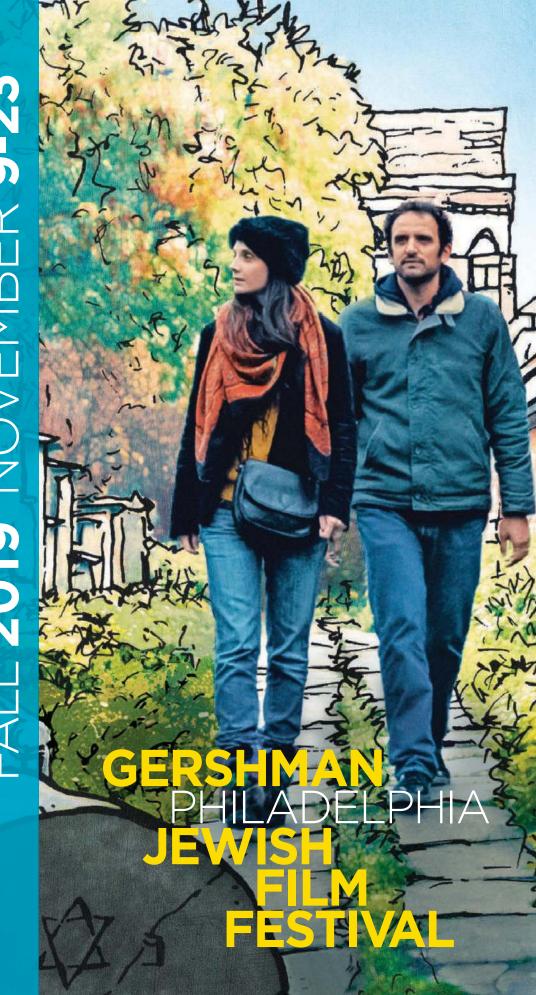
# 9-23 L 2019 NOVEMBER FALL



## THANK YOU to our griff benefactor **ELAINE LEVITT** and lindy cinemondays benefactor **ELAINE LINDY**

## YOUR GENEROSITY SUPPORTS **GPJFF** IN ITS MISSION TO CREATE **CONNECTION AND COMMUNITY** THROUGH **JEWISH CINEMA**.

## GERSHMAN PHILADELPHIA JEWISH FILM FESTIVAL

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## AUDIENCE GUIDE TO GPJFF SERIES

Welcome to the 39th edition of the Gershman Philadelphia Jewish Film Festival — Philadelphia's first film festival and one of the longest-running Jewish film festivals in the world. Since the festival's founding nearly four decades ago, GPJFF has grown from "signature program" of a thriving Jewish arts & culture organization to operating as an independent film non-profit. With new year-round programs (**Festival Plus!**), its annual two-week celebration of Jewish cinema in November (**Fall Fest**), and its six-week Monday night series showcasing the hottest Jewish films hitting the festival circuit in the spring (**Lindy CineMondays**), GPJFF is Philadelphia's center for international Jewish cinema.

New this season is the **Jewish New Media Fest** — the nation's first festival solely dedicated to exploring Jewish stories created and distributed through digital platforms. Whether we're ready to admit it or not, *new and emerging media* has become the fastest-growing form of story creation and communication throughout the world. Just think of all the podcasts we're addicted to these days or how many binge-worthy Netflix shows got their big break as web series on YouTube. Mark your calendars — this two-day festival will take place on December 7th and 8th at the National Museum of American Jewish History (page 45).



## SIGNATURE GPJFF SERIES

GPJFF's annual two-week presentation of the best Jewish cinema from around the world.

#### LINDY CINEMONDAYS

Each spring, outstanding new Jewish cinema hits the festival circuit. GPJFF's answer to not forsaking festivalgoers the opportunity to see these brand new award-winning Jewish films is *Lindy CineMondays*. For six consecutive Monday nights each spring, filmgoers can count on seeing the most exciting, memorable, and critically-acclaimed Jewish films, handpicked from the world's most prestigious international film festivals.

#### ONGOING GPJFF SERIES

#### From Page to Screen

Some of the best films and TV series ever produced were adapted from novels and short stories. In this biannual series, we'll explore a seminal work from one iconic and one contemporary Jewish writer and learn how their stories are transformed from page to screen.

#### From the Vaults

In this quarterly series, classic, influential films are presented on nostalgic 35mm with introductions by distinguished critics and scholars. Riveting cinema + illuminating conversation for advance cinephiles and movie buffs alike.

#### New Perspectives in Holocaust Cinema

GPJFF recognizes the unique role film plays in maintaining the memory of the Holocaust and educating new generations about the dangers of anti-Semitism. Each season, this moving and thought-provoking series presents four new films that represent current trends or perspectives in contemporary Holocaust cinema.

#### Silent Films with Live Scores

To honor Jewish cinema's rich heritage, GPJFF showcases one silent era masterpiece enhanced by live musical accompaniment each festival season.

#### Sneak Peeks

Throughout the year, GPJFF discovers films that are too good or important to pass up. We never know when or where we'll come across these special films, but when we do, our main objective is to share them with our festival community. *Sneak Peeks* offer Philadelphia film lovers a chance to see these extraordinary films on the big screen before they are released commercially or are through their festival runs.

#### NEW GPJFF SERIES

#### Road Tripping with GPJFF

Great road trip movies are memorable not just for the stories we see played out on screen but for the distinct spirit of place and time they impart to their audiences. Encompassing a wide range of genres from slapstick comedies and prestige dramas to dystopic sci-fi — at the heart of these relatable films is the desire for self-discovery and human connection.

#### *Ruth's Reels & Archie's Archives: From the Vaults*

As co-founders of the Philadelphia Jewish Film Festival and lifelong students of cinema, Ruth and Archie Perlmutter's profound appreciation for cinema continues to transcend generations and inspire Philadelphia's film community. For over three decades, in linking their two greatest passions — *Yiddishkeit* and movies — Ruth and Archie brought people together to share and celebrate Jewish stories. In this brand new series, Ruth honors the memory of her late husband by sharing one lost gem of repertory cinema (never shown at GPJFF) and one film from GPJFF's 39-year archive.

#### Laughing Through the Tears: Holocaust Memory in Cinema

Third-generation Holocaust survivors use film as a way to understand and commemorate their grandparents' experiences during the Shoah. For families in which a veil of silence regarding Holocaust memory endures, cinema has offered a pathway to connection and healing. As the new custodians of cultural memory about the Holocaust, these filmmakers often use humor to navigate challenging and emotional terrain, in turn making their stories universally accessible.

#### Outside the Box

GPJFF's *Outside the Box* explores movies whose characters and film subjects refuse to fit the mold. In departing from the mainstream and doing things their way, these badass nonconformists are fascinating to watch on screen. To capture their spirit and honor their individuality, filmmakers experiment with shooting techniques, language, and story structure.

#### **GPJFF39 SPONSORS**

#### **GPJFF BENEFACTOR**

Elaine Levitt

#### PRESENTING

Elaine Lindy

#### **CHAI SOCIETY**

The Lindy Family in Beloved Memory of Annabel and Phil Lindy Nadine Liez-Weiner and Bart Weiner

#### PLATINUM

Phyllis and Howard Fischer Ruth Perlmutter Smukler-Lasch Lead Trust

#### DIAMOND

David and Hallee Adelman Mickey and Barbara Black Jacob Cohen and Sarah Waxman The Joseph and Marie Field Fund Steve and Betsy Filton Amy and Richard Oller Larry and Cindy Rappoport Harriet and Larry Weiss

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Susanna Lachs and Dean Adler Fran Freedman Blum Nancy and David Colman Harris and Debra Devor Iris and Shlomo Drechsler Debra Felman and David Warshal Jan Felman and Harvey Schwartz Judith Finkel, Ph.D. - NMAJH Internship Program Debbie and Bob Fleischman Sarita and Morris Gocial Jane and Joe Goldblum Judith and Joel Golden Libby S. Harwitz and Burton Blender Edward and Susan Hoffman Lynne and Harold Honickman Julie and Richard Jaffe Mary and Stuart Kahn Daniel and Cathy Kaufman Ellyn and Seth Lehr **Howard Pack** David and Helen Pudlin Patricia Saddier-Dana Sherrie R. Savett

Pam and Tony Schneider Helen and Jordan Schwartz Francine Tabas Nancy and Stuart Weiss Joseph and Renée Zuritsky

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Harold Berger Marcia Bronstein and Eric Salmansohn **Bolden Lipkin PC** Michael and Ellen Singer Coleman Art and Lynne Ellis Marjorie and Jeffrey Honickman Howard and Jane Jacobs Jan and Alan Kanoff Susan and Leonard Klehr Joanne and Alexander Klein Harriet Potashnick **Richard and Beth Probinsky** Nathan and Mary Relles Lyn M. Ross Harry Roth Marcia and Ron Rubin Julie and Jordan Savitch Rebecca and Ed Schulman Ellen Schwartz and Jeremy Siegel Irene and Fred Shabel Stacey Spector and Ira Brind Laura and Richard Steel

#### BRONZE

Sheila and Edward Chacker Philanthropic Fund Elaine and Jim Culbertson Marilyn Deutsch Arlene Fickler Dr. Arlene Goldman Caryn Feuer Liss Joseph M. Manko Sr. Debbie and Michael Pollack Rachel and Moshe Porat Caro and Bob Rock Alan Sandman Brinker, Simpson & Co., LLC — Cathy Seiler, Partner Rita D. Siegle

## **GPJFF39 SPONSORS**

#### FRIEND

Anonymous Barbra Berley-Mellits & Bart Mellits Marvin Black Sivy Blume The Camp Experts and **Teen Summers** Barbara and Hal Cobert Julie Curson Rosa and Albert Esquenazi Terri N. Gelberg Robert Gelsher Jane Greenspan Rachel A. Gross and H.P. Baker Ruthie Levikoff Dr. Marcia Sachs Littell **Debra Malinics** Samuel Olshin in Memory of Irving Olshin, MD Catherine and Michael Radbill Dr. Eva Rav Dr. Bernard Rothman and Mrs. Toby Meyer Mimi Schneirov Jerry S. Silverman Sharon and Kenn Spinrad Joan Tishgart Robert and Marlyn Vogel Laurie Wagman

#### **CORPORATE SIGNATURE**

Jewish Federation of Greater Philadelphia University of Pennsylvania Cinema and Media Studies

#### CORPORATE EVENT

Schnader Harrison Segal & Lewis LLP, Julie Meyers and David Piver

#### CORPORATE MITZVAH

Abington Weight Management Center and Abington Endocrinology Associates

#### OFFICIAL HOTEL SPONSOR

DoubleTree by Hilton

#### OFFICIAL LIQUOR SPONSOR

Cooper Wine & Spirits

#### OFFICIAL VENUE SPONSOR

National Museum of American Jewish History

#### **GPJFF39 DESIGNER**

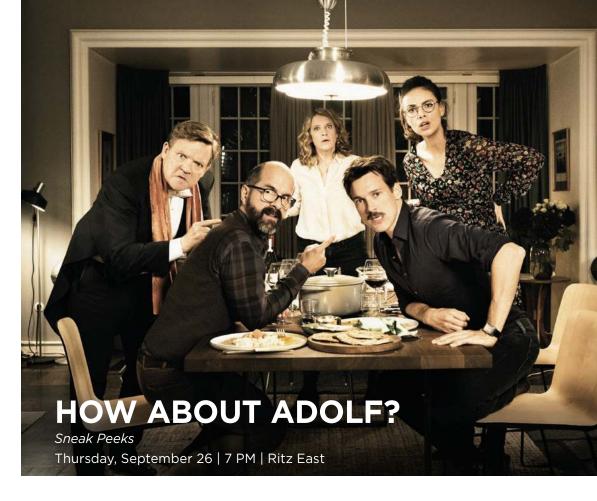
Denise Avayou, Avayou Design

## FESTIVAL PLUS!

Get fired up for GPJFF's *Annual Fall Fest* and *Lindy CineMondays* series with **Festival Plus!** Featuring indie sleeper hits, classic and repertory cinema, genre flicks, and sneak peeks of the most talked-about films hitting the festival circuit, **Festival Plus!** keeps audiences connected to the best Jewish international cinema year-round.



| Sept 26 | 5 7 PM | HOW ABOUT ADOLF?   Narrative Feature   Ritz East   Page 6                                      |
|---------|--------|--|
| Oct 5   | 7 PM   | <b>ARMY OF LOVERS IN THE HOLY LAND</b>   Documentary Feature<br>Lightbox Film Center   Page 76 |
| Oct 13  | 2 PM   | SACRED SPACES   Documentary Feature   NMAJH   Page 8   |
| Oct 30  | 7 PM   | THE SONG OF NAMES   Narrative Feature   Lightbox Film Center   Page 9                          |
| Dec 2   | 7 PM   | <b>UNSETTLING</b>   Documentary Feature   Lightbox Film Center   Page 10                       |
| Dec 10  | 7 PM   | ALL THAT JAZZ   Narrative Feature   Lightbox Film Center   Page 11                             |



#### PHILADELPHIA PREMIERE

Directed by Sönke Wortmann Narrative Feature Germany | 2018 | 91 min German with English subtitles

Being the black sheep of a progressive middle-class German academic family is no easy feat, but Thomas (Florian David Fitz) relishes discovering new ways to poke fun and rile up his siblings. His latest gag — announcing that he and his pregnant girlfriend, Anna (Janina Uhse), have decided to call their son "Adolf" — was merely meant to serve as a good conversation starter or pretext for debate at Stephan (Christoph Maria Herbst) and Elisabeth's dinner party. It never occurred to Thomas that his ruse to exchange witty repartee with family and friends would lead to a grave upending of appearances. From attacks on personal character and ideological beliefs to the unmasking of sexual histories and childhood transgressions, what begins as an innocent gathering of family and friends soon evolves into a tense excursion into German bourgeois backbiting and mayhem.

Lending insight into Germany's current shifting political landscape, this wildly outrageous dark comedy by award-winning director Sönke Wortmann (*The Miracle of Bern*) is based on the 2010 French play, *Le Prénom*, by Matthieu Delaporte and Alexandre de La Patellière. A breakout hit at the German box office, **HOW ABOUT ADOLF?** is a superbly crafted and perfectly paced social satire that is winning audiences over across the globe.

**OFFICIAL SELECTION:** San Francisco Jewish Film Festival



## **ARMY OF LOVERS IN THE HOLY LAND**

Outside the Box

Saturday, October 5 | 7 PM | Lightbox Film Center at International House



#### PHILADELPHIA PREMIERE

Directed by Asaf Galay Documentary Feature Israel | 2018 | 65 min Hebrew, English and Swedish with English subtitles

The most outrageous band you've likely never heard of, Army of Lovers is a 1990s Swedish pop ensemble with a string of European dance hits that succeed to lull even the most reluctant wallflowers onto the dance floor. From their kitschy lyrics and campy music videos to their sexually free, everything-goes attitude, the band's enduring popularity is still rocking underground clubs and pride celebrations from Stockholm to Tel Aviv, thanks to charismatic frontman Jean-Pierre Barda (you will not be able to take your eyes off him!) and his enchanting collaborators and friends, Alexander Bard and Dominika Peczynski.

30 years after Army of Lovers launched into international stardom, GPJFF alumnus and director Asaf Galay (*The Muses of Isaac Bashevis Singer*) follows Barda as he embarks on the next chapter of his life and uproots his existence from his longtime home in Sweden to Israel. What ensues is an enthralling documentary that explores the shifting meaning of home, identity, and family in light of one man's desire to explore his Jewish identity and completely change his life after age 50. Trading in his love of fashionable clothes and his motto, "More is more, less is a bore," to only buying the things he really needs to sustain himself, this self-professed former pop star is eager to make *aliyah*, brush up on his Hebrew, and make Israel his forever home.

**OFFICIAL SELECTION**: Haifa International Film Festival | Jerusalem Film Festival San Francisco Jewish Film Festival

## SACRED SPACES

Sukkot Holiday Program in Partnership with DesignPhiladelphia Sunday, October 13 | 2 PM | National Museum of American Jewish History

#### PHILADELPHIA PREMIERE

Directed by Celia Lowenstein Documentary Feature France | 2018 | 90 min English

An unparalleled visual experience featuring some of the most important sacred Jewish structures in the world, **SACRED SPACES** charts the remarkable 3,000-year history of the Jewish Diaspora through its places of worship, examining how these spiritual sanctuaries have figured in the transmission of Jewish values through the ages.

Beginning with the historic significance of the destroyed temples and the remaining Western Wall in Jerusalem, this lush travelogue journeys to Tunisia, Cordoba, Toledo, Amsterdam, Venice and Budapest where the synagogues attest to the history of European Jewry. By transporting audiences to these sacred sites and awe-inspiring architectural wonders, director Celia Lowenstein honors and rediscovers these profound and beautiful works of art. Her thoughtful and meditative spiritual journey culminates with the exploration of Philadelphia's own Beth Sholom Congregation, a Conservative synagogue in Elkins Park designed by world-renowned architect Frank Lloyd Wright.

**OFFICIAL SELECTION**: Miami Jewish Film Festival | Toronto Jewish Film Festival Washington Jewish Film Festival







Dovidl (played by Luke Doyle) playing the violin in the air raid shelter in **THE SONG OF NAMES**. Photo credit © Sabrina Lantos. Courtesy Sony Pictures Classics.

## THE SONG OF NAMES

Sneak Peeks Wednesday, October 30 | 7 PM | Lightbox Film Center at International House

#### PHILADELPHIA PREMIERE

Directed by François Girard Narrative Feature Canada/Hungary | 2019 | 113 minutes English and Polish with English subtitles

Award-winning actors Tim Roth and Clive Owen star in this exceptionally acted, emotional detective story spread over two continents and a half century.

Directed by François Girard (*The Red Violin, Land of Souls*), this sweeping historical drama follows Martin (Roth), a man searching for his childhood best friend, Dovidl (Owen) — a Polish violin prodigy orphaned during the Holocaust who vanished decades before on the evening of his first public concert. When Dovidl doesn't perform, Martin and his father are left to tell the packed audience that the performance will not go on. Years later, while serving as a judge in a musical competition, Martin discovers a young student playing in Dovidl's unique style. The triggering encounter sends him on a transcontinental search that reveals elements of his dear friend's tormented life — an existence Martin could not have fathomed at the time.

Set against exquisite music and a backdrop of sweeping historic events, this riveting tale of family, ambition, and friendship still resonates as it focuses on the tragic circumstances of those displaced by war and forces far beyond their control.

OFFICIAL SELECTION: San Sebastian Film Festival | Toronto International Film Festival

## UNSETTLING

Outside the Box Monday, December 2 | 7 PM | Lightbox Film Center at International House

#### PHILADELPHIA PREMIERE

Directed by Iris Zaki Documentary Feature UK/Israel | 2018 | 70 min Hebrew with English subtitles

A documentary filmmaker enters the heart of Tekoa, an Israeli settlement in the West Bank, and sets up a pop-up film studio with the aim to interview Jewish settlers of various backgrounds. Though engaging with their new left-leaning neighbor is a gradual process for even the most open-minded of the settlers, the conversations that ensue are fascinating, honest, and shockingly insightful.

Iris Zaki's straightforward, stripped-bare approach to documentary filmmaking lifts the veil of ideological artifice to reveal the complexity of Israeli reality from both sides of the Green Line.

#### SPECIAL GUEST: Iris Zaki | Director of UNSETTLING

**OFFICIAL SELECTION**: Boston Jewish Film Festival | Docaviv | Jerusalem Film Festival Other Israel Film Festival | Santa Barbara International Film Festival | UK Jewish Film Festival Washington Jewish Film Festival



## THOUGH UNSETTLING WEARS ITS POLITICAL HEART ON ITS SLEEVE, IT IS NUANCED IN WAYS THAT THE RECENT CROP OF ISRAELI DOCUMENTARIES IS OFTEN NOT."

-TAL KRA-OZ, TABLET MAGAZINE

## ALL THAT JAZZ

From the Vaults — 40th Anniversary Screening Tuesday, December 10 | 7 PM | Lightbox Film Center at International House

Directed by Bob Fosse Narrative Feature USA | 1979 | 123 minutes English

"It's showtime, folks!" That's the refrain of chain-smoking, anxiety-ridden, ferociously driven choreographer and antihero, Joe Gideon — the center of Bob Fosse's musical masterpiece, **ALL THAT JAZZ**. Celebrating its 40th anniversary this year, the Fellini-esque tragicomic musical was Fosse's most auteur work to date when it was nominated for nine Academy Awards and won the Palme d'Or at the Cannes Film Festival in 1980. Upon its release, the film garnered the admiration of director Stanley Kubrick, who reportedly called it "the best film I think I have ever seen." From its revolutionary editing and sound design to its star-turning performances, this semi-autobiographical film was inspired by Fosse's manic effort to edit his latest film, *Lenny* (a biopic about Fosse's Jewish alter-ego, stand-up comedian Lenny Bruce), while simultaneously staging the 1975 Broadway musical *Chicago*.

Without his daily dose of Vivaldi, Visine, Dexedrine, and sex, Joe Gideon (Roy Scheider), one of New York's most successful directors and choreographers working in musical theater, would not have the energy to keep up with the biggest show of all — his life! Everyone is telling him to slow down, from his girlfriend (Ann Reinking) to his ex-wife (Leeland Palmer) and even his own daughter (Erzsebet Foldi), but it's not until he meets Angelique (Jessica Lange), the Angel of Death, that he finally understands his world is collapsing around him. Of course, in typical Gideon style, instead of making changes to his lifestyle, he gets right back to work — framing the experience of facing his own mortality with the canvas of his own life: the Broadway stage. Rarely skipping a beat or an entrance, alongside his family and dear friends, we watch Gideon take his final curtain call in what may arguably be one of the most memorable dance scenes ever choreographed in the history of cinema.

After the success of best-selling author Sam Wasson's biography, *Fosse*, and the enthralling FX miniseries, *Fosse/Verdon*, now is the time to see **ALL THAT JAZZ** for the first time or for the 40th! Don't miss this rare opportunity to experience this work of monumental cinema the way it was meant to be seen.

SPECIAL GUEST: Sam Adams | Senior Editor of Slate Magazine

**OFFICIAL SELECTION:** Cannes Film Festival

**AWARDS:** Palme d'Or at the 1980 Cannes Film Festival | Best Art Director, Best Costume Design, Best Film Editing, Best Original Song Score at the 52nd Academy Awards

FASCINATING, IMAGINATIVE AND INTIMATE...SAVAGELY WITTY ON BACKSTAGE LIFE AND AUDACIOUSLY EDITED, JAZZ STANDS ALONGSIDE CABARET AS THE BEST "MUSICAL" OF THE LAST 20 YEARS."

-KIM NEWMAN, EMPIRE MAGAZINE



## FALL FEST WEEK 1 / NOV 9-17



| Nov 9  | 7:30 PM | PICTURE OF HIS LIFE   Documentary   Philadelphia Film Center   Page 15                            |
|--------|---------|---|
| Nov 10 | 11 AM   | MASTER CLASS with Documentary Filmmaker Dani Menkin<br>401 Fisher-Bennett Hall @ UPenn   Page 17  |
| Nov 10 | 2 PM    | CARL LAEMMLE   Documentary   NMAJH   Page 19  |
| Nov 10 | 2 PM    | THE PASSENGERS   Documentary   Ambler Theater   Page 20   |
| Nov 10 | 7 PM    | <b>ETGAR KERET: BASED ON A TRUE STORY</b>   Documentary<br>Free Library of Philadelphia   Page 21 |
| Nov 10 | 7 PM    | CRESCENDO   Narrative   Bryn Mawr Film Institute   Page 22  |



| Nov 11 7 PM | THOSE WHO REMAINED   Narrative   Lightbox Film Center   Page 23      |
|-------------|--|
| Nov 13 2 PM | JOSEPH PULITZER: VOICE OF THE PEOPLE   Documentary   NMAJH   Page 24 |
| Nov 13 7 PM | HEIR TO AN EXECUTION   Documentary   NMAJH   Page 25                 |
| Nov 13 7 PM | MY POLISH HONEYMOON   Narrative   The Colonial Theatre   Page 26     |
| Nov 14 7 PM | GOOD MORNING SON   Narrative   Ritz East   Page 27                   |



| Nov 16  | 7:30 PM | LATTER DAY  | IFW   Document | ary   Suzanne Robe   | erts Theatre   Page 28 |
|---------|---------|-------------|----------------|----------------------|------------------------|
| 1101 10 | 7.50111 | EATTER DATE |                | Lary   Suzarnie Robe | sits incutie   Luge 20 |

Nov 17 10 AM CHEWDAISM: A TASTE OF JEWISH MONTREAL | Documentary NMAJH | Page 29

| Nov 17 2 PM | THE APPRENTICESHIP OF DUDDY KRAVITZ   Narrative   NMAJH   Page 31                     |
|-------------|---|
| Nov 17 2 PM | <b>THERE ARE NO LIONS IN TEL AVIV</b>   Documentary<br>The Colonial Theatre   Page 33 |
| Nov 17 7 PM | THE MAMBONIKS   Documentary   NMAJH   Page 35   |
| Nov 17 7 PM | <b>AN EVENING OF JEWISH SHORTS</b>   Short Films<br>Reel Cinemas Narberth 2   Page 36 |

## FALL FEST WEEK 2 / NOV 18-23



| Nov 18 7 PM | THE PASSENGERS   Documentary   Lightbox Film Center   Page 37 |
|-------------|---|
| Nov 20 2 PM | GOLDA'S BALCONY   Live Theater on Film   NMAJH   Page 38      |
| Nov 20 7 PM | GIRLFRIENDS   Narrative   NMAJH   Page 39                     |
| Nov 20 7 PM | THE KEEPER   Narrative   Reel Cinemas Narberth 2   Page 40    |
| Nov 21 7 PM | SAFE SPACES   Narrative   Ritz East   Page 41                 |



Nov 23 7:30 PM STANDING UP, FALLING DOWN | Narrative | Philadelphia Film Center | Page 43

#### SPECIAL PROGRAMS

Big Night Films:

PICTURE OF HIS LIFE, LATTER DAY JEW, and STANDING UP, FALLING DOWN

Breakfast Club: CHEWDAISM: A TASTE OF MONTREAL

Film & Education: MASTER CLASS WITH DOCUMENTARY FILMMAKER DANI MENKIN

Spotlight Films: ETGAR KERET, CARL LAEMMLE, and GOOD MORNING SON

Tikkun Olam Award: THE PASSENGERS

#### RECEPTIONS

Post-film Receptions: PICTURE OF HIS LIFE and LATTER DAY JEW

Post-film Happy Hours: THE MAMBONIKS, SAFE SPACES and STANDING UP, FALLING DOWN

## **PICTURE OF HIS LIFE**

**Opening Night** 

Saturday, November 9 | 7:30 PM | Philadelphia Film Center



#### PHILADELPHIA PREMIERE

World-renowned Israeli wildlife photographer Amos Nachoum is gearing up for the most challenging expedition of his career: photographing a polar bear in his natural habitat, underwater in the Canadian Arctic. The 65-year-old Jaffa-born photographer has long been fascinated by the spectacular beauty of nature and its most striking creatures. Having communed with sharks, killer whales, crocodiles and the like, his photographs have been featured in the world's leading nature magazines. His expeditions have also received widespread acclaim for their attempts to dispel the myth of "dangerous" wildlife and demonstrate the joy of harmonious interactions between man and animal. Approaching his subjects with utmost respect and admiration has enabled Nachoum to achieve a rare level of intimacy and solace in his imagery, allowing for the full splendor of these animals to shine through.

Directed by Dani Menkin and Yonatan Nir Documentary Feature Israel/USA/Canada | 2019 | 72 min English, Hebrew and Inuktitut with English subtitles

FOR FANS OF: The Arctic, biopics, Dani Menkin films, documentaries, Israeli cinema, National Geographic, nature photography, oceanography, Werner Herzog films, Yonatan Nir films

SPECIAL GUEST: Co-director Dani Menkin

SPECIAL EVENT: Join us after the film for a post-film reception with food and libations!

In this fascinating portrait of a man dedicated to his photographic dream, filmmakers Dani Menkin and GPJFF alumnus Yonatan Nir, with the support of producer Nancy Spielberg, follow Nachoum on his quest to get the "picture of his life," an undertaking deemed extraordinarily daring by even the photographer himself. As the journey unfolds, we learn of the infinite patience, preparation, and sacrifice that goes into the making of his work and the passion that drives this self-professed "soldier of Mother Nature" in his perilous quest for redemption and inner peace.

**OFFICIAL SELECTION:** Docaviv | San Francisco Jewish Film Festival

## NEW DOGUMENTARY **PICTURE OF HIS LIFE'** SHOWS AWARD-WINNING AMOS NACHOUM SHUDDER AT THE IDEA OF MISSING HIS MOBY DICK; FILMMAKERS DANI MENKIN AND YONATAN NIR CAPTURE THE EXPEDITION.

-RICH TENORIO, THE TIMES OF ISRAEL

## MASTER CLASS WITH DOCUMENTARY FILMMAKER DANIMENKIN

**Co-Presented by Penn Cinema and Media Studies** Sunday, November 10 | 11 AM | 401 Fisher-Bennett Hall (3340 Walnut St)



The Gershman Philadelphia Jewish Film Festival and University of Pennsylvania's Cinema and Media Studies Department present an intimate, behind-the-scenes Master Class on independent non-fiction storytelling with documentary filmmaker Dani Menkin.

The Israeli-American filmmaker's award-winning documentary, *On the Map* (2016), about the Maccabi Tel Aviv basketball team that galvanized Israel's national pride, screened at over 100 film festivals around the world and opened to rave reviews in the *Los Angeles Times, The Wall Street Journal* and *The Hollywood Reporter. Dolphin Boy* (2011), Menkin's acclaimed film about a traumatized young boy who is taken to the Red Sea to be rehabilitated by dolphins after being physically assaulted by his classmates, received a 100% critic score on Rotten Tomatoes, was sold to over 20 countries, and was bought by Walt Disney Pictures for adaptation. Menkin's first feature documentary, *39 Pounds of Love* (2005), which he wrote, produced and directed, sold to HBO and Cinemax in addition to being shortlisted for the Oscars. It was also awarded Best Documentary by the Israeli Film Academy.

In this two-hour Master Class, Menkin will screen key clips from his new documentary, **PICTURE OF HIS LIFE** (2019), which attendees can view in its entirety on Opening Night of GPJFF's 39th Annual Fall Fest (see the previous page for description), as well as some of his favorite scenes from the documentaries named above. Students, GPJFF patrons, and the Greater Philadelphia film community are invited to participate in this free educational program that offers greater insight into Menkin's artistic practice in story, craft, and form. Topics covered by Menkin in this workshop will include the role of documentary cinema as a social and political tool, story development, fostering a strong artistic vision, establishing trust among documentary subjects, acquiring funding for your documentary, and distribution.

The class will be followed by a complimentary lunch reception where participants can converse with Menkin one-on-one and continue the conversation in a more intimate setting. As space is limited, pre-registration is encouraged. To reserve your seat, please call (215) 545-4400 or visit PJFF.org.

#### ABOUT THE FILMMAKER:

Currently residing in the Los Angeles area with his family, Dani Menkin is a world-renowned speaker and juror at film festivals around the world. He teaches film in universities and colleges in Israel and the US and is the co-founder and manager of Hey Jude Productions.

## CARL LAEMMLE

#### Spotlight Film

Sunday, November 10 | 2 PM | National Museum of American Jewish History



#### PHILADELPHIA PREMIERE

Carl Laemmle, the German-born Jewish immigrant who founded Universal Pictures and saved over 300 Jewish families from Nazi Germany, gets his due in this riveting biopic by James L. Freedman (*Glickman*). While building a name for himself in the garment trade, a chance encounter at a neighborhood Nickelodeon set Laemmle on an entirely different path — a trajectory that would include leading the fight against Thomas Edison's ruthless attempts to monopolize the film industry, initiating the immigration of filmmakers to Hollywood, and establishing Universal City.

Directed by James L. Freedman Documentary Feature USA | 2019 | 91 min English

FOR FANS OF: Biopics; documentaries; film history; film industry; Hollywood; Holocaust history; WWII history

Known to everyone as Uncle Carl, Laemmle produced wildly successful monster pictures, westerns, and comedies. With an eye for talent, he hired many who would go on to become Hollywood legends, including Walt Disney and John Ford. Rare for his time, he also valued the expertise of women and payrolled a high percentage of female directors. Unafraid to tackle social issues, as with the Oscar-winning anti-war drama All Quiet on the Western Front (1930), Laemmle championed progressive values and humanitarian causes on and off the screen. While many of his contemporaries looked the other way during the Holocaust, Laemmle sponsored visas for over 300 Jewish families to immigrate to the U.S., securing jobs and housing for the displaced refugees.

Featuring a wealth of archival footage, as well as interviews with film luminaries, historians, and descendants of Laemmle, this exceptional documentary is an absolute must for cinema lovers and history buffs alike!

**OFFICIAL SELECTION**: Atlanta Jewish Film Festival Los Angeles Jewish Film Festival | Miami Jewish Film Festival | San Francisco Jewish Film Festival Toronto Jewish Film Festival

## THE PASSENGERS

*Tikkun Olam Award* Sunday, November 10 | 2 PM | Ambler Theater Monday, November 18 | 7 PM | Lightbox Film Center at International House

#### PHILADELPHIA PREMIERE

Today, over 9,000 Jews live in Ethiopia who speak Hebrew, keep kosher, and have relatives in Israel, but are not permitted to make *aliyah* (the Jewish birthright to become a citizen of Israel). Despite their devout observance and commitment to Judaism, Israel continues to delay a decision to welcome this community of *Beta Israel* (the house of Israel), believed to be the last Jews in the world awaiting their right to emigrate. Surviving within a temporary and harsh reality in Ethiopia, they dream of the day they can live fully as Jews in the Holy Land.

**THE PASSENGERS** documents their struggle through the eyes of two remarkable young men, Demoz and Gezi, who travel to the United States to share their community's story and make an impassioned plea for assistance from American Jews. With intimate access and rich historical context, director Ryan S. Porush follows the unlikely spokesmen on their first trip outside their village in Goran as they navigate the responsibility of leading a grassroots campaign to raise awareness and the intense pressure to return to Ethiopia having achieved real change. Their life-altering journey across the American landscape to garner support from prominent Jewish leaders is aided by the passion and generosity of David Elcott, an NYU professor and Jewish activist, who cares for the boys as his own sons. As the campaign gains momentum and forces in Israel begin to mobilize on their behalf, the lifelong friends must reconcile their aspirations to remain together with an uncertain future.

**OFFICIAL SELECTION**: Los Angeles Jewish Film Festival | San Francisco Jewish Film Festival Washington Jewish Film Festival Directed by Ryan S. Porush Documentary Feature USA/Ethiopia | 2019 | 72 min English, Hebrew and Amharic with English subtitles

FOR FANS OF: *Aliyah*; documentaries; Ethiopia; immigration policy; Israel; Israeli politics; *Tikkun Olam* 



## ETGAR KERET: BASED ON A TRUE STORY

CRESCENDO

Sunday, November 10 | 7 PM | Bryn Mawr Film Institute

Spotlight Film | Screening with A WISH AND A HALF

Sunday, November 10 | 7 PM | Free Library of Philadelphia (1901 Vine St)



Directed by Stephane Kaas Documentary Feature France/Israel/Netherlands/USA 2017 | 67 min English

FOR FANS OF: Biopics, comedies, creative writing, documentaries, Etgar Keret, Israel, *Israel Story*, short stories, *This American Life* 



Screening with ETGAR KERET: BASED ON A TRUE STORY

#### PHILADELPHIA PREMIERE

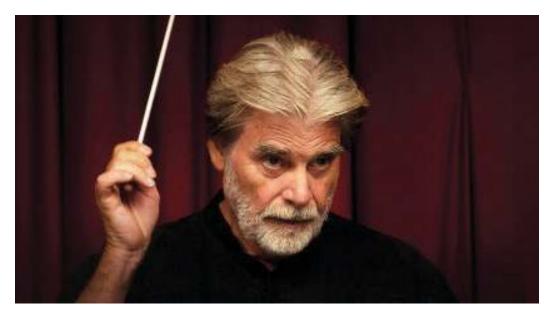
Directed by Elad Keidan | Israel | 2018 8 min | Hebrew with English subtitles Two fishermen on the Haifa shore, one Jewish, the other Arab, become entangled after accidentally catching the same fish.

#### PHILADELPHIA PREMIERE

In this delightful hybrid documentary, two young Dutch filmmakers blur the lines between fantasy and reality to illuminate the extraordinary inner world of their literary hero — Israeli writer Etgar Keret. Beloved and renowned for his uniquely surreal and humorous writing style, Keret creates work that deeply affects readers in only a few pages. His uncanny ability to transform experiences of human trauma into highly relatable, bite-sized nuggets of literary gold is just one of the reasons his short stories have garnered international acclaim and been translated into 37 languages.

In seeking to explore the ideas, people, and places that helped shape Keret's distinct point of view, the film delves deep into his past and the memories that have earned a second life in his fiction and oral storytelling. Featuring intimate interviews with family members and special guests like Ira Glass (host of *This American Life*) and author Jonathan Safran Foer (*Everything Is Illuminated*), as well as a smattering of mixed-media detours, animated versions of his much-loved stories, and charming reenactments of his most memorable anecdotes, **ETGAR KERET: BASED ON A TRUE STORY** offers unique insight and context for why Keret believes storytelling is essential to his survival.

**OFFICIAL SELECTION:** Atlanta Jewish Film Festival Boston Jewish Film Festival | New York Jewish Film Festival | San Francisco Jewish Film Festival Toronto Jewish Film Festival



#### PHILADELPHIA PREMIERE

Israeli and Palestinian students putting their difference aside to play music together in a youth orchestra sounds like the dream of a naive idealist. While eliminating discord and achieving harmony are undeniably noble undertakings, is music really powerful enough to pierce through years of caustic political discourse and the real-life suffering experienced by both sides of the conflict?

To answer that question, for over two decades, young musicians from Israel and Palestine have performed classical music together in conductor Daniel Barenboim's West-Eastern Divan Orchestra. The students who've taken part in his worldclass ensemble grasp that they are reaching for something impossible, but they still believe it is important to try. It is the act of trying, itself, that lies at the center of CRESCENDO, a story about a similarly ambitious initiative played out in South Tyrol, Austria. Starring Peter Simonischek (Toni Erdmann, The Interpreter) and an impressive supporting cast of Israeli and Palestinian nonactors, this affecting film about forgiveness and reconciliation will strike a chord with audiences, young and old alike.

Directed by Dror Zahavi Narrative Feature Germany | 2019 | 112 min Arabic, English, German and Hebrew with English subtitles

FOR FANS OF: German cinema, music, peace initiatives, Israeli cinema, Peter Simonischek

## **THOSE WHO REMAINED**

New Perspectives in Holocaust Cinema Sponsored by David and Hallee Adelman Monday, November 11 | 7 PM | Lightbox Film Center @ International House



#### PHILADELPHIA PREMIERE

Having just survived the Holocaust, 42-year-old Aldo (Károly Hajduk) lives a solitary life as a doctor in Budapest. Teenage Klara (Abigél Szőke) lives reluctantly with her great-aunt, holding on to hope that her father and mother will return home. When Klara meets Aldo at a doctor's visit, there is something about him that instantly clicks. She has a feeling that he may understand her, at least more than her aunt does. Aldo realizes that Klara is seeking guidance — someone to care for her as a father would — and support her development into womanhood. With her great-aunt's permission, Klara moves in with Aldo and soon the two develop a close bond — each providing what the other has long been missing. As their friendship blossoms, the joy in their lives slowly returns. Yet with the Soviet Empire swiftly rising to power in Hungary, their relationship is soon put into question.

Directed by Barnabás Tóth Narrative Feature Hungary | 2019 | 83 min Hungarian with English subtitles

FOR FANS OF: Arthouse cinema, dramas, Holocaust cinema, Hungary, Hungarian cinema, *Leon: The Professional, Lolita*, WWII films

**SPECIAL GUEST**: Director Barnabás Tóth Official Selection of the Telluride Film Festival, this exquisitely acted, lyrical story about the power of love in the midst of conflict, loss, and trauma is one of the few Holocaust films to center on the healing process and fate of those who survived and remained with us. One of the most poignant films of the festival season, **THOSE WHO REMAINED** is a must-see at Fall Fest 2019!

**OFFICIAL SELECTION:** Telluride Film Festival

ACHINGLY TENDER... PERCEPTIVELY DIRECTED BY BARNABÁS TÓTH, IT TAPS INTO A DEEP WELL OF HONESTLY EARNED EMOTION...EXQUISITE, POIGNANTLY PERFORMED..."

## JOSEPH PULITZER: VOICE OF THE PEOPLE

In Partnership with Feinstein Center for American Jewish History Wednesday, November 13 | 2 PM | National Museum of American Jewish History

#### PHILADELPHIA PREMIERE

Meet the man behind the prize that bears his name! Over a century ago, Joseph Pulitzer, a young, penniless Jewish immigrant from Hungary, came to America in search of opportunity. He began his decades-long career as a journalist before becoming an accomplished publisher of his own New York newspaper, *The New York World*. Known for his forthright editorial voice and his principled journalistic ideals, Pulitzer called out the deployment of "fake news" and championed the importance of freedom of the press. His game-changing originality, artistry, and fearless leadership gained the loyalty of an unprecedented number of readers and catapulted his paper to national circulation and financial success. As America proved itself a world power during the Gilded Age, Pulitzer emerged as the country's first media titan, reshaping his newspaper to propel himself even further on the world stage.

Directed by Oren Rudavsky Documentary Feature USA | 2018 | 84 min English

FOR FANS OF: Adam Driver, democracy, democratic values, documentaries, Joseph Pulitzer, journalism, journalism history, Liev Schreiber With narration by Adam Driver (*BlacKkKlansman*) and supporting voice work by Liev Schreiber (*Ray Donovan*), Rachel Brosnahan (*The Marvelous Mrs. Maisel*), and Tim Blake Nelson (*O Brother, Where Art Thou?*), this illuminating and timely doc will especially resonate in today's fraught political atmosphere.

**OFFICIAL SELECTION:** Atlanta Jewish Film Festival New York Jewish Film Festival | San Francisco Jewish Film Festival | Toronto Jewish Film Festival



## HEIR TO AN EXECUTION

Ruth's Reels & Archie's Archives: From the Vaults

Co-presented by Ruth Perlmutter

Wednesday, November 13 | 7 PM | National Museum of American Jewish History



Directed by Ivy Meeropol Documentary Feature USA | 2004 | 99 min English

FOR FANS OF: Cold War period, democracy, democratic values, documentaries, family dramas, HBO Docs, investigative journalism, Julius and Ethel Rosenberg, true stories

SPECIAL GUESTS: Director Ivy Meeropol with her father, Michael Meeropol Choosing to set the personal loss of her grandparents aside to allow space for the sociohistorical implications of their arrest to take center stage, filmmaker Ivy Meeropol's absorbing 2004 prestige documentary **HEIR TO AN EXECUTION** continues to resonate 15 years later.

A half century has gone by since Julius and Ethel Rosenberg were put to death in the electric chair for treason after having been convicted of passing America's atomic bomb secrets to the Soviet Union. Setting out to reveal the story behind their arrest, trial, and subsequent execution while recognizing the very real wounds inflicted on her family, Meeropol journeys to the homes of her father, former friends of the couple, and others who might offer insight into why her grandparents would choose to abandon their two sons rather than betray their beliefs. While the reason the Rosenbergs chose to remain silent during their trial and snub the opportunity to defend themselves is elusive, what is clear to Meeropol (and likely a point of pride) is the notion that her grandparents were incapable of defying their deep-seated convictions and broader political concerns, even if it meant their own demise.

**Official Selection:** San Francisco Jewish Film Festival | Sundance Film Festival

## **MY POLISH HONEYMOON**

Laughing Through the Tears: Holocaust Memory in Cinema Wednesday, November 13 | 7 PM | The Colonial Theatre

#### PHILADELPHIA PREMIERE

**MY POLISH HONEYMOON** begins as a light romantic comedy but emerges into a rich journey of self-discovery. Judith Chemla (*Camille Rewinds*) and Arthur Igual (Stefan Zweig: Farewell to Europe) star as Anna and Adam, young Parisian Jewish newlyweds of Polish descent. When Adam is invited to a ceremony in Poland commemorating the destruction of his grandfather's village during the Holocaust, Anna suggests that she accompanies her husband on the trip so they could take the long-awaited honeymoon they've been dreaming about. While Adam is not exactly keen on spending his honeymoon in Poland, he reluctantly succumbs to Anna's wishes. With Anna's parents watching their newborn, the couple journeys to Poland to explore their roots. Unfortunately, it doesn't take long for the couple to realize that the issues troubling their marriage in Paris have opted to hitch a ride in their suitcase. Although Anna is eager to learn about her heritage, her emotional state slowly begins to unravel and take a toll on her relationship with David.

Focusing on the longing and confusion of thirdgeneration survivors who have experienced multigenerational silence in their families, **MY POLISH HONEYMOON** speaks to the universal desire to know oneself and where one comes from.

**OFFICIAL SELECTION:** Los Angeles Jewish Film Festival | San Francisco Jewish Film Festival Toronto Jewish Film Festival Directed by Élise Otzenberger Narrative Feature France | 2018 | 88 min French with English subtitles

FOR FANS OF: Dark comedies, France, French cinema, Holocaust cinema, Holocaust history, Poland, road trip movies, rom-coms

**SPECIAL GUEST**: Director Élise Otzenberger



## **GOOD MORNING SON**

Spotlight Film

Thursday, November 14 | 7 PM | Ritz East

#### PHILADELPHIA PREMIERE

Ori, a young IDF soldier, is critically injured during a botched military operation in Gaza. He lies comatose, clinging to his life with his family by his bedside. David (Sharon Bar-Ziv) and Naomi (Keren Mor) have always thought of Ori as a fighter. Although they acknowledge it will take some time, deep down they believe their son will eventually come around. Especially close with Ori, David refuses to leave his side. He sleeps at the hospital and speaks to Ori around the clock, should he suddenly awake and hear his father's voice. During a rehabilitation process that stretches out for months, family, friends, doctors, and therapists come together in support of Ori's recovery.

Directed by Sharon Bar-Ziv Narrative Feature Israel | 2018 | 81 min Hebrew with English subtitles

FOR FANS OF: Family dramas, hospital dramas, Israel, Israel Defense Forces, Israeli cinema, tearjerkers GPJFF alumnus Sharon Bar-Ziv (*Room 514*) expertly directs and stars in this sensitive portrait of a family in the throes of trauma. Filled with heartbreak, humor, and hope, **GOOD MORNING SON** continues the director's penchant for shooting penetrating dramatic narrative in tight, contained spaces. Choosing not to rely on sweeping establishing shots or multiple locations to build tension and anticipation in his stories, he instead concentrates on the language of faces, gestures, and movement within the frame. His filmmaking style aims a spotlight on his characters and the actors who bring their inspirational stories of human resilience to life.

**OFFICIAL SELECTION:** Atlanta Jewish Film Festival Haifa International Film Festival | Jerusalem Film Festival | Toronto Jewish Film Festival



## LATTER DAY JEW

Centerpiece | Screening with **SWEATER** 

Saturday, November 16 | 7:30 PM | Suzanne Roberts Theatre



#### PHILADELPHIA PREMIERE

This humorous and gratifying documentary follows H. Alan Scott, a gay, former Mormon/ cancer survivor/stand-up comedian as he discovers his spiritual path in Judaism and embarks on his journey toward conversion. Known for his appearances on *Ellen* and *Jimmy Kimmel Livel*, this die-hard *Golden Girls* fan has had many ups and downs to contend with in his life. Nothing, however, could have prepared him for the planning of his own bar mitzvah.

Determined to be "the best Jew he can be" before becoming a man in the eyes of Jewish law, Scott's adventure takes him to the Holy Land where he participates in Tel Aviv Pride, learns how to blow the shofar, and gathers the religious accoutrements necessary to attend his bar mitzvah as an observant and stylish Jew. While laughs are aplenty, **LATTER DAY JEW** is also filled with poignant moments that revolve around Scott's coming out as a Jewish convert to his mom and extended family in Missouri, and the effect his cancer diagnosis has had on his religious aspirations. Through Scott's journey, we learn more about the Mormon stance on LGBTQ issues and the impact it has had on others considering leaving the faith.

A coming-of-age story about a person who literally finds his tribe and sets out to develop an authentic self, **LATTER DAY JEW** is a tender tale of self-discovery layered with comedy, pathos, and unadulterated joy!

**OFFICIAL SELECTION:** San Francisco Jewish Film Festival

Directed by Aliza Rosen Documentary Feature USA | 2019 | 85 min English

FOR FANS OF: Biopics, comedies, documentaries, heartwarming films, Jewish conversion, LGBT cinema; spirituality, stand-up comedy

**SPECIAL GUESTS:** Comedian and subject of film, H. Alan Scott, Director Aliza Rosen, and Producer Todd Shotz

**SPECIAL EVENT:** After the Q&A, join us for a reception with nosh and libations, courtesy of Cooper Spirits.



Screening with LATTER DAY JEW

#### PHILADELPHIA PREMIERE

Directed by Nick Borenstein Narrative Short | USA | 2019 | 5 min English

Jewish filmmaker Nick Borenstein directs and stars in this uproarious comedy about a young New Yorker who is having a bad day until an unexpected gesture turns his luck around.

## CHEWDAISM: A TASTE OF JEWISH MONTREAL

GPJFF Breakfast Club | Screening with GEFILTE and TUESDAYS ARE FOR BUREKAS Sunday, November 17 | Bagel Buffet: 10 AM | Film: 11 AM National Museum of American Jewish History



Directed by Eli Batalion and Jamie Elman Documentary Feature + Breakfast Canada | 2018 | 62 min English

FOR FANS OF: Canada, comedies, documentaries, Eli Batalion, foodie culture, food documentaries, history of Jewish Montreal, Jamie Elman, Montreal, *YidLife Crisis* 

**SPECIAL EVENT:** Join us before the film for a build-your-own bagel breakfast buffet and mimosas, courtesy of Cooper Spirits!

#### PHILADELPHIA PREMIERE

Warning: No calories were counted in the making of this "nosh-umentary."

Amid their proverbial YidLife Crisis, Eli Batalion (Appiness, Stage Fright) and Jamie Elman (Mad Men, Curb Your Enthusiasm), the comedy duo behind the world's first-ever Yiddish web series, return to their hometown and discover what they may have known all along: there's no better way to learn about Montreal's rich Jewish history than to taste it! Every Montrealer knows that an authentic Montreal food tour is incomplete without a stop at Wilensky's and its world-famous neighbor, Fairmount Bagel. So pile on the Montreal-smoked meat, serve up a generous helping of chocolate babka, and throw in some Sephardi home cooking, and join Jaime, Eli, and friends as they eat their way across Jewish Montreal. A little funny, a little heimish (unpretentious and homey) and even a little fattening, if you love food, **CHEWDAISM** is the movie for you.

**OFFICIAL SELECTION:** Atlanta Jewish Film Festival Miami Jewish Film Festival | Toronto Jewish Film Festival | Washington Jewish Film Festival



#### Screening with CHEWDAISM: A TASTE OF JEWISH MONTREAL

#### PHILADELPHIA PREMIERE

Directed by Rachel Fleit | USA 2018 | 11 min | English Rachel Fleit's delectable food doc follows the Hermelin family of Detroit as they prepare gefilte fish for their annual massive Passover dinner.





Screening with CHEWDAISM: A TASTE OF JEWISH MONTREAL

PHILADELPHIA PREMIERE

Directed by Adam Hirsch | USA 2019 | 6 min | English The sisterhood of an Atlanta synagogue comes together to make burekas, yummy Turkish pastries passed down from a traditionally Sephardic recipe.



## THE APPRENTICESHIP OF DUDDY KRAVITZ

From Page to Screen: 45th Anniversary Screening Sunday, November 17 | 2 PM | National Museum of American Jewish History

When **THE APPRENTICESHIP OF DUDDY KRAVITZ** was first released in 1974, 26-year-old Richard Dreyfuss had just come off the buzz and box office success of his previous film, George Lucas's *American Graffiti* (1973). His next film, *Jaws* (1975), was an even bigger hit and turned Dreyfuss into a household name. **DUDDY KRAVITZ**, whose release was sandwiched between these two critically-acclaimed motion pictures, comparatively fell under the radar despite winning the Golden Bear at the Berlin International Film Festival. Even more curious is Dreyfuss' initial reaction to his own performance in the film. It took him nearly 20 years to appreciate his portrayal of Duddy, the barefaced, vociferous anti-hero of Mordecai Richler's semiautobiographical novel adapted for the screen. Today, when the award-winning actor looks back on the film, it looms deeply significant, much more of a milestone than he first imagined.

Directed by Ted Kotcheff Narrative Feature Canada | 1974 | 120 min English

FOR FANS OF: Comedies, comingof-age films, family dramas, film adaptations, Mordecai Richler, Richard Dreyfuss The novel, inspired by Richler's teenage years growing up in Mile End, a working-class Jewish neighborhood in Montreal, was Canada's answer to Augie March. Like Saul Bellow's picaresque novel, **DUDDY KRAVITZ** is a cautionary tale, calling out the inevitable shift to a culture that feeds off of reckless ambition and greed. Watching Dreyfuss bring Duddy to life as a twitchy, sweaty, roguish teen living by his wits with a dream to make something of his life is nothing short of extraordinary.

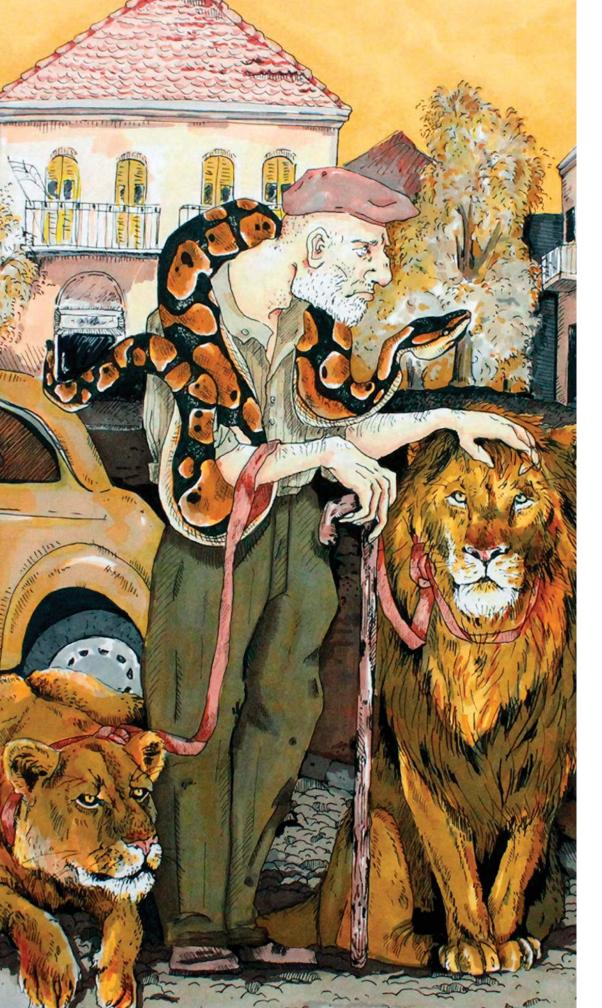
Duddy, perpetually overshadowed by his "smarter" and "more successful" med-school brother, is itching to make a buck so he can invest in a share of land that he's certain is going to make him a fortune someday. An enterprising fella with a voracious libido, he sneers at traditional community values and stops at nothing to prove he has the chops to succeed — even if success, in his eyes, comes at the expense of those he loves the most. Raised by a single father who drives a cab for a living, it's no surprise he yearns to be respected by everyone who has ever doubted him — but what really gives Duddy his edge is not so much a reflection of his ego but his heart.

Celebrating its 45th anniversary this season, don't miss Ted Kotcheff's oft-overlooked classic in this special edition of GPJFF's *From Page to Screen*.

**OFFICIAL SELECTION:** Berlin International Film Festival







## THERE ARE NO LIONS IN TEL AVIV

*In Partnership with Herbert D. Katz Center for Advanced Judaic Studies* Sunday, November 17 | 2 PM | The Colonial Theatre



#### PHILADELPHIA PREMIERE

This bittersweet story chronicles the noble pursuit of the Chief Rabbi of Copenhagen to build a zoo in Tel Aviv and teach the children of Palestine-Eretz Israel about the importance of caring for and loving animals. Arriving in Tel Aviv in 1935 with two bird cages and an unconventional dream, it would take Max Shorenstein three more years to acquire the location and the requisite number of animals to open Tel Aviv's first public zoo.

Directed by Duki Dror Documentary Feature Israel | 2019 | 63 min Hebrew with English subtitles

FOR FANS OF: Israel, Israeli history, Mendelsohn's Incessant Visions, Tel Aviv, true stories, urban planning, zoo design, zoology, zoos

SPECIAL GUESTS: Sigal Davidi, Architectural Historian at the Herbert D. Katz Center for Advanced Judaic Studies Rabbi Shorenstein began his journey selling 200 varieties of birds and a few small monkeys out of his home and makeshift pet shop on 15 Sheinkin Street. As word of his homegrown "zoo" spread, people from all over the city came to meet "Rabbi Dolittle" and his exotic pets. When his collection of creatures expanded to include lions, bears, and snakes, it was evident he needed a bigger place to run his growing enterprise. While trading in Sheinkin Street for a single-family home with a yard was a step in the right direction, it did not prevent one of Shorenstein's bears from wandering off onto the streets of Tel Aviv!

As a documentary filmmaker, Duki Dror is fascinated by people who shape the places where they live, yet history has forgotten. That is when he steps in and assures that their efforts to make the world a better place were not made in vain. **THERE ARE NO LIONS IN TEL AVIV** is as much Israel's story as it is a human one. Part parable and part cautionary tale, this illuminating doc offers insight into Israel's progress and exponential growth over the past 80 years.

**OFFICIAL SELECTION:** Docaviv | Jerusalem Film Festival

## THE MAMBONIKS

In Partnership with Feinstein Center for American Jewish History Sunday, November 17 | 7 PM | National Museum of American Jewish History



#### PHILADELPHIA PREMIERE

When 'Mambo Judie' talks about her wedding day, she wells up with pride. "Tito Puente played at my wedding," she can't help brag. And how about fellow mambonik, Marvin "Marvano" Jaye's recollections of 1959 Havana? He might just have Judy beat with the spectacle of having witnessed the world's greatest mambo dancers perform on stage while the bombs of Fidel Castro and his revolutionaries echoed in the streets.

Directed by Lex Gillespie Documentary Feature USA | 2019 | 90 min English

FOR FANS OF: Cuba, Cuban music, dance, documentaries, Jewish culture, mambo, Puerto Rican culture, reunions, travel documentaries

**SPECIAL EVENT:** After the film, all ticket and pass holders are invited to a happy hour reception at Cuba Libre with complimentary appetizers and drink specials.

During the 1950s, free-spirited, mostly Jewish and Puerto Rican dancers from New York City fell head over heels for the mambo, a hot new dance craze from Havana. Out in the club, busting a move to sensuous Latin rhythms and infectious mambo beats, they called themselves the mamboniks. Directed by Peabody Award winner Lex Gillespie, THE MAMBONIKS tells the surprising and littleknown story of two cultures, Jewish and Latin, meeting on the dance floor at a time when America was still racially segregated and anti-Semitism was commonplace. By weaving together archival footage of the mambo's 1950s origins with scenes from a much-anticipated mamboniks reunion in Florida, this upbeat and heartwarming documentary pays tribute to a retired group of Jewish mambo fanatics as they relive and regale the story of how they found a place of acceptance and excitement within a fiery dance.

**OFFICIAL SELECTION:** San Francisco Jewish Film Festival | Toronto Jewish Film Festival | Washington Jewish Film Festival

## **AN EVENING OF JEWISH SHORTS**

Sunday, November 17 | 7 PM | Reel Cinemas Narberth 2

GPJFF's annual **JEWISH SHORTS PROGRAM** returns with six new shorts from the USA, Israel, Italy and the UK!

## ALL PHILADELPHIA PREMIERES

Directed by Nick Borenstein | USA | 2019 | 5 min | English

In Nick Borenstein's funny and tender short, a mother and son running late for a bar mitzvah peruse the aisles of a 99 cent store for a last-minute gift.

#### **BENEATH THE INK**

Directed by Cy Dodson | USA 2018 | 13 min | English

*If not me, then who?* Director Cy Dodson offers an answer of hope in his timely and powerful profile of an Ohio tattoo artist who tries to make the world a better place by erasing the hate — one free tattoo at a time.

#### **BLACK HAT**

Directed by Sarah Smith | USA 2019 | 15 min | English

In this esthetic and affecting narrative by Sarah Smith, a closeted Hasid covers his payot and spends the night exploring NYC's queer scene. Official Selection of Tribeca Film Festival.

#### I HAVE A MESSAGE FOR YOU

Directed by Matan Rochlitz | Italy/UK/Israel 2017 | 13 min | French with English subtitles

What would you do if you had one chance to save yourself from certain death at Auschwitz? What if saving yourself meant leaving a loved one behind? In this heartrending, Emmy Award nominated short, we meet a woman who made that impossible decision and lived to tell the tale.



#### **5-MINUTE INTERMISSION**

#### TORCH

Directed by Odeya Rosenak | Israel | 2017 17 min | Hebrew with English subtitles

A 15-year-old girl mourning the death of her father attends an unforgettable torchlighting ceremony at her local community center with her mother during Yom HaZikaron.

#### SIRENS

Directed by Erez Tadmor | Israel | 2017 20 min | Hebrew with English subtitles

Winner of the Ophir Award (Israeli Academy Awards) for Best Short, this quirky dramedy follows a day in the life of a Tel Aviv couple whose appointment with a fertility doctor is spun off course by a string of false alarms.

#### WITH SLIGHT STEPS

Directed by Guy Hodes | Israel | 2018 10 min | Hebrew with English subtitles

Director Guy Hodes accompanies his 96-year-old grandmother to the desolate amphitheater of Kibbutz Dalia where she reminisces about her days as an accomplished folk dancer in Eretz-Yisrael.

## THE PASSENGERS

Encore Screening | Tikkun Olam Award Monday, November 18 | 7 PM | Lightbox Film Center at International House

#### PHILADELPHIA PREMIERE

Today, over 9,000 Jews live in Ethiopia who speak Hebrew, keep kosher, and have relatives in Israel, but are not permitted to make *aliyah* (the Jewish birthright to become a citizen of Israel). Despite their devout observance and commitment to Judaism, Israel continues to delay a decision to welcome this community of *Beta Israel* (the house of Israel), believed to be the last Jews in the world awaiting their right to emigrate. Surviving within a temporary and harsh reality in Ethiopia, they dream of the day they can live fully as Jews in the Holy Land.

Directed by Ryan S. Porush Documentary Feature USA/Ethiopia | 2019 | 72 min English, Hebrew and Amharic with English subtitles

FOR FANS OF: *Aliyah*, documentaries, Ethiopia, immigration policy, Israel, Israeli politics, *Tikkun Olam* 

SPECIAL GUESTS: Director Ryan S. Porush and David Elcott, NYU professor and Jewish activist THE PASSENGERS documents their struggle through the eyes of two remarkable young men, Demoz and Gezi, who travel to the United States to share their community's story and make an impassioned plea for assistance from American Jews. With intimate access and rich historical context, director Ryan S. Porush follows the unlikely spokesmen on their first trip outside their village in Goran as they navigate the responsibility of leading a grassroots campaign to raise awareness and the intense pressure to return to Ethiopia having achieved real change. Their lifealtering journey across the American landscape to garner support from prominent Jewish leaders is aided by the passion and generosity of David Elcott, an NYU professor and Jewish activist, who cares for the boys as his own sons. As the campaign gains momentum and forces in Israel begin to mobilize on their behalf, the lifelong friends must reconcile their aspirations to remain together with an uncertain future.

**OFFICIAL SELECTION**: Los Angeles Jewish Film Festival | San Francisco Jewish Film Festival Washington Jewish Film Festival

## **GOLDA'S BALCONY**

Live Theater on Film

Wednesday, November 20 | 2 PM | National Museum of American Jewish History



Directed by Scott Schwartz Narrative Feature USA | 2019 | 86 min English

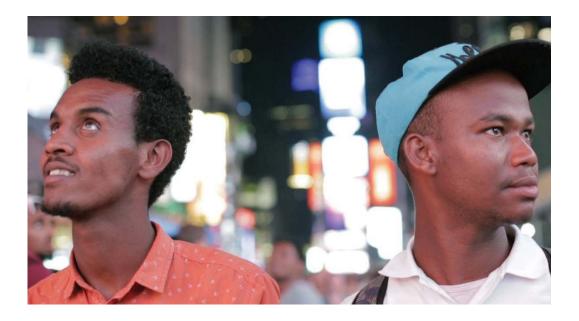
FOR FANS OF: Biopics, Golda Meir, Israel, Israeli history, Israeli politics, one-woman shows, theater, Tovah Feldshuh, women pioneers, Yom Ha'atzmaut

#### PHILADELPHIA PREMIERE

When it opened Off-Broadway in 2003, **GOLDA'S BALCONY** sold out every show for 16 straight weeks. Six months later, Tovah Feldshuh's triumphant performance as Golda Meir, the matriarch of Israel, premiered on Broadway and ran for 507 performances — making it the longest-running one-woman show in Broadway history! In this special limited-seating screening, you are invited to experience the power of Tovah Feldshuh's portrayal of Golda Meir (as well as 45 other characters) on the big screen. You'll not only have a front row seat to the show, you'll be able to view the performance from angles and perspectives not even afforded to theatergoers themselves!

The rise of Golda Meir from Russian schoolgirl to Prime Minister of Israel is one of the most exhilarating stories of the 20th century ever told. Written by Tony Award winning playwright and novelist William Gibson (*The Miracle Worker*), the play sheds light on Golda's leadership during the 1973 Yom Kippur War when Israel was attacked by Egypt and Syria and thousands of lives were at stake.

An official selection of 45 American film festivals, **GOLDA'S BALCONY** has already been granted ten Audience Awards for "Best Feature" since premiering on the festival circuit earlier this year.



## **GIRLFRIENDS**

From the Vaults | Screening with I HEART NEW YORK

Wednesday, November 20 | 7 PM | National Museum of American Jewish History



This film about two best friends and roommates trying to make it in NYC resonated so much with actress Lena Dunham that she immediately invited director Claudia Weill to direct an episode of her hit show, *Girls* (2012-17). From indie filmmakers Greta Gerwig and Noah Baumbach to legendary director Stanley Kubrick, it's not surprising that Weill's brilliant exploration of female friendships and the devastating experience of their loss has inspired filmmakers for decades. Considering the film's influence, it's a wonder that **GIRLFRIENDS** had not enjoyed the level of critical acclaim bestowed upon another NYC film of the era – Woody Allen's *Annie Hall.* 

Directed by Claudia Weill Narrative Feature USA | 1978 | 86 min English

FOR FANS OF: Bob Balaban, Broad City, Claudia Weill, comedies, comingof-age films, Eli Wallach, Frances Ha, Girls, Greta Gerwig, Melanie Mayron, New York City, Noah Baumbach, Sex In The City



Screening with **GIRLFRIENDS** 

#### PHILADELPHIA PREMIERE

Directed by Andre Andreev Documentary Short USA | 2017 | 3 min | English

A love letter to *The City That Never Sleeps*, this stunning short celebrates the iconic "I Heart NY" logo and the man who created it, Hungarian-Jewish graphic designer Milton Glaser.

**GIRLFRIENDS** follows Susan (Melanie Mayron), a photographer, and Anne (Anita Skinner), a would-be poet and Susan's best friend. When Anne announces she is getting married and starting a new life with her husband, the symbiotic relationship these young women have enjoyed is cut short. Breaking up is hard to do, but breaking up with your best friend because you're suddenly on different paths can be one of the loneliest feelings in a young woman's life. While Susan struggles with her nascent career and the solitude of freedom, Anne discovers that domestic bliss isn't as idyllic as she had hoped it would be. Representing the two women's narratives that have arisen out of post-60s womanhood, Susan and Anne soon learn that no matter what role they choose, there's always a sacrifice.

**OFFICIAL SELECTION:** Locarno Film Festival Toronto International Film Festival **THE KEEPER** Wednesday, November 20 | 7 PM | Reel Cinemas Narberth 2



#### PHILADELPHIA PREMIERE

This riveting biopic recalls the remarkable life story of Bert Trautmann (David Kross, *The Reader*), the German footballer who arrived in Manchester City with talent, promise, and the burden of a sordid past.

As the Luftwaffe bombs England, Trautmann, a paratrooper for the Third Reich, is captured along the Eastern Front. Transported to a military camp in England, the POW quickly learns that decorated SS veterans like him are no longer seen as heroes. Forced to endure a film that bared witness to the atrocities committed against recently freed concentration camp survivors, he begins to reexamine his own experience during the war and his perceived allegiance to his homeland. When consigned to work in a nearby town, Trautmann is inadvertently outed as a gifted goalkeeper and asked to play football for the local team as an alternative to hard labor. Though it takes time for some of the towns' folk to warm up to him, his remarkable football record helps ease the transition from sworn enemy to celebrated guest. Even the coach's daughter, who at first vociferously opposed Trautmann's presence in her home and on the team, begins to fall for the rising football star.

Directed by Marcus H. Rosenmüller Narrative Feature UK/Germany | 2018 | 120 min English and German with English subtitles

FOR FANS OF: British cinema, British politics, David Kross, Holocaust history, romance films, soccer, sports films, true stories, WWII history **THE KEEPER** has all the trappings of an epic love story, yet it does not shy away from exploring the controversy that arose over Trautmann's signing in Manchester. The city's football fans, many of whom were Jewish, were outraged and openly opposed Trautmann playing on the Manchester team. In fact, if it wasn't for Rabbi Altmann — a Manchester fan who fled the Nazis — intervening and opposing the opposition, Trautmann wouldn't have stood a chance against the backlash. With its unexpected twists and turns, this tale of forgiveness, loyalty, and the capacity of sports to both divide and unite us has won over audiences and critics around the world.

**OFFICIAL SELECTION:** San Francisco Jewish Film Festival | UK Jewish Film Festival

#### SAFE SPACES Young Professionals Night

Thursday, November 21 | 7 PM | Ritz East



#### PHILADELPHIA PREMIERE

Josh (Justin Long) believes he's one of the good guys. He's liberal, well-meaning, and loves his grandma. He even has a sweet NYC apartment thanks to his steady job as a creative writing professor. Aside from being a bit oblivious to how he affects those around him, he may just be that nice Jewish *boychik* you've been hearing about since your bar mitzvah. Lately, however, things have been off for Josh. First, there was the incident with his brother's young niece's nanny and most recently, he learned of a misunderstanding with one of his female students that caused her and her classmates to feel "unsafe." On top of that, Josh hasn't been himself since his mom (Fran Drescher), siblings and he had begun preparing for the imminent loss of their family's beloved matriarch (Lynn Cohen). Perhaps if his aunt hadn't skipped town, his sister and her new boyfriend hadn't taken over his living room or his father (Richard Schiff) actually made some effort to be there for him, he wouldn't feel like his whole world was falling apart.

Directed by Daniel Schechter Narrative Feature USA | 2019 | 93 min English

FOR FANS OF: #MeToo, academia, comedies, family comedies, Fran Drescher, Justin Long; Lynn Cohen, New York City, student rights, Woody Allen films

**SPECIAL EVENT:** Followed by a Young Professionals Post-Film Happy Hour at Positano Coast with complimentary appetizers and drink specials Though it may take longer than a New York minute to come to his senses, the flawed hero of Daniel Schechter's **SAFE SPACES** eventually catches on to the fact that most of the problems swirling around in his head appear to have one thing in common... This smart and relatable dramedy will have you laughing out loud one minute and whimpering into your neighbor's sleeve the next. Official Selection of the Tribeca Film Festival, **SAFE SPACES** is a safe bet for Jewish film lovers looking to see a genuinely funny, thoughtful comedy this festival season.

**OFFICIAL SELECTION:** San Francisco Jewish Film Festival | Tribeca Film Festival

## A MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

I want you to pause for a moment and think of a *word*; eight letters, four syllables and defined in Webster's dictionary as "the distinguishing character or personality of an individual."

Here's another clue: I have this word and you do too. Almost all of us have it, according to the definition above. Yet, when we think of this word, we believe it's something that we need to acquire — like it's something beyond us and until we do a, b, and c, it's not something to call our own. But what if good old Webster had it right? What if this elusive thing we call identity is something inherent to who we already are?

Our Closing Night selection, **STANDING UP, FALLING DOWN** (page 43), like many of the films in this season's Fall Fest, is about identity. Needless to say, there is a reason why identity — individual and collective — is so important to who we are and who we hope to become. Identity offers each of us a voice to speak our truth and be the best version of ourselves. Our identity plays a large role in how we see the world and what we value.

I hope you have enjoyed the festival this season and seen some incredible and affecting films. For me, the magic of Jewish Film Festivals is being able to connect to a variety of Jewish stories from across the globe. While some films are so relatable we see ourselves and our own experiences up there on the screen, other films introduce us to those who have different perspectives than our own. My wish for each and every filmgoer is to arrive at the festival with an open mind and to leave with an open heart.

Olivia Antsis GPJFF Executive Artistic Director

## **STANDING UP, FALLING DOWN**

Closing Night

Saturday, November 23 | 7:30 PM | Philadelphia Film Center



#### PHILADELPHIA PREMIERE

It takes courage to admit that you failed at something, especially when that *something* is what you've based your whole identity on your entire adult life. Scott Rollins (Ben Schwartz) has spent the past four years in Los Angeles chasing his dream of being a stand-up comic. What was not part of his plan: moving back to Long Island, being nearly broke, and living under the same roof with his folks at age 34. While his best friend and ex-girlfriend are busy *adulting* with their new families, Scott is busy pleading with his mother to refrain from walking in on him when he's trying to use the bathroom. On one of his first nights back in town — in need of a good place to lay low and lick his proverbial wounds — he ends up kicking back a few at the neighborhood bar. It's there that he first meets Marty (Billy Crystal), his soon-to-be dermatologist, and an unlikely friendship ensues.

Directed by Matt Ratner Narrative Feature USA | 2019 | 91 min English

FOR FANS OF: Ben Schwartz, Billy Crystal, buddy films; comedies, family comedies, father/son dramas, inspirational films, Long Island, rom-coms; stand-up comedy

**SPECIAL EVENT:** Followed by a Closing Night Party at Attico Rooftop Bar (219 S Broad St). Easily the life of the party, Scott enjoys spending time with his witty and eccentric new pal. While it's clearly not Marty's first time at the rodeo, Scott views his energy and lust for life akin to someone half his age. However, as their unexpected connection evolves, Scott learns that Marty's larger-than-life personality and alcoholism mask some of his own regrets and personal struggles.

Matt Ratner's tender and warm-hearted feature debut is anchored by its leads' fabulous rapport and Crystal's boundless charisma. An ode to life's ephemeral friendships and the ways in which these fleeting moments of connection can deepen and change our lives, **STANDING UP, FALLING DOWN**, will keep you smiling long after leaving the theater.

**OFFICIAL SELECTION:** San Francisco Jewish Film Festival | Tribeca Film Festival

# TELL YOUR FRIENDS

Buy tickets at PJFF.org or call 215-545-4400 Like us on f @GershmanPJFF Follow us on ♥ @GershmanPJFF Follow us on ๗ @GershmanPJFF #GPJFF39 #GPJFF **DECEMBER 7–8, 2019** At the National Museum of American Jewish History

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## **TICKETS & PASSES**

#### **FESTIVAL PLUS! TICKETING**

**\$12** General Admission **\*\$6** Students

#### FALL FEST GENERAL TICKETING

\$15 General Admission\$13 Senior Discount (65 and older)\*\$6 Students

\*Please note: ALL student tickets can only be purchased in-person and cannot be completed online. Student ID must be presented. The prices above include all ticketing fees. All ticket holders must be seated no later than printed film start time in order to be guaranteed seating.

#### **BIG NIGHTS TICKETS**

#### 11/9

\$25 | Opening Night Film PICTURE OF HIS LIFE

\*\*7:30 PM @ Philadelphia Film Center Followed by a post-film reception.

#### 11/16

\$20 | Centerpiece Film LATTER DAY JEW

7:30 PM @ Suzanne Roberts Theatre Followed by a post-film reception.

#### 11/23

\$15 | Closing Night Film STANDING UP, FALLING DOWN

\*\*7:30 PM @ Philadelphia Film Center

\*\*Tickets for any film at the Philadelphia Film Center can only be purchased online at Filmadelphia.org or by calling 215-422-4580. You may also purchase tickets at the Philadelphia Film Center (1412 Chestnut Street) during box office hours.

#### FILM & EDUCATION TICKETS

#### **11/10** FREE | MASTER CLASS WITH DOCUMENTARY FILMMAKER DANI MENKIN

11 AM @ 401 Fisher-Bennett Hall (located at University of Pennsylvania, 3340 Walnut St) Followed by a complimentary reception.

#### **GPJFF BREAKFAST CLUB**

11/17 \$25 | CHEWDAISM: A TASTE OF JEWISH MONTREAL Screening with GEFILTE and TUESDAYS ARE FOR BUREKAS. Arrive at 10 AM for pre-film bagel buffet.

Refunds will be given only if a program is canceled or in the case of a documented illness or injury.

### **SEATING INFORMATION**

#### **FESTIVAL PASSES**

#### **\$55 BIG NIGHTS PASS**

Includes admission to Opening Night (PICTURE OF HIS LIFE), Centerpiece (LATTER DAY JEW), and Closing Night (STANDING UP, FALLING DOWN) films and receptions.

All Sponsors and Big Nights Pass Holders should pre-register for Opening Night, **PICTURE OF HIS LIFE**, at least 48 hours in advance to be guaranteed a seat.

Sponsors and Big Nights Pass Holders are also encouraged to pre-register for all limited-seating screenings (listed on the right) 48 hours in advance to be guaranteed a seat.

To RSVP, call us at (215) 545-4400 or email us at info@pjff.org.

All reserved seats will be held until printed film start time. No exceptions will be made.

LIMITED-SEATING SCREENINGS & EVENTS

**10/13** SACRED SPACES 2 PM @ National Museum of American Jewish History

**11/10** MASTER CLASS WITH DOCUMENTARY FILMMAKER DANI MENKIN 11 AM @ 401 Fisher-Bennett Hall (at UPenn, 3340 Walnut St)

**CARL LAEMMLE** 2 PM @ NMAJH

**ETGAR KERET: BASED ON A TRUE STORY** 7 PM @ Free Library of Philadelphia

#### 11/13

JOSEPH PULITZER: VOICE OF THE PEOPLE 2 PM @ NMAJH

HEIR TO AN EXECUTION 7 PM @ NMAJH

**MY POLISH HONEYMOON** 7 PM @ The Colonial Theatre

#### 11/17

CHEWDAISM: A TASTE OF JEWISH MONTREAL 10 AM @ NMAJH

THE APPRENTICESHIP OF DUDDY KRAVITZ 2 PM @ NMAJH

THERE ARE NO LIONS IN TEL AVIV 2 PM @ THE COLONIAL THEATRE

**THE MAMBONIKS** 7 PM @ NMAJH

AN EVENING OF JEWISH SHORTS 7 PM @ Reel Cinemas Narberth 2

**11/20** golda's balcony 2 PM @ NMAJH

GIRLFRIENDS 7 PM @ NMAJH

**THE KEEPERS** 7 PM @ Reel Cinemas Narberth 2

## **FILM VENUES & RECEPTIONS**

#### **CENTER CITY VENUES**

**FREE LIBRARY OF PHILADELPHIA** November 10 1901 Vine St., Philadelphia 215-686-5394 Handicap Accessible No Assistive Listening Devices

#### PHILADELPHIA FILM CENTER

November 9 & 23 1412 Chestnut St., Philadelphia 215-422-4580 Handicap Accessible Assistive Listening Devices

#### SUZANNE ROBERTS THEATRE

November 16 480 S Broad St., Philadelphia 215-985-0420 Handicap Accessible Assistive Listening Devices

#### **OLD CITY VENUES**

#### NATIONAL MUSEUM OF AMERICAN JEWISH HISTORY

October 13, November 10, 13, 17 & 20 101 S. Independence Mall E., Philadelphia 215-923-3811 Handicap Accessible Assistive Listening Devices

#### **RITZ EAST**

September 26, November 14 & 21 125 S 2nd St., Philadelphia 215-925-4535 Handicap Accessible Assistive Listening Devices

#### UNIVERSITY CITY VENUES

#### 401 FISHER-BENNETT HALL @ University of Pennsylvania November 10

3340 Walnut St., Philadelphia Handicap Accessible No Assistive Listening Devices

#### LIGHTBOX FILM CENTER

October 5 & 30, November 11 & 18 and December 2 & 10 International House Philadelphia 3701 Chestnut St., Philadelphia 215-387-5125 Handicap Accessible Assistive Listening Devices

#### SUBURBAN VENUES

#### AMBLER THEATER

November 10 108 E. Butler Ave., Ambler 215-345-7855 Handicap Accessible Assistive Listening Devices

#### **BRYN MAWR FILM INSTITUTE**

November 10 824 Lancaster Ave., Bryn Mawr 610-527-9898 Handicap Accessible Assistive Listening Devices

#### THE COLONIAL THEATRE

November 13 & 17 227 Bridge St., Phoenixville 610-917-1228 Handicap Accessible Assistive Listening Devices

#### **REEL CINEMAS NARBERTH 2**

November 17 & 20 129 N Narberth Ave., Narberth 610-667-0115 Handicap Accessible Assistive Listening Devices

## WHO WE ARE

#### GPJFF BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Jacob Cohen *Chair* 

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Chair Emerita

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#### GPJFF ADVISORY COMMITTEE

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#### **GPJFF STAFF**

Kristen Evans Executive Managing Director

Olivia Antsis\*^ Executive Artistic Director

Matt Bussy\*^ Festival Manager

Nicole DelRossi Administrative and Development Assistant

#### **GPJFF INTERNS**

Jillian Kalman Molly Palmer Lauren Payton

#### GPJFF BOX OFFICE/ VOLUNTEERS

Bill Farrar Marc Feldman Nancy Feldman Frank Ferrare Phyllis Fertik Penina Gould Andrew Kaufman Baruch Levine Robert Mellin Haley Needle Wedge Wegman

Ainyae Stratton Box Office Manager

Dajana Denes Walters *Box Office Manager* 

- \* Member of GPJFF Advisory Committee
- <sup>^</sup> Member of GPJFF Screening Committee

### **MEET THE TEAM!**



#### Executive Managing Director

A New Jersey native, Kristen Evans is the Executive Managing Director of the Gershman Philadelphia Jewish Film Festival. She has been with the organization since 2007. After majoring in Graphic Design at The University of the Arts, she attended La Salle University where she focused on nonprofit administration. An avid music enthusiast and film lover, Kristen previously owned and operated JAM Musical Industries, a one-stop-shop for independent musicians that served a booking agency, recording studio, video production, and tour management.



#### Olivia Antsis

**Kristen Evans** 

Executive Artistic Director

Olivia Antsis has served as the Artistic Director of GPJFF for nearly 12 years. As the creative force behind the organization, Olivia began her career path at the Philadelphia Art Alliance where she served as the Director of Programs. After earning an MFA from the University of the Arts, she worked as the Site Editor for InLiquid.com. Olivia's Russian-Jewish roots, concern for human rights, and love of the arts helped shape her artistic vision. In addition to her work at the festival, Olivia enjoys being behind the camera. Her videos and artwork have been exhibited in galleries, film festivals, and venues throughout the world.



#### Matt Bussy

Festival Manager

Matt Bussy is Festival Manager of GPJFF. He majored in Film & Media Arts at Temple University and has been obsessed with movies for as long as he can remember! Matt also works as a film studio representative for Allied Global Marketing, a full-service integrated marketing agency, assisting with advance screenings of upcoming films throughout the city for press and patrons.

#### Nicole DelRossi

Administrative and Development Coordinator

A recent addition to the Gershman Philadelphia Jewish Film Festival family, Nicole DelRossi serves as the Administrative and Development Coordinator. She has upwards of 16 years of experience in the visual arts and is excited to work with film and new media arts. Nicole is a Moore College of Art & Design graduate with a degree in Curatorial Studies.



#### Ainyae Stratton

Box Office Manager

Box Office Manager Ainyae Stratton is thrilled to be a part of the Gershman Philadelphia Jewish Film Festival. She attended Indiana University of Pennsylvania where she majored in Communications Media with a concentration in TV/Film/Photography. Ainyae has acted in various short films and continues a career as an actress. You can catch her on her ongoing "Monologue Monday" social media series on YouTube and IGTV (Instagram: Yae Stratton) each Monday where she acts out different monologues from films and theater.

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- Shimon Peres

53 | For tickets and full lineup of speakers and special guests, please visit PJFF.ORG.

## Mazel Tov on 39 years, GPJFF!







## MUSEUM OF HISTORY

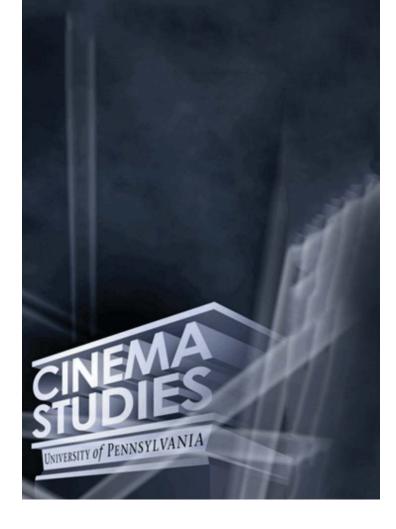
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#### **JOIN GPJFF ON GIVING TUESDAY DECEMBER 3!**

Giving Tuesday inspires millions of people across the globe to show up and give back to causes and issues that matter to them. With so many deserving organizations out there, it is difficult to choose one that is right for you. GPJFF holds a special place in the hearts of many patrons. For 39 years, the organization has used film as a vehicle to preserve, explore, celebrate, and enhance Jewish life and culture. We exist only through the generosity of our patrons.

GPJFF graciously asks you to **join the global movement** of mass generosity and make a donation on December 3rd of this year. Gifts made to the festival last well beyond Giving Tuesday and allow the festival to perpetuate important Jewish stories through film. This year the **#GPJFFGive Campaign** goal is to raise \$5,000. Won't you join us on this day of global giving?

#### Donations can be made:

- 1. Via phone to the Development Office at (215) 545-4400.
- 2. Via the web: PJFF.org.
- **3**. Via text. Send a text to 243725 (BIDPAL). Text GPJFF39. A link will then be texted to you to complete the donation.
- **4.** Via mail. Send a check to:

**Gershman Philadelphia Jewish Film Festival** Attn: Development Office 101 S Independence Mall E Philadelphia, PA 19106

# SAVE THE DATE

## **SPRING 2020 LINDY CINEMONDAYS MARCH 30 - MAY 11**

## A COMMITMENT TO OUR FUTURE

In our inaugural year as an independent organization, we have been working tirelessly to build community and share Jewish stories and values through film and new media art. We are off to a very promising start!

Throughout the years, the organization has been blessed to have generous and steadfast supporters and sponsors. Our contributors have a love of Jewish culture, history, legacy, life, and film. GPJFF is a vital platform to share Jewish stories through film to a diverse community, both Jewish and non-Jewish alike. We recognize there are several, well-deserving organizations out there. As you look through the brochure and attend our films, we trust you will echo our belief that Philadelphia needs a Jewish Film Festival to share these critical and thought-provoking stories. Tickets only make up 20% of the funds necessary to operate. As a non-profit, we rely on community generosity by making contributions and joining our family of sponsors.

Please consider committing to our future by joining the GPJFF family or making a contribution. A sponsorship form is located on the next page for your convenience. Information regarding individual and corporate sponsorship levels and benefits can be found on our website, PJFF.org.

With appreciation,

Kristen Evans Executive Managing Director



## **BECOME A GPJFF SPONSOR!**

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