



BVIRDONEB

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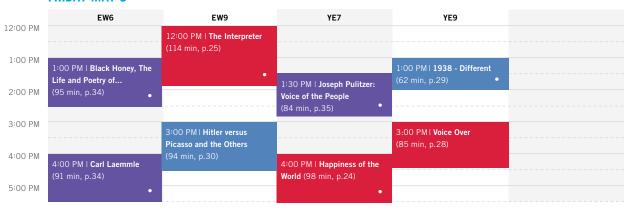
44 Friends and Fans

SCHEDULE

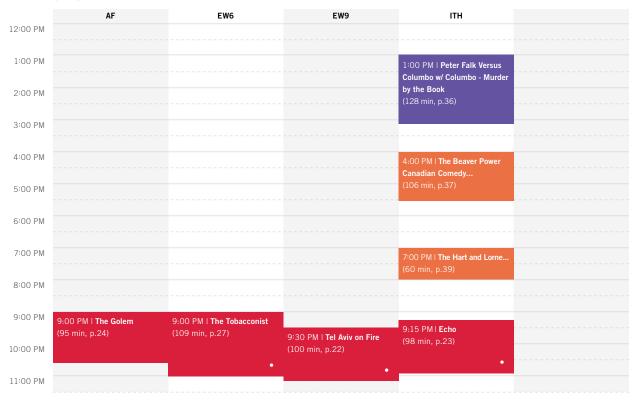
THURSDAY MAY 2



FRIDAY MAY 3



SATURDAY MAY 4



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



SUNDAY MAY 5

12:00 PM	AF	EW4	EW6	EW9	ITH
		12:00 PM Film Masterclass with Marc Lapadula			
1:00 PM	1:00 PM Etgar Keret w/ Dreams of Elsewhere	(90 min, p.17)		1:00 PM My War Hero Uncle w/ Close (64 min, p.32)	
2:00 PM	(80 min, p.34)		2:30 PM Shepherd: The		2:00 PM Married Life w/ 1980 (110 min, p.39)
3:00 PM	3:00 PM Family in Transition w/ How to Swim (85 min, p.30)		Story of A Jewish Dog (93 min, p.26)	2:20 DM V O. Di. T. i.	
4:00 PM				3:30 PM You Only Die Twice (88 min, p.33)	
5:00 PM			5:00 PM Inside the Mossad	•	
6:00 PM	5:30 PM Lemon Popsicle: Of Winners and Losers		(90 min, p.30)	6:00 PM Happiness of the	5:30 PM The Mamboniks (90 min, p.31)
7:00 PM	(94 min, p.31)			World (98 min, p.24)	•
8:00 PM			8:00 PM Curtiz		8:00 PM Viewer Direction
9:00 PM	8:30 PM I Virgins w/ Offspring (109 min, p.27)		(98 min, p.23)	8:30 PM Working Woman w/ Noa (103 min, p.28)	Advised (85 min, p.32)
10:00 PM	•			•	
11:00 PM					

MONDAY MAY 6



TUESDAY MAY 7



WEDNESDAY MAY 8



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

THURSDAY MAY 9

12:00 PM	AF	EW6	EW9	HD	ITH
12:00 PW					
1:00 PM	1:00 PM You Only Die Twice (88 min, p.33)				1:00 PM The Interpreter (114 min, p.25)
2:00 PM	(00 IIIII, p.33)				•
3:00 PM					
4:00 PM	3:30 PM Black Honey w/ Vanity of Vanities (95 min, p.34)		3:30 PM Amos Oz – The Nature of Dreams (86 min, p.33)		4:00 PMI Sacred Spaces - From Temple to
5:00 PM		5:00 PM Mohamed and			(90 min, p.32)
6:00 PM		Anna (66 min, p.31) •	6:00 PM King Bibi: The Life		
7:00 PM			and Performances of (87 min, p.35)	6:15 PMI Sefarad (109 min, p.26)	6:30 PMI Carl Laemmle (91 min, p.34)
8:00 PM		8:00 PM I My Polish		•	· ·
9:00 PM		Honeymoon (88 min, p.26)	8:30 PM I Back to Maracanã (92 min, p.23)	9:00 PM Leona	9:00 PM Madam Yankelova's
10:00 PM			٠	(95 min, p.25)	Fine Literature Club (88 min, p.25)
11:00 PM					

FRIDAY MAY 10

12:00 PM	AF	EW6	EW9	ITH	
		12:00 PM The King of Börek w/ America (89 min, p.31)			
1:00 PM	1:00 PM Chasing Portraits w/ A Thousand Kisses	•	1:00 PM Forgotten Soldier (69 min, p.30)	1:00 PM Last Stop Coney Island: The Life and	
2:00 PM	(93 min, p.29)			(94 min, p.35)	
3:00 PM		3:00 PM "I Do Not Care If We Go Down in History as			
4:00 PM	3:30 PM A Sister's Song (80 min, p.32)	Barbarians" (140 min, p.24)	4:00 PM Etgar Keret: Based on a True Story (67 min, p.34)	3:30 PM Little Man, What Now? (98 min, p.39)	
5:00 PM		•	on a true Story (67 min, p.34)		
6:00 PM					
7:00 PM					
8:00 PM					
9:00 PM					
10:00 PM					
11:00 PM					

SATURDAY MAY 11

	EW6	EW9	HD	ІТН	
12:00 PM					
1:00 PM				1:00 PM Philip Roth on	
2:00 PM				the CBC (60 min, p.40)	
3:00 PM					
3.00 PW				3:00 PM The Girl in the Show (60 min, p.38)	
4:00 PM					
5:00 PM					
6:00 PM				6:00 PM Becoming Sid	
7:00 PM				Dithers (98 min, p.37)	
8:00 PM					
9:00 PM	9:00 PM Leona (95 min, p.25)		9:00 PM I My Polish Honeymoon (88 min, p.26)	9:00 PM The Man Who Stole Banksy	
10:00 PM	(95 min, p.25)	9:30 PMI The Unorthodox (92 min, p.27)	•	(93 min, p.31)	
11:00 PM		•			

SUNDAY MAY 12



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

TICKETS

TICKETS AVAILABLE ONLINE AT TIFF.COM

April 11 - May 12

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 12 - May 12

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)

April 26 - May 2

2:00 pm-6:00 pm Daily

FESTIVAL BOX OFFICES May 2 – 12

Spadina Theatre at Alliance Française

24 Spadina Rd.

(Spadina subway station)

Cineplex Cinemas Empress Walk

5095 Yonge Street

(North York Centre subway station)

Cineplex Cinemas Varsity and VIP

55 Bloor St. West (Manulife Building)

Cineplex Cinemas Yonge-Eglinton and VIP

2300 Yonge Street

(Eglinton subway station)

Hot Docs Ted Rogers Cinema

506 Bloor Street West at Bathurst (Bathurst subway station)

Innis Town Hall

2 Sussex Avenue

(St. George subway station)

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

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 / Closing Night and Special Events). Any combination of tickets. Subject to availability.

BONUS GIFT: A complimentary 6-month digital subscription to The Canadian Jewish News (new

subscribers 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 11, 2019 and in-person beginning April 12, 2019.

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)

Special Events: \$20

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.

(One free ticket per person / per free event).

TICKETING POLICIES

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

SEAT SAVING IS <u>NOT</u> PERMITTED AT FESTIVAL SCREENINGS / EVENTS

Charitable Registration No.

13522 6793 RR0001

CHAIR'S MESSAGE



PHYLLIS ANGEL GREENBERG

CHAIR

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

On behalf of the Toronto Jewish Film Foundation Board of Directors, welcome to the 27th Toronto Jewish Film Festival – 2019!!

As you will see in the following pages, our discerning programmers have once again curated an entertaining and thought-provoking eleven days of film for us to share: 90 films, screened at six locations, with guest artists and scholars, Skype interviews with filmmakers, panels and co-presenters and, of course, our ever-expanding audience, including the many students who attend FilmMatters, our free educational outreach programme for elementary and secondary schools.

Since 1993, the Toronto Jewish Film Foundation has been bringing the Toronto Jewish and wider community together to share in the magic of feature and documentary films of Jewish import from Canada and around the world. Our Festival has touched so many — eliciting smiles, laughter, tears, and no surprise, discussion. This was always, and still remains, the goal of the dedicated organizers, programmers and board members. We will watch Jewish-content documentaries and features from around the globe: documentaries that help us understand and try to make sense of this world; features that take us to new places and introduce us to fictional characters who become alive and who teach us about ourselves.

I am writing this greeting ten weeks before our Festival begins, in mid-February, when Netflix, the streaming behemoth, has just announced the leasing of two very large studio spaces in Toronto. As a peripheral member of the Toronto artistic community, I do of course celebrate the creation of what is being touted as over 1200 jobs. But at the same time, I, like many of you, ponder the impact these new entertainment distribution technologies have already had on our film-going practices and the role they will play in the future. The new media world has prompted TJFF's brilliant creation of j-flix.com (our free online streaming platform), whose value is undeniable. However, even though the screens in our homes have, for many, become very significant and often necessary part of our lives, I am certain none of us wants to give up the experience of gathering in an auditorium, to share "the bigger screen", and your continued presence at both the Festival and TJFF year-round screenings will protect this shared value.

On behalf of all of us on the Board of Directors, I wish you another engaging, thought-provoking, informative and fun Festival. Please enjoy poring over these pages and making your choices of what to see. Thank-you for continuing to share and enjoy this artistic journey, and may we all continue to go from strength to strength.

ARTISTIC DIRECTOR'S WELCOME



HELEN ZUKERMAN

ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

My opening address last year was about the launch of our free on-line streaming platform of films from past festivals.

As Barry Hertz said in *The Globe and Mail* article of April 27, 2017, The Toronto Jewish Film Foundation launched a "shtickle innovation" for its 25th year. Instead of a party for our 25th Anniversary, we decided to create something that would last. In honour of our 25th year, we created a platform with 25 films and launched it as an opportunity for Canadians across the country to watch some "oldies but goodies". It was a trip down memory lane for us as we went through the old catalogues and selected films. We named the platform, **j-flix.com.**

We are so proud of what has happened with **j-flix**. We now have 80+ films on the platform, over 24,000 household views since its inception. 13,300 views in the last year, with 500 just in January. We cannot estimate the exact number of people who saw the films because we don't know how many were watching each view. People from as far away as Nunavut and Yukon have signed on to watch some of our films. We plan on releasing a cross-Canada newswire blast to highlight the existence of **j-flix** to those that don't know about it yet.

In addition, FilmMatters, our free student programme, curated by TJFF programmer and educational outreach coordinator Susan Starkman, has launched FilmMatters Online. Six of the past films and their related study guides are now available for teachers to access and use in the classroom at their own convenience. We are pretty proud of this accomplishment and many thanks goes to Jérémie Abessira, operations manager at TJFF for his commitment to designing the platform and making it work.

As a film festival presenter, we enjoy creating unique "experiences" that enrich our programmes. This year's Canadian Archival series, now called The Harvey

Atkin Tribute to Canadian Media, assembled by TJFF's programme director Stuart Hands is a perfect example. Enhancing our programmes with panels and guests, give us a chance to interact with new people. That's what we are all about.

Last year, I attended a One Day University afternoon and made a wonderful discovery. Marc Lapadula's presentation gave a fascinating look at films and filmmakers that redefined cinema such as *Casablanca*, Orson Welles, Hitchcock, Mel Brooks, and the list went on. Marc Lapadula, playwright, screenwriter and professor of film at Yale, made me laugh, engaged the audience with behind-the-scenes tales of these films. He introduced us to a different way of film-watching. I asked him if he had anything to present for us about Jewish-content film... and he does! We are all in for a treat. Don't miss his film masterclass on Sunday May 5th. You will not regret it. I have seen three of his presentations and loved them all.

And finally, I am often asked for suggestions on what to see at the Festival. My reply is that the films we screen are like my children/grandchildren - I love them all differently.

Here is a small list of films that affected me in this year's line-up: *Tel Aviv on Fire* made me laugh, *The Man Who Stole Banksy* made me think about who owns street art, *Joseph Pulitzer: Voice of the People* introduced me to someone whose creativity was so ahead of its time, *Sobibor* blew me away, *King of Börek* made me hungry.

Most of all, each year as I write this entry, I think of all of you for whom we create the programme. Thank you for your ongoing support. You have made this Festival the success that it is.

May 2 – 12 2019 TJFF.COM 27th Toronto Jewish Film Festival

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The Harvey Atkin and Celia Tessler-Atkin Foundation



The Harvey Atkin and Celia Tessler-Atkin Foundation are delighted to support the

Toronto Jewish Film Festival's launch of

The Harvey Atkin Tribute to Canadian Media Series

PROGRAMME DIRECTOR'S NOTE



STUART HANDS

PROGRAMME DIRECTOR

In the winter of 2005, I interviewed with Helen Zukerman in the hope of getting involved with the Festival. She asked me, "how do you define a Jewish film?" Though I have forgotten my answer, I will always remember hers: "I know it when I see it."

That answer has remained with me throughout my thirteen years programming for TJFF. Some Jewish films are easier to define, like films about the Holocaust, Israel, or Jewish religion and tradition. Some secular films are harder to pin down, but nonetheless are just as valuable, as they tap into the viewers' self-recognition. Even if the word 'Jewish' is barely mentioned, there's a familiarity to the family dynamics, the characters' angst, and the films' address to the dangers of fascism and racism. For example, the family dynamics in the film *Viewer Direction Advised* feel very 'Jewish,' even though its subject matter remains outside the purview of what traditionally might be considered a 'Jewish film'.

The very thoughtful documentary about Lauren Bacall, by Pierre-Henry Salfati, includes footage of the actress reflecting on her early years of stardom, when she felt insecure about being Jewish. Exploring a movie star's Jewish background often becomes a way for Jewish audiences to think about their own roots and place in the world. (As a side note, in *Leona*, a lovely Mexican film selected this year, an early scene depicts the title character and her family sitting around the dinner table, discussing which movie stars are Jewish, a game to which many Jewish families across the globe can probably relate.)

We also have a marvellous new film about the founder of Universal Pictures, *Carl Laemmle*. Stories about Jewish Hollywood moguls have always been a subject of great interest for me: the lore of Jack and Harry Warner and Louis B. Mayer offer wonderful perspectives of the Jewish American experience, through immigration, assimilation

and pursuit of the American dream. The story of Carl Laemmle brings a new dimension to this subject, and this forgotten pioneer is finally given his due in James Freedman's documentary, *Carl Laemmle*.

In addition to this wonderful documentary, we have programmed two early Universal films produced by Carl Laemmle and his son, Carl Laemmle Jr., with both films reflecting the ways in which their roots could be expressed within the Hollywood cinema of that era. The Cohens and Kellys (1926) presents a portrait of a Jewish family, which, on one hand, conforms to certain conventions within American Jewish cinema during the Twenties in its depiction of feuding Jewish and Irish families. On the other hand, the lead performances transcend the expectations of the era resulting in a lovely comedy that is still charming today. The second film, Little Man, What Now? (1934), is a love story starring Margaret Sullivan and set in Berlin on the eve of Hitler's rise to power. This film is quite exceptional, considering the strong hesitation amongst Jewish Hollywood moguls to directly confront the situation in Nazi Germany.

One of the annual features of our Festival has been our Canadian archival series, which re-examines rarely seen works, redefining the canon of Jewish contributions to Canadian film and television, while also exploring the meaning and experience of Canadian Jewish identity. This year, under a new banner, "The Harvey Atkin Tribute to Canadian Media", we continue our tradition with a look at Canadian Jewish comedy voices that emerged in the 70s and early 80s, including Ken Finkleman, Rick Moranis, Hart Pomerantz, Eugene Levy, Ivan Reitman, Marla Lukofsky, Mark Breslin, and Marjorie Gross, to name a few. This series also honours one of my favourite character actors, Marvin Goldhar, a terrific performer with a particularly 'Haimishe' presence.

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PROGRAMMERS' NOTES





JÉRÉMIE ABESSIRA

While cinema is often regarded as a tool to entertain, it is also used by filmmakers as a medium to unveil mysteries.

Two of this year's documentaries that I find most fascinating give viewers access to little-known aspects of Israeli society.

Inside the Mossad has ex-Mossad agents sharing their espionage experiences for the first time ever on-screen, adding a new layer to the Israeli historical narrative.

In the same vein, *The Man Who*Stole Banksy takes us from the world of street art on the walls of Bethlehem, to the most renowned art galleries of Europe, and raises many fascinating questions: Who owns art? What is the main purpose of art, especially in a zone of conflict?

But secrets are not just the domain of documentarians. In the realm of fiction film, director Guilhad Emilio Schenker tantalizes his audience by sharing what is happening behind the closed doors of a very special women's book club, in the fantastic and stylish *Madam Yankelova's Fine Literature*Club. We develop a special bond with the main character played by Keren Mor, as she struggles to keep her secret.

And last but not least, one of my all-time favourite Festival selections, *Tel Aviv on Fire* amuses us with a behind-the-scenes game played out on both side of the border.

ALLEN BRAUDE

Call it the Zeitgeist. Or something in the water. This year, there are four films – two documentaries and two fiction features – that explore a similar topic: the healing that comes from learning the truth about your family's past. But the approach each film takes is so different, it's more than worthwhile to see all four.

In the powerful documentary *Cause of Death*, Jamal Barakat, who is Druze, doesn't believe the official story of how his brother Salim, a Tel Aviv police officer, died. Jamal is told Salim was killed by the terrorist his brother heroically stopped. But the facts don't add up. Uncovering the truth of what happened to his brother helps Jamal heal from his loss. In the heartwarming documentary, *My War Hero Uncle*, Shaked discovers his uncle wasn't the war hero he always thought he was. Learning the truth empowers Shaked to be more honest about his own life.

In the well-acted dramedy, *The Interpreter*, two seemingly opposite men set out on a road trip through Slovakia. Why? Because Ali is sure his parents were executed there by Georg's father, a Nazi officer. Their journey reveals a country that would rather forget about this past. And then there's the comedy, *My Polish Honeymoon*. Anna and Adam, a recently married Parisian Jewish couple decide to honeymoon in...Poland. While Anna is excited about the trip, Adam is less than thrilled. But could learning about their family's little-talked-about past be the key to a happy marriage?

Happy viewing!

GILLIAN HELFIELD

Storytelling has always been a basic building block of cinema and world culture. For Jews especially, stories about our history and ancestry, our families, customs and contributions to the world, have long affirmed our identity and values as a people.

For me, this year's standout films are those that tell great stories about the achievements and experiences of Jews from across the globe and from all walks of life.

Lauren Bacall: a Look From the Sky, Curtiz, and Sam Spiegel: Conquering Hollywood shed new light on three Hollywood legends, whose Jewish roots greatly impacted their personal and professional lives.

The Spy Behind Home Plate is the first feature-length documentary about Moe Berg, who, in the 1930s and 40s, was a professional baseball player, lawyer and American spy.

Black Honey: The Life and Poetry of Avraham Sutzkever is the first film about this acclaimed Yiddish poet and resistance hero who fought in the ghetto and forests of Vilna, rescuing Jewish treasures targeted for destruction.

In *Forgotten Soldier*, the children of Sally Noach, a Jewish carpet salesman from Amsterdam, piece together, with the help of survivors, the incredible and controversial story about their father's audacious rescue of Dutch Jews trapped in Vichy France.

And finally, *Mamboniks*, one of my personal favourites, tells the delightful story of a group of young New York Jews in the 1950s, whose obsession with the Mambo sparked a national and cultural sensation.



RANI SANDERSON

What makes a good documentary film? Of course, the story is key, but it's more than that. For me, a good story needs to be backed up by good filmmaking. It needs to be a conversation between the filmmaker, the subject(s) and the audience. The filmmaker should bring the audience along on a journey and make us care about the subject. The visual component should deepen and enhance the story, and set its tone.

Danae Elon's new film, A Sister's Song is a beautifully-realized film about two sisters who have chosen different paths in life and how they come to terms with each others' choices: an emotional, intimate and raw character study, filled with so many gorgeous moments, both emotionally and visually. Her film is a pleasure to watch: a true cinematic experience, crafted so seamlessly that I forgot I was watching a documentary. Similarly, Barbara Rubin and the Exploding NY Underground is also an excellent example of great documentary filmmaking. Interestingly, both films focus on strong female characters in very different ways. These might not be films that, on the surface, appeal to everyone, but everyone should see them as examples of what a good documentary should be, and is.

And if you're looking for a great narrative film, also about a strong female character, check out the fun, quirky and colourful, *Happiness of the World*.



SUSAN STARKMAN

With seven films eligible for the Micki Moore prize for a female-directed feature film, TJFF 2019 is a banner year for films by and about women. Perhaps owing to her background as a documentarian, Michal Aviad's Working Woman is one of the most unflinching, realistic dramas to emerge from the #MeToo movement. Working Woman explores sexual harassment in the workplace, highlighting the manner in which a female victim is manipulated into feeling complicit in an act perpetrated against her. Not only does this prevent her from dealing with the emotional aftermath (much less reporting it), but it paves the way for the abuser to continue to prey on her. Despite the disturbing nature of the subject matter, this landmark film ultimately delivers an empowering message by highlighting the insidious nature of abuse and exonerating women of a misguided sense of collusion.

Women who defy what it means to be a "nice Jewish girl" are celebrated in several films about female cultural trailblazers. *Barbara Rubin and the Exploding New York Underground* profiles the iconoclastic filmmaker whose first film, *Christmas on Earth*, an audacious exploration of sexuality from a female perspective, remains a seminal piece of multi-media art. As formidable as Rubin was behind the camera, Lauren Bacall was commanding in front of it. *Lauren Bacall*, *A Look From the Sky* details how her headstrong characters redefined Hollywood's notion of sexy.

Finally, don't miss *Virgins*. Written and directed by Keren Ben Rafael, this delightful coming of age film offers a fearless teenage heroine that leaves an indelible impression.

May 2 – 12 2019

TIFFCOM



AWARDS



DAVID A. STEIN MEMORIAL AWARD

(1970 - 2004)

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

THIS YEAR'S JURY

Andréa Cohen-B is an accomplished director from Paris based in Toronto. She began her career in the French film industry working for filmmakers like Michael Haneke, Patrice Chéreau, Roman Polanski, Robert Altman and Luc Besson. In Canada, Andréa worked as an actor's coach on French dramas. She recently was nominated for the Prix Gémeaux for her Interactive documentary *Merci de Jouer.* Andréa is the founder of Toronto production company Meta4films Inc.

Steve Gravestock is a senior programmer at the Toronto International Film Festival, responsible for the organization's Canadian programming initiatives, including Canada's Top Ten Film selection and the year-round Canadian Open Vault programme. As a programmer, Gravestock has selected Canadian feature films since 2004, and is also responsible for selections from the Philippines and the Nordic Region.

Ingrid Hamilton has been the owner of GAT Productions Inc. since 1992. Her last 15 years have been dedicated to filmmakers and their films, with a real passion for documentaries. In 1997 Ingrid took a contract at the CTV network where she handled national publicity for two years. Ingrid's "cred" in the city's social and entertainment scenes was first established as a *Toronto Sun* columnist, from 1982-92. Ingrid is a Board Director with the Women's Art Association of Canada, and active member of the Firecracker Department with Naomi Snieckus.

2019 David A. Stein Memorial Award Winner

My War Hero Uncle (p.32)

Previous winning films available at $\ensuremath{\mathsf{TJFF.COM}}$



THE MICKI MOORE AWARD

The Micki Moore Award is a \$5,000 prize presented to the Best Narrative Feature Film directed and / or written 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

Jordan Z. Adler is a Toronto-based writer and cultural critic whose work has appeared in the *Canadian Jewish News*, *Screen International, Toronto Film Scene*, and *Offscreen*. He graduated from the Mel Hoppenheim School of Cinema at Montreal's Concordia University, where his Master's thesis focused on documentaries that explored nonviolent activism and peace-building movements in Israel-Palestine. He is currently completing a Ph.D. in English (media, cinema, and digital studies concentration) at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee.

Marcelle Lean is the founder and executive director of Cinéfranco since 1997. After serving on many film boards (Telefilm Canada, Ontario Film Review Board, Ryerson U., OMDC, Le Labo), Marcelle has been a film programmer, lecturer, author of educational kits for youth films. Her contribution in audiovisual arts earned her the honours of Chevalier des Lettres et des Arts (France) and Chevalière de la Pléiade (Canada).

Gail Singer is an award-winning filmmaker and screenwriter whose works have been presented worldwide at festivals, in theatres and on television. Among her productions are the films *Watching Movies, Portrait of the Artist as an Old Lady, Wisecracks*, and sequences in *Destiny in Space* (IMAX). She is currently producing and directing a documentary at Grassy Narrows.

2019 Micki Moore Award Winner

Working Woman

(p.28)

Previous winning films available at TJFF.COM

SPECIAL EVENTS / LIVE MUSIC



FILM MASTERCLASS WITH MARC LAPADULA: AMERICAN JEWISH FILMMAKERS AND THEIR INDELIBLE BRAND OF HUMOUR

90 MIN

SUNDAY MAY 5 ● 12:00 PM ● EW4

"Film Professor Marc Lapadula from Yale is one of the very best professors we've ever been lucky enough to work with. He leaves virtually all of our audience members on their feet as part of a standing ovation. Yes, he's that good!"

(Steven Schragis, Founder / Director, One Day University)

Across the decades, Jewish filmmakers have elected to deal with the most controversial social issues of their day, resulting in some of the most serious and powerful dramas ever brought to 'The Big Screen' (from Casablanca to The Pawnbroker to Julia to Schindler's List, to name only a few). But on the other side of that coin, there are Jewish directors who have elected to try and get their social and political messages across through the utilization of their own unique brand of idiosyncratic Jewish humour. From Mel Brooks to Woody Allen to Mike Nichols to Buck Henry, some of the most uproariously funny movies ever made have ushered Jewish humour into the mainstream. Several fine examples will be explored in The Birdcage, Take the Money and Run, Blazing Saddles, The Graduate, Annie Hall, Heaven Can Wait, Working Girl and other films.





SPECIAL EVENT

THE COHENS AND KELLYS

SUNDAY MAY 12 ● 1:00 PM ● HD

Produced by Universal Pictures in 1926, *The Cohens and Kellys* is a lively ethnic comedy about feuding Irish and Jewish families living next to each other on New York's Lower East Side. The film has been jointly-restored by the Cinémathèque Royale de Belgique and the IFI Irish Film Archive. (see p.37) A live score, drawing on Irish and Jewish folk music traditions, will be performed by multi-award-winning, Dublin-based musicians—accordionist Dermot Dunne and saxophonist Nick Roth

Co-presented with: Toronto Silent Film Festival **and** Ashkenaz Foundation

Presented in partnership with:



With the support of







MORE LIVE MUSIC @ TJFF

IT MUST SCHWING! THE BLUE NOTE STORY

► SUNDAY MAY 12 • 7:30 PM • HD

The fascinating story behind Blue Note Records, the iconic jazz label founded by two Jewish refugees with a passion for jazz and an affinity with African American musicians.

Featuring live Jazz performances by Kevin Turcotte, Reg Schwager and Dave Young Trio.

Presented in partnership with



JUNE 21-30 2019

FEATURES



Photo: Courtesy of CBC Still Photo Collection

THE HARVEY ATKIN TRIBUTE TO CANADIAN MEDIA PRESENTS

BEAVER POWER: A CELEBRATION OF CANADIAN COMEDY FROM HART & LORNE TO SCTV

What was brewing here in Canada during the decade that gave us *Saturday Night Live*, The Second City, Yuk Yuk's and *SCTV?* In this six-part series showcasing rare TV variety, sitcoms, full-length and short films, and stand-up performances, we explore the many countercultural Jewish voices that emerged in the period from 1968 to 1984. This series features many familiar faces as well as comedians that deserve to be discovered by a new generation of comedy fans. Special guests in attendance at all screenings.

PROGRAMMES:

Ken Finkleman and Rick Moranis' brilliantly funny CBC pilot that was way ahead of its time.

The Beaver Power Canadian Comedy Short Programme, 1968-1971 (p.37)

A collection of Canadian short film comedies from the mid-60s and early 70s: Martin Lavut's *At Home* (1968); Ivan Reitman's *Orientation* (1968); and *Steinberg in Winnipeg* (1971) featuring comedian David Steinberg.

Becoming Sid Dithers: Eugene Levy from McMaster to SCTV (p.37)

A selection of Eugene Levy's early work: forgotten pilots, variety shows, student films and classic *SCTV* sketches.

Set in a Los Angeles comedy club, *The Funny Farm* is a 1983 Canadian tax-shelter comedy with a cast made up of a who's who of Canada's emerging stand-up scene: Howie Mandel, Mike MacDonald, Marjorie Gross, Howard Busgang and more.

The Girl in the Show: A Video Scrapbook, 1974-83 (p.38)

A collection of rare TV shows, sketches and stand-up, showcasing Jewish female comedians from this era, such as Marla Lukofsky, Monica Parker, Gilda Radner and many more.

Greed (p.38)

TJFF presents rare excerpts from one of the few surviving episodes of the CityTV game show, starring Rummy Bishop.

The Hart and Lorne Terrific Hour (p.39)

An episode of the rarely-screened sketch comedy series created by Hart Pomerantz and Lorne Michaels for the CBC.

King of Kensington – The Partners (p.39)

As a tribute to the wonderful character actor Marvin Goldhar, we present what may be one of the funniest episodes of the legendary CBC sitcom starring Al Waxman.

From 1978, an amazing time capsule of the early days of Yuk Yuk's provided by CBC's *Take 30*, as host Hana Gartner visits the stand-up club on Bay Street.

This series would not be possible without the help of

Andrew Alexander (The Second City), Stephen Broomer, Ed Conroy, Nicole Durrant (CBC), Trevor Evans, Dan Goldberg, Joel Goldberg, Jonathan Gross, Lynn Lafontaine (LAC), Fred Levy, Brendan Moore (CBC), Chris Pagnozzi (The Second City), Sheila Quattrociocchi (Rogers Communications), Perry Rosemond, Mark Selby, and the gang at Extreme Reach.



Photo: Courtesy of CBC Still Photo Collection

AN AFTERNOON WITH KEN FINKLEMAN

► SUNDAY MAY 5 • 2:00 PM • ITH

Before creating and starring in *The Newsroom*, writer/director Ken Finkleman made the CBC pilot *1980* and the four-part miniseries *Married Life*, two brilliant, laugh-out-loud satires of the television medium that have been out of circulation for decades. Join us for this very special double-bill to be followed by a Q&A with Finkleman, moderated by writer Douglas Bell.

Married Life (p.39)



THE CHANGING FACE OF ISRAELI CINEMA

Over the past ten years, as we have continued to showcase Israeli films, both at the Festival and during our year-round programming, the TJFF programmers have noticed the increasingly sizeable contribution by women to Israel's film industry. This year, we honour this rich body of work by highlighting new films from both first-time directors and seasoned pros.

Fig Tree, directed by Aäläm-Wärqe Davidian, and Virgins, by Keren Ben Rafael, are two very impressive directorial debuts. The very timely Working Woman is the latest feature by Michal Aviad, who, known for her long list of documentaries, made her foray into feature drama with Invisible starring Ronit Elkabetz, which TJFF screened in 2012.

TJFF also presents several short films, showcasing emerging female voices: the very funny and smart, *Offspring* by Dana Keidar-Levin and Shirly Sasson-Ezer; *Noa*, a powerful film produced at the Ma'ale Film School by Shulamit Lifshitz; the cinematically inventive *Dreams of Elsewhere* by Naama Shohet; as well as the latest short by Noa Gusakov, *How to Swim*, a wonderfully charming comedy starring Orly Silbersatz and Dina Senderson.

This year also marks the 30th anniversary of the famed Sam Spiegel Film School in Jerusalem, the launching pad for such filmmakers as Talya Lavie (*Zero Motivation*), Maya Kenig (*Off White Lies*) and Mihal Brezis (*Aya*). The school's founder Renen Schorr will join us for our screening of *Voice Over*, which will be followed by a panel discussion on the history of female storytelling in Israeli cinema.

Films:

(p.41)
(p.23)
(p.41)
(p.31)
(p.42)
(p.42)
(p.32)
(p.27)
(p.28)
(p.28)

Co-presented with:







Series Sponsored by:

KULTURA COLLECTIVE קולטורה



ISRAEL @ 71

In honour of Israel's 71st anniversary, TJFF presents several documentaries reflecting the country's history and culture, as well as a beautiful family drama in honour of Israel Memorial Day (Yom Hazikaron).

Amos Oz - The Nature of Dreams (p.33)

As a tribute to the late Amos Oz, TJFF presents this beautiful documentary made after the publication of Oz's memoir, *A Tale of Love and Darkness*.

Etgar Keret: Based on a True Story (p.34)

Portrait of acclaimed writer Etgar Keret, blending live interviews and animation that evoke the surrealistic style of one of his stories.

Good Morning Son (p.24)

Family and friends maintain a bedside vigil for a wounded Israeli soldier in this intimate family drama written and directed by and starring Sharon Bar-Ziv.

Inside the Mossad (p.30)

Former Mossad agents break their silence to reveal the personal and operational challenges they overcame in working for Israel's enigmatic intelligence agency.

Lemon Popsicle: Of Winners and Losers (p.31)

An engrossing behind-the-scenes documentary about the Israeli teen comedy franchise that catapulted film producers Menahem Golan and Yoram Globus to worldwide success.

May 2 – 12 2019 TJFF.COM 27th Toronto Jewish Film Festival

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FEATURES



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 ticket information see p.9

NXTGN Films:

The Golem	(p.24)
Leona	(p.25)
Madam Yankelova's Fine Literature Club	(p.25)
My Polish Honeymoon	(p.26)
The Man Who Stole Banksy	(p.31)
Viewer Direction Advised	(p.32)
Virgins	(p.27)
Working Woman	(p.28)

Co-presented with:



Sponsored by:



FREE TICKETED SCREENINGS / EVENTS

The Beaver Power Canadian Comedy	(p.37)
Short Programme 1968-1971	
Becoming Sid Dithers: Eugene Levy from	(p.37)
McMaster to SCTV	
Columbo – Murder By the Book	(p.38)
The Girl in the Show: A Video Scrapbook, 1974-83	(p.38)
The Hart and Lorne Terrific Hour	(p.39)
Peter Falk Versus Columbo	(p.36)
Philip Roth on the CBC	(p.40)

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



FILMMATTERS IN-THEATRE AND ONLINE

FilmMatters, TJFF's free student educational outreach programme 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 cultural sensitivity, 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 for our in-theatre programme are accompanied with resource packages that teachers can utilise in the classroom both before and after the screening. These guides provide both context for the film and lesson plans for exploring the issues raised in the film.

As part of our commitment to making our film education programme accessible to all schools, in addition to our in-theatre programme, we have now launched **FilmMatters Online.** This new initiative allows teachers **anywhere** in Canada to screen films and download study guides for use in their own classrooms at a time of their choosing. This unique educational programme is suitable for students and teachers at both elementary and secondary schools.

FilmMatters online can be accessed at j-flix.com/filmmatters

FilmMatters Programme Sponsored by: Renette & David Berman

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.

Leona	(p.25)
The Unorthodox	(p.27)



'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. You place your vote and we'll do the math!

(Results announced following the Festival)



DISCOVER THE BENEFITS OF TJFF MEMBERSHIP

The Toronto Jewish Film Foundation is a charitable organization that relies on the support of donors like you to maintain the Festival and year-round programming.

Becoming a Patron Circle or Rising Star member not only allows us to continue to connect, engage and inspire audiences with stories of Jewish life from Canada and beyond, it also entitles you to the benefits of membership:

- Festival tickets
- · Early admission to Festival theatres
- Invitation to exclusive Festival and year-round Member-only events
- Donor recognition
- . TJFF partner offers and discounts

To learn more about becoming a member, visit tjff.com/support or contact our Development Department at 416-324-8226





Alliance Française Gallery Lounge

24 Spadina Rd

★Free entrance with TJFF ticket stub

TJFF.COM

May 2 – 12 2019

27th Toronto Jewish Film Festival

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OPENING NIGHT FILM



TEL AVIV ON FIRE / TEL AVIV AL HAESH

LUXEMBOURG / BELGIUM / ISRAFL / FRANCE 2018, 100 MIN ARABIC. HEBREW DIRECTOR: SAMEH 70ABL

- ▶ THURSDAY MAY 2 7:00 PM VC3
- SATURDAY MAY 4 9:30 PM FW9

Palestinian director Sameh Zoabi delivers an irreverent satire on the Arab-Israeli conflict in this award-winning film. A hapless intern on a well-liked Arab soap opera, popular in both the Territories and Israel, Salaam must navigate through an Israeli checkpoint every day to get to the Ramallah studio. In order to gain favour with the commander of the checkpoint, Salaam allows him to suggest changes to the plot that would see a sultry Arab spy fall in love with an IDF general. Torn between the demands of the army officer and the show's Arab financial backers on how the love story will end, Salaam devises a final masterstroke.

Guest: Director Sameh Zoabi (May 2 only) Sponsored by: Nora & Jacob Dehan

CLOSING NIGHT FILM



IT MUST SCHWING! THE BLUE NOTE STORY



CANADIAN PREMIERE

UNITED STATES / GERMANY 2018. 113 MIN DIRECTOR: ERIC FRIEDLER

► SUNDAY MAY 12 • 7:30 PM • HD

A must-see love letter to Blue Note Records, the most iconic label in the history of jazz. Produced by Wim Wenders, It Must Schwing features breathtaking animation, sublime jazz images and a swinging soundtrack. Alfred Lion and Francis Wolff, two Jewish refugees from Berlin with a passion for jazz, founded the company in 1939. Having immigrated to New York to escape discrimination, the two men felt a deep affinity with the African American musicians who faced blatant discrimination and segregation. Respecting them as artists and equals, Blue Note Records launched the careers of giants like Miles Davis, Thelonius Monk, John Coltrane and many more. "A unique and intimate look at the most exciting era in jazz, one that changed the world forever... impressive!" (Rolling Stone)

Featuring live Jazz performances by Kevin Turcotte, Reg Schwager and Dave Young trio, presented in partnership with TD Toronto Jazz Festival.

Co-presented with: Toronto Black Film Festival and TD Toronto

Sponsored by: Leonard Wolinsky Foundation

DRAMAS & COMEDIES: LARGER THAN LIFE



BACK TO MARACANÃ

CANADIAN PREMIERE

ISRAEL / BRAZIL 2018, 92 MIN HEBREW, PORTUGUESE DIRECTOR: JORGE GURVICH

- ► TUESDAY MAY 7 6:15 PM HD
- ► THURSDAY MAY 9 8:30 PM EW9

A road trip featuring three generations of men trying to understand each other. Roberto is an embarrassment to his 12-year-old son Itay and a disappointment to Samuel, his soccer-mad father. Though he loathes soccer, Itay finds himself on a plane from Israel to Brazil during school holidays with his father and grandfather to watch Samuel's beloved team play in the World Cup. Their spontaneous trip turns into an eventful journey that changes each of them. **Co-presented with:** Maccabi Canada



CURTIZ

HUNGARY 2018, 98 MIN ENGLISH, HUNGARIAN DIRECTOR: TAMAS YVAN TOPOLANSZKY

- ► SUNDAY MAY 5 8:00 PM EW6
- ► TUESDAY MAY 7 9:00 PM HD

Winner of the Best Film prize at last year's Montreal World Film Festival.

A unique vision of legendary Hungarian filmmaker Michael Curtiz and his struggles in making his classic Hollywood film, *Casablanca*. This stylish dramatization pays homage to Curtiz' trademark 'Noir' aesthetic, and also recreates his struggles with a zealous government agent, paralleling the conflict raging overseas for those European cast and crew members who had fled Nazi oppression. *Casablanca*, the cinematic masterpiece of pro-Allied propaganda, garnered eight Oscar nominations and three awards, including Best Director and Best Picture. *Guest:* Producer Judit Romwalter

Co-presented with: European Union
Film Festival and Pendance Film Festival
Guest travel provided by:





ECHO

TORONTO PREMIERE

ISRAEL 2018, 98 MIN HEBREW DIRECTORS: AMIKAM KOVNER & ASSAF SNIR

- ► SATURDAY MAY 4 9:15 PM ITH
- ► MONDAY MAY 6 8:30 PM EW9

Yoram Toledano (*Prisoners of War*) and Yaël Abecassis (*Live and Become, A Borrowed Identity*) star in this taut, stylish drama. Avner, a mining engineer, suspects his wife Ella of having an affair. He begins taping her phone calls,

only to learn that the woman he is listening to is not the woman he thought he knew. Avner's excavation work in an endless maze of collapsed tunnels mirrors his increasing obsession and isolation and, on a deeper level, echoes the surrounding culture's preoccupation with surveillance and intelligence.

Sponsored by:

ELלעALלא.



FIG TREE / ETZ TEENA

ISRAEL 2018, 93 MIN AMHARIC, HEBREW DIRECTOR: AÄLÄM-WÄRQE DAVIDIAN

- ► TUESDAY MAY 7 6:00 PM EW9
- ► WEDNESDAY MAY 8 3:30 PM ITH

Winner of the Audentia prize for best female director at TIFF.

Ethiopian-Israeli director Aäläm-Wärqe Davidian draws on her own experience of growing up in war-torn Addis Ababa. Sixteen-year old Mina is poised to flee Ethiopia with her grandmother to be reunited with her mother in Israel; however, she is reluctant to leave her Christian boyfriend Eli, who lives in the woods in order to avoid forcible conscription by the military. Grounded by remarkable performances, *Fig Tree* is a moving coming-of-age tale and a remarkable feature debut.

Followed by a Skype Q&A with Director Aäläm-Wärqe Davidian (May 8 only) Co-presented with: Toronto Black Film Festival

Sponsored by: The Ganz Family Foundation

AF The Spadina Theatre at Alliance Française, 24 Spadina Rd. 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. VC Cineplex Cinemas Varsity and VIP, 55 Bloor St. W. YE Cineplex Cinemas Yonge-Eglinton and VIP, 2300 Yonge St. 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.

DRAMAS & COMEDIES



A FORTUNATE MAN / LYKKE-PER

TORONTO PREMIERE

DENMARK 2018 162 MIN DANISH, GERMAN DIRECTOR: BILLE AUGUST

- ▶ MONDAY MAY 6 7:30 PM EW6
- ▶ WEDNESDAY MAY 8 7:30 PM HD

Considered one of the greatest Danish novels, Lykke-Per by Nobel Prize-winning author Henrik Pontoppidan is translated to the screen by Academy Award-winning director Bille August (Pelle the Conquerer). Per Sidenius, an aspiring engineer, renounces his rural Lutheran upbringing to pursue a career in Copenhagen. His progressive ideas are embraced by the Salamons, a cosmopolitan, Jewish banking family, and Per becomes engaged to their eldest daughter. Ambition gets the better of him and just as he is on the brink of success, Per sabotages his future. An epic story spanning decades, A Fortunate Man is a visual feast that demands to be seen on the big screen. Co-presented with: Danish Consulate General in Toronto



THE GOLEM

ISRAEL 2018, 95 MIN DIRECTORS: DORON PAZ & YOAV PAZ

SATURDAY MAY 4 ● 9:00 PM ● AF

A fresh and stylish update of the ancient Jewish legend of the Golem. In this post-modern, post-feminist version, a young woman in 18th Century rural Lithuania defies patriarchal authority to study the mystical arts of the Kabbalah. In the face of a plague and the Jewish male leaders' failure to take action against ensuing pogroms, she attempts to protect her community by conjuring up a supernatural creature, which is more dangerous than she bargained for. Drawing on historical, contemporary and religious themes, the film is imbued with rich symbolism and period detail. Guest invited.

Co-presented with: Toronto After Dark Film Festival



GOOD MORNING SON / BOKER TOV YELED

CANADIAN PREMIERE

ISRAEL 2018. 85 MIN HEBREW DIRECTOR: SHARON BAR-7IV

- ► TUESDAY MAY 7 8:30 PM ITH
- SUNDAY MAY 12 4:30 PM EW9

Good Morning Son is a beautifully rendered glimpse into the ordeals faced by military families in Israel: a testament to human resilience, filled with moments of humour, heartbreak and hope. Sharon Bar-Ziv (Room 514) writes, directs and stars, alongside Keren Mor (Shiva), in this intimate family drama. Son Omri lies comatose, after being injured in a military operation, and his family and friends maintain an ongoing bedside vigil, while doctors and therapists try to temper their expectations.

Co-presented with: Beit Halochem Canada, Aid to Disabled Veterans of Israel



HAPPINESS OF THE WORLD / SZCZĘŚCIE ŚWIATA

TORONTO PREMIERE

POLAND 2016, 98 MIN POLISH, GERMAN, YIDDISH DIRECTOR: MICHAL ROSA

- ► FRIDAY MAY 3 4:00 PM YE7
- ► SUNDAY MAY 5 6:00 PM EW9

Traveling to Silesia in search of a travel guide author he admires, a journalist arrives at a tenement house on the Polish-German border inhabited by a group of eccentric individuals. At the centre is Rose, a beautiful Jewish woman who is the object of desire for three men - a Pole, a Silesian and a German. The arrival of the Gestapo delivers a challenge: who will come to Rosa's rescue and how will they deal with their choices in the aftermath? Told in a series of meticulously crafted vignettes, the film has an endearing quirkiness reminiscent of a Wes Anderson film.

Co-presented with: Ekran Toronto Polish Film Festival

Sponsored by:





"I DO NOT CARE IF WE GO DOWN IN HISTORY AS BARBARIANS"/ ÎMI ESTE INDIFERENT DACĂ ÎN **ISTORIE VOM INTRA CA BARBARI"**

> ROMANIA / CZECH REPUBLIC / FRANCE / BULGARIA 2018, 140 MIN ROMANIAN



DIRECTOR: RADU JUDE

- ► TUEDAY MAY 7 3:00 PM ITH
- ► FRIDAY MAY 10 3:00 PM EW6

"[Filmmaker] Radu Jude launches a blistering attack on Romanian Holocaust denial and historical myopia" (Variety). Tasked with staging a public performance relating to Romanian history, an idealistic theatre director opts to stage a re-enactment of a 1941 massacre of tens of thousands of Jews by Romanian troops. Her choice angers a city official who threatens to close the production because of its "anti-Romanian" take on history. However, the public reaction to the piece is one that neither anticipates. This internationally-acclaimed dark satire is a timely statement about the consequences of selective and willful amnesia on a society fueled by populist sentiments.

Guest: Filmmaker Tereza Barta, Professor in the Department of Cinema & Media Arts, York University



THE INTERPRETER / TLMOCNÍK

TORONTO PREMIERE PREMIERE
SLOVAKIA / CZECH REPUBLIC /

AUSTRIA 2018, 114 MIN
GERMAN. SLOVAK
DIRECTOR: MARTIN ŠULÍK

- ► FRIDAY MAY 3 12:00 PM EW9
- ► THURSDAY MAY 9 1:00 PM ITH

Two seemingly opposite men – one who wants to discover his family's past and the other who wants to forget his – set out on a road trip through Slovakia in this expertly crafted dramedy. 80-year-old translator, Ali (Jiri Menzel), wants to

confront the SS man who executed his parents, but only finds the officer's 70-year-old alcoholic son Georg (Peter Simonischek, *Toni Erdmann*). Comedic twists and tragic realizations confront the ill-matched couple as they travel through Slovakia in search of the history that its inhabitants would prefer to forget. **Co-presented with:** Consulate General of the Czech Republic in Toronto **Sponsored by:**

O Desjardins



LEONA &

CANADIAN PREMIERE

MEXICO 2018, 95 MIN SPANISH

DIRECTOR: ISAAC CHEREM

- ► THURSDAY MAY 9 9:00 PM HD
- ► SATURDAY MAY 11 9:00 PM EW6

A universal tale of star-crossed lovers is given a uniquely Mexican twist in this intimate portrait of Jewish family life. 25-year-old Ariela (beautifully played by Naian González Norvind) is a creative free spirit chafing against the constraints of her insular community. When she falls in love with a non-Jewish man, her place within her family and the Jewish community is called into question. While religion is the catalyst for the dramatic tension, what distinguishes this film is the way director Isaac Cherem, along with co-writer and star Gonzalez Norvind, portray Ariela's journey toward becoming her own woman.

Guest: Director Isaac Cherem ASL Interpreter will be present at May 9 screening for introduction and post-film Q & A.

Co-presented with: Mexican Consulate in Toronto **and** aluCine Latin Film + Media Arts Festival

Sponsored by: Wendy & Elliott Eisen and Carole & Bernard Zucker



MADAM YANKELOVA'S FINE LITERATURE CLUB / HAMOADON LESAFRUT YAFFA SHEL HAGVERET YANLEKOVA

CANADIAN PREMIERE

ISRAEL 2017, 88 MIN HEBREW

DIRECTOR: GUILHAD EMILIO SCHENKER

- ► TUESDAY MAY 7 8:30 PM EW9
- ► THURSDAY MAY 9 9:00 PM ITH

What is going on behind the closed doors of Madam Yankelova's women-only secret club? Israeli star Keren Mor (Shiva. Princess) is unforgettable in this delightfully twisted fairy tale that is visually reminiscent of a Tim Burton film. The first rule of the club is that love is prohibited. When member Sophie (Mor) falls for a mysterious man (Yiftach Klein from Noodle), she must choose between her last chance for true love and her loyalty to the club. Guilhad Emilio Schenker's debut film is inspired by the themes of Nobel Laureate S.Y. Agnon and features a dream cast that includes Game of Thrones' Ania Bukstein as well as two grand dames of Israeli cinema, Hana Laszlo (Shtisel, 7 Days) and Leah Koenig (The Testament, Shtisel). May 7 With: Offspring (18 MIN, p. 42)

DRAMAS & COMEDIES



THE MOVER / TĒVS NAKTS

NORTH AMERICAN PREMIERE

LATVIA 2018, 87 MIN LATVIAN

DIRECTOR: DAVIS SIMANIS

- ► MONDAY MAY 6 3:00 PM ITH
- WEDNESDAY MAY 8 8:00 PM EW6

This award-winning Latvian feature film offers a-gripping account of Žanis Lipke, a blue-collar worker honoured as one of the 'Righteous Among the Nations' for his heroic deeds during the war. Despite his family's hardship under successive Soviet and German occupations, Lipke embarked on a covert operation to save local Jews from Nazi persecution and certain death, moving them from the Riga ghetto to an underground bunker hidden on his property. From the start, Filmmaker Davis Simanis creates a powerfully ominous and suspenseful atmosphere, positioning the viewer, like Lipke, as a reluctant eyewitness to unfolding horrors.

Co-presented with: European Union Film Festival

Sponsored by:





MY POLISH HONEYMOON / LUNE DE MIEL... À ZGIERZ

INTERNATIONAL PREMIERE

FRENCH 2018. 88 MIN

DIRECTOR: ÉLISE OTZENBERGER

- ► THURSDAY MAY 9 8:00 PM EW6
- ► SATURDAY MAY 11 9:00 PM HD

First time director Élise Otzenberger deftly mixes elements of romantic comedy and drama to look at the joys and pains that come with learning about one's family history. Judith Chemla (Camille redouble) and Arthur Igual (Stefan Zweig: Farewell to Europe) star as Anna and Adam, a recently-married Parisian Jewish couple of Polish heritage. For their honeymoon, they decide to visit Poland for the first time. to attend a ceremony in the village where Adam's grandfather grew up. He is less than enthusiastic about the trip, while she is excited to connect with her roots. Will their differing attitudes pull them apart, or draw them closer together?

Co-presented with: Cinéfranco Francophone International Film Festival Sponsored by: Marsha Bronfman



SEFARAD

CANADIAN PREMIERE

PORTUGAL 2019. 109 MIN **PORTUGUESE** DIRECTOR: LUIS ISMAEL

- TUESDAY MAY 7 8:00 PM EW6
- THURSDAY MAY 9 6:15 PM HD

Sefarad is a fitting tribute to an important figure in modern Portuguese Jewish history. This visually-lush historical drama recounts the story of army captain Barros Basto, a convert to Judaism who established the Jewish community of Oporto, Portugal, in the first half of the 20th century, 400 years after the expulsion of the Jews. Hoping to bring the Marranos (crypto-Jews who had

undergone forced conversions) back into the open, he founded a seminary and built the largest synagogue in the Iberian Peninsula.

Guest: Dara Jeffries, representative from the Jewish Community of Oporto (May 7 only)

Co-presented with: Communauté Juive Marocaine de Toronto and Consulate General of Portugal in Toronto Sponsored by: Izzy and Betty Kirshenbaum Foundation



SHEPHERD: THE STORY OF A JEWISH DOG

CANADIAN PREMIERE

UNITED STATES 2019, 93 MIN DIRECTOR: LYNN ROTH

SUNDAY MAY 5 • 2:30 PM • EW6

Adapted to film by Lynn Roth (The Little Traitor) from Asher Kravitz's award-winning novel, Shepherd: The Story of a Jewish Dog is a family drama about the unbreakable bond between a boy and his dog. After the enactment of the Nuremberg laws, Kaleb, a German Shepherd, is taken from his Jewish family and adopted by an SS officer who trains him to round up Jewish prisoners. When his former owner. Joshua, arrives at the camp, Kaleb's loyalty to him remains unwavering. Together, the pair escape the camp and embark on a perilous journey to freedom.

Warning: scenes in a Concentration Camp

Recommended for ages 11 and up Followed by a Skype Q&A with Director Lynn Roth





SOBIBOR

RUSSIA / LITHUANIA / GERMANY 2018, 117 MIN YIDDISH, RUSSIAN, GERMAN, POLISH DIRECTOR: KONSTANTIN KHABENSKIY

TUESDAY MAY 7 ● 4:30 PM ● EW6

Russia's official submission to the 2019 **Academy Awards.** *Sobibor* is a powerful film about the 1943 uprising and escape from the prison camp. Central to the story is Soviet-Jewish Officer Alexander Pechersky, who achieved the seemingly impossible by organizing a daring and carefully-orchestrated revolt that led to a mass escape-the most successful uprising at any camp. Director Konstantin Khabenskiy also explores the internal politics between the conspirators and the Jews who worked as camp police for the Nazis. Starring Christopher Lambert and Konstantin Khabenskiv, one of Russia's best-known actors.

Warning: Graphic images

Guest: Anna Shternshis, Professor and Director of the Anne Tanenbaum Centre for Jewish Studies, University of Toronto



THE TOBACCONIST / DER TRAFIKANT

TORONTO PREMIERE

CZECH REPUBLIC /
GERMANY 2018, 109 MIN
GERMAN, CZECH
DIRECTOR: NIKOLAUS LEYTNER

SATURDAY MAY 4 • 9:00 PM • EW6
 MONDAY MAY 6 • 6:15 PM • HD

Based on the bestselling novel by Robert Seethaler, The Tobacconist is a moving drama about loss of innocence. Franz. a naïve 17-year-old, moves from his rural home to Vienna to work as an assistant tobacconist, where his customers include the cigar-smoking Sigmund Freud (played by the late Bruno Ganz). An unlikely friendship is born when Franz asks the esteemed doctor to help him win the affections of a girl. When the Nazis seize power in Austria. Franz must grow up quickly and decide what side he is on. Director Nikolaus Leytner deftly balances the personal and the political with cleverly incorporated dream sequences.

Co-presented with: Goethe-Institut **Sponsored by:**





THE UNORTHODOX



TORONTO PREMIERE

ISRAEL 2018, 92 MIN HEBREW

DIRECTOR: ELIRAN MALKA

- ► SATURDAY MAY 11 9:30PM EW9
- ► SUNDAY MAY 12 4:00 PM HD

Inspired by the improbable beginnings of Shas, the first political party in Israel to represent the disenfranchised Sephardic community, Eliran Malka's feature debut is a quintessential underdog story, fueled equally by rage and humour. Angered when his daughter is expelled from school simply for being Sephardic, Ya'akov Cohen galvanizes his friends to take action. Armed with passion, they

improvise a grassroots campaign to form a party dedicated to Mizrahi Jews. Their efforts would reshape Israeli society in ways that still resonate today. The film is carried by the outstanding performance of Shuli Rand (*Ushpizin*). **Guest:** Director Eliran Malka

Co-presented with: Communauté Juive Marocaine de Toronto

ASL Interpreter will be present at May 11 Screening for introduction and post-film Q & A.



VIRGINS / EN BATULOT BEKRAIOT

FRANCE / ISRAEL / BELGIUM 2018, 90 MIN HEBREW

DIRECTOR: KEREN BEN RAFAEL

- ► SUNDAY MAY 5 8:30 PM AF
- ► WEDNESDAY MAY 8 8:30 PM EW9

An urban legend about a mermaid sighting in the coastal town of Kirvat Yam is the premise for Keren Ben Rafael's first full-length feature that made its debut at the Tribeca Film Festival, Bored with small town life. teenaged Lana dreams of escaping to Tel Aviv. Hope arrives in the form of Tchipi (Michael Aloni, Shtisel), a handsome journalist who publishes her tall tale about a mermaid sighting in Ha'aretz, generating a media frenzy. An enchanting coming-of-age tale, Virgins reminds us that even as adults, we should maintain a sense of wonder and belief.

May 5 With: Offspring (18 MIN, p. 42) **Sponsored by:** Nathan and Lily Silver Family Foundation



VOICE OVER

NORTH AMERICAN PREMIERE

ISRAEL 2018. 85 MIN HEBREW, ARABIC DIRECTORS: AVRAHAM HEFFNER, EITAN ANNER, NIR BERGMAN, MAYA KENIG ORIT-FOUKS ROTEM, SIGALIT LIFCHITZ & TOM SHOVAL

► FRIDAY MAY 3 • 3:00 PM • YE9

Fifty years after winning the Silver Lion for best short film at the Venice Film Festival, Avraham Heffner's groundbreaking film, Slow Down, based on a Simone de Beauvoir story, is being celebrated with six modern interpretations. Six renowned Israeli directors, all graduates of the Sam Spiegel Film School in Jerusalem—including Nir Bergman (Broken Wings), Eitan Anner (A Quiet Heart) and Maya Kenig (Off-White Lies)—have put their own unique stamp on the original story which charts the guarrel and reconciliation of a couple through the heroine's stream-of-consciousness voice over. Acclaimed actors Gila Almagor, Dana Ivgy and Makram Khoury lend their talents to this tribute, while bringing a modern spin that reflects contemporary Israeli society. Guest: Renen Schorr, Filmmaker and Founder of the Sam Spiegel Film School in Jerusalem

Followed by a panel discussion on Women in Israeli Cinema featuring Ruth Diskin, Director of Projects and Culture at the Jerusalem Foundation; Filmmakers Shulamit Lifshitz and Naama Shohet; and Renen Schorr Sponsored by:



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



WORKING WOMAN / ISHA OVEDET

ISRAEL 2018, 93 MIN **HEBREW** DIRECTOR: MICHAL AVIAD

- SUNDAY MAY 5 8:30 PM EW9
- MONDAY MAY 6 9:00 PM HD

Director Michal Aviad (The Women Pioneers, Invisible) offers an engrossing and complex drama that could not be more timely. Liron Ben-Shlush (Next to Her) delivers a multi-faceted performance as Orna, a woman who takes a job to keep her financially struggling family afloat. Her boss soon makes an unwanted advance that she rebuffs. Though he apologizes, his behaviour becomes increasingly aggressive and Orna is put in an impossible predicament. Eschewing melodrama, Aviad delivers a hard-hitting and empowering drama that depicts murky workplace dynamics and the insidious nature of sexual harassment.

With: Noa (10 MIN, p. 42) Sponsored by: Marsha Bronfman

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DOCUMENTARIES:

FASCINATING BUT TRUE



1938 - DIFFERENT / 1938 - DIVERSI

CANADIAN PREMIERE

ITALY 2018, 62 MIN ITALIAN

DIRECTOR: GIORGIO TREVES

- ► FRIDAY MAY 3 1:00 PM YE9
- ► MONDAY MAY 6 4:30 PM EW6

For centuries, Jews in Italy lived peacefully in an integrated society. This came to an abrupt end in 1938: the implementation of the Fascist regime's racial laws designated Jews as "diversi," or "different" people. Blending archival footage and survivor testimony, director Giorgio Treves traces the rise of Fascism in Mussolini's Italy. highlighting how mass media and propaganda accelerated racist attitudes and turned Jews into enemies of the state. In an era where alt-right parties are gaining legitimacy in Europe, Trevere's film is a sobering and timely reminder of how Italy went from being a tolerant society to a Fascist nation. Co-presented with: Istituto Italiano di Cultura and Italian Contemporary Film Festival



82 NAMES: SYRIA, PLEASE DON'T FORGET US

CANADIAN PREMIERE

UNITED KINGDOM / UNITED STATES 2018, 49 MIN ENGLISH. ARABIC, GERMAN DIRECTOR: MAZIAR BAHARI

► TUESDAY MAY 7 • 6:15 PM • ITH

Upon his release from prison, Mansour Omari, a Syrian POW and torture survivor, risked his life by writing the names of his fellow cellmates in blood and rust on scraps of cloth and sewing them into his shirt. The film follows Omari, now in exile, as he travels to Holocaust memorial sites in Germany and reflects on how to bring attention to the brutal regime he escaped. Along with the Holocaust Memorial Museum in Washington, he is preparing to display the cloths so that the names of his 82 cellmates will not be forgotten.

Warning: Graphic images

Guest: Director Maziar Bahari

With: Edek (5 MIN, p. 41)

Co-presented with: JAYU Human
Rights Film Festival and Facing
History and Ourselves



CAUSE OF DEATH

TORONTO PREMIERE

ISRAEL 2018, 79 MIN HEBREW, ARABIC DIRECTOR: RAMY KATZ

- MONDAY MAY 6 3:30 PM AF
- ▶ WEDNESDAY MAY 8 3:00 PM EW6

An internationally-acclaimed documentary that unravels a mystery and explores some of the unspoken tensions between Jews and Druze in Israel. Salim Barakat was a hero and well-liked Druze member of the Tel Aviv police force. Ten years after Salim was killed stopping a terrorist attack, his brother Jamal receives evidence that calls into question the official story about how Salim died. Cause of Death follows Jamal's investigative journey as he tries to uncover how Salim actually died and who really killed him.

Co-presented with: JAYU Human Rights Film Festival



CHASING PORTRAITS

CANADIAN PREMIERE

UNITED STATES 2018, 78 MIN ENGLISH, POLISH DIRECTOR: ELIZABETH RYNECKI

- ► FRIDAY MAY 10 1:00 PM AF
- ► SUNDAY MAY 12 3:30 PM EW6

In this personal documentary, filmmaker Elizabeth Rynecki searches for paintings by her great grandfather, Moshe Rynecki, that depict scenes of Jewish life in pre-war Poland. Before the Nazi

DOCUMENTARIES

occupation and his death in Majdanek, Rynecki hid his art amongst friends in Warsaw, but only one bundle was later found. The rest were dispersed to public and private collections around the world. Elizabeth is on a quest to track down the lost pieces and rebuild her great grandfather's collection. "This moving portrait of one woman's effort to connect with her family history and particularly with a man she never knew had me tearing up." (Steve Kopian, Unseen Films)

Guest: Director Elizabeth Rynecki With: A Thousand Kisses (15 MIN, p. 42) Co-presented with: Anne Tanenbaum Centre for Jewish Studies Sponsored by: Dover Family



FAMILY IN TRANSITION / MISHPAKHA BITRANS

CANADIAN PREMIERE

ISRAEL 2018, 70 MIN **HEBREW**

DIRECTOR: OFIR TRAININ

SUNDAY MAY 5 • 3:00 PM • AF

Winner of the Best Film Award at the 2018 Docaviv Film Festival. A candid documentary about the challenges an Israeli family faces when the father transitions to a woman. Though her wife and children are unwavering in their love and support, the process eventually takes a toll on the family dynamic. Family in Transition avoids false optimism as it explores the challenges that the characters face. This seldom-explored issue in Israeli film history is handled with sensitivity and charm.

Followed by a Skype Q&A with

Co-producer Tal Barda

With: How to Swim (15 MIN, p. 41) Co-presented with: Inside Out LGBTQ Film Festival and LGBTQ at the J



FORGOTTEN SOLDIER

CANADIAN PREMIERE

UNITED KINGDOM 2018, 69 MIN DIRECTOR: LUCILE SMITH

- WEDNESDAY MAY 8 6:00 PM ITH
- FRIDAY MAY 10 1:00 PM EW9

Winner of the Audience Choice Award at the 2018 UK Jewish Film

Festival. The incredible story of Sally Noach, a Dutch Jewish carpet salesman who rescued hundreds of Jews from Vichy France by forging identification papers and arranging their escape. Equally intriguing is the controversy still surrounding Noach's exploits: lingering rumours about espionage and black-market profiteering. Finally, with assistance from the filmmaker, researchers and living witnesses whose families he saved, Noach's children attempt to solve the puzzle.

Guests: Director Lucile Smith; Lady Irene Hatter, daughter of film subject Co-presented with: Sarah and Chaim Neuberger Holocaust Education Centre

Sponsored by:





HITLER VERSUS PICASSO AND THE OTHERS / HITLER CONTRO **PICASSO E GLI ALTRI**

TORONTO PREMIERE

ITALY 2017, 94 MIN

ITALIAN

DIRECTOR: CLAUDIO POLI

FRIDAY MAY 3 • 3:00 PM • EW9

In their quest for an absolute aesthetic,

the Nazis declared war on what they deemed "degenerate art." Between 1933 and 1935, hundreds of thousands of condemned works of modern art, including masterpieces by Picasso, Matisse and Renoir, were stolen from their owners, mostly Jewish collectors. This riveting documentary, combining history, art and drama as it traces the stories behind the looting of several prominent collections. Narrated by Toni Servillo (The Great Beauty).

Guest: Sara Angel. Founder and Executive Director, Art Canada Institute Co-presented with: Canadian Friends of Israel Museum



INSIDE THE MOSSAD / HAMOSSAD: SIPUR KISUY

ISRAEL / GERMANY 2018, 90 MIN **HFBRFW**

DIRECTOR: DUKI DROR

- SUNDAY MAY 5 5:00 PM EW6
- MONDAY MAY 6 5:30 PM ITH

Shrouded in secrecy, Israel's intelligence agency, the Mossad, has been closed to the media since its founding in 1950. This must-see documentary steps behind the curtain to unveil stories from former agents who provide first-hand testimony of the personal and operational challenges they overcame working for one of the most enigmatic institutions in the world. Inside the Mossad is an intriguing and unsettling examination of Israel's history through the eyes of those who shaped its past and continue to influence its future.

Guest: Director Duki Dror Sponsored by: Gerald Sheff & Shanitha Kachan

Guest travel provided by:









THE KING OF BÖREK / SERET BOUREKAS

NORTH AMERICAN PREMIERE

ISRAEL 2018, 74 MIN HEBREW, BULGARIAN DIRECTOR: ORIT OFIR RONELL

- ▶ WEDNESDAY MAY 8 1:00 PM AF
- ► FRIDAY MAY 10 12:00 PM EW6

Orit Ofir Ronell vividly recounts the story of the rise and fall of her immigrant grandfather's food business in this fascinating documentary. Arriving from Bulgaria in the early years of statehood, and settling with his family in Jaffa. Sami Alkolombris sold his home-baked 'börek' or 'boureka' from a street cart in Jaffa. They were so popular that he soon opened his own bakery, establishing the first food franchise chain in Israel. Through interviews with various relatives and lots of archival photographs and film, Ronell pieces together the history of family conflict, which, over two generations, spelled the demise of the Sami Bourekas Empire. With: America (15 MIN, p. 41)

With: America (15 MIN, p. 41)
Co-presented with: NoshFest Toronto
Sponsored by: Renée Unger



LEMON POPSICLE: OF WINNERS AND LOSERS / ESKIMO LIMON-EIS AM STIEL: VON SIEGERN UND VERLIERERN

CANADIAN PREMIERE

GERMANY / ISRAEL / UNITED STATES 2018, 94 MIN GERMAN, HEBREW, ENGLISH DIRECTOR: ERIC FRIEDLER

- ▶ SUNDAY MAY 5 5:30 PM AF
- ► MONDAY MAY 6 5:30 PM EW9

Before Porky's and American Pie, there was Lemon Popsicle (Eskimo Limon), an Israeli teen comedy franchise that conquered the Berlin Film Festival in 1978 and became a worldwide success. Funny, sexy and trashy, these films catapulted producers Menahem Golan and Yoram Globus (of Cannon Films) to worldwide success, while offering European audiences an image of sexually-liberated Israelis. This behind-the-scenes documentary is a slice of Israeli social history and a bittersweet tale of unforgettable characters. We are given access to incredible archival materials as well as many candid interviews with key players.

Guest: Director Eric Friedler **Co-presented with:** Suspect Video



THE MAMBONIKS

CANADIAN PREMIERE

UNITED STATES 2019, 90 MIN ENGLISH, SPANISH DIRECTORS: LEX GILLESPIE

- ► SUNDAY MAY 5 5:30 PM ITH
- ► SUNDAY MAY 12 1:00 PM EW6

Long before rock 'n roll, 'Mambo' was a dance craze that spread like wildfire, thanks to young, hip, New York Jews captivated by its Latin beat. This upbeat documentary traces the history of 'Mambo,' from its origins in 1940s Cuba, to Broadway, the Catskills and Florida. Featuring rare film footage and interviews with former 'Mamboniks'—musicians, DJs, record producers, nightclub owners, and dancers like Michael Terrace (the

model for Patrick Swayze's character in *Dirty Dancing*)—who are still moved by mambo rhythms.

Sponsored by: Mel & Renee Stein & Family



THE MAN WHO STOLE BANKSY / L' UOMO CHE RUBO BANKSY

UNITED KINGDOM / ITALY 2017, 93 MIN ARABIC, ENGLISH DIRECTOR: MARCO PROSERPIO

► SATURDAY MAY 11 • 9:00 PM • ITH

In 2007, street artist Banksy painted several murals on the wall separating Israelis and Palestinians, hoping to draw attention to the Palestinian cause. Seeing a business opportunity, a local taxi driver cut out the entire piece of the wall to help sell it on eBay, sparking an ethical and legal debate about ownership of public art. Narrated by Iggy Pop, this documentary explores the nature of public space, the commodification of street art and what happens when Middle East politics collide with the Western art market.

Co-presented with: #Hashtag Gallery Ltd Followed by Skype Q&A with Director Marco Proserpio.



MOHAMED AND ANNA -IN PLAIN SIGHT

CANADIAN PREMIERE

ISRAEL / GERMANY 2017, 58 MIN ENGLISH, HEBREW, GERMAN DIRECTOR: TALIYA FINKEL

AF The Spadina Theatre at Alliance Française, 24 Spadina Rd. 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. VC Cineplex Cinemas Varsity and VIP, 55 Bloor St. W. YE Cineplex Cinemas Yonge-Eglinton and VIP, 2300 Yonge St. 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.

DOCUMENTARIES

- TUESDAY MAY 7 1:00 PM AF
- THURSDAY MAY 9 5:00 PM EW6

The remarkable story of Dr. Mohamed Helmy, the Muslim Egyptian doctor who became the only Arab recognized by Israel as a 'Righteous Among the Nations.' A proud humanist who freely criticized the Nazi regime, Helmy risked his life to save Anna Boros, a Jewish girl he knew, by dressing her in a hijab and pretending she was his niece. Shot on location in Berlin, the film incorporates rare photographs and archival footage of Berlin in the 1930s and '40s.

Followed by a Skype Q&A with

Director Taliya Finkel

With: My Yiddish Papi (8 MIN, p.42) Co-presented with: Sarah and Chaim Neuberger Holocaust Education Centre and The Mosaic Institute



MY WAR HERO UNCLE / **ELIFELET**

CANADIAN PREMIERE

ISRAEL 2018. 59 MIN **HEBREW**

DIRECTOR: SHAKED GOREN

- SUNDAY MAY 5 1:00 PM EW9
- TUESDAY MAY 7 3:30 PM AF

Shaked was raised hearing stories about his war-hero uncle who was killed in the 1967 war and whose absence is still keenly felt by the family. When Shaked discovers that his uncle Ami did not, in fact, die on the battlefield. he sets out to uncover the truth. Family secrets are uncovered and he gains the strength to reveal one of his own. This moving documentary highlights the price of keeping secrets and the healing power of being true to oneself and honest with others.

Guest: Director Shaked Goren With: Close the Shutters (5 MIN, p. 41)

Guest travel provided by:





SACRED SPACES - FROM TEMPLE TO SYNAGOGUE: ABSENCE AND PRESENCE / **MONUMENTS SACRÉS - DU TEMPLE AUX SYNAGOGUES,** ABSENCE ET PRÉSENCE

FRANCE 2018 90 MIN DIRECTOR: CELIA LOWENSTEIN

- WEDNESDAY MAY 8 5:00 PM EW6
- THURSDAY MAY 9 4:00 PM ITH

A lush travelogue, Sacred Spaces charts three thousand years of Jewish Diaspora through places of worship. Beginning in Jerusalem with the historic significance of the destroyed temples and remaining Western Wall, the film travels to Tunisia, Cordoba, Toledo, Amsterdam, Venice and Budapest where the synagogues attest to the history of European Jewry. The journey culminates with the Philadelphia synagogue designed by Frank Lloyd Wright. A profound exploration of how Jewish sacred spaces have figured in the transmission of Jewish values through the ages.

Guest: Director Celia Lowenstein Co-presented with: Congregation

Darchei Noam

Sponsored by: teknion



A SISTER'S SONG

TORONTO PREMIERE

CANADA / ISRAEL 2018, 80 MIN HEBREW, ENGLISH, RUSSIAN

DIRECTOR: DANAE ELON

- FRIDAY MAY 10 3:30 PM AF
- SUNDAY MAY 12 1:30 PM EW9

Danae Elon (2016 David A. Stein Memorial Award winner for The Patriarch's Room) returns to TJFF with another remarkable film: an intimate, complex study of sisters Marina and Tatiana. These Russian-born Israeli women have barely spoken in twenty years, ever since Tatiana decided to leave Jerusalem and live as a nun in Greece. Feeling the need to reconnect, Marina travels to the convent to try to understand the choices her sister has made. A dramatic turn of events sets them both down a path of personal discovery, as the film explores issues of faith, respect and acceptance.

Guest: Director Danae Elon Co-presented with: Hot Docs Canadian International Documentary Festival Sponsored by: Shirley Granovsky



VIEWER DIRECTION ADVISED

CANADIAN PREMIERE

CANADA 2018. 85 MIN DIRECTOR: BEN KAPLAN

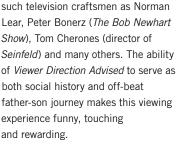
SUNDAY MAY 5 • 8:00 PM • ITH

A must see for any pop culture television lover!" (Fresh Radio). Twenty-one-yearold local filmmaker Ben Kaplan decides to follow his TV-obsessed dad, who sketches his favourite sitcom actors, collects television memorabilia and attends Brady Bunch conventions. Together they explore how television consumption has changed from one generation to the next, and whether today's viewing habits have fragmented what was a more communal experience. These answers require reflection on their relationship, as well as help from

BIOGRAPHIES:

PEOPLE YOU WOULD LOVE TO HAVE HOT WATER AND LEMON WITH*

*May not be applicable in all cases



Guest: Director Ben Kaplan, Producer and father Marshall Kaplan

Co-presented with: Hot Docs Canadian International Documentary Festival Sponsored by: Shirley Granovsky





YOU ONLY DIE TWICE / ATA MET RAK PAAMAYIM

CANADIAN PREMIERE

ISRAEL / AUSTRIA 2018, 88 MIN HEBREW, ENGLISH, GERMAN, SERBIAN DIRECTORS: DAVID DERI & YAIR LEV

- ▶ SUNDAY MAY 5 3:30 PM EW9
- ► THURSDAY MAY 9 1:00 PM AF

"The most thrilling film playing in Israel at the moment and the best thriller I've seen in years" (Uri Klein, *Ha'aretz*).

When filmmaker Yair Lev inadvertently discovers that the identity of his grandfather, Ernst Bechinsky, was stolen during WWII, he sets out to unravel the mystery. His journey takes him to Austria, where the second Ernst Bechinsky was the president of the Innsbruck Jewish community. Who was this man and why did he do this? With the help of a stranger – the grandson of the other Bechinsky – these two men, from two sides of history, join together to expose the true identity of the man who stole the identity of Lev's grandfather.

Sponsored by:





AMOS OZ -THE NATURE OF DREAMS

ISRAEL 2009, 86 MIN HEBREW, ENGLISH DIRECTORS: YONATHAN ZUR & MASHA ZUR GLOZMAN

► THURSDAY MAY 9 • 3:30 PM • EW9

As a tribute to the late Amos Oz, TJFF presents this deeply poignant film made after the publication of his memoir, A Tale of Love and Darkness. The filmmakers follow the writer as he talks about his childhood in Jerusalem, his parents and his life on the kibbutz, as well as the relations between Jews of different origins, the peace process and politics in Israel. "This gorgeous documentary does justice to Oz's rich imagination and political clarity... The wisdom and insight gleaned throughout amply demonstrate Oz's singular authority." (Deborah Kaufman, San Francisco Jewish Film Festival) Co-presented with: Toronto International Festival of Authors



BARBARA RUBIN AND THE EXPLODING NY UNDERGROUND

UNITED STATES 2018, 78 MIN DIRECTOR: CHUCK SMITH

▶ WEDNESDAY MAY 8 • 8:30 PM • ITH

Few people are familiar with Barbara Rubin, a pioneering underground filmmaker who introduced Warhol to the Velvet Underground show. Dylan to Jewish mysticism, and was an influence on Lou Reed and Allen Ginsberg. This omission is rectified by this riveting portrait of an artist who, at seventeen, apprenticed with the legendary filmmaker Jonas Mekas and directed Christmas on Earth, a sexually graphic hybrid of multi-media installation and performance art. We follow her trajectory from avant-garde artist to Orthodox homemaker who renounced her radical past.

Guest: Mike Zryd, Associate Professor and Graduate Program Director, Cinema and Media Studies, York University **With:** Death Metal Grandma (14 MIN, p.41)

Co-presented with: Ryerson Image Centre and Women in Film & Television - Toronto Sponsored by: Joan Sohn

BIOGRAPHIES



BLACK HONEY, THE LIFE AND POETRY OF AVRAHAM SUTZKEVER

ISRAEL 2018. 76 MIN HEBREW, ENGLISH, YIDDISH DIRECTOR: URI BARBASH

- FRIDAY MAY 3 1:00 PM EW6
- THURSDAY MAY 9 3:30 PM AF

Acclaimed Israeli director Uri Barbash (Beyond the Walls) presents the very first film about Avraham Sutzkever, considered the greatest modern Yiddishist. This film powerfully captures the meaning of poetry as an act of worship for Sutzkever. He wrote every day in the Vilna ghetto, where he led the Paper Brigade rescuing Jewish works from the Nazis, and in the forests fighting alongside the Partisans, who smuggled his poems to the outside world. Later in Israel, he was a continuing force in Yiddish culture. Black Honey is a tribute to this brilliant artist, for whom writing was a form of survival. With: Vanity of Vanities (19 MIN, p.42) Co-presented with: Toronto Workmen's Circle and Committee for Yiddish and Ashkenaz Foundation and Friends of Yiddish



CARL LAEMMLE

CANADIAN PREMIERE UNITED STATES 2018. 91 MIN DIRECTOR: JAMES FREEDMAN

- FRIDAY MAY 3 4:00 PM EW6
- THURSDAY MAY 9 6:30 PM ITH

Carl Laemmle is best known as the film industry pioneer who founded Universal Pictures. Among many artistic accomplishments, he made stars out of Boris Karloff and Bela Lugosi, encouraged early women filmmakers, like Lois Weber, and gave promising filmmakers John Ford and William Wyler their start. After immigrating to America from Germany, Laemmle became a cinema owner. a film distributor and producer, and eventually moved to California where he built the first film studio - Universal City. Later, when faced with restrictions on Jewish immigration, he worked tirelessly to bring Jewish refugees from Nazi Germany to America. At last, the kind-hearted maverick known as Uncle Carl is given his due. **Guest:** Director James Freedman (May 9 only)

Co-presented with: NBC Universal and Toronto Film Society and Toronto Silent Film Festival

Sponsored by: Karen Green



ETGAR KERET: BASED ON A TRUE STORY

TORONTO PREMIERE

NETHERLANDS 2017, 67 MIN ENGLISH. HEBREW DIRECTOR: STEPHANE KAAS

- SUNDAY MAY 5 1:00 PM AF
- FRIDAY MAY 10 4:00 PM EW9

Winner of multiple awards including an International Emmy, this portrait of acclaimed writer Etgar Keret evokes

the same surrealistic style as a Keret short story. Through a blend of storytelling, animation and interviews, the director captures the nature of Keret's creative process, culminating in an offbeat portrait of one of Israel's most creative thinkers. Conversations with Keret's wife Shira Geffen, and close friends and colleagues such as Jonathan Safran Foer and Gary Shteyngart, provide insight into the man whose gentle humour and ironic outlook mitigate the often-difficult subjects his writing tackles.

May 5 With: Dreams of Elsewhere (13 MIN, p.41)

Co-presented with: PEN Canada Sponsored by: Jill & Joel Reitman



THE GENDER LADY: THE FABULOUS DR. MAY COHEN

WORLD PREMIERE

CANADA 2018. 47 MIN DIRECTORS: BARBARA LENT & CHERYL LEVITT

WEDNESDAY MAY 8 • 6:00 PM • EW9

"I think people in medicine should be advocates for the public" (Dr. May Cohen). When May Cohen was a medical student, the 70 kg male body was the model from which all diagnoses and treatments were made; the concept of women's health did not exist. For sixty years, Cohen has advocated powerfully in Canada and internationally for women's reproductive rights, women's health and women physicians' advancement. This loving documentary recounts her life, with memories of growing up with left-wing Yiddish-speaking parents on Major







Street in Toronto, the summers spent at Camp Naivelt and her later years as a physician, mother, activist and role model for future women in the medical field.

Guests: Dr. May Cohen, directors
Barbara Lent and Cheryl Levitt
With: Bathurst Street: Stories of
Adversity and Diversity (20 MIN, p.41)
Co-presented with: Canadian Medical
Hall of Fame and McMaster Faculty
of Health Sciences

Sponsored by: Shirley Granovsky



JOSEPH PULITZER: VOICE OF THE PEOPLE

UNITED STATES 2018, 84 MIN DIRECTOR: OREN RUDAVSKY

- ► FRIDAY MAY 3 1:30 PM YE7
- ► TUESDAY MAY 7 3:30 PM EW9

The story of the man behind the prize that bears his name. Over a century ago, Joseph Pulitzer championed the importance of freedom of the press. Filmmaker Oren Rudavsky (Colliding Dreams. Ruins of Lifta) recounts how a penniless young Jewish immigrant from Hungary grew into one of America's most admired and feared media figures. Throughout his four decades as a reporter and publisher of his New York newspaper The World, Pulitzer spoke with powerful journalistic ideals, artistry and game-changing originality, to an unprecedented number of readers. Adam Driver is the narrator, while the voices of Liev Schreiber, Rachel Brosnahan and Tim Blake Nelson help bring to life the man and his era.

Co-presented with: Koffler Centre of the Arts **and** J-Source



KING BIBI: THE LIFE AND PERFORMANCES OF BENJAMIN NETANYAHU

CANADIAN PREMIERE

ISRAEL 2018, 87 MIN HEBREW, ENGLISH DIRECTOR: DAN SHADUR

- ► THURSDAY MAY 9 6:00 PM EW9
- ► SUNDAY MAY 12 2:00 PM ITH

Listed by The Washington Post as one of six great international films to anticipate. Using footage from countless TV appearances, Dan Shadur (Before the Revolution) meticulously charts Benjamin Netanyahu's evolution from an awkward Israeli spokesperson in Washington to a polished, media-savvy individual with a politician's instinct for garnering public support. A student of American public speaking guru Lilvan Wilder, Bibi's public appearances reflect her teaching and shed light on his ascent to becoming Israel's second-longest-serving Prime Minister. Shadur's film is a riveting study of a cunning politician, and also a powerful work of history and portrait of a nation.

Guests: Director Dan Shadur **Sponsored by:**



New Israel Fund of Canada הקרן החדשה לישראל



LAST STOP CONEY ISLAND: THE LIFE AND PHOTOGRAPHY OF HAROLD FEINSTEIN

CANADIAN PREMIERE

UNITED KINGDOM 2018, 88 MIN DIRECTOR: ANDY DUNN

► FRIDAY MAY 10 • 1:00 PM • ITH

Harold Feinstein was heralded by The New York Times as "one of the most accomplished recorders of the American experience," but his decision to focus on teaching threatened to relegate him to obscurity. Thanks to this uplifting documentary, Feinstein's extraordinary photographs have been masterfully brought to life for a new generation. As a teenager, Feinstein's photographs of his hometown of Coney Island were exhibited at the Museum of Modern Art. He went on to photograph everyone from the jazz greats to his fellow Korean War draftees. The photographs collected for this film mark Feinstein as one of the greatest chroniclers of post-war New York.

With: I Heart NY (6 MIN, p.42) Co-presented with: Scotiabank CONTACT Photography Festival



LAUREN BACALL, A LOOK FROM THE SKY / LAUREN BACALL, OMBRE ET LUMIÈRE

TORONTO PREMIERE FRANCE 2017, 52 MIN FRENCH, ENGLISH DIRECTOR: PIERRE-HENRY SALFATI

- MONDAY MAY 6 1:00 PM AF
- WEDNESDAY MAY 8 3:30 PM EW9

Many film fans know the story of Betty Joan Perske, a 'nice Jewish girl' who, as a teenage fashion model, was discovered by director Howard Hawks and, thanks to her trademark 'Look' (chin down, eyes up) and notorious relationship with Humphrey Bogart, was transformed into sultry screen siren Lauren Bacall. Fewer would know or even guess about her life-long insecurities regarding her looks, her marriages, her acting abilities and her Jewish identity. This engaging portrait of Bacall by French filmmaker Pierre-Henry Safalti (Jazzman from the Gulag, Gainsbourg by Gainsbourg) is refreshingly candid, with some surprising insights into the woman behind the legend.

With: Sam Spiegel: Conquering Hollywood (60 MIN, p.36)



PETER FALK VERSUS COLUMBO

CANADIAN PREMIERE

FRANCE 2018, 52 MIN DIRECTORS: PASCAL CUISSOT & GAËLLE ROYER

SATURDAY MAY 4 • 1:00 PM • ITH

For millions of viewers, Peter Falk is Columbo, the eccentric yet shrewd upholder of the law in a wrinkled trench coat, who confounds the powerful in their luxurious villas. Who is the man behind the character? This entertaining documentary looks at the life, career and star image of Falk, from his growing up in a Bronx Jewish family to his collaborations with John

Cassavetes and his long-running success as Columbo, culminating with his role as the ex-angel in Wim Wenders' Wings of Desire. Featuring many clips from his film and TV roles and interviews with Columbo co-creator William Link, producer Julian Schlossberg, eminent film scholar Annette Insdorf and many others. With: Columbo - Murder By the Book (76 MIN, p.38)



SAM SPIEGEL: CONQUERING HOLLYWOOD

TORONTO PREMIERE

FRANCE 2018, 60 MIN DIRECTORS: ROBERT DE YOUNG & STEPHAN WELLINK

- MONDAY MAY 6 1:00 PM AF
- WEDNESDAY MAY 8 3:30 PM EW9

Known for such classics as On the Waterfront, The African Queen and Bridge on the River Kwai, Sam Spiegel was an award-winning independent Hollywood producer whose astounding career spanned the peak and collapse of the studio system's Golden Age. Though little is known about his past before he fled Nazi Germany, his refugee background honed his capacity for risk taking and creative deal making, his preference for stories about the triumphant human spirit and his ardent Zionism. Interviews combined with rare photographs and film footage create a fascinating portrait of an enigmatic pioneer whose work continues to influence filmmakers. With: Lauren Bacall, a Look From the Sky (52 MIN, p.35)



THE SPY BEHIND HOME PLATE

CANADIAN PREMIERE

UNITED STATES 2019. 99 MIN DIRECTOR: AVIVA KEMPNER

SUNDAY MAY 12 • 4:30 PM • ITH

Director Aviva Kempner (The Life and Times of Hank Greenberg, Yoo-Hoo, Mrs Goldberg) presents the first feature-length documentary about Moe Berg, a true Renaissance man, unlike any Jew in his time or since. Born to European immigrants, he played major-league baseball in the 1930s, while earning degrees from Princeton and Columbia Law School. His genius intellect, ear for languages and extensive travel experience led to a regular guest spot on a radio Quiz Show, and later to his wartime recruitment by the OSS as a spy for the United States. Fascinating rare footage and interviews make this a truly compelling film and unforgettable story.

Followed by Skype Q&A with director Aviva Kempner

Co-presented with: B'nai Brith Sports of Canada

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ARCHIVAL FILMS: FROM THE VAULTS



1980

CANADA 1980, 25 MIN DIRECTOR: KEN FINKLEMAN

► SUNDAY MAY 5 • 2:00 PM • ITH

Unseen for decades, 1980 is Ken Finkleman and Rick Moranis' enormously funny CBC pilot that was way ahead of its time. A send-up of a current-affairs show, 1980 pokes fun at subjects ranging from the current state of the Canadian film industry, academics, the student radicals of the 60s to Hollywood depictions of the Holocaust. Steven Kampmann stars along with Finkleman and Moranis. 1980 shown courtesy of CBC.

Guest: Ken Finkleman, in conversation with writer Douglas Bell

With: Married Llfe (85 MIN, p.39)



THE BEAVER POWER CANADIAN COMEDY SHORT PROGRAMME, 1968-1971

CANADA 1968-71, 61 MIN DIRECTORS: COLIN SMITH, MARTIN LAVUT & IVAN REITMAN

► SATURDAY MAY 4 • 4:00 PM • ITH

A collection of Canadian short comedic films from the mid-60s and early 70s. Martin Lavut's hilarious and surreal mockumentary At Home (1968) is "a surrealistic look at the cluttered lifestyle of an auteur Lavut and his buxom, bouncy girlfriend Adrienne... A hilarious take-off on all those cluttered boy-girl, voice-over, young-lover statements the National Film Board puts out." (Larry Zolf). Ivan Reitman's student film made at McMaster University, Orientation (1968) tracks the misadventures of a baffled university freshman. Steinberg in Winnipeg (1971), produced for CBC's Telescope, follows comedian David Steinberg as he revisits his old childhood haunts.

Guest: Kate Lavut, daughter of Martin Lavut

With: Greed (15 MIN, p.38) and King of Kensington - The Partners (24 MIN, p.39) Co-presented with: Retrontario



BECOMING SID DITHERS: EUGENE LEVY FROM MCMASTER TO SCTV

CANADA 1969-81, 98 MIN

SATURDAY MAY 11 • 6:00 PM • ITH

A selection of Eugene Levy's early work, featuring forgotten pilots, variety shows and student films. Featuring: *Stay Tuned* (1976), a variety show with Levy alongside Ben Gordon, Jayne Eastwood and Mary Ann McDonald that was CBC's

answer to Saturday Night Live; Global TV pilot 1774 (1978), a dark satire of American history, starring Levy, Saul Rubinek, Catherine O'Hara and Dave Thomas; Dan Goldberg's (future producer of Old School and The Hangover) McMaster student film, A Day Off (1969) with a memorable cameo by Levy as a men's clothing salesman; a few classic pieces from SCTV; and more. SCTV and 1774 shown courtesy of The Second City.

Guests: Performers and writers Alan Gordon, Allan Price, Jack Newman, and Lorne Frohman

Co-presented with: The Second City



THE COHENS AND KELLYS

UNITED STATES 1926, 108 MIN DIRECTOR: HARRY A. POLLARD

► SUNDAY MAY 12 • 1:00 PM • HD

Produced by Universal Pictures in 1926, The Cohens and Kellys is a lively ethnic comedy about feuding Irish and Jewish families living next to each other on New York's Lower East Side. The tensions only increase when the Jewish daughter falls in love with the Irish son. The film is filled with stock characters—such as the Jewish shopkeeper, the Irish cop, the suffering Jewish mother—played with great comic flair by a remarkable cast in their prime. The film has been jointly-restored by the Cinémathèque Royale de Belgique and the IFI Irish Film Archive.

A SPECIAL EVENT featuring a live score, drawing on Irish and Jewish folk music traditions, performed by multi-award-winning, Dublin-based musicians—accordionist Dermot Dunne and saxophonist Nick Roth.

AF The Spadina Theatre at Alliance Française, 24 Spadina Rd. **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. **VC** Cineplex Cinemas Varsity and VIP, 55 Bloor St. W. **YE** Cineplex Cinemas Yonge-Eglinton and VIP, 2300 Yonge St. **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.

ARCHIVAL FILMS

Co-presented with: Toronto Silent Film Festival and Ashkenaz Foundation Dedicated to the memory of Jessie Haberfeld Freedman, Louis Freedman and Morris Haberfeld.

Presented in partnership with



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COLUMBO -**MURDER BY THE BOOK**

CANADIAN PREMIERE

UNITED STATES 1971. 76 MIN DIRECTOR: STEVEN SPIELBERG

SATURDAY MAY 4 • 1:00 PM • ITH

The very first episode of the Columbo series, Murder by the Book, was directed by a young Steven Spielberg, who gave it a cinematic flair that was rare for television at the time. Written by future TV trailblazer Steven Bochco (Hill Street Blues, NYPD Blue), this episode of the series has Jack Cassidy play one half of a writing duo specializing in bestselling murder mysteries. Once his partner, Jim Ferris (Martin Milner), decides he wants to try a solo writing career, a begrudging Ken plots what he thinks will be the perfect murder. Will Lt Columbo (Peter Falk) be able to discover any of the murderer's missteps? With: Peter Falk Versus Columbo (52 MIN, p.36)



THE FUNNY FARM

CANADA 1983, 94 MIN DIRECTOR: RON CLARK

MONDAY MAY 6 • 8:00 PM • ITH

Fans of the series I'm Dying Up Here should check out this comedy from the early 1980s about the antics of a group of ambitious young stand-ups. Set in a Los Angeles comedy club with Eileen Brennan playing a Mitzi Shore-type manager, The Funny Farm is a 1983 Canadian tax-shelter comedy that was shot in Montreal with a cast made up of a who's who of Canadian stand-up: Howie Mandel, Mike MacDonald, Marjorie Gross, Howard Busgang, Mark Breslin and more.

Screening followed by a discussion of the early days of Canada's standup scene featuring Mark Breslin, Howard Busgang, Larry Horowitz and Marla Lukofsky, moderated by Andrew Clark (author of Stand and Deliver: Inside Canadian Comedy).

With: Take 30 (28 MIN. p.40) Co-presented with: Yuk Yuk's International Stand Up Comedy



THE GIRL IN THE SHOW: A VIDEO SCRAPBOOK, 1974-83

1974-83. 60 MIN

SATURDAY MAY 11 • 3:00 PM • ITH

A collection of rare TV shows, sketches and stand-up, showcasing female comedians in Canada, circa 1974-83. The line-up includes an episode of the sadly-forgotten kids show Dr. Zonk and the Zunkins (1974), an anarchic collection of sketches featuring Gilda Radner as well as Rosemary Radcliffe. Fiona Reid. John Candy and John Stocker; clips of stand-ups Marla Lukofsky and future Seinfeld writer, Marjorie Gross; sketches from the Global TV series. Mixed Doubles (1976) with Micki Moore and Monica Parker; and more. (Mixed Doubles provided courtesy of Tel-Pro Productions Entertainment Inc, producers Norman Sedawie and Gayle Gibson Sedawie.) Screening followed by a panel featuring Marla Lukofsky, Monica Parker, Gay Claitman, Rosemary Radcliffe, Micki Moore, moderated by Naomi Snieckus, Comedian and host of the Firecracker Department podcast

Co-presented with: The Second City



GREED

CANADA 1972, 15 MIN DIRECTOR: IVAN REITMAN

SATURDAY MAY 4 • 4:00 PM • ITH

TJFF presents rare excerpts from one of the few surviving episodes of Greed, produced during the early and rawest days of CityTV. The shows were a two-and-a-half hour mix of live auctions and various contests. Greed was hosted by Rummy Bishop, the MC at Toronto's Starvin' Marvin's Burlesque Theatre, and featured Dan Aykroyd as the announcer. It was also one of Ivan Reitman's earliest directing gigs.

Featuring a video introduction by Moses Znaimer



With: The Beaver Power Canadian Comedy Short Programme, 1968-1971 (61 MIN, p.37) and King of Kensington - The Partners (24 MIN, p.39)



Photo: Courtesy of CBC Still Photo Collection

THE HART AND LORNE TERRIFIC HOUR

CANADA 1970, 60 MIN DIRECTOR: RON MERASKA

► SATURDAY MAY 4 • 7:00 PM • ITH

The CBC sketch comedy series created by Hart Pomerantz and Lorne Michaels, The Hart and Lorne Terrific Hour "still goes unnoticed as the bridge between Python and SNL" (Norm MacDonald). It can also be described as the Canadian answer to Laugh-In, on which both Michaels and Pomerantz had previously served as writers. This mix of quick blackout sketches, surreal spoofs, mock documentaries, improvised schtick and conceptual comedy still remains very funny almost fifty years later. The highlights though are the pieces where Michaels plays the straight man to Pomerantz, whose quick wit brings to mind the classics of Mel Brooks and Carl Reiner. Featuring a brilliant stock company including Carol Robinson, Paul Bradley, Jayne Eastwood, Steve Weston, and Marvin Goldhar.

Guest: Hart Pomerantz, Q&A moderated by TV producer and historian Mark Selby



Photo: Courtesy of CBC Still Photo Collection

KING OF KENSINGTON -THE PARTNERS

CANADA 1976, 24 MIN DIRECTOR: SHELDON LARRY

► SATURDAY MAY 4 • 4:00 PM • ITH

As a tribute to the wonderful character actor Marvin Goldhar, we present what may be one of the funniest episodes of *King of Kensington*. Sid and Cy (Goldhar and Louis Negin) run a Kensington tailor shop. Larry King (Al Waxman) tries to resolve a dispute between them when one accepts an offer to work in New York. Also starring Jack Newman.

Guest: Actor Jack Newman **With:** The Beaver Power Canadian Comedy Short Programme, 1968-1971 (61 MIN, p.37) **and** Greed (15 MIN, p.38)



LITTLE MAN, WHAT NOW?

UNITED STATES 1934, 98 MIN DIRECTOR: FRANK BORZAGE

► FRIDAY MAY 10 • 3:30 PM • ITH

Directed by Frank Borzage (*The Mortal Storm*), *Little Man*, *What Now?* is based on the best-selling novel by Hans Fallada. "This film zeroes in on German society at a time when many criticized Hollywood for not being more anti-Nazi" (Steven Carr, author of *Hollywood and*

Anti-Semitism). Though it never mentions the country by name, Little Man, What Now? is both an exception to and a reflection of Hollywood's hesitation to confront the frightening situation in Germany as it was unfolding. Produced at Universal Pictures, this is a touching love story about the struggles of a young couple (played by Margaret Sullavan and Douglass Montgomery) during the chaotic final days of the Weimar era and eve of the Third Reich, as the German economy is spiraling out of control.

Guest: James Freedman, Director of *Carl Laemmle*

Co-presented with: Toronto Film Society



MARRIED LIFE

CANADA 1995, 85 MIN DIRECTOR: KEN FINKLEMAN

► SUNDAY MAY 5 • 2:00 PM • ITH

Unavailable on DVD or any online platforms, here is your chance to see Ken Finkleman's hilarious mockdocumentary, Married Life, the initial success of which launched the writer-director's string of breakthrough productions at CBC starting with The Newsroom. Married Life has Finkleman playing a self-absorbed TV documentarian who follows a young Toronto couple from engagement through marriage. When George (Finkleman) begins to coach the couple (played by Robert Cait and Karen Hines) on what makes for satisfying television, the lines between reality and fiction begin to blur in most unpredictable ways. Also starring Jeremy Hotz, Mark Farrell and Rosemary Radcliffe. "As original and funny as anything I've ever seen on television in a long while," declared

ARCHIVAL FILMS

John Haslett Cuff in The Globe and Mail upon the show's first airing.

Guest: Ken Finkleman, in conversation with writer Douglas Bell.

With: 1980 (25 MIN, p.37)



PHILIP ROTH ON THE CBC

CANADA 1963-64, 60 MIN DIRECTOR: HARVEY HART

SATURDAY MAY 11 • 1:00 PM • ITH

Produced for Quest, the ground-breaking CBC anthology series of the early 60s, these two short adaptations of stories by a then-emerging Philip Roth are being screened as a tribute to the late Pulitzer Prize-winning writer. Paul Loves Libby, based on a section of Roth's first full-length novel Letting Go, stars Martha Henry, Graydon Gould, Larry Mann, Cec Linder, Sammy Sales and Marcia Diamond; even Roth is on hand as the narrator of the story, with the camera following him on location through the streets of New York. Eli, The Fanatic stars Joseph Wiseman in an adaption of a short story taken from Goodbye. Columbus.

Guest: Elaine Newton, Ph.D., Professor Emeritus of Humanities at York University Co-presented with: Toronto International Festival of Authors Sponsored by: Shirley Granovsky



TAKE 30

CANADA 1978, 28 MIN MONDAY MAY 6 • 8:00 PM • ITH An amazing time capsule of the early days of Yuk Yuk's is provided by this episode of CBC's Take 30, as host Hana Gartner visits the club on Bay Street. Mark Breslin speaks about the current changes in the Canadian comedy scene and how the new stand-up club operates. Featuring clips from performances by Steve Shuster, Briane Nasimok, Chas Lawther and more. Take 30 shown courtesy of CBC. Screening followed by a discussion of the early days of Canada's standup scene featuring Mark Breslin, Howard Busgang, Larry Horowitz and Marla Lukofsky, moderated by Andrew Clark

With: The Funny Farm (94 MIN, p.38)

(author of Stand and Deliver: Inside

Canadian Comedy).



VOYAGE OF THE ST. LOUIS

CANADA / FRANCE 1994, 52 MIN ENGLISH, FRENCH, GERMAN DIRECTOR: MAZIAR BAHARI

WEDNESDAY MAY 8 • 3:30 PM • AF

In the summer of 1939, the German luxury liner St. Louis sailed from Hamburg to Cuba, carrying 937 Jewish refugees. When the ship was denied harbour in Cuba, America and Canada, it wandered the seas for thirty excruciating days until the passengers were granted haven by four European countries. When the war began shortly after, many of the refugees found themselves once again in Nazi-occupied territory. "This definitive documentary" (National Centre for Jewish Film) recounts the infamous journey of the St. Louis through interviews with passengers who made the crossing as children and readings from the diary of the ship's captain.

Guests: Director Maziar Bahari and Writer/Professor Harold Troper Co-presented with: Sarah and Chaim Neuberger Holocaust Education Centre Sponsored by: Shirley Granovsky

SHORT FILMS:



AMERICA

CANADIAN PREMIERE

ISRAEL 2018. 15 MIN HEBREW. ENGLISH DIRECTOR: NADAV ARBEL

- WEDNESDAY MAY 8 1:00 PM AF
- FRIDAY MAY 10 12:00 PM EW6

In this sublime animated short film. it's 1950s Tel Aviv and a mother and her son receive a telegram with an invitation for a phone call from America. The prospects of the call spark hope for a better life in the mother's heart. while her son is busy in his own fantasy world inspired by his life in Israel.

With: The King of Börek (74 MIN, p.31)



BATHURST STREET: STORIES OF ADVERSITY AND DIVERSITY

WORLD PREMIERE

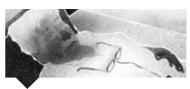
CANADA 2018, 20 MIN DIRECTORS: WILLIAM INNES. NETA J. ROSE. CHARLES KETCHABAW & AIDAN MORISHITA-MIKI

▶ WEDNESDAY MAY 8 • 6:00 PM • EW9

An intergenerational tapestry of Jewish residents along Bathurst St, who share their immigration stories. An inventive mix of archival photos and animation, this lovely short film shines a light on the diversity of challenges in the Jewish diaspora.

Guests invited

With: The Gender Lady: The Fabulous Dr. May Cohen (47 MIN, p.34) Co-presented with: Communauté Juive Marocaine de Toronto and Prosserman JCC



CLOSE THE SHUTTERS

TORONTO PREMIERE

ISRAEL 2018. 5 MIN **HEBREW**

DIRECTOR: YNON LAN

- SUNDAY MAY 5 1:00 PM EW9
- TUESDAY MAY 7 3:30 PM AF

A young man tries to hold onto the image of his grandfather by piecing together fragments of memories he has of him. Produced at the Bezalel Academy of Art and Design in Jerusalem. With: My War Hero Uncle (59 MIN, p.32)



DEATH METAL GRANDMA

UNITED STATES 2018. 14 MIN DIRECTOR: LEAH GALANT

WEDNESDAY MAY 8 • 8:30 PM • ITH

Inge Ginsberg is many things: grandmother, Holocaust survivor, talented composer and avid poet. But behind her floral-colored shirt and light blue baggy pants lies something unsuspected: she just happens to be a death metal singer competing for America's Got Talent.

With: Barbara Rubin and the Exploding NY Underground (78 MIN, p.33)





DREAMS OF ELSEWHERE

CANADIAN PREMIERE

ISRAEL 2018, 13 MIN HFRRFW DIRECTOR: NAAMA SHOHET

SUNDAY MAY 5 • 1:00 PM • AF

An award-winning animated documentary film, presenting fragments from the relationship between Sary and Naama, an Arab and a Jew living together in Jerusalem, and the obstacles that they face.

Guest: Director Naama Shohet With: Etgar Keret: Based on a True Story (May 5 only) (67 MIN, p.34)

Guest travel provided by:



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EDEK

UNITED KINGDOM 2018. 5 MIN DIRECTOR: MALCOLM GREEN

TUESDAY MAY 7 • 6:15 PM • ITH

An 86-year-old Holocaust survivor named Janine and a young American rapper called Kapoo collaborate to deliver a Hip-Hop message to the youth of the world.

With: 82 Names: Syria, Please Don't Forget Us (49 MIN, p.29)



HOW TO SWIM / EICH LISHOT

CANADIAN PREMIERE

ISRAEL 2018, 15 MIN **HFRRFW**

DIRECTOR: NOA GUSAKOV

SUNDAY MAY 5 • 3:00 PM • AF

Heavily pregnant, Abigail kidnaps a maternal stranger for an afternoon

AF The Spadina Theatre at Alliance Française, 24 Spadina Rd. 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. VC Cineplex Cinemas Varsity and VIP, 55 Bloor St. W. YE Cineplex Cinemas Yonge-Eglinton and VIP, 2300 Yonge St. 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.

SHORT FILMS

of hijinks. Orly Silbersatz and Dina Senderson star in this charming short film.

With: Family in Transition (70 MIN. p.30)



I HEART NY

UNITED STATES 2018. 6 MIN DIRECTOR: ANDRE ANDREEV

FRIDAY MAY 10 • 1:00 PM • ITH

A short film about Milton Glaser, the creator of the famous I Heart NY symbol and his struggle to find love for the city in a trying time.

With: Last Stop Coney Island: The Life and Photography of Harold Feinstein (88 MIN, p.35)



MY YIDDISH PAPI

CANADA 2017. 8 MIN DIRECTOR: ÉLÉONORE GOLDBERG

- TUESDAY MAY 7 1:00 PM AF
- THURSDAY MAY 9 5:00 PM EW6

A young woman decides to fulfill a promise she made to her grandfather long ago: to illustrate his wartime adventures as a member of the French Resistance.

With: Mohamed and Anna - In Plain Sight (58 MIN, p.31)



NOA

WORLD PREMIERE

ISRAEL 2019. 10 MIN **HEBREW**

DIRECTOR: SHULAMIT LIFSHITZ

- SUNDAY MAY 5 8:30 PM EW9
- MONDAY MAY 6 9:00 PM HD

In this very impressive short drama produced at Israel's Ma'ale film school, a young girl tries to protect herself from a predator who roams freely in her home. Guest: Director Shulamit Lifshitz With: Working Woman (93 MIN, p.28)

Guest travel provided by:



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OFFSPRING / BEN ZAHAR

NORTH AMERICAN PREMIERE

ISRAEL 2019. 18 MIN **HFBRFW** DIRECTORS: DANA KEIDAR-LEVIN & SHIRLY SASSON-EZER

- SUNDAY MAY 5 8:30 PM AF
- TUESDAY MAY 7 8:30 PM EW9

32-year-old Ilana just cannot get pregnant, which is looked down upon in her traditional Jewish-Bukharan community. While attending a bris, her superstitious grandmother gives her a crazy idea that changes her attitudes towards family, femininity and her own desires.

Guest: Co-director Shirly Sasson-Ezer With: Virgins (May 5 only) (90 MIN, p.27) and Madam Yankelova's Fine Literature Club (May 7 only) (88 MIN, p. 25)



A THOUSAND KISSES / A TAUSEND KÜSSE

TORONTO PREMIERE

BRAZIL / UNITED STATES 2017. 15 MIN ENGLISH, GERMAN

DIRECTOR: RICHARD GOLDGEWICHT

- FRIDAY MAY 10 1:00 PM AF
- SUNDAY MAY 12 3:30 PM EW6

Separated by the fear of prosecution in Nazi Germany, a young Jewish couple in Berlin make plans to reunite on the safe tropical shores of Brazil. This beautifullyanimated short film was inspired by their actual correspondence in letters recovered by the couple's grandsons 80 years later. With: Chasing Portraits (78 MIN, p.29)



VANITY OF VANITIES / Суета сует

CANADIAN PREMIERE

RUSSIA 2017, 19 MIN RUSSIAN DIRECTORS: ALEXEY SHELMANOV & ALEXEY TURKUS

- FRIDAY MAY 3 1:00 PM EW6
- THURSDAY MAY 9 3:30 PM AF

Taking on the magical realist style and iconography of Marc Chagall, this award-winning animated love story about two star-crossed lovers in a Russian shtetl is filled with humour and elements of the supernatural. With: Black Honey, The Life and Poetry of Avraham Sutzkever (76 MIN, p.34)



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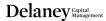
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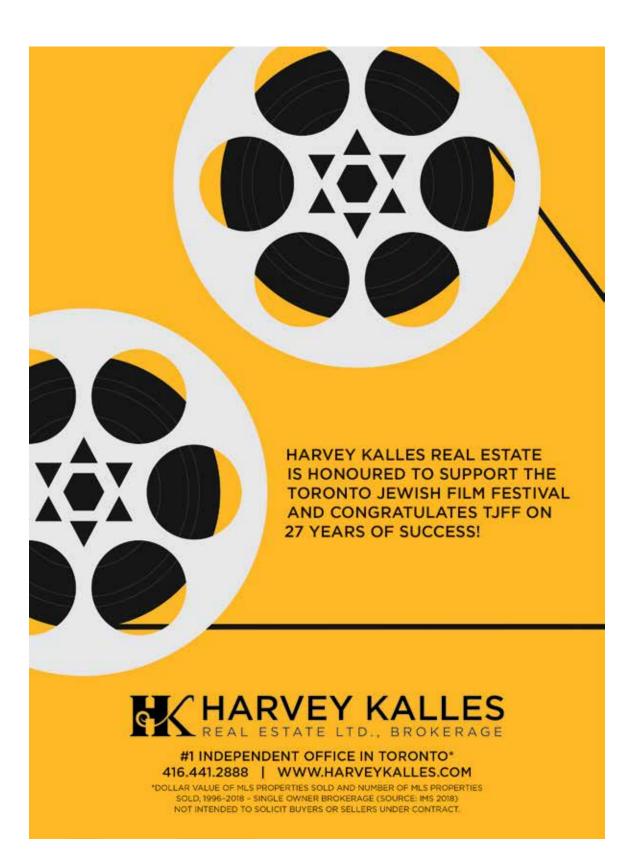
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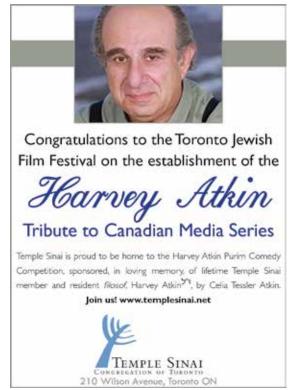
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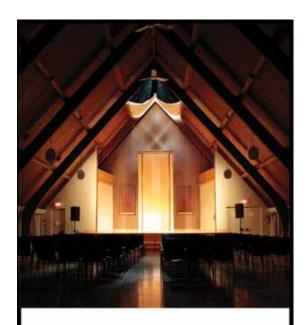
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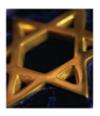
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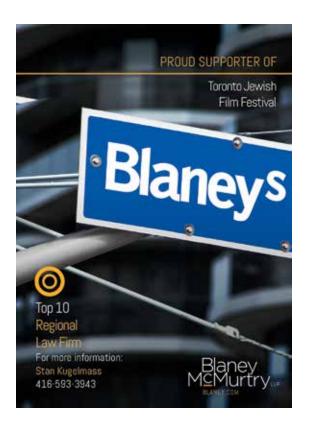
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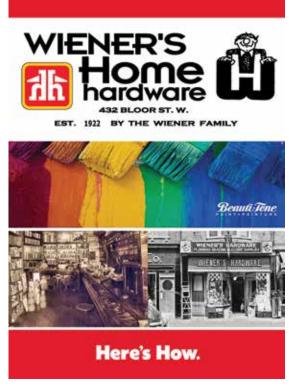




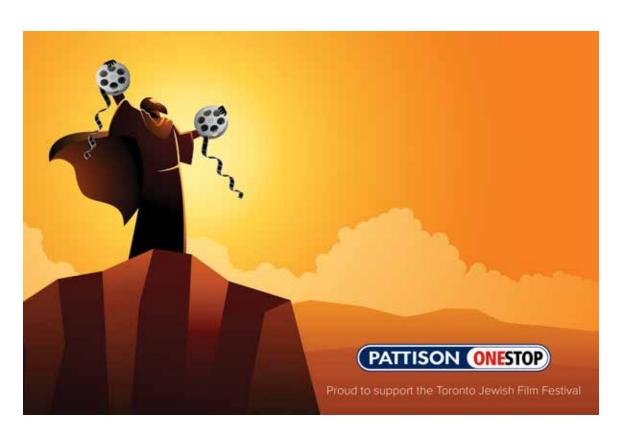


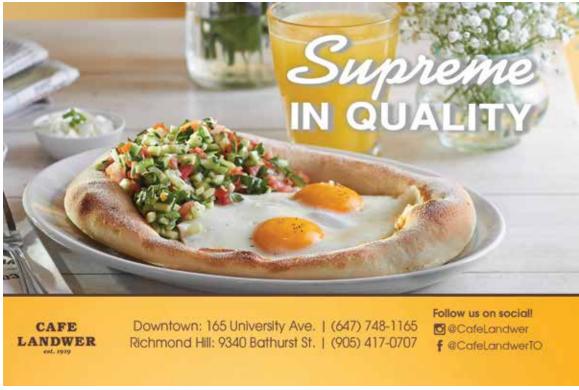
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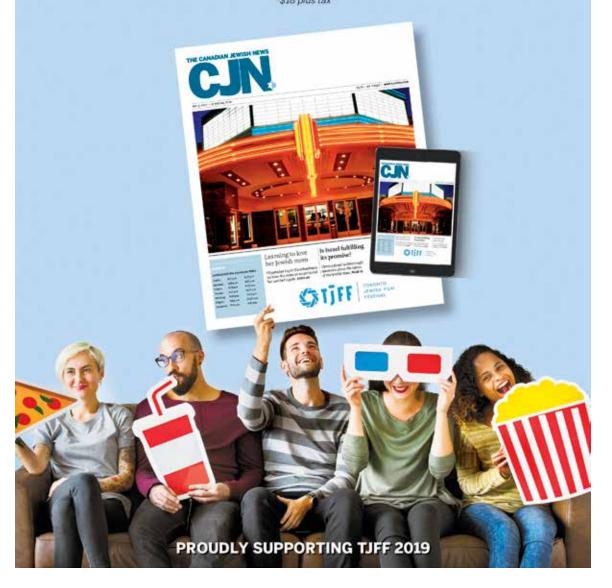
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We are delighted to bring the school's Founding Director, Renen Schorr, to celebrate 30 years of the Sam Spiegel Film & Television School in Jerusalem. We are also pleased to celebrate the ninth year of the Sir Jack Lyons Charitable Trust Student Film Prize. The 2019 winners, Na'ama Shohet and Shulamit Lifshitz, will attend the screenings of their winning films "Dreams of Elsewhere" and "Noa".

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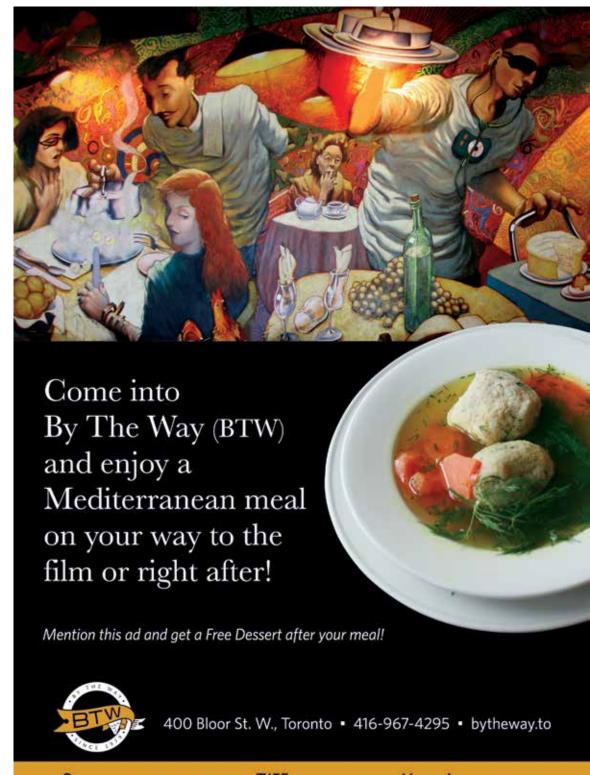
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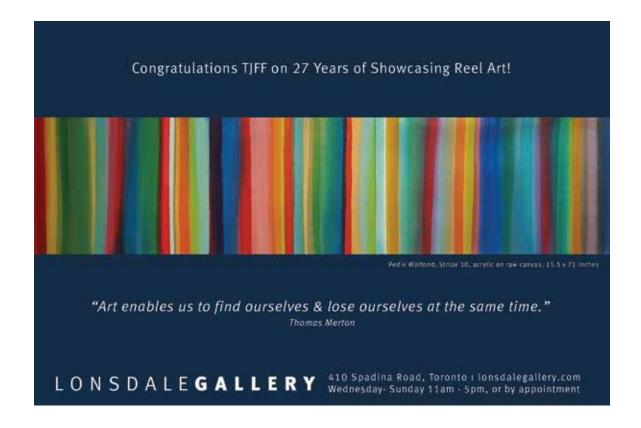
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82 Names: Syria, Please Don't Forget Us

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Tel Aviv on Fire / Tel Aviv Al HaEsh

Voice Over

BULGARIAN

King of Börek

CZECH

The Tobacconist / Der Trafikant

DANISH

A Fortunate Man / Lykke-Per

FRENCH

Lauren Bacall, a Look From the Sky / Lauren Bacall, ombre

My Polish Honeymoon / Lune de miel... à Zgierz

Voyage of the St. Louis

GERMAN

82 Names: Syria, Please Don't Forget Us

A Fortunate Man / Lykke-Per

Happiness of the World / Szczęście świata

The Interpreter / Tlmocník

It Must Schwing! The Blue Note Story

Lemon Popsicle: Of Winners and Losers / Eskimo Limon -

Eis am Stiel: Von Siegern und Verlierern

Mohamed and Anna - In Plain Sight

Sobibor

A Thousand Kisses / Tausend Küsse

The Tobacconist / Der Trafikant

Voyage of the St. Louis

You Only Die Twice / Ata Met Rak Paamayim

HEBREW

America

Amos Oz - The Nature of Dreams

Back to Maracanã

Black Honey, The Life and Poetry of Avraham Sutzkever

Cause of Death

Close the Shutters

Dreams of Elsewhere

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The Unorthodox

Virgins / Ein batulot bekraiot

Voice Over

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You Only Die Twice / Ata Met Rak Paamayim

HUNGARIAN

Curtiz

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1938 - Different / 1938 - Diversi

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"I Do Not Care If We Go Down in History as Barbarians" /
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ENGLISH (NO SUBTITLES)

1980

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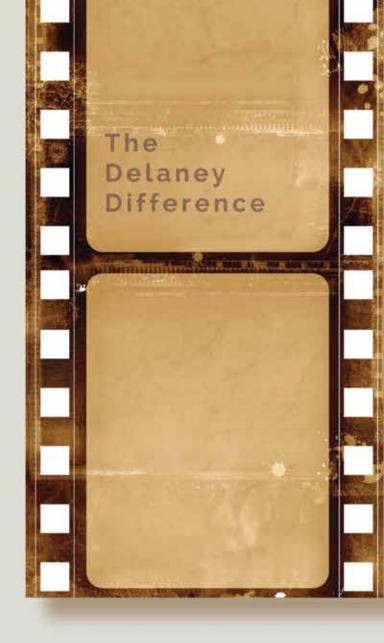
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