historical characters.



JEWS OF THE WILD WEST CC Q&A &

UNITED STATES 2022, 83 MIN DIRECTOR: AMANDA KINSEY

In this entertaining and eye-opening documentary, filmmaker Amanda Kinsey traces the largely-forgotten role that Jewish cowboys and cowgirls played in the history of the American West. In addition to the Guggenheims and Levi Strauss, the film introduces us to the respected wife of Wyatt Earp and Broncho Billy Anderson, the first Western movie star, and many others.



JOYCE CAROL OATES: A BODY IN THE SERVICE OF MIND SWEDEN 2021, 94 MIN DIRECTOR: STIG BIÖRKMAN

"America's foremost woman of letters" discusses the societal and personal events that have informed her writing, including her late discovery that her grandmother was Jewish. Director Stig Björkman explores the genius of one of America's most popular writers, illuminating how her life and work have reflected a changing society.



KINDERLAND

CANADIAN PREMIERE UNITED STATES 2021, 33 MIN DIRECTOR: AMY GRAPPELL

The legacy of the Jewish Left is explored in this uplifting documentary about two secular Jewish summer camps in Upstate New York, one communist (Kinderland) and one socialist (Kinder Ring). Despite their historical feud, today's multiethnic campers prioritize shared values over philosophical differences and attempt to join forces in their fight for equality and justice. WITH: GAUDIOPOLIS, THE REPUBLIC OF CHILDREN (52 MIN)

BIOGRAPHY

ARCHIVAL



THE KOMEDIANT 📑 🕬 🖨

ISRAEL / UNITED STATES 1999, 82 MIN DIRECTOR: ARNON GOLDFINGER

"Absolutely wonderful." (Mel Brooks) The glory days of the Yiddish stage are brought to life in this lively and revealing saga of a legendary theatrical family, The Bursteins. Director Arnon Goldfinger (*The Flat*) incorporates a ton of archival footage and interviews with family members and other Yiddish theatre veterans including Mike Burstyn (*Two Kuni Lemel*) and Fyvish Finkel.

WITH: OH SPADINA! (5 MIN) and MAKE ME A KING (16 MIN)



THE LAST CHAPTER OF A.B. YEHOSHUA

ONTARIO PREMIERE

ISRAEL 2021, 58 MIN DIRECTOR: YAIR QEDAR

In this incisive biography of one of Israel's greatest living writers, director Yair Qedar follows 84-year-old A.B. Yehoshua as he reflects on the final stage of his life. Still possessing his clear-eyed perspective, Yehoshua discusses his complicated heritage and his belief that both Jews and Arabs are paralyzed by the past. WITH: GROSSMAN (54 MIN)



THE LEVYS OF MONTICELLO 📑 Q&A CC 🍂

CANADIAN PREMIERE UNITED STATES 2021, 71 MIN DIRECTOR: STEVEN PRESSMAN

Winner of the Building Bridges Jury Prize, Atlanta Jewish Film Festival. The little-known story of the Levy family who, for nearly a century, owned and carefully preserved Monticello, the cherished home of Thomas Jefferson. Steven Pressman's well-crafted documentary addresses both the history of antisemitism in the US and the legacy of slavery at Monticello. WITH: A KADDISH FOR SELIM (15 MIN)



THE MISSING TALE / EMLÉKEK ŐREI

NORTH AMERICAN PREMIERE HUNGARY 2022, 84 MIN DIRECTOR: KLÁRA TRENCSÉNYI

The Jewish community of Cochin, India is comprised of two groups: the Paradesi, Sephardic Jews who arrived after the Inquisition, and the Black Jews who arrived during Babylonian times. Despite sharing the same religion, the Paradesi consider the Black community to be inferior. This fascinating documentary explores the racism between the two groups.

– CENTREPIECE FILM –



LET IT BE MORNING / VAYEHI BOKER

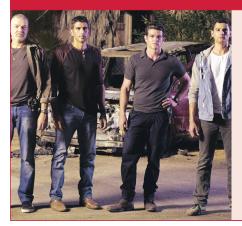


CANADIAN PREMIERE ISRAEL 2021. 101 MIN DIRECTOR: ERAN KOLIRIN

MONDAY JUNE 13 • 7:30 PM • HD

Winner of seven Israeli Academy Awards, including Best Picture. Based on the Sayed Kashua novel, the latest film from Eran Kolirin (The Band's *Visit*) highlights the absurdities of everyday life for Israeli Arabs. When a military siege prevents Sami from returning to Jerusalem from his family's village, he wonders if his sense of security as an Israeli citizen is just an illusion.

- TV SERIES -



LINE IN THE SAND: THE COMPLETE FIRST SEASON / HASHOTRIM

NORTH AMERICAN PREMIERE

ISRAEL 2021, 48 MIN X 8 DIRECTORS: DAN SACHAR & ROTEM SHAMIR

From the director and co-writer team of Fauda comes Israel's latest hard-boiled crime drama. Alon, a successful detective (played by Tsahi Halevi of Fauda), moves back to his home town of Nahariva and discovers that the city is under the control of a local crime boss. In order to restore order, he must compromise his own morals.

BIOGRAPHY

ARCHIVAL



ONE MORE STORY / OD SIPUR ECHAD TORONTO PREMIERE

ISRAEL 2021, 91 MIN DIRECTOR: GURI ALFI



SATURDAY JUNE 11 • 9:15 PM • EW2

This charming rom-com centres on Yarden, an ambitious journalist who confesses to a blind date about the Faustian bargain struck with her sleazy editor (played by Lior Ashkenazi): in exchange for his help in publishing her book. she will undertake a series of columns about modern romance, based on the dating disasters of her best friend.



OUR (ALMOST COMPLETELY TRUE) STORY [🖹 CC 🛛 🗛 🛵

CANADIAN PREMIERE UNITED STATES 2022, 89 MIN **DIRECTOR: DON SCARDINO**

A statuesque film icon and a pudgy voice actor make for an unlikely pair, but Mariette Hartley and Jerry Sroka have been married since 2005. Written by them and based on their own relationship, this life-affirming dramedy "sparkles with wit and depth as it celebrates love and romance while reflecting on the challenges of growing older." (Broadway World)



PASSAGE 🖹 CC 🛛 🖓 🖧 **TO SWEDEN**

UNITED STATES 2021, 58 MIN DIRECTOR: SUZANNAH WARLICK

This compelling documentary explores how Swedish Jews were spared from being rounded up and transported to concentration camps like their counterparts in other Scandinavian countries. Despite its neutrality, Sweden's continuing trade with Germany allowed ordinary Swedish citizens and diplomats to plan and execute heroic missions to rescue Jews. WITH: THE PHOTOGRAPHER (11 MIN)



PERFECT STRANGERS / ZARIM MUSHLAMIM

ONTARIO PREMIERE ISRAEL 2021, 95 MIN DIRECTOR: LIOR ASHKENAZI

SUNDAY JUNE 12 • 7:00 PM • HD

Seven childhood friends meet for dinner to watch a lunar eclipse. What starts out as a congenial evening takes an unexpected turn when they agree to share every text and call that appear on their phones. Betrayals and secrets emerge, threatening their friendships and marriages. The directorial debut by Israeli star Lior Ashkenzi (Late Marriage; Footnote).

BIOGRAPHY

ARCHIVAL



QUEEN SHOSHANA

ISRAEL 2021, 110 MIN DIRECTORS: MORRIS BEN-MAYOR & KOBI FARAG

Known as the first Israeli diva, Shoshana Damari was internationally celebrated and the likes of Harry Belafonte and Nina Simone covered her songs. This spellbinding documentary sensitively portrays the little-known story about the life of "Israel's first lady of song" and the personal sacrifices she made on the road to fame.



A RADIANT GIRL / UNE JEUNE FILLE QUI VA BIEN ONTARIO PREMIERE

FRANCE 2021, 98 MIN DIRECTOR: SANDRINE KIBERLAIN

19-year-old Irene is an aspiring actress; confident and attractive, she is assured of her bright future. Her irrepressible optimism is at odds with the reality of 1942 Paris. Director Sandrine Kiberlain eschews sensationalism, focussing instead on Irene's wilful denial of the warning signs of what lies ahead for the Jewish population.

WITH: ANNE (10 MIN)



RECKONINGS

UNITED STATES 2022, 74 MIN DIRECTOR: ROBERTA GROSSMAN

FRIDAY JUNE 10 • 2:00 PM • LP

Director Roberta Grossman (*Who Will Write Our History*) recounts the untold story behind the Luxembourg Agreements of 1952 that paved the way for compensation for Holocaust survivors. Interviews include one with Ben Ferencz who formerly served as a prosecutor at the Nuremberg Trials and is the only surviving participant from these historic talks.



THE REPLACEMENT / EL SUSTITUTO

SPAIN 2021, 113 MIN DIRECTOR: ÓSCAR AIBAR

MONDAY JUNE 13 • 7:30 PM • LP

In Spain 1982, a young police officer investigates the death of his predecessor in a small Spanish town, leading him to a group of German retirees. "In this beautifully-filmed, fast-paced thriller, filmmaker Oscar Aibar mixes motifs from pulp and genre with a classical mise-en-scène and political-historical analysis." (Internationales Filmfestival Mannheim-Heidelberg)

BIOGRAPHY



REQUIEM FOR A FISH CANADIAN PREMIERE

ISRAEL 2021, 47 MIN DIRECTOR: GADI RIMER

In a touching testament to his grandfather, director Gadi Rimer delivers a portrait of a unique Israeli pioneer. Joe Rimer, an electrician and amateur diver, was determined to direct Israel's first underwater film. What he lacked in technology, he and his team made up for with ingenuity. Screening of this documentary will be followed by Joe Rimer's original 1968 film. WITH: CAPTURED (63 MIN)



THE RHAPSODY

WORLD PREMIERE CANADA 2021, 104 MIN

DIRECTOR: DAVID HOFFERT

WEDNESDAY JUNE 15 • 7:30 PM • HD

The astonishing story of the late composer Leo Spellman, a Polish-Canadian Holocaust survivor. Filmmaker David Hoffert presents the performance at the Ashkenaz Festival of his musical masterpiece composed in a German DP camp. Excerpts from Spellman's secret wartime diary are brought to life with stunning animation and readings by actor Stephen Fry. In-theatre Guests: Director David Hoffert and Producers Paul and Brenda Hoffert



ROCK CAMP CANADIAN PREMIERE UNITED STATES 2021, 87 MIN DIRECTORS: RENÉE BARRON & DOUGLAS BLUSH

TUESDAY JUNE 14 • 7:30 PM • HD

Music fans are given the chance to live out their musical dreams at the Rock 'N' Roll Fantasy Camp held annually in Las Vegas. This exuberant documentary follows four campers as they are mentored by celebrity musicians including Roger Daltrey, Gene Simmons and Alice Cooper in preparation for a live performance with their idols.

In-theatre Guest: David Fishof, founder of Rock 'n Roll Fantasy Camp



ROSE CANADIAN PREMIERE FRANCE 2021, 102 MIN DIRECTOR: AURÉLIE SAADA

🛱 SUNDAY JUNE 12 • 8:00 PM • EW2

Official Selection, Locarno Film Festival. Much to the chagrin of her children, the recently-widowed Rose develops a new lease on life after attending a chance dinner party. Legendary actress Françoise Fabian (*Belle de Jour, My Night at Maud's*) delivers a tour de force performance in this life-affirming film that celebrates both Sephardi and Ashkenazi culture.

BIOGRAPHY

ARCHIVAL



SHTETLERS

ONTARIO PREMIERE UNITED STATES 2020, 80 MIN DIRECTOR: KATYA USTINOVA

An elegiac exploration of the shtetl towns of Russia, currently part of Ukraine and Moldova. Nine former shtetl residents, now spread across the world, offer their firsthand recollections of these formerly close-knit communities that were a bastion of Yiddish language and culture but now lie silent. WITH: THE WALTZ (4 MIN)



SPIRITUAL AUDACITY: THE ABRAHAM JOSHUA HESCHEL STORY CC UNITED STATES 2021, 57 MIN DIRECTOR: MARTIN DOBLMEIER

Rabbi Abraham Joshua Heschel was one of the most important Jewish figures of the last century. Author of seminal religious works, he was also critical to the civil rights movement, a champion of Soviet Jewry and pioneer of interfaith dialogue. This comprehensive documentary provides a fitting portrait of Heschel and his legacy. WITH: FRUM DOGS OF HENDON (4 MIN)





DIRECTOR: ALON SCHWARZ

Official Selection, Sundance Film Festival.

Director Alon Schwarz (*Aida's Secrets*) reexamines the events of what happened in the village of Tantura in 1948. Recorded testimony suggests that hundreds of Arabs were killed, but former members of the Alexandroni Brigade, now in their 90s, offer contradictory accounts. A fascinating examination of the founding myth that has shaped Israeli society. **Live Zoom Q&A with Director Alon Schwarz on Wednesday, June 22nd @ 7:00PM**



A TREE OF LIFE 🔲 CC Q&A 🍂

ONTARIO PREMIERE UNITED STATES 2021, 78 MIN DIRECTOR, TRISH ADJ ESIC

DIRECTOR: TRISH ADLESIC The 2018 shooting at the Tree of Life Synagogue in Pittsburgh, the deadliest antisemitic attack in American history, is

explored in this "harrowing, heartsick, and utterly vital new film." (David Ehrlich, Indiewire) Survivors and the families of victims discuss how their lives have been impacted and experts discuss ways to prevent future attacks.

BIOGRAPHY



THE WEDDING DAY / WESELE

POLAND / LATVIA 2021, 133 MIN DIRECTOR: WOJCIECH SMARZOWSKI

TUESDAY JUNE 14 • 7:30 PM • LP

Ryszard Wilk is a pig farmer whose daughter is getting married. Before the ceremony, two Israeli men arrive unannounced to deliver a Righteous Among Nations medal to Antoni, Ryszard's senile father. Their appearance triggers Antoni's memories of another fateful wedding in 1941, unleashing family secrets from their closet.

Contains violence and disturbing images



WET DOG / EIN NASSER HUND

ONTARIO PREMIERE

GERMANY 2021, 103 MIN DIRECTOR: DAMIR LUKACEVIC

WEDNESDAY JUNE 15 • 7:30 PM • LP

Teenage Solheil joins a local gang in his predominantly Muslim neighbourhood of Berlin, becoming known as a graffiti artist. In order to gain their acceptance, he hides his Jewish origins until their plan to rob his parents' jewellery store forces him to decide where his loyalties lie.

Contains Violence



WHAT IF: EHUD BARAK ON WAR AND PEACE / MA HAYA KORE ELU? EHUD BARAK AL MILCHAMA VESHALOM

ISRAEL 2020, 85 MIN DIRECTOR: RAN TAL

An up-close and revealing portrait of Ehud Barak by award-winning director Ran Tal (*Children of the Sun, The Museum*). In a candid interview, the former Prime Minister, Minister of Defence and Army Chief of Staff reflects on his role in crucial historical events such as the attempted assassination of Arafat and the 2000 Camp David summit.



WHO'S AFRAID OF JEWISH HUMOR? / JÜDISCHES LEBEN, JÜDISCHER HUMOR

CANADIAN PREMIERE

GERMANY 2021, 71 MIN DIRECTOR: JASCHA HANNOVER

Award-winning director Jascha Hannover brings us to Germany, Israel, France and the U.S. to explore the complex subject of Jewish humour through a variety of perspectives, ranging from Jewish history and culture to the Torah and psychoanalysis. The film offers a provocative debate on the source and meaning of popular Jewish jokes.

WITH: ONE LAST WISH (10 MIN)

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BIOGRAPHY



XUETA ISLAND

SPAIN 2021, 63 MIN DIRECTORS: OFER LASZEWICKI & FELIPE WOLOKITA The beautiful island of Majorca is home to the Xuetas, descendants of Jews forced to convert during the Spanish Inquisition. Through revelatory interviews with people of Xueta heritage, the film explores their desire to reclaim their Jewish roots and their concerns about being rejected by the international Jewish community. WITH: SUSAM (18 MIN)



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- CLOSING NIGHT -

NEIGHBOURS / NACHBARN TORONTO PREMIERE

SWITZERLAND 2021, 124 MIN Kurdish Director: Mano Khalil

SUNDAY JUNE 26 • 7:30 PM • HD Official Selection at the prestigious Berlin Film Festival. The plight of the Kurdish people living under Syrian rule is highlighted with a satiric edge in Mano Khalil's masterful autobiographical film. Sero's carefree childhood comes to an end on the first day of school when the new Syrian teacher forbids him from speaking Kurdish, and imparts a toxic nationalism and antisemitism that seems at odds with the warm relationship he has with his Jewish neighbours.

In-Theatre Guest: Director Mano Khalil WITH: THE RECORD (9 MIN)

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N.B. We have made every effort to ensure this list is accurate at the time of publishing. Please accept our sincere apologies for any errors or omissions.

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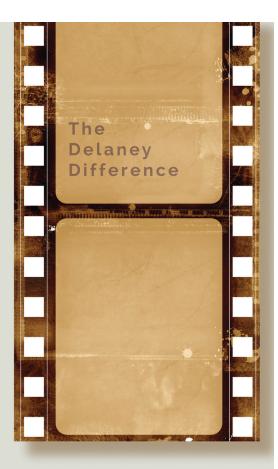












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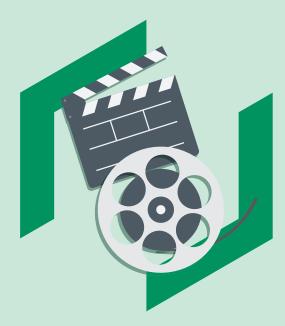


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