



OVERDRIVE

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SCHEDULE

THURSDAY MAY 3

	VC3			
7:00 PM	7:00 PM Promise at Dawn (131 min, p.22)			
8:00 PM				
9:00 PM				

FRIDAY MAY 4

	EW5	EW9	VC2	VC3	
12:00 PM		12:00 PM The Last Goldfish (81 min, p.30)			
1:00 PM	1:00 PM Kishon (87 min, p.34)		1:00 PM The Samuel Project (93 min, p.27)	1:30 PM Vienna Before Nightfall / The Scribe (100 min, p.33)	
2:00 PM					
3:00 PM		3:00 PM Closeness (118 min, p.24)			
4:00 PM	4:00 PM Saving Neta (90 min, p.27)		3:30 PM Doubtful (88 min, p.25)	4:00 PM The Earth Cries Out (90 min, p.36)	
5:00 PM					

SATURDAY MAY 5

	AF	EW5	EW9	RC	
11:00 AM					
12:00 PM					
1:00 PM	1:00 PM Zombies and Zionism: New... (45 min, p.18)				
2:00 PM					
3:00 PM					
4:00 PM	3:30 PM The Making of a President, 1944 (60 min, p.36)				
5:00 PM					
6:00 PM	6:00 PM Take 90: A Paul Soles Comedy Programme (90 min, p.37)				
7:00 PM					
8:00 PM					
9:00 PM	9:00 PM Simon & Theodore (84 min, p.28)	9:00 PM Promise at Dawn (131 min, p.22)		9:00 PM Juda (152 min, p.26)	
10:00 PM			9:30 PM Shelter (93 min, p.28)		
11:00 PM					

• Indicates film has additional screening(s). **Please Note:** Running times do not include guest speakers where applicable.

SUNDAY MAY 6

	AF	EW5	EW9	RC	
12:00 PM					
1:00 PM	1:00 PM Monkey Business: The Adventures of Curious George's... (89 min, p.34)		1:00 PM Shalom Bollywood: The Untold Story of Indian Cinema (76 min, p.32)		
2:00 PM		2:00 PM The Samuel Project (93 min, p.27)		2:00 PM The Ancient Law (137 min, p.35)	
3:00 PM					
4:00 PM	3:30 PM Cut to the Chase (60 min, p.30)		4:00 PM Winter Hunt (74 min, p.28)		
5:00 PM		5:00 PM The Last Resort w/ Wendy's Shabbat (80 min, p.30)			
6:00 PM	5:30 PM The N°5 War (52 min, p.31)		6:00 PM Doubtful (88 min, p.25)	5:30 PM Sammy Davis, Jr.: I've Gotta Be Me (100 min, p.34)	
7:00 PM					
8:00 PM	7:30 PM Closeness (118 min, p.24)	8:00 PM The Oslo Diaries w/ Be/Longing (128 min, p.31)			
9:00 PM			8:30 PM Bye Bye Germany (100 min, p.23)	8:30 PM Razzia (119 min, p.27)	
10:00 PM					
11:00 PM					

MONDAY MAY 7

	AF	EW5	EW9	HD	ITH
12:00 PM					
1:00 PM					
2:00 PM					
3:00 PM					
4:00 PM	3:30 PM Elish's Notebooks w/ Large Soldier (97 min, p.30)		3:30 PM Vienna Before Nightfall w/ The Scribe (100 min, p.33)		3:30 PM Above the Drowning Sea (92 min, p.29)
5:00 PM		5:00 PM The Cousin (93 min, p.24)			
6:00 PM			6:00 PM Libya: The Last Exodus w/ Journey Birds (74 min, p.31)	6:15 PM The Last Suit (89 min, p.26)	6:00 PM The Cakemaker w/ Miriam (110 min, p.24)
7:00 PM					
8:00 PM		8:00 PM The Testament w/ Next Stop (101 min, p.28)			
9:00 PM			8:30 PM Budapest Noir (95 min, p.23)	9:00 PM Shelter (93 min, p.28)	8:30 PM An Act Of Defiance (124 min, p.23)
10:00 PM					
11:00 PM					

AF Alliance Française, 24 Spadina Rd. **CS** Famous Players Canada Square Cinemas, 2200 Yonge St. **EW** Cineplex Cinemas Empress Walk, 5095 Yonge St. **HD** Hot Docs Ted Rogers Cinema, 506 Bloor St. W **ITH** Innis Town Hall, 2 Sussex Ave. (at St. George) **RC** Royal Cinema, 608 College St. (at Clinton) **VC** Cineplex Odeon Varsity and VIP Cinemas, Manulife Ctre., 55 Bloor St. W. **Note:** Running times do not include guest speakers where applicable. All films shown in their original language. Films not in English are shown with subtitles.

TUESDAY MAY 8

	AF	EW5	EW9	HD	ITH
12:00 PM					
1:00 PM					1:00 PM The Invisibles (110 min, p.25)
2:00 PM					
3:00 PM					
4:00 PM	3:30 PM Saving Auschwitz? w/ Six After Seventy (82 min, p.32)		3:30 PM The N°5 War (52 min, p.31)		3:30 PM The Last Resort w/ Wendy's Shabbat (80 min, p.30)
5:00 PM		5:00 PM Monkey Business: The Adventures of Curious George's... (89 min, p.34)			
6:00 PM			6:00 PM The Museum (74 min, p.31)	6:15 PM Bye Bye Germany (100 min, p.23)	6:00 PM Saving Neta w/ Parallels (95 min, p.27)
7:00 PM					
8:00 PM		8:00 PM Humor Me (93 min, p.25)			
9:00 PM			8:30 PM The Light of Hope w/ Nana (101 min, p.26)	9:00 PM Longing (107 min, p.26)	8:30 PM Standing Up w/ Comics: Steve Shuster (99 min, p.32)
10:00 PM					
11:00 PM					

WEDNESDAY MAY 9

	AF	EW5	EW9	HD	ITH
12:00 PM					
1:00 PM					
2:00 PM					
3:00 PM					
4:00 PM	3:30 PM Libya: The Last Exodus w/ Journey Birds (74 min, p.31)		3:30 PM Sammy Davis, Jr.: I've Gotta Be Me (100 min, p.34)		3:30 PM Shalom Bollywood: The Untold Story of Indian Cinema (76 min, p.32)
5:00 PM		5:00 PM Simon & Theodore (84 min, p.28)			
6:00 PM			6:00 PM Another Planet w/ 116 Cameras (64 min, p.29)	6:15 PM The Cousin (93 min, p.24)	6:00 PM Remember Baghdad w/ Five Years After the War (89 min, p.32)
7:00 PM					
8:00 PM		8:00 PM Mr. and Mrs. Adelman (120 min, p.26)			
9:00 PM			8:30 PM The Cakemaker w/ Miriam (110 min, p.24)	9:00 PM The Body Collector (142 min, p.23)	8:30 PM The Testament w/ Next Stop (101 min, p.28)
10:00 PM					
11:00 PM					

• Indicates film has additional screening(s). **Please Note:** Running times do not include guest speakers where applicable.

• Dramas & Comedies • Biographies • Documentaries • Archival Films • Short Films

THURSDAY MAY 10

	AF	EW5	EW9	HD	ITH
12:00 PM					
1:00 PM	1:00 PM Another Planet w/ 116 Cameras (64 min, p.29)				1:00 PM Winter Hunt (74 min, p.28)
2:00 PM					
3:00 PM		3:00 PM Cut to the Chase (60 min, p.30)			3:00 PM Falling Over Backwards (100 min, p.36)
4:00 PM	3:30 PM The Last Goldfish (81 min, p.30)		3:30 PM Barbra Streisand, Becoming... (66 min, p.33)		
5:00 PM		5:00 PM The Invisibles (110 min, p.25)			5:30 PM The Museum w/ The Red House (94 min, p.31)
6:00 PM			6:00 PM Above the Drowning Sea (92 min, p.29)	6:15 PM The Light of Hope w/ Nana (101 min, p.26)	
7:00 PM					
8:00 PM		8:00 PM Outdoors (80 min, p.27)			
9:00 PM			8:30 PM Razzia (119 min, p.27)	9:00 PM Humor Me (93 min, p.25)	8:30 PM Oy Canada: Short Film Programme (97 min, p.18)
10:00 PM					
11:00 PM					

FRIDAY MAY 11

	AF	EW5	EW9	ITH	
12:00 PM		12:00 PM Remember Baghdad w/ Five Years After the War (89 min, p.32)			
1:00 PM	1:00 PM Heaven Is A Traffic Jam On... (55 min, p.33)		1:00 PM Saving Auschwitz? w/ Six After Seventy (82 min, p.32)	1:00 PM Kishon (87 min, p.34)	
2:00 PM					
3:00 PM		3:00 PM Elish's Notebooks w/ Large Soldier (97 min, p.30)			
4:00 PM	3:30 PM The Ancestral Sin (109 min, p.29)		4:00 PM An Act Of Defiance (124 min, p.23)	3:30 PM Budapest Noir (95 min, p.23)	
5:00 PM					
6:00 PM					
7:00 PM					
8:00 PM					
9:00 PM					
10:00 PM					
11:00 PM					

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SATURDAY MAY 12

	EW5	EW9	HD	ITH	
12:00 PM				12:00 PM The Outside Chance of Maximilian Glick (97 min, p.37)	
1:00 PM					
2:00 PM					
3:00 PM				3:00 PM Today I am a Fountain Pen (90 min, p.37)	
4:00 PM					
5:00 PM					
6:00 PM				6:00 PM Harvey Atkin's Toronto: A Scrapbook (80 min, p.36)	
7:00 PM					
8:00 PM					
9:00 PM	9:00 PM Longing (107 min, p.26)		9:00 PM Disobedience (114 min, p.24)	9:00 PM Future '38 w/ The Entertainer (90 min, p.25)	
10:00 PM		9:30 PM The Last Suit (89 min, p.26)			
11:00 PM					

SUNDAY MAY 13

	EW5	EW9	HD	ITH	
12:00 PM					
1:00 PM	1:00 PM Heaven Is A Traffic Jam On... (55 min, p.33)				
2:00 PM		1:30 PM The Ancestral Sin (109 min, p.29)		2:00 PM Outdoors (80 min, p.27)	
3:00 PM	3:00 PM The Body Collector (142 min, p.23)		2:30 PM Barbra Streisand, Becoming... (66 min, p.33)		
4:00 PM					
5:00 PM		4:30 PM Standing Up (76 min, p.32)	5:00 PM Mr. and Mrs. Adelman (120 min, p.26)	4:30 PM Spielberg (147 min, p.34)	
6:00 PM					
7:00 PM					
8:00 PM			8:00 PM RBG (97 min, p.22)		
9:00 PM					
10:00 PM					

• Indicates film has additional screening(s). **Please Note:** Running times do not include guest speakers where applicable.

● Dramas & Comedies ● Biographies ● Documentaries ● Archival Films ● Short Films

TICKETS

TICKETS AVAILABLE ONLINE
AT TJFF.COM

April 19 – May 13

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 20 – May 13

Noon–6:00 pm Daily

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

Cineplex Cinemas Empress Walk
5095 Yonge Street
(North York Centre subway station)

FESTIVAL BOX OFFICES

May 3 – 13

Spadina Theatre at Alliance Française
24 Spadina Rd. at Lowther Ave.
(Spadina subway station)

Cineplex Cinemas Empress Walk
5095 Yonge Street
(North York Centre subway station)

Cineplex Cinemas Varsity and VIP
55 Bloor St. W.
(Manulife Building)

Hot Docs Ted Rogers Cinema
506 Bloor Street West at Bathurst
(Bathurst subway station)

Innis Town Hall
2 Sussex Avenue
(St. George subway station)

The Royal Cinema
608 College St.
(at Clinton St, west of Bathurst)
**This venue does not have a main floor
accessible washroom*

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.

PURCHASE TICKETS

Order tickets online at TJFF.COM
Or by phone at 416-324-9121
(phone lines monitored Noon – 6:00pm)

PASSES

The Flexible Pass: \$190
Valid for 20 films/events (excluding
Opening Night). Any combination of
tickets. Subject to availability.
BONUS GIFT: A complimentary
6-month digital subscription to *The
Canadian Jewish News* (new subscrib-
ers only, non-transferable)

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 online beginning April 19,
2018 and in-person beginning April
20, 2018.
N.B. Passholders join ticket-holder
line for entry into theatre.

SINGLE TICKETS

Opening Night: \$20
General Admission: \$15
Seniors/Students: \$11 (ID required)
Weekday Matinees: \$10
(Mon – Fri, screenings before 5:00pm)
NXTGN Tickets: \$8 (ID required)

NEXTGEN SERIES TICKETS

For those 18 - 35 (NXTGN)

For the next generation of TJFF film
lovers. A taste of what the Festival
has to offer.

Ticket purchases available in-person only
from any TJFF Box Office. I.D. required
for purchase and theatre entry.

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.

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.

SEAT SAVING IS NOT PERMITTED AT
FESTIVAL SCREENINGS / EVENTS

Charitable Registration No.
13522 6793 RR0001

Cast your vote for THE CHOSEN FILM People's Choice Award

*Your ticket is your ballot.
Make your opinion count.*

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CHAIR'S MESSAGE



PHYLLIS ANGEL GREENBERG

CHAIR

To all our sponsors, Patron Circle Members, long-time supporters, and new friends

On behalf of the Board of Directors, welcome to our 26th Annual Toronto Jewish Film Festival!

I am writing this greeting two months before the Festival's Opening Night in order to make the deadline for printing this programme book which, as you will see, overflows with riches. Our dedicated and discerning programmers once again bring us thought-provoking and entertaining documentaries and features from around the Jewish world: documentaries that help us understand and make sense of this world; features that take us to places and introduce us to fictional characters who become alive, who teach us about ourselves.

Tennyson, in his dramatic poem *Ulysses*, and in the voice of the eponymous narrator says: "I am a part of all that I have met". The films we will experience over the eleven days of TJFF 2018 will introduce us to new worlds both literal and metaphorical, and we will become part of those worlds, sometimes for only the duration of the film, and often, for much longer. And we will share these encounters with our fellow filmgoers.

This past February, I attended the Chai Tea screening of *Foxtrot*, an engrossing Israeli feature that I highly recommend (it was commercially released very shortly after our screening). The audience was so silent, so moved by and absorbed in the art and implications of the narrative, so captivated by the masterful performances. I was sharply aware of the difference watching a film in a theatre can make.

Why do we choose to be together in a movie theatre, rather than just watch the story on a TV or computer screen? It must be more than the larger-than-life images, although the power of these images is prodigious. The common experience brings us together in intangible ways creating a community in the darkened space. We sit with each other, we may not know the people around us, but we feel each other's presence, we sense the diverse and divergent minds and emotions, we react as one and as individuals to the art and artifice on the screen, and sometimes we even get to debate each other or question the filmmakers themselves. We learn and we grow through these encounters. "Life's meaning derives from our progress through it" quotes Daniel Mendelsohn in his recent memoir *An Odyssey*. Film can lead us on an unfamiliar journey that can be challenging, enriching and enlarging.

The woman who, for the past 26 years has been leading all of us on this journey is **Helen Zukerman**, our Founder and Artistic Director. This past December, Helen was awarded a Meritorious Service Medal. This honour, under the auspices of the Governor General of Canada, recognizes individuals who have made remarkable contributions, who inspire others and who share a common goal of making a positive difference. We all congratulate Helen, and thank her and the intrepid staff at 19 Madison for making it all happen.

Please enjoy poring over these pages and making your choices as we get ready for this year's Toronto Jewish Film Festival.

ARTISTIC DIRECTOR'S WELCOME



HELEN ZUKERMAN

ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

Quite a few years ago, I accompanied our then director of development to a meeting with a potential supporter involved in the film business. After I told him about the mandate of the Festival, and our hopes for its future growth, he asked “Why can’t you be happy with having a small community Festival?”

Really?

Our audience was not happy with being a small community Festival: they were asking for more and we wanted to give it to them.

All the while, as we sat at programming meetings to select the next Festival’s films, the shelves around us were bursting with films from past years, made by independent filmmakers who maxed out their credit cards and their families’ and friends’ pocket money, to put their dreams on film.

For the most part, these films made the rounds of film festivals for a couple of years and then were relegated to attracting dust particles on shelves.

A few of them were picked up by distributors and made available for sale on DVD, but most were not. (This was before many Jewish-content films played regularly at multiplexes.)

With the growth of films streaming online, an idea was born. Why not put these abandoned treasures on our website for the public to watch whenever they wanted, from wherever they lived in Canada?

So, last year, as a gift to our audience, we created a platform with 25 films, in celebration of our 25th Festival.

We contacted filmmakers and distributors and asked permission to use their films.

Many of them were delighted to give their films new lives and generously offered their work freely, others asked for a modest fee.

We were in business! What was launched as TJFF Online has now become J-FLIX.com, and with new films added every week, we have had over 10,000 visits—and counting—to the streaming platform.

J-Flix brings Jewish content films to anyone (and everyone) in Canada.

Finally, an opportunity to dust off long lost films that played at our Festivals over the years.

From the small Festival in 1993 that ran 5 days with 20 films, we are now an 11-day happening in 6 venues across the city.

We are happy with being a “small community festival” as long as our small community includes all of Canada.

PROGRAMME DIRECTOR'S NOTE



STUART HANDS

PROGRAMME DIRECTOR

My favourite part of working at the Toronto Jewish Film Festival is doing the research for our archival film programming.

Now in its fifth year, our Canadian archival series continues to revisit forgotten works, expanding the cannon of our country’s Jewish content film and television. This year, we honour actors Paul Soles and Harvey Atkin, and the stories of writer Morley Torgov, whose work has been adapted to film and TV. The biggest treat for me is the discovery of a forgotten 1978 CBC telefilm, *The Making of a President, 1944*, adapted from a Torgov story, starring Paul Soles and Harvey Atkin, alongside Melvyn Douglas and Nehemiah Persoff. It paints a very funny and empathic portrait of the divided and dwindling Jewish community of wartime Sault Ste. Marie. Working on this series also allowed me to re-discover the skill, presence and charm of actors Soles and Atkin, and acquaint myself with the unique sensibility—sensitive, yet with astute and funny observations—of writer Morley Torgov, whose work deserves to be discovered by a new generation.

I would like to draw your attention to an exquisite new documentary, *The Museum*, by one of the most impressive Israeli filmmakers working today, Ran Tal (*Children of The Sun, Garden of Eden*). Tal provides access to the daily life of the Israel Museum in Jerusalem; the meticulous work done by its historians, curators and preservationists, and the beauty of the preservation process. While inspiring philosophical questions about how history is told and received, the film shows how this Israeli institution not only reflects the narrative of its country, but, through the choices of which objects it makes available to the public, contributes to this narrative as well.

On a similar note, I wish to suggest that with the Festival’s rare archival film selections, we are allowing our audience the chance to not only see newly-discovered Jewish films, but to re-think the ‘assumed’ narrative of

Jewish film history, which is based on what has previously been made readily available.

I am very proud that TJFF is screening the new digital restoration of E.A. Dupont’s 1923 Weimar silent film, *The Ancient Law* with live musical accompaniment. Professor Cynthia Walk, who served as an advisor on the restoration, points out that although many assimilated Jews worked in the German film industry at the time, *The Ancient Law* was one of the few films to explicitly address the topic of assimilation. Audiences will notice its influence on the Hollywood landmark film, *The Jazz Singer*, made four years later.

In addition, for our Israel @ 70 series, we are screening the little-known Italian drama, *The Earth Cries Out*. What’s so striking about this film today is its sober view of the early days leading up to the creation of the State of Israel, as it depicts Palestine under British mandate, and shows the lives of British soldiers, members of the Irgun, as well as Jewish refugees smuggled into the country from Europe. *The Earth Cries Out* has a complex narrative that allows today’s audiences access to the emotions and hopes of those days.

I am thrilled that we have the opportunity to offer you the new unique documentary, *Cut to the Chase*. Presented entirely without narration, director Noit Geva and producer Arik Bernstein have cut together tons of clips representing over fifty years of Israeli cinematic history, to reveal the narrative of Israeli masculinity, defined by traditional patriarchy and the country’s required military duty. It also shows the ways that women have been forced to find a place for themselves within these limiting social structures.

To leave you on a note of levity, and as a fan of old movies, I must draw your attention to Jamie Greenberg’s new comedy *Future ’38*, a love letter to the screwball comedies of the Hollywood Golden Age. It’s a real treat!

PROGRAMMERS' NOTES



JÉRÉMIE ABESSIRA

The cinema of the past year was rich in stories about the challenges of youth, with such Academy Award-nominated films as *Call Me By Your Name*, *Lady Bird* and *The Florida Project*. I've been drawn to some brilliant coming-of-age films screening at the Festival that bring the experiences of youth to life. As in this year's Oscar nominees, these films depict unusual relationships with authority figures.

Promise At Dawn tells the story of Romain Gary, one of France's most iconic novelists, growing up with a mother pushing him to achieve greatness. Gary is played beautifully by Pierre Niney, the youngest actor ever to receive a César Award (a French Academy Award).

In his first feature film *Doubtful*, Eliran Eliyah focuses on the development of a special bond between a troubled inner-city youth and his teacher.

One of the biggest surprises for me was *Five Years After the War*, and the interview of a young Parisian whose father, while absent, remains at the heart of his imagination. The filmmakers have done a splendid job re-creating his inner world thru animation.

In these films, we experience the characters' self-doubt and self-reflection while sharing the story with them.

On a different note, the Israeli TV show *Juda* is a personal favourite in this year's line-up, where the world of vampires and gangsters intertwine in the streets of Tel Aviv.



SUSAN STARKMAN

"I am woman, hear me roar" was the feminist rallying cry when I was growing up in the 1970s. Ironically, it has been the decidedly soft-spoken Ruth Bader Ginsburg who was responsible for some of the most pivotal contributions to the advancement of women's rights over the last few decades. In a year where women have been galvanised to demand meaningful changes across all professions, the documentary *RBG* is compulsory viewing. While steadfastly adhering to her mother's advice to "always be a lady", Bader Ginsburg nevertheless succeeded in overcoming gender-associated obstacles on her path to become the second female in history to serve on the U.S. Supreme Court. There, she continues to challenge the legal status quo.

The Light of Hope presents us with another woman warrior, Elisabeth Eidenbenz. The director of a maternity hospital in Vichy France, Eidenbenz provided refuge to pregnant refugees and risked her own life to prevent the Pétain regime from closing its doors.

Heaven is a Traffic Jam on the 405 introduces us to Mindy Alper, a gifted artist who has overcome significant challenges to achieve success. Battling crippling depression and anxiety, Alper channels her inner demons into extraordinary drawings and large-scale papier-mâché sculptures. The film deservedly won the 2018 Oscar for best short documentary.

Finally, for a glimpse into a woman famous for her roar, don't miss *Barbara Streisand, Becoming an Icon*.



ALLEN BRAUDE

While fiction films usually resonate with me most, it's a pleasant surprise that the 2018 TJFF films that resonate with me the strongest are mainly documentaries.

I shed tears of joy watching the charming documentary *Monkey Business: The Adventures of Curious George's Creators*. I loved *Curious George* as a child, but knew nothing about his German Jewish creators – Hans and Margret Ray. What struck me most was the powerful bond between these two seemingly opposites, and how they combined their contrasting talents to create something magical and enduring.

With few survivors still alive, what role will monuments and museums play in shaping how Jews and non-Jews understand the Shoah? This question, which I find particularly resonant, is explored in two eye-opening documentaries – the short *Six After Seventy* and the feature *Saving Auschwitz?*. Both films intelligently grapple with the political and cultural forces that are changing how memorial sites function as witnesses to the Holocaust.

The Invisibles is a hybrid documentary that combines interviews with well-acted re-enactments. It traces the experiences of four young Jews who survived the Nazis by hiding in Berlin. This fascinating film about a little-known chapter of the Shoah is an affecting look at the bravery of the young survivors and the non-Jews who helped them.

The above documentaries are just a few of the many films you can enjoy at this year's TJFF. Happy watching!



RANI SANDERSON

Family is always a popular theme in the movies submitted to TJFF. Often, this means a film made by a family member about a grandparent, parent, sibling or other relative. And while these films are often made with love, they aren't always the best-made films. But every so often an amazing film shows up.

In *The Last Goldfish* filmmaker Su Goldfish investigates her own personal history through that of her father's. Her film is a stunning visual exploration of hidden secrets, told through old family photos and videos. I loved feeling like I was right there with her on her emotional journey to uncover a difficult and joyful past.

But this year, my favourite film is *Elish's Notebooks*, a family story made by a grandson. This documentary offers a fascinating and compelling story, beautifully realized. Filmmaker Golan Rise gives us an honest and raw family saga without getting sentimental or schmaltzy. He unravels a multi-layered story, which goes beyond just a personal family history.

Elish's Notebooks is a sociological examination of seven siblings, each uniquely dealing with having grown up on a kibbutz with an emotionally dysfunctional mother. A bizarre and captivating story that I still can't stop thinking about!

When family members are able to combine skilful filmmaking with touching stories that only they can tell, the results are amazing works of art that are as engaging as they are beautiful.



MAOR OZ

This year I'm proud that we are offering films that dig into very raw experiences of Mizrahi Jews around the world. Jewish and non-Jewish filmmakers from the Islamic world are finally bringing impressive and striking portraits of this community to the silver screen.

Nabil Ayouche's *Razzia* is a gorgeous portrait of contemporary Morocco, told through the experiences of five quintessential figures. While all hailing from very different upbringings and social circles, Ayouche achieves a remarkable feat in showing how they all dream and hope in the same way, working for a better version of their country and a better version of themselves.

David Deri's *The Ancestral Sin* shows the unfortunate side of the Mizrahi experience, when Moroccan and other Mizrahi Jews came to Israel under a false promise of a better life in The Promised Land. This masterpiece of reportage delves into the Zionist Archives, revealing troubling evidence about how systematic disenfranchisement was facilitated by the governing bodies of the time.

And finally, Fiona Murphy's *Remember Baghdad* tells a story of return. For thousands of years Jewish communities thrived in the Middle East and lived mostly peaceful lives with their non-Jewish neighbours. The wave of political-nationalism, Zionism and Israel's wars with her neighbours, saw the uprooting and displacement by the governing bodies of the time. This heart-warming documentary shows Iraqi Jews remembering their homeland, and one man who is leading the return of Jews back to Iraq.



Great films.
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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 sat on his passion for storytelling.

THIS YEAR’S JURY

Larry Ankiewicz is a Programming Consultant with the Los Angeles Jewish Film Festival, member of the Toronto Jewish Film Society programming committee; and served as Programme Coordinator/Director of Programming for the Toronto Jewish Film Festival (2004-2012). In addition, Mr. Ankiewicz has served as Chair of the Toronto Polish Film Festival jury and sat on the jury for the Toronto Macedonian Film Festival.

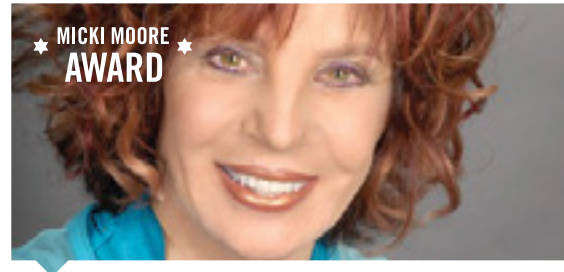
Gillian Helfield is a lecturer specializing in Film and Television Studies, Humanities and Canadian Studies at York University. She is an expert on Israeli and Middle Eastern Cinemas. Dr. Helfield has worked as a free-lance production coordinator and production manager for Atlantis Films, Insight Production Company, Scholastic Television, Global Television, the CBC, and The Canadian Film Centre.

Carol Zemel is Professor Emerita of Art History and Visual Culture at York University. Her work focuses on Jewish and diasporic issues and the ethics of visibility in modern and contemporary art. Her recent book is *Looking Jewish: Visual Culture and Modern Diaspora*. Critical essays have appeared in *Images*, *C Magazine*, *Canadian Theatre Review*, *Studies in Contemporary Jewry*, and the *Jewish Daily Forward*.

2018 David A. Stein Memorial Award Winner

The Museum (p.31)

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

Barry Avrich is an acclaimed documentary filmmaker of over 45 documentaries, films and television productions. His best-selling memoir *Moguls, Monsters and Madmen* was published in 2016. In 2018, Avrich will release *Prosecuting Evil: The Extraordinary World of Ben Ferencz*, and *The Reckoning* on the sexual scandals that have plagued the entertainment business.

Tereza Barta has extensive experience as a director, writer, and researcher. In 1989, after fleeing the Communist Romania, she produced the documentary *Through Her Own Eyes*. Her 1994 Canadian documentary *Our Home is Here* won a Gemini Award. Her films have been screened at many prestigious International festivals. She is an Associate Professor in the Film Department at York University.

Andréa Cohen-B is an accomplished director and producer. She has worked with renowned directors such as Jean-Pierre Jeunet, Luc Besson, Michael Haneke and Agnès Jaoui. She co-founded the production company Sandbox - La Boite A Films, serving as a producer and artistic director for the past four years. Her new production company is Meta4Films Inc.

2018 Micki Moore Award Winner

Winter Hunt (p.28)

Previous winning films available at TJFF.COM



MADE IN CANADA

Above the Drowning Sea (p.29)

The heartwarming story of the Jews who were the recipients of “Golden Visas” that enabled them to flee Nazi Europe and emigrate to Shanghai.

Adieu My Beloved (p.38)

An 18-year-old Russian Jew immigrates to Canada in 1900 by boat and writes his beloved a letter.

Be/Longing (p.38)

Amal is a Palestinian citizen of the State of Israel, a devoted mother, divorced Muslim, and Arabic teacher. The complexities and contradictions of Amal’s life unfold before us, offering an intimate and honest look at what it means to carry a mixed identity.

Bella! Did Ya Eat?: The Story of Judy Perly and Free Times Café (p.38)

Toronto business owner, artist, and Vine sensation Judy Perly tells her story about the chaos that surrounded building her café from the ground up, and the personal and cultural obstacles she has faced, all while gaining viral fame for being herself.

The Blessing (p.38)

In 1904 on an isolated Jewish agricultural settlement in Manitoba, a new mother believes she is possessed by the demon Lilith and must wrestle the dark force within herself.

Comics: Steve Shuster (p.35)

Steve Shuster was “the very definition of a comic’s comic” (Brent Butt). TJFF honours the brilliance of the late Steve Shuster with a screening of this rare comedy special produced in 1994.

Falling Over Backwards (p.36)

Saul Rubinek plays a middle-aged school teacher who decides to move back to his old Montreal neighbourhood with his divorced father (Paul Soles).

Harvey Atkin's Toronto: A Scrapbook (p.36)

A collection of short film and television pieces, allowing us to appreciate the comic versatility of the late actor Harvey Atkin.

The Law of Averages (p.39)

In the Quebec countryside during a brutal winter, a woman and her adult daughter await the death of their family's matriarch. A dark comedy about the unwitting emotional pain mothers and daughters inflict on each other.

The Making of a President, 1944 (p.36)

A funny and endearing portrait of Jewish life in wartime Sault Ste. Marie, based on a short story by Morley Torgov, starring Melvyn Douglas, Nehemiah Persoff and Paul Soles.

Nana (p.39)

In this beautifully animated short film, Vera Reiner recounts the story of how she survived the Nazi occupation of Austria and Hungary in 1944.

Outside Chance of Maximilian Glick (p.37)

An endearing family film based on Morley Torgov’s award-winning novel about a Jewish twelve-year-old boy in Steelton, Manitoba who becomes smitten with a girl from a Polish family, and finds guidance from the town’s unconventional Hassidic rabbi.

Shehita (p.40)

On a Yiddish-speaking Jewish dairy farm in rural Quebec, tensions, along with demons from the past, rise as the young farmer, the mashgiach and the local Rabbi try to decide what to do about the mysterious illness infecting the cattle.

Stitchers: Tapestry of Spirit (p.40)

Over 1,000 people in nearly 20 countries have taken part in Toronto artist Temma Gentles’ ambitious project to stitch the entire Torah in needlepoint.

Take 90: A Paul Soles Comedy Programme (p.37)

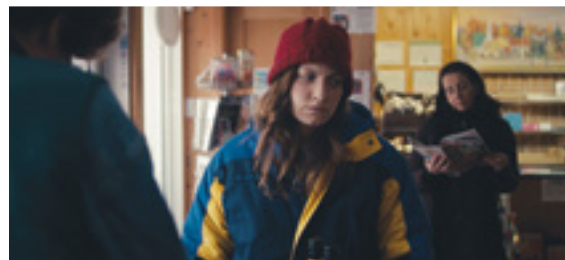
A collection of comedy short film and television work showcasing Paul Soles’ talent and charm as a Canadian comic actor and TV personality.

Today I am a Fountain Pen (p.37)

A rarely-screened CBC adaptation of a story from Morley Torgov’s award-winning memoir, *A Good Place to Come From*, about growing up Jewish in Sault Ste. Marie.

The Wonder and Amazement - Rita Briansky On Her Life in Art (p.35)

Filmmakers Dov Okouneff and Janet Best's (*A New Life on the Land*) portrait of Montreal artist Rita Briansky, who shares her life story, ideas and beautiful reflective works in this life-affirming piece of Canadiana.



OY CANADA: SHORT FILM PROGRAMME

► THURSDAY MAY 10 • 8:30PM • ITH

A wonderful new collection of narrative and documentary short films offering an array of diverse relationships, time periods and places that help define the Canadian Jewish experience: a dark comedy about mother-daughter relationships set against the backdrop of small-town Quebec; a woman possessed by the demon Lilith on an isolated Jewish agricultural settlement in 1904 Manitoba; a moral dilemma facing a Yiddish-speaking Orthodox couple living on a dairy farm in rural Quebec; a filmmaker bringing to life the story of her Russian Jewish grandfather's first arrival in Canada at the turn of the last century; and a lively portrait of a Polish-born painter who at 87 remains a prolific and celebrated artist and teacher inspiring her students.

Adieu My Beloved	(p.38)
The Law of Averages	(p.39)
The Blessing	(p.38)
Shehita	(p.40)
The Wonder and Amazement -	(p.35)
Rita Briansky On Her Life and Art	

Co-presented with: Regent Park Film Festival

FREE TICKETED SCREENINGS / EVENTS

Harvey Atkin's Toronto: A Scrapbook	(p.36)
The Making of a President, 1944	(p.36)
The Outside Chance Of Maximilian	(p.37)
Take 90: A Paul Soles Comedy Programme	(p.37)
Today I Am A Fountain Pen	(p.37)
Zombies And Zionism:	(p.18)
A Talk On New Israeli Horror Film	

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

NXTGN

NEXTGEN SERIES (FOR THOSE 18 - 35)

For the next generation of TJFF film lovers. A taste of what the Festival has to offer at a special price-point.

For pass and ticket information see p.9

NXTGN Films:

Disobedience	(p.24)
Future '38	(p.25)
Juda	(p.26)
Outdoors	(p.27)
Sammy Davis Jr.: I've Gotta Be Me	(p.34)
Simon and Theodore	(p.28)
Spielberg	(p.34)
Standing Up	(p.32)



ZOMBIES AND ZIONISM: A TALK ON NEW ISRAELI HORROR FILMS

45 MIN

SATURDAY MAY 5 • 1:00 PM • AF

FREE

After decades of realist dramas and ethnic comedies, Israeli cinema discovered horror. Dozens of films have come out in just the last few years. This development will be the subject of **Olga Gershenson's** new book based on archival research and in-depth interviews with filmmakers. In this talk, Prof. Gershenson will paint a vivid portrait of the current thriving scene. She will examine the cultural meanings of the horror genre in Israel and ask what these films tell us about historical Jewish trauma, Israeli identity, and national cinema.



MAKE MOTHER'S DAY SPECIAL WITH TJFF

► SUNDAY MAY 13TH

Spend the afternoon with Barbra Streisand, local viral sensation Judy Perly of the Free Times Café, a local needlepoint artist who has inspired people in twenty countries, and an Oscar-winning documentary.

2:30 PM • HD

Bella! Did Ya Eat?: The Story of Judy Perly and Free Times Café (p. 38)

Toronto business owner, artist and Vine sensation Judy Perly tells her story about the chaos that surrounded building her café from the ground up.

Barbra Streisand: Becoming an Icon (p. 33)

This insightful documentary traces how Barbra Streisand became an international superstar. A trailblazer and an unabashedly Jewish icon, Barbra Streisand always "did it her way".

1:00 PM • EW5

Heaven Is A Traffic Jam On The 405 (p. 33)

Acclaimed documentarian Frank Steifel crafts a compelling portrait of a brilliant artist who finds serenity while being stuck in traffic. A 2018 Academy Award winner.

Stitchers: Tapestry of Spirit (p. 40)

An inspiring documentary about Toronto artist Temma Gentles' ambitious project to stitch the entire Torah in needlepoint, and the over 1,000 people in nearly twenty countries who are now taking part in it.



ISRAEL @ 70

For Israel's 70th anniversary, TJFF honours the Israeli arts, and reflects on the country's history and culture, with a series of new documentaries and a rare archival film. Special guests in attendance.

The Earth Cries Out (p. 36)

A forgotten Italian neorealist drama from 1949 on the founding of Israel, and one of the first films to depict the migration of European Jewish refugees to Palestine under British mandate.

Cut to the Chase (p. 30)

A dazzling cinematic jigsaw puzzle whose pieces form a detailed portrait of Israeli masculinity in film over multiple generations.

Kishon (p. 34)

Best known for his prize-winning film *Sallah Shabbati*, Ephraim Kishon is first and foremost a writer whose works have been translated into 40 languages. This film highlights his acerbic wit and zest for life.

The Museum (p. 31)

A fascinating behind-the-scenes look at the Israel Museum in Jerusalem and the colourful cast of characters who pass through its doors on a daily basis.

ASL INTERPRETERS @ TJFF

TJFF is pleased to offer ASL-English Interpreters at the following subtitled screenings to facilitate the film introductions and post-film Q & A's.

The Light of Hope	(p.26)
Longing	(p.26)
The Museum	(p.31)



Paul Soles photo: CBC Still Photo Collection

THREE DEGREES OF SEPARATION: HONOURING HARVEY ATKIN, PAUL SOLES AND MORLEY TORGOV

This year's Canadian archival series focuses on writer Morley Torgov as well as actors Harvey Atkin and Paul Soles and their depictions of the Jewish experience in Canadian film and TV.

The series kicks off with *The Making of a President, 1944*. This CBC TV drama based on a short story taken from Morley Torgov's award-winning memoir, *A Good Place to Come From*, features Soles and Atkin, alongside Melvyn Douglas and Nehemiah Persoff.

Although, he is best known for his voice talents as 'Hermey' in the beloved Rankin/Bass production of *Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer* and 'Spiderman' in the 1967 animated TV series, **Paul Soles** has exhibited both a versatility and charm in numerous Canadian film and TV productions, and served as a longtime talk-show host for the CBC, in a career that now spans over 60 years. This series will showcase a range of his work from sketch comedy and improv (*Ligging About, My 90-Year-Old Roommate*) to more developed characters (*Falling Over Backwards* and *Mortimer Griffin and Shalinsky*).

Harvey Atkin is a local icon best known as 'Morty,' the camp director in *Meatballs* as well as 'staff sergeant captain Ronald Coleman' on *Cagney And Lacey*. Here's an opportunity to appreciate how the late-actor expressed his connection with his Yiddish roots and other ethnic minorities. The programme entitled, *Harvey Atkin's Toronto* allows us to view an episode of Citytv's rarely-screened *Toronto Trilogy* entitled *Neighbours*, as well as other diverse short pieces, and memorable

commercial appearances that made him a fixture of the city and the Jewish community. He also appears in a touching and funny role in the coming-of-age drama *Today I am a Fountain Pen*, based on a story by Morley Torgov.

A practicing lawyer since the mid-Fifties, **Morley Torgov** is also an award-winning writer, who brought to life stories about Jewish communities in small-town Ontario with humour, warmth and a critical eye. He won the Stephen Leacock Medal for Humour for his memoir *A Good Place to Come From* (1974) and *The Outside Chance of Maximilian Glick* (1982). In 2015, he was awarded the Order of Canada for his "contribution to Canadian humour." Today, at age 90, he is still a prolific author, with a successful series of crime novels. Although the film and TV adaptations of his stories were done by other writers (such as Conrad Bromberg, Israel Horovitz and Phil Savath), here is a chance to see how his sensibility was transferred to the screen.

Co-Presented With:
ACTRA Toronto and Ontario Jewish Archives

SCREENINGS:	
Falling Over Backwards	(p.36)
Harvey Atkin's Toronto: A Scrapbook	(p.36)
The Making of a President, 1944	(p.36)
The Outside Chance of Maximilian Glick	(p.37)
Take 90: A Paul Soles Comedy Programme	(p.37)
Today I Am A Fountain Pen	(p.37)



FAMILY FRIENDLY SCREENINGS

The Outside Chance of Maximilian Glick (p.37)
Recommended for ages 9 and up

The Samuel Project (p.27)
Recommended for ages 11 and up



FILMMATTERS

FilmMatters, TJFF's student educational outreach programme, is proudly entering its eleventh year. Offering films free of charge to schools across the GTA, FilmMatters gives teachers a unique opportunity to utilize film as a powerful teaching tool and to engage students in the study of important and relevant issues such as racism, diversity and citizenship. Whether encouraging them to learn from history or introducing them to inspirational figures who are making a difference in today's world, FilmMatters seeks to motivate students to become active participants in "tikkun olam," making the world a better place. The films used in the FilmMatters programme are accompanied with resource packages that teachers can utilise in the classroom both before and after the screenings. These guides provide both context for the film and lesson plans for exploring the issues raised in the film.

FilmMatters Programme Sponsored by: Renette & David Berman



NEW – 'THE CHOSEN FILM' PEOPLE'S CHOICE AWARD

For the favourite film as chosen by Festival audiences. We invite you to cast your vote following each Festival screening you attend. Vote for as many films as you like, using your ticket as your ballot. (Results announced following the Festival)



J-FLIX TJFF'S FREE ONLINE STREAMING PLATFORM

Accessible from anywhere in Canada, J-Flix provides free access to some of the best films from TJFF's past twenty-six years, with new films added regularly. Featuring an assortment of dramas, comedies, documentaries and short films, this streaming platform offers a unique opportunity to enjoy a rich heritage of Jewish film.

Visit j.flix.com and start watching!

OPENING NIGHT FILM



PROMISE AT DAWN / LA PROMESSE DE L'AUBE

TORONTO PREMIERE

FRANCE 2017, 131 MIN

FRENCH

DIRECTOR: ERIC BARBIER

- ▶ THURSDAY MAY 3 • 7:00 PM • VC3
- ▶ SATURDAY MAY 5 • 9:00 PM • EW5

French writer Romain Gary lived an extraordinary life—decorated military officer and two-time winner of the Prix Goncourt (France's highest literary award). In this sensational adaptation of his beloved memoir, Charlotte Gainsbourg (*Melancholia*) and Pierre Niney (*Yves Saint Laurent*) star in this story of a man driven to greatness while in search of maternal approval. Director Eric Barbier offers a sweeping narrative that takes us from Gary's childhood in Poland, to his years as a student in Paris, and his training as a pilot during World War II. "A film that lives up to the original masterpiece novel." (*Marianne*)

Followed by Skype Q&A with director Eric Barbier

Co-presented with: Cinéfranco Francophone International Film Festival

CLOSING NIGHT FILM



RBG

TORONTO PREMIERE

UNITED STATES 2018, 97 MIN

DIRECTORS: JULIE COHEN & BETSY WEST

- ▶ SUNDAY MAY 13 • 8:00 PM • HD

To millennials she is "the notorious RBG", to her grandchildren she is Bubbe, to her friends she is Kiki, but to the rest of us, she is Ruth Bader Ginsburg, the diminutive Supreme Court justice whose fragile appearance belies her outsized contribution to the advancement of women's rights. In this revelatory documentary, Betsy West and Julie Cohen trace her journey from law school through today, weaving home movies, archival footage and interviews with Ginsburg's friends, children, granddaughter and Ginsburg herself. In addition to outlining her considerable legal achievements, the filmmakers highlight Ginsburg's loving relationship with her husband Marty, her most ardent champion.

Followed by Skype Q&A with co-director Julie Cohen

Sponsored by: Marsha Bronfman

DRAMAS & COMEDIES LARGER THAN LIFE



AN ACT OF DEFIANCE

CANADIAN PREMIERE

SOUTH AFRICA / NETHERLANDS 2017, 124 MIN
ENGLISH, AFRIKAANS

DIRECTOR: JEAN VAN DE VELDE

- ▶ MONDAY MAY 7 • 8:30 PM • ITH
- ▶ FRIDAY MAY 11 • 4:00 PM • EW9

In 1963, Nelson Mandela and nine other Black and Jewish South Africans risk their lives to free their country from segregation and are arrested for sabotage. Their lawyer, Bram Fischer puts his own life and career in jeopardy to defend them. In this engaging historical drama, director Jean van de Velde brings to life the true story of the Rivonia trial as seen through the eyes of Fischer, highlighting the role that South African Jews played in the African resistance. A little-known moving story that pays tribute to those who brought an end to Apartheid.

Co-presented with: Toronto South African Film Festival

Sponsored by:

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THE BODY COLLECTOR / DE ZAAK MENTEN

CANADIAN PREMIERE

NETHERLANDS 2016, 142 MIN
DUTCH

DIRECTOR: TIM OLIEHOEK

- ▶ WEDNESDAY MAY 9 • 9:00 PM • HD
- ▶ SUNDAY MAY 13 • 3:00 PM • EW5

Based on the book *The Menten Affair*, this taut thriller brings to life the true story of Hans Knoop, the investigative journalist who fought against all odds to expose the truth about one of Amsterdam's most powerful businessmen, Pieter Menten. When Menten decides to auction part of his famous art collection, an Israeli journalist informs him that the art is stolen, and claims that Menten is a former Nazi responsible for the deaths of many Jews. Guy Clemens (*Meyer's Law*) delivers a strong performance as Hans Knoop.

Co-presented with: PEN Canada

Sponsored by:

Blaney
McMurtry



BUDAPEST NOIR

CANADIAN PREMIERE

HUNGARY 2017, 95 MIN
HUNGARIAN

DIRECTOR: ÉVA GÁRDOS

- ▶ MONDAY MAY 7 • 8:30 PM • EW9
- ▶ FRIDAY MAY 11 • 3:30 PM • ITH

Based on the internationally best-selling novel by the same name, director Éva Gárdos reimagines the dark side of pre-war Hungary. When an unnamed Jewish woman is found dead, rogue reporter Zsigmond relies on the help of a dynamic cast of characters that make up the underside of Budapest. Things become complicated when Zsigmond's lover re-enters the scene. Drawing on the complexities of Hungarian life in pre-war Europe, taking us from brothels to boxing rings and gangsters to politicians, Gardos brings Budapest to life in this classically-styled noir film.

Co-presented with: European Union Film Festival



BYE BYE GERMANY / AUF WIEDERSEHEN DEUTSCHLAND

TORONTO PREMIERE

GERMANY / LUXEMBOURG /
BELGIUM 2017, 100 MIN

GERMAN

DIRECTOR: SAM GARBARSKI

- ▶ SUNDAY MAY 6 • 8:30 PM • EW9
- ▶ TUESDAY MAY 8 • 6:15 PM • HD

A humorous and moving look at Jewish life in post-war Germany. In Frankfurt, David Bermann is a Holocaust survivor with dreams of a new life in America. But that takes money, and smooth-talking David has an idea. Recruiting six survivor friends, he teaches them the tricks of his former trade: how to use flattery and chutzpah to sell bed linens.

DRAMAS & COMEDIES

DRAMAS & COMEDIES

DOCUMENTARIES

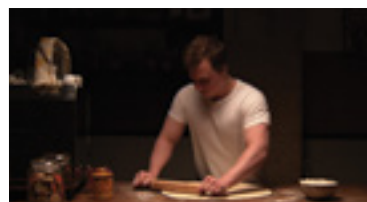
BIOGRAPHIES

ARCHIVAL FILMS

SHORT FILMS

Meanwhile, questions about Bermann's past catch up with him, and US special agent Sara Simon wants answers. Featuring a charming lead performance by Moritz Bleibtreu (*Run Lola Run*).

Co-presented with: Goethe-Institut
Sponsored by: Mel & Renee Stein and Family



THE CAKEMAKER / HAOFE MEBERLIN

TORONTO PREMIERE
GERMANY / ISRAEL 2017, 104 MIN
HEBREW, GERMAN, ENGLISH
DIRECTOR: OFIR RAUL GRAIZER
► **MONDAY MAY 7 • 6:00 PM • ITH**
► **WEDNESDAY MAY 9 • 8:30 PM • EW9**

Bereft over the sudden death of his long-distance lover Oren, Thomas travels to Jerusalem, seeking solace in the city where he can feel closer to his lost love. There, Thomas finds work in the café run by Oren's widow, Anat, and quickly turns the struggling café into a successful business after his talents as a pastry chef are put to use. Unaware of the relationship between her husband and Thomas, Anat finds herself drawn to Thomas. Through their budding romance, director Raul Graizer subtly illustrates the idea that our social, religious and sexual identities are more fluid than fixed.

With: Miriam (6 MIN, p.39)
Special gift from Stubbe Chocolates (while supplies last)
Sponsored by: Gerald & Shanitha Sheff



CLOSENESS / TESNOTA

TORONTO PREMIERE
RUSSIA 2017, 118 MIN
RUSSIAN
DIRECTOR: KANTEMIR BALAGOV
► **FRIDAY MAY 4 • 3:00 PM • EW9**
► **SUNDAY MAY 6 • 7:30 PM • AF**

Kantemir Balagov's tense drama set in the late 90's in the Northern Caucasus region of Russia, reveals an untold story of the last Kavkazi Jews who didn't emigrate to Israel after the Iron Curtain fell. Twenty-four year-old Ilana works in her father's garage to help him make ends meet. One evening, her extended family and friends gather to celebrate the engagement of her younger brother David. Later that night, the young couple disappears. A portrait of a poor and tight-knit Jewish community that is struggling to thrive in a shifting Russia.

Guest: Writer and Professor Anna Shternshis (May 6 screening only)



THE COUSIN / HABEN DOD

TORONTO PREMIERE
ISRAEL 2017, 93 MIN
HEBREW, ARABIC
DIRECTOR: TZAHY GRAD
► **MONDAY MAY 7 • 5:00 PM • EW5**
► **WEDNESDAY MAY 9 • 6:15 PM • HD**

"Extremely impressive... subtly weaves humor into a marvelous offering that keeps you guessing to the very end." (*Huffington Post*) Veteran actor Tzahi Grad (*Big Bad Wolves*, *Eyes Wide Open*) proves himself adept both behind and in front of the camera in this razor-sharp dark comedy. Left-leaning actor Naphtali (Grad) is forced to question his liberal convictions when the Palestinian handyman he hired to work on his studio is accused of committing a crime, and Naphtali is torn between defending him or succumbing to the prejudicial assumptions of his friends and family. "Both humorous and explosive, *The Cousin* is a spirited take on an irrational divide." (*The Hollywood Reporter*).



DISOBEDIENCE

UNITED KINGDOM / IRELAND / UNITED STATES 2017, 114 MIN
DIRECTOR: SEBASTIÁN LELIO
► **SATURDAY MAY 12 • 9:00 PM • HD**

Oscar-winning filmmaker Sebastián Lelio (*A Fantastic Woman*) directs Rachel Weisz and Rachel McAdams in this powerful adaptation of Naomi Alderman's novel about a woman who returns home to her Orthodox North London community and rekindles a romance with her cousin's wife. Following the death of her highly respected rabbi father, Ronit (Weisz) returns to the community she fled years earlier. There she is welcomed back by her childhood friends, Dovid (Alessandro Nivola) and his wife Esti (McAdams). When latent passions between the two women resurface, their futures are thrown into question. *Disobedience* is an absorbing exploration of the boundaries

of faith, sexuality and personal freedom.
Co-presented with: Kulanu
Sponsored by: The Leonard Wolinsky Foundation



DOUBTFUL / MUTALIM BESAFEK

SNEAK PREVIEW
ISRAEL 2017, 88 MIN
HEBREW
DIRECTOR: ELIRAN ELYA
► **FRIDAY MAY 4 • 3:30 PM • VC2**
► **SUNDAY MAY 6 • 6:00 PM • EW9**

In the desert city of Be'ersheva, Assi (Ran Danker) is serving a community service sentence among a group of troubled teens. Using his skills in script-writing and poetry, he helps the teens take control of their narrative by using cameras to record the world around them. The vivacious energy of the group arouses a fresh wind of creativity and hope in Assi's personal and creative life. Through a close relationship with one teen in particular, Assi and the group break through the boundaries of the rehabilitative framework in this moving and inspiring drama.



FUTURE '38

UNITED STATES 2017, 75 MIN
DIRECTOR: JAMIE GREENBERG
► **SATURDAY MAY 12 • 9:00 PM • ITH**

A "time travel masterpiece." (*Austin Chronicle*) Betty Gilpin (*Glow*, *Nurse Jackie*) stars in this hilarious valentine to

the classic screwball comedies of yesteryear. Director Jamie Greenberg has constructed the film as a long-lost Hollywood movie from 1938, presented in an early version of Technicolor. An American agent travels 80 years into the future to recover a powerful weaponized isotope to defeat the Nazis. After landing in 2018—envisioned as an old Hollywood B-movie's conception of the future—he falls for hotel clerk Banky (Gilpin), who assists him on his mission. *Future '38* affectionately recreates the visuals and rhythms of these old films, with plenty of gags, silly and sophisticated. **Guest:** Director Jamie Greenberg
With: The Entertainer (15 MIN, p.38)

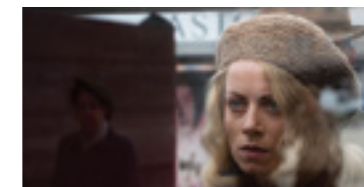


HUMOR ME

CANADIAN PREMIERE
UNITED STATES 2017, 93 MIN
DIRECTOR: SAM HOFFMAN
► **TUESDAY MAY 8 • 8:00 PM • EW5**
► **THURSDAY MAY 10 • 9:00 PM • HD**

After he breaks up with his wife, aspiring playwright Nate (*The Flight of the Conchords* Jemaine Clement) reluctantly moves in with his father Bob (Elliot Gould), a widower who communicates almost entirely through old jokes. Insisting that his son needs to be more disciplined, Bob pushes Nate to get involved in the retirement community where he lives. Soon Nate finds himself in charge of staging a musical starring three eccentric women. Resistant at first, he finds an unexpected connection with these women, leading him on a journey of self-discovery. An endearing comedy with standout performances by Annie Potts and Bebe Neuwirth.

Sponsored by:



THE INVISIBLES / DIE UNSICHTBAREN

CANADIAN PREMIERE
GERMANY 2017, 110 MIN
GERMAN
DIRECTOR: CLAUD RÄFLE
► **TUESDAY MAY 8 • 1:00 PM • ITH**
► **THURSDAY MAY 10 • 5:00 PM • EW5**

Blending interviews with skillful and powerful dramatic re-enactments, *The Invisibles* reveals the untold stories of four Jews who were among the nearly 1,700 who survived the war by hiding in plain sight in Berlin. Hanni dyes her hair blonde to pass as Aryan, while Cioma uses his art skills to forge passports in exchange for food rations. Teen Eugen is handed to a succession of anti-Nazi families and Ruth poses as a war widow. Featuring moving performances, this film shows how the combination of skill, luck and help from brave Berliners allowed these people to remain in a city that the Nazis infamously declared 'judenfrei' – free of Jews.

Co-presented with: Goethe-Institut

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DRAMAS & COMEDIES

DRAMAS & COMEDIES

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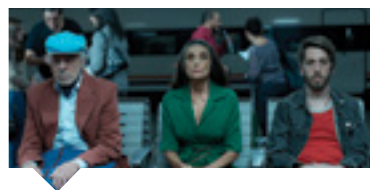
NXTGN

JUDA

NORTH AMERICAN PREMIERE
ISRAEL 2017, 151 MIN
HEBREW, ENGLISH, ROMANIAN, FRENCH
DIRECTOR: MENI YAESH

► SATURDAY MAY 5 • 9:00 PM • RC

With mounting debts and a pocketful of mafia money, Juda Ben Haim (Tzion Baruch) is determined to get rich or die trying. Unfortunately for Juda, a small-time criminal trying his luck in a high-stakes poker game in Romania, he neither gets rich... nor dies trying. Instead, a night of passion transforms him into a reckless Jewish vampire. He will have to find the keys to survive in his new body with the help of his best friend (Amos Tamam, *Srugim* and *The Wedding Plan*). Meeting somewhere between *Snatch* and *Buffy the Vampire Slayer*, this smart mix of humour, suspense, and action will keep you thirsty for more. TJFF presents the first three episodes of this new Israeli TV series. "Here's hoping someone at Netflix is paying attention..." (Liel Leibovitz, *Tablet*) See also *Zombies and Zionism: A Talk on New Israeli Horror Films* (p.18).
Co-presented with: Toronto After Dark Film Festival



THE LAST SUIT / EL ULTIMO TRAJE

TORONTO PREMIERE
SPAIN / ARGENTINA 2017, 89 MIN
SPANISH
DIRECTOR: PABLO SOLARZ

► MONDAY MAY 7 • 6:15 PM • HD
► SATURDAY MAY 12 • 9:30 PM • EW9

This charming road movie delivers an uplifting message about life, family and the kindness of strangers. Abraham Bursztein, an octogenarian tailor, is a man determined to not be put out to pasture. His children have sold his house and registered him in a retirement home, but he has other plans for his future. Intent on finding the man who saved his life years ago, he leaves Buenos Aires and heads to Poland, with a little help from an assortment of eccentric people he meets along the way.

Sponsored by: Izzy & Betty Kirshenbaum Foundation



THE LIGHT OF HOPE / LA LLUM D'ELNA

CANADIAN PREMIERE
SPAIN 2017, 96 MIN
SPANISH
DIRECTOR: SILVIA QUER

► TUESDAY MAY 8 • 8:30 PM • EW9
► THURSDAY MAY 10 • 6:15 PM • HD

Based on true events, *The Light of Hope* is the inspiring story of Elisabeth Eidenbenz, the director of the Elne maternity home located in the south of France on the Spanish border. Throughout the 1930s and 40s, Elne provided refuge for pregnant women fleeing both the Spanish Civil War and Vichy refugee camps, allowing them to give birth in proper conditions and source jobs that would secure a safe future for them. When Pétain's fascist regime tries to close the home in 1942, Eidenbenz and her staff bravely put their own lives in danger to avoid closure.

Guest invited
With: Nana (5 MIN, p.39)
ASL Interpreter will be present at May 10 screening for introduction



LONGING / GAAGUA

ISRAEL 2017, 107 MIN
HEBREW
DIRECTOR: SAVI GABIZON

► TUESDAY MAY 8 • 9:00 PM • HD
► SATURDAY MAY 12 • 9:00 PM • EW5

Bachelor Ariel Bloch (Shai Avivi from *One Week and a Day*) leads a comfortable and pleasant life. Meeting with his ex-girlfriend after 20 years, he learns that they had a son together, who just past away. This sends Ariel on a personal journey as he visits the people close to his son to find out about the child he never knew. In the process, Ariel also has the opportunity to re-visit his own upbringing. Also starring Asi Levi (*Aviva, My Love*) and Neta Riskin (*Shtisel*), this moving dark comedy will stay with you long after the film ends.

ASL Interpreter will be present at May 12 screening for introduction

Sponsored by: Nora & Jacob Dehan



MR. AND MRS. ADELMAN / MONSIEUR ET MADAME ADELMAN

FRANCE / BELGIUM 2017, 120 MIN
FRENCH
DIRECTOR: NICOLAS BEDOS

► WEDNESDAY MAY 9 • 8:00 PM • EW5
► SUNDAY MAY 13 • 5:00 PM • HD

For forty years of married life, Sarah has been the proverbial woman behind the great man, famous author Victor Adelman. After his untimely death, Sarah emerges from the shadows to give her perspective on her celebrated partner to a journalist looking to do an exposé on the man behind his public persona. Director Nicolas Bedos and his real-life partner, Doria Tillier, co-wrote and co-star as the Adelman couple, adding a layer of authenticity to the depiction of a decades-long marriage, with its passions, betrayals and secrets. A complex study of what it means to be married – for better or worse.

Co-presented with: Cinéfranco Francophone International Film Festival



NXTGN

OUTDOORS / BAIT BAGALIL

SNEAK PREVIEW
ISRAEL 2017, 80 MIN
HEBREW
DIRECTOR: ASAF SABAN

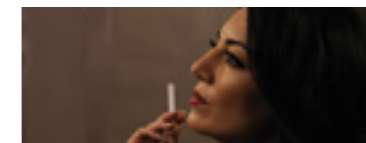
► THURSDAY MAY 10 • 8:00 PM • EW5
► SUNDAY MAY 13 • 2:00 PM • ITH

Frustrated with the fast pace of urban life, aspiring playwright Gili and his wife Yaara (Noa Koler from *The Wedding Plan*) undertake the building of their dream home in the Galilee countryside. As the walls of their new home go up, the foundation of their marriage begins to crack. Asaf Saban's feature debut lays bare the challenges that can threaten any relationship. While the themes of the film are universal, Saban's innovative use of the landscape marks the film as uniquely Israeli.

"*Outdoors* eschews simple marital melodrama for a more wide-ranging generational portrait." (*Screen Daily*)
Guest: Director Asaf Saban

Sponsored by: Nathan & Lily Silver Family Foundation

Guest travel provided by:



RAZZIA

FRANCE, MOROCCO, BELGIUM
2017, 119 MIN
ARABIC, BERBER, FRENCH
DIRECTOR: NABIL AYOUGH

► SUNDAY MAY 6 • 8:30PM • RC
► THURSDAY MAY 10 • 8:30 PM • EW9

Filmmaker Nabil Ayouch weaves an intricate tapestry through the stories of five loosely-connected Moroccans, all of whom fight to forge their own destinies against a backdrop of economic change and mounting religious intolerance. An idealistic Berber teacher, an aspiring francophone feminist, a Jewish restaurateur and two teenagers grappling with their identities and dreams for the future, struggle to find their footing in a society experiencing a new wave of instability. An insightful portrait of modern Morocco and the people who define it.

Guest: Writer and Professor Yigal Nizri
Co-presented with: Communauté Juive Marocaine de Toronto



THE SAMUEL PROJECT

CANADIAN PREMIERE
UNITED STATES 2018, 93 MIN
DIRECTOR: MARC FUSCO

► FRIDAY MAY 4 • 1:00PM • VC2
► SUNDAY MAY 6 • 2:00 PM • EW5

A film for both parents and grandparents to share with their children. Hal Linden of *Barney Miller* fame plays Samuel, a grandfather reconnecting with his grandson when he is made the subject of a high school project. Eli (played by Ryan Ochoa from *ICarly*) discovers that his grandpa, a Jewish dry cleaner, was heroically saved from Nazi capture in Germany. After some hesitation, Samuel agrees to tell his story for the project—a story he hasn't told in over 75 years. Recommended for ages 11+

Guests: actors Hal Linden, Ryan Ochoa and Malina Moye, director Marc Fusco, producers Steve Weinberger and Jeff Deverett

Sponsored by: Renette & David Berman



SAVING NETA / LEHATZIL ET NETA

TORONTO PREMIERE
ISRAEL 2016, 90 MIN
HEBREW
DIRECTOR: NIR BERGMAN

► FRIDAY MAY 4 • 4:00 PM • EW5
► TUESDAY MAY 8 • 6:00 PM • ITH

Outstanding performances by its lead actresses combine to create a powerful drama that **won the audience award at the 2017 Jerusalem Film Festival**. In his fourth feature film, acclaimed director Nir Bergman (*Broken Wings*, *Intimate Grammar*, *Yona*) explores the weight and responsibility of parenthood through the prism of four very different women and their connection to a mysterious man called Neta, as he helps each of them reconnect with their families.

May 8 With: Parallels (5 MIN, p.39)
Sponsored by: Carole & Bernard Zucker

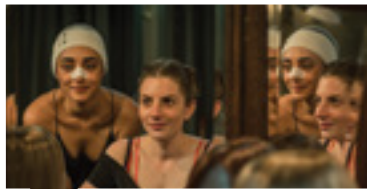
DRAMAS & COMEDIES

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SHELTER / MISTOR

TORONTO PREMIERE
GERMANY / ISRAEL / FRANCE 2017, 93 MIN
HEBREW, ENGLISH
DIRECTOR: ERAN RIKLIS
▶ **SATURDAY MAY 5 • 9:30 PM • EW9**
▶ **MONDAY MAY 7 • 9:00 PM • HD**

In this psychological thriller, director Eran Riklis (*Lemon Tree, Dancing Arabs*) delivers another hard-hitting drama in which identity, vulnerability, and political crisis coalesce into a tense meditation on Israel's conflicts. Mona (Golshifteh Farahani) has been a Lebanese national informant for the Mossad and is now in hiding in Germany. When her identity is compromised, she is forced to undergo facial reconstruction. Naomi (Neta Riskin), a retired Mossad agent, is sent to Hamburg to watch over Mona while she recovers from the surgery, and the two women are tempted to let their guards down.



SIMON & THEODORE

NORTH AMERICAN PREMIERE
FRANCE 2017, 84 MIN
FRENCH
DIRECTOR: MIKAEL BUCH
▶ **SATURDAY MAY 5 • 9:00 PM • AF**
▶ **WEDNESDAY MAY 9 • 5:00 PM • EW5**

In this new, very touching French comedy-drama by director Mikael Buch (*Let My People Go*), Félix Moati gives a moving performance as Simon, an emotionally-troubled man about to become a father with Rivka, his wife who works as a rabbi. He wonders how he can care for his baby when he can barely take care of himself. But his encounter with Théodore, a rebellious teen studying for his Bar Mitzvah, forces him to question his uncertainties. The two misfits set out on a crazy quest that may lead them toward accepting themselves.

Co-presented with: Alliance Française



THE TESTAMENT / HA'EDUT

TORONTO PREMIERE
ISRAEL / AUSTRIA 2017, 90 MIN
HEBREW, GERMAN, ENGLISH, YIDDISH
DIRECTOR: AMICHAH GREENBERG
▶ **MONDAY MAY 7 • 8:00 PM • EW5**
▶ **WEDNESDAY MAY 9 • 8:30 PM • ITH**


Winner of the best Israeli Feature Film at the last Haifa Film Festival, *The Testament* "manages to avoid the familiar tropes of Holocaust movies and to provide a surprising viewpoint." (*Ha'aretz*) Director Amichai Greenberg weaves a tense drama about the ambiguity of truth in the fallout of the Holocaust. Yoel is an international expert in Holocaust research. While undertaking a new research project on a massacre that took place in Austria during the final days of the war, he discovers classified documents which hint that his survivor mother is living under an assumed identity. The further he plunges into his research the more he doubts his mother's

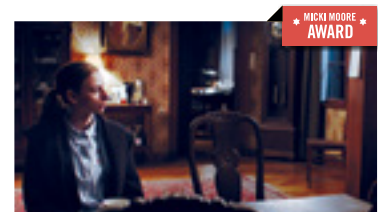
Jewish identity. A mystery about a man who is willing to risk everything to discover the truth.

Guest: Director Amichai Greenberg
With: Next Stop (10 MIN, p.39)
Guest travel provided by

Sponsored by:  

Guest travel provided by

 THE JERUSALEM FOUNDATION OF CANADA
LA FONDATION DE JERUSALEM DU CANADA
הקרן לירושלים קנדה صندوق القدس كندا



WINTER HUNT / WINTERJAGD

CANADIAN PREMIERE
GERMANY 2017, 74 MIN
GERMAN
DIRECTOR: ASTRID SCHULT
▶ **SUNDAY MAY 6 • 4:00 PM • EW9**
▶ **THURSDAY MAY 10 • 1:00 PM • ITH**

In this taut psychological thriller, a woman tries to take justice into her own hands as she shows up on the doorstep of a remote mansion. Lena claims her car has broken down, but her arrival is intentional. She is in pursuit of Anselm, an elderly Auschwitz guard who lives with his daughter Maria. They both deny Anselm's Nazi past, but Lena is determined to get him to confess. Anchored by excellent performances, *Winter Hunt* is filled with revelations that will keep you on the edge of your seat.

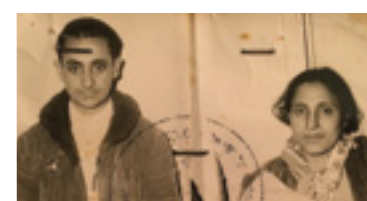
DOCUMENTARIES: FASCINATING BUT TRUE



ABOVE THE DROWNING SEA

CANADIAN PREMIERE
CANADA 2017, 92 MIN
ENGLISH, CHINESE
DIRECTORS: RENE BALCER & NICOLA ZAVAGLIA
▶ **MONDAY MAY 7 • 3:30 PM • ITH**
▶ **THURSDAY MAY 10 • 6:00 PM • EW9**

The heartwarming story of the Jews who fled Nazi Europe and emigrated to Shanghai. Issued by the Chinese Consul General in Vienna at great peril to his own life, "Golden Visas" allowed Jewish refugees to come to Shanghai, a city that was itself in chaos from foreign invasion. *Above the Drowning Sea* follows the lifelong friendships that developed among the people of Shanghai and the Jews who survived the war, creating new lives for themselves in this safe haven. In the context of today's refugee crisis, the film is a timely reminder of those who acted so heroically years ago. Narrated by Julianna Margulies.
Guest: Co-director Nicola Zavaglia (May 10 only)
Co-presented with: Reel Asian International Film Festival
Sponsored by:



THE ANCESTRAL SIN / SALLAH, PO ZE ERETZ ISRAEL

CANADIAN PREMIERE
ISRAEL 2017, 109 MIN
HEBREW, ARABIC
DIRECTOR: DAVID DERI
▶ **FRIDAY MAY 11 • 3:30 PM • AF**
▶ **SUNDAY MAY 13 • 1:30 PM • EW9**

Using testimonials and previously-sealed government transcripts, director David Deri uncovers an unsettling dark chapter in the narrative of how Israel was settled and reveals the racism that shaped the country. In the early 20th century, the Jewish Agency's social housing project was an integral program to settle the land of Israel. Most Jewish immigrants wanted to live in the cities. In order to help population dispersion, the Jewish Agency responded to this trend, using questionable means to convince mostly Sephardic and Mizrahi immigrants to settle in the most destitute areas of the country.
Guest Invited
Co-presented with: JAYU Human Rights Film Festival



ANOTHER PLANET / PLANETA AHERET

CANADIAN PREMIERE
ISRAEL / GERMANY / BELGIUM 2017, 48 MIN
HEBREW, GERMAN, POLISH
DIRECTOR: AMIR YATZIV
▶ **WEDNESDAY MAY 9 • 6:00 PM • EW9**
▶ **THURSDAY MAY 10 • 1:00 PM • AF**

Director Amir Yatziv uses animation to explore the way in which 21st century technology is utilized to document and preserve the historical memory of the Holocaust. A German prosecutor preparing to try an accused Nazi, an Israeli game developer, and a German architect working with an Israeli historian, each have their own reasons for creating virtual worlds that simulate Auschwitz. Avatars of each of these creators guide the viewer through their simulated camps, explaining their motivations. The result is a revelatory new chapter in the ongoing quest to understand and memorialize the Shoah.
Guest: Hadas Binyamini, M.I., University of Toronto (2018), Phd student, New York University
With: 116 Cameras (16 MIN, p.38)
Co-presented with: Sarah and Chaim Neuberger Holocaust Education Centre

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CUT TO THE CHASE / GEVER MEHASRATIM

NORTH AMERICAN PREMIERE
ISRAEL 2017, 60 MIN
HEBREW
DIRECTOR: NOIT GEVA
► **SUNDAY MAY 6 • 3:30 PM • AF**
► **THURSDAY MAY 10 • 3:00 PM • EW5**

Must-see viewing for fans of Israeli film. *Cut to the Chase* is a love letter to cinema and an insightful exploration of what it means to be male in Israeli society. Director Noit Geva has painstakingly assembled fragments of hundreds of films from the 1960s until today, editing them to form a new narrative: the story of the Israeli man, from childhood to adult, from schoolboy to soldier, from son to father and from boyfriend to husband. The result is a dazzling cinematic jigsaw puzzle whose pieces form a detailed portrait of Israeli masculinity as portrayed in film over multiple generations.

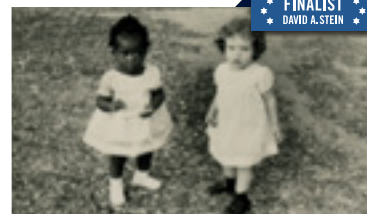


ELISH'S NOTEBOOKS / HAMACHBAROT SHEL ELISH

CANADIAN PREMIERE
ISRAEL 2017, 74 MIN
HEBREW
DIRECTOR: GOLAN RISE
► **MONDAY MAY 7 • 3:30 PM • AF**
► **FRIDAY MAY 11 • 3:00 PM • EW5**

After 82-year-old Elisheva Rise passed away, her children find boxes of journals she'd secretly written, documenting their lives from their birth until her last days. Strangely, she wrote about her seven children in the first person voice of each child. In this fascinating documentary, the adult children embark on an emotional journey, reading, for the first time, what their mother wrote about them. This personal documentary sheds light on what it was like to grow up on a kibbutz, as well as the universal experiences of childhood, motherhood, and parenting.

With: Large Soldier (23 MIN, p.39)



THE LAST GOLDFISH

CANADIAN PREMIERE
AUSTRALIA / CANADA / GERMANY / TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO 2017, 81 MIN
DIRECTOR: SU GOLDFISH
► **FRIDAY MAY 4 • 12:00 PM • EW9**
► **THURSDAY MAY 10 • 3:30 PM • AF**

Winner of the Audience Award at the Sydney Film Festival, Su Goldfish's film takes us on an emotionally moving journey into her family's past. From Germany to Trinidad, Australia to Canada, her family history is a sweeping tale of displacement and resettlement. Through a personal archive of home movies and photographs, she pieces together the threads of her father's life, uncovering surprising revelations along the way, including the fact that her father was married before and that she has half siblings living halfway across the world. *The Last Goldfish* underscores a universal need to know who we are

and where we come from.

Followed by Skype Q&A with director Su Goldfish (May 10 only)



THE LAST RESORT

CANADIAN PREMIERE
UNITED STATES 2018, 70 MIN
DIRECTORS: DENNIS SCHOLL & KAREEM TABSCH
► **SUNDAY MAY 6 • 5:00 PM • EW5**
► **TUESDAY MAY 8 • 3:30 PM • ITH**

Featuring archival materials as well as interviews with Pulitzer Prize winner Edna Buchanan and filmmaker Kelly Reichardt, this vivid documentary is a **celebration of a once Jewish paradise.** Drawn by the low cost of living, sunny weather, and thriving cultural life, thousands of Jewish retirees from the Northeast came to Miami, seeking refuge from the harsh winters. By the 1970's, these seasonal visitors became year-round residents. In 1977, best friends and photographers, Andy Sweet and Gary Monroe, embarked on an ambitious project to document the population of Miami Beach. This remarkable collection of photographs is an invaluable history of Miami's Jewish community.

With: Wendy's Shabbat (10 MIN, p.40)

Co-presented with: Ryerson Image Centre



LIBYA: THE LAST EXODUS / LIBIA: L'ULTIMO ESODO

CANADIAN PREMIERE
ITALY 2017, 65 MIN
ITALIAN, HEBREW, ARABIC
DIRECTOR: RUGGERO GABBAI
► **MONDAY MAY 7 • 6:00 PM • EW9**
► **WEDNESDAY MAY 9 • 3:30 PM • AF**

A cast of Libyan Jews from around the world, including Toronto, reflects on their North African homeland. From Italian colonization, through foreign domination, and seamless cohabitation with the local Arab population, the film depicts the life of the Jews of Libya, who lived in the country for centuries. In 1967, events in Israel incited violence towards Jews around the Middle East, and this peaceful community was forced to leave. The film's protagonists, now mostly residing in Italy and Israel, recall their Libyan life, expressing mixed feelings.

Guest: Film participant Walter Arbib (May 7 only)

With: Journey Birds (9 MIN, p.39)

Co-presented with: Istituto Italiano di Cultura

Sponsored by: Walter & Edie Arbib



THE MUSEUM 70

CANADIAN PREMIERE
ISRAEL 2017, 74 MIN
HEBREW, ENGLISH
DIRECTOR: RAN TAL
► **TUESDAY MAY 8 • 6:00 PM • EW9**
► **THURSDAY MAY 10 • 5:30 PM • ITH**

"Exhilarating... a masterful look at the Israel Museum, which goes much deeper than a conventional documentary." (*The Jerusalem Post*) Over a period of 18 months, filmmaker Ran Tal (*The Garden of Eden, Children of the Sun*) observes the daily life of the Israel Museum in Jerusalem. A cast of colourful characters emerge: a singing security guard, the American museum director, the Jerusalemite curator, the Haredi kashrut inspector, custodians, tour guides and visitors as they pass through its doors. We are also given insight into the Museum's attempts to incorporate Palestinian representation into its collection. Tal's elegantly shot film shows us not only a microcosm of Israeli society, but also how this institution seeks to both reflect and mold Israeli history and culture.

ASL Interpreter will be present at May 8 screening for introduction and post-film Q & A

Guest: Director Ran Tal

May 10 with: The Red House (20 MIN, p.40)

Co-presented with: Hot Docs Canadian International Documentary Festival and JSpace Canada

Sponsored by:



THE N°5 WAR / LA GUERRE DU NUMÉRO 5

CANADIAN PREMIERE
FRANCE 2017, 52 MIN
FRENCH, ENGLISH
DIRECTOR: STÉPHANE BENHAMOU
► **SUNDAY MAY 6 • 5:30 PM • AF**
► **TUESDAY MAY 8 • 3:30 PM • EW9**

In 1921, Gabrielle "Coco" Chanel created her iconic fragrance, Chanel N°5, which quickly became the

ultimate symbol of luxury. French-Jewish businessmen, the Wertheimer brothers, financially backed the perfume. Never satisfied with the ownership agreement, Chanel used her Vichy connections and the war's Aryanization laws to try to force the Wertheimers out of the contract. Stéphane Benhamou's film is a fascinating exposé of the woman behind the luxury brand, including her affair with a high ranking Nazi intelligence officer. Investigated for collaboration after the war, Chanel was released due to lack of evidence.

Followed by Skype Q&A with director Stéphane Benhamou

Co-presented with: Canadian International Fashion Film Festival and Alliance Française



THE OSLO DIARIES

ISRAEL / CANADA 2018, 98 MIN
ENGLISH, HEBREW, ARABIC
DIRECTORS: MOR LOUSHY & DANIEL SIVAN
► **SUNDAY MAY 6 • 8:00 PM • EW5**

Critically-acclaimed at the 2018 Sundance Film Festival, this documentary from directors Mor Loushy (*Censored Voices*) and Daniel Sivan brings to life the untold story of the secret negotiations between Israelis and Palestinians that would ultimately lead to the historic Oslo Accords. Combining diary entries from the various negotiators, dramatic re-enactments and interviews with the key players, Loushy and Sivan provide a comprehensive overview of the multiple obstacles that were overcome, from the initial secret meetings between two Israeli professors and three members of the Palestine

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Liberation Front to the historic handshake between Rabin and Arafat. An affirmative lesson in the possibility of compromise against all odds.

Followed by Skype Q&A with co-director Mor Loushy

With: Be/Longing (30 MIN, p.38)

Co-presented with: Hot Docs Canadian International Documentary Festival



REMEMBER BAGHDAD

CANADIAN PREMIERE
UNITED KINGDOM / IRAQ /
ISRAEL 2016, 72 MIN
DIRECTOR: FIONA MURPHY

- ▶ **WEDNESDAY MAY 9 • 6:00 PM • ITH**
- ▶ **FRIDAY MAY 11 • 12:00 PM • EW5**

The attitude used to be “Jews, Muslims, Christians, ‘we are all Iraqis.’” For over 2500 years, Jews were an integral community in Iraq. However, over the last 80 years, Iraq has been depleted of its Jewish community through three significant waves, leaving an estimated 5 remaining Jews as of 2013. Director Fiona Murphy follows one British Iraqi Jew on his quest to revive the Jewish presence in Northern Iraq, and brings us face-to-face with a host of Iraqi Jews from around the world who remember their ancient homeland fondly.

With: Five Years After The War (16 MIN, p.38)

Co-presented with: The Iraqi Jewish Association of Ontario



SAVING AUSCHWITZ? / SAUVER AUSCHWITZ ?

TORONTO PREMIERE
FRANCE 2016, 60 MIN
FRENCH
DIRECTOR: JONATHAN HAYOUN

- ▶ **TUESDAY MAY 8 • 3:30 PM • AF**
- ▶ **FRIDAY MAY 11 • 1:00 PM • EW9**

Could Auschwitz lose its true meaning and risk disappearing altogether? Visited by over two million people each year, Auschwitz-Birkenau is the Nazi extermination camp most closely associated with the Shoah. This revealing documentary traces the camp’s history since its liberation, chronicling various attempts to exploit or rewrite its past. Declared a site of Polish martyrdom when the museum opened there in 1947, the film explores the efforts by the Jewish community to ensure that Auschwitz remains a Jewish memorial. As the number of living survivors decreases, new challenges emerge including desensitization through mass tourism.

With: Six After Seventy (22 MIN, p.40)

Co-presented with: Facing History and Ourselves and Polish-Jewish Heritage Foundation of Canada



SHALOM BOLLYWOOD: THE UNTOLD STORY OF INDIAN CINEMA

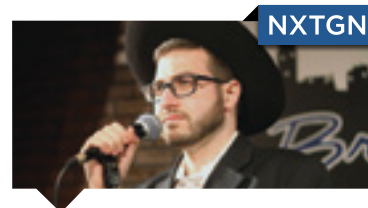
CANADIAN PREMIERE
AUSTRALIA 2017, 75 MIN
DIRECTOR: DANNY BEN-MOSHE

- ▶ **SUNDAY MAY 6 • 1:00 PM • EW9**
- ▶ **WEDNESDAY MAY 9 • 3:30 PM • ITH**

Delightful, charismatic, and fast-paced, *Shalom Bollywood* is a stunning portrait of Jewish cultural accomplishments. When Indian cinema began 100 years ago, it was frowned upon for Hindu and Muslim women to perform on screen, so Indian Jewish women took on female lead roles and dominated this space for decades. By introducing us to some of India’s great Jewish actors, director Danny Ben-Moshe presents a fascinating story about how the ancient Indian Jewish community and the more contemporary Iraqi transplants successfully contributed to, arguably, India’s greatest cultural export—Bollywood.

Guest: Victor Abraham, nephew of Bollywood film star David Abraham

Co-presented with: International Film Festival of South Asia



STANDING UP

CANADIAN PREMIERE
UNITED STATES 2017, 76 MIN
DIRECTOR: JONATHAN MILLER

- ▶ **TUESDAY MAY 8 • 8:30 PM • ITH**
- ▶ **SUNDAY MAY 13 • 4:30 PM • EW9**

Filmmaker Jonathan Miller follows an Orthodox Jew, a personal injury lawyer and a janitor as they risk everything for a chance at the spotlight. These unlikely aspiring comedians have their love of comedy tested again and again as they find their voices in the cut-throat New York stand-up scene. They each must ultimately decide how far they’re willing to go—and what they’re willing to sacrifice—for a laugh. A moving, and at times, hilarious documentary about the power of comedy to transform the lives of three very different people chasing the same dream.

Guests: Director Jonathan Miller and producer Katharine Accardo

May 8 With: Comics: Steve Shuster (23 MIN, p.35)

Sponsored by: Mel & Renee Stein and Family



VIENNA BEFORE NIGHTFALL / VIENNE AVANT LA NUIT

NORTH AMERICAN PREMIERE
FRANCE / GERMANY / AUSTRIA 2016, 90 MIN
FRENCH, YIDDISH
DIRECTOR: ROBERT BOBER

- ▶ **FRIDAY MAY 4 • 1:30 PM • VC3**
- ▶ **MONDAY MAY 7 • 3:30 PM • EW9**

Filmmaker Robert Bober takes us on a journey of Austria’s rich Jewish literary and artistic history pre-World War II, when the city was considered the European cultural capital. Stories of Bober’s family are intertwined with those of Viennese intellectuals including Stefan Zweig, Arthur Schnitzler and Sigmund Freud who lived in the city during this period. Combining archival footage, old photographs, images of modern Vienna and some beautiful Yiddish narration, Bober crafts a poetic exploration of Viennese Jewish life, from the collapse of the Habsburg Empire to the Anschluss by Nazi Germany.

With: The Scribe (10 MIN, p.40)

BIOGRAPHIES:

PEOPLE YOU WOULD LOVE TO HAVE HOT WATER AND LEMON WITH



BARBRA STREISAND, BECOMING AN ICON / BARBRA STREISAND, NAISSANCE D'UNE DIVA

TORONTO PREMIERE
FRANCE 2016, 52 MIN
DIRECTOR: NICOLAS MAUPIED

- ▶ **THURSDAY MAY 10 • 3:30 PM • EW9**
- ▶ **SUNDAY MAY 13 • 2:30 PM • HD**

Hello Gorgeous! This insightful documentary traces how Barbra Streisand became an international superstar. Beginning with her childhood in Brooklyn, we follow as she navigates her dreams of becoming a singer and actress. Refusing to have her nose ‘fixed’, she helped usher in new standards of beauty. Standing up for women in a male dominated industry, Barbra never backed down, and ultimately became the first woman to direct and star in a studio movie (*Yentl*). Nicknamed a farbrendt (firecracker) by her grandmother, Barbra Streisand is a trailblazer and an unabashedly Jewish icon. As this film reminds us, she always “did it her way”!

With: Bella! Did ya eat?: The Story of Judy Perly and Free Times Cafe (14 MIN, p.38)

Sponsored by:



HEAVEN IS A TRAFFIC JAM ON THE 405

UNITED STATES 2016, 39 MIN
DIRECTOR: FRANK STIEFEL

- ▶ **FRIDAY MAY 11 • 1:00 PM • AF**
- ▶ **SUNDAY MAY 13 • 1:00 PM • EW5**

2018 Academy Award winner. Most people wouldn’t find serenity while being stuck in traffic, but Mindy Alper isn’t like most people. Acclaimed documentarian Frank Steifel (TJFF David A. Stein Memorial Award Winner for *Ingelore*) crafts a compelling portrait of a brilliant artist who is able to channel her extreme depression and anxiety into raw, emotional drawings and sculptures. *Heaven is a Traffic Jam on the 405* traces how she has emerged from a life of isolation to one that includes love, trust and laughter.

With: Stitchers: Tapestry of Spirit (15 MIN, p.40)

Co-presented with: Rendez Vous with Madness Festival

Sponsored by: Dover Family



KISHON 70

NORTH AMERICAN PREMIERE

ISRAEL 2017, 87 MIN

HEBREW

DIRECTOR: ELIAV LILTI

► FRIDAY MAY 4 • 1:00 PM • EW5

► FRIDAY MAY 11 • 1:00 PM • ITH

Ephraim Kishon is perhaps best known for directing *Sallah Shabati*, a film that garnered multiple awards and put Israeli cinema on the world stage. But Kishon is first and foremost a writer whose books and plays have been translated into over 40 languages and have earned him the Israel Prize. This documentary paints an intimate portrait of the legendary artist through interviews, archival footage and in-depth conversations. The result is a captivating film that highlights Kishon's acerbic wit, playful approach to language and above all, his zest for life. **Followed by Skype Q&A with producer Arik Bernstein** (May 4 only)

Sponsored by: Joel & Jill Reitman



MONKEY BUSINESS: THE ADVENTURES OF CURIOUS GEORGE'S CREATORS

UNITED STATES 2017, 81 MIN

DIRECTOR: EMA RYAN YAMAZAKI

► SUNDAY MAY 6 • 1:00 PM • AF

► TUESDAY MAY 8 • 5:00 PM • EW5

Although not made for children, this charming documentary recounts the fascinating story of Hans and Margret Rey, co-creators of *Curious George*. Born in Hamburg to successful Jewish families, they fled Germany with the rise of Nazism. Marrying in Brazil, they then moved to Paris where George was conceived. After fleeing Paris on bicycle, they made their way to America where their stories about a curious monkey delighted children and adults alike. The film seamlessly incorporates animation that captures George's whimsy to tell a story about two opposites—Hans the dreamer and Margret the entrepreneur—who together created a character that continues to touch hearts and minds around the world.

With: Lon (7 MIN, p.39)

Sponsored by:

GANZ

FAMILY FOUNDATION



SAMMY DAVIS, JR.: I'VE GOTTA BE ME

UNITED STATES 2017, 100 MIN

DIRECTOR: SAM POLLARD

► SUNDAY MAY 6 • 5:30 PM • RC

► WEDNESDAY MAY 9 • 3:30 PM • EW9

"I'm Puerto Rican, Jewish, colored and married to a white woman — when I move into a neighborhood, I wipe it out" (Sammy Davis, Jr.) An exhilarating documentary that charts the life of the legendary, multi-talented performer—his complexities, contradictions and his determination to define himself on his own terms. Spike Lee collaborator, Sam Pollard

intelligently examines this larger-than-life personality against the politics and prejudices of the times, with plenty of help from interviews with luminaries such as Billy Crystal, Norman Lear, Jerry Lewis, Whoopi Goldberg and Kim Novak. Featuring never-before-seen photographs from Davis' vast personal collection and excerpts from his electric performances in television, film and concert.

Co-presented with: Toronto Black Film Festival

Sponsored by: Joan Sohn



Photo: Courtesy of HBO

SPIELBERG

UNITED STATES 2017, 147 MIN

DIRECTOR: SUSAN LACY

► SUNDAY MAY 13 • 4:30 PM • ITH

Director Susan Lucy (*Leonard Bernstein: Reaching for the Note*) delivers an artful glimpse into one of the most celebrated and influential directors of our time. For the first time, Steven Spielberg steps in front of the lens to open up about his parents' divorce, his connection to his Jewish roots and his love for the camera. This is the story of a man whose films, such as *E.T.*, *Jaws*, *Raiders of the Lost Ark* and *Schindler's List*, changed the way we look at life through film. The documentary is rich with archival footage and interviews with family members and fellow directors Martin Scorsese, George Lucas and Francis Ford Coppola. This is must-see viewing for Spielberg fans.



THE WONDER AND AMAZEMENT - RITA BRIANSKY ON HER LIFE IN ART

WORLD PREMIERE

CANADA 2018, 39 MIN

DIRECTORS: DOV OKOUNEFF & JANET BEST

► THURSDAY MAY 10 • 8:30 PM • ITH

Montreal artist Rita Briansky has had her paintings displayed in museums across Canada, the United States, Norway and France. Growing up in a small lumber town in Northern Ontario and then in Montreal, Rita was always a loner and non-conformist by nature. Now at 87 years old, while still painting, she imparts her ideas and talent as a teacher to seniors, helping them live more productive lives. Filmmakers Dov Okouneff and Janet Best (*A New Life on the Land*) share her life story and ideas as well as her beautiful, reflective works in this life-affirming piece of Canadiana. **Guests:** Directors Dov Okouneff and Janet Best, and film subject Rita Briansky **Part of** Oy Canada: A Short Film Programme (p.18) **Sponsored by:** Dover Family

ARCHIVAL FILMS: FROM THE VAULTS



THE ANCIENT LAW / DAS ALTE GESETZ

CANADIAN PREMIERE OF NEW DIGITAL RESTORATION

GERMANY 1923/2018, 137 MIN

DIRECTOR: EWALD ANDRÉ DUPONT

► SUNDAY MAY 6 • 2:00 PM • RC

"One of the hottest tickets at the 68th Berlin International Film Festival" (Hannah Brown, *The Jerusalem Post*) was the new digital restoration of E.A. Dupont's *The Ancient Law*. This 1923 German silent film about Jewish life in 19th Century Europe is a precursor to Warner Bros' *The Jazz Singer*. Based on the memoirs of Heinrich Laube, the director of the Vienna Burgtheater in the mid-1900s, the film tells the story of a rabbi's son who yearns to become an actor, against the wishes of his father. It also features wonderful scenes depicting shtetl life. This important piece of German-Jewish cinematic history will be shown **with live musical accompaniment by pianist Donald Sosin and Klezmer violinist Alicia Svigals**, playing their newly-commissioned score for the film. **Featuring a video introduction with Professor and writer Cynthia Walk** **Co-presented with:** Ashkenaz Festival and Toronto Silent Film Festival



COMICS: STEVE SHUSTER

CANADA 1994, 23 MIN

DIRECTOR: JOEL GOLDBERG

► TUESDAY MAY 8 • 8:30 PM • ITH

Steve Shuster was "the very definition of a comic's comic" (Brent Butt). TJFF honours the brilliance of the late Steve Shuster with a screening of this rare comedy special produced in 1994. Appearing in the early days of the Canadian stand-up scene of the 1970s, Shuster was greatly admired by his peers. "While other standups were struggling with making their acts as autobiographical as possible, Shuster was a staunch absurdist with an incredible ability to mimic and skewer pop culture." (Mark Breslin) This comic sensibility is on display in this collection of stand-up, sketches and songs; even his father, famous funnyman Frank Shuster, is in a comedy bit. *Comics: Steve Shuster* shown courtesy of CBC. **Guest:** Comedian Simon Rakoff **With:** Standing Up (76 MIN, p.32)

ARCHIVAL FILMS



THE EARTH CRIES OUT / IL GRIDO DELLA TERRA 70

ITALY 1949, 90 MIN
ITALIAN
DIRECTOR: DUILIO COLETTI
► FRIDAY MAY 4 • 4:00 PM • VC3

Ten years before Paul Newman starred in *Exodus*, this forgotten Italian neo-realist drama on the founding of Israel was one of the first films to tell about the migration of European Jews to Palestine under British mandate. *The Earth Cries Out* is the story of three comrades who fought together in WW2 and become enemies in the years leading up to the declaration of the State of Israel—a British colonist, a member of the Irgun and a Haganah soldier. “Shot in black and white, with a cast of professional actors and ‘real people’ in Rome and southern Italy, *The Earth Cries Out* has the convincing, intimately human look, if not the loose structure, of its neo-realist contemporaries.” (Suzanne Ruta, *The Forward*) Subtitles courtesy of Centro Primo Levi NY. Copy preserved by Archivio Film – Cineteca Nazionale – Roma.

Guest: Writer and Professor Carlo Coen
Co-presented with: Istituto Italiano di Cultura Toronto



Photo: Courtesy of TIFF Film Reference Library

FALLING OVER BACKWARDS

CANADA 1990, 100 MIN
DIRECTOR: MORT RANSEN
► THURSDAY MAY 10 • 3:00 PM • ITH

In Mort Ransen's (*Margaret's Museum*) endearing dramatic comedy, Mel, a middle-aged school teacher (Saul Rubinek) has split up with his wife and decides to move back to his old Montreal neighbourhood with his divorced father (Paul Soles). They form the perfect odd couple, even as they share a common sadness at their respective dead ends. They are shaken out of their state by the spirited French-Canadian landlady (Julie St-Pierre) who lives upstairs. Mort Ransen and his splendid cast bring these characters to life with a deep understanding of their foibles, frustrations and prejudices.

Guest: Actor Paul Soles
Co-presented with: ACTRA Toronto



HARVEY ATKIN'S TORONTO: A SCRAPBOOK

CANADA 1978-2012, 80 MIN
► SATURDAY MAY 12 • 6:00 PM • ITH

Set mostly in Toronto, this collection of short film and television work allows us to appreciate the versatility of the late Harvey Atkin and his connection with his Yiddish roots and other ethnic minorities. Produced as part of CityTV's *Toronto Trilogy* in 1984, *Neighbours* has Atkin playing Talic, an immigrant from a middle-European country in a comedy about culture clash set in Toronto's Annex. Predating the *Old Jews Telling Jokes* phenomenon, Alan Gordon's TV pilot *Now That's Funny* has Harvey and other actors of his generation—Jack Newman, John Stocker, Tom Harvey—exchanging jokes at Yitz's Deli. Last, *The Balcony Affair* has Atkin and Anne Anglin playing two elderly strangers who

engage in an unusual courtship from the distance of their balconies. This short film collection is sprinkled with some of Harvey's iconic commercial appearances and other fun surprises.

Guests: Actors Jack Newman and Theresa Tova and agent Larry Goldhar
Co-presented with: ACTRA Toronto
Sponsored by:



THE MAKING OF A PRESIDENT, 1944

CANADA 1978, 60 MIN
DIRECTOR: ROBERT STEVENS
► SATURDAY MAY 5 • 3:30 PM • AF

A funny and endearing portrait of Jewish life in wartime Sault Ste. Marie, based on a short story by Morley Torgov. When the mayor invites the president of the Jewish congregation to speak at the town's upcoming ecumenical war bonds rally, the Jewish elders see this as a window of possible acceptance by the non-Jewish leaders of the town. Unfortunately, the president has just quit and nobody in their right mind wants the thankless position. Who can they find to properly represent the Jews of the town? A sadly-forgotten CBC teleplay **starring Melvyn Douglas, Nehemiah Persoff, Paul Soles, Paul Kligman, Alfie Scopp, Harvey Atkin and a fifteen-year-old Mike Myers.** **Guests:** Producer Robert Sherrin, writer Morley Torgov, actor Paul Soles, moderated by TV critic Bill Brioux
Co-presented with: Ontario Jewish Archives and ACTRA Toronto
Sponsored by Shirley Granovsky



Photo: Courtesy of TIFF Film Reference Library

THE OUTSIDE CHANCE OF MAXIMILIAN GLICK

CANADA 1988, 97 MIN
DIRECTOR: ALLAN A. GOLDSTEIN
► SATURDAY MAY 12 • 12:00 PM • ITH

“A delightful family film filled with wonder and insight” (Douglas Kirshner, *Video Insider*). A rare chance to catch this endearing Canadian classic currently out of circulation. Based on Morley Torgov's award-winning novel, *Maximilian Glick* is the story of a Jewish twelve-year-old boy in Steeltown, Manitoba (played by Noam Zylberman) who becomes smitten with Celia Brzjinski (Fairuza Balk), a girl from a Polish family whom he is partnered with in a piano competition. Under the thumb of his strict family, he finds guidance in the town's newly-arrived Hassidic rabbi (Saul Rubinek). Featuring a wonderful supporting cast that includes Jan Rubes, Aaron Schwartz and Howard Jerome. Recommended for Ages 9 and up
Co-presented with: Ontario Jewish Archives
Sponsored by Shirley Granovsky



TAKE 90: A PAUL SOLES COMEDY PROGRAMME

CANADA 1966-2018, 90 MIN
► SATURDAY MAY 5 • 6:00 PM • AF

A collection of comedy short film and television work showcasing Paul Soles' talent and charm as a Canadian comic actor and TV personality. A hit during TJFF's tribute to Mordecai Richler last

year, *Mortimer Griffin and Shalinsky* is one of the best adaptations of the writer's work. Not screened in over fifty years, *Ligging About* is a 1966 TV production of a comedy revue staged at Toronto's Theatre-in-the-Dell, written by Paul McDowell (British comedian and writer for the BBC's *That Was the Week That Was* and *The Frost Report*) and Barry Baldaro. More recent is Soles' role in the web series, *My 90-Year-Old Roommate*, for which he won a Canadian Screen Award. **A must for Soles' fans, comedy nerds and those interested in Canadian TV history.** **Guests:** Actors Paul Soles and Ron Lea, TV and radio journalist Mary Lou Finlay, moderated by TV producer and historian Mark Selby
Co-presented with: ACTRA Toronto



Photo: Courtesy of CBC Still Photo Collection

TODAY I AM A FOUNTAIN PEN

CANADA 1980, 90 MIN
DIRECTOR: HERBERT WISE
► SATURDAY MAY 12 • 3:00 PM • ITH

With a teleplay written by Israel Horovitz, this rarely-screened CBC production is a sensitive adaptation of a story from Morley Torgov's award-winning memoir, *A Good Place to Come From*, about growing up Jewish in Sault Ste. Marie. Living above his family's dry goods store, ten-year-old Irving Yanover (Allan Levson) has a crush on his family's Ukrainian housekeeper Annie, played by Hollis McLaren (*Outrageous*). Meanwhile, Annie is going against the wishes of her father by secretly pursuing a romance with an Italian hockey player, a secret she shares only with Irving. Also starring Harvey Atkin, Helen Burns and Sean McCann.

Guest: Producer Robert Sherrin
Co-presented with: Ontario Jewish Archives and ACTRA Toronto
Sponsored by:



SHORT FILMS

DRAMAS & COMEDIES

DOCUMENTARIES

BIOGRAPHIES

ARCHIVAL FILMS

SHORT FILMS

DRAMAS & COMEDIES

DOCUMENTARIES

BIOGRAPHIES

ARCHIVAL FILMS

SHORT FILMS



116 CAMERAS

UNITED STATES 2017, 16 MIN
DIRECTOR: DAVINA PARDO
► WEDNESDAY MAY 9 • 6:00 PM • EW9
► THURSDAY MAY 10 • 1:00 PM • AF

A Holocaust survivor preserves her story interactively so that she will be able to tell it forever.

With: Another Planet (48 MIN, p.29)

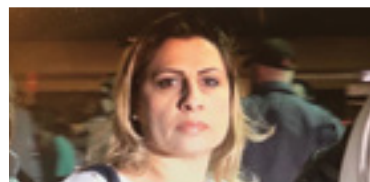


ADIEU MY BELOVED

CANADIAN PREMIERE
CANADA 2018, 2 MIN
DIRECTOR: SUSAN SHULMAN
► THURSDAY MAY 10 • 8:30 PM • ITH

An 18-year-old Russian Jew immigrates to Canada in 1900 by boat and writes his beloved a letter.

Part of Oy Canada: A Short Film Programme (p.18)



BE/LONGING / AMAL

WORLD PREMIERE
CANADA 2018, 30 MIN
HEBREW / ARABIC
DIRECTOR: AMIT BREUER
► SUNDAY MAY 6 • 8:00 PM • EW5

Amal is a Palestinian citizen of the State of Israel, a devoted mother, divorced Muslim, and Arabic teacher. The complexities and contradictions of Amal's life unfold before us, offering an intimate and honest look at what it means to carry a mixed identity.

Guest: Director Amit Breuer
With: The Oslo Diaries (98 MIN, p.31)



BELLA! DID YA EAT?: THE STORY OF JUDY PERLY AND FREE TIMES CAFE

CANADA 2017, 14 MIN
DIRECTOR: BRADLEY GOLDING
► THURSDAY MAY 10 • 3:30 PM • EW9
► SUNDAY MAY 13 • 2:30 PM • HD

Toronto business owner, artist, and Vine sensation Judy Perly tells her story about the chaos that surrounded building her cafe from the ground up, and the personal and cultural obstacles she has faced, all while gaining viral fame for being herself.

Guest: Judy Perly
With: Barbra Streisand: Becoming an Icon (52 MIN, p.33)



THE BLESSING

TORONTO PREMIERE
CANADA 2017, 14 MIN
ENGLISH, YIDDISH
DIRECTOR: SHIRA NEWMAN
► THURSDAY MAY 10 • 8:30 PM • ITH

In 1904 on an isolated Jewish agricultural settlement in Manitoba, a new mother believes she is possessed by the demon Lilith and must wrestle

the dark force within herself.
Part of Oy Canada: A Short Film Programme (p.18)



THE ENTERTAINER

CANADIAN PREMIERE
UNITED KINGDOM 2017, 15 MIN
DIRECTOR: JONATHAN SCHEY
► SATURDAY MAY 12 • 9:00 PM • ITH

Toby Jones is wonderful as a party entertainer and former TV presenter who has an emotional meltdown while working at Charlotte Cohen's Bat Mitzvah.

With: Future '38 (75 MIN, p.25)

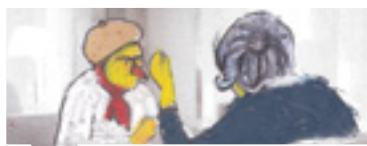


FIVE YEARS AFTER THE WAR / CINQ ANS APRÈS LA GUERRE

TORONTO PREMIERE
FRANCE 2017, 16 MIN
FRENCH
DIRECTORS: SAMUEL ALBARIC, ULYSSE LEFORT & MARTIN WIKLUND
► WEDNESDAY MAY 9 • 6:00 PM • ITH
► FRIDAY MAY 11 • 12:00 PM • EW5

In this fantastical animated short, join Tim on his quest for his identity, and the place where he truly belongs. With a Jewish French mother and an absent Muslim Iraqi father, it's no wonder that Tim feels a little lost.

With: Remember Baghdad (69 MIN, p.32)

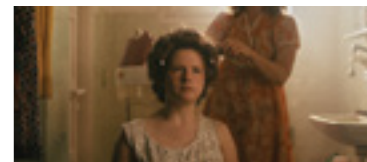


JOURNEY BIRDS / OULAY RAK TSIPOREY MASA YODOT

ISRAEL / ITALY 2015, 9 MIN
ENGLISH, HEBREW, SPANISH
DIRECTOR: DAPHNA AWADISH
► MONDAY MAY 7 • 6:00 PM • EW9
► WEDNESDAY MAY 9 • 3:30 PM • AF

Personal stories and animation create a unique cinematic exploration of migration, home and identity.

With: Libya: The Last Exodus (65 MIN, p.31)



LARGE SOLDIER / HAYAL LARGE

CANADIAN PREMIERE
ISRAEL 2016, 23 MIN
HEBREW
DIRECTOR: NOA GUSAKOV
► MONDAY MAY 7 • 3:30 PM • AF
► FRIDAY MAY 11 • 3:00 PM • EW5

It's 1973. A war rages in Israel, but all that 15-year-old Sherry wants is a boyfriend. She decides to find her first love and sends a letter to an unknown soldier.

With: Elish's Notebooks (74 MIN, p.30)



THE LAW OF AVERAGES

TORONTO PREMIERE
CANADA / UNITED STATES 2017, 14 MIN
DIRECTOR: ELIZABETH ROSE
► THURSDAY MAY 10 • 8:30 PM • ITH

In the Quebec countryside during a brutal winter, a woman and her daughter await the death of their family's matriarch. A dark comedy about the unwitting emotional pain mothers and

daughters inflict on each other.
Part of Oy Canada: A Short Film Programme (p.18)

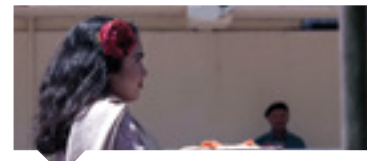


LON

TORONTO PREMIERE
BELGIUM 2017, 7 MIN
DUTCH
DIRECTOR: NINA LANDAU
► SUNDAY MAY 6 • 1:00 PM • AF
► TUESDAY MAY 8 • 5:00 PM • EW5

Lon Landau is a promising Jewish stage designer whose life takes a turn during World War II. He is held captive in a Belgian Nazi Camp, but decides to stay positive and do what he knows best: building dream worlds.

With: Monkey Business: The Adventures Of Curious George's Creators (81 MIN, p.34)



MIRIAM

TORONTO PREMIERE
ISRAEL 2018, 6 MIN
DIRECTOR: SHULAMIT LIFSHITZ
► MONDAY MAY 7 • 6:00 PM • ITH
► WEDNESDAY MAY 9 • 8:30 PM • EW9

In this sweet short film from Jerusalem's Ma'ale Film School, Miriam's dad is willing to do anything to secure his daughter's future.

With: The Cakemaker (104 MIN, p.24)



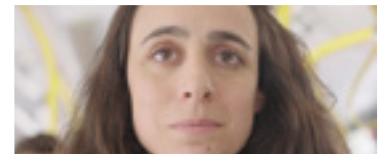
NANA

CANADA 2017, 5 MIN
DIRECTOR: ALI KELLNER
► TUESDAY MAY 8 • 8:30 PM • EW9
► THURSDAY MAY 10 • 6:15 PM • HD

In this beautifully animated short film, Vera Reiner recounts the story of how she survived along with thousands of other women during the Nazi occupation of Austria and Hungary in 1944.

With: The Light Of Hope (96 MIN, p.26)

Co-presented with: Sheridan Alumni Office



NEXT STOP / HAKOL SHEL HA'OTOBUS

TORONTO PREMIERE
ISRAEL 2017, 10 MIN
HEBREW
DIRECTOR: EINAT GAULAN
► MONDAY MAY 7 • 8:00 PM • EW5
► WEDNESDAY MAY 9 • 8:30 PM • ITH

A woman who is the voice behind the recorded bus stop announcements briefly gets her chance at local stardom.

Guest: Director Einat Gaulan
With: The Testament (90 MIN, p.28)

Guest travel provided by

THE JERUSALEM FOUNDATION OF CANADA
LA FONDATION DE JERUSALEM DU CANADA
הקרן לירושלים קנדה صندوق القدس كندا



PARALLELS

TORONTO PREMIERE
ISRAEL 2017, 5 MIN
RUSSIAN
DIRECTOR: BORIS HAIMOV
► TUESDAY MAY 8 • 6:00 PM • ITH

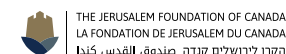
SHORT FILMS

In this meditative mix of animation and documentary, a spaceship lands in modern-day Jerusalem and reflects on the life of the city.

Guest: Boris Haimov

With: Saving Neta (90 MIN, p.27)

Guest travel provided by



THE RED HOUSE / HABAIT HAADOM

CANADIAN PREMIERE

ISRAEL 2016, 20 MIN

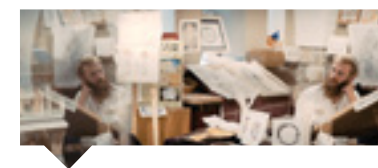
HEBREW

DIRECTOR: TAMAR TAL ANATI

► THURSDAY MAY 10 • 5:30 PM • ITH

Beautiful animation, archival footage and interviews tell the stories of the Red House, a unique building in Tel Aviv, from its origins in 1924 as a textile factory, to a synagogue, now an art gallery.

With: The Museum (74 MIN, p.31)



THE SCRIBE

CANADIAN PREMIERE

GERMANY 2016, 10 MIN

DIRECTOR: LEON SPANIER

► FRIDAY MAY 4 • 1:30 PM • VC3

► MONDAY MAY 7 • 3:30 PM • EW9

In this gorgeous short, 27-year-old Kelman Delmoor, a traditional Jewish scribe, welcomes us into his Jerusalem workshop and reveals the process behind his incredible art.

With: Vienna Before Nightfall (90 MIN, p.33)



SHEHITA

CANADA 2017, 26 MIN

YIDDISH

DIRECTOR: DEAN GOLD

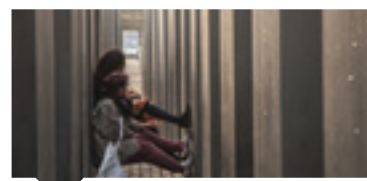
► THURSDAY MAY 10 • 8:30 PM • ITH

Something strange is happening at a Yiddish dairy farm in rural Quebec. Tensions, along with demons from the past, rise as the young farmer, the mashgiach and the local Rabbi try to decide what to do about the mysterious illness infecting the cattle. Featuring a mesmerizing performance by Avi Hoffman.

Guest: Director Dean Gold

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

Part of Oy Canada: A Short Film Programme (p.18)



SIX AFTER SEVENTY / SECHS NACH SIEBZIG

NORTH AMERICAN PREMIERE

GERMANY 2017, 22 MIN

GERMAN

DIRECTOR: PETER JESCHKE

► TUESDAY MAY 8 • 3:30 PM • AF

► FRIDAY MAY 11 • 1:00 PM • EW9

Filmed at Berlin's Holocaust Memorial, this accomplished documentary shows, in six short episodes, radically different ways of dealing with the Holocaust more than seventy years later.

Featuring a Skype Q&A with director Peter Jeschke

With: Saving Auschwitz? (60 MIN, p.32)



STITCHERS: TAPESTRY OF SPIRIT

TORONTO PREMIERE

CANADA 2017, 15 MIN

DIRECTOR: TASSIE NOTAR

► FRIDAY MAY 11 • 1:00 PM • AF

► SUNDAY MAY 13 • 1:00 PM • EW5

An inspiring documentary about Toronto artist Temma Gentles' ambitious project to stitch the entire Torah in needlepoint, and the over 1,000 people in nearly twenty countries who are now taking part in it.

Guest: Director Tassie Notar

With: Heaven is a Traffic Jam on the 405 (39 MIN, p.33)

Co-presented with: Craft Ontario and Darchei Noam Reconstructionist Synagogue Of Toronto



WENDY'S SHABBAT

CANADIAN PREMIERE

UNITED STATES 2017, 10 MIN

DIRECTOR: RACHEL MYERS

► SUNDAY MAY 6 • 5:00 PM • EW5

► TUESDAY MAY 8 • 3:30 PM • ITH

Shabbat dinner gatherings for a group of Jewish seniors take place at the local Wendy's fast food restaurant where they say prayers and light candles over hamburgers and fries.

With: The Last Resort (70 MIN, p.30)

Special gift courtesy of Wendy's (while supplies last)

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(as of March 26, 2018)

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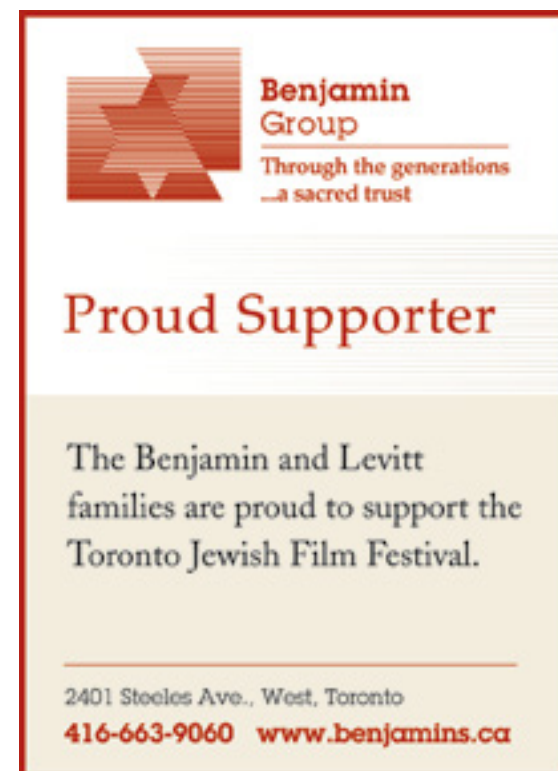
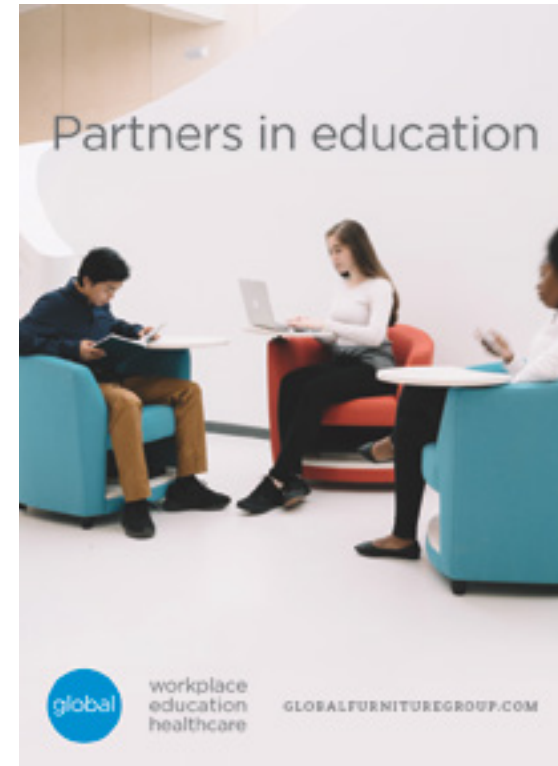
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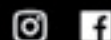


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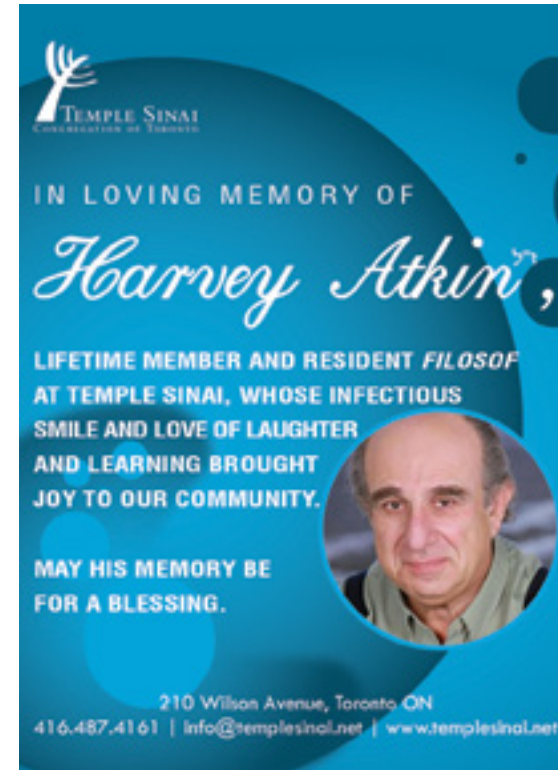
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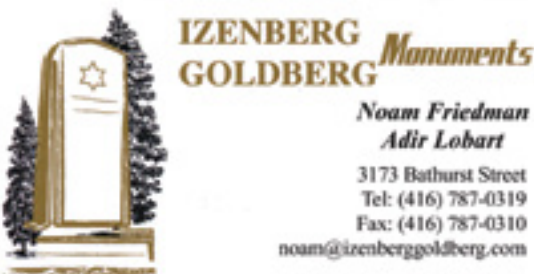


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Kris Prue (Cineplex Cinemas Varsity and VIP, Cineplex Cinemas Empress Walk)

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Sam Gonshor (Spirit Graphics)

Programme Director

Stuart Hands

Festival Flyer Printing & Distribution

In conjunction with The Toronto Star Newspaper Ltd.

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Jérémie Abessira

Macintosh Consulting & Support

Henry Rose (MacWizard)

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Box Office Assistant Manager

Bran Ramsey

Festival Videographer

Yann Yap

Process Manager

Laura Colosimo

Special Events Coordinator

Karen Freedman

Social Media Consultant

Imanol Arias
Maya Paz

FilmMatters Coordinator

Susan Starkman

Public Relations - Touchwood PR

Michelle Brykman
Kiera Hunt
Jennifer Rashwan

Co-Presentations

Maor Oz

Production Assistants

Jordana Haar
Maya Paz

Festival Campaign Creative Design

Overdrive Design Limited

Marc Alcide
Katrina Densmore
Richelle Gagne
Jason Gerard
Leslie Jennings
Rob Krete
Alison Minielly
Benji Sahinovic
Bryn Wilson
James Wilson

TJFF Programmers

Jérémie Abessira
Allen Braude
Stuart Hands
Maor Oz
Rani Sanderson
Susan Starkman
Helen Zukerman

Technical Directors

James King
Eyan Logan

FILMS BY LANGUAGE

AFRIKAANS

An Act of Defiance

ARABIC

The Ancestral Sin / Sallah, Po Ze Eretz Israel
Be/Longing / Amal
The Cousin / HaBen Dod
Libya: The Last Exodus / Libia: L'Ultimo Esodo
The Oslo Diaries
Razzia

BERBER

Razzia

CHINESE

Above the Drowning Sea

DUTCH

The Body Collector / Zaak Menten
Lon

FRENCH

Five Years After the War / Cinq Ans Apres la Guerre
Juda
Mr. and Mrs. Adelman / Monsieur et Madame Adelman
N°5 War / La Guerre Du Numéro 5
Promise at Dawn / La Promesse De L'Aube
Razzia
Saving Auschwitz? / Sauver Auschwitz?
Simon and Theodore / Simon et Theodore
Vienna Before Nightfall / Vienne Avant La Nuit

GERMAN

The Ancient Law / Das Alte Gesetz
Another Planet / Planeta Aheret
Bye Bye Germany / Auf Wiedersehen Deutschland
The Cakemaker / HaOfe MeBerlin
The Invisibles / Die Unsichtbaren
Six After Seventy / Sechs Nach Siebzig
The Testament / Ha'edut
Winter Hunt / Winterjagd

HEBREW

Ancestral Sin / Sallah, Po Ze Eretz Yisrael
Another Planet / Planeta Aheret
Be/Longing / Amal
The Cakemaker / HaOfe MeBerlin
The Cousin / HaBen Dod
Cut to the Chase / Gever Mehasratim
Doubtful / Mutalim Besafek
Elish's Notebooks / HaMachbarot Shel Elish
Journey Birds / Ulai Rak Tsiporei Masa Yodot

Juda
Kishon
Large Soldier / Hayal Large
Libya: The Last Exodus / Libia: L'Ultimo Esodo
Longing / Gaagua
Miriam
The Museum
Next Stop / Hakol Shel Ha'Otobus
The Oslo Diaries
Outdoors / Bait Bagalil
The Red House / Habait Haadom
Saving Neta / Lehatzil et Neta
Shelter / Mistor
The Testament / Ha'Edut

HUNGARIAN

Budapest Noir

ITALIAN

Earth Cries Out / Il Grido Della Terra
Libya: The Last Exodus / Libia: L'Ultimo Esodo

POLISH

Another Planet / Planeta Aheret

ROMANIAN

Juda

RUSSIAN

Closeness / Tesnota
Parallels

SPANISH

Journey Birds / Ulai Rak Tsiporei Masa Yodot
The Last Suit / El Ultimo Traje
Light of Hope / La Ilum D'Elna

YIDDISH

The Blessing
Shehita: A Yiddish Horror Story
The Testament / Ha'edut
Vienna Before Nightfall / Vienne avant la nuit

ENGLISH (NO SUBTITLES)

116 Cameras
Adieu My Beloved
Barbra Streisand: Becoming an Icon / Barbra Streisand:
Naissance D'une Diva

Bella! Did Ya Eat?
The Story of Judy Perly and Free Times Cafe
Comics: Steve Shuster
Disobedience
The Entertainer
Falling Over Backwards
Future '38
Harvey Atkin's Toronto: A Scrapbook
Heaven is a Traffic Jam on the 405
Humor Me
The Last Goldfish
The Last Resort
The Law of Averages
The Making of a President, 1944
Monkey Business: The Adventures of
Curious George's Creators
Nana
The Outside Chance of Maximilian Glick
RBG
Remember Baghdad
Sammy Davis Jr.: I've Gotta Be Me
The Samuel Project
The Scribe
Shalom Bollywood: The Untold Story
of Indian Cinema
Spielberg
Standing Up
Stitchers: Tapestry of Spirit
Take 90: A Paul Soles Comedy
Programme
The Wonder and Amazement -
Rita Briansky on Her Life in Art
Today I Am a Fountain Pen
Wendy's Shabbat

FILMS BY
THEME/TOPIC

ARTS AND CULTURE

The Ancient Law / Das Alte Gesetz
Barbra Streisand, Becoming an Icon /
Barbra Streisand, naissance d'une diva
Cut to the Chase
Heaven Is A Traffic Jam On The 405
Kishon
The Last Resort
Monkey Business: The Adventures of Curious George's Creators

The Museum
The Red House / Habait Haadom
The Scribe
Shalom Bollywood: The Untold Story of Indian Cinema
Spielberg
Standing Up
Stitchers: Tapestry of Spirit
Vienna Before Nightfall / Vienne avant la nuit
The Wonder and Amazement - Rita Briansky On Her Life in Art

COMEDY

Comics: Steve Shuster
Future '38
Humor Me
Large Soldier / Hayal Large
Longing / Gaagua
Miriam
Take 90: A Paul Soles Comedy Programme
Standing Up

FAMILIES AND FAMILY STORIES

Adieu My Beloved
The Ancestral Sin / Sallah, Po Ze Eretz Yisrael
The Ancient Law / Das Alte Gesetz
Closeness / Tesnota
Disobedience
Elish's Notebooks / HaMachbarot Shel Elish
Falling Over Backwards
Five Years After the War / Cinq ans après la guerre
Humor Me
The Last Goldfish
The Last Suit / El Ultimo Traje
The Law of Averages
Longing / Gaagua
Miriam
Mr. and Mrs. Adelman / Monsieur et Madame Adelman
The Outside Chance of Maximilian Glick
Promise at Dawn / La promesse de l'aube
The Samuel Project
Saving Neta / Lehatzil et Neta
Simon & Theodore / Simon et Théodore
The Testament / Ha'edut
Today I am a Fountain Pen

ISRAEL

The Ancestral Sin / Sallah, Po Ze Eretz Yisrael
Be/Longing / Amal
The Cakemaker / HaOfe MeBerlin
The Cousin / HaBen Dod
Cut to the Chase / Gever Mehasratim
Doubtful / Mutalim Besafek

The Earth Cries Out / Il Grido della Terra
Elish's Notebooks / HaMachbarot Shel Elish
Juda
Kishon
Large Soldier / Hayal Large
Longing / Gaagua
The Museum
Next Stop / Hakol Shel Ha'otobus
The Oslo Diaries
Outdoors / Bait Bagalil
Parallels
The Red House / Habait Haadom
Saving Neta / Lehatzil et Neta
Shelter / Mistor
The Testament / Ha'edut

MIDDLE EAST RELATIONS POLITICS

Be/Longing / Amal
The Cousin / HaBen Dod
The Museum
The Oslo Diaries
Remember Baghdad
Shelter / Mistor

MIZRAHI / SEPHARDIC

The Ancestral Sin / Sallah, Po Ze Eretz Yisrael
Five Years After the War / Cinq ans après la guerre
Libya: The Last Exodus / Libia: L'Ultimo Esodo
Razzia
Remember Baghdad
Shalom Bollywood: The Untold Story of Indian Cinema

ROMANCE

The Cakemaker / HaOfe MeBerlin
Miriam
Mr. and Mrs. Adelman / Monsieur et Madame Adelman
Outdoors / Bait Bagalil

SUSPENSE / THRILLER

The Body Collector / Zaak Menten
Budapest Noir
Juda
Shelter / Mistor
Winter Hunt / Winterjagd

WOMEN - FRONT AND CENTER

116 Cameras
Barbra Streisand, Becoming an Icon /
Barbra Streisand, naissance d'une diva

Be/Longing / Amal
Bella! Did Ya Eat?:
The Story of Judy Perly and Free Times Cafe
The Blessing
Disobedience
Heaven Is A Traffic Jam On The 405
Large Soldier / Hayal Large
The Law of Averages
The Light of Hope / La Ilum d'Elna
Nana
Next Stop / Hakol Shel Ha'otobus
RBG
Saving Neta / Lehatzil et Neta
Shelter / Mistor
Stitchers: Tapestry of Spirit
The Wonder and Amazement - Rita Briansky On Her Life in Art

WW2

116 Cameras
Above the Drowning Sea
Another Planet / Planeta Aheret
The Body Collector / Zaak Menten
Budapest Noir
Bye Bye Germany / Auf Wiedersehen Deutschland
The Earth Cries Out / Il Grido della Terra
The Invisibles / Die Unsichtbaren
Kishon
The Last Goldfish
The Last Suit / El Ultimo Traje
The Light of Hope / La Ilum d'Elna
Lon
Monkey Business: The Adventures of Curious George's Creators
The N°5 War / La guerre du numéro 5
Nana
The Samuel Project
Saving Auschwitz? / Sauver Auschwitz ?
Six After Seventy / Sechs nach siebzig
The Testament / Ha'edut
Vienna Before Nightfall / Vienne avant la nuit
Winter Hunt / Winterjagd

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