

Winnipeg International
**Jewish Film
Festival**

March **15** – March **27** | **2010**



Winnipeg Free Press

Tickets/Information: **477-7510**
www.radyjcc.com – Click on Ticket Central

Berney Theatre
Rady Jewish Community Centre
123 Doncaster Street

Monday, March 15 7:30 pm

ELI & BEN

Eli v' Ben

Eli is a 12-year-old boy whose world is turned upside down when his father, the city architect of Herzliya, Israel is charged with taking bribes. When Ben is taken into custody right before Eli's eyes and the news makes its way into the newspaper and the school ground alike, Eli is convinced that his father is innocent. He intends to draw on the full reserves of his innocence and mischief to see to it that his father is released. But the path is not as simple as Eli faces injustice, corruption and pretense, among both adults and children. He shapes his own principles and sticks to them. In the process he will rediscover his father and taste the bitter sting of first love. In this heartbreaking yet captivating coming-of-age feature, an Israeli boy grapples with profound ethical dilemmas and the love for his father.

Israel, 2009

Hebrew, English subtitles
90 minutes
Director: Ori David



Awards

- Grand Prix Golden Swan, Moscow International Film Festival for Children and Youth, 2009
- Audience Award for Best Feature Fiction, Boston Jewish Film Festival, 2009

Nomination

- Best Supporting Actor, Awards of the Israeli Film Academy, 2009

PG: Not recommended for young children, language may offend.

Tuesday, March 16 7:30 pm

HUMAN FAILURE

Menschliches Versagen



Awards

- Yad Vashem Chairman's Award, Jewish Experience Section, Jerusalem Film Festival, 2009
- Top Prize for German Documentaries on Jewish Themes, Berlin Jewish Film Festival, 2009
- Visionary Award for filmmaker Michael Verhoeven, Washington Jewish Film Festival, 2009

G: Mature Theme

What happened to the possessions that the Jews left behind during and after the Holocaust? Apartments, furniture, bed linens, kitchenware, cars, cash, bank accounts (in Germany and abroad), and of course the offices, the stores, the factories, etc. The appropriation of assets from German Jews during the Third Reich benefited virtually every other German citizen. It was not the Gestapo who invaded Jewish homes in order to confiscate all property, from bank accounts to bed linens - it was the German tax officials. While larger assets went to the tax offices, smaller assets and goods were sold to friends and neighbours in public auctions of "Non-Aryan" property. Acclaimed filmmaker Michael Verhoeven's documentary documents the bizarre competition that developed between bureaucrats as to how to organize the robbery of the Jews prior to their deportation and death. Until just several years ago, the documents proving this planned expropriation were lost, destroyed or hidden away. This excellent film was an international success, received many prizes and was nominated for an Academy Award as best foreign language film.

Germany

German, English subtitles
90 minutes
Director: Michael Verhoeven

Wednesday, March 17 7:30 pm

BROKEN PROMISE

Nedodržaný slub

An exceptional drama from Slovakia, ***Broken Promise*** recounts the compelling and true story of teenager Martin Friedmann's escape from deportation several times between 1938 and 1945. Born as the youngest of five sons in the family of a poultry trader, Martin starts off life carefree, playing soccer and even assisting with the bell-ringing in the local church. At the outset, Martin and his family are naïve to the imminent Nazi threat, even when the recently established Slovak state allies itself with Hitler. As Martin's Bar-Mitzvah approaches, life begins to change and Martin's family leaves his life one by one. Some escape to Palestine, some are sent to Slovak work camps and others to concentration camps in Poland. Martin's own calling takes him away from home and family to starvation, hard labour and illness to a new identity (Petrášek), and to armed combat where he joins the Partisan resistance to take up arms against the Nazis. With plenty of thrills and twists along the way, ***Broken Promise*** unravels the process of transformation of a boy into an adult; all the circumstances which help Martin to live by stressing his joie-de-vivre despite the pitfalls of the post-WW II era.

Slovakia / Czech Republic / USA

Slovak, Russian, English subtitles

130 minutes

Director: Jiri Chlumsky



Awards

- Best Narrative Feature, Los Angeles Jewish Film Festival, 2009
- Silver Dolphin Award for the Best Actor Samuel Spisák, Festroia IFF 2009

PG: Not recommended for young children.

Thursday, March 18 7:30 pm

MAX MINSKY & ME

Max Minsky und ich



Awards

- Jury Award Cinekid Lion Prize, 21st International Children's Festival, Amsterdam 2007
- Audience Award- Best Film, Sarajevo Film Festival, 2007
- Grand Prix de Montreal, Montreal International Children's Film Festival, 2008

For a 13-year-old, Nelly has little time for superficial girl talk. Her only friends are her books because she wants to be an astronomer when she grows up. Her love of the stars is her connection to her heartthrob, the sweet 16-year-old prince of Luxembourg, Edouard. When her school's girls basketball team gets invited to compete in Luxembourg, under the patronage of the Prince, her direction is clear - she has to get on the team! However Nelly is a total zero when it comes to sports and needs all the help she can get. Thank goodness for the kid next door, Max Minsky who is ready to make a deal: he will teach her basketball if she does his homework for him. Max may be a genius with a ball, but when it comes to school he is a total loser. But as Nelly practices daily on the court, she is letting her Hebrew studies slip and, much to the dismay of her mother, Lucy this could spell big trouble for her upcoming Bat Mitzvah. Nelly is desperately trying to juggle her family, school and sports but in the end she has to decide for herself what's truly important...

Germany, 2007

German, English subtitles
95 minutes
Director: Anna Justice

PG

Saturday, March 20 9:00 pm

A MATTER OF SIZE

Sipur Gadol

A Matter of Size is a tender comedy that tackles the themes of body shame and body celebration. Fed up with a diet-obsessed world and being teased for their weight, four working class friends from a small Israeli city discover the world of sumo wrestling, where large people are honoured and appreciated. With the benefit of a Japanese former Sumo coach turned restaurant owner, they decide to follow a new aspiration of becoming sumo wrestlers and eventually fall in love with the sport. The outcome is a delightful and very funning story of resolve and personal acceptance. This feel-good movie of the festival circuit has already been picked up for a Hollywood remake by the Weinstein brothers.

Israel/Germany/France

Hebrew, Japanese, English subtitles

95 minutes

Directors: Erez Tadmor and Sharon Maymon



Awards

- Best Actress, Best Supporting Actress, Best Costume Design, Israeli Film Academy, 2008
- Audience Award, Karlovy Vary International Film Festival, 2009
- Best Feature Film - Prix Aquitaine, Sarlat International Cinema Festival, 2009
- Favourite Feature Film-Audience Award, Washington Jewish Film Festival, 2009

Nominations

- Best Film, Best Screenplay, Best Actor, Best Art Direction, Best Cinematography, Best Director, Best Editing, Best Music, Best Sounds, Israeli Film Academy, 2008

14A

Sunday, March 21 2:00 pm

MRS. MOSCOWITZ & THE CATS

Gevert Moscowitz V'Hachatulim



Mrs. Moscowitz & the Cats

is a beautiful and tender story about the isolation, fear and confinements of growing old alone. When Yolanda a retired French teacher wakes up in the hospital geriatric ward she is positive that it is a mistake. But the titanium plate in her hip confines her to a wheelchair and to a lengthy convalescence.

Nevertheless, Yolanda discovers a new life in the hospital and befriends Allegra, an introverted woman who is her roommate and Shaul who teaches her to love again in spite of his own demons.

Israel

Hebrew, English subtitles

Director: Jorge Gurvich

85 minutes

Awards

- Wolgin Award – Best Actress, Jerusalem Film Festival, 2009

Nomination

- Best Actress, Israeli Film Academy Awards, 2009

PG: Not recommend for young children

Sunday, March 14 7:00 pm

JEW SÜSS

Jud Süß

Special screening of the original film by Veit Harlan

This anti-Semitic propaganda film and great cinematic success describes the life of the early 18th-century court Jew Josef Süß Oppenheimer. This film is being shown for educational purposes as a precursor to the Harlan screening on March 21.

Germany, 1940

German, English subtitles

Director: Veit Harlan

90 minutes



Following the screening there will be a panel discussion regarding the film with University of Manitoba scholars:

Catherine Chatterley, Department of History

Jonah Corne, Film Studies Program

Stephan Jaeger, Department of German and Slavic Studies

Adam Muller, Department of English, Film, and Theatre

Lionel Steiman, Department of History

**Location: Room 2M77, University of Winnipeg
FREE ADMISSION**

Presented by: Judaic Studies Program, University of Manitoba; JSA/Hillel; Jewish Studies Research Circle; Institute of Humanities, University of Manitoba; Department of German-Canadian Studies, University of Winnipeg; Chair in German-Canadian Studies, University of Winnipeg; Winnipeg International Jewish Film Festival



HARLAN - IN THE SHADOW OF JEW SÜSS

Harlan - Im Schatten von Jud Süß

will be presented as part of the Winnipeg International Jewish Film Festival.

Sunday, March 21, 7:00 pm, Berney Theatre, Asper Jewish Community Campus,

Tickets: \$8M/\$10NM 477-7510, www.radyjcc.com –Click on Ticket Central

Sunday, March 21 7:00 pm

HARLAN

IN THE SHADOW OF JEW SÜSS

Harlan- Im Schatten von Jud Süß



PG: Not recommend for young children

Following the screening there will be a panel discussion regarding the film with:

Benjamin Baader, Department of History, University of Manitoba
Catherine Chatterley, Department of History, University of Manitoba
Alexander Freund, Department of History, University of Winnipeg
Stephan Jaeger, Department of German and Slavic Studies, University of Manitoba
Adam Muller, Department of English, Film, and Theatre, University of Manitoba

Though almost forgotten today, Veit Harlan was one of Nazi Germany's most notorious filmmakers. Millions all across occupied Europe saw his films, the most perfidious of which was the treacherous anti-Semitic propaganda film ***Jew Süß (Jud Süß)***—required viewing for all SS members. As Joseph Goebbels' top director he was an unrepentant and blindly obsessive craftsman, and was also the only artist from the Nazi era to be charged with war crimes. With never-before-seen archival footage, unearthed film excerpts, rare home movies and new interviews, (including Christine Kubrick, wife of legendary director Stanley Kubrick) this powerful documentary is indeed a searing portrait of the controversial filmmaker and an eye-opening examination of World War II film history. But it also shows how Veit Harlan's family—especially the youngest generation—struggles even today with the dark myth of his artistic immorality. It's the story of a German family from the Third Reich to the present, one that is marked by reckoning, denial and liberation.

Germany, 2009

German, English subtitles

99 minutes

Director: Felix Moeller

**The original
film *Jew Süß*
by Veit Harlan
will be screened on
Sunday, March 14,
7:00 pm 2M77,
University of
Winnipeg**

Monday, March 22 7:30 pm

THE LITTLE TRAITOR

The founding of the State of Israel is the setting for this inspiring and acclaimed film that portrays a surprising friendship between a feisty boy and a kindhearted British soldier. Proffy Liebowitz, a militant yet sensitive twelve year old, has grown up under British occupation and wants nothing more than for the occupying British to get out of his land. While out after curfew, Proffy is apprehended by British Sergeant Dunlop (Alfred Molina). Instead of arresting him, Sergeant Dunlop escorts him back home. The accidental encounter leads to a meaningful bond between supposed enemies. A beautifully shot film that parallels the creation of the State of Israel with one boy's formative years. Chosen as the opening night film for the Israeli Film Festival to celebrate Israel's 60th anniversary.

Israel/USA 2007

English, Hebrew,

English subtitles

90 minutes

Director: Lynn Roth

Executive Producer: Marilyn Hall,
wife of Winniepegger Monty Hall.



Awards

- Audience Award – Best Feature Film, Palm Beach International Film Festival, 2008
- Audience Award – Best Feature Film, Atlanta & Los Angeles Jewish Film Festivals, 2008

Nomination

- Best Costume Design, Israeli Film Academy Awards, 2008

PG: Mature theme

Tuesday, March 23 7:30 pm

SIXTY SIX



It is the summer of '66, and England is about to be overwhelmed by World Cup fever. For 12-year-old Bernie though, the biggest day of his life is approaching—his Bar Mitzvah—and the day he becomes a man. The extent of Bernie's Bar Mitzvah fades daily as Bernie's parents—played by Helena Bonham Carter and Eddie Marsan—is growingly preoccupied by the risk of losing their family business and their rebellious older son. Worst of all, the Cup Final is listed to take place on the same day and when England makes it through the qualifying rounds, Bernie's longed-for Bar Mitzvah looks like it is going to be a complete catastrophe. A wistful tale of childhood, **Sixty Six** is told with the right combination of hilarious comedy and real-world drama that finish off triumphantly for Bernie and his family.

UK, 2006

English

95 minutes

Director: Paul Weiland

PG: Not recommended for young children,
language may offend, tobacco use/promotion

Wednesday, March 24 7:30 pm

SAVIORS IN THE NIGHT

Unter Bauern

The mesmerizing true feature film of a Jewish family that found haven with courageous Westphalian farmers during WW II. Based on the memories of Marga Spiegel, we discover how courageous farmers in southern Münsterland hid her, her husband Menne and their little daughter Karin from 1943 until 1945, thus saving them from deportation to the extermination camps in the East. The film tells this story of survival with a sense for the absurd in daily life and not without the typical Westphalian humour. Without reservation, the farmers offer the refugees their protection. That this turns them into heroes would never occur to them. They are used to weathering even dangerous situations somehow, guided only by their instinct and century-old code of ethics. They risk their own lives, and, if necessary, even that of their families. There is never a discussion about friendship, reliability and humanity. **Saviors in the Night** is an uplifting and life-affirming story which honours these voiceless heroes.

Germany/France

German, French, English subtitles
95 minutes
Director: Ludi Boeken



PG: Not recommended for young children.

Thursday, March 25 7:30 pm

NORA'S WILL

Cinco días sin Nora



Mexico City's close-knit Jewish community is the setting for this moving and unassuming comedy where a divorcée plans to bring together her family and friends by ending her life on the eve of Passover. She leaves behind detailed plans for the Passover Seder and unintentionally, a mysterious snapshot that leads to a surprising revelation about Nora that changes everyone's perspective on her. A colourful collection of characters assembles in Nora's apartment, including disapproving rabbis, a devoted housekeeper, a half-blind aunt and the couple's grown son as Nora's ex-husband José grudgingly handles funeral arrangements considering his cynicism about Jewish rituals. As this disparate group meets and tries to honour Nora's wishes, they find out a great deal about her and themselves.

Awards

- Best Film, Biarritz International Festival of Latin American Cinema, 2009
- Best Mexican Film, Festival, 2009
- Grand Coral Award – Feature Competition, Havana Film Festival, 2009
- Jury Award – Best Director & Best First Film, Los Angeles Latino International Film Festival, 2008
- Best Film, Mar del Plata, 2009
- Audience Award, Miami Film Festival, 2009
- Audience Award, Festival, 2009

PG: Not recommend for young children, mature theme

Mexico, 2009

Spanish, English subtitles
95 minutes
Director: Mariana Chenillo

Saturday, March 27 9:30 pm

LOST ISLANDS

Iim Avudim

Lost Islands is a humorous drama which focuses on a large and high-spirited working class family struggling with marital fidelity, sibling jealousy and teen anguish. The early 1980s are the backdrop of this autobiographical film which was Israel's biggest box office success in 2008. Twin brothers Erez and Ofer are two members of this unique yet typical family who seem opposite in every way. Happily wreaking havoc and chasing girls in a still rather naïve Israel, they fall in love with the same free-spirited girl setting off a rivalry that pulls them apart. This poignant film tackles the division between family commitments and individual desires.

Israel, 2008

Hebrew, English subtitles

103 minutes

Director: Reshef Levy



Awards

- Best Actor, Best Supporting Actor, Best Music, Best Costume Design, Israeli Film Academy Awards, 2008

Nominations

- Best Film, Best Screenplay, Best Actress, Best Supporting Actress, Best Supporting Actor, Best Art Direction, Best Cinematography, Best Editing, Best Sound, Awards of the Israeli Film Academy, 2008

14 A: Not recommend for young children, course language

3rd
ANNUAL

Mameloshen²⁰¹⁰

FESTIVAL OF YIDDISH ENTERTAINMENT AND CULTURE

Coming
Soon!

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Tuesday May 11 A Tribute to the Barry Sisters

Performing songs that made this
duo internationally acclaimed.

Featuring our own Shayla Fink
and Debbie Maslowsky



Monday May 17

A Bisele Haimeshe Yiddish

Featuring

Aliza & the KGB (Klezmer Gypsy Band)

Gray Academy Students

Richard Yaffe & Jane Enkin
and Friends



Tuesday May 25

From Toronto

Mitch Smolkin

Yiddish Broadway: The Golden Age
of Yiddish American Music



TICKETS &
PACKAGES

Rady Jewish Community Centre 477-7510
www.radyjcc.com – Click on Ticket Central

Winnipeg International Jewish Film Festival | March 15 – March 27, 2010

TICKETS



Individual Ticket:

\$8 M / \$10 NM

Six Pack:

Choose SIX different films
in Advance

\$40 M / \$50 NM

Festival Pass:

Access to ALL
festival films

\$80 M / \$100 NM

Prices include GST. Pass holders must arrive a minimum of 15 minutes in advance to ensure seating. No exchanges/refunds. Films are subject to classification

Tickets/Information: **477-7510**
www.radyjcc.com – Click on Ticket Central

Berney Theatre
Rady Jewish Community Centre
123 Doncaster Street