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**MINGLE WITH
THE STARS**

(OF DAVID)

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THE STARS**

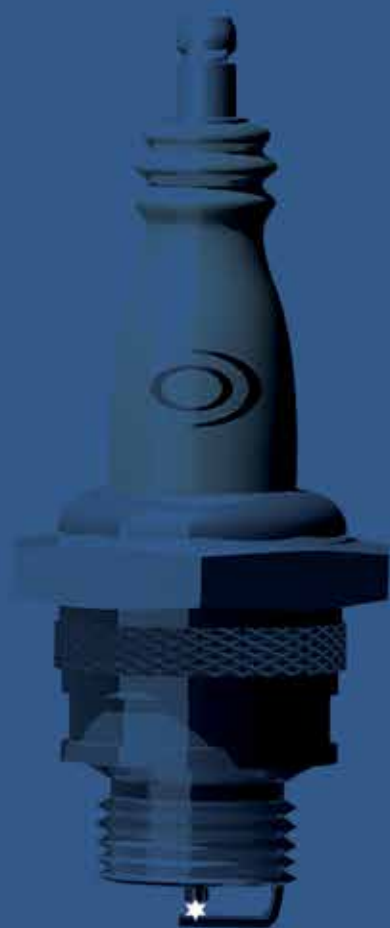
(OF DAVID)



23RD TORONTO JEWISH FILM FESTIVAL

ONLY THE FILMS NEED TO BE JEWISH TO GET IN.

APRIL 30-MAY 10, 2015. GET TICKETS AT TJFF.COM



OVERDRIVE

Proudly adding a little spark to the Toronto Jewish Film Festival since 2001.
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SCHEDULE

• Indicates film has an additional screening.

Please Note: Running times do not include guest speakers where applicable.

Thursday April 30

8:00 PM VC 105 MIN Dancing Arabs

Friday May 1

12:00 PM EW5 180 MIN • Hostages (Part 1)

1:00 PM AF 98 MIN • Let's Go! w/ German Shepherd

1:00 PM EW6 104 MIN • To Life

3:30 PM AF 68 MIN • The Polgar Variant

3:30 PM EW6 54 MIN • Shoah, The Forgotten Souls of History w/ Vishneva, Belarus, Soviet Union Poland

4:00 PM EW5 54 MIN • The Voice of Peace w/ Note

Saturday May 2

12:00 PM ROM 57 MIN Spadina

1:30 PM ROM 70 MIN Rod Serling: the Boy, the Man, the Writer, the Father w/ The Twilight Zone: Walking Distance

3:30 PM ROM 86 MIN King Of Kensington w/ Hirsch

6:00 PM ROM 120 MIN In The Presence of Mine Enemies w/ The Loner: The Homecoming of Lemuel Stove

9:00 PM CS2 110 MIN • Closer to the Moon

9:00 PM ROM 105 MIN Up the Wrong Tree w/ Hearts Melt And Knees Tremble

9:15 PM AF 106 MIN • Cartoonists: Foot Soldiers of Democracy

9:30 PM CS3 117 MIN • Magic Men w/ What Cheer?

11:30 PM CC 100 MIN Lemon Popsicle w/ Heftzi Gets Screwed

Sunday May 3

12:30 PM EW5 104 MIN • Belle and Sebastian

1:00 PM ROM 90 MIN A Storm in Summer

1:00 PM AF 90 MIN • Tito's Glasses

1:30 PM EW6 57 MIN • Code of Silence

3:00 PM EW5 84 MIN Censored Voices

3:30 PM EW6 91 MIN • The Muses of Isaac Bashevis Singer w/ How to Break Into Yiddish Vaudeville

3:30 PM AF 82 MIN • An Untold Diplomatic History: France and Israel Since 1948

4:00 PM ROM 110 MIN • Encirclements w/ Reverence

5:30 PM AF 83 MIN Irwin & Fran

5:30 PM EW5 84 MIN • Soft Vengeance: Albie Sachs and the New South Africa

6:00 PM EW6 105 MIN • Auf Das Leben! To Life! w/ Gloomy Sabbath

7:00 PM ROM 180 MIN • Hostages (Part 1)

8:00 PM EW5 95 MIN • Dough

8:00 PM AF 63 MIN Hebrew Superheroes w/ People of the Graphic Novel

8:30 PM EW6 92 MIN • Haven w/ Zone A

Monday May 4

1:00 PM ITH 110 MIN Nichols and May: Take Two w/ Bess Myerson: Portrait of an Activist, w/ It Takes a Shtetl: Leonard Nimoy's Boston and w/ Making Trouble: Joan Rivers

1:00 PM ROM 73 MIN • Write Down, I am an Arab

3:00 PM EW5 68 MIN • The Polgar Variant

3:30 PM ITH 110 MIN • Closer to the Moon

3:30 PM ROM 145 MIN Requiem for a Heavyweight w/ The Man in the Funny Suit

4:00 PM EW6 74 MIN • Bialik – King of the Jews w/ A Story About Rain

5:30 PM EW5 109 MIN • Famous Nathan w/ What's in a Name

6:00 PM ITH 90 MIN • The Critic

6:00 PM EW6 90 MIN • Next to Her

6:30 PM BC 95 MIN • The Art Dealer

8:00 PM EW5 108 MIN • Bulgarian Rhapsody

8:30 PM EW6 120 MIN • The Price of Sugar

8:30 PM ITH 113 MIN • Suicide

8:45 PM BC 114 MIN • The Dove Flyer w/ What We Left Behind

Tuesday May 5

1:00 PM ROM 84 MIN • Soft Vengeance: Albie Sachs and the New South Africa

3:00 PM EW5 90 MIN • Tito's Glasses

3:30 PM ITH 91 MIN • The Muses of Isaac Bashevis Singer w/ How to Break Into Yiddish Vaudeville

3:30 PM ROM 148 MIN • The Zionist Idea

3:30 PM EW6 80 MIN Do You Believe in Love? w/ Paris On The Water

5:30 PM EW5 104 MIN • Because I Was a Painter

6:00 PM ITH 120 MIN • Chagall-Malevich

6:00 PM EW6 110 MIN • Encirclements w/ Reverence

6:00 PM BC 105 MIN • Once in a Lifetime

8:00 PM EW5 102 MIN • You Must Be Joking w/ The Ten Plagues

8:30 PM ITH 107 MIN Self Made w/ Lookout

8:45 PM EW6 115 MIN • The Kindergarten Teacher

9:00 PM BC 117 MIN • Magic Men w/ What Cheer?

Wednesday May 6

1:00 PM ITH 89 MIN Above and Beyond

1:00 PM ROM 54 MIN • Shoah, The Forgotten Souls of History w/ Vishneva, Belarus, Soviet Union Poland

3:00 PM EW5 106 MIN • Cartoonists: Foot Soldiers of Democracy

3:30 PM ITH 104 MIN • Belle and Sebastian

3:30 PM ROM 92 MIN • Haven w/ Zone A

4:00 PM EW6 85 MIN • The Go Go Boys: The Inside Story of Cannon Films

5:30 PM EW5 73 MIN • Write Down, I am an Arab
 6:00 PM EW6 114 MIN • The Dove Flyer w/ What We Left Behind
 6:00 PM ROM 57 MIN • Code of Silence
 6:00 PM ITH 72 MIN The Other War w/ Barely in Love,
 and w/ Zazaland
 6:30 PM BC 95 MIN • Dough
 8:00 PM EW5 115 MIN • Atlit w/ Felice Nel Box
 8:30 PM ITH 85 MIN Valley
 8:45 PM BC 120 MIN • The Price of Sugar
 9:00 PM EW6 113 MIN • Suicide

Thursday May 7

1:00 PM ITH 104 MIN • Because I Was a Painter
 1:00 PM ROM 109 MIN • Famous Nathan w/ What's in a Name
 3:00 PM EW5 82 MIN • An Untold Diplomatic History:
 France and Israel Since 1948
 3:30 PM ITH 103 MIN • The Farewell Party w/ Dear God
 3:30 PM ROM 54 MIN • The Voice of Peace w/ Note
 4:00 PM EW6 92 MIN My Italian Secret: The Forgotten Heroes
 5:15 PM EW5 120 MIN • Chagall-Malevich
 5:30 PM ROM 90 MIN • Next to Her
 6:00 PM ITH 94 MIN Forbidden Films
 6:00 PM BC 95 MIN Raise the Roof w/ 70 Hester Street
 6:15 PM EW6 95 MIN • The Art Dealer
 7:30 PM ROM 180 MIN • Hostages (Part 2)
 8:00 PM EW5 90 MIN • Orange People
 8:30 PM EW6 90 MIN • The Critic
 8:30 PM ITH 105 MIN • Auf Das Leben! To Life!
 w/ Gloomy Sabbath
 9:00 PM BC 102 MIN • You Must Be Joking
 w/ The Ten Plagues

Friday May 8

12:30 PM EW5 105 MIN • Once in a Lifetime
 1:00 PM ITH 108 MIN • Bulgarian Rhapsody
 1:00 PM ROM 80 MIN Sacred Sperm w/ Longing
 1:00 PM EW6 148 MIN • The Zionist Idea
 3:30 PM ITH 78 MIN The Anarchist Rabbi
 w/ The Bespoke Overcoat
 3:30 PM EW5 66 MIN • Little White Lie
 3:30 PM ROM 84 MIN • Look at Us Now, Mother!

Saturday May 9

12:00 PM ITH 48 MIN Free to be You and Me
 1:30 PM ITH 60 MIN Sun In My Eyes
 3:30 PM ITH 130 MIN Imagine... Philip Roth Unleashed
 6:30 PM ITH 80 MIN The Winnings Of Frankie Walls
 w/ The Dowry
 9:00 PM BC 115 MIN • Atlit w/ Felice Nel Box

9:00 PM ROM 85 MIN • The Go Go Boys:
 The Inside Story of Cannon Films
 9:00 PM ITH 115 MIN • The Kindergarten Teacher
 9:00 PM CS2 120 MIN Transparent
 9:30 PM CS3 103 MIN • The Farewell Party w/ Dear God
 11:45 PM BC 97 MIN The Last American Virgin
 w/ Heftzi Gets Screwed

Sunday May 10

12:00 PM BC 94 MIN Laura Adler's Last Love Affair
 12:00 PM EW5 112 MIN Secrets of War w/ Josef et Aimée
 12:00 PM ROM 99 MIN Deli Man w/ Cohen on the Telephone
 1:00 PM ITH 66 MIN • Little White Lie
 1:00 PM EW6 84 MIN • Look at Us Now, Mother!
 2:30 PM BC 75 MIN Theodore Bikel: In the Shoes of
 Sholom Aleichem
 3:00 PM EW5 180 MIN • Hostages (Part 2)
 3:30 PM EW6 98 MIN • Let's Go! w/ German Shepherd
 3:30 PM ITH 90 MIN • Orange People
 3:30 PM ROM 104 MIN • To Life
 5:00 PM BC 90 MIN Rosenwald
 6:00 PM ITH 80 MIN A Fuller Life
 6:00 PM ROM 74 MIN • Bialik – King of the Jews
 w/ A Story About Rain
 8:30 PM BC 98 MIN Mr. Kaplan

TICKETS

IN-PERSON ADVANCE BOX OFFICES

Toronto Jewish Film Festival

Downtown Advance Box Office*

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

April 17 – May 10

Noon–6:00 pm

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

Cineplex Cinemas Express Walk

5095 Yonge Street

(North York Centre subway station)

April 24 – April 30

2:00 pm–6:00 pm

FESTIVAL BOX OFFICES

May 1 – May 10

Alliance Française

24 Spadina Rd. at Lowther Ave.

(Spadina subway station)

Bloor Hot Docs Cinema

506 Bloor Street West at Bathurst

(Bathurst subway station)

Cineplex Cinemas Empress Walk

5095 Yonge Street

(North York Centre subway station)

Famous Players Canada

Square Cinemas

2200 Yonge Street

(Eglinton subway station)

*Cash and will-call pick-up only at this location

Innis Town Hall

2 Sussex Avenue

(St. George subway station)

The ROM Eaton Theatre

100 Queen's Park Circle

(Museum 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: \$180

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

Pass Information

With a pass you must still obtain a ticket for each screening. Pass tickets may be redeemed online or at any TJFF Box Office. Passes may be redeemed beginning April 17, 2015.

[N.B. Passholders join ticket-holder line for entry into theatre.](#)

SINGLE TICKETS

Opening Night: \$20

General Admission: \$14

Seniors/Students: \$10 (ID required)

Weekday Matinees: \$9

(Mon–Fri, screenings before 5:00 pm)

FREE STUDENT ADMISSION

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

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. Limit 1 ticket per person / per free event.

TICKETING POLICIES

All sales are final. No refunds. No reprinting of tickets. **Seating is guaranteed until 15 minutes before the screening.** Latecomers will be admitted at the discretion of TJFF staff.

Charitable Registration No.

13522 6793 RR0001

ARTISTIC DIRECTOR'S WELCOME



HELEN ZUKERMAN

ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

Over the years, TJFF has been fortunate to work with various advertising agencies who have offered to design pro-bono marketing campaigns to help us get our message out to the public and attract new audiences to the Festival.

They produce these campaigns out of generosity and a desire to share their creativity. As a result, many marketing contests and honours have been won over the years for TJFF campaigns.

This is a relationship where everyone benefits. We get a campaign worth many thousands of dollars that we could not afford to produce on our own, while the agencies end up with award-winning additions to their portfolios.

This year, when Debbie Werner, our executive director, and I went to the first meeting with our new ad agency (FCB), we were asked by their chief creative officer, Jon Flannery, "Why do you do this? Why do you continue to run the Toronto Jewish Film Festival?"

In all the years I had sat in 'first meetings' at new agencies, no one had ever asked us that question.

I mumbled something like –"for the love of film," or "we show films that often do not get commercial releases so they wouldn't be seen otherwise" or "it keeps me out of trouble."

But the question stayed with me for a few days.

Finally, I thought more deeply about my answer and e-mailed Flannery. This is what I told him:

"TJFF is a window to and a mirror of the Jewish experience around the world."

The Jewish world goes beyond Bathurst Street and it's important that the Toronto community see that. Being Jewish in Toronto is different than it is in Uruguay or Poland

or in any one of the 18 countries that are represented in this year's Festival.

It is important to share our history as well as our present-day existence.

So for the Jewish community, it is an opportunity to see what being Jewish meant yesterday as well as what it means today in the wider world.

For non-Jews, it's important to show our many faces. For some people, the image of the Jew is a male wearing a black hat, who has side curls and a big nose. We challenge that image and demand to not just be seen as a stereotype.

It is important to be recognized as individuals who happen to belong to a particular culture; it could only be a good thing to share our experiences with others in a city as culturally diverse as Toronto.

I asked Flannery why he had asked his initial question.

His reply –"Somebody once asked me that question, and now every once in a while I'll meet people who seem really passionate and committed to what they do for a job, and I'm curious to know what drives them."

This passion and commitment is shared by all the TJFF programmers, as we discuss the over 500 films that we preview and consider for the Festival.

Often, there are animated, yet respectful arguments about the merits of particular films, but one thing we all agree on is that we are still learning about the Jewish experience around the world.

So, along with all of the above, I need to say that after all these years, on Opening Night, when the lights go down, it is still Magic! And it DOES keep us all out of trouble!

CO-CHAIRS' MESSAGE



BARBARA PELTZ & DAYLE RAKOWSKY

CO-CHAIRS

We are thrilled to welcome you to the 23rd edition of the Toronto Jewish Film Festival.

Once again we are offering a diverse showcase of world cinema exploring the global Jewish experience.

This year's line-up includes dramatic features, fascinating documentaries, archival material, comedies and a wide variety of shorts. We will see the power of film to educate, stimulate, entertain and inspire us.

Our challenge at TJFF is to reach both our own diverse local Jewish communities and those outside of the Jewish sphere as well. Many of our films are intended to raise awareness of a world that is in disarray. This aspect of the Festival is even more important in these days of political unrest throughout the world. The Jewish people are being challenged by new levels of anti-Semitism, especially in Europe and on university campuses throughout North America. Therefore our consciousness-raising role is becoming even more important.

We are proud to acknowledge and honour the artistic achievements of the films presented at the Festival with two prizes. The David A. Stein Memorial Award is given to the best documentary making its Canadian premiere at the Toronto Jewish Film Festival and The Micki Moore Award is presented to the best narrative feature directed by a woman. Both are juried prizes.

TJFF remains at the forefront of Jewish film festivals around the world, because we are independent, we have talented and extremely creative programmers, and we have a truly dedicated staff. Our appreciation extends as well to our committed Board of Directors and our newly formed Advisory Council.

Special thanks is also owed to our wonderful volunteers. Their smiling faces greet you at all of our venues and enable the organizational structure of the Festival to run smoothly.

Finally, the Festival would not be possible without our generous donor Patrons. We are truly grateful for the support we receive from them, which affords us the ability to present quality films and invite stimulating guest speakers. TJFF relies on Patron Circle members and Festival sponsors to cover 61% of its expenses. It is this support that enables us to deliver eleven exceptional days of film each Spring, our Chai Tea & A Movie series, TJFF Year-Round programming and our impactful FilmMatters educational programme for schools.

Thank you for your ongoing support. We could not deliver this Festival without you.

Now sit back, relax and enjoy the show. We are glad to have you with us.

PROGRAMME DIRECTOR'S NOTE



STUART HANDS

PROGRAMME DIRECTOR

2015 marks my tenth year working at the Festival.

In my first year with the Festival, I worked as a free-lance programmer, and assisted in putting together the Festival's first sidebar series, 'Rhythm and Jews', which examined Black-Jewish relations in America through the prism of popular music. Since then, these specialty series have become an important staple of the Festival. They are now a significant forum for asking the million-dollar question, "What is a Jewish film?," as they have looked at how an artist's Jewish roots and upbringing are expressed in secular culture. As Yiddishkeit scholar Paul Buhle—who has spoken at the Festival several times—affirmed, this sort of Jewish-informed popular culture becomes a vital source of Jewish continuity.

On this note, we are honouring two artists whose 'pintele yid' (Jewish spark) has made a lasting impact on popular culture: writer Rod Serling—of *Twilight Zone* fame—and Canadian icon Al Waxman. Both in their own way created work that speaks—directly or indirectly—to being a Jew in the modern world.

During my years as a programmer here, I have been introduced to the work of numerous filmmakers with immense talent and singularity of vision. This year's Festival sees the return of several of these original voices, as they share their newest work. Sam Ball (*Pleasures of Urban Decay*) offers us his short film *People of the Graphic Novel* about the Jewish contribution to the American comic book industry. Nadav Lapid (*Policeman*) returns with his internationally-acclaimed *The Kindergarten Teacher*. Aviva Kempner (*Yoo-Hoo Mrs Goldberg*) presents another little-known but significant piece of Jewish Americana with *Rosenwald*. Gayle Kirschenbaum follows up her short film *My Nose* with her hilarious and immensely touching personal documentary, *Look at us Now, Mother*. Our 1995

Festival featured the Israeli classic, *Sh'chur*—a benchmark in Israeli cinema's depiction of the country's Moroccan community—starring and written by Hanna Azouly Hasfari. This year, we present her remarkable and visually-stunning directorial debut, *Orange People*.

An exciting discovery for me is the filmmaking team of Shaul Betser and Asaf Galay, who have created two unique looks at Jewish culture, *The Muses of Bashevis Singer* and *Hebrew Superheroes*. I also look forward to seeing future films by Jordan Stone, the filmmaker of this year's *Irwin and Fran*. I hope people are as excited as I am by the opportunity that Stone provides to discover (or rediscover) the iconoclastic comic, "Professor" Irwin Corey.

One of the most remarkable changes I have seen over the last few years is the growth of Israeli narrative feature films directed by women. When I started working here, there were documentaries made by women. There were also exceptional student films made by women, but most often those directors didn't go on to make bigger films. As in most film industries around the world, the domain of narrative features remained almost exclusively male (with a few exceptions such as Ronit Elkabetz and Michal Bat-Adam). I remember talking two years ago with filmmaker Rony Angel Sasson when she was here with her magnificent medium-length drama, *Wherever You Go*, and she told me that I would see some big changes happening very soon in terms of women-directed features.

I am delighted to announce that our 2015 Festival presents five new bold Israeli feature films directed or co-directed by women—*Orange People*, *Encirclements*, *Self-Made*, *Valley* and *The Farewell Party*. I look forward to seeing where this shift is going, and reading future scholarship on how it is affecting Israeli cinema as a whole.

PROGRAMMERS' NOTES



JÉRÉMIE ABESSIRA

I've been lucky to be part of the TJFF team for the past few years, leading me to discover new gems of cinema from around the world. I truly believe that this year's diverse programme has something for everyone to connect with.

I usually define myself as a French Liberal Zionist Sephardic Jew living in Canada. This year's films give me the opportunity to fully explore each part of my identity. *An Untold Diplomatic History* is probably the best documentary ever done on the relationship between France and Israel, a very timely subject, which brings some context to the recent tragedy surrounding Charlie Hebdo. *Orange People*, a beautiful and colourful tale of Moroccan life in Israel today, offers a unique depiction of Sephardic culture. I get to challenge my own definition of Zionism with the powerful documentary *The Zionist Idea* and its reflection on 67 years of shared ideals. Shirel Amitay's *Atlit* is a more personal approach to modern Zionism, even more relevant to me with the film's characters torn between the country they cherish and the country they reside in.

I'm also excited that we are showcasing some Israeli "pop culture": *Lemon Popsicle*, the Israeli cult film (remade in the US as *The Last American Virgin*, which is also screening). The documentary *Hebrew Superheroes* takes us through the history of Israeli comics. Finally, Israeli cinema has never exploited the thriller genre as well as it does in the suspenseful *Suicide* and the original TV series *Hostages*.



ALLEN BRAUDE

I thoroughly enjoy being part of the TJFF programming team. Every year I look forward to the excitement that comes from seeing great films and helping to bring them to the Festival's audiences (which more than compensates for watching the not-so-good ones).

Of this year's wonderful and diverse slate, three films made an extra strong impression. *Next To Her* is part of a recent crop of honest films about difficult subjects coming out of Israel. Featuring outstanding performances, this story of a woman struggling to care for her intellectually disabled sister is refreshingly unsentimental and more powerful because of that.

Shoah, *The Forgotten Souls of History* is a challenging but truly rewarding documentary. The footage of the Shoah is raw and unflinching but this intelligent look at how Soviet Russia erased the Jewish identity of the victims is eye-opening.

I feel it is enriching for children and teenagers to see films from around the world and *Secrets Of War* from the Netherlands is an excellent film for audiences 10 and up. Part of its strength comes from making its story about war understandable and relatable to younger audiences without diminishing its seriousness.

Please don't think I am only impressed by 'serious' films. The very funny *You Must Be Joking* contains my favourite line in any film this year. I'd tell you what it is, but it's not fit for print. Enjoy the Festival!



MAOR OZ

As per most years, I have been stricken with pleasant surprise by how much one can learn through film. So much exists beyond what we know, and this year we have the pleasure of exposing the Toronto community to rarely-told stories. Having won wide recognition from around the world, *Do You Believe in Love?* tells the story of seemingly cynical matchmaker Tova. Paralysed and confined to her apartment, she works with some of the most challenging cases to help them find love. Conversely, *The Dove Flyer* tells of the Baghdadi (and ultimately, Iraqi) Jewish community's violent and untimely uprooting from their beloved homeland, only to be transplanted in Israel and elsewhere where decades of misunderstanding would await them. *What We Left Behind* tells of the fragmented pieces of the Iraqi community that were left and the beautiful reunion they have after the American invasion of Baghdad. It is with great excitement that I welcome you to a diverse and inspiring 2015 Festival!



RANI SANDERSON

I'm interested in how places hold histories. So I am drawn to the ways art can reveal those memories when so many of these places are vanishing. How can we capture their stories so that they live beyond the place that they were originally connected to? Whether it's through *The Anarchist Rabbi's* depiction of the ever-changing London, the archival footage used in *Shoah*, *The Forgotten Souls of History*, or *Famous Nathan's* examining of the American Dream, this year's Festival has films that deal with the subject of change, loss and preservation.

One of my favourite films this year is the short, *70 Hester Street*, which takes us through the amazing story of a building in New York's Lower East Side. It uncovers a vital history of both the filmmaker's family and the neighbourhood, now on the brink of being lost to corporate condos and chain coffee shops. Then there are the artists depicted in *Because I was a Painter*, who find exquisite ways not only to confront and express the horrors they witnessed in the concentration camps, but also to preserve their culture. Similarly, the architects and artists in the incredible *Raise the Roof* resurrect part of an old wooden synagogue from 17th century Poland; as they say in the film, "it's not recovering an object, it's recovering a world." Film has the power to preserve these worlds, which is what forever draws me to the stories told through cinema



SUSAN STARKMAN

In the wake of the January terrorist attacks in Paris, the French education system has come under scrutiny, placing teachers at the forefront of an establishment responsible not only for delivering academic subjects, but also for instilling the moral principles fundamental to French society: *liberté, égalité, fraternité*. Accordingly, the Education Minister announced a €250 million initiative to train teachers in delivering anti-racism education. It is in this context that the film *Once In a Lifetime* takes on an important new dimension, resonating with me, a former teacher.

Set in a working class suburb with a large Muslim population, the film is based on the true story of Anne Angles, a teacher determined to see her disaffected students achieve academic success beyond the decidedly low expectations of the school administration. To that end, Angles enters her class in the National Contest of Resistance and Deportation, requiring them to submit a piece about children under the Nazi regime. Initially reluctant, her students gradually make connections between their experiences and those of the young people persecuted by Nazis. Overcoming their prejudices, the class commits itself wholeheartedly to the competition. The result is a testament to the ability of a single teacher to make a meaningful difference even when the administration charged with nurturing its students has abandoned them.

Also proving to be eerily timely, *Cartoonists: Foot Soldiers of Democracy* is must-see viewing for everyone interested in the free speech debate ignited by the Paris attacks.

ONLY THE BEST
OF JEWISH FILM

Jewish filmmakers have been responsible for some of the most iconic movies in Hollywood: *Hannah & Her Sisters*, *E.T.*, and *Fargo*. Clearly, we've got a reputation to uphold. That's why only the best of Jewish film is featured at TJFF.

See how we've earned our reputation for great film. Check out J-DAR.CA and discover how Jewish your favourite movies are.



J-DAR.CA

AWARDS



DAVID A. STEIN MEMORIAL AWARD

(1970–2004)

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

THIS YEAR'S JURY

Kevin Courrier is an author and former writer/broadcaster and film critic with CBC Radio. He lectures regularly on film at Ryerson University as part of the LIFE Institute, as well as at the JCC Prosserman and the Miles Nadal Centre. Courrier is also the editor-in-chief and co-founder of the online arts journal, *Critics at Large*.

Gary Topp's colourful career began with founding Toronto's first rep cinema, The Original 99-Cent Roxy, in 1972. Introducing artists like the Ramones, Dixie Chicks, The Police, Tom Waits and Jerry Seinfeld won him/The Garys a Toronto Arts Award (Music) in 1995.

Gail Singer is an award-winning filmmaker and screenwriter whose works have been presented worldwide at festivals, in theatres and on television. Among her productions are the films *Watching Movies*, *Portrait of the Artist as an Old Lady*, *Wisecracks*, and sequences in *Destiny in Space* (IMAX). Her next production is a multi-platform film/book/theatrical project, set in 1930s Germany and Canada.

Full jury bios available at TJFF.COM

2015 David A. Stein Memorial Award Winner

Shoah, The Forgotten Souls of History (p. 30)

Previous winning films available at TJFF.COM



THE MICKI MOORE AWARD

The Micki Moore Award is a \$5,000 prize presented to the Best Narrative Feature Film directed by a woman.

“I think film is the highest form of art, combining so many disciplines; words, music, pictures, sets, costumes, continuity. A great director needs to be master of all, working to bring out the best in her cast and crew. With this award, I want to acknowledge that creativity, talent and tenacity. I hope this grant will help open one more door, remove one more obstacle, so that the winner of the Micki Moore Award can flourish and continue on her cinematic journey” (Micki Moore).

THIS YEAR'S JURY

Amit Breuer is an Israeli-Canadian award-winning documentary and digital media producer, whose works have been presented on prestigious, traditional and emerging media platforms. Among her award-winning films are: *The Specialist*, *Purity*, *Junction*, *Sentenced to Marriage*, *Checkpoint*, *Between Two Notes* and *The Guantanamo Trap*.

Ric Esther Bienstock is an Emmy Award-winning filmmaker best known for her investigative documentaries. Her films, including *Tales From the Organ Trade*, *Sex Slaves* and *Ms. Conceptions* have garnered dozens of awards, including an Emmy for Outstanding Investigative Journalism, two Edward R. Murrow Awards and a Dupont-Columbia Award.

Jack Kuper is an award-winning filmmaker, author and former Creative Director of an advertising agency. He produced commercials and documentaries through his own Kuper Productions Ltd. He also spent 13 years at CBC where he was head of Graphic Design, Animation and Still Photography.

Full jury bios available at TJFF.COM

2015 Micki Moore Winner

Once in a Lifetime (p.21)

Previous winning films available at TJFF.COM



STUDENT EDUCATION OUTREACH

One of the most difficult tasks for teachers of younger students is introducing them to the subject of war. While many of the films in the FilmMatters programme relate to the Holocaust, it is difficult to find appropriate films for younger audiences that broach the subject without overwhelming them. This year, two of the films in our student programme deal with WWII in a manner that offers teachers an entry point to discussing such dark material.

For his film adaptation of *Belle and Sebastian*, director Nicolas Vanier has reset it to 1943 in a remote village in the French Alps. Young Sebastian lives with his adopted grandfather and aunt. The tranquillity of the town is threatened with the arrival of the Nazis charged with capturing the Resistance fighters who have been secretly smuggling Jewish refugees to Switzerland. Soon Sebastian has a secret of his own, a wild dog that he shelters. When the grandfather is injured, Sebastian and his dog are recruited to help smuggle the refugees. Without explicitly addressing the atrocities from which the Jews are escaping, the film focuses on acts of bravery and moral courage in the face of danger.

Secrets of War not only explores WWII through the eyes of children but also alludes to the fate that awaited the Jews. Tuur and Lambert are best friends living in a Dutch town whose friendship is tested with the arrival in town of Maartje, as both boys vie for her affection. This sets off a dangerous chain of events that culminate in Maartje and the family protecting her, being arrested by the Nazis. What happens to them is never stated, but it provides a springboard for teachers to discuss what will inevitably occur.

Finally, *Once in a Lifetime* addresses the Holocaust through the perspective of contemporary teenagers living in a working class suburb of Paris. Self-absorbed and angry at a society that discriminates against minorities, it is only when their history teacher enters them in a national competition about children in the Holocaust that they start to realise that their experiences are not unique.



Hillel of Greater Toronto

HILLEL / TORONTO JEWISH FILM FESTIVAL FELLOWSHIP – 2015/2016

Hillel of Greater Toronto and the Toronto Jewish Film Festival will bring together students interested in the intersection of film and Jewish identity in a unique fellowship experience. Fellows will meet monthly to hear from Toronto area film professionals, to engage in an educational process and to take part in curating a student film programme for the 24th Annual Toronto Jewish Film Festival.

Sponsored by:

Nathan & Lily Silver Family Foundation

ASL TRANSLATORS @ TJFF

TJFF is pleased to offer ASL Translators at the following sub-titled screenings to facilitate the film introductions and post-film Q & A's.

Films:

Dancing Arabs	(p. 17)
Belle & Sebastian	(p. 16, 18)
Mr. Kaplan	(p. 17)

Film selection made with the assistance of:



TORONTO INTERNATIONAL
DEAF FILM & ARTS FESTIVAL



ROD SERLING: THE MENSCH OF THE TWILIGHT ZONE

Rod Serling's iconic image is strongly associated with the legendary TV anthology show, *The Twilight Zone*, which he created. As a writer, he was committed to using television as a forum for social protest, bringing stories dealing with racism, war, conformity and even the Holocaust to mainstream American audiences. Frustrated by the networks diluting many of his most politically-engaged scripts, Serling created *The Twilight Zone* as a way to confront the problems he observed in America—by setting them in other-worldly realms in order to evade censorship.

TJFF offers the chance to see some of his most rarely-screened works, introduced by his daughter, writer Anne Serling, who will also offer a more personal portrait of the celebrated writer.

Screenings:

In the Presence of Mine Enemies	(p. 37)
The Loner: The Homecoming of Lemuel Stove	(p. 38)
The Man in the Funny Suit	(p. 38)
Requiem for a Heavyweight	(p. 38)
A Storm in Summer	(p. 39)
The Twilight Zone: Walking Distance	(p. 39)



ROD SERLING: THE BOY, THE MAN, THE WRITER, THE FATHER

45 MIN

SATURDAY MAY 2 · 1:30 PM · ROM

In this FREE TALK, writer **Anne Serling** presents an intimate portrait of her father, Rod Serling. Through a combination of readings, film clips and slides, she traces the evolution of his work from the Golden Age of Television to his iconic *Twilight Zone* and *Night Gallery* series. She also explores the experiences that informed his deep seated concern for humanity and shares what it was like growing up with him, all to reveal the man behind the image.

Followed by:

The Twilight Zone: Walking Distance (25 MIN, p 39)

Before becoming a full time writer, author/poet Anne Serling was an early childhood teacher with a Bachelor of Arts degree in education from Elmira College. Anne's poetry has been published in *The Cornell Daily Sun* and *Visions*. Her works of prose include: the adaptation of two of her father's teleplays in the anthology, *The Twilight Zone, The Original Stories*; articles in *Salon.com* and *The Huffington Post*; and most recently her memoir, *As I Knew Him: My Dad Rod Serling*, which won the 2014 Silver Falchion Award for Best Memoir/Biography. She has just completed her first novel, *Aftershocks*.

Anne serves on the Board of Directors of the Rod Serling Foundation; is involved with the Binghamton City School District's elementary school program, The Fifth Dimension; and is co-founder and editor of Rod Serling Books.



Photo Credit: CBC Still Photo Collection/Harold Whyte

AL WAXMAN: A JEWISH EVERYMAN

This year TJFF is honouring an icon of Canadian TV—Al Waxman, as 2015 marks what would have been his eightieth birthday.

The actor's Jewish working-class roots are a vital aspect of his screen presence. He brought to life characters who are bold blue-collar everymen, and often Jewish; they can be flawed and brash but are relatable, and allow for identification with other ethnic working class outsiders.

This tribute includes a screening of episodes of *King of Kensington* as well as other rarely-screened Canadian television and short film work featuring some of Al Waxman's best performances.

Screenings:

The Dowry	(p. 36)
King of Kensington	(p. 37)
The Sun in My Eyes	(p. 39)
The Winnings of Frankie Walls	(p. 39)

Series made possible with the assistance of:

Nicole Durrant (CBC)
Jane Gutteridge (NFB)

Co-presented with:

Academy of Canadian Cinema and Television

Series sponsored by: Shirley Granovsky



WE REMEMBER

Screenings in commemoration of artists and icons we have loved and recently lost.

Menahem Golan

The Go Go Boys: The Inside Story of Cannon Films (p. 32)

Avraham Heffner

Laura Adler's Last Love Affair (p. 37)

Bess Myerson

Bess Myerson: Portrait of an Activist (p. 40)

Mike Nichols

Nichols & May: Take Two (p. 34)

Leonard Nimoy

It Takes a Shtetl: Leonard Nimoy's Boston (p. 41)

Joan Rivers

Making Trouble: Joan Rivers (p. 42)

FREE TICKETED EVENTS

The Dowry	(p. 36)
Free To Be You and Me	(p. 36)
Imagine... Philip Roth Unleashed	(p. 33)
In the Presence of Mine Enemies	(p. 37)
King of Kensington	(p. 37)
The Loner: The Homecoming of Lemuel Stove	(p. 38)
The Man in the Funny Suit	(p. 38)
Requiem for a Heavyweight	(p. 38)
Rod Serling: The Boy, The Man,	
The Writer, The Father	(p. 14)
Sun in My Eyes	(p. 39)
The Twilight Zone: Walking Distance	(p. 39)
The Winnings of Frankie Walls	(p. 39)

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

FAMILY FRIENDLY SCREENINGS

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BELLE AND SEBASTIAN

FRANCE 2014, 104 MIN

FRENCH

DIRECTOR: NICOLAS VANIER

► SUNDAY MAY 3 · 12:30 PM · EW5

► WEDNESDAY MAY 6 · 3:30 PM · ITH

Belle and Sebastian combines the old fashioned charm of a Disney family movie with a suspenseful WWII subplot that **will appeal to audiences of all ages**. Based on Cécile Aubry's popular novel, this latest film adaption shifts the setting to the French/Swiss border during World War II. The resourceful young Sebastian and the giant mountain sheepdog he tames help members of the French Resistance ferry refugees across the border. Filmmaker Nicolas Vanier uses 35 mm film to capture the spectacular scenery of the Haute Maurienne-Vanoise region of France, which is breathtaking to behold on the big screen.

Co-presented with: TIFF Kids International Film Festival

Sponsored by: Ganz Family Foundation

ASL Translator will be present at Sunday screening for introduction and post-film Q & A.



FREE TO BE YOU AND ME

SENSORY SENSITIVE

USA 1974, 48 MIN

DIRECTORS: BILL DAVIS, LEN STECKLER, FRED WOLF

► SATURDAY MAY 9 · 12:00 PM · ITH

From its opening lines to its closing notes, this upbeat, optimistic, humour-filled and pioneering film starring Marlo Thomas and Friends remains as enjoyable now as it was upon its debut over 40 years ago. Featuring now well-known songs—including 'William's Doll', 'Parents Are People' and 'When We Grow Up'—and interspersed with wonderful animated stories, the film's messages of gender equality and acceptance of difference and diversity continue to resonate today. Featuring contributions by Jewish artists such as Sheldon Harnick (*Fiddler on the Roof*), Mary Rodgers (*Once Upon a Mattress*), Shel Silverstein, Herb Gardner (*A Thousand Clowns*), Norman Steinberg (*Blazing Saddles*), Carl Reiner and Mel Brooks.

Co-presented with: MukiBaum Foundation

At this screening the theatre will have the lights turned up and the sound turned down, and children are welcome to get up and move around during the show.



SECRETS OF WAR / OORLOGSGEHEIMEN

THE NETHERLANDS 2014, 95 MIN

DUTCH

DIRECTOR: DENNIS BOTS

► SUNDAY MAY 10 · 12:00 PM · EW5

A deeply moving coming of age film set in Nazi-occupied Holland. Adapted from Jacques Vriens' bestselling semi-autobiographical novel, *Secrets of War* is a gripping account of friendship and courage. Twelve-year-old best friends Tuur and Lambert are initially shielded from the political chaos around them as they spend their days going to school and imitating war games. All that changes with the arrival of Maartje in their classroom. When the two boys begin vying for her affection, a chain of events is set in motion that will alter the lives of all three children forever.

Recommended for ages 10 and up

OPENING NIGHT FILM



DANCING ARABS

TORONTO PREMIERE

ISRAEL / FRANCE / GERMANY 2014, 105 MIN

HEBREW, ARABIC

DIRECTOR: ERAN RIKLIS

► **THURSDAY APRIL 30 • 8:00 PM • VC**

Celebrated director Eran Riklis' (*The Syrian Bride*, *Lemon Tree*) adaptation of Sayed Kashua's (*Arab Labor*) acclaimed semi-autobiographical novel.

Young Eyad navigates the complexities of being an Arab-Israeli citizen attending an Israeli preparatory school. He experiences an intense romance with an Israeli girl, and develops a friendship with Jonathan, a boy suffering from muscular dystrophy, whose family becomes a source of camaraderie. Struggling to retain a sense of identity while making his way through the rungs of Israeli society, Eyad learns

a profound and unexpected lesson. Also starring Yaël Abecassis (*Live and Become*). "Riklis' strongest film in several years." (*Variety*)

Guest: Director Eran Riklis

ASL Translator will be present at this screening for introduction and post-film Q & A.

Sponsored by:



CLOSING NIGHT FILM



MR. KAPLAN / ESPERANDO A MÍSTER KAPLAN

TORONTO PREMIERE

URUGUAY 2014, 98 MIN

SPANISH

DIRECTOR: ÁLVARO BRECHNER

► **SUNDAY MAY 10 • 8:30 PM • BC**

"Eminently likeable, this highly amusing crowd-pleaser represents Uruguay's best shot ever at the Best Foreign Language Oscar®" (*The Hollywood Reporter*). 76-year old

Jacob Kaplan desperately wants to achieve greatness in his life, but feels his time is running out. When Jacob hears about an old German bar owner jokingly referred to as "the Nazi," he hatches a plan similar to the Mossad's capture of Eichmann. He enlists the help of Contreras—an ex-policeman hired as his driver—and embarks on a fool's errand full of comic twists. Stars Hector Noguera and Nestor Guzzini deliver standout performances, infusing the hapless duo

with depth and humanity despite the ridiculous predicaments they create for themselves.

ASL Translator will be present at this screening for introduction and post-film Q & A.

Co-presented with: AluCine Latin Film + Media Arts Festival and Consulate General of Uruguay Toronto-Canada

Guest Invited

Sponsored by: Renette & David Berman

DRAMAS: LARGER THAN LIFE

DRAMAS

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THE ART DEALER / L'ANTIQUAIRE

CANADIAN PREMIERE

FRANCE 2014, 95 MIN

FRENCH

DIRECTOR: FRANÇOIS MARGOLIN

- ▶ MONDAY MAY 4 · 6:30 PM · BC
- ▶ THURSDAY MAY 7 · 6:15 PM · EW6

"Director François Margolin lends the lightest of touches to this dark tale, with sumptuous and beautifully shot backdrops of Paris and ravishing music to match" (UK Jewish Film Festival). In this dark psychological thriller set in modern day Paris, a Jewish woman embarks on a journey to recover family paintings stolen by the Nazis. This quest leads to dark family secrets, forcing her to face her own father through new eyes. Anna Sigalevitch (*The Piano Teacher*, *Belle Epine*) is riveting in a cast that also includes Louis-Do de Lencquesaing (*Father of My Children*) and Michel Bouquet (*Renoir*).

Co-presented with: European Union Film Festival

Sponsored by:

Leonard Wolinsky Foundation



AUF DAS LEBEN! TO LIFE!

TORONTO PREMIERE

GERMANY 2014, 90 MIN

GERMAN

DIRECTOR: UWE JANSON

- ▶ SUNDAY MAY 3 · 6:00 PM · EW6
- ▶ THURSDAY MAY 7 · 8:30 PM · ITH

When young drifter Jonas (Max Riemelt) begins a friendship with ageing and isolated Ruth (Hannelore Elsner), their two lives become intimately intertwined. Raised in postwar Germany, Ruth, an ex-cabaret Yiddish performer with a suppressed life force, is struggling with moving into a retirement complex. Wandering throughout the city doing menial jobs, young Jonas tries to avoid being tied down. Mixed with flashbacks of Ruth's sultry Yiddish musical performances, *Auf Das Leben! To Life!* follows the two as they embark on an emotional journey to find the strength to embrace the next stages of their lives. Featuring lovely Yiddish songs!

With: Gloomy Sabbath (15 MIN, p. 41)

Co-presented with: Goethe Institut



BELLE AND SEBASTIAN

FRANCE 2014, 104 MIN

FRENCH

DIRECTOR: NICOLAS VANIER

- ▶ SUNDAY MAY 3 · 12:30 PM · EW5
- ▶ WEDNESDAY MAY 6 · 3:30 PM · ITH

Belle and Sebastian combines the old fashioned charm of a Disney family movie with a suspenseful WWII subplot that **will appeal to audiences of all ages**. Based on Cécile Aubry's popular novel, this latest film adaption shifts the setting to the French/Swiss border during World War II. The resourceful young Sebastian and the giant mountain sheepdog he tames help members of the French Resistance ferry refugees across the border. Filmmaker Nicolas Vanier uses 35 mm film to capture the spectacular scenery of the Haute Maurienne-Vanoise region of France, which is breathtaking to behold on the big screen.

Co-presented with: TIFF Kids International Film Festival

ASL Translator will be present at the Sunday screening for the film introduction.



BULGARIAN RHAPSODY

CANADIAN PREMIERE

BULGARIA 2014, 108 MIN

BULGARIAN, GERMAN, LADINO

DIRECTOR: IVAN NITCHEV

► MONDAY MAY 4 · 8:00 PM · EW5

► FRIDAY MAY 8 · 1:00 PM · ITH

Bulgaria's submission to the recent Academy Awards® is a story of friendship and first love set in Sofia during the summer of 1943. Despite the restrictions placed upon Jews, 17 year-old Moni manages to live a somewhat free life thanks to his best friend Giorgio who, like many of his fellow countrymen, does not support the segregation of Jews. When both fall in love with Shelly, the limits of their friendship are tested. Beautifully shot and well-acted, *Bulgarian Rhapsody* is both a warm tale of adolescence and a heart-rending look at the impact of war and Nazi anti-Semitism.

Warning: Nudity.

Co-presented with:

Consulate of the Republic of Bulgaria in Toronto



CHAGALL-MALEVICH

TORONTO PREMIERE

RUSSIA 2014, 120 MIN

RUSSIAN

DIRECTOR: ALEXANDER MITTA

► TUESDAY MAY 5 · 6:00 PM · ITH

► THURSDAY MAY 7 · 5:15 PM · EW5

Inspired by Chagall's life and art and filled with magic realist touches, *Chagall-Malevich* provides a fascinating look at the intersections of art, politics and passion during one chapter in the life of one of the 20th century's most acclaimed and beloved artists.

Veteran director Alexander Mitta's dynamic film begins with Chagall returning to his hometown of Vitebsk on the eve of the Russian Revolution. After he marries childhood love, Bella Rosenfeld, and founds a modern art college, his idyllic home life and artistic career soon get caught up in a passionate web of betrayals and rivalries as the October Revolution sweeps across Russia. Visually stunning!

Sponsored by: Dover Family



THE DOVE FLYER / MAFRIACH HAYONIM

CANADIAN PREMIERE

ISRAEL 2014, 108 MIN

ARABIC

DIRECTOR: NISSIM DAYAN

► MONDAY MAY 4 · 8:45 PM · BC

► WEDNESDAY MAY 6 · 6:00 PM · EW6

The dramatic story of the ancient Baghdadi Jewish community and the tumultuous events that led to their upheaval from their beloved city. In an adaptation of the novel by Eli Amar, director Nissim Dayan brilliantly tells the story of Kabi (Daniel Gad) who unexpectedly gets thrust into the Zionist underground, helping to ready the community for its exodus. As pressure from the Iraqi and Israeli governments make life in Baghdad more and more unbearable,

Kabi and everyone he holds dear are forced to say farewell to the only life they ever knew.

With: What We Left Behind

(6 MIN, p. 44)

Co-presented with:

Iraqi Jewish Association of Ontario

Sponsored by:

RIO CAN



ENCIRCLEMENTS / HAKAFOT

CANADIAN PREMIERE

ISRAEL 2014, 98 MIN

HEBREW

DIRECTOR: LEE GILAT

► SUNDAY MAY 3 · 4:00 PM · ROM

► TUESDAY MAY 5 · 6:00 PM · EW6

Lior Ashkenazi (*Walk on Water, Footnote*) and Assi Levy (*Aviva My Love*) star in this touching and complex portrait of an Israeli family and the working class community that it inhabits. Approaching his Bar Mitzvah, young Aharon Nino is chosen to carry the Torah scrolls on Simchat Torah. Aharon's status in the neighbourhood is suddenly elevated because of the belief that he who carries the Torah may ask God for anything on behalf of others. As he begins to feel burdened by so many wishes, especially his parents' conflicting wants, his tension leads to unexpected results.

Guest: Director Lee Gilat

With: Reverence (12 MIN, p. 43)

Co-presented with: City Shul

Guest travel provided by:



DRAMAS

DRAMAS

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THE FAREWELL PARTY / MITA TOVA

GERMANY / ISRAEL 2014, 90 MIN

HEBREW

DIRECTORS: SHARON MAYMON & TAL GRANIT

- ▶ THURSDAY MAY 7 · 3:30 PM · ITH
- ▶ SATURDAY MAY 9 · 9:30 PM · CS3

Winner of the of the Peoples' Choice Award at the 2014 Venice Film Festival, *The Farewell Party* tackles the thorny issue of euthanasia with compassion and wry humour. When a terminally ill friend asks Yehezkel (Ze'ev Revach) to build a contraption that will administer a lethal dose of tranquilizers, his invention horrifies Yehezkel's wife, Levana (Levana Finkelstein). However, when Levana begins to show signs of Alzheimer's, the concept of a machine that will end her own suffering begins to have appeal. With a stellar cast, this film offers a touching exploration of the ethics of assisted suicide and the right to die with dignity. A timely subject!

Warning: Nudity

With: Dear God (13 MIN, p. 40)



HAVEN / IR MIKLAT

CANADIAN PREMIERE

ISRAEL 2013, 74 MIN

HEBREW

DIRECTOR: AMIKAM KOVNER

- ▶ SUNDAY MAY 3 · 8:30 PM · EW6
- ▶ WEDNESDAY MAY 6 · 3:30 PM · ROM

Religious, class and sexual tensions between two couples threaten to boil over in this well-acted and tightly scripted Israeli drama. It's the second Lebanon war and Keren and Motti, a young religious couple from the north, need to escape the danger of living near the border. They are generously offered hospitality by a secular financially-comfortable couple, Yali and Boaz, in Tel Aviv. Living in close proximity leads to actions that will impact all four lives. This first feature by director and writer Avikam Kovern examines the complex relationships between these characters to explore some of the key issues facing Israeli society today.

With: Zone A (18 MIN, p. 44)



HOSTAGES / BNEI ARUBA

CANADIAN PREMIERE

ISRAEL 2013

HEBREW

DIRECTORS: ROTEM SHAMIR & OMRI GIVON

PART 1: EPISODES 1 - 5 (180 MIN)

- ▶ FRIDAY MAY 1 · 12:00 PM · EW5
- ▶ SUNDAY MAY 3 · 7:00 PM · ROM

PART 2: EPISODES 6 - 10 (180 MIN)

- ▶ THURSDAY MAY 7 · 7:30 PM · ROM
- ▶ SUNDAY MAY 10 · 3:00 PM · EW5

"Sets a new standard for Israeli TV" (*Ha'aretz*). If you found *Prisoners of War* riveting, then prepare to be glued to your seat for the intensely addictive *Hostages*. Ayelet Zurer (*Angels and Demons*) stars as a surgeon who is asked to perform a routine operation on the Prime Minister. However, when her family is kidnapped, she is ordered to sabotage the operation. Series creators Omri Givon (*Seven*

Minutes in Heaven) and Rotem Shamir offer a thrilling and emotional journey where all are fighting for survival.

Warning: Violence

Guest: Series co-creator Omri Givon (for Part 2 only)

Guest travel provided by:



Sponsored by: Marsha Bronfman



THE KINDERGARTEN TEACHER / HAGANENET

TORONTO PREMIERE

ISRAEL 2014, 115 MIN

HEBREW

DIRECTOR: NADAV LAPID

- ▶ TUESDAY MAY 5 · 8:45 PM · EW6
- ▶ SATURDAY MAY 9 · 9:00 PM · ITH

Selected as **part of the Critics Week series at Cannes**, Nadav Lapid's (*Policeman*) *The Kindergarten Teacher* has been met with much critical acclaim. Sarit Larry gives a riveting performance as Nira, a kindergarten teacher who discovers the poetic talents of one her students. Convinced that he is a kind of latter day Mozart, she nurtures and protects him from a society that she feels is too superficial to appreciate such artistic genius. Nira's concern for her student soon crosses a line into obsession with dangerous consequences for both of them. *The Kindergarten Teacher* is a complex morality tale that was included on Film Society of Lincoln Center's list of the 20 best non-American films distributed in the United States in 2014.

Warning: Nudity

Skye Q&A with Director Nadav Lapid





LET'S GO!

CANADIAN PREMIERE

GERMANY 2014, 89 MIN

GERMAN

DIRECTOR: MICHAEL VERHOEVEN

► FRIDAY MAY 1 · 1:00 PM · AF

► SUNDAY MAY 10 · 3:30 PM · EW6

From director Michael Verhoeven (*The Nasty Girl*, *The White Rose*) comes the emotional story of a Jewish family re-establishing their life in postwar Germany. Laura (Alice Dwyer, *Remembrance*) returns to Germany from L.A. in the wake of her father's death. Returning to a mother sitting shiva and a sister in a coma, Laura walks through memories of her upbringing by Holocaust survivors, trying to make sense of the distance that formed between her and them. A film that "ought to be Germany's Oscar® submission for 2015" (*Independent Magazine*), this adaptation of Laura Waco's autobiographical novel is a stunning tribute to family reconciliation and the hope that heals all wounds.

With: German Shepherd (9 MIN, p. 40)



MAGIC MEN

TORONTO PREMIERE

ISRAEL 2014, 100 MIN

ENGLISH, GREEK, HEBREW

DIRECTORS: GUY NATTIV & EREZ TADMOR

► SATURDAY MAY 2 · 9:30 PM · CS3

► TUESDAY MAY 5 · 9:00 PM · BC

Against the backdrop of the beautiful Mediterranean, directors Guy Nattiv and Erez Tadmor (*Strangers*) take us on a heart-warming, touching father-son journey in their inspiring story of cross-cultural reconciliation and understanding. Recently widowed Avraham Kofinas (Makram Khoury from *The Syrian Bride*) leaves Israel for Greece, his homeland, to find the man who saved him during the Holocaust. Accompanied by Avraham's estranged Hasidic son (Zohar Strauss from *Eyes Wide Open*) and a Greek prostitute, Maria (Ariane Labed from *Before Midnight*), the two men will be forced to reconcile their differences as they hunt for Avraham's illusive and mysterious rescuer.

Warning: Nudity

With: What Cheer? (17 MIN, p. 43)



NEXT TO HER / AT LI LAYLA

TORONTO PREMIERE

ISRAEL 2014, 90 MIN

HEBREW

DIRECTOR: ASAF KORMAN

► MONDAY MAY 4 · 6:00 PM · EW6

► THURSDAY MAY 7 · 5:30 PM · ROM

A hit at last year's Cannes Directors' Fortnight and winner of multiple awards—including an Israeli Academy Award—this compelling and provocative film looks at the intense relationship between two sisters. Chelli (Liron Ben-Shlush) lives in a dingy Haifa apartment where she takes care of her mentally disabled sister Gabby (Dana Igvy). When she reluctantly enrolls Gabby in a daycare program, Chelli has time to pursue a relationship with Zohar (Yaakov Daniel), a substitute gym teacher. Soon the three are living

together, further testing the co-dependency of the two sisters. Featuring outstanding performances and a powerful screenplay by Ben-Shulsh, based on her experiences with her disabled sister, this refreshingly unsentimental drama is richly rewarding.

Warning: Nudity



★ WINNER ★
MICHI MOORE

ONCE IN A LIFETIME / LES HÉRITIERS

FRANCE 2014, 105 MIN

FRENCH

DIRECTOR: MARIE-CASTILLE

MENTION-SCHAAR

► TUESDAY MAY 5 · 6:00 PM · BC

► FRIDAY MAY 8 · 12:30 PM · EW5

A powerful and inspirational drama based on a true story. The lives of a group of troubled inner city students are changed forever when their history teacher enters them in a high school competition on the theme of what it meant to be a teen in a Nazi concentration camp. She is determined to engage them in a project that will instill a sense of purpose and ambition. Though the project is first met with resistance, the students begin to open up to each other as they delve into the subject and ultimately learn to believe in themselves and their ability. "A hit at the Cannes Film Festival, Marie Castille Mention-Schaar's drama offers new insight on the impact that Holocaust education can have on future generations" (UK Jewish Film Festival).

Co-presented with:

Facing History and Ourselves

Sponsored by:

THE
ASPER
FOUNDATION

DRAMAS

DRAMAS

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THE OTHER WAR

ISRAEL 2008, 45 MIN
HEBREW

DIRECTOR: TAMAR GLEZERMAN

► WEDNESDAY MAY 6 · 6:00 PM · ITH

Director Tamar Glezerman beautifully and poetically focuses on a lesbian couple's relationship struggling to survive under the pressures of "the Israeli normal." *The Other War* follows Elli (Keren Berger from *Cupcakes*) and Na'ama (Hen Yanni) against the backdrop of the second Lebanon war and the wedding of Elli's sister. While Na'ama reacts to the war by living life to the fullest, Elli does everything she can to anchor their relationship in the warmth and stability of her family.

Warning: Nudity

Guest: Director Tamar Glezerman

With: Zazaland (12 MIN, p.44) and Barely In Love (15 MIN, p.40)

Co-presented with: Kulanu Toronto



THE PRICE OF SUGAR / HOE DUUR WAS DE SUIKER

THE NETHERLANDS 2013, 120 MIN
DUTCH

DIRECTOR: JEAN VAN DE VELDE

► MONDAY MAY 4 · 8:30 PM · EW6

► WEDNESDAY MAY 6 · 8:45 PM · BC

The Price of Sugar has *Gone With The Wind* written all over it. Set in 18th century Suriname, this lush period piece and riveting melodrama reveals the history of the Dutch Jews who were among the slave-owning plantation owners. Sarith lives on a plantation with her personal slave, Mini-Mini (who is also her half sister) and her stepsister, Elza. Frustrated by her unhappy marriage, the independent Sarith schemes within the male-dominated society she inhabits. Narrating the events is Mini-Mini, who holds the impossible position of being a slave, confidante and half-sister rolled into one.

Warning: Violence and nudity

Guest: Professor Natalie Zemon Davis

Co-presented with:

Consulate General of The Kingdom of The Netherlands



SECRETS OF WAR / OORLOGSGEHEIMEN

THE NETHERLANDS 2014, 95 MIN
DUTCH

DIRECTOR: DENNIS BOTS

► SUNDAY MAY 10 · 12:00 PM · EW5

A deeply moving coming of age film set in Nazi-occupied Holland. Adapted from Jacques Vriens' bestselling semi-autobiographical novel, *Secrets of War* is a gripping account of friendship and courage. Twelve-year-old best friends Tuur and Lambert are initially shielded from the political chaos around them as they spend their days going to school and imitating war games. All that changes with the arrival of Maartje in their classroom.

When the two boys begin vying for her affection, a chain of events is set in motion that will alter the lives of all three children forever.

Recommended for ages 10 and up

With: Josef et Aimée (17 MIN, p. 42)



SELF MADE / BOREG

TORONTO PREMIERE

ISRAEL 2014, 89 MIN

HEBREW, ARABIC, FRENCH

DIRECTOR: SHIRA GEFFEN

► TUESDAY MAY 5 · 8:30 PM · ITH

This latest film from Shira Geffen, winner of the 2007 Camera D'Or for *Jellyfish*, has been called "a Kafkaesque, surrealist take on Israel and Palestine" (*Vanity Fair*). Michal (Sarah Adler) is an Israeli artist with a reputation for aggressively feminist installations. Nadine (Samira Saraya) is a Palestinian stuck in a menial job at an Ikea-like factory, filling plastic bags with screws. When Michal orders a bed from the factory, she finds herself missing one screw. Her complaints to the factory set off a chain of events that culminate in a bizarre mix-up at a border crossing that sees the two women switch places. "Shira Geffen's clever identity-swap comedy subverts clichés and upends expectations... and manages to surprise at every turn." (*Variety*).

Warning: Mature content

With: Lookout (18 MIN, p. 42)

Co-presented with:

Female Eye Film Festival



SUICIDE / HITABDUT

CANADIAN PREMIERE

ISRAEL 2014, 113 MIN

HEBREW

DIRECTOR: BENNY FREDMAN

► MONDAY MAY 4 · 8:30 PM · ITH

► WEDNESDAY MAY 6 · 9:00 PM · EW6

Suicide is a tense ride, filled with unpredictable plot twists, that brings *The Usual Suspects* to mind. Perhaps the first action thriller to come out of Israel, Benny Fredman's impressive debut follows what might be the final hours of Oded Tsur, a man in financial trouble who is forced to borrow money from a ruthless loan shark. As his wife investigates her husband's desperate situation, she finds herself immersed in a seedy Jerusalem underworld. Featuring a top-notch cast that includes Rotem Keinan (*Big Bad Wolves*), Dror Keren (*The Matchmaker*) and Mali Levi.

Warning: Violence



VALLEY / EMEK

CANADIAN PREMIERE

ISRAEL 2014, 85 MIN

HEBREW

DIRECTOR: SOPHIE ARTUS

► WEDNESDAY MAY 6 · 8:30 PM · ITH

Winner for best debut feature at the 2014 Haifa International Film Festival, *Valley* is an emotionally raw film that revolves around three teenagers whose adolescence is anything but carefree. Haunted by family trauma, introverted David moves to a new town and is picked on by Josh, an arrogant bully. With the tormentor also a victim of violence, an unlikely friendship forms, but the relationship is threatened when both boys fall in love with their female classmate Linoy. The world that these teenagers inhabit may be a violent one, but it also contains moments of love and friendship that make for a deeply touching and emotionally honest film.

Warning: Violence

COMEDIES: LAUGHING IN THE DARK



ATLIT / RENDEZ-VOUS À ATLIT

NORTH AMERICAN PREMIERE
FRANCE / ISRAEL 2014, 91 MIN
FRENCH, HEBREW, ENGLISH
DIRECTOR: SHIREL AMITAY

- ▶ WEDNESDAY MAY 6 · 8:00 PM · EW5
- ▶ SATURDAY MAY 9 · 9:00 PM · BC

Filmmaker Shirel Amitay brings together Yaël Abecassis (*Live and Become*), Géraldine Nakache (*The Day I Saw Your Heart*) and Judith Chemla (*Beautiful Lies*) for a comical, dramatic and touching story about the bond of sisterhood. In October of 1995, three sisters meet in Israel to sell their parents' house. Against the backdrop of Yitzhak Rabin's hopeful campaign for peace, the familial and the political are fused as the sisters debate the future of the house. A visit by the ghosts of their parents lead to heart-warming moments and memories of their summers together.

Guest: Director Shirel Amitay
With: Felice Nel Box (24 MIN, p. 40)
Co-presented with:
New Israel Fund of Canada
Guest travel provided by:



CLOSER TO THE MOON ~ / MAI APROAPE DE LUNA

TORONTO PREMIERE
ROMANIA / USA / ITALY / POLAND 2014, 110 MIN
DIRECTOR: NAE CARANFIL

- ▶ SATURDAY MAY 2 · 9:00 PM · CS2
- ▶ MONDAY MAY 4 · 3:30 PM · ITH

Boasting "a rather Jewish sense of humour" (*Variety*) and based on true events, this "edifying and marvelous history lesson" (*altcine*) tells the story of five Jewish-Romanian Communist Party members, sentenced to death for a robbery in 1950's Bucharest. Cameraman Virgil (Harry Lloyd from *Game of Thrones*) is assigned to film a state propaganda movie in which the criminals play themselves redoing their crime. As filming gets underway, Virgil is drawn to the convicts, especially Alice (Vera Farmiga from *Up in the Air* and *The Departed*), and grows to understand the real story behind their robbery.

Guest: Professor Tereza Barta
Co-presented with: Consulate General of Romania in Toronto



THE CRITIC / EL CRÍTICO

CANADIAN PREMIERE
ARGENTINA 2013, 90 MIN
SPANISH
DIRECTOR: HERNÁN GUERSCHUNY

- ▶ MONDAY MAY 4 · 6:00 PM · ITH
- ▶ THURSDAY MAY 7 · 8:30 PM · EW6

Directed by critic-turned-director, Hernán Guerschuny, *The Critic* is a highly enjoyable and sardonic homage to movie criticism, filled with an eclectic cast of characters and laugh-out-loud moments. Victor is an arrogant, uptight and uncompromising film critic who despises Hollywood romantic comedies and envisions his life as a French New Wave film (complete with French voiceover pondering his thoughts and existence). When he unexpectedly falls for the free-spirited, uninhibited Sofia, who is in town for her father's unveiling, Victor suddenly finds his life beginning to resemble the American rom-coms he loathes so much.

Co-presented with:
AluCine Latin Film + Media Arts Festival
and Consulate General of Argentina



DOUGH

CANADIAN PREMIERE

UK / HUNGARY 2014, 95 MIN

DIRECTOR: JOHN GOLDSCHMIDT

► SUNDAY MAY 3 • 8:00 PM • EW5

► WEDNESDAY MAY 6 • 6:30 PM • BC

An endearing comedy about an unexpected interfaith friendship set in London's East End. Jonathan Pryce (*Game of Thrones*, *Brazil*) stars as Nat, a Jewish baker, struggling to keep his business alive. When his only worker quits, Nat hires his cleaning lady's son, Ayyash (Jerome Holder) as his apprentice, who is facing his own struggles in supporting his family. Ayyash involves himself in illicit activities to generate income for the household. Things take a turn when Ayyash accidentally drops a little marijuana into the challah batter, and business at the bakery goes skyrocketing. Also starring Pauline Collins (*Shirley Valentine*).

Co-presented with:

European Union Film Festival



ORANGE PEOPLE / ANASHIM KETUMIM

CANADIAN PREMIERE

ISRAEL 2013, 90 MIN

HEBREW, ARABIC

DIRECTOR: HANNA AZOULAY HASFARI

► THURSDAY MAY 7 • 8:00 PM • EW5

► SUNDAY MAY 10 • 3:30 PM • ITH

Traditions clash with modernity for three generations of Moroccan Israeli women in this earthy directorial debut from acclaimed actress and screenwriter Hanna Azoulay Hasfari (*Sh'chur*). A colourful, imaginative and sensual film that looks at cultural identity and personal creativity. As a kind of oracle, Zohara occupies a special role within Israel's Moroccan community. However, she now wants her daughter, Simone to take over this mystical family role, but Simone has no desire to. The unexpected arrival of Simone's estranged sister brings old tensions to the surface and opens new possibilities. A funny and moving film!

Co-presented with: Communauté Juive Marocaine de Toronto



TO LIFE / À LA VIE

TORONTO PREMIERE

FRANCE 2014, 104 MIN

FRENCH

DIRECTOR: JEAN-JACQUES ZILBERMANN

► FRIDAY MAY 1 • 1:00 PM • EW6

► SUNDAY MAY 10 • 3:30 PM • ROM

A tender and funny drama set in the sunny sixties about the reunion of Hélène, Lili and Rose, three Jewish survivors who haven't seen each other since Auschwitz. They reconnect during a warm summer in a seaside town in the north of France. In telling his own mother's story, filmmaker Jean-Jacques Zilbermann (*Man is a Woman*) lovingly recreates these women's lives and times. "The surprising contrast between a decidedly sunny mood and dark, cumbersome memories gives *À la vie* its unique tone: a perfectly

effective mix of drollery and tragedy." (Locarno Film Festival)

Warning: Nudity

Co-presented with: Cinéfranco Franco-phone International Film Festival

Sponsored by: Nathan & Lily Silver Family Foundation



TRANSPARENT

USA 2014, 120 MIN

DIRECTOR: JILL SOLOWAY

► SATURDAY MAY 9 • 9:00 PM • CS2

TJFF presents four episodes of this award-winning TV series that is perhaps one of today's most original pieces of American Jewish popular culture. Series creator Jill Soloway tells the story of Maura Pfefferman (Jeffrey Tambor), a retired male professor transitioning to become a woman, and her relationship with her three self-absorbed children. The Pfefferman clan is a portrait of contemporary Jewish life in North America as it struggles to adapt ancient traditions to a 21st century context, particularly in terms of gender identity. Maura's transition is the catalyst for her children to examine their own sexuality. Though this causes upheaval for everyone, the sanctity of the Jewish family keeps them united.

Warning: Nudity

Guest: Rabbi Susan Goldberg, consultant to the show

COMEDIES

DRAMAS

COMEDIES

DOCUMENTARIES

BIOGRAPHIES

ARCHIVAL FILMS

SHORT FILMS



UP THE WRONG TREE

TORONTO PREMIERE

ISRAEL 2013, 120 MIN

HEBREW

DIRECTOR: GUR BENTWICH

► SATURDAY MAY 2 · 9:00 PM · ROM

An offbeat and endearing comedy from the unique voice of writer/director Gur Bentwich (*Planet Blue* and in collaboration with writer Etgar Keret, *Total Love*). Restless slacker and hopeless cynic Nitz (Gal Toren) wants nothing more than to get back together with his ex-girlfriend and be reunited with his ailing dog. In the process of trying to win back Kesem (Sarah Adler from *Self Made* and *Aya*), the antipolitical Nitz becomes inadvertently involved in a community protest to save a public space from being turned into a city parking lot. "Gur Bentwich's new film puts him among the top Israeli directors." (*Ha'aretz*)

With: Hearts Melt and Knees Tremble (12 MIN, p. 41)

Co-presented with:

Planet In Focus



YOU MUST BE JOKING

INTERNATIONAL PREMIERE

USA 2014, 92 MIN

DIRECTOR: JAKE WILSON

► TUESDAY MAY 5 · 8:00 PM · EW5

► THURSDAY MAY 7 · 9:00 PM · BC

Twenty-something New Yorker Barb Schwartz (Sas Goldberg) somehow ended up in a life that kinda... sucks. She has a paralegal job she hates and an overbearing family who never lets her forget she's still single. When she is reunited with her childhood BFF, openly gay ballet dancer Billy (Jake Wilson), she is inspired to turn her life around by revisiting her first love: comedy. *You Must Be Joking* follows Barb as she transforms herself into the person she has always been too afraid to be. Featuring a terrific supporting cast that includes Hannibal Buress (*Broad City*) and Katherine Waterston (*Inherent Vice*). "Full of poignant laughs that mix well with the sillier ones, Mr. Wilson's picture is an impressive debut from a director and actress audiences will likely be seeing a lot of in the future." (*Scene Stealers*)

With: The Ten Plagues (10 MIN, p. 43)

Co-presented with:

Inside Out Toronto LGBT Film Festival

Sponsored by: Joel & Jill Reitman

DOCUMENTARIES: FASCINATING BUT TRUE



ABOVE AND BEYOND

USA 2014, 89 MIN

DIRECTOR: ROBERTA GROSSMAN

► WEDNESDAY MAY 6 · 1:00 PM · ITH

Who would have thought that the story behind the creation of the Israeli Air Force is more exciting than anything Hollywood could have imagined? Director Roberta Grossman (*Hava Nagila: The Movie*) honours the Jewish World War II pilots, mostly from America, who volunteered to fight for Israel in the War of Independence. *Above and Beyond* offers a portrait of determined young men as their lives and sense of themselves as Jews gets changed forever. An intelligent, funny and enormously entertaining film featuring an unforgettable cast of characters.

Co-presented with: Jewish War Veterans of Canada



THE ANARCHIST RABBI

CANADIAN PREMIERE

UK 2014, 45 MIN

ENGLISH, YIDDISH

DIRECTOR: ADAM KOSSOFF

► FRIDAY MAY 8 · 3:30 PM · ITH

"On Yom Kippur," speaks the voice of anarchist Rudolf Rocker, "Jewish anarchists and socialists marched past local synagogues defiantly smoking or brandishing ham sandwiches." Adam Kossoff's meditative documentary focuses on German-born Rocker, who campaigned with London's East End Jewish immigrants over 100 years ago. He spoke and wrote in Yiddish, organized garment trade unions and advocated for anarchism as the solution for class inequality. Through the narration of actor Stephen Berkoff, Rocker's ghost comes to life as it haunts the locations where the Yiddish workers' movement was once vibrant. The film is a reflection on how urban development buries the history of such working class movements.

With: The Bespoke Overcoat (33 MIN, p 36)

Co-presented with:

Toronto Workmen's Circle

Dedicated to the memory of Jessie Habelfeld Freedman, Louis Freedman and Morris Habelfeld.



BECAUSE I WAS A PAINTER / PARCE QUE J'ÉTAIS PEINTRE

CANADIAN PREMIERE

FRANCE / GERMANY 2013, 104 MIN

FRENCH, ENGLISH, GERMAN, POLISH

DIRECTOR: CHRISTOPHE COGNET

► TUESDAY MAY 5 · 5:30 PM · EW5

► THURSDAY MAY 7 · 1:00 PM · ITH

How can one speak of beauty in the extermination camps? This sublime documentary takes a look at the artworks created secretly in Nazi concentration camps. Christophe Cognet's meditative film sensitively presents these extraordinary drawings and paintings. He also interviews some of the survivor-artists who, through their work, explore notions of beauty in art and suffering, and how they processed the horrors of the camps. These heart-wrenchingly beautiful works of art act as a living memory to what the artists witnessed.

Guest: Professor Carol Zemel

Co-presented with: Sarah and Chaim Neuberger Holocaust Education Centre



CARTOONISTS: FOOT SOLDIERS OF DEMOCRACY / CARICATURISTES, FANTASSINS DE LA DÉMOCRATIE

FRANCE 2014, 106 MIN

FRENCH, ENGLISH, DANISH, ARABIC

DIRECTOR: STEPHANIE VALLOATTO

► SATURDAY MAY 2 · 9:15 PM · AF

► WEDNESDAY MAY 6 · 3:00 PM · EW5

DRAMAS

COMEDIES

DOCUMENTARIES

BIOGRAPHIES

ARCHIVAL FILMS

SHORT FILMS

DOCUMENTARIES

DRAMAS

COMEDIES

DOCUMENTARIES

BIOGRAPHIES

ARCHIVAL FILMS

SHORT FILMS

This timely and revealing documentary produced by acclaimed director Radu Mihaileanu (*Live and Become*, *The Concert*) weaves together the stories of 12 political cartoonists from around the world — including a Belgian Israeli and a Palestinian — to show how their work often tests the limits of freedom of expression. Although operating in different contexts, each cartoonist discusses how they face censorship—ranging from calls from world leaders asking that they be drawn differently, to outright repression. Filmed before the recent tragic events in France, this film shows why political cartoonists often find themselves on the front lines, challenging freedom of the press, as well as the important role their funny and proactive work plays in bringing ideas and issues to public attention. “Insightful and, at times, frightfully funny” (*Hollywood Reporter*).

Guest invited

Co-presented with:
PEN Canada



CENSORED VOICES

ISRAEL 2015, 84 MIN

HEBREW

DIRECTOR: MOR LOUSHY

► SUNDAY MAY 3 - 3:00 PM - EW5

A “vivid portrait of the [Six Day War] as it was lived by those who fought in it” (*The Forward*). In the immediate aftermath of the war, Amos Oz and Avraham Shapira interviewed soldiers about their experiences in combat. Contrary to the nationalist fervour that was sweeping the country, these men

felt an overwhelming sense of ambivalence about the human toll of the war and the displacement of Arab villagers. Most of these testimonies were censored by the army, but director Mor Loushy unearths these interviews and plays them back to the soldiers, capturing their reactions as they listen to their younger selves give testimony that proves to be uncannily prescient.

Guest: Director Mor Loushy



CODE OF SILENCE

CANADIAN PREMIERE

AUSTRALIA 2014, 57 MIN

DIRECTOR: DANNY BEN-MOSHE

► SUNDAY MAY 3 - 1:30 PM - EW6

► WEDNESDAY MAY 6 - 6:00 PM - ROM

Making news across the Jewish and non-Jewish worlds alike, Manny Waks’ uncovering of sexual abuse within the Ultra-Orthodox world is recounted in this emotional documentary. Having been silenced by the religious practice of *mesira* (refraining from involving non-Jewish authorities in intra-Jewish issues), Waks hid for years the sexual abuse he suffered as a child at an Australian yeshiva. As an adult, Waks courageously stepped forward, complicating the reputation of his own family and the entire community in which he was raised. Inspiring others across the globe, Waks’ work has seen many survivors find freedom and perpetrators put to justice.

Warning: Mature content

Guests: Manny Waks and Director Danny Ben-Moshe (for May 6 screening only)



DELI MAN

USA 2014, 90 MIN

DIRECTOR: ERIK GREENBERG ANJOU

► SUNDAY MAY 10 - 12:00 PM - ROM

“About as much fun as you will have in a movie this year, but eat first or you’ll go out of your mind” (*New York Jewish Week*). Guardians of American Ashkenazi food, a few brave men run some of the last and most successful Jewish delicatessens across America (and Canada!). Interviewing these “chosen and crazy few,” *Deli Man* is an insider look into some of the most famous delis in America. Discussing the roots of this rich American tradition and its steady disappearance, director Erik Greenberg Anjou (*The Klezmatics: On Holy Ground*) presents a hilarious and heart-warming portrait of the men who feed us. Featuring Toronto’s own Zane Caplansky and Cheryl Morantz. **With:** Cohen on the Telephone (9 MIN, p. 36)

Guest: Director Erik Greenberg Anjou

Co-presented with:

Caplansky’s Delicatessen

Sponsored by:

Leonard Wolinsky Foundation



DO YOU BELIEVE IN LOVE? / HA'SHADCHANIT

CANADIAN PREMIERE

ISRAEL 2013, 50 MIN

HEBREW

DIRECTOR: DAN WASSERMAN

► TUESDAY MAY 5 · 3:30 PM · EW6

This award-winning documentary from producer Barak Heymann (*Life in Stills, Before the Revolution*) is an unforgettable story about a successful matchmaker. Paralyzed and house-bound, Tova specializes in finding mates for those who are deemed difficult to match, and lonely souls flock to her apartment to employ her services. The film follows Tova over the course of a year, introducing us to her family and the unique cast of characters who are part of her world. Her inimitable approach to matchmaking results in a funny and heartwarming story.

With: Paris On the Water (29 MIN, p. 42)

Co-presented with: Itanu Toronto



FORBIDDEN FILMS / VERBOTENE FILME

CANADIAN PREMIERE

GERMANY 2014, 94 MIN

GERMAN, HEBREW

DIRECTORS: FELIX MOELLER

► THURSDAY MAY 7 · 6:00 PM · ITH

“Director Felix Moeller (*Harlan: In the Shadow of Jew Süss*)... [investigates] the power, and potential danger, of cinema when used for ideological purposes.” (Telluride Film Festival) Of the over 1,200 films made in Nazi Germany, more than 40 are still

banned in Germany due to their propagandistic and incendiary content. This film features clips and discussions of the banned films, including *Jew Süss*. Moeller travels to Berlin, Paris, Munich and Jerusalem to speak with scholars and regular moviegoers, youth and the elderly, to question if these forbidden films ought to be preserved and available to the public.



HEBREW SUPERHEROES / GIBOR HA'AL HA'IVRI

NORTH AMERICAN PREMIERE

ISRAEL 2015, 54 MIN

HEBREW

DIRECTORS: ASAF GALAY & SHAUL BETSER

► SUNDAY MAY 3 · 8:00 PM · AF

Lying on the fringes of Israeli culture, comix have gradually grown in popularity and are now internationally enjoyed. In this energetic cinematic treat, filmmakers Shaul Betser and Asaf Galay trace the little-known history of Israeli comix—from the medium’s humble and messy roots to the modern day characters created by Dudu Geva, Rutu Modan and Etgar Keret. Often imitating American comics, many of these artists successfully redefined the superhero for Israeli and Jewish contexts. Featuring brilliant uses of animation and interviews with many of the artists, this is a must for comic book fans and followers of Israeli indie culture.

With: People of the Graphic Novel (9 MIN, p. 43)

Co-presented with: The Beguiling and Toronto Comics Arts Festival



LITTLE WHITE LIE

USA 2014, 66 MIN

DIRECTOR: LACEY SCHWARTZ

► FRIDAY MAY 8 · 3:30 PM · EW5

► SUNDAY MAY 10 · 1:00 PM · ITH

In this film, hailed as one of the most “profound meditations on race” (Chris Hayes, *MSNBC*) and selected for Sundance’s travelling program, Lacey Schwartz explores her racial identity amid family secrets and eye-raising family tales. Born into a “typical” American Jewish family, Schwartz sensed that her looks didn’t quite match up with her biological ancestry. She sets out on a journey to discover just how “white” she actually is. Confronting her own parents and questioning how her childhood friends and community members never saw her as anything but Jewish, Schwartz takes the audience on an intimate and powerful exploration of identity.

Guest Invited

Co-presented with:

Darchei Noam Toronto's

Reconstructionist Synagogue



LOOK AT US NOW, MOTHER!

INTERNATIONAL PREMIERE

USA / INDIA / FRANCE 2015, 84 MIN

DIRECTOR: GAYLE KIRSCHENBAUM

► FRIDAY MAY 8 · 3:30 PM · ROM

► SUNDAY MAY 10 · 1:00 PM · EW6

DOCUMENTARIES

DRAMAS

COMEDIES

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BIOGRAPHIES

ARCHIVAL FILMS

SHORT FILMS

"Delightful, heartbreaking, and real" (*AP News*), this documentary journey into one woman's quest to get closer to her mother will "leave you in stitches" (*Psychology Today*). After the success of Gayle Kirschenbaum's short *My Nose*, where she documents her mother's efforts to encourage her daughter to have a nose job, Kirschenbaum sets out to explain the roots of their relationship and how it could be salvaged before "time runs out." Using home movie footage, interviews with family members and recorded therapy sessions, Kirschenbaum tells the story of two women who want nothing more than to understand each other.

Guests: Director Gayle Kirschenbaum and her mother Mildred
Special gift for mothers from Elizabeth Grant (while supplies last).



MY ITALIAN SECRET: THE FORGOTTEN HEROES

CANADIAN PREMIERE

USA 2014, 92 MIN

ENGLISH, ITALIAN

DIRECTOR: OREN JACOBY

► THURSDAY MAY 7 - 4:00 PM - EW6

Directed by Academy Award® nominee Oren Jacoby (*Sister Rose's Passion*) and narrated by Isabella Rossellini, this documentary reveals the untold saga of how cycling legend Gino Bartali helped a network of Italians save the lives of thousands of Jews in Nazi-occupied Italy. Bartali's triumph at the 1938 Tour de France was held up by Mussolini as an example of the superiority of the Italian 'race.' Bartali, an anti-fascist, used his cycling skills to transport false documents throughout Tuscany, helping Jews escape to safety. *My Italian Secret* weaves together

Bartali's story with those of other heroic Italians and the very Jews whose lives were saved by their courage.

Co-presented with:
Italian Cultural Institute in Toronto



RAISE THE ROOF

CANADIAN PREMIERE

USA 2015, 85 MIN

HEBREW, POLISH

DIRECTOR: YARI WOLINSKY

► THURSDAY MAY 7 - 6:00 PM - BC

This stunning documentary tells the inspiring story of how a decimated wooden Polish synagogue is brought back to life and given a permanent home in the new POLIN Museum of the History of Polish Jews in Warsaw. Prior to their destruction by the Nazis, Poland was home to over 200 wooden synagogues, including the synagogue of Gwozdziec. Over a period of two summers, Boston-based artists and professors Rick and Laura Brown lead a team of students, traditional artisans and builders to reconstruct Gwozdziec synagogue's complex roof. Using original methods and tools, the team vividly unveils the forgotten artistry, science and culture of Poland's Jewish architectural heritage. *Raise the Roof* is an unforgettable experience!

Guests: Filmmakers Yari and Cary Wolinsky, and architects Rick and Laura Brown

With: 70 Hester Street (10 MIN, p. 40)

Co-presented with: Consulate General of the Republic of Poland and Polish Jewish Heritage Foundation

Guest Travel supported by: Canadian Association of Warsaw's Museum of the History of Polish Jews, thanks to the generosity of Joseph Gottdenker.



★ FINALIST ★
DAVID A. STEIN

SACRED SPERM / ZERA KODESH

CANADIAN PREMIERE

ISRAEL 2014, 59 MIN

HEBREW

DIRECTOR: ORI GRUDER (AKA OR YASHAR)

► FRIDAY MAY 8 - 1:00 PM - ROM

"Striking, charming, moving, wise and strengthening. A brilliant film" (Yair Raveh, *Cinemascope / Mako*). One of the most important Talmudic prohibitions in Judaism is the spilling of seed. It is also one of the most suppressed issues in the Orthodox Hasidic community. Growing up secular but later turning to Hasidism, filmmaker Ori Gruder was surprised by the restrictions relating to a male touching his genitalia. Speaking with rabbis and members of the community to theologically understand this sin, Gruder produces a fascinating and sensitive documentary which consequently leads to educating his young son in Haredi sexuality.

With: Longing (21 MIN, p. 42)



★ WINNER ★
DAVID A. STEIN

SHOAH, THE FORGOTTEN SOULS OF HISTORY / SHOAH, LES OUBLIÉS DE L'HISTOIRE

CANADIAN PREMIERE

FRANCE 2015, 52 MIN

FRENCH

DIRECTOR: VÉRONIQUE LAGOARDE-SÉGOT

► FRIDAY MAY 1 - 3:30 PM - EW6

► WEDNESDAY MAY 6 - 1:00 PM - ROM

Filmmaker Véronique Lagoarde-Ségot examines rarely seen footage that brings to light a significant piece of history—how the Soviet chronicling of Nazi atrocities erased the Jewish identity of the victims. Soviet directors and cameramen accompanied the soldiers to the front, capturing the horrors committed by Nazis, but when this Soviet footage is compared with similar German footage, a noticeable difference emerges—according to the Soviets, the victims of mass murder are not Jews, but Russians. An important film that looks at the understanding and misunderstanding of the Shoah during the Soviet era.

Warning: Disturbing graphic images

Guest: Professor Anna Shternshis

With: Vishneva, Belarus, Soviet Union Poland (2 MIN, p. 43)

Co-presented with: Anne Tanenbaum Centre for Jewish Studies, University of Toronto



TITO'S GLASSES / TITOS BRILLE

CANADIAN PREMIERE

GERMANY 2014, 90 MIN

GERMAN, ITALIAN, CROATIAN

DIRECTOR: REGINA SCHILLING

- SUNDAY MAY 3 - 1:00 PM - AF
- TUESDAY MAY 5 - 3:00 PM - EW5

Basing her film on Adriana Altaras' bestselling biography, director Regina Schilling accompanies Altaras on an entertaining road trip through history, stopping in Italy, Serbia and Montenegro as Altaras tries to sort the myths from the reality of her family history. As the daughter of Jewish partisans who fought for Tito, Altaras

grew up believing that her father played a crucial role in helping Tito fight the Nazis. Born in Croatia, Altaras escaped to Italy and then settled in Germany where she grew up in middle class comfort under the shadow of her parents' past.

Support for this screening provided by: The Consulate General of the Federal Republic of Germany



AN UNTOLD DIPLOMATIC HISTORY: FRANCE AND ISRAEL SINCE 1948 / LA FRANCE FACE À ISRAËL

CANADIAN PREMIERE

FRANCE 2013, 82 MIN

FRENCH, HEBREW

DIRECTOR: CAMILLE CLAVEL

- SUNDAY MAY 3 - 3:30 PM - AF
- THURSDAY MAY 7 - 3:00 PM - EW5

Even before 1948, France and the Jewish state enjoyed a special friendship, as the French state helped boats filled with Holocaust refugees make their way to Palestine. Filmmaker Camille Clavel explores more than a half-century of shifting relations between the two countries—from France's secret support of Israel's nuclear weapons programme, to De Gaulle's notorious press conference after the Six Day War, to the first official French visit to Israel by President Mitterrand in 1982. *Untold Diplomatic History* offers revealing archival footage and exclusive interviews with renowned historians and politicians such as Shimon Peres and ex-French Minister of Foreign Affairs Hubert Védrine.

Co-presented with: Alliance Française



THE ZIONIST IDEA

CANADIAN PREMIERE

USA 2015, 148 MIN

HEBREW, ARABIC, ENGLISH

DIRECTORS: JOSEPH DORMAN & OREN RUDAVSKY

- TUESDAY MAY 5 - 3:30 PM - ROM
- FRIDAY MAY 8 - 1:00 PM - EW6

From award-winning and highly acclaimed filmmakers Joseph Dorman (*Sholem Aleichem: Laughing in the Darkness* and *Arguing the World*) and Oren Rudavsky (*A Life Apart: Hasidism in America*) comes this "thoughtful and invaluable cinematic document" (*Hollywood Reporter*). Detailing the rise of Zionism from its late 19th century European origins and the consequential political waves it sent throughout the world, this film clearly describes the complicated legacy of the establishment of a state in the Jewish homeland. With insights from agriculturalists, writers, scholars, PLO members, members of Knesset and others, *The Zionist Idea* is a concise source for understanding this polemical topic. An important film for our times.

Guest invited

Sponsored by:



New Israel Fund of Canada
הקן החדשה לישראל

BIOGRAPHIES: PEOPLE YOU WOULD LOVE TO HAVE HOT WATER AND LEMON WITH



BIALIK – KING OF THE JEWS / MELECH HAYEHUDIM

CANADIAN PREMIERE

ISRAEL 2014, 56 MIN

HEBREW

DIRECTOR: YAIR QEDAR

- ▶ MONDAY MAY 4 · 4:00 PM · EW6
- ▶ SUNDAY MAY 10 · 6:00 PM · ROM

“One of the most important... documentary films of the year.” (*Globes Israel*) Famed poet Chaim Nachman Bialik infused the Hebrew language with fresh artistic life, giving it a renewed sense of flexibility and emotive power. Filmmaker Yair Qedar chronicles Bialik’s work and life, a lens through which to analyze the Jewish experience on the road from exile to home. Narrated by Chaim Topol, *Bialik: King of the Jews* uses stunning animation and beautifully adapted musical versions of Bialik’s poems by Ninet Tayeb. The film is a powerful monument to the resurgent victory of Hebrew and its most passionate champion.

With: A Story About Rain (18 MIN, p. 43)

Guest: Professor Yosefa Raz

Co-presented with: Anne Tanenbaum Centre for Jewish Studies, University of Toronto



FAMOUS NATHAN

TORONTO PREMIERE

USA 2014, 97 MIN

DIRECTOR: LLOYD HANDWERKER

- ▶ MONDAY MAY 4 · 5:30 PM · EW5
- ▶ THURSDAY MAY 7 · 1:00 PM · ROM

A hit at last year’s Tribeca Film Festival, *Famous Nathan* is an emotional, larger-than-life and sometimes hilarious story about family, intergenerational struggles, labour and delicious food. Filmmaker Lloyd Handwerker chronicles the history of his grandfather’s iconic Brooklyn eatery, Nathan’s Famous. Poor Jewish immigrant Nathan Handwerker came to New York in 1912, and by the 1930s had established this legendary Coney Island institution. Thirty years in the making, this documentary weaves a series of reflective interviews with the Handwerker family, their friends and former Nathan’s employees, using family home movies and photos, animation, archival footage and never-before-heard audio recordings of Nathan.

With: What’s In A Name (12 MIN, p. 44)

Co-presented with: Let’s Be Frank

Sponsored by: Mel & Renee Stein and Family



A FULLER LIFE

TORONTO PREMIERE

USA 2013, 80 MIN

DIRECTOR: SAMANTHA FULLER

- ▶ SUNDAY MAY 10 · 6:00 PM · ITH

A unique documentary celebrating the adventurous life and unconventional work of American-Jewish filmmaker Samuel Fuller (*The Naked Kiss*, *Shock Corridor*). Made by Fuller’s daughter, Samantha, the film journeys through a century of American history with Fuller’s fantastic stories, film clips and home movies—including incredible 16mm footage shot on the front lines during World War II. Adapted from Fuller’s autobiography, *A Fuller Life* is made up of twelve segments, each dramatized by friends and admirers, including James Franco, Wim Wenders, Joe Dante, Jennifer Beals and Buck Henry, creating a posthumous self-portrait of the iconoclastic director in his own words.

Skype intro with Director Samantha Fuller
Co-presented with: Hot Docs Documentary Film Festival



THE GO GO BOYS: THE INSIDE STORY OF CANNON FILMS

TORONTO PREMIERE

ISRAEL 2014, 85 MIN

HEBREW, ENGLISH

DIRECTOR: HILLA MEDALIA

- ▶ WEDNESDAY MAY 6 · 4:00 PM · EW6
- ▶ SATURDAY MAY 9 · 9:00 PM · ROM



THE MUSES OF ISAAC BASHEVIS SINGER / HAMUSOT SHEL BASHEVIS

CANADIAN PREMIERE

ISRAEL 2014, 72 MIN

ENGLISH / HEBREW

DIRECTORS: SHAUL BETSER & ASAF GALAY

► SUNDAY MAY 3 - 3:30 PM - EW6

► TUESDAY MAY 5 - 3:30 PM - ITH

"You won't read the famed Yiddish language author the same way again" (*Hollywood Reporter*). In the mid 1960's, Nobel Prize winning author Isaac Bashevis Singer established an army of more than forty female translators, who were vital sources of creative inspiration and helped expose his work to the world. This enchanting documentary shows the complex life of one of the world's most celebrated literary figures through the eyes of the women who knew him best. Combining interviews with nine of his translators alongside exclusive archival footage, directors Shaul Betser and Asaf Galay have created an original and captivating look at the famous writer.

With: How To Break Into Yiddish Vaudeville (19 MIN, p. 41)

Co-presented with:

International Festival of Authors -
Harbourfront Centre

Sponsored by: Ganz Family Foundation

The meteoric rise and spectacular fall of Israeli movie moguls Menahem Golan and Yoram Globus, the cousins behind the legendary Cannon Films production company. After a string of hits in their native Israel (*Sallah Shabati*, *Lemon Popsicle*), Golan and Globus moved to the US to pursue fame and fortune. Establishing Cannon Films in 1979, they became a staple of the Cannes Film Festival for many years, producing such over-the-top commercial hits and flops as *The Delta Force* and *Over the Top* (the arm-wrestling extravaganza starring Sylvester Stone). They also forged partnerships with arthouse directors such as Godard and Cassavetes. Made with the cooperation of both men, *The Go Go Boys* offers a glorious feast for cinephiles and ripe comedy for those new to the Cannon universe

Warning: Violence and nudity

Co-presented with: Suspect Video

Sponsored by:

Stephen & Cookie Sandler



FREE

IMAGINE... PHILIP ROTH UNLEASHED

TORONTO PREMIERE

UK 2014, 130 MIN

DIRECTOR: SARAH ASPINALL

► SATURDAY MAY 9 - 3:30 PM - ITH

Over the years, we have seen several documentaries on the celebrated writer, but none as comprehensive, intelligent and compelling as the one produced last year by the BBC. "Now that I don't write, I just want to chatter away," he contentedly tells us. In what he guarantees to be his final television

appearance, Roth vividly recounts his life, and offers in-depth discussions of many of his novels—ranging from *Goodbye Columbus*, *Operation Shylock*, *The Counterlife*, right up to *Nemesis*. Revealing his breadth as both a writer and social commentator, he relates his works to broader trends in 20th Century American, Jewish and world history. Filled with archival materials, *Philip Roth Unleashed* is truly the documentary Roth lovers have been waiting for.

Co-presented with:

International Festival of Authors -
Harbourfront Centre



FINALIST
DAVID A. STEIN

IRWIN & FRAN

CANADIAN PREMIERE

USA / ITALY 2014, 83 MIN

DIRECTORS: JORDAN STONE

► SUNDAY MAY 3 - 5:30 PM - AF

Lenny Bruce once described "Professor" Irwin Corey as "one of the most brilliant comedians of all time". Filmmaker Jordan Stone offers a loving and hilarious portrait of standup comedian and political satirist Corey—the self-proclaimed "World's Foremost Authority"—and Fran, his chain-smoking wife of over seventy years. Narrated by close family friend Susan Sarandon, the story of this unforgettable couple unfolds at their kitchen table and pays tribute to the man whose political satire and leftist leanings got him blacklisted in the 1950s. Archival clips of Corey's performances and the stories shared by his peers, such as Dick Gregory, allow for an entertaining profile of this should-be legendary performer.

Guest: Director Jordan Stone

BIOGRAPHIES

DRAMAS

COMEDIES

DOCUMENTARIES

BIOGRAPHIES

ARCHIVAL FILMS

SHORT FILMS



NICHOLS AND MAY: TAKE TWO

USA 1996, 60 MIN

DIRECTOR: PHILLIP SCHOPPER

► MONDAY MAY 4 · 1:00 PM · ITH

TJFF honours the late Mike Nichols with this wonderful tribute to the legendary comedy duo Nichols and May. Before they split up to pursue independent careers, director Nichols and writer/director Elaine May were a brilliant comedy team who revolutionized the comedy landscape of the '50s and '60s. The pair's irreverent satire, masterful improvisations and impeccably timed irony were breathtakingly funny—and totally new. Includes complete Nichols and May routines, as well as interviews with Steve Martin, Tom Brokaw, Richard Lewis, Jules Feiffer and Arthur Penn, who talk about the duo's talent, wit and profound impact.

With: Making Trouble: Joan Rivers (15 MIN, p. 42), It Takes a Shtetl: Leonard Nimoy's Boston (28 MIN, p. 41) and Bess Myerson: Portrait Of An Activist (7 MIN, p. 40)



THE POLGAR VARIANT

CANADIAN PREMIERE

ISRAEL 2014, 68 MIN

HEBREW, ENGLISH, HUNGARIAN

DIRECTOR: YOSHI AVIRAM

► FRIDAY MAY 1 · 3:30 PM · AF

► MONDAY MAY 4 · 3:00 PM · EW5

In Budapest during the 1970s, Lazlo Polgar decided to test his theory that “geniuses are made, not born” by raising his three daughters, Susan, Sofi and Judit, to be chess champions. Isolated from the world outside their apartment, the girls spent all their time studying and practicing chess. Despite opposition from Communist authorities, Laszlo continued his ‘experiment’ with remarkable results. This fascinating documentary vividly traces how these Jewish-Hungarian sisters took the chess world by storm, breaking down gender barriers as they rose to the top. Going head-to-head with male Grandmasters, they proved, as their father believed, that gender isn’t an obstacle in chess.



ROSENWALD

CANADIAN PREMIERE

USA 2014, 90 MIN

DIRECTOR: AVIVA KEMPNER

► SUNDAY MAY 10 · 5:00 PM · BC

Director Aviva Kempner (*The Life and Times of Hank Greenberg*) brings to life the incredible little-known story and legacy of philanthropist Julius Rosenwald. The son of an immigrant peddler, he rose to become the head of Sears Roebuck. Inspired by the Jewish value of tzedekah, Rosenwald joined Booker T. Washington to build 5,500 schools in the Jim Crow South for disenfranchised African Americans. Beyond that, he funded infrastructure and scholarships that actively sought to nurture African American talent. Cleverly weaving archival materials and film clips of various beloved

American films, as well as interviews with alumni—such as Maya Angelou and Gordon Parks—Kempner has created another important piece of Jewish Americana. The most perfect example of *tikun olam!*

Guest: Director Aviva Kempner

Co-presented with: Toronto Black Film Festival

Sponsored by: Walter & Edie Arbib



SOFT VENGEANCE: ALBIE SACHS AND THE NEW SOUTH AFRICA

USA 2014, 84 MIN

DIRECTOR: ABBY GINZBERG

► SUNDAY MAY 3 · 5:30 PM · EW5

► TUESDAY MAY 5 · 1:00 PM · ROM

From multiple award-winning director Abby Ginzberg, this inspiring film presents “the introspective freedom fighter, legal scholar and future constitutional court justice in triumphant moments of strength as well as tender moments of vulnerability” (*Tablet*). Fighting against South African apartheid, Albie Sachs worked tirelessly to unite all South Africans for a better future. Exiled for being a “traitor,” Sachs went on to pursue additional education as a lawyer in England. With Africa calling him, Sachs left Europe to join the rebuilding of newly independent Mozambique, while struggling for the emancipation of South Africa’s black population.

Skype Q&A with director Abby Ginzberg

Co-presented with:

Human Rights Watch



THEODORE BIKEL: IN THE SHOES OF SHOLOM ALEICHEM

TORONTO PREMIERE

USA 2014, 75 MIN

DIRECTOR: JOHN LOLLLOS

► SUNDAY MAY 10 · 2:30 PM · BC

John Lolllos' inventive documentary weaves together portraits of two beloved personalities—Sholom Aleichem and Theodore Bikel. An icon of modern Jewish literature, Sholom Aleichem created dozens of beloved characters who offer a window into prewar Eastern European shtetl life. Now 90, Oscar®-nominated performer Theodore Bikel has played Sholom Aleichem's Tevye the Milkman more than 2,000 times! He is the foremost interpreter of this great Yiddish author, which is evident by his masterful performance in this unique film. Filled with humour and warmth, the film celebrates these two remarkable men, their amazing bodies of work and their championing of Yiddishkeit.

Theodore Bikel Invited

Special gift for mothers from Elizabeth Grant (while supplies last)

Co-presented with:

Ashkenaz Foundation



THE VOICE OF PEACE / LA VOIX DE LA PAIX

NORTH AMERICAN PREMIERE

FRANCE 2014, 52 MIN

FRENCH, HEBREW

DIRECTOR: FRÉDÉRIC CRISTÉA

► FRIDAY MAY 1 · 4:00 PM · EW5

► THURSDAY MAY 7 · 3:30 PM · ROM

Former fighter pilot turned political activist, Abie Nathan, lived by the John Lennon credo of “give peace a chance.” To spread the message, he established a pirate radio station in 1973 called “the Voice of Peace,” broadcasting from “somewhere in the Mediterranean”. Nathan’s concept of peace, love and good music appealed to a multitude of devoted fans in Israel and Europe, eliciting support from artists such as Bob Dylan and John Lennon. He also worked tirelessly behind the scenes to try to bring Israeli and Arab politicians to the negotiating table. A fascinating portrait of a visionary dreamer.

With: Note (2 MIN, p. 42)

Co-presented with: The Mosaic Institute



WRITE DOWN, I AM AN ARAB / SAJIL, ANA ARABI

ISRAEL / PALESTINE 2014, 73 MIN

ARABIC, HEBREW

DIRECTOR: IBTISAM MARA'ANA-MENUHIN

► MONDAY MAY 4 · 1:00 PM · ROM

► WEDNESDAY MAY 6 · 5:30 PM · EW5

“An appropriately poetic portrait... which ultimately teaches how much easier it is to love than to hate” (*Point of View Magazine*). The complex story of Palestinian national poet Mahmoud Darwish is brought to life through interviews with his Israeli-Jewish lover and his first wife, using his poetry, secret love letters, and a treasure trove of archival footage. Darwish is seen as one of the most complicated literary figures in Israel's history; his adoration and use of Hebrew and Arabic blurred the lines of his political and emotional allegiances throughout his life. This documentary sculpts for us a moving portrait that reflects on the spirited life of a beloved poet. **Winner of the Audience Award at last year's DocAviv Film Festival.**

Co-presented with:

All That's Left

DRAMAS

COMEDIES

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ARCHIVAL FILMS: FROM THE VAULTS

DRAMAS

COMEDIES

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FREE

THE DOWRY

CANADA 1969, 20 MIN

DIRECTOR: PETER PEARSON

► SATURDAY MAY 9 · 6:30 PM · ITH

Peter Pearson's (*Paperback Hero*) early NFB drama stars Al Waxman as a Maritimes fisherman, who is caught in a love triangle with his fiancée and his boat. A nicely-directed character study about a man who loves his independence and fears the strings that come with marriage.

Guest: Director Peter Pearson

With: The Winnings Of Frankie Walls (60 MIN, p. 39)

Co-presented with: Academy of Canadian Cinema and Television

Sponsored by: Shirley Granovsky



THE BESPOKE OVERCOAT

UK 1955, 33 MIN

DIRECTOR: JACK CLAYTON

► FRIDAY MAY 8 · 3:30 PM · ITH

Winner of the 1957 Academy Award® for Best Short Subject, *The Bespoke Overcoat* is based on Wolf Mankowitz's (*A Kid for Two Farthings*) adaptation of Gogol's short story. Alfie Bass plays a frail clerk in a clothing warehouse whose one ambition is to own one of the sheepskin-lined coats that they make. Set in the Jewish clothing trade in the East End of London, this film remains deeply poignant thanks to Mankowitz's Yiddish-inflected script, the vitality of its lead performances and Wolf Suschitzky's stark black-and-white photography. Also starring David Kossoff.

With: The Anarchist Rabbi (45 MIN, p. 27)



COHEN ON THE TELEPHONE

USA 1929, 9 MIN

DIRECTOR: ROBERT ROSS

► SUNDAY MAY 10 · 12:00 PM · ROM

An early sound short newly restored by the National Center for Jewish Film. A Jewish immigrant, compassionately played by George Sidney, telephones his landlord to ask him to fix a window. Unfamiliar with the telephone and still uncomfortable with the English language, Cohen embroils himself in a comic monologue of misunderstanding. With the advent of sound, the vaudeville-immigrant genre added comic speech to its repertoire of physical comedy and funny situations. Here, the Jewish immigrant is characterized not simply by how he moves and looks, but by how he speaks.

With: Deli Man (90 MIN, p. 28)



FREE

FREE TO BE YOU AND ME

SENSORY SENSITIVE

USA 1974, 48 MIN

DIRECTORS: BILL DAVIS, LEN STECKLER, FRED WOLF

► SATURDAY MAY 9 · 12:00 PM · ITH

From its opening lines to its closing notes, this upbeat, optimistic, humour-filled and pioneering film starring Marlo Thomas and Friends remains as enjoyable now as it was upon its debut over 40 years ago. Featuring now well-known songs—including 'William's Doll', 'Parents Are People' and 'When



We Grow Up'—and interspersed with wonderful animated stories, the film's messages of gender equality and acceptance of difference and diversity continue to resonate today. Featuring contributions by Jewish artists such as Sheldon Harnick (*Fiddler on the Roof*), Mary Rogers (*Once Upon a Mattress*) Shel Silverstein, Herb Gardner (*A Thousand Clowns*), Norman Steinberg (*Blazing Saddles*), Carl Reiner and Mel Brooks.

Co-presented with:
MukiBaum Foundation



IN THE PRESENCE OF MINE ENEMIES

USA 1960, 90 MIN
DIRECTOR: FIELDER COOK

► SATURDAY MAY 2 • 6:00 PM • ROM

A rare screening of the controversial *Playhouse 90* production of Rod Serling's teleplay set in the Warsaw Ghetto on the eve of the uprising. At the heart of this drama is Charles Laughton as Rabbi Adam Heller, a figure of spiritual resistance who is horrified by his son Paul's (Arthur Kennedy) call for physical vengeance against the Nazis. The Rabbi's powerlessness in the face of the enormous tragedy that surrounds him tests his faith in God. Also starring Susan Kohner, Sam Jaffe, Oskar Homolka, and a young Robert Redford as a German soldier experiencing a crisis of conscience.

Guest: Writer Anne Serling

With: The Loner: The Homecoming Of Lemuel Stove (30 MIN, p. 38)



CBC Still Photo Collection/Harold Whyte

KING OF KENSINGTON

CANADA 1975-1980, 3 X 25 MIN

► SATURDAY MAY 2 • 3:30 PM • ROM

TJFF offers a chance to revisit three episodes of the series that made Al Waxman into a Canadian icon. Considered a milestone in Canadian television, *King of Kensington* was the first TV comedy that honoured the country's ethnic diversity. At the heart of the show is the affable everyman Larry King (played with effortless charm by Al Waxman), a working class Jewish convenience store owner who lives with his mother in the multi-ethnic community of Toronto's Kensington Market. Over the course of five years, the show went through various casting changes while it introduced a memorable series of regulars: Helene Winstone, Fiona Reid, Peter Boretski, Rosemary Radcliffe and Jayne Eastwood.

Screening followed by a conversation with series creator Perry Rosemond, co-stars Rosemary Radcliffe, Jayne Eastwood, producer Joe Partington, and Sara Waxman.

Co-presented by: Academy of Canadian Cinema and Television

Sponsored by: Shirley Granovsky



THE LAST AMERICAN VIRGIN

USA 1982, 92 MIN
DIRECTOR: BOAZ DAVIDSON

► SATURDAY MAY 9 • 11:45 PM • BC

Film presented in 35mm. What makes this 80s teen sex comedy enthusiastically championed by its fans, including Eli Roth? A kick-ass soundtrack helps (Blondie, The Cars, The Police, Devo) as do solid performances from a then unknown cast. But mostly it is because this is both a raunchy comedy filled with sex and drugs, as well as a heartfelt and poignant look at friendship and first love. Famed producers Golan and Globus chose to remake their Israeli hit *Lemon Popsicle* (also being shown this year) and wisely brought on board the director of the original to keep its essence intact. Don't miss this opportunity to see it on the big screen!

Warning: Nudity

With: Heftzi Gets Screwed (5 MIN, p. 41)

Co-presented by: Moshe House Toronto



LAURA ADLER'S LAST LOVE AFFAIR / HAHAVATA HAHARONA SHEL LAURA ADLER

TORONTO PREMIERE

ISRAEL 1990, 94 MIN

HEBREW, YIDDISH

DIRECTOR: AVRAHAM HEFFNER

► SUNDAY MAY 10 • 12:00 PM • BC

TJFF pays tribute to celebrated Israeli filmmaker, the late Avraham Heffner (*But Where Is Daniel Wax?*), by screening his enchanting love letter to Yiddish theatre. Rita Zohar (*Mrs. Moskowitz and the Cats*) plays Laura Adler, the beautiful middle-aged star of an obscure Yiddish theatre troupe in Israel, sustained by a loyal but ageing audience. While reveling in the camaraderie of her colleagues and a fling with a younger man, Laura is

ARCHIVAL FILMS

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confronted with her mortality, leading her to rediscover her commitment to the theatre. Fans of Yiddish theatre will delight in Heffner's keen eye for so many of its theatrical conventions. An understated gem that truly deserves to be rediscovered.

Co-presented with: Committee for Yiddish and Friends of Yiddish and Studio 180



LEMON POPSICLE / ESKIMO LIMON

ISRAEL 1978, 95 MIN

HEBREW

DIRECTOR: BOAZ DAVIDSON

► SATURDAY MAY 2 · 11:30 PM · CC

This raunchy, and at times surprisingly poignant, teen comedy was one of Israel's first commercial hits at home and abroad. In 1950s Tel Aviv, three horny boys have nothing but girls on their mind. While the boys awkwardly experience their first sexual encounters, Bentzi falls in love with Nili. But, to his dismay, she only has eyes for his best friend, Momo. Filled with a killer soundtrack of 50s American pop hits, *Lemon Popsicle* spawned six sequels and was produced by Yoram Globus and the late Menahem Golan, the subjects of this year's *The Go-Go Boys*. (p. ?) Remade in the US as *The Last American Virgin*, also screening at this year's Festival.

Warning: Nudity

With: Heftzi Gets Screwed (5 MIN, p. 41)



THE LONER: THE HOMECOMING OF LEMUEL STOVE

USA 1965, 30 MIN

DIRECTOR: JOSEPH PEVNEY

► SATURDAY MAY 2 · 6:00 PM · ROM

A powerful episode of Rod Serling's short-lived and little-known western he created after *The Twilight Zone*. Lloyd Bridges plays the title character, a wandering ex-soldier named William Coulton. In this episode, Coulton befriends Lemuel Stove, a Union soldier and freed slave who returns from the Civil War only to make a horrifying discovery.

With: In The Presence Of Mine Enemies (90 MIN, p. 37)



THE MAN IN THE FUNNY SUIT

USA 1960, 60 MIN

DIRECTOR: RALPH NELSON

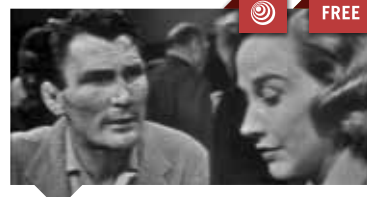
► MONDAY MAY 4 · 3:30 PM · ROM

Directed and written by Ralph Nelson, this episode of *Westinghouse Desilu Playhouse* is one of the most insightful artifacts from "The Golden Age of Television." Ed and Keenan Wynn and Rod Serling play themselves in this backstage docudrama that reenacts the making of the *Playhouse 90* production of Serling's *Requiem for a Heavyweight*. *The Man in the Funny Suit* explores the relationship between father and son, Ed and Keenan, as beloved comic Ed Wynn struggles in his first dramatic role. This

surprisingly touching character study provides an invaluable behind-the-scenes glimpse at how these live shows were put together.

With: Requiem For A Heavyweight (85 MIN, p. 38)

Guest: Writer Anne Serling



REQUIEM FOR A HEAVYWEIGHT

USA 1956, 85 MIN

DIRECTOR: RALPH NELSON

► MONDAY MAY 4 · 3:30 PM · ROM

An acclaimed *Playhouse 90* episode—considered by some to be one of Rod Serling's finest works—that demonstrates the writer's enormous capacity for empathetic and moving character studies. Jack Palance plays a washed up prizefighter struggling to start a new life while trying to distance himself from his exploitative managers. Tense and heart-wrenching, this excellent production features unforgettable performances from the entire cast, which includes Kim Stanley and Keenan Wynn as well as comic Ed Wynn in his first dramatic role. "A play of overwhelming force and tenderness." (*The New York Times*)

Guest: Writer Anne Serling

With: The Man In The Funny Suit (60 MIN, p. 38)



SPADINA

CANADA 1984, 57 MIN

DIRECTOR: DAVID TROSTER

► SATURDAY MAY 2 · 12:00 PM · ROM



Back by popular demand! This enjoyable film focuses on the Eastern European Jewish immigrants—and children of immigrants—who made downtown Spadina their home. Energized by socialism, Zionism, trade union movements and passionate demonstrations, they created a vital garment industry. Produced at a time when there were plenty of remnants of this now-lost community, filmmaker David Troster captures the last of the Jewish-run operations in the fashion district, the infamous United Dairy before it moved uptown, and major figures from the heyday of the Toronto Jewish union movements. *Spadina* remains a well-made piece of filmmaking and historiography, and has since become a very precious document.



A STORM IN SUMMER

USA 1970, 90 MIN

DIRECTOR: BUZZ KULIK

► SUNDAY MAY 3 • 1:00 PM • ROM

Produced in 1970 for *Hallmark Hall of Fame*, Rod Serling's teleplay *Storm in Summer* is one of his most little-known works, but probably one of his most poignant. Peter Ustinov stars as an elderly Jewish deli owner living in upstate New York who reluctantly finds himself host to a 10-year-old child from Harlem (N'Gai Dixon). They find something in common as both are mourning over loved ones—a son who died in World War II and a brother fighting in Vietnam. A “superbly understated protest against man's assorted ill.” (*The New York Times*). Shown courtesy of Films Around the World, Inc., New York City.

Guest: Writer Anne Serling



CBC Still Photo Collection

SUN IN MY EYES

CANADA 1960, 60 MIN

DIRECTOR: HARVEY HART

► SUNDAY MAY 9 • 1:30 PM • ITH

Produced in 1960 for CBC's *General Motors Presents*, *Sun in My Eyes* is based on Jack Kuper's autobiographical play and is the first Canadian TV drama to address the persecution of the Jews by the Nazis. In one of his earliest performances, Al Waxman plays Kuper's uncle, a rebellious youth who is forced to confront the realities of life as a Jew in a small Polish town during WWII. An invaluable document as well as a potent drama and rich character study, the production features memorable performances by Toby Robins and James Doohan (*Star Trek*).

Guest: Writer Jack Kuper

Co-presented with: Academy of Canadian Cinema and Television

Sponsored by: Shirley Granovsky



THE TWILIGHT ZONE: WALKING DISTANCE

USA 1959, 25 MIN

DIRECTOR: ROBERT STEVENS

► SATURDAY MAY 2 • 1:30 PM • ROM

In this classic episode of Rod Serling's legendary anthology series, Gig Young

plays a burned-out ad exec who returns to his hometown, only to discover that it hasn't changed since 1934. Serling biographers regard *Walking Distance* as one of the writer's most autobiographical scripts.

Preceded by Guest Lecture:

Rod Serling: The Boy, The Man, The Writer, The Father (45 MIN, p. 14)



CBC Still Photo Collection

THE WINNINGS OF FRANKIE WALLS

CANADA 1979, 60 MIN

DIRECTOR: MARTIN LAVUT

► SATURDAY MAY 9 • 6:30 PM • ITH

A bold and stirring drama, produced as part of CBC's drama anthology programme *For the Record*, that contains one of Al Waxman's most critically acclaimed performances. In the title role, he plays a middle-aged labourer and father of three who is suddenly laid off and begins an uphill journey to find another job. Waxman delivers a complex and nuanced performance as Walls finds his male identity undermined by his inability to provide for his family. In developing this character, Waxman drew on his memory of his Jewish father's strong work ethic. With its compassionate portrait of working class lives, *The Winning of Frankie Walls* is, sadly, the kind of TV drama that we don't see much of any more.

Guest: Producer Sam Levene

With: The Dowry (20 MIN, p. 36)

Co-presented with: Academy of Canadian Cinema and Television

Sponsored by: Shirley Granovsky

SHORT FILMS: GLIMPSES FROM AROUND THE WORLD



70 HESTER STREET

USA 2013, 10 MIN

DIRECTOR: CASIMIR NOZKOWSKI

► THURSDAY MAY 7 · 6:00 PM · BC

Director Casimir Nozkowski's love letter to his beloved childhood home on the Lower East Side beautifully captures the building's history, from its origins as a synagogue.

With: Raise The Roof (85 MIN, p. 30)



BARELY IN LOVE / LEE'HOV BEKOSHI

ISRAEL 2013, 15 MIN

HEBREW

DIRECTOR: NADAV MISHALI

► WEDNESDAY MAY 6 · 6:00 PM · ITH

While under pressure from his match-making mother, a young yeshiva student struggles to make sense of his same-sex attraction to another student.

With: The Other War (45 MIN, p. 22) and Zazaland (12 MIN, p. 44)

Co-presented with: Kulanu Toronto



BESS MYERSON: PORTRAIT OF AN ACTIVIST

USA 1994, 7 MIN

DIRECTOR: DAVID LENIK

► MONDAY MAY 4 · 1:00 PM · ITH

The late Bess Myerson reflects on her eventful life after becoming the first Jewish girl to be crowned Miss America.

With: Nichols and May: Take Two (60 MIN, p. 34), It Takes a Shtetl: Leonard Nimoy's Boston (28 MIN, p. 41) and Making Trouble: Joan Rivers (15 MIN, p. 42)



DEAR GOD

ISRAEL 2013, 13 MIN

DIRECTORS: EREZ TADMOR & GUY NATTIV

► THURSDAY MAY 7 · 3:30 PM · ITH

► SATURDAY MAY 9 · 9:30 PM · CS3

In this beautiful and romantic film, a security guard at the Western Wall watches a mysterious woman leave a note between the stones. Reading her words, he decides to fulfil her wishes. Starring Lior Ashkenazi.

With: The Farewell Party (90 MIN, p. 20)



FELICE NEL BOX

CANADIAN PREMIERE

ITALY 2014, 24 MIN

ITALIAN

DIRECTOR: GHILA VALABREGA

► WEDNESDAY MAY 6 · 8:00 PM · EW5

► SATURDAY MAY 9 · 9:00 PM · BC

In this charming and whimsical short comedy, Stefano, a Jewish photographer in Milan has kept a tombstone in his garage for over thirty years. Then one day a ghost from the 18th century haunts Stefano and his modern day family.

With: Atlit (91 MIN, p. 24)



GERMAN SHEPHERD

SWEDEN 2014, 9 MIN

DIRECTOR: NILS BERGENDAL

► FRIDAY MAY 1 · 1:00 PM · AF

► SUNDAY MAY 10 · 3:30 PM · EW6

The son of a Holocaust survivor reflects on the complexities of contemporary relations between Jews and Germans in this creatively animated documentary.

With: Let's Go! (89 MIN, p. 21)



GLOOMY SABBATH

CANADIAN PREMIERE

GERMANY 2013, 15 MIN

GERMAN

DIRECTOR: AMIT EPSTEIN

► SUNDAY MAY 3 · 6:00 PM · EW6

► THURSDAY MAY 7 · 8:30 PM · ITH

An ailing grandmother leads her grandson on a lively and colourful dance into the past to reveal a dark family secret.

With: Auf Das Leben! To Life! (90 MIN, p. 18)



HEFTZI GETS SCREWED / HEFTZI MEKABELET ZAIN

ISRAEL 2014, 12 MIN

HEBREW

DIRECTOR: TZLIL BENDRIHEM

► SATURDAY MAY 2 · 11:30 PM · CC

► SATURDAY MAY 9 · 11:45 PM · BC

Heftzi is a virgin who is afraid of sex. Can her friends help her overcome her fear?

Warning: Sexual content

With: Lemon Popsicle (95 MIN, p. 38) and The Last American Virgin (92 MIN, p. 37)



HOW TO BREAK INTO YIDDISH VAUDEVILLE

USA 2015, 19 MIN

ENGLISH, YIDDISH

DIRECTOR: JACK FELDSTEIN

► SUNDAY MAY 3 · 3:30 PM · EW6

► TUESDAY MAY 5 · 3:30 PM · ITH

How does an Episcopalian kid from Kansas become a Yiddish Vaudeville performer? Shane Baker shares his story in this humourous animated short.

With: The Muses Of Isaac Bashevis Singer (72 MIN, p. 33)



HEARTS MELT AND KNEES TREMBLE

ISRAEL 2014, 12 MIN

HEBREW

DIRECTORS: ADA RIMON & OFEQ SHEMER

► SATURDAY MAY 2 · 9:00 PM · ROM

This experimental animated short tells the story of the Dead Sea and its commodification.

With: Up The Wrong Tree (93 MIN, p. 26)



HIRSCH

TORONTO PREMIERE

CANADA 2010, 11 MIN

DIRECTOR: NOAM GONICK

► SATURDAY MAY 2 · 3:30 PM · ROM

Objects found by children in an attic tell the story of John Hirsch, who came from Hungary to Winnipeg as a teenage orphan and became one of the most important figures in Canadian Theatre.

With: King Of Kensington (75 MIN, p. 37)



IT TAKES A SHTETL: LEONARD NIMOY'S BOSTON

USA 2014

DIRECTOR: ADAM NIMOY

► MONDAY MAY 4 · 1:00 PM · ITH

Accompanied by his filmmaker son Adam, actor Leonard Nimoy returns to his native city of Boston as he shares memories of his childhood and the start of his acting career.

With: Nichols and May: Take Two (60 MIN, p.34), Making Trouble: Joan Rivers (15 MIN, p.42) and Bess Myerson: Portrait of an Activist (7 MIN, p.40)

SHORT FILMS

DRAMAS

COMEDIES

DOCUMENTARIES

BIOGRAPHIES

ARCHIVAL FILMS

SHORT FILMS



JOSEF ET AIMÉE

CANADA 2014, 17 MIN

FRENCH

DIRECTOR: BEN SHIRINIAN

► SUNDAY MAY 10 - 12:00 PM - EW5

A magical love story about two children sent into hiding in the South of France during WWII.

With: Secrets Of War (95 MIN, p. 22)



LOOKOUT

CANADIAN PREMIERE

ISRAEL 2014, 18 MIN

HEBREW

DIRECTOR: NOA GUSAKOV

► TUESDAY MAY 5 - 8:30 PM - ITH

Serving as a lookout in the Israeli military, Timmy distracts herself from this tiring work by creating her own imaginary world of puppets. Then one day, something happens in front of her eyes, shattering her protective bubble.

With: Self Made (89 MIN, p. 22)



NOTE

WORLD PREMIERE

CANADA / ISRAEL / PALESTINE 2015, 2 MIN

DIRECTOR: AARON ROTENBERG

► FRIDAY MAY 1 - 4:00 PM - EW5

► THURSDAY MAY 7 - 3:30 PM - ROM

Shot at two famous walls, this experimental short film is a prayer for peace and home.

Guest: Director Aaron Rotenberg

With: The Voice of Peace (52 MIN, p. 35)



LONGING / EISHECH, TESHUKATECH

ISRAEL 2014, 21 MIN

HEBREW

DIRECTOR: NADAV MISHALI

► FRIDAY MAY 8 - 1:00 PM - ROM

A religious woman craves intimacy with her husband, but is stifled by her husband's confusing sexual desires.

With: Sacred Sperm (59 MIN, p. 30)



MAKING TROUBLE: JOAN RIVERS

USA 2006, 15 MIN

DIRECTOR: RACHEL TALBOT

► MONDAY MAY 4 - 1:00 PM - ITH

The Oscars® didn't honour the Jewish comedy icon, but we are... In this excerpt from a documentary produced by the Jewish Women's Archive, the comedian reflects on her parents, her upbringing and her difficult path to becoming a comedy legend. Excerpted from *Making Trouble: Three Generations of Funny Jewish Women*.

With: Nichols and May: Take Two (60 MIN, p. 34), It Takes a Shtetl: Leonard Nimoy's Boston (28 MIN, p. 41) and Bess Myerson: Portrait of an Activist (7 MIN, p. 40)



PARIS ON THE WATER / PARIS AL AMAYIM

ISRAEL 2014, 30 MIN

HEBREW

DIRECTOR: HADAS AYALON

► TUESDAY MAY 5 - 3:30 PM - EW6

A former movie star is finally offered a part in a new film by a well known director, but something happens just before the audition that forces her to reexamine her priorities in life.

With: Do You Believe in Love? (50 MIN, p. 28)



PEOPLE OF THE GRAPHIC NOVEL

USA 2012, 9 MIN

DIRECTOR: SAMUEL BALL

► SUNDAY MAY 3 • 8:00 PM • AF

Filmmaker Sam Ball (*Pleasures of Urban Decay*) offers a concise but intelligent history of American comics and the role played by Jews in its evolution.

With: Hebrew Superheroes (54 MIN, p. 29)



A STORY ABOUT RAIN

CANADIAN PREMIERE

ISRAEL 2013, 18 MIN

HEBREW

DIRECTOR: BRACHA YANIGER

► MONDAY MAY 4 • 4:00 PM • EW6

► SUNDAY MAY 10 • 6:00 PM • ROM

A delightful fairy-tale following a young artistic couple who work together to provide water for desert inhabitants.

With: Bialik – King of the Jews (56 MIN, p. 32)



VISHNEVA, BELARUS SOVIET UNION POLAND

USA 2013, 2 MIN

DIRECTOR: DR. JACOB. J. PODBER

► FRIDAY MAY 1 • 3:30 PM • EW6

► WEDNESDAY MAY 6 • 1:00 PM • ROM

Dr. Jacob. J. Podber's experimental short explores the unspoken pain behind a son's bearing witness to his father's Holocaust testimony.

With: Shoah, The Forgotten Souls of History (52 MIN, p. 30)



REVERENCE

CANADIAN PREMIERE

USA 2014, 12 MIN

DIRECTOR: COLLIN KORNFELD

► SUNDAY MAY 3 • 4:00 PM • ROM

► TUESDAY MAY 5 • 6:00 PM • EW6

This fun documentary looks at the role played by today's colourful kippahs—decorated with sports team logos or cartoon characters—in motivating Jewish youth to embrace the tradition of wearing a yarmulke.

With: Encirclements (98 MIN, p. 19)



THE TEN PLAGUES

TORONTO PREMIERE

USA 2014, 10 MIN

DIRECTOR: SERENA SHULMAN

► TUESDAY MAY 5 • 8:00 PM • EW5

► THURSDAY MAY 7 • 9:00 PM • BC

Shayna, a young woman en route to a Passover Seder confronts modern-day versions of the Ten Plagues. And then she must face her family.

With: You Must Be Joking (92 MIN, p. 26)



WHAT CHEER?

USA 2014, 17 MIN

DIRECTOR: MICHAEL SLAVENS

► SATURDAY MAY 2 • 9:30 PM • CS3

► TUESDAY MAY 5 • 9:00 PM • BC

Musical theatre composer Stan (Richard Kind) unexpectedly loses his wife. As he struggles to overcome his grief, he finds it relentlessly following him around in the form of a 19-piece marching band, which only he can see.

With: Magic Men (100 MIN, p. 21)

SHORT FILMS

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WHAT WE LEFT BEHIND

CANADIAN PREMIERE

USA 2014, 6 MIN

DIRECTOR: DAVID LANGER

► MONDAY MAY 4 · 8:45 PM · BC

► WEDNESDAY MAY 6 · 6:00 PM · EW6

After discovering innumerable Jewish treasures in the palace of Saddam Hussein, the US Forces return Torah scrolls to an American Iraqi-Jewish community.

With: The Dove Flyer (108 MIN, p. 19)



ZAZALAND

ISRAEL 2013, 12 MIN

HEBREW

DIRECTOR: MAAYAN COHEN

► WEDNESDAY MAY 6 · 6:00 PM · ITH

In this comedic homage to *Late Marriage*, a Georgian-Israeli couple, who don't know that their opera-singing son is gay, tries to seal his engagement to a Georgian woman.

With: The Other War, (45 MIN, p. 22) and Barely In Love (15 MIN, p. 40)

Co-presented by: Kulanu Toronto



WHAT'S IN A NAME

TORONTO PREMIERE

USA 2014, 12 MIN

DIRECTOR: DANIEL ROBIN

► MONDAY MAY 4 · 5:30 PM · EW5

► THURSDAY MAY 7 · 1:00 PM · ROM

Filmmaker Daniel Robin reflects on why his grandfather changed his family name from Robinowitz to Robin.

With: Famous Nathan (97 MIN, p. 32)



ZONE A / EZOR ALEF

ISRAEL 2014, 18 MIN

HEBREW

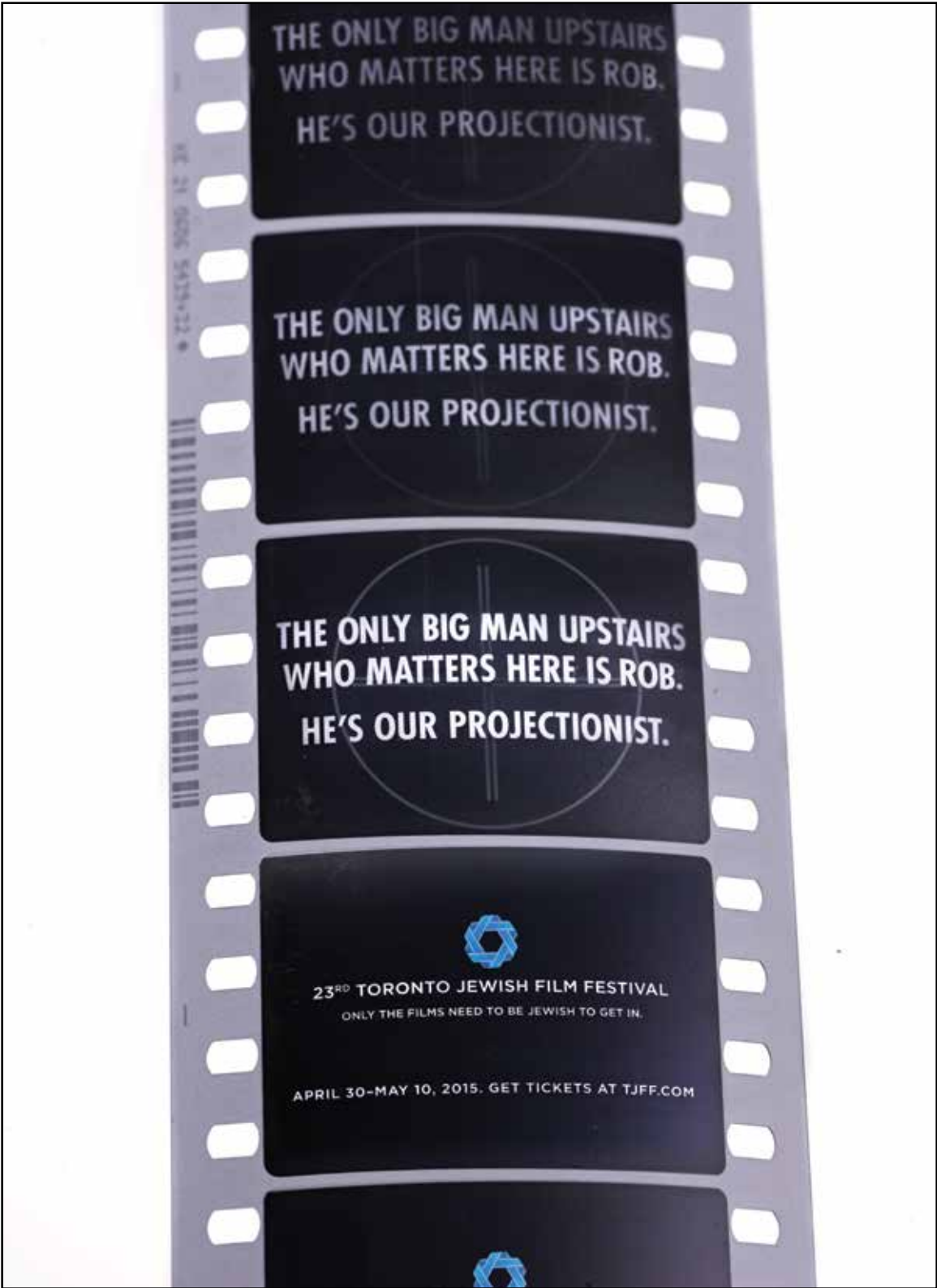
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► SUNDAY MAY 3 · 8:30 PM · EW6

► WEDNESDAY MAY 6 · 3:30 PM · ROM

1991. In the midst of the Gulf War, while Tel Aviv is under constant missile attacks, 10-year old Omer finds himself in a different battle—his parents' divorce.

With: Haven (75 MIN, p. 20)



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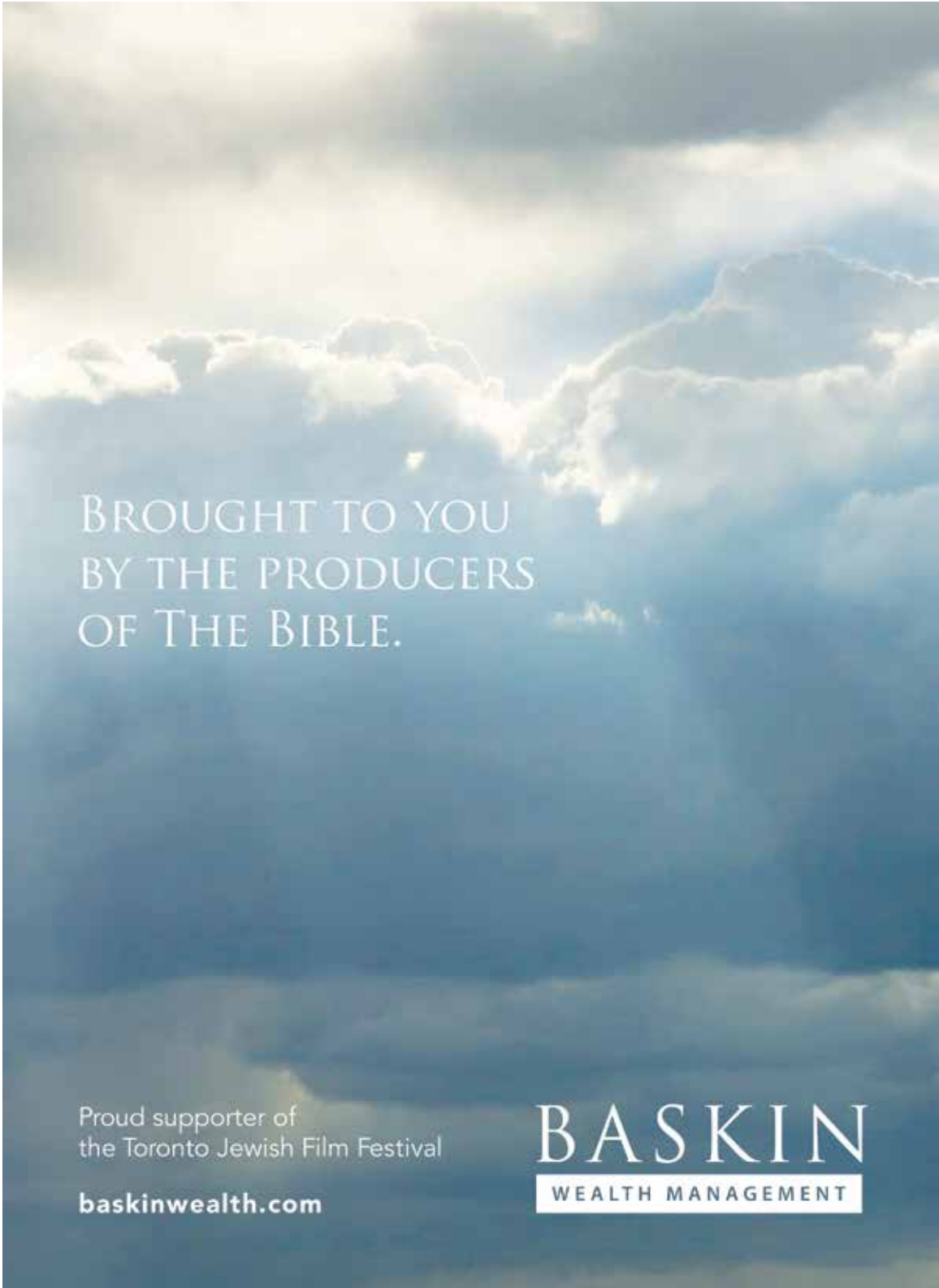
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Hua Jin, *Mirage #2*, 2014, C-print, 120 x 150 inches



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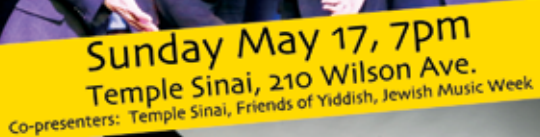
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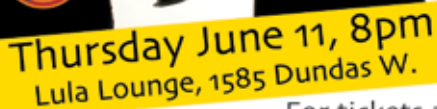
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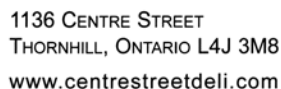


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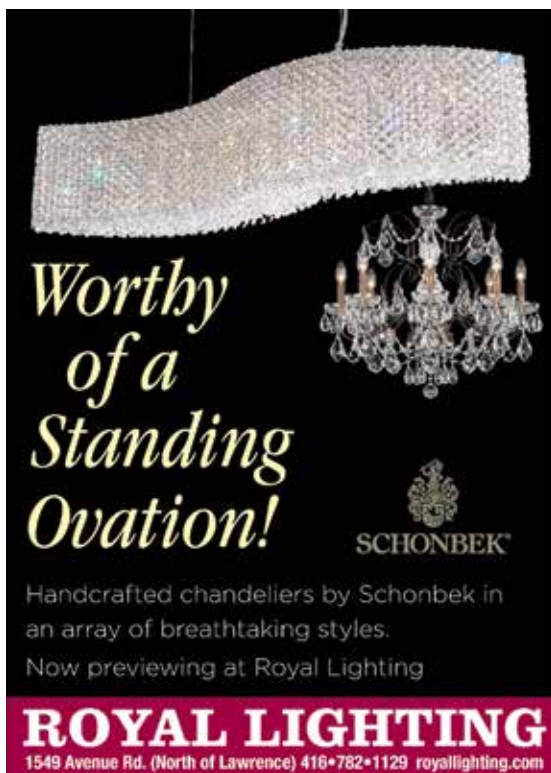


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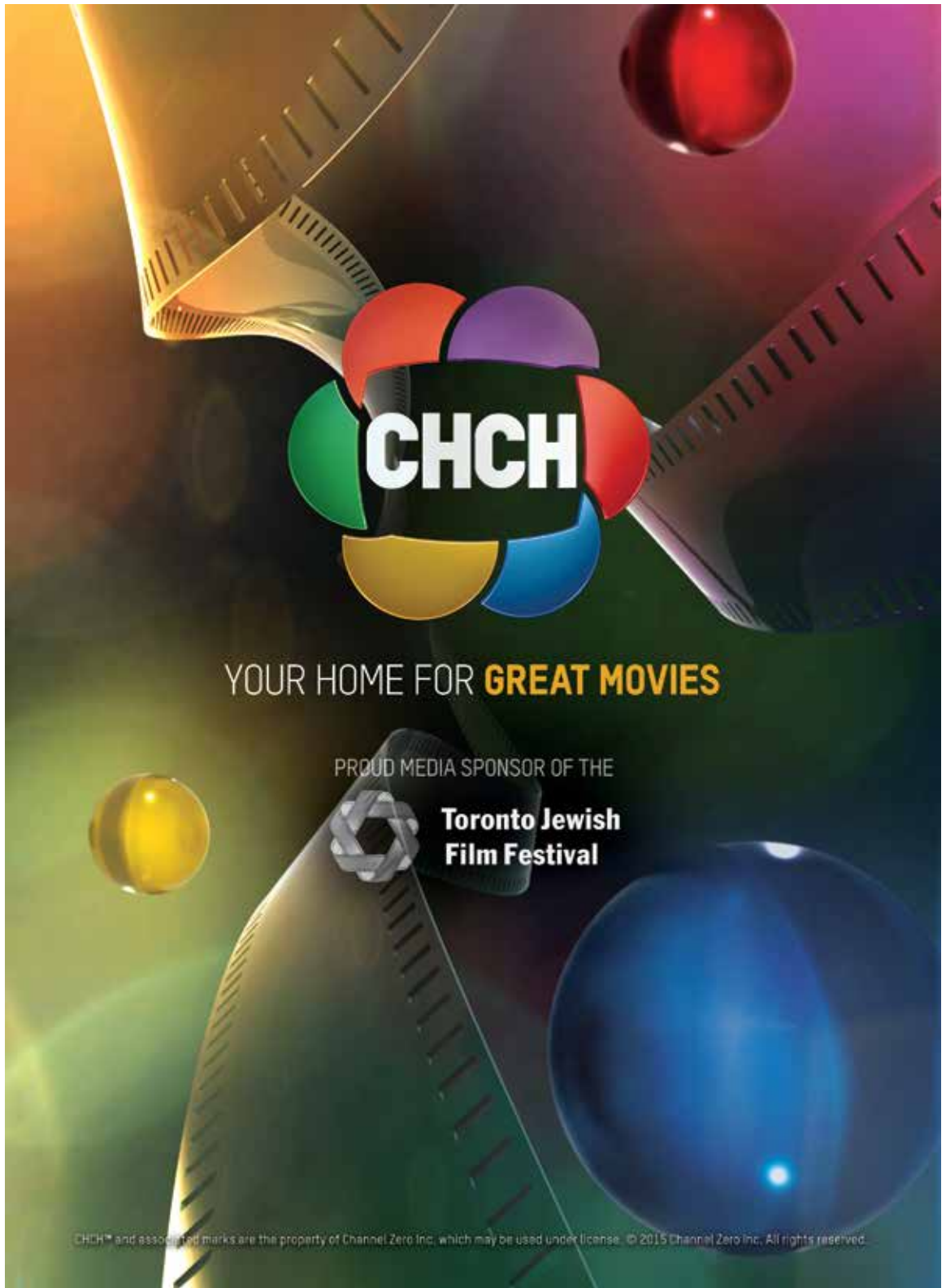
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A LISTING OF FILMS BY THE LANGUAGES SPOKEN, IN WHOLE OR PART:

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Cartoonists: Foot Soldiers of Democracy / Caricaturistes,
fantassins de la démocratie
Dancing Arabs
The Dove Flyer / Mafriach Hayomim
Orange People / Anashim Ketumim
Self Made / Boreg
Write Down, I am an Arab / Sajil, Ana Arabi
The Zionist Idea

BULGARIAN

Bulgarian Rhapsody

CROATIAN

Tito's Glasses / Titos Brille

DANISH

Cartoonists: Foot Soldiers of Democracy / Caricaturistes,
fantassins de la démocratie

DUTCH

The Price of Sugar / Hoe Duur Was de Suiker
Secrets of War / Oorlogsgeheimen

FRENCH

The Art Dealer / L'Antiquaire
Atlit / Rendez-vous à Atlit
Because I Was a Painter / Parce que j'étais peintre
Belle and Sebastian
Cartoonists: Foot Soldiers of Democracy / Caricaturistes,
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Once in a Lifetime / Les Héritiers
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Shoah, The Forgotten Souls of History
/ Shoah, les oubliés de l'histoire
To Life / À la vie
An Untold Diplomatic History: France and Israel
Since 1948 / La France face à Israël
The Voice of Peace / La voix de la paix

GERMAN

Auf das Leben! To Life!
Because I Was a Painter / Parce que j'étais peintre
Bulgarian Rhapsody
Forbidden Films / Verbotene Filme
Gloomy Sabbath
Let's Go!
Tito's Glasses / Titos Brille

GREEK

Magic Men

HEBREW

Atlit / Rendez-vous à Atlit
Barely in Love / Lee'hov Bekoshi
Bialik – King of the Jews / Melech Hayehudim
Censored Voices
Dancing Arabs
Dear God
Do You Believe in Love? / Ha'shadchanit
Encirclements / Hakafot
The Farewell Party / Mita Tova
Forbidden Films / Verbotene Filme
The Go Go Boys: The Inside Story of Cannon Films
Haven / Ir Miklat
Hearts Melt And Knees Tremble
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Longing / Eishech, Teshukatech
Lookout
Magic Men
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A Story About Rain / Sipur Al Geshem
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Valley / Emek
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Write Down, I am an Arab / Sajil, Ana Arabi
Zazaland
The Zionist Idea
Zone A / Ezor Alef

HUNGARIAN

The Polgar Variant

ITALIAN

Felice nel box
My Italian Secret: The Forgotten Heroes
Tito's Glasses / Titos Brille

LADINO

Bulgarian Rhapsody

POLISH

Because I Was a Painter / Parce que j'étais peintre
Raise the Roof

RUSSIAN

Chagall-Malevich

SPANISH

The Critic / El Critico
Mr Kaplan / Esperando a Mister Kaplan

YIDDISH

Auf Das Leben! To Life!
The Anarchist Rabbi
How to Break Into Yiddish Vaudeville
Laura Adler's Last Love Affair
/ Hahavata Haharona shel Laura Adler

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The Bespoke Overcoat
Bess Myerson: Portrait of an Activist
Code of Silence
Cohen on the Telephone
Deli Man
Dough
The Dowry
Famous Nathan
Free to be You and Me
A Fuller Life
German Shepherd
Hirsch
Imagine... Philip Roth Unleashed
In The Presence of Mine Enemies
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King Of Kensington
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Little White Lie
The Loner: The Homecoming of Lemuel Stove
Look at Us Now, Mother!
Making Trouble: Joan Rivers
The Man in the Funny Suit
My Italian Secret: The Forgotten Heroes
Nichols and May: Take Two
Note
People of the Graphic Novel
Requiem for a Heavyweight
Reverence
Rosenwald

Soft Vengeance: Albie Sachs and the New South Africa
Spadina
A Storm in Summer
Sun In My Eyes
The Ten Plagues
Theodore Bikel: In the Shoes of Sholom Aleichem
Transparent
Twilight Zone: Walking Distance
What Cheer?
What We Left Behind
What's in a Name
The Winnings Of Frankie Walls
You Must Be Joking

FILMS BY THEME/TOPIC

ACTIVISM

The Anarchist Rabbi
Bess Myerson: Portrait of an Activist
Cartoonists: Foot Soldiers of Democracy / Caricaturistes,
fantassins de la démocratie
Code of Silence
Soft Vengeance: Albie Sachs and the New South Africa
The Voice of Peace / La voix de la paix

ARTS AND CULTURE

Because I Was a Painter / Parce que j'étais peintre
Bialik – King of the Jews / Melech Hayehudim
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Theodore Bikel: In the Shoes of Sholom Aleichem
Write Down, I am an Arab / Sajil, Ana Arabi

FILMS BY THEME/TOPIC

BLACK JEWISH RELATIONS

Little White Lie
The Price of Sugar / Hoe Duur Was de Suiker
Rosenwald
Soft Vengeance: Albie Sachs and the New South Africa
A Storm in Summer

FAMILY AND FAMILY STORIES

Atlit / Rendez-vous à Atlit
Do You Believe in Love? / Ha'shadchanit
Let's Go!
Little White Lie
Look at Us Now, Mother!
Orange People / Anashim Ketumim
The Polgar Variant
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To Life / À la vie
Tito's Glasses / Titos Brille
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What's in a Name
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Bulgarian Rhapsody
The Farewell Party / Mita Tova
The Kindergarten Teacher / Haganenet
The Last American Virgin
Lemon Popsicle / Eskimo Limon
Magic Men
Next to Her / At Li Layla
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The Price of Sugar / Hoe Duur Was de Suiker
To Life / À la vie
Transparent

FOOD

Deli Man
Dough
Famous Nathan

HEROES AND ANTI-HEROES

Above and Beyond
Hebrew Superheroes / Gibor Ha'al Ha'ivri
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The Voice of Peace / La voix de la paix
Write Down, I am an Arab / Sajil, Ana Arabi
The Zionist Idea

LGBT

Barely in Love / Lee'hov Bekoshi
Gloomy Sabbath
The Other War
Transparent
You Must Be Joking
Zazaland

MADE IN CANADA

The Dowry
Hirsch
Josef et Aimée
King Of Kensington
Note
Spadina
Sun In My Eyes
The Winnings Of Frankie Walls

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MOTHER'S DAY

Little White Lie

Look at Us Now, Mother!

Let's Go!

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RELIGIOUS ISSUES

Barely in Love / Lee'hov Bekoshi

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Reverence

Sacred Sperm / Zera Kodesh

The Ten Plagues

What We Left Behind

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Suicide / Hitabdutt

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Valley

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