# JCC AMES AMZALAK ROCHESTER JEWISH july 13-PILM july 21 0 FILM 2014 ESTIVAL

Underwritten by the William and Sheila Konar Foundation and Rubens Family Foundation



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It's Festival time! Our lineup this summer is bursting with 27 films from around the globe, featuring visiting filmmakers, post film discussions, a bagel and a shmeer – and, of course, you won't want to miss our traditional Opening and Closing Night parties with live music!

This is our 3rd year of bringing the Festival to **Jewish Senior Life** for the residents to enjoy the experience of Jewish cinema right on their campus. We thank the Jewish Home Foundation for sponsoring this important effort to bring Jewish culture to our senior community.

We are pleased to welcome *First Niagara* as this year's *JCC Matinee Pass* sponsor. This pass allows patrons to see a record number of 7 matinees at the JCC at a discounted price.

This year, we are humbled and honored to thank the **Rubens Family Foundation** for increasing their support and becoming a Visionary Sponsor and Festival Underwriter along with the **William and Sheila Konar Foundation**, who raised the bar again and increased the Visionary level this year.

Many thanks again to all of our patrons, supporters, and sponsors. We are thrilled to bring you our 14th Festival. We are grateful to you, our community, and can't wait to see you at the movies!



## rjff mission statement

The Jewish Community Center of Greater Rochester established the Rochester Jewish Film Festival in 2001 to present the best contemporary Jewish-themed films from around the world to the Rochester community. RJFF exists to promote awareness and pride in the diversity of the Jewish people; to strengthen community consciousness of Jewish identity, history, and culture; to provide a forum for community gatherings that allow valuable dialogue; and to create an international showcase for filmmakers who are Jewish and whose work explores Jewish themes.

## 2014 festival venues:







Alfred and Ida Hart Theatre 1200 Edgewood Avenue

JCC Ames Amzalak Rochester Jewish Film Festival · 585.461.2000 · rjff.org



## JULY 2014 FILM CALENDER

13       14       15       16       17       18         DRYDEN L:00pm ZIG ZAG KID       JCC 11:00am SHARON       JCC 11:00am STURGEON SHARON       JCC 11:00am AMERICAN QUEENS       JCC 11:00am AMERICAN JERUSALEM       JCC 11:00am AMERICAN JERUSALEM       JCC 11:00am QUALITY BALLS       good shabbos!         3:30pm RUN BOY RUN*       1:30pm UNDER THE SAME SUN       LITTLE 6:00pm Duble Feature: LAPYIN NUMBER 6       LITTLE 6:00pm THE PRIME SO CHILDREN*       LITTLE 6:00pm THE PRIME SOOpm THE JEWISH CARDINAL       LITTLE 6:00pm THE JEWISH CARDINAL       LITTLE 6:00pm THE SHADOW OUT IN THE DARK       LITTLE (1) 6:00pm SPECIAL INTERVIEW*       LITTLE (5) 9:00pm SOOpm OUT IN THE DARK       LITTLE (5) 9:00pm CUPCAKES       SOOpm SOOpm SOOpm SOOpm THE SHADOW       SOOpm SOOpm SOOpm SOOpm THE JEWISH CARDINAL       LITTLE 6:00pm SOOpm THE JEWISH CARDINAL       LITTLE 6:00pm SOOP SOOP SOOP SOOP SOOP SOOP SOOP SOO	SATURDAY	
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THE ATTACK Night Party! Hunting Elephants		
It Happened In St. Tropez Jewish Cardinal, The	pg. 15 pg. 13 pg. 12 pg. 13	

\* Post-film discussion



Attack, The	. pg. 15
Bethlehem	. pg. 4
Cupcakes	. pg. 12
Every Tuesday	. pg. 10
For A Woman	. pg. 7
Hunting Elephants	. pg. 15
Ida	. pg. 13
In The Shadow	. pg. 12
It Happened In St. Tropez	. pg. 13
Jewish Cardinal, The	. pg. 6
Lady In Number 6, The	. pg. 6
Magic Men	. pg. 14
My German Friend	. pg. 8
Operation Sunflower	.pg. 10
Out In The Dark	. pg. 9
Prime Ministers, The	. pg. 7
Quality Balls	.pg. 10
Run Boy Run	.pg. 4
Sharon	.pg. 5
Special Interview	. pg. 9
Sturgeon Queens, The	. pg. 7
Under The Same Sun	.pg. 5
Zigzag Kid, The	.pg. 3

visionary \$20,000

# Thank you!

William and Sheila Konar Foundation Rubens Family Foundation

director \$5,000





editor \$2,500

## Futerman Supporting Foundation: Sara Futerman, Rina and Danny Chessin,

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Jewish Senior Life

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### agent \$500

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#### special thanks to:

The Konar Family The Rubens Family Bri Merkel Ruth Cowing Marc Cataldi **Bill Donahue** Tom Habecker JCC Staff Dryden Theatre Staff Little Theatre Staff Table Toppers: Chantiza Stern Geulah von Perlstein ImageOut Film Festival New York Jewish Film Festival San Francisco Jewish Film Festival



PHOTOGRAP

To the film introducers and all of the volunteers who donate their time - Thank you!

# **OPENING DAY**

Sunday, July 13, 1:00pm, Dryden Theatre THE ZIGZAG KID

Director: Vincent Bal, Netherlands/Belgium, 2012, 95 min, English/Dutch/French w/subtitles, narrative

The son of the world's greatest detective embarks on a rollicking adventure to solve the mystery of his true identity in this wonderful, family-friendly, action-packed adaptation of the beloved book by Israeli writer David Grossman (Intimate Grammar). Growing up without a mother is not easy for Dutch 13-year-old Nono. Following in the footsteps of his super sleuth, workaholic father, Nono yearns to learn more about his mother's mysterious fate - but the boy's overactive imagination and mischievous stunts constantly get him into trouble. Sent away on the eve of his bar mitzvah to be set straight by his uncle. Nono meets his father's nemesis, the master jewel thief Felix

Glick, who whisks him off on a secret mission to the French Riviera and an encounter with a seductive nightclub

chanteuse (Isabella Rossellini). With only 24 hours to go until his rite of passage, the race is on for Nono to put his detective skills to work and complete the high-stakes quest that will change his life forever.

European Film Awards: Young Audience Award Montreal International Children's Film Festival: Feature Film

# **OPENING DAY**

# Sunday, July 13, 3:30pm, Dryden Theatre **RUN BOY RUN**

Director: Pepe Danquart, France/Germany, 2013, 108 min, German/Polish/Russian w/subtitles, narrative

POST-FILM DISCUSSION With Charles Clarke, Emeritus Professor of Psychology & Director and Endowed Chair of Holocaust, Genocide and Human Rights Project of Monroe Community College.



This compelling saga of courage and compassion, is

the extraordinary true story of a Polish boy who seeks the kindness of others in his solitary struggle to outlast the Nazi occupation and keep his Jewish faith. Escaping the Warsaw ghetto at the behest of his father, nine-year old Srulik (movingly portrayed by twin child actors Andrzej and Kamil Tkacz) flees to the woods. There, he learns to hide from SS patrols and scour for food, until the harsh onset of winter drives him back to civilization. Some will help him survive and others will betray him. Just when it seems his childhood memories and identity could be lost forever, Jurek's harrowing journey culminates in a powerhouse conclusion.

## Generously underwritten by Futerman Supporting Foundation:

Sara Futerman, Rina and Danny Chessin, Daphne Futerman and Ira Jevotovsky, and Eli and Peggy Futerman

# **OPENING NIGHT PARTY**

underwritten by the William and Sheila Konar Foundation

# Sunday, July 13, 7:30pm, Dryden Theatre **BETHLEHEM**

Director: Yuval Adler, Israel, 2014, 99 min, Arabic/Hebrew w/subtitles, narrative

This intricate, tick-tock cliffhanger is centered on the tragic relationship between an Israeli intelligence officer and his Palestinian informant. Sanfur (Shadi Mar'i), a hot-headed Palestinian teenager feels overshadowed by older brother Ibrahim (Hisham Suleiman), a militant local hero wanted for orchestrating suicide bombings in Israel. Conflicted and vulnerable, young Sanfur is exploited by Israel's Shin Bet security service and fatherly intel agent Razi (Tsahi Halevy) who establishes a fragile bond with him. As an Israeli plot to assassinate Ibrahim heats up, and conflict erupts among Palestinian factions, lovalties are tested and pressure mounts, leading to a gut-wrenching climax.



2013 Israeli Academy Award (Ophir Award) Winner: Best Film, Best Director (Yuval Adler), Best Supporting Actor (Tsahi Halevi) and Best Screenplay

2014 Academy Awards: Israeli entry for the Best Foreign Language Film



# Monday, July 14, 11:00am, JCC Hart Theatre SHARON:

### An Inner Journey From War To Peace

Director: Dror Moreh, Israel, 2007, 90 min, Hebrew w/subtitles, documentary



In December 2003, Prime Minister Ariel Sharon publicly announced the Disengagement Plan. Against acrimonious resistance from his own ranks, he ordered 21 Jewish settlements to be razed to the ground. As General of the settlers' movement, Sharon was responsible for the massacres of Sabra and Shatila, and then became a strategic statesmen who committed himself to peace in the Middle East and then, with eyes wide open, singlemindedly destroyed his life's work.

Who was Ariel Sharon? How did the historic decision which led to the eviction of settlers in Gaza and Samaria come about, thus clearing the path to a possible peace agreement?

In the years prior to his devastating stroke, the director Dror Moreh accompanied the Head of State with his camera in an attempt to get to the heart of the puzzle of, "Who was Sharon?", introducing us to a different man who, until now, was hidden from public view.

# Monday, July 14, 1:30pm, JCC Hart Theatre UNDER THE SAME SUN

Director: Sameh Zoabi, Israel/Palestine/USA, 2013, 75 min, English/Arabic/Hebrew w/subtitles, narrative



An optimistic utopian vision of things as they might be imagines the origin of peace between Israelis and Palestinians in the simple collaboration of two businessmen from clashing cultures - Palestinian Nizar (Ali Suliman) and Israeli Shaul (Yossi Mar). The two men struggle to set up a solar energy company, and come from societies where there is strong opposition to cooperating with each other. Shaul and Nizar eventually overcome the hostility from their own families and from the people around them. They mount a Facebook campaign that brings popular support both to their joint venture and to the peace process, and ultimately changes the political map.

### Generously underwritten by

Michael Argaman





## - DOUBLE FEATURE & SPECIAL GUEST -

Monday, July 14, 6:00pm, Dryden Theatre

## THE LADY IN NUMBER 6: Music Saved My Life

Director: Malcom Clarke, USA/Canada, 2013, 38 min, English, documentary

At 109 years old, pianist and music teacher Alice Herz-Sommer lives alone in a tiny flat in London, dutifully practicing the piano and maintaining an independent routine. Coherent, clear-eyed and witty, her relentlessly positive outlook offers no hint of the painful losses she experienced in Nazi-occupied Prague during WWII. Both her mother and husband were murdered in concentration camps, and Alice herself was interned at Theresienstadt where she performed in concerts with other musician prisoners. Despite these hardships, Alice speaks with quiet grace and an astounding absence of malice, citing the importance of music and laughter, and her deeply held belief in the essential goodness of humanity.



Generously underwritten by Bernard Schuster CHAI Fund

#### 2014 Academy Award Winner: Best Documentary - Short Subject

## 50 CHILDREN: The Rescue Mission of Mr. And Mrs. Kraus

Director: Steven Pressman, USA, 2013, 63 min, English, documentary

#### POST-FILM DISCUSSION With special guest Steven Pressman

In early 1939, Nazi policy still allowed Jews to leave Germany, but few countries would grant them asylum. President Roosevelt blocked a bill that would have given Jewish children safe passage to the US. Even American Jews did little for fear of fanning the flames of rampant anti-Semitism. Yet in Philadelphia, a Jewish doctor, Gilbert Kraus and his elegant wife Eleanor, leaving their own young children behind, took it upon themselves to get 50 Jewish children out of Austria. This tense and compelling story is narrated by Alan Alda.



#### Generously underwritten by

Marc, Jennifer, Aaron, Benjamin and Zoe Fleischer, Elisa and Justin Ross, Jace Yawnick *and* Bernard Schuster CHAI Fund

# Monday, July 14, 9:00pm, Dryden Theatre THE JEWISH CARDINAL

Director: Ilan Duran Cohen, France, 2012, 90 min, French w/subtitles, narrative

This dramatic clash of ecclesiastical politics and spiritual soul-searching, is the remarkable true story of the son of Polish-Jewish immigrants who, while maintaining his Jewish identity, became leader of the French church and close confidant to the Pope. Jean-Marie Lustiger (born Aaron) converted to Roman Catholicism as a teenager, later joined the priesthood and quickly rose within the ranks to become adviser to Pope John Paul II. A maverick outsider, he utilized his dual identity to advance Jewish-Catholic relations, a unique platform that earned him both friends and enemies.

#### FESTIVALS AND AWARDS:

Winner – Grand Prix to Best French TV Drama – Festival de Luchon Nominated – Best Film, Best Director, Best Actor

OFFICIAL SELECTION: New York Jewish Film Festival, Boston Jewish Film Festival, Atlanta Jewish Film Festival, Seattle Jewish Film Festival

Generously underwritten by Class Action LLC / Marc Frankel - Constable





# Tuesday, July 15, 11:00am JCC Hart Theatre THE STURGEON QUEENS

Director: Julie Cohen, USA, 2014, 52 min, English, documentary

For fans of smoked fish and bagels, there is really only one place to go in New York City: The famed lox and herring emporium Russ & Daughters on the Lower East Side. Open since 1914, Russ & Daughters is a New York institution, and one of the last remaining "appetizing" shops in the city. 100-year-old Hattie Russ Gold and her sister 92-year-old Anne Russ Federman have life stories that hit all the key notes of the Jewish immigrant experience: Hard work, humor, romance, and a little tsuris. 100 years, four generations and 1,800,000 pounds of pickled herring later, Russ & Daughters is still going strong.

#### Preceded by:

#### A RUEBEN BY ANY OTHER NAME

Director: Jeremy Dylan Lanni, USA, 2010, 5 min, English

**CALIFORNIA SHMEER** 

Director: Richard Goldgewicht, Alan H. Rosenberg, USA, 2006, 25 min, English

# Tuesday, July 15, 6:00pm, Little Theatre THE PRIME MINISTERS:

## **The Pioneers**

Director: Richard Trank, USA, 2013, 115 min, English, documentary

Based on the book by Ambassador Yehuda Avner, this captivating account of Israeli politics is told through the iconic leaders of the Jewish State. As adviser to five Israeli Prime

Ministers, Avner was privy to life-and-death decision-making, top secret military operations, diplomatic in-fighting and high-level peace negotiations. Drawing from his bestselling memoirs, the film illustrates personal anecdotes and never before revealed historical details with a dazzling array of archival images. Oscar-winning director Richard Trank traces such key events as the Six Day and Yom Kippur Wars, the fight against terrorism, and Israel's close strategic alliance with the United States.

# Tuesday, July 15, 9:00pm, Little Theatre FOR A WOMAN

Director: Diane Kurys, France, 2013, 110 min, French, narrative

Inspired by the director's own family memoir, the film opens in 1980s France as young novelist Anne (Sylvie Testud) scours through photos and letters that trigger an investigation into her shadowy past. Flash back to postwar France, where pretty newlywed Léna (Mélanie Thierry) and Jewish husband Michel

(Benoît Magimel), a Ukrainian-born tailor and staunch communist, are settling into a new life in Lyon, opening a fledgling suit shop beneath their apartment. Previously imprisoned together at the Rivesaltes internment camp, Léna owes her escape to Michel. Their tenuous domestic arrangement is upset by the unexpected arrival of Michel's long-lost brother Jean (Nicolas Duvauchelle). An inconvenient attraction develops between Léna and her brother-in-law, while swirling political debate and a manhunt for Nazi war criminals overtake them.



Pre-order a bagel and a shmeer to enjoy after the film! Purchase a "Film & A Nosh" ticket

### Generously underwritten by



FIRST NIAGARA Matinee



Generously underwritten by





Wednesday, July 16, 11:00am JCC Hart Theatre AMERICAN JERUSALEM: Jews and the Making of San Francisco

Director: Marc Shaffer, USA, 2013, 57 min, English, documentary





Puzzled visitors to San Francisco often wander around wondering where the Jewish neighborhood is, or at least was. Beginning with the city's boom in the 1849 Gold Rush, Jews have been assimilated into nearly every corner of San Francisco life, helping to build, grow and define the city in ways that are unique in American and Jewish history. Focusing on the city's development (1849–1915), AMERICAN JERUSALEM entertainingly charts the evolution of a distinct brand of American Jewish life on the western edge of the continent and introduces us to influential pioneers like Levi Strauss and Adolph Sutro (America's first Jewish mayor), helping to explain why some San Francisco Jewish families celebrated Shabbat on Sunday and enjoyed a good roast pork on Christmas.

2013 CINE Golden Eagle Award Winner

# Wednesday, July 16, 1:30am JCC Hart Theatre **MY GERMAN FRIEND**

Director: Jeanine Meerapfel, Germany/Argentina, 2012, 100 min, German/Spanish w/subtitles, narrative



It's 1950 in Buenos Aires where Jews and Nazis, having fled Europe, are thrown together in a foreign land. The children of affluent German emigrants, Sulamit Löwenstein, (Celeste Cid) and Friedrich Burg (Max Riemelt) first meet in this touching story about revolutions and relationships as next door neighbors and become instant friends. When Friedrich learns that his father was a high-ranking SS officer, he dismisses his family, travels to Germany, and immerses himself in radical student politics. Sulamit follows him, and a romance briefly blossoms, but Friedrich's commitment to political activism takes precedence over their would-be relationship. When he returns to Argentina to join an anti-government guerrilla movement, he disappears without a trace. Sulamit embarks on a dangerous search to find him, and heal her heart and the wounds of the past.





# Wednesday, July 16, 6:00pm, Little Theatre SPECIAL INTERVIEW

Director: Nitzan Rozenberg, Israel, 2012, 55 min, English/Hebrew w/subtitles, documentary



### POST-FILM DISCUSSION With Jewish Family Service

Two young people with disabilities become star reporters in this heartwarming and uplifting documentary: Follow 27-year-old Efrat Dotan, who has Down's syndrome, and 20-year-old Matanel Bitton, who has developmental disabilities. Efrat and Matanel spend their days at SHALVA -The Association for Mentally & Physically Challenged Children in Israel where they are taught life skills that enable them to reach their maximum potential. As trained reporters, they have interviewed many well-known personalities including Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and President Shimon Peres, but their dream is to interview President Barack Obama. The film shares their journey from Jerusalem to New York to Washington, DC, while offering a peek into their unique world.

# Wednesday, July 16, 9:00pm, Little Theatre OUT IN THE DARK

Director: Michael Mayer, Israel/Palestine/USA, 2012, 96 min, Hebrew/Arabic w/subtitles, narrative



When sweet and handsome grad student Nimr sneaks away from his Palestinian family one night to dance with friends in a Tel Aviv gay nightclub, he knows he is courting danger on both sides of the separation barrier. His sexuality must be kept hidden at home, while his nationality makes him illegal in Israel. The stakes get higher when he meets Roy, a charming Tel Aviv lawyer, and they begin a secret, cross-border relationship. Living inside the bubble of gay-friendly Tel Aviv, Roy is blithely confident he can "fix everything" with a few phone calls to a human rights attorney. But the legal process doesn't move quickly enough to shield Nimr from the suspicions of his militant brother or from the pressures of the tenacious Israeli security police. As the tensions mount, both men must confront what they are willing to sacrifice to overcome their differences, in politics as well as in love.

Winner, Best Narrative Feature at: Philadelphia International Gay and Lesbian Film Festival, Rochester ImageOut and San Francisco International Lesbian and Gay Film Festival

Generously underwritten by

Marcia and Gary Stern

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### Stuart and Shelly Gebell

and



# Thursday, July 17, 11:00am, JCC Hart Theatre QUALITY BALLS

The David Steinberg Story Director: Barry Avrich, Canada, 2013, 75 min, English, documentary



The son of a Winnipeg Rabbi rises to become one of Canada's greatest comedy exports. At the height of his popularity, David Steinberg was one of the world's best known stand-up comics, and he later directed some of the most successful sitcoms of the last 20 years. Born in a strict Jewish household, he abandoned his veshiva studies to join Chicago's legendary Second City improv troupe, and never looked back. He appeared on The *Tonight Show* with Johnny Carson more than 130 times (second only to Bob Hope), but his irreverent take on religion was too hot for CBS, prompting the cancellation of The Smothers Brothers Comedy Hour. Plentiful clips of Steinberg's priceless performances and TV directing credits (Seinfeld, Mad About You, Golden Girls and Curb Your Enthusiasm) are paired with backstage stories from Jerry Seinfeld, Larry David, Norm Macdonald, Jeff Garlin and others who illuminate Steinberg's place in the comedy pantheon.

#### Preceded by: EVERY TUESDAY: A Portrait of the New Yorker Cartoonists

Director: Rachel Loube, USA, 2012, 21 min, English, documentary



# Thursday, July 17, 1:30pm, JCC Hart Theatre **OPERATION SUNFLOWER**

Director: Avraham Kushnir, Israel, 2013, 105 min, Hebrew, narrative



The Iranians are bringing missiles out of their bunkers and within an hour and a half they will be just a "push of the button" away from launching them at Israel. On his return from a trip to a concentration camp, Ben Gurion gives an order to develop Israel's nuclear option – as an insurance policy for the remainder of the Jewish people. At the time, only the USA, Great Britain and Russia had the bomb.

Racing against time, the head of the Mossad and a key Nuclear Physicist along with his doctoral students, have been recruited to develop the nuclear option for Israel. The mission seems impossible. The tense and romantic relationships between characters are presented against the background of the determination of the Head of the Mossad to attain the bomb and the soul-searching of the physicists who understand the terrible significance of this project.

**Note:** There is no connection between events in the film and real events.





# Thursday, July 17, 6:00pm, Little Theatre ALL IN

Director: Daniel Burman, Argentina, 2012, 113 min, Spanish w/subtitles, narrative

In this sharp Argentine romantic comedy, Uriel is a dedicated single dad who runs the family business by day. At night, he is a Jewish Don Juan and professional gambler who has mastered the art of bluffing. One weekend, When Uriel runs into his old girlfriend Gloria, who dumped him years ago without explanation, he pulls out all the stops to win her back. But is Uriel a changed man, from his "Ladies man" reputation? Or is he just not used to rejection? Uriel's frequent white lies get him into



hot water and he quickly learns that his poker face may not always be the key to hitting the jackpot. He doesn't want to admit what he does for a living and tells Gloria that he is a big-time music producer who is mounting the comeback of a Jewish rocker. But with the help of a punk rock Hassidic Rabbi, this Casanova just might be able to play the right card.

# Generously underwritten by Debby Landsman

# UPCOMING JCC CULTURAL ARTS EVENTS

## post festival screening!

GENERATION WAR Sunday, September 21

Part I: 2:00-4:30pm Part II: 6:00-8:00pm



## save the date - book fest

Opening Night with RABBI TELUSHKIN - November 2 ARI SHAVIT - November 6



## summer theatre!

HAIRSPRAY, THE MUSICAL July 19 - 27 presented by SummerStage



For tickets call 461-2000 or visit jccrochester.org

Thursday, July 17, 9:00pm, Little Theatre (1) IN THE SHADOW

Director: David Ondrícek, Israeli/Czech/Poland, 2012, 106 min, Czech/Polish/German w/subtitles, narrative



In this noir political thriller, a simple jewelry store heist unravels a larger Cold War conspiracy against Czechoslovakian Jews. Honest police detective Jarda Hakl (Ivan Trojan) is directed to investigate a seemingly mundane robbery at a goldsmith's shop on a rainy night in 1950s Prague. When state secret police suddenly seize control of the case and pin the crime on Jewish immigrants accused of running aid to Israel, Hakl suspects anti-Semitic scapegoating. Waging an uphill battle against both Major Zenke (Sebastian Koch, *The Lives of Others*), an East German agent specializing in so-called Zionist crime, and the Soviet-corrupted Czech security apparatus, Hakl is undaunted in his quest for the truth even as it threatens his colleagues, country and family.

#### 2013 Czech Lion Award Winner: Best Film

Best Screenplay Best Cinematography Best Music Best Actor (Ivan Trojan) Best Director (David Ondrícek) Best Editing Best Design Achievement Best Sound Thursday, July 17, 9:00pm, Little Theatre (5) *and* Saturday, July 19, 4:00pm, Little Theatre

## **CUPCAKES**

Director: Eytan Fox, Israel, 2013, 90 min, Hebrew w/subtitles, narrative



A perky group of young Israelis find themselves the underdogs in an international singing contest in this kitschy musical comedy from celebrated Israeli director Eytan Fox (Director of *Walk on Water, Yossi & Jagger* and *Mary Lou*). To their surprise, their song is chosen to represent Israel in the finals competition in Paris. On the way, they face some challenging situations while dealing with stylists, agents and all of the trappings of this new world they have found themselves in. Facing creative pressures from the comically inept Israel Broadcasting Authority, the group is forced to choose between friendship and fame.

Presented in partnership with

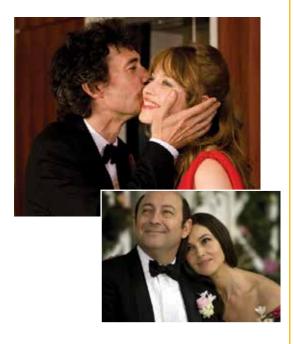


REPEAT SCREENING Saturday, July 19 at 4:00pm Dryden Theatre



# Saturday, July 19, 6:30pm, Little Theatre IT HAPPENED IN ST. TROPEZ

Director: Danièle Thompson, France, 2013, 100 min, French w/subtitles, narrative



Bad timing! Domestic entanglements involving a family of opposites set the stage for a distinctly French mix of romance and pratfalls in this breezy situational comedy. The film opens with a wedding and a funeral, and an extreme case of sibling rivalry between austere religious violinist Zef (Éric Elmosnino) and his brother Roni (Kad Merad), a lapsed Jew and hedonistic gem mogul. Just as Roni and his Italian trophy wife (Monica Bellucci) are about to marry off their daughter Melita (Clara Ponsot) in Paris, Zef's wife is killed while crossing a Manhattan street for a pastrami sandwich, bringing everyone together in a macabre bit of unfortunate timing. Meanwhile, on a train ride to her mother's funeral, Zef's soulful musician daughter Noga (Lou de Laâge) unknowingly falls for her cousin's groom Sam (Max Boubil). The family is held together only by its cornball aging patriarch (Ivry Gitlis), while a string of mix-ups and betrayals test brotherly bonds and those of their respective daughters.

### 2013 San Diego Jewish Film Festival: Audience Favorite

## Saturday, July 19, 9:00pm, Little Theatre

### IDA

Director: Pawel Pawlikowski, Poland, 2013, 80 min, Polish w/subtitles, narrative



This moving and intimate drama about a young novitiate nun in 1960s Poland who, on the verge of taking her vows, discovers a dark family secret dating from the terrible years of the Nazi occupation. 18-year old Anna (stunning newcomer Agata Trzebuchowska), a sheltered orphan raised in a convent, is preparing to become a nun when the Mother Superior insists she first visit her sole living relative. Naïve, innocent Anna soon finds herself in the presence of her aunt Wanda (Agata Kulesza), a worldly and cynical Communist Party insider, who shocks Anna with the declaration that her real name is Ida and her Jewish parents were murdered during the Nazi occupation. This revelation triggers a heart-wrenching journey into the countryside, to the family house and into the secrets of the repressed past, evoking the haunting legacy of the Holocaust and the realities of postwar Communism.

#### 2013 London Film Festival: Best Film

2013 Polish Film Festival: Best Cinematography

2013 Toronto International Film Festival: International Critics' Award.

2013 Warsaw International Film Festival: Ecumenical Jury Award

# Sunday, July 20, 1:00pm, Dryden Theatre **AFTERMATH**

Director: Wladyslaw Pasikowski, Poland, 2012, 107 min, Polish w/subtitles, narrative



#### POST-FILM DISCUSSION With special guests, Dr. Michael Dobkowski and Polish-American filmmaker Slawomir Grunberg

Franek and Jozek Kalina, sons of a poor farmer, are brothers from a small village in central Poland. Franek immigrated to Chicago in the 80's, and cut all ties with his family. When Jozek's wife arrives in the US, without explanation, Franek decides to return to his homeland. While the brothers struggle to rebuild their relationship, Franek discovers that Jozek has been ostracized from their community, and frequently receives death threats. They are drawn into a gothic tale of intrigue, which leads them to discover a riveting family secret, one that forces them to revise their perception of their father, their entire family, their neighbors and the history of their nation.

- 2013 Polish Film Academy Eagle Awards Winner: Best Actor (Maciej Stuhr) Best Production Design (Allan Starski)
- 2013 Jerusalem International Film Festival: Yad Vashem Chairman's Award
- 2014 East Bay International Jewish Film Festival: Audience Award - Best Drama
- 2014 Seattle Jewish Film Festival: Audience Award - Best Feature
- 2013 Jerusalem Film Festival: Yad Vashem Chairman's Award

# Sunday, July 20, 6:00pm, Dryden Theatre MAGIC MEN

Director: Guy Nattiv/Erez Tadmor, Israel, 2014, 100 min, Hebrew/English/Greek w/subtitles, narrative



A father-and-son road movie, this is the magical story of a 78-year-old Greek man and his Hasidic rapper son, who have been estranged for many years. They embark together on a road trip from Israel to Greece searching for an old magician who saved the father's life during World War II. The journey leads them to absurd encounters, and opens old wounds that force the two men to face their own truths, and to try to bridge the gaps between them.

2013 Israeli Academy Awards: Best Actor (Makram Khouri)

Featured at Film Festivals: 2014 Palm Beach International Film Festival 2014 Palm Springs International Film Festival 2013 Haifa International Film Festival

Generously underwritten by Bunny and Mort Skirboll



# Sunday, July 20, 8:30pm, Dryden Theatre **THE ATTACK**

Director: Ziad Doueiri, Belgium, 2012, 102 min, Arabic/Hebrew w/subtitles, narrative

In this intense, powerhouse story, Amin Jaafari is a highly regarded Israeli Palestinian surgeon, fully assimilated into Tel Aviv society. He has a loving wife, an exemplary career, and many Jewish friends. But his picture-perfect life is turned upside down when a suicide bombing in a restaurant leaves nineteen dead in the explosion, including his beautiful wife Sihem. Worse are the absurd allegations by Israeli police that his loving wife was responsible. Convinced of her innocence, Amin abandons the relative security of his adopted homeland and enters the Palestinian territories in pursuit of the truth. Once there, he finds himself in increasingly dangerous places and situations. Determined, he presses on, seeking answers to questions he never thought he would be asking.

2013 Istanbul International Film Festival Winner: Cineuropa.org Award





# CLOSING NIGHT PARTY

underwritten by the Rubens Family Foundation

# Monday, July 21, 7:00pm, Dryden Theatre HUNTING ELEPHANTS

Director: Reshef Levi, Israel, 2013, 107 min, English/Hebrew w/subtitles, narrative

At the bank where his father works, 12-year-old Jonathan (Gil Blank) watches helplessly as his father succumbs to a sudden heart attack. In a cruel double blow, the evil bank manager refuses to pay the father's pension. Jonathan's mother Dorit (Yael Abecassis) takes her son to stay with his cantankerous grandfather Eliyahu (Sasson Gabai) and mate Nick (Moni Moshonov), both former Zionist freedom fighters now barely existing in a nursing home. Guilt-ridden over his father's death, and mortified when his mother begins dating the bank manager out of financial desperation, Jonathan and the aging

misfits hatch a plot to rob the bank that wronged his family. Joining the misadventure is Jonathan's great uncle, a disgraced British lord and frustrated actor (Patrick Stewart in a scene-stealing role).

Nominated for 6 Israeli Academy Awards: Best Film, Best Screenplay, Best Actor (Sasson Gabai), Best Supporting Actor (Moni Moshonov), Best Supporting Actress (Rotem Zussman), Best Makeup, Best Casting, Film, Best Makeup, Best Screenplay, Best Supporting Actress (Irit Sheleg)

Generously underwritten by Brighton Memorial Chapel, Inc.



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Bethlehem (includes Opening Night Party!)	7/13	7:30pm	\$15	\$20			-
Sharon	7/14	11:00am	\$7	\$9			
Under the Same Sun	7/14	1:30pm	\$7	\$9			-
Lady in Number 6 / 50 Children	7/14	6:00pm	\$9	\$11			-
The Jewish Cardinal	7/14	9:00pm	\$9 ¢7	\$11 ©0			-
Sturgeon Queens	7/15	11:00am	\$7 \$17	\$9 \$10			-
Sturgeon Queens "Film & A Nosh Ticket"	7/15	6.00	\$17 \$0	\$19 \$11			-
The Prime Ministers For a Woman	7/15	6:00pm	\$9 \$9	\$11 \$11			-
American Jerusalem: The Jews of San Francisco	7/15	9:00pm 11:00am	\$9 \$7	\$9 \$9			-
My German Friend	7/16	1:30pm	\$7 \$7	\$9 \$9			-
Special Interview	7/16	6:30pm	\$9	\$11			-
Out in the Dark	7/16	9:00pm	\$9	\$11			1
Quality Balls: The David Steinberg Story	7/17	11:00am	\$7	\$9			1
Operation Sunflower	7/17	1:30pm	\$7	\$9			1
All In	7/17	6:00pm	\$9	\$11			1
In the Shadow	7/17	9:00pm	\$9	\$11			1
Cupcakes	7/17	9:00pm	\$9	\$11			1
Cupcakes (repeat screening)	7/19	4:00pm	\$9	\$11			1
It Happened in St. Tropez	7/19	6:30pm	\$9	\$11			1
Ida	7/19	9:00pm	\$9	\$11			1
Aftermath	7/20	1:00pm	\$9	\$11			]
Magic Men	7/20	6:00pm	\$9	\$11			
The Attack	7/20	8:30pm	\$9	\$11			
Hunting Elephants (includes Closing Night Party!)	7/21	7:00pm	\$15	\$20			
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Online: www.rjff.org (A small conver	nience tee	will apply.)					

### TICKET INFORMATION: (To order tickets, see ticket order form page.)



TICKET PRICING: General Admission Ticket Weekday Matinee Ticket Opening Night and Closing Night Ticket (Party included) All Festival Pass First Niagara JCC Matinee Pass Discounts

\$9 JCC Member/\$11 Non Member
\$7 JCC Member/\$9 Non Member
\$15 JCC Member/\$20 Non Member
\$155 JCC Member/\$165 Non Member
\$42 JCC Member/\$54 Non Member
\$1 off for Students (Advance sale only)

#### Advance sale tickets are NOT available at The Little Theatre or The Dryden Theatre. Please call 461-2000.

<u>ALL FESTIVAL PASS</u> HOLDER POLICY: All Festival Pass (AFP) holders are guaranteed seats up to 15 minutes prior to show time. RJFF cannot guarantee seating for late arrivals. AFPs are non-transferable. Please help support the festival by encouraging friends and family to purchase their own tickets. Limited number available.

FIRST NIAGARA JCC MATINEE PASS: This pass is valid for all seven matinee films shown at the JCC Hart Theatre. All *First Niagara JCC Matinee Pass* holders are guaranteed seats **up to 15 minutes prior** to show time. RJFF cannot guarantee seating for late arrivals. Passes are non-transferable.

WALK-INS DAY OF SHOW: Per availability, tickets are sold 45 minutes prior to show time at festival venues. If a film is almost sold out, RJFF will distribute temporary tickets, and if seats become available at show time the temporary ticket can be exchanged for a valid ticket. RJFF does not guarantee ticket availability for walk-ins. Due to frequent sell-outs, we strongly encourage you to purchase tickets in advance.

### **GENERAL INFORMATION**

SEATING: Seating is general admission.

**REFUNDS:** Refunds are only available for canceled or rescheduled programs. Due to circumstances beyond our control, films may be canceled or rescheduled without prior notice.

**PARKING: Please allow ample time for parking.** Parking is available in the main parking lots of The Little Theatre and The Dryden Theatre, in area parking lots or garages, and along East Avenue and side streets. Parking is available in the JCC parking lot.

ACCESSIBILITY: All Festival venues are handicap accessible.

**FOOD:** All foods served at RJFF events are in strict observance of the laws of kashrut unless otherwise indicated.

**QUESTIONS:** For additional information please call 585-461-2000 or visit www.rjff.org.



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### DONOR OPPORTUNITIES AND BENEFITS

Please consider becoming a JCC Ames Amzalak Rochester Jewish Film Festival donor! Sponsorship levels available: Visionary \$20,000, Executive Producer \$15,000 and Producer \$10,000. See rjff.org or call Lori Harter (585) 461-2000 ext. 237 for full benefit details.

LEVEL JAVAJ	Recognition in Festival Brochure, JCC Magazine and rjff.org	All Festival Passes	Featured on Promotional Trailer	Invite to Private Donor Event	Underwrite a Film	On-site Recognition at Fest. Venues	JCC Magazine Ad
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