

# The National Center for Jewish Film's

# JEWISHFILM.2014



17th Annual Film Festival  
May 1-11

## BEFORE THE REVOLUTION

NEW ENGLAND PREMIERE - Opening Night Film

Thursday, May 1, 5:30 pm @ Museum of Fine Arts (Remis)

Opening Night Welcome: Consulate General of Israel to New England

Dir: Dan Shadur | Israel | 2013 | 60m | Hebrew & Arabic w/ English subtitles



For thousands of Israelis in the 1960s and 1970s, Tehran, Iran, was a utopia. Enjoying close relations with the Shah's regime, their paradise was built on construction contracts, weapons sales, and oil. Then the Iranian Revolution arrived. Dan Shadur, a child during his family's "glory days" in Iran, reveals a unique perspective on the 1979 revolution. A thrilling and timely documentary featuring marvelous 8mm home movies and interviews with diplomats, Mossad agents, and families who escaped in the nick of time.

**Preceded by IRAN STREET SCENES, 1950-1951**  
**NCJF NEW RESTORATION - Rare Archival Footage**



CO-PRESENTED BY: Consulate General of Israel to New England; Israel Campus Roundtable

## CLOSER TO THE MOON

NEW ENGLAND PREMIERE - Sneak Preview

Thursday, May 8, 7:30 pm @ Museum of Fine Arts (Remis)

Dir: Nae Caranfil | Romania/USA | 2013 | 110m | English



An absurdist take on the incredible but real account of a group of high-ranking Jewish Communists who robbed Romania's National Bank in 1959 by pretending they were shooting a movie. Also true, once arrested and sentenced to death, they were forced to reenact the heist for a government propaganda film. Caranfil's black comedy, which stars Vera Farmiga (*Up in the Air*), Mark Strong (*Tinker Tailor Soldier Spy*), and Harry Lloyd (*Game of Thrones*), imagines the

protagonists as fully cognizant of the sociopolitical inanities that surround them.

CO-PRESENTED BY: Tauber Institute for the Study of European Jewry at Brandeis University

## CUPCAKES / Bananot

MASSACHUSETTS PREMIERE

Friday, May 2, 8:00 pm @ Museum of Fine Arts (Remis)

Wednesday, May 7, 5:30 pm @ Museum of Fine Arts (Remis)

Dir: Eytan Fox | Israel | 2013 | 90m | Hebrew w/ English subtitles

Eytan Fox (*Yossi and Jagger*, *Walk on Water*) returns with a sweet, delicious confection stuffed with pop song ditties, technicolor production design and a shiny all star cast (Yael Bar-Zohar, Dana Ivgi, Anat Waxman, Keren Berger, Efrat Dor, and Ofer Shechter). A group of friends are thrust into the cutthroat music business when their catchy song is selected to represent Israel at an international Eurovision-style musical contest. "Like taking an extravagant 90-minute vacation from reality." -*Jerusalem Post* "Candy colored, buoyantly upbeat musical with the glow of an exuberant block party." -*Variety*



CO-PRESENTED BY: Consulate General of Israel to New England; Israel Campus Roundtable

## FOR A WOMAN

NEW ENGLAND PREMIERE

Thursday, May 1, 7:30 pm @ Museum of Fine Arts (Remis)

Saturday, May 3, 7:30 pm @ Institute of Contemporary Art

Dir: Diane Kurys | France | 2013 | 110m | French w/ English subtitles



Inspired by her own family history, Diane Kurys's (*Entre Nous; C'est la Vie*) sumptuous historical drama moves between 1947 Lyon, France, and the 1980s. After discovering a hidden family photo, Anne, a young film director, investigates her parents' tangled relationship and the unexpected arrival of a mysterious family member thought killed in the war. With outstanding performances by the gorgeous cast: Mélanie Thierry, Nicolas Duvauchelle, Sylvie Testud, and Benoit Magimel.

CO-PRESENTED BY: Center for German & European Studies at Brandeis University

SPONSOR: Jewish Genealogical Society of Boston

## FRIENDS FROM FRANCE / Les Interdits

NEW ENGLAND PREMIERE

Saturday, May 3, 2:30 pm @ Museum of Fine Arts (Remis)

Sunday, May 11, 7:30 pm @ West Newton Cinema

Dir: Anne Weil & Philippe Kotlarski | France/Germany/Canada/Russia | 2013 | 100m | French, Russian & Hebrew w/ English subtitles

In this unique political thriller set in 1979 inside the deep freeze behind the Iron Curtain, a young couple, Carole (singer/actress Soko) and Jérôme (Jérémie Lippmann), visit Odessa on an organized tour—but that's their cover story. In fact, they are French Jews on a dangerous mission to visit with *refuseniks*, Jews persecuted by the Soviet regime. While risk-taking Carole is motivated by politics, Jérôme is driven by his attraction to Carole.



**Preceded by PUR**

NEW ENGLAND PREMIERE

In dangerous acts of defiance, Soviet Jewish dissidents in the 1980s risk everything to stage Purim plays. (Dir: Anat Vovnoboy, Israel, 2013, 13m, Russian w/ English subtitles)

CO-PRESENTED BY: Israel Campus Roundtable

SPONSORS: Action for Post Soviet Jewry; Goethe-Institut Boston

## THE GERMAN DOCTOR / Wakolda

NEW ENGLAND PREMIERE - Sneak Preview

Sunday, May 4, 7:30 pm @ West Newton Cinema

Dir: Lucia Puenzo | Argentina/France | 2013 | 90m | German & Spanish w/ English sub.

In 1960 against the breathtaking scenery of Patagonia, an Argentinean family serendipitously crosses paths with a revered but dangerous German doctor (Alex Brendemühl) who ingratiate himself into their lives. Lucia Puenzo's subtle drama, adapted from her novel, gradually reveals the darkness in the doctor's character and in Argentina's absorption of Nazi criminals. Argentina's Oscar Nomination for Best Foreign Language Film. "An eerie world of family secrets and state lies that grows increasingly scary." -*New York Times*

CO-PRESENTED BY: Center for German & European Studies at Brandeis Univ; Goethe-Institut Boston; Argentinean Jewish Relief Committee; Facing History and Ourselves



## HANNA'S JOURNEY / Hannas Reise

NEW ENGLAND PREMIERE

Sunday, May 4, 12:30 pm @ West Newton Cinema

Encore Screening - Sunday, May 18, 11:00 am @ Coolidge Corner Theatre

Dir: Julia von Heinz | Germany/Israel | 2013 | 100m | German & Hebrew w/ Eng. sub.



Hoping to advance her career, Hanna (Karoline Schuch) a beautiful but brusque young German, takes a volunteer job in Israel working with disabled youths and Holocaust survivors. There, she meets Itay (Doron Amit), a charming Israeli teacher who gives her a run for her money, even joking with her about the Holocaust—a topic she considers irrelevant to her life. Hanna's priorities realign as she warms to Itay and learns more about her own family history.

CO-PRESENTED BY: Goethe-Institut Boston

SPONSORS: Center for German & European Studies at Brandeis University; Israel Campus Roundtable; Facing History and Ourselves

## JOE PAPP IN FIVE ACTS

MASSACHUSETTS PREMIERE

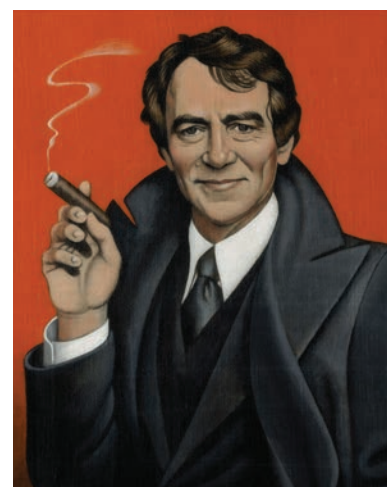
Friday, May 9, 5:30 pm @ Museum of Fine Arts (Alfond)

Saturday, May 10, 7:30 pm @ Suffolk University Modern Theatre

Special Guests: Director Tracie Holder at both screenings.

At Suffolk Modern, Holder in conversation with Robert Brustein, Suffolk Distinguished Scholar & A.R.T. Founder, moderated by Dr. Marilyn Plotkins

Dir: Tracie Holder & Karen Thorsen | USA | 2012 | 84m | English



The story of New York's indomitable, street-wise champion of the arts, Joe Papp (born Yosef Papirovski in Brooklyn in 1921), founder of The Public Theater who introduced interracial casting, free Shakespeare in the Park, *Hair*, *A Chorus Line*, and nurtured many of our greatest playwrights and actors. Papp was a tireless fighter for the arts whose productions often addressed political, racial, and economic issues. Featuring Meryl Streep, James Earl Jones, Kevin Kline, Martin Sheen, Olympia Dukakis, Mandy Patinkin, Ntozake Shange & more. Tribeca Film Festival Critics Choice.

CO-PRESENTED BY: Suffolk University

## KIDON

MASSACHUSETTS PREMIERE

Saturday, May 10, 3:00 pm @ Museum of Fine Arts (Remis)

Sunday, May 11, 5:15 pm @ West Newton Cinema

Dir: Emmanuel Naccache | France/Israel | 2014 | 89m | Hebrew & French w/ Eng. sub.



A popcorn movie fantasy inspired by the 2010 assassination of Hamas leader Mahmoud al-Mabhouh in a Dubai hotel room, this comedy spy thriller's *Ocean's Eleven*-style plot twists involve a Mossad team caught red handed on security cameras. The bigger problem: the Mossad knows nothing about the mission! The French and Israeli cast includes Sasson Gabai (*The Band's Visit*), Reymonde Amsellem (*The Attack; Seven Minutes in Heaven*, NCJF2009), Bar Refaeli, Tomer Sisley, Hippolyte Girardot, Élodie Hesse, and Lionel Abelanski.

SPONSORS: Israel Campus Roundtable; Hebrew Language & Literature Program at Brandeis University

## MAMELE

NEW ENGLAND PREMIERE

National Center for Jewish Film New Digital Restoration

Sunday, May 11, 2:30 pm @ West Newton Cinema **MOTHER'S DAY EVENT**

Special Event with NCJF Co-Directors Sharon Pucker Rivo & Lisa Rivo



1938 Joseph Green Yiddish Film Classic Starring Molly Picon

Dir: Joseph Green & Konrad Tom | Poland | 1938 | 97m | Yiddish w/ new English subtitles  
This musical comedy drama belongs to Molly Picon, "Queen of the Yiddish Musical," who shines as Mamele (little mother), the dutiful daughter keeping her family intact. She's so busy cooking, cleaning, and matchmaking for her brothers and sisters that she has little time for herself, until she discovers the violinist across the courtyard! *Mamele* was shot in Poland and features Picon's trademark song "Abi Gezunt." Set in Lodz, *Mamele* embraces the diverse gamut of interwar Jewish life in Poland, with its nogoodniks and unemployed, nightclubs and gangsters, and religious Jews celebrating Succoth.

"A sparkling gem.... Picon is so delicious and quirky, you want to give her a *knip in bekl* (pinch on her cheek)." -*Jewish Daily Forward*

*Mamele* comes to Boston from sold out premieres in Jerusalem, Stockholm, Melbourne, Miami & New York City's Lincoln Center

CO-PRESENTED BY: Tauber Institute for the Study of European Jewry at Brandeis University

## NATAN

NEW ENGLAND PREMIERE

Sunday, May 4, 3:00 pm @ West Newton Cinema

Special Guest: Thomas Doherty, Brandeis Univ. & author *Hollywood & Hitler*

Dir: David Cairns & Paul Duane | Ireland | 2013 | 66m | English & French w/ Eng. subtitles

Why isn't Bernard Natan (1886-1942) remembered as one of the giants of French cinema? A pioneering filmmaker and entrepreneur who dominated French cinema in the 1920s and 1930s, Natan formed the Pathe-Natan film studio, produced 65 films, built 50 theaters, and brought early sound, color and cinemascope to France. In 1938, fueled by antisemitism, Natan was felled by accusations of fraud and claims that he had produced silent-era pornography. In the end, he was stripped of his French citizenship and sent to his death at Auschwitz. This riveting documentary is essential viewing. *Indiewire* Critic's Choice. (Please note: adult images)



**Preceded by**

**COHEN ON THE TELEPHONE**

NCJF NEW RESTORATION - 85th Anniversary Screening

In this early sound short, comedy is rung from Cohen's heavy accent and unfamiliarity with the new-fangled phone. (Dir: Robert Ross, USA, 1929, 9m)

CO-PRESENTED BY: Sarnat Center for the Study of Anti-Jewishness at Brandeis University; Department of Near Eastern & Judaic Studies at Brandeis University



## QUALITY BALLS: THE DAVID STEINBERG STORY

MASSACHUSETTS PREMIERE

Friday, May 2, 6:00 pm @ Museum of Fine Arts (Remis)

Sunday, May 4, 5:30 pm @ West Newton Cinema

Dir: Barry Avrich | Canada | 2013 | 75m | English



Jerry Seinfeld, Larry David, Dave Foley, and Martin Short contribute to this hilarious must-see documentary. David Steinberg—aptly described as a cross between Woody Allen and Lenny Bruce—took the comedy world by storm in the 1960s. Steinberg's satiric, literate and defiantly Jewish material landed him on Nixon's enemies list and on Johnny Carson's *Tonight Show* couch more than 100 times (second only to Bob Hope). Today, Steinberg is a sought after comedy director.

SPONSOR: Department of Near Eastern & Judaic Studies at Brandeis University

## ROCK THE CASBAH

NEW ENGLAND PREMIERE

Wednesday, May 7, 7:30 pm @ Museum of Fine Arts (Remis)

Dir: Yariv Horowitz | Israel | 2012 | 93m | Hebrew w/ English subtitles

Horowitz's fast-paced and tense debut film follows four young soldiers tasked with "maintaining order" atop a powder keg when they are stationed on the roof of a Palestinian family home during the first Intifada in Gaza in 1989. Inspired by his experiences as a military photographer in the West Bank in the late 1980s, Horowitz's film speaks to the complexity of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict and the humanity of those caught on either side. Winner of the prestigious Berlin International Film Festival's Art Cinema Award.



## THE STURGEON QUEENS

NEW ENGLAND PREMIERE

Saturday, May 3, 12:30 pm @ Museum of Fine Arts (Remis)

Sunday, May 11, 12:30 pm @ West Newton Cinema **MOTHER'S DAY EVENT**

Dir: Julie Cohen | USA | 2013 | 43m | English



Russ and Daughters, the iconic purveyor of lox, caviar, and other sublime eats, has been a fixture on New York's Lower East Side since 1914. One hundred years and 1,800,000 pounds of pickled herring later, the business started by immigrant Joel Russ and passed to his daughters, the "Sturgeon Queens," is still family run. Enjoy

mouth-watering interviews with Hattie Russ Gold (age 100), Anne Russ Federman (age 92), Ruth Bader Ginsburg, Mario Batali, Maggie Gyllenhaal, Morley Safer, and Calvin Trillin.

**Preceded by A CHILD OF THE GHETTO**

NCJF NEW DIGITAL RESTORATION

USA Premiere of New Score by Alexander Freudenthal

Silent film drama about a Lower East Side seamstress. (Dir: D.W. Griffith, USA, 1910, 15m)

CO-PRESENTED BY: Hadassah-Brandeis Institute



## THE WONDERS / Plaut

MASSACHUSETTS PREMIERE

Tuesday, May 6, 7:00 pm @ West Newton Cinema

Friday, May 9, 8:00 pm @ Museum of Fine Arts (Alfond)

Dir: Avi Nesher | Israel | 2013 | 112m | Hebrew w/ English subtitles

*Chinatown* meets *Alice In Wonderland* in this fantastical noir farce from Avi Nesher (*Turn Left at the End of the World*, NCJF2005; *The Matchmaker*, NCJF2011), about a graffiti artist, private investigator, and femme fatale who join forces to rescue an enigmatic rabbi caught in a labyrinthine conspiracy in Jerusalem's weird criminal-religious underworld. With a tip of the hat to the Coen brothers, Woody Allen, and Michael Chabon, *The Wonders* is filled with quirks, red herrings, and cartoons that come to life.

"One of the greatest Israeli movies ever." -*Walla* "A brilliant, elegant, very original mystery." -*Jerusalem Post* "A great ride. Witty and highly entertaining." -*Ynet*

CO-PRESENTED BY: Boston Jewish Film Festival

SPONSOR: Consulate General of Israel to New England







Cupcakes

[www.jewishfilm.org](http://www.jewishfilm.org)

May 1-11

The National Center for Jewish Film's



JEWISHFILM.2014



Closer to the Moon

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## FESTIVAL TICKETING

**ADVANCE TICKET PURCHASE STRONGLY RECOMMENDED**

For updates and sellouts, visit [www.jewishfilm.org](http://www.jewishfilm.org)

### TICKET PRICES

\$12 General Admission  
\$10 Seniors 65+; Students; MFA or ICA members where applicable

**ALL ADVANCE TICKETS AVAILABLE VIA NCFJ WEBSITE**

[WWW.JEWISHFILM.ORG](http://WWW.JEWISHFILM.ORG)

Museum of Fine Arts orders will be routed to [www.mfa.org](http://www.mfa.org).  
MFA will call tickets can be picked up from either the museum's Fenway or Huntington entrances. Please note that once your ticket(s) have been printed they cannot be retrieved by others in your party who might arrive at the other entrance. For best results, meet all members of your party at either the Fenway or Huntington entrance and travel together to the theater. The Fenway entrance is more convenient to both theaters.

Institute of Contemporary Art orders will be routed to [www.icaboston.org](http://www.icaboston.org)

West Newton Cinema & Suffolk University Modern Theatre tickets will be processed by NCFJ ticketing company Brown Paper Tickets.

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**EACH THEATER SELLS TICKETS FOR SCREENINGS AT ITS LOCATION ONLY**

**Museum of Fine Arts** | 465 Huntington Avenue, Boston

Purchase tickets in advance at the ICA visitor center during museum hours.

**West Newton Cinema & Suffolk University Modern Theatre**

No advance in person box office sales. (See online or phone options).

**ADVANCE TIX BY PHONE**

**Museum of Fine Arts** | MFA box office 800.440.6975 (museum hrs.)

**Institute of Contemporary Art** | ICA visitor center 617.478.3103 (museum hrs.)

**West Newton Cinema & Suffolk Modern** | VIA NCFJ's ticketing company.

Brown Paper Tickets | 1.800.838.3006 (live 24/7 sales)

**DAY OF SHOW TICKETS**

**Museum of Fine Arts** | Day-of-show tickets can be purchased at either the Fenway or Huntington entrances beginning when the museum opens. For MFA members who can enter the museum with their membership cards or for visitors already in the museum, day-of-show tickets can also be purchased at the Alford or Remis theaters beginning 30 minutes before the show. Day-of-show tickets remain available for purchase online until show time.

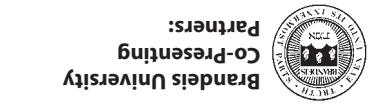
**Institute of Contemporary Art** | Day-of-show tickets can be purchased at the ICA visitor center beginning one hour before the show. Day-of-show tickets are not available for purchase online on the day of the show, but may be purchased in person or by phone.

**West Newton Cinema & Suffolk Modern** | Day-of-show tickets at West Newton can be purchased inside the cinema at the NCFJ table all day Sunday May 4 & 11 beginning at 1:30 am, and beginning at 6:00 pm on Tuesday, May 6, Suffolk Modern tickets available one hour before show. Both venues: Online & phone sales are not available on day-of-show.

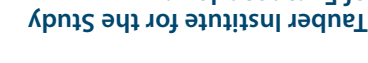
## VENUE INFORMATION ON REVERSE

For discounted group sales, call NCFJ offices at 781.736.8600

Questions? Call 781.736.8600 (M-F 9-5)



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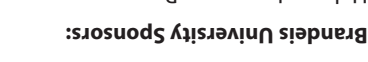
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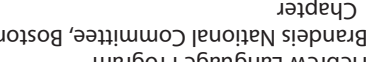
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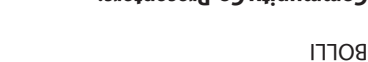
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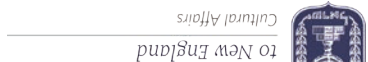
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## SCREENING VENUES

**Museum of Fine Arts, Boston**

465 Huntington Avenue, Boston | [www.mfa.org](http://www.mfa.org)

(A) = Alford Auditorium

(R) = Remis Auditorium

Enter either the museum's Fenway or Huntington Ave entrances. Fenway entrance is more convenient to both theaters. MBTA Green or Orange lines. Metered street parking or MFA parking lot or garage.

**MFA restaurant options:**

Cafeteria: Daily 10-4  
New American Caf : Sa-Tu 10-4; W-F 10-8  
Taste (near Remis): Sa-Tu 10:30-4:30; W-F 10:30-9

**West Newton Cinema**

1296 Washington Street, West Newton

[www.westnewtoncinema.com](http://www.westnewtoncinema.com)

**Come spend Sunday May 4 & Sunday May 11 with Jewishfilm.2014 at the West Newton Cinema:**

Street parking is plentiful and free on Sundays. Theater has great snacks and the area has quick eat restaurants.

**The Institute of Contemporary Art**

100 Northern Ave, Boston | [www.icaboston.org](http://www.icaboston.org)

Easy walk from downtown. MBTA Silver line. Metered street parking and parking lots. Two blocks from I-93 & Mass Turnpike off-ramps.

**Suffolk University Modern Theatre**

525 Washington St, Boston

[www.suffolk.edu/moderntheatre](http://www.suffolk.edu/moderntheatre)

MBTA Green, Red or Orange lines. Parking garage info on Suffolk Modern website.

Programs subject to change.

All venues handicapped accessible.

TICKETING INFORMATION ON REVERSE

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