



**Rady JCC**

THE  
**ASPER**  
FOUNDATION

WINNIPEG INTERNATIONAL

# **JEWISH FILM FESTIVAL**

**May 26 - June 6 ★ 2015**



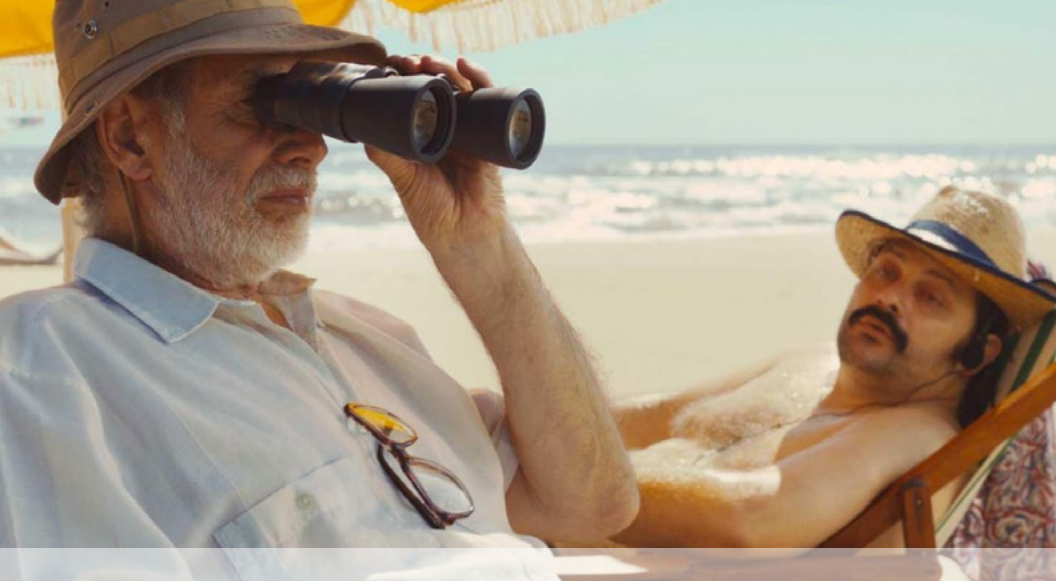
*Babs Asper*  
Centre for Cultural Arts

Photo Credit: Kataridin Productions

**MR. KAPLAN • GETT, THE TRIAL OF VIVIAN AMSALEM •  
ABOVE & BEYOND • THE GERMAN DOCTOR • MAGIC MEN •  
BETHLEHEM • THE OUTRAGEOUS SOPHIE TUCKER • 24 DAYS •  
IDA • FAREWELL HERR SCHWARZ • ZERO MOTIVATION**

**Tickets/Info: (204) 477-7510 | [www.radyjcc.com](http://www.radyjcc.com)**  
Berney Theatre | Rady Jewish Community Centre | 123 Doncaster Street

**Winnipeg Free Press**



Tuesday, May 26 | 7:30 pm

# Mr. Kaplan

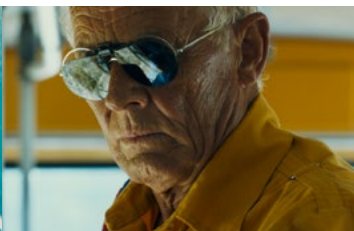
## Sr. Kaplan

Uruguay/Spain/Germany 2014. Spanish with English subtitles  
**COMEDY.** Director: Álvaro Brechner  
 98 minutes | Menemsha Films

Jacob Kaplan lives an ordinary life in Uruguay. Like many of his other Jewish friends, Jacob fled Europe for South America because of World War II. But now turning 76, he is fed up with his family's lack of interest in its own heritage. An unexpected opportunity to achieve greatness comes in the form of a quiet, elderly German, who Mr. Kaplan believes to be a runaway Nazi. Determined to capture this Nazi, as Eichmann was captured before him, he tries to repeat the historic capture of Adolf Eichmann by unmasking and kidnapping the German and secretly taking him to Israel. This crowd-pleasing comedy will delight audiences with its cinematography and cast. Uruguay's Official Entry for Best Foreign Language Film, 87<sup>th</sup> Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences.

### Awards:

- Best Actor, Biarritz International Festival of Latin American Cinema, 2014.
- Best Film, Director, Photography, Screenplay, Sound, Actress, Uruguayan Film Critics Association, 2014.
- Best Actor, Monte-Carlo Comedy Film Festival, 2015.
- Best Screenplay, Huelva Latin American Film Festival, 2014.





Wednesday, May 27 | 7:30 pm

# The Gett, the Trial of Vivian Amsalem

Israel/France/Germany **2014**. Hebrew, French with English subtitles

**DRAMA**. Directors: Ronit Elkabetz and Shlomi Elkabetz

115 minutes | Eye Steel Film

An Israeli woman seeking to finalize a divorce (*gett*) from her estranged husband finds herself effectively put on trial by her country's religious marriage laws, in this powerhouse courtroom drama from sibling directors Shlomi and Ronit Elkabetz. Trapped in a loveless marriage, Viviane Amsalem has been applying for a divorce for three years but her religiously devout husband Elisha continually refuses. His cold intransigence, Viviane's determination to fight for her freedom, and the ambiguous role of the rabbinical judges shape a procedure where tragedy vies with absurdity and everything is brought out into the open for judgment. **Gett: The Trial of Vivian Amsalem** is an uncompromising, heart-rending portrait of a woman's struggle to overcome an unmoving patriarchy and live a life of her own design.

## Awards:

- Best Film, Best Supporting Actor, Best Director, Best Actor, Best Actress, Best Screenplay, Best Editing, Awards of the Israeli Film Academy, 2014.
- Best Israeli Feature, Jerusalem Film Festival, 2014.
- Directors to Watch, Palm Springs International Film Festival, 2015.

## Nomination:

- Best Foreign Language Film, Golden Globe Awards, 2015.







Thursday, May 28 | 7:30 pm

# Above and Beyond: The Untold True Story

USA 2014. English

**DOCUMENTARY.** Director: Roberta Grossman

96 minutes | Katahdin Productions

In 1948, just three years after the liberation of Nazi death camps, a group of Jewish American pilots answered a call for help. In secret and at great personal risk, they smuggled planes out of the U.S., trained behind the Iron Curtain in Czechoslovakia and flew for Israel in its War of Independence. As members of *Machal* – “volunteers from abroad” – this ragtag band of brothers not only turned the tide of the war; they also embarked on personal journeys of discovery and renewed Jewish pride. More than a retelling of the '48 Arab-Israeli War, **Above and Beyond** examines the motivations of the foreign volunteers – both Jews and non-Jews and how critical the actions of these young American men were for the country’s survival.





Friday, May 29 | 5:00 pm

# The German Doctor Wakolda

Argentina/France/Norway/Spain **2014.**

Spanish, German, Hebrew with English subtitles

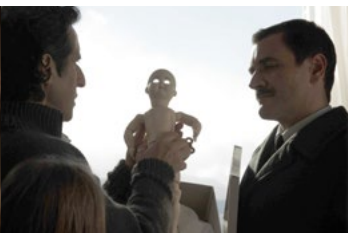
**DRAMA. Director: Lucía Puenzo**

94 minutes | IDP distribution

Based on a true story, this chilling drama traces the crossroads of a Nazi doctor, an Israeli secret agent, and a growing Argentinian family in 1960s Patagonia. This historical drama depicts the life story of notorious Nazi war criminal Josef Mengele during his exile in South America. The thriller follows this family that befriends and entrusts their young daughter to his care, unaware that he is among the world's most wanted men. Based on filmmaker Lucía Puenzo's fifth novel, the story follows Josef Mengele, the "Angel of Death," a German SS officer and a physician at the Auschwitz concentration camp, in the years he spent "hiding," along with many other Nazis, in South America following his escape from Germany. Selected as Argentina's submission to the Academy Awards in 2013.

## Awards:

- Best Film, Make-Up, Editing, Production Design, Costume Design, New Actress, Supporting Actress, Actor, Director, Academy of Motion Pictures Arts and Sciences of Argentina, 2013.
- Best Film, Director, Actress, Actor, Supporting Actor, Supporting Actress, Argentinean Film Critics Association Award, 2014.
- Best Director, Havana Film Festival, 2013.





Saturday, May 30 | 8:00 pm

# Magic Men

## *Ha-ben shel elohim*

Israel **2014**. Hebrew with English subtitles

**DRAMA**. Directors: Guy Nattiv and Erez Tadmor

100 minutes | Go2o Films

**Magic Men** is a moving and beautifully shot father-and-son road trip movie from the directors of the hit Israeli comedy *A Matter of Size*. Shipped off by his boss to a little-known town twinning ceremony in Greece, Avraham is faced by his own buried past as a young Greek Jewish boy hidden during the Second World War by a local magician. Avraham's Hassidic rapster son is sent to keep an eye on him and the toxic combination of their tiring and estranged relationship makes for a volatile journey with some unexpected and often amusing twists and encounters. Directors Guy Nattiv and Erez Tadmor's thoughtful film is an ambitious and poignant portrait of family relationships, the divide between religious and secular and the coming together of cultures.

### Awards:

- Best Actor, Awards of the Israeli Film Academy, 2013.
- Audience Award, Narrative Feature World Cinema, Maui Film Festival, 2014.

### Nominations:

- Best Supporting Actor, Best Music, Awards of the Israeli Film Academy, 2013.







Monday, June 1 | 7:30 pm

# Bethlehem

## Bet-Lechem

Israel/Germany/Belgium **2014**. Hebrew, Arabic with English subtitles

**DRAMA**. Director: Harry Abu-Assad

99 minutes | Mongrel Media

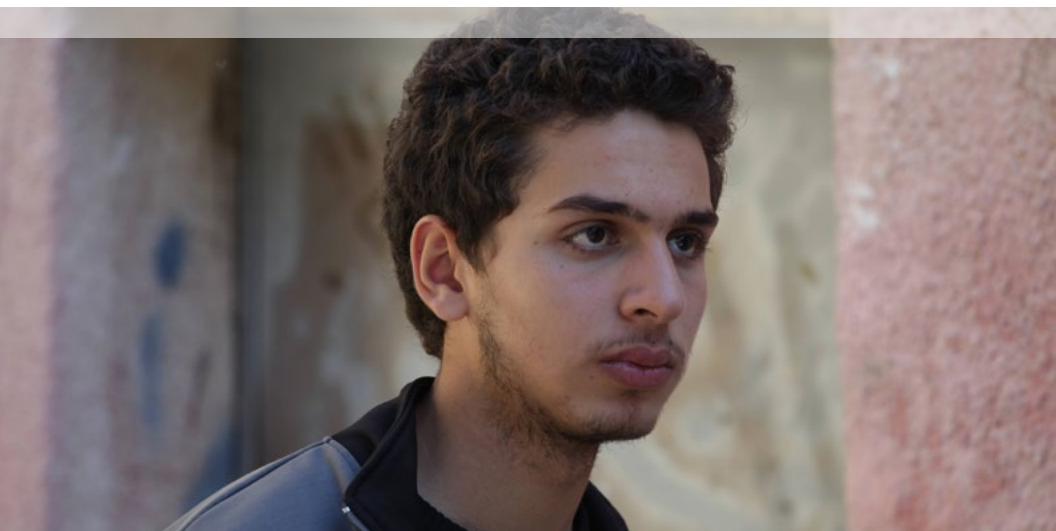
Israel's official entry for Best Foreign Language Film Oscar in 2014, **Bethlehem** is an intricate, cliffhanger centered on the tragic relationship between an Israeli intelligence officer and his Palestinian informant. Shifting between streetwise Israeli and Palestinian viewpoints, this morally complex story achieves added authenticity by the experiences of first-time writer-director Yuval Adler who served in Israeli military intelligence, and co-writer Ali Waked, a Palestinian journalist.

### Awards:

- Best Film, Director, Screenplay, Best Supporting Actor, Best Casting, Best Editing, Awards of the Israeli Film Academy, 2013.
- Best Actor, Asian Film Critics Association Awards, 2014.
- Best Film, Venice Film Festival, 2013.

### Nominations:

- Best Actor, Cinematography, Art Direction, Sound, Make-up, Music, Awards of the Israeli Film Academy, 2013.





Tuesday, June 2 | 7:30 pm

# The Outrageous Sophie Tucker

USA 2014. English

**DOCUMENTARY.** Director: William Gazecki

96 minutes | Menemsha Films

The rags to riches story of Sophie Tucker, an iconic superstar who ruled the worlds of vaudeville, Broadway, radio, television, and Hollywood throughout the 20<sup>th</sup> century. Sophie Tucker was the first woman to infatuate her audiences with a bold, bawdy and brassy style unlike any other. Using all of "The Last of the Red Hot Mamas" 400-plus recently rediscovered personal scrapbooks, authors Susan and Lloyd Ecker take you on their seven-year journey retracing Tucker's 60-year career in show business. Appearances by Tony Bennett, Barbara Walters, Michael Feinstein, Carol Channing, Shecky Greene and Bruce Vilanch reveal the charismatic woman behind the extravagant costumes and racy lyrics who never forgot her immigrant Jewish roots.







*Sophie Tucker's Fund*



*Sophie Tucker - Winnipeg 1917*

Special Guests:

**Susan and Lloyd Ecker, Producers**

***The Outrageous Sophie Tucker***

Filmmakers **Susan and Lloyd Ecker**

will lead a Q & A following the film and share some good and not good stories of **Sophie Tucker's time in Winnipeg.**

Since their college days, the Eckers have been pursuing their passion for bringing Sophie Tucker's life to the page, stage, and screen. With one book, the first in a trilogy about Sophie Tucker's life, and a documentary already under their belts, the Eckers now intend to take Sophie's story to Broadway with a musical, to Hollywood with a film version of that musical, and to the small screen in a long running television drama based on her unbelievable sixty-year showbiz career.



*Sophie Tucker*

***Photos: Sophie Tucker in Winnipeg***



Wednesday, June 3 | 7:30 pm

# 24 Days

## 24 jours

France **2014**. French with English subtitles

**DRAMA.** Directors: Alexandre Arcady

110 minutes | Menemsha Films

### Award:

- The Jewish Experience Award, Jerusalem Film Festival, 2014.

French director Alexandre Arcady delivers one of the most “wrenching and politically astute” films to come out of France (*Screen Daily*). Based on a book co-written by Ilan’s mother, Ruth Halimi, Arcady’s cinematic adaptation offers a searing insight into his vicious ordeal, the violent world of the gang of Barbarians, and the harrowing experience of his family waiting and hoping the police would save their son. For 24 days the police, insistent upon handling the case as a normal for-ransom kidnapping, fail to recognize the antisemitic hatred of his abductors. Many opportunities to save Ilan are missed or squandered as his family receives nearly 700 phone calls, insults, threats, photographs and sound recordings of their tortured son.





## Thursday, June 4 | 7:30 pm

# Ida

Poland/Denmark/France **2014**. Polish, Latin, French with English subtitles  
**DRAMA**. Director: **Pawel Pawlikowski**  
80 minutes | Filmswelike

From acclaimed director Pawel Pawlikowski comes **Ida**, a moving and intimate drama about a young novitiate nun in 1960s Poland who, on the verge of taking her vows, makes a shocking discovery about her past. Naïve, innocent Anna soon finds herself in the presence of her aunt Wanda who reveals 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. Powerfully written and eloquently shot, **Ida** is a masterly evocation of a time, a dilemma, and a defining historical moment. This intersection of the personal with momentous historic events makes for what is surely one of the most powerful and affecting films of the year.

### Awards:

- Best Foreign Language Film of the Year, Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences, 2015.
- Best Film Not in English Language, British Academy of Film Awards, 2015.
- Alliance of Women Film Journalists, Best Non-English Language Film, 2014.
- Best Foreign Language Film, New York Film Critics Award, 2014.
- Best Film, Director, Actress, Editing, Polish Film Awards, 2014.







Friday, June 5 | 5:00 pm

# Farewell Herr Schwarz

## Heye Shalom, Peter Schwarz

Germany/Israel/English 2014. English subtitles

**DOCUMENTARY.** Director: Yael Reuveny

96 minutes | Blacksheepfilms

In 1945, after the war's end, sister and brother Michla and Feiv'ke Schwarz didn't meet in Lodz as they had planned. Michla Schwartz, survived the death camps and traveled to a Jewish state that was about to be founded in the Middle East. Her brother Feiv'ke, considered dead, returned to East Germany, married a German woman and inexplicably lived amidst the concentration camp ruins where he was once a prisoner. A meeting that was mysteriously missed in 1945 divided a family into two. **Farewell Herr Schwarz** is a cinematic journey about buried family secrets, the Holocaust from a third generation perspective and how it is never too late to reclaim your heritage.

### Award:

- Best Documentary, Haifa International Film Festival, 2014.

### Nomination:

- Best Documentary, Awards of the Israeli Film Academy, 2014.





Saturday, June 6 | 8:00 pm

# Zero Motivation

## *Efes beyahasei enosh*

Israel 2014. Hebrew, English with subtitles  
**COMEDY/DRAMA.** Director: Talya Lavie  
 100 minutes | Filmswelike

A smash hit in Israel **Zero Motivation** is a unique, sharply observed, sometimes dark and often hilarious portrait of everyday life for a unit of young, female soldiers in a remote Israeli desert outpost. Playing out like *M\*A\*S\*H* meets *Orange is the New Black*, Talya Lavie's brilliant debut details the power struggles of three women with different agendas and very little to do. With shifts of tone that go from slapstick to satiric to horrifying with fluid ease, and with a superb supporting cast of characters, **Zero Motivation** is destined to be one of the most talked about films of the year.

### Awards:

- Best Film, Director, Actress, Screenplay, Editing, Casting, Music, Supporting Actresses, Awards of the Israeli Film Academy, 2014.
- Best Narrative Feature, Tribeca Film Festival, 2014.

### Nominations:

- Best Art Direction, Sound, Make Up, Awards of the Israeli Film Academy, 2014.
- Best Foreign Film by or About Women, Women Film Critics Circle Awards, 2014.

