



**NEIGHBORS
NEAR & FAR
BOSTON
JEWISH
FILM
FESTIVAL**

NOV. 2-13, 2011



BOSTON JEWISH FILM FESTIVAL

*"Geography has made us neighbors.
History has made us friends."*

John F. Kennedy

Welcome Fall Festival Neighbors

Thank you for supporting the 2011 Boston Jewish Film Festival. Please join us often for films and special events. Your visits help us define this as the largest Jewish cultural event in New England, with 10,000 neighbors joining us.

Our theme this year is Neighbors Near and Far. We probe the fascinating complexity of "neighbors," measured by proximity, affinity and conflict. Relationships are compelling, never static.

Our opening night film, *Kaddish for a Friend*, examines the difficult unfolding friendship between an older Jewish Russian man and a Palestinian Muslim young man, apartment neighbors in an immigrant area of Berlin.

Our centerpiece film, *Deaf Jam*, unveils an immigrant Israeli teen expanding her comfort level with others; she uses American Sign Language to meet hearing neighbors and one particular young Muslim woman.

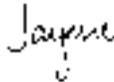
On closing night, *Mabul (Flood)* explores the tensions of neighbors on a farming collective living with a de-institutionalized autistic young adult.

Our success depends on you. Beyond ticket sales, our lifeblood is your donations. If you can contribute to our ongoing presentations, please consider sending us a donation in any amount.

Enjoy your visit to our film neighborhood, and return often!



Sara L. Rubin, Artistic Director



Jaymie E. Saks, Managing Director

It takes more than a full theatre.

Ticket sales account for only 20% of the funds required to support our year-round organization. We need your help to deliver our mission of bringing you the latest films from around the world. Your donation helps us present New England's largest Jewish cultural event each fall, and special screenings and events all year long. Thanks for your support.



KADDISH FOR A FRIEND

Kaddisch für Einen
Freund

Opening Night
Wednesday,
November 2
7:30PM
Coolidge Corner
Theatre



East Coast Premiere

Director Leo Khasin

Germany

2011

94 minutes

Fiction

35 mm

In Arabic, German and Russian
with subtitles

In Person

Director Leo Khasin

Musical performance

Nathan Blankett Quartet,
Berklee College of Music

Supported by

Goethe-Institut Boston

Muslim teen Ali Messalam and his family move into Berlin's Kreuzberg area, where he is pressured by his friends to vandalize the apartment of his elderly, feisty Russian neighbor, Alexander Zamskoy. To avoid being deported, Ali's parents send him back to Zamskoy's place to repair the damage. This warm coming-of-age story, inspired by two real people, is a stirring feature debut by Moscow-born, German filmmaker Leo Khasin.

DEAF JAM

Centerpiece Film
Wednesday,
November 9
7PM
Coolidge Corner
Theatre

**Massachusetts Theatrical
Premiere**

Director Judy Lieff
USA
2011

70 minutes

Documentary

35 mm

In English and ASL, fully
captioned, ASL interpreted

In Person

Film subject Aneta Brodski

**Special slam poetry
performance**

Ayisha Knight-Shaw, Deaf poet
signing in ASL

Sponsored by

Northeastern University Programs
in Jewish Studies; Women's,
Gender and Sexuality Studies;
Cinema Studies; and ASL; and the
Dept. of Languages, Literatures,
and Cultures



Teen Aneta Brodski attends a school for the Deaf in Queens and inhabits the exuberant world of American Sign Language (ASL) poetry. Filmmaker Judy Lieff chronicles Aneta's bold entry into Manhattan's spoken-word slam scene, where Aneta, an Israeli immigrant, meets Tahani, a hearing Palestinian-American slam poet. The two collaborate on a powerful duet that mirrors the complex worlds they share. *Deaf Jam* uses innovative film techniques to honor ASL as a three-dimensional language that exists in space, like dance.

MABUL (FLOOD)

Closing Night
 Sunday,
 November 13
 6:30PM
 Museum of Fine
 Arts, Boston
 Remis Auditorium

Boston Premiere

Director Guy Nattiv
 Canada, France, Germany, Israel
 2010
 101 minutes
 Fiction
 35 mm
 In Hebrew with subtitles

In Person

Director Guy Nattiv

Musical Performance

Lihi Haruvi Trio,
 Berklee College of Music

Sponsored by

Emerson College,
 School of the Arts



As Yoni chants the story of Noah's Ark in preparation for his Bar Mitzvah, his autistic older brother Tomer (Michael Moshonov, *Bena*, 2010 Festival) unexpectedly returns home, forcing the entire family to cope with his presence. Their mother (Ronit Elkabetz, *The Band's Visit*, *Jaffa*) is a gifted day care director in a troubled marriage to a crop duster too stoned to fly (Tzahi Grad, *The Loners*, *Eli & Ben*). *Mabul*, directed by Guy Nattiv (*Strangers*), garnered awards in Haifa and Berlin.

WHAT'S NEW IN 2011?

Our Festival is renowned for capturing the excitement of discussions, music and events to augment our films. You can see independently produced films, on the big screen, while surrounded by others who engage, challenge and celebrate with you.



CAFFEINE AND CONVERSATION

Friday, November 4, 10:30AM

Coolidge Corner Theatre

Sponsored by Peet's Coffee

What's a film festival without the buzz of visiting producers, directors, actors and documentary film subjects? The Festival continues its long tradition of bringing together film artists and their audience for questions and conversation. Join us for a caffeinated chance to talk in-depth with visiting filmmakers.



SHORT FILMS COMPETITION

Monday, November 7, 7PM

Coolidge Corner Theatre

Approximate running time 100 minutes

Short films, long known as the "calling cards" of young filmmakers, are an increasingly popular, unique art form. This year, the Festival selected 15 short films from the myriad submitted to us. We invited six judges to choose their favorites. At this year's Short Film Competition, you'll screen the winning films, and learn the criteria the judges used to make their selections. Then you'll have your own chance to vote for a winner!



STANDING SILENT FILM and PANEL DISCUSSION

Tuesday, November 8, 7PM

Coolidge Corner Theatre

A compelling news story breaks in *Standing Silent*, a film on child molestation by rabbis. Immediately after the screening, join our panel event that tackles this controversial and alarming issue, including *New York Times* reporter Michael Paulson (invited), who made public the story of clergy sexual abuse in the Catholic Church, film subject Phil Jacobs and director Scott Rosenfelt.

Join us at the Festival – it's the highlight of the year for both film lovers and the Jewish community. Please become part of our dynamic neighborhood. Some of this year's innovations include the following...

ISRAELI TV

Want to catch new visions of Israel? Wish you could watch what Israelis are watching? Then check out our current Israeli TV shows. Directors often migrate between film and TV in this small marketplace, and the quality of shows is high. Join us for *The Office*, *Yellow Peppers*, and *Another Life*.



BEATING TIME

Thursday, November 3, 8:15PM

Museum of Fine Arts, Boston

Remis Auditorium

ALS patient Avi Kremer in *Beating Time* will mesmerize you. Meet him and hear firsthand about his battle to find a cure. He'll be joined by neurologist Dr. Robert Brown, UMass Medical Center, Worcester, as well as director Odette Orr and producer Yuval Orr. You'll be inspired, invigorated, and might just join this team.



SURPRISE SCREENING

Saturday November 12, 8:30PM

Museum of Fine Arts, Boston

Remis Auditorium

We decided to keep one special screening time "reserved" for a last-minute new film — or a repeat screening of a smash hit in our Festival. Visit our website, subscribe to our e-letter, or follow us on Facebook or Twitter to find out what special treat we've selected.



2 NIGHT

shna'yim balayla

New England Premiere

Director Roi Werner

Israel

2011

85 Minutes

Fiction

Video

When a vibrant young woman picks up a soulful guy in a Tel Aviv bar and tries to bring him home, their nightlong search for a parking space becomes an engaging emotional journey. The couple flirts, fights, makes up, and makes out. Director Roi Werner's feature debut is steamy and true-to-life, with up-and-coming performers Keren Berger and Yaron Brovinsky. Berger was nominated for a Best Actress Ophir (Israeli Academy Award) for her performance. Note: explicit sexual language. **In Hebrew with subtitles.**



SCREENING TIMES

Thurs., November 3,
8:30 pm, Coolidge Corner
Theatre

Fri., November 4,
1:00 pm, Coolidge Corner
Theatre. *Screening as part
of the Coolidge's Box Office
Babies program*

ANOTHER LIFE

chaim acherim

U.S. Premiere

Director Arik Rotstein

Israel

2010

90 Minutes

TV Series

Video

In Person

Producer Zafirir Kochanovski

In one of Israel's top-rated TV series, Arik Rotstein directs a cast of attractive young actors, notably Yakir (Oz Zehavi), a 22 year-old *yeshiva* student from a small Israeli town who is drawn to the Tel Aviv modern dance world. To avoid conflict with teachers and family, Yakir creates another life for himself — for a time. Part of a trend exploring observant young Jews who go off the *derech* (religious path), *Another Life* counts both secular and observant Jews among its fans. **In Hebrew with subtitles.**



SCREENING TIME

Sun., November 6,
5:30 pm, Coolidge Corner
Theatre

BEATING TIME

North American Premiere

Director Odette Orr

Israel

2010

50 Minutes

Documentary

Video

Sponsored by

PRIZE4LIFE

In Person

Director Odette Orr, producer Youval Orr, film subjects Avi Kremer and Dr. Robert Brown

Avi Kremer was “on top of the world” – in his late 20’s and a first-year Harvard MBA – when he was diagnosed with ALS (Lou Gehrig’s disease). Odette Orr’s inspiring documentary helps us understand Avi, his friends and his urgent quest to find a cure. Cameo by physicist Stephen Hawking. **In English, Hebrew with subtitles.**



SCREENING TIME

Thurs., November 3,
8:15 pm, Remis
Auditorium, Museum of
Fine Arts

BREATH MADE VISIBLE

Massachusetts Theatrical Premiere

Director Ruedi Gerber

Switzerland, USA

2009

80 Minutes

Documentary

Video

Sponsored by

Jewish
Women's
Archive

In Person

Director Ruedi Gerber

American dancer and choreographer Anna Halprin revolutionized modern dance. Since the 1950’s, she has welcomed students and collaborators (including Meredith Monk, Trisha Brown, Yvonne Rainer, and Merce Cunningham) to her outdoor “deck,” developing experimental pieces that have been performed worldwide. Her fervent need to “dance” the major events of her life has made her a pioneer in the dance therapy movement. Now in her 90’s, she leads workshops for all ages and continues to create and perform. **In English.**



SCREENING TIME

Sun., November 13,
12:30 pm, Alford
Auditorium, Museum of
Fine Arts

Please join us for a post-film discussion, facilitated by the Jewish Women's Archive.

THE DAY I SAW YOUR HEART

et soudain tout le monde me manque

New England Premiere

Director Jennifer Devoldère

France

2011

105 Minutes

Fiction

35mm

Sponsored by



This lighthearted comedy offers poignant reflections on family life. Eli Dhrey's news that his third wife is pregnant unsettles his grown daughters. Dom, trying to adopt, is indignant. Justine, her unmoored twenty-something half sister, responds by making stunning X-ray art from images acquired during her day job. Enjoy delightful performances by Michel Blanc (*The Girl on the Train*, 2009 Festival) as Eli and Mélanie Laurent (*La Rafle*, *Le Concert*, *Inglorious Basterds*) as Justine. **In French with subtitles.**



SCREENING TIMES

Tues., October 25, 7:30 pm,
Showcase Cinema de Lux
Patriot Place

Thurs., November 3, 7:15 pm,
West Newton Cinema

Sat., November 5, 7:00 pm,
Remis Auditorium, Museum
of Fine Arts

DEAF JAM

Massachusetts Theatrical Premiere

Director Judy Lieff

USA

2011

70 Minutes

Documentary

Video

Sponsored by



Northeastern University

In Person

Film subject Aneta Brodski (Nov 9 and 10), Director Judy Lieff (Nov 10). Performance by Deaf poet Ayisha Knight-Shaw and Boston Teen spoken word artists (Nov 9)

Teen Aneta Brodski, an Israeli immigrant, attends a school for the Deaf in Queens and inhabits the exuberant world of American Sign Language (ASL) poetry. Filmmaker Judy Lieff chronicles Aneta's bold entry into Manhattan's spoken-word slam scene, where she meets Tahani, a hearing Palestinian-American slam poet. The two collaborate on a powerful duet that mirrors the complex worlds they share. *Deaf Jam* uses innovative film techniques to honor ASL as a three-dimensional language that exists in space, like dance. **In English with subtitles.**



SCREENING TIMES

Centerpiece Film
Wed., November 9,
7:00 pm, Coolidge Corner
Theatre

Thurs., November 10,
2:00 pm, Coolidge Corner
Theatre

THE DECISION MAKER

mekabel hahachlatot

New England Premiere

Director Danny Yagil

Israel

2010

41 Minutes

Fiction

Video

Gideon Harel, the fictitious Prime Minister of Israel, is about to take part in a TV election debate. His campaign staff - a longtime politico, a young speechwriter and a strategist who happens to be his daughter - preps him. He needs to overcome a recent heart attack and a lackluster term. Wandering the television station, he comes upon the archived video intended for broadcast on the day of his death. Watching his own obituary, Harel remembers why he first entered public service. **In Hebrew with subtitles.**



SCREENING TIME

Sun., November 13,
2:45 pm, Alford
Auditorium, Museum of
Fine Arts
(screens with *Lenin in
October*)

DOLPHIN BOY

hadolphin

Massachusetts Premiere

Directors

Dani Menkin, Yonatan Nir

Israel

2011

72 Minutes

Documentary

Video

Sponsored by



Supported by

MetroWest Jewish Planning
Committee

In Person (Nov 11)

Director Dani Menkin, producer
Judith Manasson Ramon, Dr.
Ilan Kutz

When Morad, a 17 year old Arab Israeli, is brutally beaten and unable to speak, trauma psychiatrist Dr. Ilan Kutz recommends controversial "dolphin therapy." In Eilat, Morad swims with the dolphins and slowly regains speech, but believes he grew up with the dolphins. Then he falls in love with a Jewish woman. Filmmakers Dani Menkin (*39 Pounds of Love*, 2005 Festival Audience Award winner) and Yonatan Nir capture the love and support of Morad's doctor and family. Stunning underwater footage. *Dolphin Boy* was recently nominated for an Ophir (Israeli Academy Award) for Best Documentary. **In Arabic, French, Hebrew with subtitles.**



SCREENING TIMES

Thurs., October 27,
7:00 pm, AMC
Framingham

Fri., November 11,
2:00 pm, Remis
Auditorium, Museum of
Fine Arts

EICHMANN'S END: LOVE, BETRAYAL, DEATH

eichmann's ende

New England Premiere

Director Raymond Ley
Germany, Israel
2010
90 Minutes
Fiction
Video

In mid-1950's Buenos Aires, Holocaust survivor Lothar Hermann's suspicions are aroused when his teenage daughter, Sylvia, introduces her new beau: Nick Eichmann. Meanwhile, Nick's father, the notorious Nazi Adolf Eichmann, is dictating his memoirs to a local journalist, proudly recounting his masterminding of the murder of millions of Jews. With Sylvia's help, Adolf Eichmann is captured and brought to trial in Israel. A drama based on a true story. **In German, Hebrew, Spanish with subtitles.**



SCREENING TIMES

Sun., November 6, 3:00 pm,
Remis Auditorium, Museum
of Fine Arts

Thurs., November 10,
9:15 pm, Coolidge Corner
Theatre

FRACTURE

U.S. Premiere

Director Alain Tasma
France
2010
115 Minutes
Fiction
Video

Supported by

French Cultural Services, Boston

In Person

Director Alain Tasma (invited)
(Nov 6)

Anna Kagan takes her first teaching job in a junior high school in a poor Arab neighborhood on the outskirts of Paris. Her pedagogy clashes with the chaotic lives of her students, her idealism is tested in the teachers' lounge, and her Jewish identity is assaulted by anti-Semitic slurs. Events in this gritty film spin out of control when Lakdar (Samy Seghir), an artistically gifted student with a severely injured hand, embarks on a misguided path of revenge. **In French with subtitles.**



SCREENING TIMES

Thurs., November 3,
6:00 pm, Remis
Auditorium, Museum of
Fine Arts

Sun., November 6,
7:30 pm, Coolidge
Corner Theatre

IN ANOTHER LIFETIME

vielleicht in einem anderen leben

New England Premiere

Director Elisabeth Scharang

Austria

2010

94 Minutes

Fiction

35mm

At the end of WWII, Hungarian Jewish prisoners on a forced march to Mauthausen are stranded in an Austrian farming village, where they are hidden in a barn. One of the captives is a Budapest opera singer who rehearses an operetta. The music brings hope to the exhausted prisoners and touches a farmer and his wife, numbed by their soldier son's death. Director Elisabeth Scharang's haunting drama is underscored by the exquisitely naturalistic camerawork.

In German, Hungarian with subtitles.



SCREENING TIMES

Wed., October 26, 7:00 pm,
Arlington Capitol Theatre

Wed., November 9, 1:00 pm,
Coolidge Corner Theatre

INTIMATE GRAMMAR

hadikduk hapnimi

New England Premiere

Director Nir Bergman

Israel

2010

110 Minutes

Fiction

35mm

Based on David Grossman's novel, director Nir Bergman (*Broken Wings*) portrays Aharon Kleinfeld, a highly sensitive 11 year old living in a Jerusalem neighborhood in the 1960s. The boy takes refuge in an inner world whose eccentricity mirrors his bizarre outer world. Winner: 2010 Jerusalem Film Festival's Wolgin Award. **In Hebrew with subtitles.**

David Grossman will be in Boston for two conversations about his latest book, To The End of the Land: November 14, 8:00pm at the Arsenal Center for the Arts (part of the New Center LIVE! series), and November 15, 7:00pm at Harvard University (sponsored by the Center for Jewish Studies at Harvard).

Sponsored by



Introduced by

Ronit Nudelman-Perl, Consul,
Consulate General of Israel to
New England (Nov 13)



SCREENING TIMES

Thurs., November 10,
7:00 pm, Coolidge Corner
Theatre

Sun., November 13,
3:15 pm, West Newton
Cinema

JOAN AND VERNE'S WEDDING

U.S. Premiere

Director Doug Foulkes
South Africa
2010
34 Minutes
Documentary
Video

Introduced by

South African-born Dr. Susie Tanchel, Head of School, JCDS

After 25 years of marriage to a man, Verne met Joan and fell in love at first sight. Joan eventually fell in love back. The women shared a household for over 18 years, but wanted "more than a piece of paper" to recognize their union: they wanted a Jewish wedding. Theirs was the first same-sex marriage performed by a rabbi in South Africa. Ironically, South Africa is the fifth country in the world to recognize gay and lesbian marriages. **In English.**



SCREENING TIME

Thurs., November 10,
7:00 pm, Fenway
Community Health Center
(screens with *One of Seven*)

KADDISH FOR A FRIEND

*kaddisch für einen
freund*

East Coast Premiere

Director Leo Khasin
Germany
2011
94 Minutes
Fiction
35mm

Sponsored by



In Person

Director Leo Khasin (Nov 2)

Muslim teen Ali Messalam and his family move into Berlin's Kreuzberg area, where he is pressured by his friends to vandalize the apartment of his elderly, feisty Russian neighbor, Alexander Zamskoy. To avoid being deported, Ali's parents send him back to Zamskoy's place to repair the damage. This warm coming-of-age story, inspired by two real people, is a stirring feature debut by Moscow-born, German filmmaker Leo Khasin. **In Arabic, German, Russian with subtitles.**



SCREENING TIMES

Thurs., October 27, 7:00 pm,
Hollywood Hits, Danvers

Opening Night Film
Wed., November 2, 7:30 pm,
Coolidge Corner Theatre

Sun., November 6, 1:00 pm,
Remis Auditorium, Museum of
Fine Arts

THE LAST REPORT ON ANNA

utolsó jelentés annáról

New England Premiere

Director Márta Mészáros
Hungary
2009
103 Minutes
Fiction
35mm

In Person

Director Márta Mészáros
(Nov. 10)

Distinguished director Márta Mészáros' film reflects political repression, love, exile and memory. Hungarian Social Democrat Anna Kethly, a progressive in Imre Nagy's government and an outspoken critic of Jewish racial laws, inspires it. After the 1956 Soviet invasion, Anna moved to Belgium. In this drama set in the 1970s, a young Hungarian literary critic is sent by the State Security Police to exploit Anna's homesickness.

In Hungarian with subtitles.



SCREENING TIMES

Thurs., November 10,
7:45 pm, Remis Auditorium,
Museum of Fine Arts

Sun., November 13, 1:00 pm,
West Newton Cinema

LENIN IN OCTOBER

New England Premiere

Director Evgeny Ruman
Israel
2010
50 Minutes
Fiction
Video

Sponsored by



Introduced by

Sasha Senderovich, Mellon
Postdoctoral Fellow, Tufts
University

Grisha's dream of his own restaurant can come true, thanks to an unexpected inheritance from his uncle in Kiev. The catch: he must name it "Red October" and feature a bust of Lenin, not easy to find in modern-day Ashdod. Sculptor-comrade Vladnel imagines the restaurant's ushering in a proletarian utopia; the staff threatens a strike. Food, family and ideology make for an offbeat comedy of errors. **In Hebrew, Russian with subtitles.**



SCREENING TIME

Sun., November 13, 2:45 pm,
Alfond Auditorium, Museum
of Fine Arts

(screens with *The Decision
Maker*)

LIFE IS TOO LONG

das leben ist zu lang

East Coast Premiere

Director Dani Levy

Germany

2010

85 Minutes

Fiction

35mm

Director Dani Levy has scripted alter ego Alfi Seliger, a has-been filmmaker passionate about his new screenplay. Surrealistic scenes give Alfi one existential crisis after another. In Levy's irreverent, Woody Allenesque comedy, we laugh as Alfie endures dismissive colleagues, bratty kids, a dire colonoscopy, and his wife's affair with her boss. Featuring Markus Herring (*Whisky with Vodka*), Veronica Ferres (*Saviors in the Night*, 2010 Festival), Heino Ferch and Elke Sommer. **In German with subtitles.**



SCREENING TIMES

Sat., November 5, 7:00 pm,
Coolidge Corner Theatre

Tues., November 8, 7:00 pm,
Arlington Capitol Theatre

MABUL (FLOOD)

Boston Premiere

Director Guy Nattiv

Canada, France, Germany, Israel

2010

101 Minutes

Fiction

35mm

As Yoni chants the story of Noah's Ark in preparation for his Bar Mitzvah, his autistic older brother Tomer (Michael Moshonov, *Bena*, 2010 Festival) unexpectedly returns home, forcing the entire family to cope with his presence. Their mother (Ronit Elkabetz, *The Band's Visit*, *Jaffa*) is a gifted day care director in a troubled marriage to a crop duster too stoned to fly (Tzahi Grad, *The Loners*, *Eli & Ben*). *Mabul*, directed by Guy Nattiv (*Strangers*) garnered awards in Haifa and Berlin. **In Hebrew with subtitles.**

Sponsored by

 EMERSON COLLEGE

School of the Arts

In Person

Director Guy Nattiv (Nov 13)



SCREENING TIMES

Closing Night Film
Sun., November 13, 6:30 pm,
Remis Auditorium, Museum
of Fine Arts

Tues., November 15,
7:00 pm, Arlington Capitol
Theatre

MY BEST ENEMY

mein bester feind

Massachusetts Premiere

Director Wolfgang Murnberger

Austria, Luxembourg

2010

106 Minutes

Fiction

35mm

Victor Kaufmann (Moritz Bleibtreu, *Run Lola Run*, *Munich*), the son of wealthy Jewish gallery owners in Vienna and Rudi Smekal (Georg Friedrich), the son of the Kaufmann's housekeeper, have been close friends since childhood. But when the Nazis annex Austria, Rudi signs up and gives up the Kaufmanns. The clever, entertaining plot of this thriller keeps viewers guessing between a forged and an authentic Michelangelo drawing while lovely, competent Lena is forced to pick between the two men. **In German with subtitles.**



SCREENING TIMES

Sun., November 6, 5:15 pm,
West Newton Cinema

Sat., November 12, 6:00 pm,
Remis Auditorium, Museum
of Fine Arts

NAOMI

hitpartzut x

New England Premiere

Director Eitan Tzur

France, Israel

2010

102 Minutes

Fiction

35mm

When a middle-aged Technion professor suspects that his stunning young wife, Naomi, is having an affair, he trails her car to a remote seaside address. Then his strong-willed mother gets involved. His best friend, who happens to be a detective, has suspicions, too. Passion and psychological intrigue combine for surprising twists in this noirish film. Directed by Eitan Tzur (Israeli TV series *In Treatment* and *The Office*). **In Hebrew with subtitles.**



SCREENING TIMES

Sat., November 5,
9:30 pm, Coolidge Corner
Theatre

Tues., November 8,
7:00 pm, West Newton
Cinema

THE OFFICE

hamisrad

New England Premiere

Director Eitan Tzur

Israel

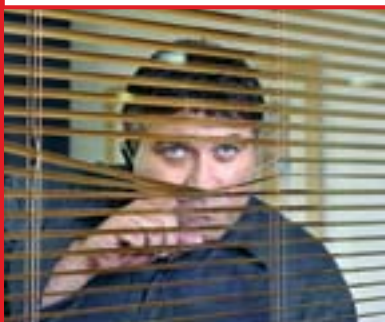
2009

81 Minutes

TV Series

Video

With Steve Carell off the air, why not see what Israel has done with *The Office*? Dvir Bendik (*A Matter of Size* and *2 Night* in this year's Festival) plays chubby office head Avi Meshulam, who is his own best audience. With an only-in-Israel touch, the staff includes a very pregnant Orthodox Jewish woman and Aben, a gay Arab Israeli. Directed by Eitan Tzur (*In Treatment*, *Naomi*). **In Hebrew with subtitles.**



SCREENING TIME

Sun., November 6,
1:00 pm, Coolidge
Corner Theatre

ONE OF SEVEN

echad meshiv'ah

North American Premiere

Director Goel Pinto

Israel

2010

48 Minutes

Documentary

Video

Goel Pinto, former *Ha'aretz* film critic, explores what makes him feel "different." Besides his homosexuality, his family's North African origins make him feel like an Israeli second-class citizen. But Pinto tips the balance when he discovers a Sephardic great-aunt who died in the Holocaust. In making his first documentary, Pinto draws closer to his mother, confronts his past as a molested boy at an Orthodox *yeshiva*, and faces his fractured relationship with his religious father.

In French, Hebrew with subtitles.



SCREENING TIME

Thurs., November 10,
7:00 pm, Fenway
Community Health Center
(screens with *Joan & Verne's Wedding*)

PAUL GOODMAN CHANGED MY LIFE

Massachusetts Premiere

Director Jonathan Lee

USA
2011
89 Minutes
Documentary
Video

In Person

Director Jonathan Lee and Paul Goodman's literary executor, Taylor Stoehr

Jonathan Lee's documentary reappraises Paul Goodman, the '60's least known famous man. A public intellectual, writer (*Growing Up Absurd*) and founder of Gestalt therapy, Goodman was an untraditional family man, and openly bisexual as early as 1947. Garrison Keillor and Edmund White pay homage by reading Goodman's poems, while William F. Buckley, Jr. grills him on TV's *Firing Line*. Susan Sontag, Grace Paley, Ned Rorem, and Judith Malina provide commentary; Goodman's widow and daughters offer personal perspectives on an influential, charismatic man.

In English.



SCREENING TIME

Thurs., November 3,
6:00 pm, Coolidge
Corner Theatre

THE PAWNBROKER

Director Sidney Lumet

USA
1964
116 Minutes
Fiction
35mm

Filming in stark black and white, the recently deceased Sidney Lumet brings us cinéma vérité, anticipating his masterpieces *Dog Day Afternoon* and *Serpico*. This 1964 classic features Oscar-nominated Rod Steiger, while Quincy Jones' score punctuates every movement. We feel the trauma in flashes and flashbacks experienced by Sol Nazerman, a pawnbroker on New York's East 116th Street with a number on his arm. Lumet, who will be remembered at our gala fundraiser on October 22, breaks ground in depicting the wrenching power of Holocaust survivor guilt. **In English, German, Spanish with subtitles.**



SCREENING TIME

Sun., November 6,
3:00 pm, Coolidge
Corner Theatre

POLANSKI AND MY FATHER

polanski et mon père

New England Premiere

Director Pauline Horovitz

France

2009

8 Minutes

Documentary

Video

Documentary filmmaker Pauline Horovitz's father believes the only two credible professions are medicine (his own) or law. When he agrees to let her film him, Horovitz's wry portrait – the dozens of eye shades hanging on the wall from plane flights, the two books he's been reading for 20 years – legitimizes the filmmaker's profession. So what if her dear dad remains convinced that Roman Polanski's praise of her work is due to his love of the name "Horovitz?"

In French with subtitles.



SCREENING TIME

Thurs., November 10,
6:00 pm, Remis
Auditorium, Museum of
Fine Arts
(screens with *Zubin and I*)

PRIMA PRIMAVERA

U.S. Premiere

Director Janos Edelenyi

Bulgaria, Hungary, Netherlands,

UK

2009

86 Minutes

Fiction

35mm

Sponsored by

DIFNS

A botched bank robbery pairs prostitute Jolie (Vesela Kazakov) with middle-aged, mentally challenged Gabor (Andor Lukas) in this offbeat movie. The unlikely pair travels and camps in idyllic countryside from Bulgaria to Serbia, carrying a chandelier and an evening bag. With the Interpol and one of the robbers hot on their trail, the duo forges a touching friendship and eventually finds shelter at Gabor's dead grandmother's house. Antoine Kamerling, a popular Dutch actor, plays the villain in this last performance before his tragic death. **In English, Hungarian with subtitles.**



SCREENING TIMES

Thurs., October 27, 7:30 pm,
Showcase Cinemas Randolph

Sun., November 6, 3:00 pm,
West Newton Cinema

Mon., November 7, 7:00 pm,
Hollywood Hits, Danvers

RESTORATION

boker tov adon fidelman

New England Premiere

Director Joseph Madmony

Israel

2011

105 Minutes

Fiction

Video (Oct 25)

35mm (Nov 6)

Sponsored by



MetroWest JCC

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Committee

This film is as carefully crafted as the antique furniture Yaakov Fidelman (Sasson Gabai, *The Band's Visit*) restores. We trace the shifting bonds between Yaakov; his son Noah; and Anton, the secretive new assistant. Yaakov and Anton restore a 100 year old Steinway, while creating a father-son dynamic that tests the relationship between Yaakov and Noah. Major awards from Sundance Film Festival, Karlovy Vary International Film Festival, and Jerusalem Film Festival. *Restoration* was recently nominated for 11 Ophir (Israeli Academy Award) nominations including Best Picture and Best Director. **In Hebrew with subtitles.**



SCREENING TIMES

Tues., October 25,
7:00 pm, AMC
Framingham

Sun., November 6,
7:30 pm, West
Newton Cinema

STANDING SILENT

Massachusetts Premiere

Director Scott M. Rosenfelt

USA

2011

84 Minutes

Documentary

Video

In Person

Director Scott Rosenfelt, film

subject Phil Jacobs and

New York Times reporter

Michael Paulson (invited)

Producer Scott Rosenfelt (*Home Alone*, *Mystic Pizza*) directs this film. He tracks *Baltimore Jewish Times* reporter Phil Jacobs' multi-year mission to uncover child sexual molestation by rabbis in a close-knit Orthodox community. Emotional and unrelenting, Jacobs encounters denial, ostracism, accusations of *lashon hara* (speaking evil), and demons from his own past as he pursues truth and justice. Recipient of a Sundance documentary film grant. **In English.**



SCREENING TIME

Tues., November 8,
7:00 pm, Coolidge
Corner Theatre

WRITING AS I SHOULD

lichtov k'mo she'tzarich

East Coast Premiere

Directors Pony Brzezinski,
Lina Chaplin
Israel
2010
48 Minutes
Documentary
Video

Batya Gur, Israel's beloved and first mystery writer, held up a mirror to Israeli society. In this compilation of previously unseen, unedited interviews filmed before her death in 2005, Gur is self-effacing, humorous and tough. She wrote mysteries not to be a pioneer, but because a detective novel is "less pretentious" than a literary work. She created detective Michael Ohayon as Sephardic not to make a political statement, but to balance his first suspect, an Ashkenazi Jew. **In Hebrew with subtitles.**



SCREENING TIME

Thurs., November 3,
2:00 pm, Coolidge
Corner Theatre
(screens with *Yolande: An
Unsung Heroine*)

YELLOW PEPPERS

pilpelim tz'hovim

U.S. Theatrical Premiere

Directors Keren Margalit,
Amnon Kotler
Israel
2010
105 Minutes
TV Series
Video

Keren Margalit (*All I've Got*, 2002 Festival; *In Treatment*) crafts the debut episodes of a groundbreaking Israeli television drama, in which she sensitively captures a family's struggle to accept their five year old son's autism diagnosis. The series takes its title from the yellow peppers the family grows on a *moshav* in the south of Israel; Thai workers act as a Greek chorus. **In Hebrew, Thai with subtitles.**

Sponsored by

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SCREENING TIME

Wed., November 9, 4:00 pm,
Coolidge Corner Theatre

YOLANDE: AN UNSUNG HEROINE

New England Premiere

Director Dan Wolman

Israel

2010

60 Minutes

Documentary

Video

Sponsored by



This documentary tells the story of Yolande Gabai (de Botton), dubbed the Jewish “Mata Hari.” She provided intelligence in 1940s Alexandria that was instrumental in establishing the State of Israel. Born to a Turkish-Jewish mother and raised in Egypt, she circulated in Egyptian high society and was a favorite in King Farouk’s court. Yolande’s son, the prominent pioneer financier Gilbert de Botton, describes growing up with a secret agent mother. **In English, Hebrew with subtitles.**



SCREENING TIME

Thurs., November 3,
2:00 pm, Coolidge
Corner Theatre
(screens with *Writing as
I Should*)

ZUBIN AND I

New England Premiere

Director Ori Sivan

Israel

2010

67 Minutes

Documentary

Video

Filmmaker Ori Sivan prefers rock to classical music. But his great hero is Zubin Mehta, the artistic director and conductor-for-life of the Israeli Philharmonic Orchestra. In this unconventional and delightful documentary, Sivan trains his wry lens on Mehta’s passionate conducting and complex relationship with his musicians. Sivan’s grandmother is the earliest harpist of the Israeli Philharmonic; she shares her life as a musician, contrasting with Mehta’s career. **In English, Hebrew with subtitles.**



SCREENING TIME

Thurs., November 10,
6:00 pm, Remis
Auditorium, Museum of
Fine Arts
(screens with *Polanski and
My Father*)

SPECIAL PROGRAMS

What's a film festival without the buzz of visiting producers, directors, actors and documentary film subjects? The Festival continues its long tradition of bringing together film artists and their audience for questions and conversation. Join us for a caffeinated chance to talk in-depth with visiting filmmakers.

CAFFEINE AND CONVERSATION

Friday, November 4, 10:30AM

Coolidge Corner Theatre

Sponsored by Peet's Coffee



Short films, long known as the "calling cards" of young filmmakers, are an increasingly popular, unique art form. This year, the Festival selected 15 short films from the myriad submitted to us. We invited six judges to choose their favorites. At this year's Short Film Competition, you'll screen the winning films, and learn the criteria the judges used to make their selections. Then you'll have your own chance to vote for a winner!

Post-Film Reception for young adults at Finale Desserterie and Bakery, 1306 Beacon Street, Brookline. Sponsored by JetBlue. Your Short Films Competition ticket serves as your admission.

SHORT FILMS COMPETITION

Monday, November 7, 7PM

Coolidge Corner Theatre

Supported in part by a Young Adult Community Grant from CJP



We decided to keep one special screening time “reserved” for a last-minute new film — or a repeat screening of a smash hit in our Festival. Visit our website, subscribe to our e-letter, or follow us on Facebook or Twitter to find out what special treat we’ve selected.

SURPRISE SCREENING

Saturday November 12, 8:30PM
Museum of Fine Arts, Boston
Remis Auditorium



The Boston Jewish Film Festival, in partnership with The Ruderman Family Foundation, is pleased to present the REELAbilities film festival, screening in February 2012 at various locations around Boston. This groundbreaking event, which will feature Jewish and non-Jewish films, is an effort to promote awareness of lives, stories, and artistic expressions of people with different abilities, all through the art form of film.

Visit
www.bjff.org
for more information!

COMING ATTRACTIONS REELAbilities



Audience Awards

Don't forget to vote! We'll hand out ballots before each screening. You watch the film, then express your opinion.

The winning films will be announced on our web site and email list by Tuesday, November 22.

The director of the Best Feature will win film editing software from Avid.



The winning directors for Best Documentary and Best Short Film will win film editing software from Sony.



Independent Film On



The Boston Jewish Film Festival once again partners with WGBH to showcase independent film on WGBH 44.

Tune in to the P.O.V. series on Sunday, October 22, for *Wo Ai Ni Mommy (I Love You Mommy)*, shown in the 2010 Boston Jewish Film Festival.

For additional details, visit www.wgbh.org

Can't See All Our Films In Two Weeks?

Don't worry: you don't have to. We screen the best contemporary Jewish-themed films from around the world ... all year long.

Stay in the loop by signing up for our weekly email list on our web site, www.bjff.org, or follow us on Facebook or Twitter.



Ticket Prices

Individual Tickets

\$12 General Admission

\$11 Discount

Discounted ticket prices are available for students, seniors (65+) and members of The Boston Jewish Film Festival, Coolidge Corner Theatre, Museum of Fine Arts, and WGBH.

Midweek matinees at Coolidge Corner Theatre (Nov 3, Nov 9 and Nov 10, at or before 2 pm):

\$6 General Admission/ \$4 Discount

Special Events

Opening Night (Nov 2), Centerpiece Film (Nov 9), and Closing Night (Nov 13):

\$25 General Admission / \$20 Discount

Nov 4: Caffeine & Conversation \$6, Box Office Babies \$6

Group Sales (10 ticket minimum)

\$9 per ticket, plus \$4 per order mailing fee. Excludes Opening Night, Centerpiece Film, or Closing Night. Group tickets can be ordered online at www.bjff.org, by email at info@bjff.org or by phone at 617-244-9899.

Purchasing Tickets

Tickets are not available at the Festival office. Please order tickets as follows:

Online with a credit card

www.bjff.org

\$1.50 processing fee per ticket

By phone with a credit card

Call 888-615-3332, daily from 7am to 10pm (until 8pm on Sunday). \$3.50 processing fee per ticket, plus optional mailing fee. Phone ticket purchases close at 3pm the day before a screening.

In person at cinema box offices

Advance tickets are available beginning October 3 at the following cinema box offices: Coolidge Corner Theatre, Museum of Fine Arts Boston, West Newton Cinema and Arlington Capitol Theatre. Each theatre sells tickets for its location only. Tickets for screenings at our other theatres are available one hour before screening time.

Rush Ticket Line

No tickets available to the film you want to see? Tickets are almost always available for sale in the Rush Ticket Line. This line forms one hour before show time, and tickets are released for sale 15 minutes before the film starts.

Passes

Advance tickets to some screenings sell out early — buy your pass by October 17 to be sure you don't miss a minute of the Festival! Order your pass online at www.bjff.org or call 617-244-9899.

Pass admission is guaranteed if holder arrives no later than 20 minutes prior to screening time. Please present pass at the Festival table, or for MFA screenings, at the MFA admissions desk.

Friends Pass

Our best value and most flexible pass! \$225 provides admission to every film, plus priority seating, with no advance reservations required.

REELPass

See any 3 regular screenings for \$30. Opening Night, Centerpiece Film, and Closing Night excluded.

Festival Membership

Annual membership to The Boston Jewish Film Festival is only \$50 and may be purchased online at www.bjff.org, by mail or by phone.

General Information

Accessibility

All programs are fully wheelchair accessible. The film *Deaf Jam* is captioned for the hearing impaired.

Refunds

Available only for cancelled or rescheduled programs. Due to circumstances beyond our control, certain films may be rescheduled or cancelled without prior notice.

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We would appreciate acknowledgment of The Boston Jewish Film Festival when quoting any original text from this brochure.

Volunteers

The Boston Jewish Film Festival welcomes energetic and dedicated volunteers to help in our office and at screenings. Contact info@bjff.org to volunteer.

Thank You to the Judges of the Short Film Competition

Cristina Caccioppo, Film Programmer,
92Y Tribeca

Molly Chadis, Film Major and
Festival Enthusiast

Luke Harris, Art Director, Pitch, LA

Kristen Lauerman, Manager and Assistant
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(August 1, 2010 – July 31, 2011)

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