

A woman with dark, curly hair is lying on her back on a cardboard floor. She is wearing a denim jacket over a black top. Her hands are clasped together near her chest. The floor is decorated with white chalk drawings, including a large circle and a red, abstract shape. In the background, there are some blue objects and a white container.

JACOB BURNS FILM CENTER

# JEWISH

## FILM FESTIVAL

**OCTOBER 6-20 • 2022**

JBFC member pre-sale opens Tues., Sept. 13, at noon!

Tickets go on sale to the general public on Tues.,  
Sept. 20, at noon.

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**MEMBERS: SAVE AN ADDITIONAL \$2 PER TICKET**

Buy tickets to at least six films (in one transaction)  
and save!

Cinema Sabaya

W

e are thrilled to present the Jacob Burns Film Center's 21st annual Jewish Film Festival, Oct. 6-20, 2022.



*For over 25 years, Bruni Burres has been a passionate leader with a proven track record of developing and executing innovative projects at the intersection of arts, culture, and human rights/social justice. She is a Senior Consultant for Sundance Institute's Documentary Film Program, strategizing and deepening its international work with individual artists and organizations. Bruni is also a mentor and partner with the Close Up Documentary Training program for emerging filmmakers from Southwest Asia and North Africa, and an advisor with Doc Society's Good Pitch, which develops strategic and effective distribution campaigns for extraordinary documentaries. From 1991 to 2008, Bruni was the director of the Human Rights Watch Film Festival, which she also cofounded. Bruni is the cowriter and associate producer of Beyond My Grandfather Allende, which won best documentary at the 2015 Cannes Film Festival, and co-writer and producer of Whose Country? by Mohamed Siam, which had its US premiere at the 2016 New York Film Festival.*

This year's selection includes more than two dozen entertaining, thought-provoking, mesmerizing, and often humorous films, including narratives and documentaries from Israel, the US, and around the world.

We'll kick things off with acclaimed Israeli director Moshe Rosenthal's *Karaoke*, a personal, beautiful, and humorous portrait of midlife self-discovery laced with poignant wisdom. We close this year's festival with the buzzed-about Israeli TV sensation *The Chef*, from the award-winning producers of *Fauda* (JFF 2016) and *Shtisel*.

In between, we'll highlight a great array of films by exceptionally talented women directors. Orit Fouks Rotem's groundbreaking debut, *Cinema Sabaya*, presents a deft and heartfelt portrait of art's capacity to unite a disparate group of Jewish and Arab women; Amanda Kinsey's vibrant and surprising tribute to Jews' decisive role in shaping the American West, *Jews of the Wild West*; and Pini Tavger's finely textured coming-of-age drama that shines a light on immigrant life in Israel, *More Than I Deserve*, which was nominated for seven Israeli Academy Awards.

Continuing to highlight extraordinary cinematic films from around the world, we are also showing *The Man in the Basement*, a tense French psychological thriller; *iMordecai*, a funny, heartwarming movie starring Judd Hirsch (TV series *Taxi*) and Academy Award-nominated actress Carol Kane (*Hester Street*); *Farewell, Mr. Haffmann*, a riveting guide through the world of Vichy France, where lives are irrevocably shaped by the twin scourges of war and the black market; *Schächten—A Retribution*, a stirring drama about a young Jewish businessman who carries a burning resentment for the crimes the Nazis perpetrated against his family decades earlier; and a beautiful, lyrical rhapsody to honest emotion and human connection, *Where Life Begins*.

An inspiring shorts program, *Exciting New Voices Close to Home*, highlights the work of Westchester born-and-raised creative artists Ethan Furst (*The Victorias*) and Sophie Parens (*Zaida*), who use insight, humor, and preternatural skill to shine new light on the Jewish experience.

In addition, we'll host two special screenings of the 4K restoration of Michael Roemer's 1969 deadpan, hilarious "Kosher Nostra" mobster masterpiece, *The Plot Against Harry*.

**I look forward to seeing you in person at the Theater!**

**Bruni Burres**, *festival curator*

**TICKETS: \$12 (members), \$17 (nonmembers) unless otherwise noted**

**MEMBERS: SAVE WHEN YOU BUY TICKETS TO AT LEAST SIX FILMS!**

Enjoy more of the festival at a discount; save an additional \$2 per ticket when you buy six-plus films in one transaction. Discount automatically applied at checkout. Free screenings not included in this offer.



## OPENING NIGHT

### Karaoke

OCT. 6, 7:00 WITH RECEPTION

An Israeli comedy about an upper-middle-class suburban Sephardic couple. Meir (Sasson Gabay, *The Band's Visit*) and Tova (Rita Shukrun, *Game Over*) are drawn to their new neighbor, a charismatic bachelor (Lior Ashkenazi, *Foxtrot*) who invites them to his unhinged karaoke nights. Energized by the newfound friendship, Meir and Tova undergo personal transformations in this entertaining exploration of masculinity, marriage, social status, narcissism, and conformity. Taking inspiration from his own parents' relationship, acclaimed Israeli director Moshe Rosenthal creates a humorous, empathetic portrait of midlife self-discovery, laced with poignant wisdom.

2022. 103 m. Moshe Rosenthal. Greenwich Entertainment. Israel. Hebrew with subtitles. NR.

**Opening Night:** Join us for a reception upstairs in the Jane Peck Gallery after the film.

**Tickets:** \$20 (members), \$25 (nonmembers)

**ALSO SHOWING:** OCT. 10, 8:25 • OCT. 18, 7:30

### The Forger

OCT. 7, 1:00 • OCT. 9, 2:10

A remarkable tale based on true events, *The Forger* tells the story of a charming young Jewish man, Cioma (Louis Hofmann, Netflix series *Dark*), living in 1942 Berlin. Cioma has a passion for life and doesn't intend to let anyone take it away—especially not the Nazis. Believing that the best hiding place is in plain sight, he creates a false identity to allow him to stay at his job, enjoy the city's nightlife, and even search for love. All the while, he uses his talent for forging documents to save many lives. But his luck eventually runs out, and his only hope is one final forged ID: his own.

2022. 116 m. Maggie Peren. Kino Lorber. Germany. German with subtitles. NR.

**“Most extraordinary is the human spirit andchutzpah of the protagonist, someone able to choose his attitude, live openly and not be cowed by threatening circumstances. A tiny work of art.”** —FilmDude



Karaoke

**“Karaoke is an offbeat, comedic journey that delights and surprises.... a wickedly fun journey.”** —Ashley Lara, *The Spool*



The Forger



**Tiger Within**



**The Plot Against Harry**

## Tiger Within

OCT. 7, 3:30 • OCT. 11, 8:35 • OCT. 19, 1:00

In one of his last performances, multiple Emmy Award-winner Ed Asner plays lonely Holocaust survivor Samuel, who forges an unlikely friendship with Casey, an unloved skinhead teenage runaway who finds herself destitute in New York City. Despite their respective traumas and initial mutual mistrust, Samuel and Casey build a powerful bond that provides a sense of connection and support for them both. This absorbing drama sparks larger questions about family, love, and our divided world.

2020. 98 m. Rafal Zielinski. Menemsha Films. US. English. NR.

**“A well-intentioned drama that promotes healing and redemption in the face of prejudice and fear.”**

—Andrew Stover, *Film Threat*

## Cinema Sabaya

OCT. 7, 5:50 • OCT. 9, 12:00 • OCT. 10, 3:00

Best Israeli First Feature, Jerusalem Film Festival 2021. Orit Fouks Rotem's groundbreaking debut has attracted much deserved critical acclaim and multiple awards. A group of Arab and Jewish women attend a workshop run by Rona, a young filmmaker from Tel Aviv, to learn to document their lives on video. As each woman shares her raw footage with the others, they are all forced to challenge their preconceived views and beliefs, coming together as mothers, wives, and women, and forming an empowering and lasting bond. *Cinema Sabaya* presents a deft and heartfelt portrait of art's capacity to unite disparate communities.

2021. 91 m. Orit Fouks Rotem. Memento International. Israel/Belgium. Arabic/Hebrew with subtitles. NR.

## The Plot Against Harry

OCT. 7, 8:00 • OCT. 16, 7:50

New 4K restoration! Michael Roemer is renowned for his classic civil rights drama *Nothing But a Man* (1964), but the deadpan, hilarious *The Plot Against Harry*, filmed in 1969, is a Jewish “Kosher Nostra” mobster masterpiece. Harry Plotnick (Martin Priest), a smalltime New York racketeer just released from prison, gets into the catering biz—a world of call girls, bar mitzvahs, lingerie fashion shows, Mafia barbecues, and hotel pajama parties. Then, a surreal fairy-tale coincidence reunites him with his ex-wife (Maxine Woods), his grown daughter, and a widening web of family and friends who welcome him into their sordid suburban traditions.

1989. 81 m. Michael Roemer. Film Desk. US. English. NR.

**“A sparkling, Fellini-esque gangster comedy of Jewish despair...a high-water mark of American cinema, a jewel found in the grime of New York City as it entered its worst decade before this one.”**

—A.S. Hamrah, *Screen Slate*

**The Plot Against Harry**



**“*Jews of the Wild West* shines a bright light on a critical chapter of the American Jewish story that deserves to be told.”** —Bob Bahr, *Atlanta Jewish Times*



Jews of the Wild West

**“*The Chef* is buoyantly entertaining, even when it descends into dark places, and the cast is excellent. It’s a series that transcends international borders.”** — Sheldon Kirshner, *The Times of Israel*



The Chef

## Jews of the Wild West

OCT. 8, 11:00 • OCT. 19, 3:15

The first American Western, *The Great Train Robbery* (1903), was one of the most influential films in cinema history, and its star was recognized as the first film celebrity cowboy. While he went by Broncho Billy Anderson, his real name was Max Aronson. The son of Jewish immigrants, he was among the estimated 100,000 Jews who migrated west by 1912. Many found the opportunities they were seeking, and some—including Levi Strauss, Samsonite founder Jesse Shwayder, and the Guggenheim family—played decisive roles in the shaping and the expansion of the United States. Don't miss this vibrant, inspiring tribute, which reveals plenty of other surprises, including this one: By the end of the 19th century, many of the mayors of notorious Wild West towns were Jewish.

2022. 80 m. Amanda Kinsey. Electric Yolk Media. US. English. NR.

## The Chef

**PROGRAM 1: OCT. 8, 12:30 • OCT. 16, 12:30**  
(EPISODES 1-5, 205 m. with intermission)

**PROGRAM 2: OCT. 9, 12:30 • OCT. 20, 5:00\***  
(EPISODES 6-9, 167 m. with intermission)

New York premiere! We're proud to present the first season of the buzzed-about Israeli TV sensation *The Chef*, from the award-winning producers of *Fauda* (JFF 2016) and *Shtisel*.

When 44-year-old former IT worker Nimrod needs a new job, he starts as a lowly prep cook at a trendy Tel Aviv restaurant where the brilliant, driven chef is struggling to keep his place atop the gastronomic world. For Nimrod, cooking professionally is much harder than he expected—but dealing with his new boss is a whole other challenge. With gorgeous photography, deft writing, and excellent performances, this multi-award-winning exploration of toxic masculinity and the fragility of the male ego is not to be missed.

2020. 9 episodes (38 m. each). Erez Kavel/Orit Dabush. Yes Studios. Israel. Hebrew with subtitles. NR. Created by Erez Kavel and Orit Dabush.

**\*CLOSING NIGHT: OCT. 20, 5:00**

For the last evening of the Jewish Film Festival, we present *The Chef* Program 2 (episodes 6-9) followed by a very special Film to Table reception. **Limited tickets available!**

Featuring a delicious menu crafted by JBFC Community Partner Pubstreet.

**Tickets: \$20** (members),  
**\$25** (nonmembers)

**Sponsored by Elisabeth and Gary Schonfeld**





**Farewell, Mr. Haffmann**



**The Man in the Basement**

## Farewell, Mr. Haffmann

OCT. 8, 1:45 • OCT. 13, 5:15 • OCT. 18, 12:30

Occupied Paris, 1941: Jeweler Joseph Haffmann (Daniel Auteuil, *A French Woman*, *Jean de Florette*), fearing the worst, arranges for his family to flee the city and offers his employee François Mercier (Gilles Lellouche, *Sink or Swim*, *Love Me if You Dare*) the chance to take over his store until the conflict subsides. When Haffmann's attempts to leave France fail, he returns home, and his risky agreement with Mercier becomes a Faustian bargain, one that will change the fate of all involved. A riveting guide through the world of Vichy France, where lives are irrevocably shaped by the twin scourges of war and the black market.

2022. 115 m. Fred Cavayé. Menemsha Films. France/Belgium. French with subtitles. NR.

## Three Minutes: A Lengthening

OCT. 8, 4:15 • OCT. 11, 4:35

In 2009, Glenn Kurtz discovered a crumbling 16mm color home movie in his parents' closet, which his grandfather David had shot on a 1938 European vacation. It included three minutes of what would turn out to be the only known footage of the predominantly Jewish town of Nasielsk, Poland—David Kurtz's birthplace—just one year before the Nazis would destroy it. Director Bianca Stigter constructs her entire film from these moments of footage, creating a cinematic meditation on memory and loss, as offscreen interviewees provide context. Examining each haunting frame for clues and interrogating every detail, *Three Minutes: A Lengthening* eloquently demonstrates the power of cinema to reclaim history.

2021. 69 m. Bianca Stigter. Super LTD. Netherlands. English. NR.

**“A remarkable glimpse of Jewish life before the Holocaust.”**

—Nicholas Barber, *IndieWire*

## The Man in the Basement

OCT. 8, 6:00 • OCT. 12, 3:00 • OCT. 14, 3:00

From the prominent French director of *Bicycling with Molière*, Philippe Le Guay's newest is a tense psychological thriller. A young Jewish Parisian couple, played by Jérémie Renier (*Saint Laurent*) and Bérénice Bejo (*The Artist*, *A Knight's Tale*), sell the basement of their apartment to an older, needy, but seemingly well-mannered teacher, Jacques Fonzie (François Cluzet, *The Intouchables*). When it turns out that Fonzie is an anti-Semitic conspiracy theorist, they attempt to cancel the sale—as Fonzie befriends their naive teenage daughter and turns the family's world upside down. Provocative and superbly acted, the film—based on a true story—will keep you on the edge of your seat.

2021. 114 m. Philippe Le Guay. Greenwich Entertainment. France. French with subtitles. NR.



**Three Minutes: A Lengthening**

**“Despite the erasure of entire communities during the Holocaust, Kurtz's footage offers a record that these people existed and that they had lives and stories.”**

—Pat Mullen, *Point of View Magazine*



## iMordecai

OCT. 8, 8:30 • OCT. 9, 4:40

A heartwarming movie based on the director's own life. *iMordecai* features terrific performances from Emmy-winning actor Judd Hirsch (TV series *Taxi*) as Mordecai Samels and Academy Award-nominated actress Carol Kane (*Hester Street*) as his wife. The two are Holocaust survivors living in Miami. When Mordecai takes the big step of getting an iPhone, the device opens him up to novel experiences and adventures, making him feel like a kid again. An uplifting comedy and a love letter to the city of Miami, *iMordecai* urges us all to live life to the fullest.

2022. 102 m. Marvin Samel. Greenwich Entertainment. US. English. NR.



iMordecai

## Valiant Hearts

OCT. 9, 7:00 • OCT. 10, 1:00 • OCT. 13, 1:00

Bristling with suspense and deeply moving, *Valiant Hearts* tells a true story of exceptional bravery and survival. Starring acclaimed French actress Camille Cottin (*House of Gucci*, *Stillwater*), the film recounts the odyssey of six Jewish children, who in August 1942, take refuge where no one will think to look for them: in the magnificent Loire Valley Château de Chambord, where hundreds of treasures from the Louvre Museum had also been stashed away. Between bouts of terror, outbursts of laughter, and unexpected encounters, the children learn about independence, and discover solidarity and friendship in the midst of profound tumult.

2021. 87 m. Mona Achache. Menemsha Films. France. French with subtitles. NR.



Valiant Hearts

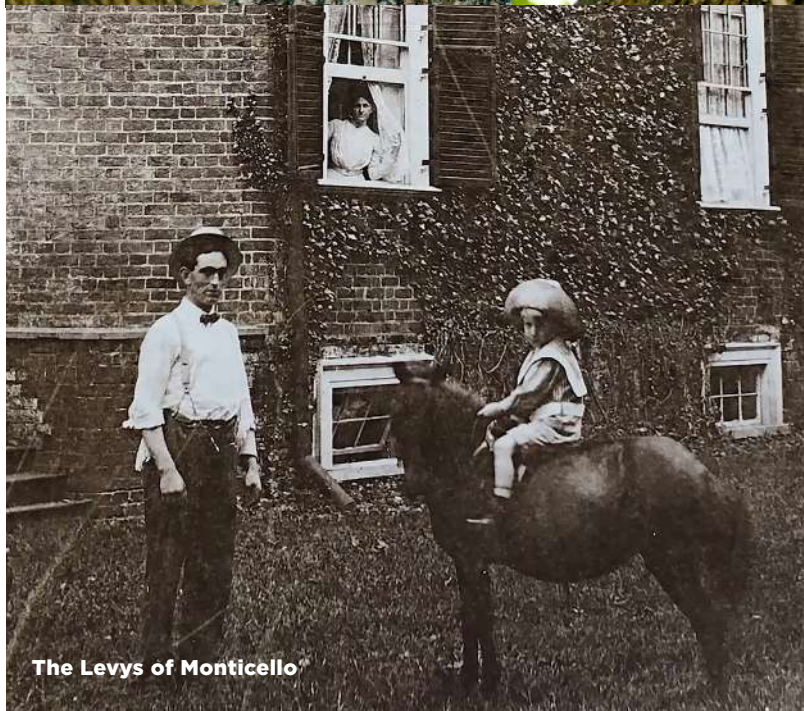
## The Levys of Monticello

OCT. 10, 6:00: Q&A filmmaker Steven Pressman  
Tickets: \$15 (members), \$20 (nonmembers)

OCT. 17, 6:00 FREE SCREENING for JBFC members.  
Members may reserve free tickets online or visit the box office. Individual/dual ticket limits apply.

"When I tell people that a Jewish family once owned Thomas Jefferson's home at Monticello, their jaws drop," says director Steven Pressman (*50 Children: The Rescue Mission of Mr. and Mrs. Kraus*, JFF 2014). But the fact is that when Thomas Jefferson died, he left behind a mountain of personal debt, which forced his heirs to sell his beloved Monticello home and everything in it. Uriah Levy paid \$2,700 to become its owner. *The Levys of Monticello* tells the little-known story of the Levy family, which owned and carefully preserved Monticello for 89 years, far longer than Jefferson or his descendants. This remarkable slice of American history intersects with the rise of anti-Semitism in the country.

2021. 70 m. Steven Pressman. Menemsha Films. US. English. NR.



The Levys of Monticello



## Fiddler's Journey to the Big Screen

OCT. 11, 12:00 • OCT. 15, 8:00

Winner, Audience Award at the Atlanta Jewish Film Festival. Celebrating "the most powerful movie musical ever made" (Pauline Kael), Academy Award-nominated filmmaker Daniel Raim captures the humor and drama of the iconic musical *Fiddler on the Roof*; director Norman Jewison's brilliant recreation of the lost world of Jewish life in Eastern Europe. Narrated by Jeff Goldblum and drawing on behind-the-scenes footage and never-before-seen stills, along with original interviews with Jewison and his key collaborators, *Fiddler's Journey to the Big Screen* illuminates the story behind the making of *Fiddler*, as well as its impact on both the filmmaker and audiences around the world.

2022. 88 m. Daniel Raim. Zeitgeist Films. US. English. NR.



Fiddler's Journey to the Big Screen

## Neighbours

OCT. 11, 2:00 • OCT. 15, 5:20 • OCT. 17, 1:00

Winner, San Francisco Film Critics Jury Prize and Audience Award at Toronto Jewish Film Festival. Set in a small Kurdish village in northeastern Syria in the 1980s, and inspired by his personal story, director Mano Khalil's stunning film focuses on six-year-old Sero, whose vivid recollections transport us to a beautiful world full of pain. Sero's carefree childhood ends on the first day of school, when the dogmatic teacher forbids students from speaking Kurdish and teaches that Jews are the enemy, a concept at odds with the boy's warm relationship with his neighbors. As the story is told through Sero's eyes, the teacher's attempts at indoctrination often seem more absurd than dangerous and give the film a gentle, satiric edge.

2021. 124 m. Mano Khalil. Menemsha Films. Switzerland/France. Kurdish with subtitles. NR.

**"A cinematically stunning, deeply unsettling film that is at once brutal and satiric, and at moments even magical."** – *Forward*



Neighbours

## Exciting New Voices Close to Home: Shorts Program

OCT. 11, 6:30: Q&A filmmakers Ethan Furst and Sophie Parens with Festival Curator Bruni Burres, with RECEPTION Tickets: \$15 (members), \$20 (nonmembers)

We are inspired to introduce you to two award-winning young filmmakers and their remarkably sophisticated, appealing work. With insight, humor, and preternatural skill, Sophie Parens and Ethan Furst shine new light on the Jewish experience. Both grew up in Westchester—and both are already going places. Come to this exciting program, and you'll get to brag that you knew them way back when! *Program length: approx. 90 m.*

### The Victorias

At NYC's Tenement Museum, a diverse group of costumed interpreters took turns performing as 14-year-old Sephardic immigrant Victoria Confino in 1916. After being laid off during the pandemic, the "Vickies" reflect on the experience of telling another's story. Filmmaker Ethan Furst's quirky short packs a surprising emotional punch. 2022. 15 m. Ethan Furst. US. English. NR.

### Zaida

Sophie Parens tells the story of her grandfather Henri Parens, who escaped the Holocaust at the age of 12 and went on to become a globally recognized psychoanalyst dedicated to the prevention of prejudice. Sophie was moved to make this film in the wake of the 2017 Charlottesville riot. 2020. 32 m. Sophie Parens. US. English. NR.





Schächten—A Retribution

## Schächten—A Retribution

OCT. 12, 12:00 • OCT. 13, 7:45

Late 1960s, Vienna: Young Jewish businessman Victor carries a burning resentment and desire for justice after the crimes the Nazis perpetrated against his family decades earlier. With the Austrian political and legal system stacked against him—it's virtually run by former Nazis—he is denied the solution he seeks and decides to take matters into his own hands, leading to an arresting conclusion. This stirring drama reminds us, says filmmaker Thomas Roth, of "how quickly the cycle of hatred can re-emerge in all of us."

2021. 110 m. Thomas Roth. Menemsha Films. Austria. German with subtitles. NR.



Reckonings

## Reckonings

OCT. 12, 6:30: AJC Westchester/Fairfield moderated discussion. Check website for details.

Tickets: \$15 (members), \$20 (nonmembers)

OCT. 16, 6:00

A special sneak preview! From award-winning filmmaker Roberta Grossman (*Who Will Write Our History*, JFF 2019), *Reckonings* explores the untold true story of the Luxembourg Agreements of 1952. This revelatory film recounts the tense months of back-and-forth between Jewish and German leaders in the aftermath of the Holocaust. Gathered at a hidden castle near the Hague, under constant threat of violence and with talks breaking down at every turn, they pushed to arrange compensation and reparations for the Jewish people, knowing it would never be enough but hoping for an acknowledgment, a recognition, and a step towards healing.

2022. 76 m. Roberta Grossman. US. English. NR.

Sponsored by AJC



Wet Dog

## Wet Dog

OCT. 13, 3:00 • OCT. 15, 3:00 • OCT. 16, 1:00

Based on a true story, this taut, edgy film delivers a thrilling coming-of-age tale. It follows Solheil, a 15-year-old Iranian Jewish teenager, the new kid in a predominantly Muslim Berlin neighborhood, who joins a street gang that turns out to harbor anti-Semitic beliefs. Caught between hiding his identity to fit in or losing it all to live openly as a Jew, there is one thing he knows for sure: His next move will change his life forever. *Wet Dog* raises questions of cultural diversity and religious identity, and examines how they intersect with friendship, especially during the raw teenage years.

2021. 103 m. Damir Lukacevic. Menemsha Films. Germany. German with subtitles. NR.



More Than I Deserve

## More Than I Deserve

OCT. 14, 1:00 • OCT. 17, 4:00

Nominated for seven Israeli Academy Awards. As new immigrants from Ukraine, frazzled single mother Tamara works nights and sleeps during the day while her 12-year-old, Pinchas, is mostly alone and does all the shopping and cooking. When Pinchas decides he wants a bar mitzvah, he defies his mother and turns to his religious neighbor for help. The two form a strong father-son bond and before long, Tamara, too, finds that the unmarried Orthodox man is affecting her life in unexpected ways—but things get complicated when his rabbi pressures him to marry a woman from their own community. A finely textured coming-of-age drama that shines a light on immigrant life in Israel.

2021. 87 m. Pini Tavger. Go2Films. Israel/Germany. Hebrew/Russian with subtitles. NR.



Where Life Begins

## Where Life Begins

OCT. 14, 5:30 • OCT. 17, 7:45

Every summer an ultra-Orthodox French family pays a brief visit to a farm in Calabria to carry out a sacred mission: harvesting citrons. They stay on the estate of a kind Catholic man named Elio, whose wife left him some years back. He and Esther, the Jewish family's 26-year-old daughter, both feeling lost in their lives, form a profound bond and come away with new direction. A beautiful, lyrical rhapsody to honest emotion and human connection.

2022. 100 m. Stéphane Freiss. Menemsha Films. Italy. Italian/French with subtitles. NR.

## Concerned Citizen

OCT. 14, 7:45 • OCT. 18, 5:30

Idan Haguel's smart satire illuminates the insidious ways privilege can unleash the prejudice within. The story focuses on Ben, who thinks of himself as an enlightened liberal and lives with his perfect boyfriend in a newly renovated apartment in a gritty, "up-and-coming" neighborhood in South Tel Aviv. This skillfully told parable about the mechanisms of gentrification raises an uncomfortable question: Are we as tolerant as we think we are?

2022. 82 m. Idan Haguel. Greenwich Entertainment. Israel. Hebrew with subtitles. NR.

**"It is not necessarily about love or coming out, but about a world where gay characters—who are normally depicted as victims—become the victimizers."**

—Filmmaker Idan Haguel

Concerned Citizen

## The Conductor

OCT. 15, 1:00 • OCT. 20, 8:20

When she was nine, Marin Alsop attended one of Leonard Bernstein's Young People's Concerts and announced she was going to be a conductor. Four decades later—after facing endless obstacles—Alsop was named the Baltimore Symphony Orchestra's music director, becoming the first woman ever to head a major American symphony, and she went on to enjoy international renown. With unprecedented access, director Bernadette Wegenstein takes us around the world and behind the scenes, illuminating both Alsop's extraordinary performances and her inspiring work with students, particularly aspiring female conductors. *The Conductor* is a joyful profile of a groundbreaking woman who believes in the transformative power of art.

2021. 90 m. Bernadette Wegenstein. Cargo Film & Releasing. US. English. NR.

**"The movie's surest asset as a feminist narrative is how Alsop's example demystifies conducting while still retaining its power to enchant us."**

—Robert Abele, *Los Angeles Times*



# The Wedding Day

OCT. 16, 3:15 • OCT. 18, 3:00

A few days before his daughter's lavish wedding, Polish businessman Rysiek finds two Israeli men delivering a Righteous Among the Nations medal to his elderly father. Unnerved by what that reveals about his family's hidden past, Rysiek tries to keep it quiet—but the medal awakens memories for his father, who confuses his granddaughter's big day with a very different wedding that occurred in the same place back in 1941. At a time when the Polish government continues to suppress public discussion of Polish crimes against Jews during the Nazi occupation, *The Wedding Day* is especially provocative and brave.

2021. 119 m. Wojciech Smarzowski. Menemsha Films. Poland. Polish with subtitles. NR.



The Wedding Day

**“Filmmaker Wojciech Smarzowski makes a spectacle out of a confrontational revisiting of the national collective memory in an unorthodox approach to a Holocaust movie.”** —Martin Kudlac, *Screen Anarchy*

## Promised Lands

OCT. 19, 6:30: Discussion with Dr. Laura Shaw Frank, AJC's Director of William Petschek Contemporary Jewish Life. Check website for additional participants.

**Tickets: \$15** (members), **\$20** (nonmembers)

OCT. 20, 2:00

Growing up in Israel, filmmaker Yael Reuveny (*Farewell Herr Schwarz*) came of age in the 1990s—a tumultuous decade that started with optimistic peace talks and ended with the Second Intifada, leading Reuveny to remark that her generation was the first in Israel to know hope and then to lose it. Reuveny, who lives in Berlin, returns to Israel to catch up with her childhood friends. Intercutting Super 8 footage of her peaceful childhood with candid interviews and her own thoughts, she presents a sensitive exploration of her relationship with her homeland and ultimately, her own identity.

2021. 84 m. Yael Reuveny. Black Sheep Film Productions. Germany/Israel. Hebrew/German with subtitles. NR.

Sponsored by AJC

**“A stunning new film, a portrait of what it means to be Israeli today... filled with memorable images and vexing contradictions.”**

—Simi Horwitz, *Forward*



Promised Lands

**“Unusually strong and emotive... *The Wedding Day* exposes unpalatable events and themes in Poland's history that some Poles would rather bury and forget.”** —*The Times of Israel*

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## JEWISH FILM FESTIVAL

## t a Glance

**Thursday, Oct. 6**

Karaoke: 7:00 RECEPTION

**Friday, Oct. 7**

The Forger: 1:00

Tiger Within: 3:30

Cinema Sabaya: 5:50

The Plot Against Harry: 8:00

**Saturday, Oct. 8**

Jews of the Wild West: 11:00

The Chef, Program 1: 12:30

Farewell, Mr. Haffmann: 1:45

Three Minutes: A Lengthening:  
4:15

The Man in the Basement: 6:00

iMordecai: 8:30

**Sunday, Oct. 9**

Cinema Sabaya: 12:00\*

The Chef, Program 2: 12:30\*

The Forger: 2:10

iMordecai: 4:40

Valiant Hearts: 7:00

**Monday, Oct. 10**

Valiant Hearts: 1:00\*

Cinema Sabaya: 3:00

The Levys of Monticello: 6:00

(Steven Pressman)

Karaoke: 8:25

**Tuesday, Oct. 11**

Fiddler's Journey to the Big

Screen: 12:00

Neighbours: 2:00

Three Minutes: A Lengthening:  
4:35

Exciting New Voices Close to

Home: Shorts Program: 6:30

(Ethan Furst, Sophie Parens)

RECEPTION

Tiger Within: 8:35

**Wednesday, Oct. 12**

Schächten—A Retribution: 12:00

The Man in the Basement: 3:00

Reckonings: 6:30

(AJC Westchester/Fairfield

moderated discussion)

**Thursday, Oct. 13**

Valiant Hearts: 1:00

Wet Dog: 3:00

Farewell, Mr. Haffmann: 5:15

Schächten—A Retribution: 7:45

**Friday, Oct. 14**

More Than I Deserve: 1:00

The Man in the Basement: 3:00

Where Life Begins: 5:30

Concerned Citizen: 7:45

**Saturday, Oct. 15**

The Conductor: 1:00

Wet Dog: 3:00

Neighbours: 5:20

Fiddler's Journey to the Big

Screen: 8:00

**Sunday, Oct. 16**

The Chef, Program 1: 12:30\*

Wet Dog: 1:00\*

The Wedding Day: 3:15

Reckonings: 6:00

The Plot Against Harry: 7:50

**Monday, Oct. 17**

Neighbours: 1:00\*

More Than I Deserve: 4:00

The Levys of Monticello: 6:00

FREE SCREENING for JBFC members.

Where Life Begins: 7:45

**Tuesday, Oct. 18**

Farewell, Mr. Haffmann: 12:30

The Wedding Day: 3:00

Concerned Citizen: 5:30

Karaoke: 7:30

**Wednesday, Oct. 19**

Tiger Within: 1:00

Jews of the Wild West: 3:15

Promised Lands: 6:30

(Dr. Laura Shaw Frank)

**Thursday, Oct. 20**

Promised Lands: 2:00

The Chef, Program 2: 5:00

Film to Table RECEPTION

The Conductor: 8:20

\*Masked Matinee

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