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Official Program Guide

SIFF 14 GO GREEN



American Jewish Committee presents

14th ANNUAL SEATTLE

JEWISH FILM FESTIVAL

Thursday, April 23 to Sunday, May 3, 2009

Venues: Cinerama, SIFF Cinema, MOHAI. Check schedule and locations



Martin Selig and
Catherine Mayer



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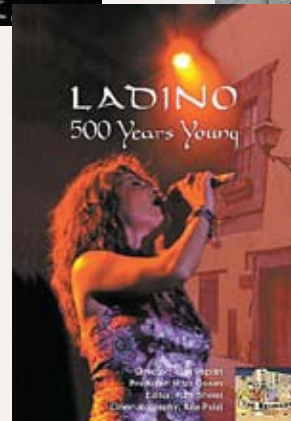
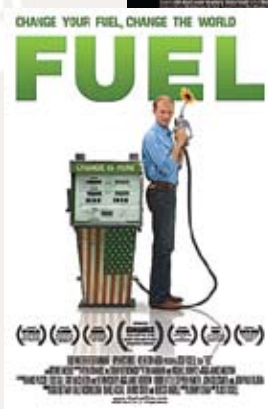
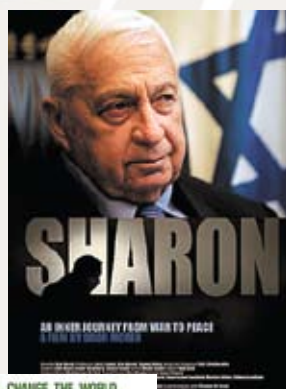


MARTIN SELIG
and
CATHERINE MAYER



2009 Seattle Jewish Film Festival Program

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"Lean, Mean & Green" SJFF 14!

"Our natural environment today faces a threat unparalleled in human history. The world's religions have a crucial role to play in providing moral leadership for the protection of the earth."

■ Rabbi Lawrence Troster of GreenFaith

Welcome "SJFF 14, Go Green!" Friends and Festival Attendees:

What do you do the day after Earth Day in a down-turned economy? You attend the "lean, mean & green" 2009 AJC Seattle Jewish Film Festival! To weather the financial uncertainty of our current economic climate, SJFF was already committed to running a *lean* festival this 14th season, without sacrificing one iota of *mean*-ing or quality. And our concern for the environment, matched by AJC's imperative to curb dependence on foreign oil, proved a fitting opportunity to mount a lean and meaningful *green* festival. "SJFF 14, Go Green!" is an artful attempt to reduce the festival's and our community's carbon footprint and teach audiences how "going green" is a core Jewish value (see full article page 6).

Jewish Tradition has much wisdom to teach us about our relationship with the natural world around us. The Creation story, for example, tells us that not only must we till or work the land, we must also guard it or protect it. The laws of *Shabbat* teach us that we must not overwork the land, but let it rest and replenish itself. The laws of *bal tashchit* instruct us not to waste or destroy the earth's precious resources. Embedded in the many stories, laws and teachings are core values and principles that guide us in our everyday lives and can inspire everyone in this Emerald City who enjoy its bounty.

Throughout the festival, audiences will be asked to take the Jewish Climate Challenge,TM a "covenant" with the earth to make immediate and impactful lifestyle changes that have a positive and measurable effect upon our environment, reduce their consumption by two-percent come next festival. We are extremely grateful to Rabbi Zari Weiss and Yoram Bernet for their leadership and partnership in this endeavor, and encourage everyone to join us on Sunday, May 3rd, for our culminating Closing Day panel, "Green Faith/Faithfully Green," an interfaith roundtable dialogue among religious leaders, eco-preneurs as well as artists who have all taken a leap-of-faith when it comes to environmental stewardship, advocacy and cultural production.

We hope everyone will buy a pass this year not only to support a festival that has seen donations drop significantly, but also to support our effort to present free events and screenings, and a world-class Jewish eco-exhibit, all to benefit our community. The films *My Left Hand*, and "Green Screens" *Renewal* and *Fuel* are all being presented at MOHAI on Closing Sunday at no charge. And don't miss the community-wide Israeli Independence Day films and celebrations on Wednesday, April 29th, and the riotous comedy of Cory Kahaney on Sunday, April 26th. Cupcakes and comedy may be just what the doctor (of economics) ordered!

Many thanks and a fond farewell to Rabbi Anson Laytner for his incredible mentorship and quiet leadership and to former director Julie Hammer Mahdavi, a vital force who passed away before her time recently. Finally, we would like to thank all those who made this event possible: AJC's hard-working staff, board and festival committees, our new and renewing sponsors and generous patrons, SJFF's dedicated intern, FILMTalks coordinator and volunteers, and our supportive community and audiences.

To a meaningful festival and a greener future,

Pamela Lavitt, *Festival Director*

David Brumer and Marilyn Weissman, *Festival Co-Chairs*

SJFF 2009 Film Committee: Julie Mirel, Marilyn Meyer, Michele Tesler, Mindy Stern, Shelley Dillon, Shelly Schapiro and Tamar Benzikry-Stern.

SJFF 2009 Advisory Committee: Billy Howard, Daniella Cohen, Evelyn Blatt, Evelyn Tsezana, Henry Zimmerman, Jenise Silva, Michael Nank, Michele Lorenzo-Katz and Rebecca Kaplan.



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1402 Third Avenue ■ Suite 405

Seattle WA ■ 98101-2100

Tel: 206.622.6315 ■ Fax: 206.622.3015

www.ajcseattle.org

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On the Road to Shanghai

AJC President's Welcome



Dear Friends:

I am delighted to welcome you to the 14th Seattle Jewish Film Festival. Every year, American Jewish Committee (AJC) celebrates with you wonderful Jewish cinema as part of our efforts to strengthen Jewish life by educating and raising awareness about the Jewish experience and challenges, while enjoying entertaining and thought-provoking films from around the world.

This year we are highlighting the importance of SJFF's "Go Green!" drive, an important priority of AJC, with a special program on Closing Sunday, and our festival is

the focal point for a community-wide celebration of Israel Independence Day on Wednesday, April 29th. Supporting Israel's quest for peace and security is a key area of AJC focus, and we are delighted to celebrate the miracle of Israel through stimulating Israeli movies and a performance by the new Seattle Jewish Chorale.

Our educational and advocacy efforts extend around the globe. As part of the Seattle chapter China initiative, AJC has been a co-producer of a Chinese TV mini-series about Israel and the Jewish civilization "From Avraham to the 21 Century." This is one of the most important programs about the Jewish civilization ever done by foreign TV. Our chapter is also working with the Israeli Consulate in Shanghai to show Jewish films at the Shanghai International Film Festival.

Of course, films are just one of the numerous ways AJC promotes pluralistic and democratic societies where all minorities are protected from all forms of bigotry and are free to celebrate their culture. What makes AJC unique is its access to political, civic, ethnic and religious leaders around the world through meticulous diplomacy. However, a film is more powerful than a thousand words, so let's enjoy the magic of SJFF cinema. Thank you for all your support of SJFF over the years!!!



In China, AJC Seattle President Moshe Dunie enjoyed lunch with professors and students from Nanjing University's Jewish Studies Department in their staff cafeteria.

Moshe Dunie
President, AJC Greater Seattle Chapter



AJC's Greater Seattle Chapter Offers Many Opportunities To Get Involved:

Seattle Jewish Film Festival is the premiere program of the Greater Seattle chapter and a celebrated part of the great cultural mosaic of our community and region.

Outreach to the Consuls and Ambassadors is a fundamental way for us to introduce them to the local Jewish community and its perspectives on key issues, and for us to learn their perspectives on issues as well.

The Student Human Relations Awards have been presented since 1959 to deserving Seattle-area high school juniors and seniors who demonstrate exemplary human relations in their schools or communities. Nominees are awarded the Max H. Block Student Human Relations Award and finalists will receive a Deborah Rosen Scholarship.

FILMTalks uses the medium of film as a launch pad for discussion of and exploration by high school students into the sensitive topics of racism and prejudice.

AJC Human Relations Award is presented annually to a corporation or individual for outstanding contributions to the well-being and improvement of our community-at-large.

Speakers/Lectures/Special Programs are an essential means to educate our members and the community about the complexities of contemporary issues.



SJFF14, GO GREEN!

How Going Green is a Core Jewish Value

Sustaining Community & Global Identity Through Film,
Promoting Energy Independence for the Planet

By Rachel Bravmann

"Reduce. Reuse. Recycle." is a rousing contemporary slogan, but for Jews, the inspiration to save the planet is deeply rooted in the Torah.

History, Halacha and the Environment

The Jewish commitment to the earth predates modern environmentalism by several thousand years. According to Jewish tradition, the earth belongs to G-d but, in the Garden of Eden, G-d designated Adam and Eve as the earth's stewards through the principle of *l'ovdah u'lshomrah*, or "to work and protect" (Genesis 2:15).

The Torah also speaks of *Bal Tashchit*, the law of no destruction or waste. In biblical times this *mitzvah* (commandment) forbade demolishing an enemy's fruit-bearing trees although it was acceptable to eat their fruit. The Torah teaches that by allowing trees to live and flower, they create abundant food resources for the people, thereby enabling societies to thrive.

Modern interpretations of *halacha* (Jewish Law) are bountiful. For many Jewish people, *Bal Tashchit* has come to symbolize a Jewish environmental imperative. This first appears in Deuteronomy 20:19, which prohibits the destruction of fruit trees in wartime. But for many synagogues, greening is not just about fulfilling a spiritual mandate. Being cautious about waste is a conscious, ethical choice to practice conservation and act as stewards of the environment. Another way of understanding our obligation to care for the world and its creatures is the concept of *Tikkun Olam*, commonly translated as "to repair the world" (or, to heal the world).

Similarly, the Jewish calendar is marked by rituals and holidays that reflect a contemporary view of Judaism's inherent environmental consciousness. Today, some consider *Shabbat* a "green day" of the week. We are taught for example, that it is our sacred obligation not to drive or activate electricity on this day (call it, "Shabbat



**"It's everyone's responsibility to care for the earth.
For Jews it's also a mitzvah."**

CLOSING SUNDAY FREE "GREEN SCREENS"



Kids at Camp Teva in "Ancient Roots," a short film from the documentary *Renewal*.



Fuel filmmaker Josh Tickell and his "Veggie Van."

unplugged!"); *Hanukkah* celebrates the miracle of recycled oil (what some have called "latke technology"); *Tu B'Shvat* is the Jewish Arbor Day, celebrating trees, and *Sukkot* is an autumn harvest holiday, observed by dwelling or eating in a modest hut, or *sukkah*. These holy days exist not only for the Jewish people, but are modern examples of Jewish environmental awareness from which everyone can learn.

AJC: Modern Day, Progressive Solutions

Our planet is in a growing state of environmental emergency, from the depletion of the ozone layer to overflowing landfills. Environmentalism is a 24/7/365 commitment, and living green is no longer an option, but a necessity.

Overseas, Israel is striving for technologies that reduce oil dependence, increase global security and that promise the creation of green jobs and infrastructures beyond its borders. **Here in the United States, American Jewish Committee (AJC) has combined its work to promote pluralistic democratic societies and its support for Israel as one country boldly pushing for energy independence from fossil fuels.** This is an enterprise that is beneficial for the United States, good for Israel, and positive for our entire planet. Given their values of protection and preservation, it comes as no surprise that **AJC strives to be in the forefront of the Jewish Green Movement, which includes being a leader in the electric car movement.**

AJC National's main offices are in a LEED-EB (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design-Existing Building) certified building, supporting not only a bold recycling program, but green cleaning policies, and a lighting reduction plan. Proudly, AJC Seattle is also in a

green LEED-EB building downtown. The AJC pushes the envelope even further by advocating for a plug-in system of hybrid electric cars around the country through Project New Car.

SJFF Going Green

This year, to complement AJC Seattle's commitment to promoting energy independence, the Seattle Jewish Film Festival (AJC's premiere program) undertakes an exceptional "GO GREEN!" educational program. To educate and motivate the community, SJFF is demonstrating how "going green" is a core Jewish value in a number of different ways.

For the entirety of the festival, the Seattle Jewish Film Festival is putting forth the theme **"Sustaining Community & Global Identity through Film, Promoting Energy Independence for the Planet."** This "Green Theme" communicates to festival-goers, and the community at large, AJC/SJFF's commitment to the environment and the overall well-being of the planet through films, programming and practices.

SJFF is stepping up, reducing the festival's carbon footprint and partnering with green organizations and businesses, such as Alphagraphics, our FSC Certified (Forest Stewardship Council) print sponsor; Paul Allen and Vulcan Inc., generous donors of Cinerama, who are using sustainable building practices to develop over 60 acres of land in Seattle's South Lake Union neighborhood; and celebrity restaurateur Tom Douglas—host of SJFF's Opening Night Party—who has been at the vanguard of restaurant recycling practices and supplies hundreds of Metro bus passes as part of a King County employer program. Opening Night, SJFF sponsor Craig Vinton, owner of All Star Entertainment, will display his electric car collection in the parking lot outside Cinerama. And for every audience member who signs up and takes a test drive with Carter Subaru ("On the Road to Carbon Neutral"/"Planting a Forest... One Test Drive at a Time"), Mountains to Sound Greenway will plant a tree in our local Greenway while SJFF, with the help of The Jewish National Fund, will plant a second tree in Israel—what amounts to a double, local-global green mitzvah!

What's more, throughout the festival, audiences will be asked to take the **"Jewish Climate Challenge,"** and enter into a **"covenant"** with the earth, pledging to make immediate and impactful lifestyle changes that have a positive and measurable effect upon our environment (see sidebar).

SJFF: Artistic Commitment to Eco-Paradigms

Film is an exciting and relevant way to bring socio-political issues to the masses. This year the Seattle Jewish Film Festival presents several topical films. We are proud to be showing *Fuel*, a thought-provoking documentary about America's addiction to oil, and short selections from the film *Renewal*, an interfaith-inquiry documentary about the green faith environmental movement. Not only will SJFF show environmentally impactful films, but these screenings will also be free and open to the public on Closing Day.

SJFF is also expanding and deepening its "Go Green" theme through a gallery show of work by artists informed by the Jewish experience who work in ecological paradigms. תיקונים | **Tikkunim**, a joint venture between SJFF and Howard House Contemporary Art (located on 2nd & James downtown), explores the convergence of Jewish roots and ecological art. Humanity, nature, ecology and sustainability are examined through the media and message of nine artists. From photographs examining Americans' relationship with nature to sculptures reminiscent of vessels of antiquity but composed of recycled plastic bottles, from images of remediation projects to a sukkah of wood salvaged from a home demolition, tikkun olam is addressed for its contemporary environmental and artful meanings. The artists presented in תיקונים | **Tikkunim** offer versions of repairing the world—meditations on the current state of affairs and possibilities for reparations. On view through May 2, Tamar Benzikry-Stern, the exhibit curator and a film festival committee member, will give a curator's talk for First Thursday on April 2nd. Check website for info/hours: www.howardhouse.net. (See article on page 8)

Green Faith: An Interfaith Roundtable

On Closing Sunday, May 3rd, upstairs in MOHAI's McCurdy Gallery at 5pm, SJFF 14, GO GREEN! culminates with "Green Faith/Faithfully Green," a panel discussion and screening of short films from the documentary *Renewal*. Speakers include non-profit and religious leaders from The Jewish Climate Challenge™ (Rodef Tzedek and Carbon Salon™), Mountains to Sound Greenway, The Jewish National Fund, Earth Ministry/Washington Interfaith Power and Light, "Ecopreneurs" from American Technion, as well as guest artists. The free panel concludes with a Closing Day reception (\$5 suggested donation), followed by a free public screening of the film *Fuel*, directed by Josh Tickell, who is expected to attend.

Rachel Bravmann is a freelance writer living in Seattle.



The Jewish Climate Challenge™

SJFF audiences are invited to join in The Jewish Climate Challenge™ and pledge to reduce their greenhouse gas emissions by at least 2% or more per year, by making lifestyle and behavior changes in ways that will reduce our impact on the earth.

How many changes can you make during the Festival?	CO ₂ LBS. ELIMINATED/YR (estimated)
■ Choose not to drive on Shabbat! Or, leave your car at home one other day every week for the next year.	1240
■ Help build community! Take the bus or carpool to the Festival, or make a commitment to carpooling to other Jewish and community events! (see transit.metrokc.gov/tops/van-car/vanpool.html and tripplanner.metrokc.gov).	
■ Reduce your thermostat by at least 1° degree F° during winter months.	360
■ Set your hot water heater to 120 degrees.	500
■ Decide to stay at home this year for your vacation rather than driving or flying somewhere.	
■ Sign up for a home energy audit and learn how to heat your home more efficiently.	
■ Plan to make one less plane trip this year.	6000
■ Pledge to consume 1/2 lb of beef less per week.	700
■ Commit to upgrading your refrigerator to an eco-friendly, low-impact Energy Star® model.	500
■ Green-up your electricity. Utility companies offer opportunities to purchase power through green power projects. www.seattle.gov/light/Green/greenPower/greenupR.asp .	1250–1500
■ Buy carbon offsets from the Bonneville Environmental Foundation (http://www.b-e-f.org/offsets/) or other reputable offset vendors. Helps replace traditional polluting sources of electricity with clean, secure, and renewable sources of energy that come from solar and wind power from across North America.	
■ Plan to caulk and weather strip your doors and windows by next winter.	1700

www.thejewishclimatechallenge.org

TAKE THE PLEDGE! Go online and show that the Jewish community can make a difference by working together!

Jewish Climate Challenge™ participants will use a carbon tracker to measure their carbon emissions, and learn manageable ways to reduce their carbon footprint. We want to show that the local Jewish community can make a difference by working together!

תיקונים | Tikkunim

The Seattle Jewish Film Festival and Howard House Contemporary Art
Present a Gallery Show of Ecological Art by Artists with Jewish Roots

The 2009 Seattle Jewish Film Festival is extending and deepening its "Go Green" theme through a gallery show of work by artists with Jewish roots who create ecological art. With a focus on communities and inter-relationships, sustainability is examined through the media and message wielded by ten artists in תיקונים | Tikkunim, a joint venture with Howard House Contemporary Art.

Curated by Tamar Benzikry-Stern, תיקונים | Tikkunim refers to *tikkun olam*, the ancient Hebrew expression that has become a catch-all for healing, mending, repairing the world and improving society through social activism. While Rabbinic *takkanah* legislation, of shared etymology, was often designed to remedy legal inequalities or unjust social situations, the artists in תיקונים | Tikkunim address environmental justice, specifically the restoration of ecological balance.

Some artists offer meditations on the current state of affairs. **Mierle Laderman Ukeles'** work points to water in a cleft Israeli landscape of ancient Gerar, near present-day Gaza. It is symbolic of the site's biblical wells and promise of overcoming community division. Photographer **Manya Fox** examines Americans' relationship with nature—their desire to commune with it and the disconnect between an imagined nature and an authentic one. **Ann T. Rosenthal** explores the meaning of natural resources, presenting the tree's contrasting use in nature and by humans. **Ruth Wallen** explores the frog as an indicator of ecological collapse through a combination of photographs and illustrations, culled from museum storerooms, a frog-jumping contest, scientific illustrations, fables and contemporary advertisements. **Beverly Naidus** alters ads filled with pronouncements of consumer desire and progress from the post-World War II era with words of painful humor that reflect communal denial or individual despair over living as canaries in the coal mine.

Other artists in תיקונים | Tikkunim offer possibilities for reparation by transforming refuse into works of art and calls to action. **Ilene Sunshine** transforms discarded Christmas trees into sculptural drawings — a process of reconstruction and renewal. **Shari Mendelson** collects plastic bottles from recycling bins, alchemically reconstructing them into archaeological sculptures akin to the ceramic, metal and glass vessels of antiquity you would see at the Israel Museum. **Sharon Siskin** combines Arabic children's books gathered at the San Francisco Dump with Hebrew books from her childhood, using various means of cohesion to bind two distinct parts of the Middle Eastern ecology together. Local architect **George Ostrow** employs sustainable design, re-using materials such as old growth fir salvaged from a home demolition to create the temporary ritual shelters known as *sukkot*.

Still others remediate, creating art objects or art plans that reverse or stop environmental damage. **Beverly Naidus'** plan for a permaculture garden with interactive altars on Vashon Island will herald a larger soil remediation project designed to remove soil contaminants. **Jackie Brookner's** living sculptures, known as Biosculptures, are formed of water-cleaning and filtering plants and combine the function of wetland, river and stream revitalization with the conceptual and aesthetic capacities of sculpture.

Similar to the Jewish books known as *tikkunim* that share source material but offer versions of functionality, each artist examines inter-relationships as source material and offers a version of environmental repair. The artists presented in תיקונים | Tikkunim share Jewish roots, many citing *tikkun olam* as a basic source and link to a universal art practice that addresses community and ecology: belonging to a larger whole.

Tamar Benzikry-Stern, the curator of תיקונים | Tikkunim, holds an MA in Jewish Art and Visual Culture and is also an SJFF film selection committee member.



תיקונים | Tikkunim
April 2 – May 2, 2009

Howard House Contemporary Art
604 Second Avenue, Seattle, WA 98104
www.howardhouse.net

HOWARD
HOUSE

Hours: Tuesday – Saturday, 10:30 – 5pm and by appointment



Shari Mendelson, 4 Goblets



Manya Fox, Sequoia Tree



Sharon Siskin, Children of Abraham: Learn



Jackie Brookner, Gift of Water

All images are courtesy and copyright of the artists.

The Road to Sustainability

By Joel Magalnick, Editor, *JTNews*

Ten years ago, scientists got together to come up with a number that could quantify the world's annual energy usage so it could be measured and, possibly, reduced as usage grew with the population and technology. That number is 12.8 terawatts— or, to put it in some semblance of scale, roughly the equivalent of 13,000 nuclear energy facilities working at capacity — with growth at the time projected to reach 25 terawatts by 2050.

At the same time, Dave Chameides was driving a beat-up Toyota 4Runner SUV with oversized tires and lousy gas mileage. Gas cost around \$1.50 a gallon, and he didn't give much thought to energy usage or environmental sustainability aside from putting out his recycling on the curb.

When, a few years later, his wife got pregnant with his first child, "I just sort of woke up and I said, 'Wait a minute, there's someone after me,'" Chameides said. So he sold the SUV and the sports car, bought an early-generation hybrid, and began to figure out ways to reduce his footprint on the planet.

According to Chameides, "present calculations say we're way above the curve" on the 50-year, 25 terawatt estimate.

Today, Chameides has traded in his Prius for a car that runs on vegetable oil that would otherwise be dumped by fast food joints. He also recently completed a year-long project, called "365 Days of Trash," in which he saved all of his non-recyclable, non-compostable waste in his basement so he knew, to the last gum wrapper, his contribution to the world's landfills.

"The reason really is, besides having people make fun of me and whatnot, is to get a better connection with what my impact is," Chameides told Temple Beth Am last summer, at a talk he gave called "Chasing Sustainability." The talk was sponsored by the Kavana Cooperative, Rodef Tzedek, a local justice organization that focuses on environmental responsibility as one of its central tenets, and Carbon Salon, a project by Kavana member Yoram Bernet that measures carbon output and allows users to cut down on their carbon footprints.

Environmentalism, Chameides said, needs to be a religious imperative.

"Whoever your God is that created the planet, it's a sin to destroy the planet," he said.

What environmentalism should not be, he said, is politicized.

"I don't mention Al Gore, I don't mention politics, I don't talk about global warming, because, number one, global warming is much too big...it's been too politicized," Chameides said in an interview after his talk. "Slavery, the right to food, global warming...they're too important to be politicized."

Chameides' also stresses the importance of refraining from being judgmental when attempting to reduce their waste.

"Just ask people to do what they can and be honest about what they're doing and hope for the best," he said.

On one hand, Chameides is pessimistic about our future. He has graphs and videos and experts who show that we're close to reaching peak oil, the point at which we've sucked up half of what's in the ground — if we haven't already.

"This is the point where it becomes exponentially harder to get the oil," Chameides said.

He showed his audience that energy usage in the U.S. is growing more slowly, but is being eclipsed by the burgeoning economies and populations in China and India.

Whatever anyone's belief may be in reducing fossil fuel usage — environmental reasons, national security, weaning from reliance on the Middle East — we need to



Joel Magalnick

Dave Chameides talks about his projects to reduce his consumption at the "Chasing Sustainability" event at Temple Beth Am on July 24, 2008.

start relying much more heavily on alternative sources, Chameides said.

It's a position shared by such people as Jeroen van der Veer, Chief Executive of Royal Dutch Shell plc.

"After 2015, easily accessible supplies of oil and gas probably will no longer keep up with demand," van der Veer said in a speech in January of last year.

Chameides is worried — very worried — that at the current rates of consumption, the standard of living he grew up with and his children may grow up with, will be far different from the lives his grandchildren will have.

"It's unsustainable," he said. "It can't happen. It won't happen."

But on the other hand, Chameides is optimistic: That through his own conservation, as well as teaching others about ways to reduce their impact without dramatically changing their habits, he can, in some way, reduce the shock of the end of the oil era. So he promotes alternative energy, waste reduction, and pragmatic solutions that don't cost a lot, but also don't encourage consumption.

One of those solutions: Carry a reusable water container to steer clear of bottled water. Bottled water, Chameides noted, costs the average person about \$900 a year — versus around \$8 to fill up his container. From a fiscal point of view, he said, it makes no sense. And, he added, there is no regulation on bottled water that crosses state lines. Municipal tap water quality, on the other hand, is heavily regulated.

Chameides also spoke about cars, one of his passions within the sphere of sustainability. He showed slides of the "grease car" system he installed in his Volkswagen as well as the benefits of biodiesel fuel, though he did not get into some of the drawbacks of these fuels, such as the need for petroleum to create biofuels or the difficulty of using them in cold weather. He had harsh words for ethanol, a corn-based fuel that has been accused of being partially responsible for recent increases in global food prices.

"Food should be grown to be eaten," he said. "It should not be grown to get our butt from one place to another."

With all of the work he has seen by synagogues and Jewish organizations in favor of sustainability, Chameides mused that Jews could become the forefront of the environmental movement.

"If ever there have been a people that have seen hardships," he said, "we know firsthand how dark things can be. But we know firsthand how we can rise out of that."

Chameides, the product of an Orthodox education in his native Connecticut, still sees a schism between the Reform and Conservative movements, which have embraced the idea of conserving for the planet, and the Orthodox movement, which largely has not.

"I think this would be a great time for them to embrace and say we have our differences, but in terms of ruining the environment that we're leaving for our children, we can't have differences," he said. "It's too important. We need to move forward and say, 'Let's all get on the same bus and say we're leaders in this effort, and get synonymous with this.'"

This article originally appeared in JTNews — The Voice of Jewish Washington.



Beyond Personal Virtue

By Rabbi Lawrence Troster of GreenFaith

In April of 2001, Vice President Dick Cheney was quoted in an interview asserting that “Conservation may be a sign of personal virtue, but it is not a sufficient basis for a sound, comprehensive energy policy.” He was roundly excoriated by the environmental community for this view. Seven years later, in the midst of skyrocketing energy prices, increasing climate change, and global food shortages, most people in the U.S. continue to live as if the environmental crisis can be dealt with through acts of personal virtue confined to consumer choices.

On this issue most American Jews are no different from other Americans. We belong to the highest-consuming nation in the world, the least energy efficient, the largest producer of greenhouse gases; we are part of our society that consumes the most, and yet we act as if changing a light bulb, using our reusable bags from Whole Foods, planting trees in Israel as carbon offsets, and buying more organic food will solve the climate change crisis.

While many Jewish organizations have policy statements that call for significant environmental action, those same organizations up until now have failed to implement these policies. Over the past 18 months, the interfaith environmental organization GreenFaith has been touring the film *An Inconvenient Truth*. Following the viewing and discussion, the group gives out pledge cards with five, increasingly difficult actions — from changing light bulbs to buying a low-mileage car or hybrid. Though this and other groups are helping people see how to do things to make a difference, it is not enough.

Jewish environmentalists are stuck — for the most part — in an apologetic approach, which posits that religious traditions as such supply all the needed theological resources to address the environmental crisis. Although the first Jewish theological response to the crisis was written 40 years ago, yet the same biblical and rabbinic texts continue to be cited and discussed in our writing.

This lack of new theology reinforces the idea that environmental actions can remain a personal virtue. By emphasizing *tikkun olam*, Jewish environmentalism has not moved beyond a stewardship ethic that privileges human needs. And we have not seriously embraced the ethic of environmental justice that connects the degradation of the environment to racism and economic inequities. Jewish theo-



gians and ethicists for the most part have not been part of the significant critique of modern capitalism and globalization that has been coming from process theology, liberation theology, and ecofeminism.

It is time for Jewish environmentalism to move beyond an apologetic theology and an ethic of personal virtue to become more engaged with the many creative ideas that have been emanating from religious and environmental movements. New Creation theology, which emphasizes the interconnection of all people and all life, must become the foundation of a far bolder Jewish ethical response. As the environmental crisis grows more serious, we must help people understand how our lifestyles affect the lives of millions of other people in this country and around the world, how our lives contribute to the extinction of thousands of species every year, and how we are literally consuming the earth.

British writer George Monbiot claims we must set a goal of 90 percent reduction; this will not be achieved by only changing light bulbs. Monbiot puts forward a moral choice: continue to live the way we do and have millions of people die in Ethiopia (from drought) and Bangladesh (from rising seas) or radically change.

Do we continue to resist or deny that choice because we project, as Monbiot points out, “the future as repeated instances of the present”? We all believe that we will not be affected; we will find a way to survive or that somehow something will save us. If we all change a light bulb, the Messiah will come. The midrash that Jewish environmentalists love to quote has God saying, “See to it that you do not spoil and destroy My world; for if you do, there will be no one else to repair it.” It is time to heed that call.

Rabbi Lawrence Troster is director of the Fellowship Program and rabbinic scholar-in-residence for GreenFaith, the interfaith environmental coalition in New Jersey. He also co-chairs the Interfaith Partnership for the Environment of UNEP (United Nations Environment Program).

Reprinted with permission from Rabbi Troster and Sh'ma Magazine June 2008 (www.shma.com). This essay appeared as part of an issue focusing on Judaism, the environment and personal responsibility.

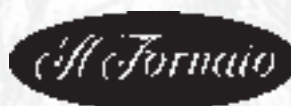
SHORT FILMS FROM THE GREEN INTERFAITH DOCUMENTARY *RENEWAL*



Ross Lincoff

"A REAL MENSCH!"

GETTING TO KNOW OUR SPONSORS



For 10 years Il Fornaio has generously sponsored and hosted the AJC Seattle Jewish Film Festival VIP Gala, and for 5 of those General Manager Ross Lincoff has been pulling out all the stops! He is proud to promote and support AJC and Seattle Jewish Film Festival as a continued partner.

By extension of his advocacy of this vital event, Lincoff supports this celebration of our city's cultural kaleidoscope and fosters a broader exploration of diversity through the art of film. The SJFF is a cherished partner of Il Fornaio for the feeling of community the event cultivates in Seattle. To show its support, Il Fornaio hosts an annual dinner for 300 SJFF organizers, VIP's and guests at Il Fornaio.

Those who have dined at Il Fornaio Ristorante and its street level Risotteria at Pacific Place have likely talked to Lincoff, the tall, well-dressed gentleman traversing the restaurant floors. Behind the friendly smile is a man who loves this town and the people in it. Having lived all over the country, from New York and Houston to New Orleans and Los Angeles, Lincoff finds there is no place quite like the Pacific Northwest. He cites Seattle's natural beauty, culture, articulate residents, diverse neighborhoods and incredible restaurants.

Born and raised in Beverly Hills, CA., Lincoff played baseball and enjoyed music growing up. He left in 1980 to pursue a career in the restaurant industry and lived in various cities all over the country. Shortly after he moved to Seattle in the early 90s Lincoff took up running as a hobby and has since completed 26 marathons including Boston, Chicago, Los Angeles, Portland and more, often placing in the top five or top 10 in his age group. Lincoff finds pleasure in travel and exploring new culture and has visited England, France, Germany, Italy, Czech Republic, The Netherlands and Austria.

This longtime food and beverage veteran bemoans the loss of the Sonics (having held season tickets for 17 out of his 18 years in residence) and enjoys attending concerts and listening to music. His favorite Seattle music venues are Benaroya and McCaw Hall for their amazing sound quality. When time allows, he loves discovering Seattle's endless restaurants, whether unknown jewels or new hot spots. He currently resides in Lake Forest Park with his wife Tracy, also an avid marathon runner, and their Weimaraner, Eeyore.

Previous SJFF co-chair and AJC board president Leslie Rosen is thankful to Ross and his dedicated partnership to SJFF and says, "Ross Lincoff is a 'mensch' in the truest sense of the word. I first met Ross when he came to Seattle as the new manager for Il Fornaio Restaurant in Pacific Place. He came to one of our film festival meetings and showed a quick understanding of the event and its importance. His only concern was that it continues to get better and better. His entire focus has

always been to make every facet of the event work best for the guests of SJFF."

Rosen, who has also served for many years on the AJC board, added, "Personally, I have had the pleasure of many a chat with Ross. Whether we are discussing new film releases or his latest marathon running feat, I always look forward to his warmth and genuine sincerity. He is just a great guy."

Il Fornaio is its own cultural microcosm. The restaurant shares the joy of Italy's regional culinary offerings that span from Austrian influences in its Northern regions to Jewish roots in many of Emilia-Romagna's favorite foods. In the same spirit of diversity, Lincoff finds a fitting community partner in the AJC Seattle Jewish Film Festival.



ARGUABLY THE BEST DEAL IN TOWN

Did you know?

Il Fornaio Bakery Cafe hosts \$10 wine tastings from 6 to 8 p.m. on the third Thursday of every month. A thematic selection of wines are complimented by Il Fornaio antipasti.
Reservations/Info: 206-264-0994

SJFF 2009 HONORABLE "MENSCHN:" Thank You's To Those Who Might Otherwise Go Unmentioned

Abby Cohen and Temple Beth El, Tacoma
Alexis Berry, Tom Douglas Catering
Manager
All our volunteers
Alphagraphics owner Chuck Stemplar
and his staff
Anson Laytner, former AJC Seattle
Executive Director
Barbara Naidus, artist and all the artists
of the Tikkunim Exhibit
Bill Hochberg
Billy Howard, owner and Sara Callahan,
general manager, Howard House Gallery

Bobi Salit
Butch Blum
Catherine Zimmerman
Chris Abernathy
Danny Levine
Dave Cook
Einat Shaul
Ellen Rose Kret
Heather Sorkin, Executive Director NJJFF
Il Fornaio Staff
Jeri Rice
Jonathan Levine, AJC (and *The Third Man*)

Julie Watts, Director, WA Interfaith
Power & Light
June Shapiro
LeeAnne Beres and Jessie Dye,
Earth Ministry/Washington Interfaith
Power and Light
Linda Berger
Martin Ostrow, *Renewal* Director
Maryna Ajaja, SIFF
Michael Levin
Michele Tesler and Marilyn Weissman — for
offering their homes to the SJFF
committee for screenings

Tony Jassen
Rabbi Zari Weiss of Rodef Tzedek and
The Jewish Climate Challenge™
Rachel Levee
Robin Arnold
Salome Mahdavi
Spider Kedelsky and Town Hall
Tamar Benzikry-Stern
Tom Douglas Catering & Events Staff
Venue Staff at Cinerama, SIFF Cinema,
MOHAI, and WSHS
Yoram Bernet of Carbon Salon™ and
The Jewish Climate Challenge™



OPENING NIGHT COCKTAIL PARTY HOSTED BY TOM DOUGLAS



Ilyanne Cauchy Photography

THURSDAY 4/23 ■ 5:30–7:30 PM
TOM DOUGLAS PALACE BALLROOM
 2100 5th Avenue (@ Lenora, across from Cinerama), Seattle

Tom Douglas
 Catering & Events

Join us before the Opening Night Film *The Little Traitor* for SJFF's 2009 Opening Night Cocktail Party at the Palace Ballroom.

Host Tom Douglas generously serves up his savory delectables and signature sweets, accompanied by beer from Pike Place Brewery and wine. You do not want to miss this swanky festival kick-off!

Tickets: \$50 per person. Includes Opening Cocktail Party & Opening Night Film admission.

Advance ticket purchase required. No tickets sold at the door.

Pass holders: Admission included with Festival Pass Plus and VIP Sponsor Pass only.

MATZOH MOMMA SUNDAY BRUNCH & FILM



Ilyanne Cauchy Photography

SUNDAY 4/26 ■ 10:00–11:00 AM ■ CINERAMA THEATRE
 2100 4th Avenue (@ Lenora), Seattle



Matzoh Momma Catering proudly hosts SJFF's Annual Sunday Brunch starting at 10:00 AM, followed by the film *Holy Land Hardball* at 11:00 AM. This incredible spread features smoked salmon smear with a panoply of bagels, Matzoh Momma's famous blintz loaf with sour cream and fresh fruit preserves, egg salad with toasted almonds and a quashadu (Sephardic frittata of eggs, feta and parmesan cheese). Come rave about Matzoh Momma's fresh homemade, flavorful Jewish comfort food to start your SJFF film-going day off right. With a musical performance by The Jim Mirel Shalom Ensemble.

Tickets: \$22 General; \$15 Student/Youth/Senior; \$60 Family (up to 4). (*Film only tickets are also on sale.)

Pass holders: One admission to Sunday Brunch included with all passes except SJFF Film Only Pass.

CENTERPIECE PERFORMANCE EVENT: COMEDIAN CORY KAHANEY



SUNDAY 4/26 ■ 5:00 PM ■ CINERAMA THEATRE
 2100 4th Avenue (@ Lenora), Seattle



Stand-Up For Jewish Women! SJFF welcomes *Last Comic Standing* finalist and *The J.A.P. Show* creator, comedian Cory Kahane — last seen in the SJFF 2008 film *Making Trouble* — for an hour of gut-busting stand-up, followed by Q&A.

Tickets: \$22 General; \$15 Student

Pass holders: One admission.

Sponsored by Jewish Women's Archive, Shelley and James Dillon, and Michele and Stan Rosen.

VIP GALA HOSTED BY IL FORNAIO (by invitation only)



Dani Weiss Photography

SUNDAY 4/26 ■ 6:30–8:30 PM ■ IL FORNAIO
 600 Pine Street #132, Pacific Place Main Floor, Seattle



In the tradition of Italian trattorias, enjoy delicious, rustic breads and authentic dishes, great wine and desserts. Rub shoulders with SJFF special guest artists attending this annual Il Fornaio Ristorante sponsored event, including comedian Cory Kahane after her Centerpiece stand-up performance.

Followed by 9:00 PM film *A Gift to Stalin* at Cinerama Theatre.

RSVP: By invitation only.

STROUM JCC "SENIOR" SCREENING & LUNCHEON

WEDNESDAY 4/29 ■ NOON ■ STROUM JEWISH COMMUNITY CENTER

Those 55+, please join us for James Sherman's 2008 feature comedy *Beau Jest*. Bagels & Coffee served. Musical Program by Cantor Marina Belenky and Anna Vasilevskaya.



Tickets: \$7. Reservations required. Seating Limited. RSVP to Roni at SJCC (206) 232-7115 x269. No SJFF passes. No tickets sold at the door or through Brown Paper Tickets.



COMMUNITY YOM HA'ATZMAUT ISRAELI INDEPENDENCE DAY CELEBRATION

WEDNESDAY 4/29 ■ SIFF CINEMA ■ 2 SCREENING EVENTS

THE CASE FOR ISRAEL: DEMOCRACY'S OUTPOST

■ 6:00–6:20 PM: Seattle Jewish Chorale performs and "Happy Birthday Israel" kosher cupcakes served
■ 6:30 PM: Film

SHARON

■ 8:10–8:30 PM: Seattle Jewish Chorale performs and "Happy Birthday Israel" kosher cupcakes served
■ 8:40 PM: Film



Community Celebration Sponsored by: The Jewish Federation of Greater Seattle

CLOSING SUNDAY: "GREEN FAITH/FAITHFULLY GREEN" AN INTERFAITH ROUNDTABLE & RECEPTION WITH FREE "GREEN SCREENS"

SUNDAY 5/3 ■ 5:00 PM ■ MUSEUM OF HISTORY & INDUSTRY (MOHAI)
2700 24th Avenue East, Seattle (Upstairs in the McCurdy Gallery)



On Closing Sunday, May 3rd upstairs in MOHAI's McCurdy Gallery at 5pm, "SJFF 14, GO GREEN!" culminates with "Green Faith/Faithfully Green" panel discussion and screening of short films from the documentary *Renewal*.

Speakers include nonprofit and religious leaders from The Jewish Climate Challenge™ (Rodef Tzedek and Carbon Salon™), Mountains to Sound Greenway, The Jewish National Fund, Earth Ministry/Washington Interfaith Power and Light, "Ecopreneurs" from American Technion, as well as guest eco-artists from תיקונים | Tikkunim, an exhibit at Howard House Contemporary Art, and guest filmmakers.

Following the free panel there will be a Closing Day Reception hosted by Catering By Phyllis (\$5 suggested donation), then at 7:00 PM downstairs in the McEachern Auditorium a free public screening of the film *FUEL*, directed by Josh Tickell, who has been invited to introduce his film.

תיקונים | TIKKUNIM: JEWISH ROOTS, ECOLOGICAL ART EXHIBIT

THURSDAY 4/2–5/2 ■ 5:00 PM ■ HOWARD HOUSE CONTEMPORARY ART
604 2nd Avenue @ James, Seattle
(206) 256-6399
info@howardhouse.net ■ www.howardhouse.net



SJFF is extending and deepening its "Go Green" theme through תיקונים | Tikkunim, a gallery show of work by 10 path-breaking artists informed by the Jewish experience who work in ecological paradigms. A joint venture with Howard House Contemporary Art.

Curator and SJFF Committee Member Tamar Benzikry-Stern will delivery a curator's talk at 7:00 p.m. on April 2nd on First Thursday Art Walk.



Shari Mendelsohn, *Clear Round Vessel*



SPECIAL EVENTS

2009 FESTIVAL SCHEDULE AT A GLANCE

VENUE	TIME	SIFF 2009 FILMS & SPECIAL EVENTS	COUNTRY/YEAR	GENRE	MINUTES
THURSDAY, APRIL 23					
Palace Ballroom	5:30-7:30 PM	Opening Night Party hosted by Tom Douglas			
Cinerama	Program begins 8:00PM	RENEWAL: "ANCIENT ROOTS" THE LITTLE TRAITOR	USA 2007 Israel 2007	Documentary Short Feature	17 88
SATURDAY, APRIL 25					
Cinerama	7:15 PM	THE WALL CLOWN & FÜHRER	USA 2007 Spain 2008	Narrative Short Feature	9 95
Cinerama	9:30 PM	LEMON TREE	France 2008	Feature	106
SUNDAY, APRIL 26					
Cinerama	10 AM Brunch 11 AM Film	Matzoh Momma Sunday Brunch w/musical performance by The Jim Mirel Shalom Ensemble HOLY LAND HARDBALL	USA 2008	Documentary	84
Cinerama	1:00 PM	CIRCUMCISE ME!	USA 2007	Documentary	48
Cinerama	2:20 PM	ARAB LABOR (4 episodes)	Israel 2008	TV	120
Cinerama	5:00 PM	Centerpiece Performance: "Stand-Up for Jewish Women" w/comedian Cory Kahaney			
Cinerama	6:40 PM	MY OLYMPIC SUMMER ONE DAY YOU WILL UNDERSTAND	Netherlands 2007 France 2008	Experimental Short Feature	8 89
Il Fornaio	6:30-8:30 PM	VIP Gala: Il Fornaio (by invitation only)			
Cinerama	9:00 PM	BATTLE OF CABLE STREET A GIFT TO STALIN	UK 2006 Israel 2008	Animated Short Feature	10 97
MONDAY, APRIL 27					
SIFF	6:30 PM	YOO-HOO, MRS. GOLDBERG AT HOME IN UTOPIA	USA 2007 USA 2008	Documentary Short Documentary	18 57
SIFF	8:30 PM	TULIP TIME LADY KUL EL ARAB	Netherlands/Italy 2008 Israel 2008	Documentary Documentary	53 56
TUESDAY, APRIL 28					
SIFF	6:30 PM	BLESSED IS THE MATCH	USA 2008	Documentary	85
SIFF	8:40 PM	IN SEARCH OF BENE ISRAEL FLIPPING OUT	USA 2008 Israel 2007	Documentary Documentary	36 84
WEDNESDAY, APRIL 29: Stroum JCC Senior Screening: Bagels & Coffee w/Musical Performance					
SJCC	12:00 PM	BEAU JEST	USA 2008	Feature	98
WEDNESDAY, APRIL 29: Yom Ha'atzmaut Community-wide Israeli Independence Day Celebration w/Performance by Seattle Jewish Chorale					
SIFF	Program 6:00 PM/6:30 Film	THE CASE FOR ISRAEL: AS DEMOCRACY'S OUTPOST	USA 2008	Documentary	77
SIFF	Program 8:10 PM/8:40 Film	SHARON	USA 2008	Documentary	90
THURSDAY, APRIL 30					
SIFF	6:15 PM	CEREMONIES OF THE HORSEMEN FUGITIVE PIECES	USA 2008 Canada/Greece	Narrative Short Feature	17 106
SIFF	9:15 PM	STALAGS	Israel 2007	Documentary	60
FRIDAY, MAY 1: See page 28 for details on FilmTalks Program					
MOHAI	7:00 AM-3 PM	FILMTALKS PROGRAM: DEFIANCE	USA 2008	Feature	73
SATURDAY, MAY 2					
MOHAI	7:30 PM	FOR MY FATHER	Israel/Germany 2008	Feature	98
MOHAI	9:30 PM	STRANGERS	Israel 2007	Feature	85
SUNDAY, MAY 3: Closing Day					
MOHAI	11:00 AM	ISLAND OF ROSES LADINO: 500 YEARS YOUNG	Italy 2007 Israel 2006	Documentary Documentary	55 42
MOHAI	1:30 PM	SRUGIM (3 episodes)	Israel	TV	85
MOHAI	3:30 PM	WOMAN FROM THE BUBBLE	Israel 2007	Documentary	59
MOHAI	5:00 PM	MY LEFT HAND: Free Screening to Benefit NW Sarcoma Fondation	USA 2008	Documentary	59
MOHAI Upstairs	5:00 PM	Closing Day "SIFF 14, GO GREEN!" Interfaith Roundtable, Short Films & Soiree (\$5 suggested donation for reception) RENEWAL	USA 2007	Documentary Shorts	
MOHAI	7:00 PM	FUEL: Closing Day Free "Green Screen"	USA 2008	Documentary	100
MOHAI	9:00 PM	SECRETS	France/Israel 2007	Feature	120
SATURDAY, MAY 9: SIFF in Tacoma Encore Screening					
WSHS	7:00 PM	STRANGERS	Israel 2007	Feature	85



SEATTLE JEWISH FILM FESTIVAL

SIFF 14 GO GREEN!
FREE SCREENINGS
AND PANEL INFO
ON PAGE 25

Thursday, April 23–Sunday, May 3 2009 Film Listings

ARAB LABOR

SUNDAY 4/26 ■ 2:20 PM ■ CINERAMA

■ 2007 ■ Israel ■ Television ■ Ron Ninio ■ 4 episodes, 26 min. each ■
■ Arabic & Hebrew w/subtitles ■

Created by Sayed Kashua, a 32-year-old Israeli-born Palestinian journalist, *Arab Labor* (in Hebrew *avoda aravit*, which colloquially means “shoddy” or “second-rate work”) focuses on Amjad, a Palestinian journalist and Israeli citizen in search of acceptance into Israeli society. Married to Bushara, a social worker, and father to Maya, Amjad is an Israeli, yet his car is searched everyday when he drives from his neighborhood to his job in Jerusalem. Amjad’s only ally is his friend Meir, an Israeli Jew and photographer who works with him at the newspaper. While poking fun at the cultural divide, the series explores the daily conflicts that Arabs face between the desire to integrate into Israeli society and their own values and traditions. A milestone on Israeli TV as the first program to present Palestinian characters speaking Arabic on primetime.

Topics: Palestinians, Middle East Conflict, Israeli Diversity, Israeli & Arab Relations, Interfaith/Intercultural Relationships, Family Relationships, Drama, Comedy, Arab Culture



AT HOME IN UTOPIA

Plays with *Yoo-Hoo Mrs. Goldberg* (short)

MONDAY 4/27 ■ 6:30 PM ■ SIFF CINEMA

■ 2008 ■ United States ■ Documentary ■ Michal Goldman ■ 57 min. ■
■ English & Yiddish w/subtitles ■

Guest: Ellen Brodsky, Co-Producer

“The Coops,” or cooperative Bronx apartments, symbolized an experiment in justice and equality. In the mid-1920s, thousands of Jewish immigrant garment workers catapulted themselves out of urban slums and ghettos by pooling their resources and building four cooperatively owned and run apartment complexes in the Bronx. They believed that owning one’s home went a long way toward controlling one’s fate. *At Home in Utopia* focuses on the United Workers Cooperative Colony, the most grass-roots and member-driven of the Jewish labor housing cooperatives. Beginning as a secular East European Jewish working class enclave, they were part of an international movement the power of which blows minds today. In the 1930s they opted to bring their passion for racial justice home, by racially integrating their own cooperative, with unexpected consequences. An epic tale of the struggle for equity and justice across generations for the workers who embraced communist, socialist and union movements.

Topics: North American Jewish Community, New York City, Architecture, Human Rights and Social Justice, History, Jewish Union and Labor Movements



COMMUNITY PARTNERS: Seattle Office for Civil Rights and
Teamsters Local Union No. 117

SPONSOR: Balance Associates Architects



THE BATTLE OF CABLE STREET (SHORT)

Plays with *A Gift to Stalin*

SUNDAY 4/26 ■ 9:00PM ■ CINERAMA

■ 2006 ■ United Kingdom ■ Animated Short ■ Yoav Segal ■

■ 10 min. ■ English ■

A young boy is taken inside the magical world of his own sketchbook by his grandfather, and shown what it was like when Oswald Mosley's "blackshirt fascists" attempted to march through London's East End.

Topics: Animation, Family, History, Public Protest, London Fascists



STROUM JCC "SENIOR" SCREENING & LUNCHEON

BEAU JEST

WEDNESDAY 4/29 ■ NOON ■ STROUM JCC

■ 2008 ■ United States ■ Feature Comedy ■ James Sherman ■ 98 min. ■ English ■

Film, Bagels & Coffee with a Musical Program by Cantor Marina Belenky and Anna Vasilevskaya.

Playwright James Sherman's popular tale about relationships, romance and intrigue moves from stage to screen. In this romantic comedy, Sarah Goldman, a young school teacher is dating Chris Cringle, a great guy with just one apparent flaw—he's not Jewish. So Sarah invents the perfect boyfriend and delights her parents (Lainie Kazan and Seymour Cassel) with stories about the man of her mother's dreams. When her parents insist on meeting this nice Jewish surgeon, Sarah resorts to desperate measures.

Topics: Family, Romance and Dating, Jewish Mothers, Comedy, Drama

COMMUNITY PARTNER: Stroum Jewish Community Center



BLESSED IS THE MATCH: THE LIFE AND DEATH OF HANNAH SENESH

TUESDAY 4/28 ■ 6:30 PM ■ SIFF CINEMA

■ 2008 ■ United States ■ Documentary ■ Roberta Grossman ■ 85 min. ■

■ English ■

Combining reenactments, interviews and archival materials, this inspiring documentary, narrated by three-time Academy Award nominee Joan Allen, commemorates the life of the Hungarian poet and resistance fighter who became a national heroine in Israel. Enjoying a middle-class upbringing in 1930s Budapest, Hannah Senesh knew little of Judaism until rising anti-Semitism prompted her migration to Palestine. After the outbreak of World War II, she enlisted in a mission to liberate Hungarian Jews, the only Holocaust rescue attempt of its kind.

Topics: Biography, History, Holocaust, Women, WWII, Resistance, Biography

COMMUNITY PARTNERS: Temple Beth Am and Washington State Holocaust Education Resource Center

COMMUNITY YOM HA'ATZMAUT Israeli Independence Day Celebration

THE CASE FOR ISRAEL: DEMOCRACY'S OUTPOST

WEDNESDAY 4/29 ■ EVENT 6:00/FILM 6:30 PM ■ SIFF CINEMA

■ 2008 ■ United States ■ Documentary ■ Michael Yohay ■ 77 min. ■

■ English & Hebrew w/subtitles ■

Led by famed attorney Alan Dershowitz, *The Case for Israel* is a point-by-point defense of the Jewish State. Utilizing archival footage and compelling interviews with top experts, the film presents a stirring rebuttal to growing criticism from the media, academic and international communities. In particular, Dershowitz challenges former President Jimmy Carter and his provocative book, *Palestine: Peace Not Apartheid*, which drew fire for characterizing Israeli policy in the territories as an apartheid system. Nearly thirty commentators lend their points of view, including: former Israeli Prime Ministers Barak, Netanyahu and Peres; Middle East envoy Dennis Ross; and Soviet dissident Natan Sharansky.

Topics: Human Rights, Israel, Politics, Democracy

6:00 PM: Seattle Jewish Chorale performs and "Happy Birthday Israel" kosher cupcakes served.



COMMUNITY PARTNERS: Consulate of Israel, Jewish Federation of Greater Seattle, Stand With Us NW and Seattle Jewish Chorale

EVENT SPONSOR: The Jewish Federation of Greater Seattle

CEREMONIES OF THE HORSEMEN (SHORT)

Plays with *Fugitive Pieces*

THURSDAY 4/30 ■ 6:15PM ■ SIFF CINEMA

■ 2008 ■ United States ■ Narrative Short ■ Peter Biegen ■ 17 min. ■

■ English ■

During a late-night drive, a man convinces his college-age nephew to help him confront, perhaps violently, a significant figure in their family past. Stars Richard Schiff, formerly of *The West Wing*.

Topics: Holocaust, Generational Conflict, Family



COMMUNITY PARTNER: Senior Services

CIRCUMCISE ME! THE COMEDY OF YISRAEL CAMPBELL

SUNDAY 4/26 ■ 1:00 PM ■ CINERAMA

■ 2007 ■ US ■ Documentary ■ 48 min. ■ English ■

"Is it hot in here, or am I the only one dressed for Poland in the 17th Century?" jokes Yisrael Campbell, Israel's funniest Hasidic comedian. Campbell started out as Chris Campbell, son of an ex-nun and a Catholic teacher in Philadelphia. Three conversions later (Reform then Conservative then Orthodox), he discovered his Jewish soul in stand-up comedy.

Topics: Ultra Orthodox, Israel, Stand-up Comedy, Conversion



COMMUNITY PARTNER: Herzl-Ner Tamid Conservative Congregation



CLOWN & FÜHRER (El Pallaso i el Führer)

Plays with *The Wall* (short)

SATURDAY 4/25 ■ 7:15 PM ■ CINERAMA

■ 2008 ■ Spain ■ Feature ■ Eduard Cortés ■ 95 min. ■

■ Catalan w/subtitles ■

In 1944, the legendary Spanish clown Charlie Rivel was summoned to perform at the Führer's birthday party in Berlin at the Scala Theatre. To Rivel's discomfort, the Gestapo agent who invited him wants to be part of the act. Meanwhile, Rivel's sidekick, Witzi, decides to take a moral stand against the Nazis. As this uneasy trio rehearses, a gripping test of loyalties ensues. Based on a true story.

Topics: History, Drama, Clowning, Nazi Germany, Comedy

COMMUNITY PARTNERS: Music of Remembrance and Seattle Repertory Theatre



WHY MUMBAI?

JEWISH COMMUNITIES IN INDIA THEN & NOW

FLIPPING OUT

Plays with *In Search of Bene Israel* (short)

TUESDAY 4/28 ■ 8:40 PM ■ SIFF

■ 2007 ■ Israel ■ Documentary ■ Yoav Shamir ■ 87 min. ■

■ Hebrew w/subtitles ■

Every year, the cloud forests of India's Himalayan foothills provide the ideal escape for some 30,000 young Israelis just released from mandatory military service. With a pocketful of discharge money and a socially sanctioned "time-out" from concerns and conflicts back home, 90 percent of these travelers will take drugs, and some 2,000 will end up needing psychiatric care for what has become known, even in Hebrew, as "flipping out." Talented verité filmmaker Yoav Shamir hung out with those decompressing from the impossible stresses of military service in Israel. A powerful but unsettling picture of collective numbing-out and free-fall.

Topics: Military Service, Israel, Drugs, India

Mature Content



FOR MY FATHER (Sof Shavua B' Tel Aviv)

SATURDAY 5/2 ■ 7:30 PM ■ MOHAI

■ 2007 ■ Israel/Germany ■ Dror Zahavi ■ 102 min. ■

■ Hebrew and Arabic w/subtitles ■

Terek, a young Palestinian on a suicide mission in Tel Aviv, is given a second chance when the fuse on his explosive vest fails to detonate. Forced to spend the weekend in Tel Aviv awaiting its repair, Terek befriends several Israelis, including the beautiful Keren, who has cut off contact with her Orthodox family and upbringing. With nothing to lose, Terek and Keren open up to one another, and an unlikely love blooms between two isolated and damaged individuals, raised to be enemies.

Topics: Suicide Bombers, Arab-Israeli Conflict, Romance

Mature Content

COMMUNITY PARTNER: Kol HaNeshamah

FUGITIVE PIECES

Plays with *Ceremonies of the Horsemen* (short)

THURSDAY 4/30 ■ 6:15 PM ■ SIFF CINEMA

■ 2008 ■ Canada/Greece ■ Drama ■ Jeremy Podeswa ■ 105 min.

■ English, German, Yiddish & Greek w/subtitles ■

Jakob Beer's life is haunted by his childhood experiences during WWII. Orphaned in Poland, he is then saved by a compassionate Greek archeologist (Rade Serbedzija). Over the course of his life, Jakob attempts to deal with the losses he has endured. Through his writing, relationships and true love, he is finally freed from the legacy of his past. Based on the beloved best-selling novel *Fugitive Pieces* by Anne Michaels. A powerful, poetic, and emotionally-charged drama about loss, love and redemption, starring Ayelet Zurer (*Munich, Angels and Demons*) and Stephen Dillane (*The Hours*).

Topics: Holocaust, Trauma, Romance, Literature, Drama

Mature Content



COMMUNITY PARTNER: Senior Services

A GIFT TO STALIN

Plays with *The Battle for Cable Street* (short)

SUNDAY 4/26 ■ 9:00 PM ■ CINERAMA

■ 2008 ■ Israel ■ Feature ■ Rustem Abdrashev ■ 97 min. ■

■ Hebrew, Kazakh & Russian w/subtitles ■

A harrowing chapter of ethnic persecution in the postwar Soviet era told through the nostalgic memories of a child. Uprooted by Stalin's regime, a train-full of ethnic minorities are deported to Central Asia under dreadful conditions. During a stopover, a Jewish boy, Sashka, is found in a railcar filled with dead bodies. Rescued by a Muslim rail worker, he is cared for by a surrogate family in rural Kazakhstan, yet dreams of finding his exiled parents.

Topics: Anti-Semitism, Drama, History, International Jewry



MATZOH MOMMA SUNDAY BRUNCH & FAMILY FILM

HOLY LAND HARDBALL

SUNDAY, 4/26 ■ BRUNCH 10AM/FILM 11AM ■ CINERAMA

■ 2008 ■ United States ■ Documentary ■ Erik Kesten, Brett Rapkin ■ 84 min. ■

■ English ■

The film follows the dubious formation of the Israel Baseball League (IBL) by Larry Baras, a Boston bakery owner with no sports management experience. Stirred to action by a midlife crisis, Baras recruits a diverse collection of executives and ballplayers for the IBL, the first ever professional baseball circuit in the Middle East. The team's challenging task is to draw Israelis to America's pastime, a game they've gone 5,767 years without.

Topics: Interethnic Relations, Israel, Sports, Young Professionals



COMMUNITY PARTNERS: Seattle Jewish Community School, Stroum JCC, The Jewish National Fund & YMCA of Greater Seattle

BRUNCH SPONSOR: Matzoh Momma Catering



WHY MUMBAI? JEWISH COMMUNITIES IN INDIA THEN & NOW

IN SEARCH OF BENE ISRAEL (SHORT)

Plays with *Flipping Out*

TUESDAY 4/28 ■ 8:40 PM ■ SIFF CINEMA

■ 2008 ■ United States/India ■ Short ■ Sadia Shepard ■ 36 min. ■

■ English & Hindu w/subtitles ■

Returning to her Jewish grandmother's birthplace in India, author and director Sadia Shepard discovers the story of Bene Israel, a tiny Jewish community in Bombay. Her colorful journey reconnects her with a group of Jews who believe they are descended from one of the lost tribes of Israel, shipwrecked in India 2,000 years ago.

Topics: History, Indian Jews, Family History



LADINO LOVE SEPHARDIC FILM DOUBLE FEATURE

ISLAND OF ROSES: TRAGEDY IN PARADISE

(L' Isola Delle Rose: La Tragedia di un Paradiso)

SUNDAY 5/3 ■ 11AM ■ MOHAI

■ 2007 ■ Italy ■ Documentary ■ Rebecca Samonà ■ 57 min. ■

■ Italian, French & Ladino w/subtitles ■ Guest: Director Rebecca Simonà ■

Pregnant with her second child, director Rebecca Samonà traveled with her mother to Rhodes, where their family lived for many generations. The Rhodesis Jewish community goes back to the golden age of Italian rule and survived until the height of WWII, when Nazi Germany took control of the Mediterranean island and Jews were deported and sent to concentration camps. Samonà tells a rather simple story about family survival through passed down traditions, food, songs, rituals, and their medieval Ladino Spanish dialect through extensive family photos, newsreel and archival footage.

Topics: History, Sephardic Jews, Ladino/Judeo-Spanish, Rhodes, Italy, Family History

LADINO: 500 YEARS YOUNG

■ 2006 ■ Israel ■ Documentary ■ Rian Papish ■ 52 min. ■

■ English, Hebrew & Ladino w/subtitles ■

The film follows the rise of Ladino singer, Yasmin Levy, from the moment she discovers she can sing and all the way to international success. As she gets to know herself as singer, Yasmin rediscovers her father's legacy, a revered Ladino singer, who died when she was a child.

Topics: Yiddish, Spirituality and Religion, Music, Drama/Theater

COMMUNITY PARTNERS: UW Jewish Studies Program in the Henry M. Jackson School of International Studies

SPONSOR: Wild Ginger Restaurant

DEFIANT BEAUTY

LADY KUL EL ARAB

Plays with *Tulip Time*

MONDAY 4/27 ■ 8:30 PM ■ SIFF CINEMA

■ 2008 ■ Israel ■ Documentary ■ Ibtisam Mara'ana ■ 56 min. ■

■ Arabic & Hebrew w/subtitles ■

Duah (a.k.a. Angelina) Fares, the first Druze woman to attempt significant steps in the Israeli fashion world, finds herself in the middle of a societal conflict when the tradition and values of her village clash with her aspirations to be the first Druze Miss Israel. Her brave choices put her life and dreams in danger as she attempts to defy her community's ways. Jerusalem International Film Festival, The Volgin Awards Competition Winner 2008.

Topics: Druze, Arab Israelis, Beauty Pageants, Women



LEMON TREE (Etz Limon)

SATURDAY 4/25 ■ 9:30 PM ■ CINERAMA

■ 2008 ■ France ■ Feature ■ Eran Riklis ■ 106 min. ■
■ Hebrew, Arabic & French w/subtitles ■

Director Eran Riklis (*Syrian Bride*) turns a minor backyard skirmish into an affective parable of a divided and politicized region. A Palestinian widow, Salma (in an award-winning performance by Hiam Abbas (*The Visitor*), finds her beloved lemon grove—a family legacy—threatened when a stubborn Israeli defense minister moves in next door and declares the trees a security threat. Salma takes her seemingly hopeless case all the way to the Israeli High Court with the help of a young Palestinian attorney. Her legal battle stirs the sympathies of the minister's wife (Rona Lipaz-Michael). Winner of the Panorama Audience Award at the 2008 Berlin International Film Festival and nominated for seven Israeli Academy Awards.

Topics: Drama, Israeli-Arab Conflict, Justice



COMMUNITY PARTNER: Brit Tzedek v'Shalom-Jewish Alliance for Peace & Social Justice

SJFF OPENING NIGHT FILM

THE LITTLE TRAITOR

Plays with *Renewal* (short)

THURSDAY 4/23 ■ PROGRAM BEGINS 8PM ■ CINERAMA

■ 2007 ■ Israel ■ Feature ■ Lynn Roth ■ 88 min. ■
■ English & Hebrew w/subtitles ■

Based on Amos Oz's novel *Panther in the Basement*, this uplifting family-friendly film captures the unlikely bond between a kindly British soldier and a spirited boy. Set in 1947 Palestine and the birth of Israel, 11-year-old Proffy Liebowitz and his friends want nothing more than the departure of occupying British forces. While out after curfew, Proffy is seized by British Sergeant Dunlop (Molina). The chance encounter leads to a deepening relationship among ostensible foes.

Topics: Coming of Age, History, Israel

Family Friendly (age 8+)



COMMUNITY PARTNERS: Foundation for Jewish Camp, Northwest Yeshiva High School and Secular Jewish Circle of Puget Sound

FREE BENEFIT SCREENING

MY LEFT HAND

SUNDAY 5/3 ■ 5PM ■ MOHAI

■ 2008 ■ United States ■ Documentary ■ Joshua Isaac ■ 81 min. ■ English ■
■ Guest: Joshua Isaac, Filmmaker ■

Seattle filmmaker Joshua Isaac, a husband and father to two young boys, documents his experience dealing with reoccurrence of epithelioid sarcoma—a rare, cancerous tumor initially found in the palm of his left hand six years prior. Isaac explores his emotions, doubts, fears, and faith in G-d and Judaism as he endures chemotherapy, radiation, and the amputation of his left hand. Through a dark descent into the trials of a cancer patient, the film ends by ultimately celebrating life.

Topics: Family, Cancer, Faith

Donations to Benefit NW Sarcoma Foundation



FREE BENEFIT SCREENING: No ticket required. Priority seating for Community Partners and SJFF passholders who arrive 20 minutes early. Lines will form outside MOHAI's McEachern Auditorium, near the downstairs outside doors. Please do not enter MOHAI upstairs. Seating is limited and not guaranteed.

COMMUNITY PARTNER: Jewish Family Service & NW Sarcoma Foundation



MY OLYMPIC SUMMER (SHORT)

Plays with *One Day You Will Understand*

SUNDAY 4/26 ■ 6:40PM ■ CINERAMA

■ 2007 ■ Netherlands ■ Experimental Short ■ Daniel Robin ■ 12 min. ■
■ English ■

Using his parents' 8mm home movies, filmmaker Daniel Robin creates a fictional account of their troubled marriage against the backdrop of the 1972 Munich Olympics.

Topics: Family, Marriage, Relationships, Political Events

COMMUNITY PARTNER: Kadima Reconstructionist Community



ONE DAY YOU WILL UNDERSTAND

(Plus Tard, Tu Comprendras)

Plays with *My Olympic Summer* (short)

SUNDAY 4/26 ■ 6:40PM ■ CINERAMA

■ 2008 ■ France ■ Feature ■ Amos Gitaï ■ 90 min. ■ French w/subtitles ■

Jeanne Moreau (*Jules et Jim*) stars in this latest introspective drama by director Amos Gitaï. It is Paris, 1987, and as the televised trial of Gestapo leader Klaus Barbie ("the Butcher of Lyon") grips the nation, a son tries to persuade his Jewish mother to recount her wartime experiences. Jeanne Moreau delivers a quietly magnificent performance as a woman refusing to confront the heritage and hurt she has left behind. Gitaï choreographs her son Victor's (Hippolyte Girardot) struggle to connect the dots. A careful rumination on Holocaust memory and reconciliation.

Topics: Drama, Holocaust, International Jewry, World War II

COMMUNITY PARTNER: Kadima Reconstructionist Community



SECRETS (HaSadot)

SUNDAY 5/3 ■ 9:00PM ■ MOHAI

■ 2007 ■ France/Israel ■ Feature ■ Avi Nesher ■ 120 min. ■
■ Hebrew & French w/subtitles ■

Secrets is the story of a gifted and pious daughter of an Orthodox rabbi and her rebellious quest for individuality. Wary of marriage in an insular community, Naomi convinces her father to send her to an all-female Jewish seminary in Safed, an ancient center of Kabbalistic study or mystical Judaism. There she befriends another free-spirited student, Michelle, and the two encounter a mysterious, ailing foreigner (the iconic French actress Fanny Ardant) with a disturbing past. Attempting to purge the woman's sins through kabbalistic rituals, Naomi and Michelle embark on a risky journey into forbidden realms.

Topics: GLBT, Spirituality & Religion, Women, Kabbalah

COMMUNITY PARTNERS: Bashert: the LGBT Initiative of the Jewish Federation of Greater Seattle, Congregation Tikvah Chadashah and Three Dollar Bill Cinema—Home of the Seattle Lesbian & Gay Film Festival

Pre-film Wine and Cheese Reception, 8:00–9:00 PM, sponsored by Bashert: the LGBT Initiative of the Jewish Federation of Greater Seattle. All are welcome.

COMMUNITY YOM HA'ATZMAUT Israeli Independence Day Celebration

SHARON

WEDNESDAY 4/29 ■ EVENT 8:10/FILM 8:40 PM ■ SIFF CINEMA

■ 2008 ■ Germany ■ Documentary ■ Dror Moreh ■ 90 min. ■

■ Hebrew w/subtitles ■

From hero of the Six Day War to unlikely endorser of the Road Map to Peace, Ariel Sharon's life is inextricably linked to the course of Israeli history. Director Dror Moreh's timely documentary is an intimate look at the former Israeli prime minister prior to his devastating stroke in 2006. The film features first-time interviews with the people closest to him, charting his commando past, through accusations of war crimes in Palestinian refugee camps, to his role as leader of the Jewish people. At the heart of the film is Sharon's historic decision to demolish Jewish settlements in the West Bank and Gaza, a unilateral attempt at peace that met with fierce opposition from within his own ranks. Culled from archival material and hours of newly-recorded footage, Sharon is an authoritative study of this consequential and divisive figure.

Topics: Biography, Israel, Politics

8:10 PM: Seattle Jewish Chorale performs and "Happy Birthday Israel" kosher cupcakes served.



COMMUNITY PARTNERS: Consulate of Israel, Consulate General and Honorary Consul of the Federal Republic of Germany, StandWithUs NW and Seattle Jewish Chorale

EVENT SPONSOR: The Jewish Federation of Greater Seattle

SRUGIM

SUNDAY 5/3 ■ 1:30 PM ■ MOHAI

■ 2007 ■ Israel ■ Television ■ Eliezer Shapiro ■ 3-38 min. episodes ■

■ Hebrew w/subtitles ■

Imagine a *Friends*-style television series about the singles scene in Jerusalem with characters that are hip, 30-somethings and...Modern Orthodox! Srugim is one of the most popular series on Israeli TV today. It focuses on the new social class of well-educated young adults who do not find their place within the existing religious frameworks.

Topics: Israeli Television, Israel, Modern Orthodox, Dating/Romance, Judaism



COMMUNITY PARTNER: Tree of Life Judaica & Books

STALAGS: HOLOCAUST AND PORNOGRAPHY IN ISRAEL (Stalagim: Shoa ve pornographia re'Israel)

THURSDAY 4/30 ■ 9:15 PM ■ CINERAMA

■ 2007 ■ Israel ■ Documentary ■ Ari Libsker ■ 62 min. ■ Hebrew w/subtitles ■

During the early 1960s, as the horrors of Adolph Eichmann were revealed through shocking testimony in an Israeli courtroom, a new pulp lit emerged in Israel called *stalags*. These erotic pocketbooks featuring buxom female SS officers took the country by storm. Controversial and popular, *stalags* were condemned as porn, and this documentary reveals uncomfortable truths, asking what did they really mean and what do they reveal about Israeli consciousness to this day?

Topics: Holocaust & World War II, Art, Literature, Israel, Pornography & Erotic Fiction

Mature Content





COMMUNITY PARTNERS: Consulate of Israel, Young Leadership Division of the Jewish Federation of Greater Seattle and Temple Beth El in Tacoma

2 SCREENINGS: SEATTLE & TACOMA

STRANGERS (Zarim)

SATURDAY 5/2 ■ 9:30 PM ■ MOHAI

ENCORE SCREENING: SATURDAY 5/9 ■ 7:00 PM ■ WSHS TACOMA

■ 2007 ■ Israel ■ Documentary ■ Guy Nattiv, Erez Tadmor ■ 85 min. ■

■ Hebrew, Arabic & French w/subtitles ■

An accidental meeting sparks an improbable romance linking an Israeli kibbutznik and a Palestinian woman in this critically-acclaimed exploration of nationality and the heart. Eyal and Rana (superb improvisation by actors Liron Levo and Lubna Azabal) meet serendipitously on their way to the World Cup soccer finals in Berlin after their bags are mistakenly swapped. A magnetic glance on a subway soon becomes an unbreakable bond, even as war in their homeland tests loyalties. Montagues and Capulets, meet Eyal and Rana.

Topics: Drama, Romance, Young Professionals, Israel/Palestine

Mature Content

DEFIANT BEAUTY

TULIP TIME: THE RISE AND FALL OF THE TRIO LESCANO

Plays with Lady Kul El Arab

MONDAY 4/27 ■ 8:30 PM ■ SIFF CINEMA

■ 2007 ■ Netherlands/Italy ■ Documentary ■ Tonio Boniotti, Marco De Stefanis ■

■ 53 min. ■ Dutch & Italian w/subtitles ■

■ Guest Speaker: David Chapman, Jazz Historian ■

Tulip Time is a fascinating profile of Trio Lescano, a musical group of Dutch Jewish sisters who could really swing. Stylistically similar to the Andrews Sisters, the Trio was enormously popular in Italy in the 1930s and 1940s. Sandra, Giuditta and Caterinetta grew up on Holland, the daughters of Hungarian circus artist Alexander and Dutch operetta singer Eva Leschan.. "We were welcomed in the best houses—the Jewish daughters of a clown." Ultimately their recording contract was cancelled in 1943 because their songs were declared anti-Fascist. The Trio was arrested and held in custody for weeks. The sisters had a complex relationship to their Judaism, which was at times downplayed when convenient. This lovely documentary features rare, found footage of their unique performances from the Fascist period.

Topics: Women, Music, Dutch Jews, Italian Jews, Jazz, Holocaust & WWII, Family Relationships

THE WALL (SHORT)

Plays with Clown & Führer

SATURDAY 4/25 ■ 7:15 PM ■ CINERAMA

■ 2007 ■ U.S. ■ Narrative Short ■ Michael Lloyd Green ■ 9 min. ■ English ■

Two residents of a tenement whose apartments share an adjoining wall also share a strong common link, though they've never met, and come from very different backgrounds.

Mature Content



WOMAN FROM THE BUBBLE

SUNDAY 5/3 ■ 3:30 PM ■ MOHAI

■ 2007 ■ Israel ■ Documentary ■ Netta Loevy ■ 59 min. ■
■ Hebrew & Sign Language w/subtitles ■

"I know you from TV," says Khaled, a deaf Palestinian, to Lee Dan, an Israeli sign language interpreter, when he meets her at an army checkpoint. Hearing people, too, know Dan from the small "bubble" on the TV screen where she resides, translating programs into sign language. Outside the bubble, Lee also interprets for deaf people in various situations: at school, in court, in therapy, even in the delivery room. The film goes into the bubble, and tells the story of people like Lee, who live between silence and sound.

Topics: Israel, Deaf Community, Sign Language



COMMUNITY PARTNER: Jewish Family Service

YOO-HOO, MRS. GOLDBERG (SHORT)

Plays with *At Home in Utopia*

MONDAY 4/27 ■ 6:30 PM ■ SIFF CINEMA

■ 2007 ■ United States ■ Short ■ Aviva Kempner ■ 25 min. ■ English ■

The amazing life and career of Gertrude Berg, the creator, writer and star of *The Goldbergs*, a beloved Jewish-sensibility radio show that debuted in 1929 and subsequently became a popular weekly TV program (1949–1956). Berg used her popularity and came to the defense her show's creatives and cast who were red-bated during the McCarthy era. This short is part of a soon-to-be-completed full-length documentary.

Topics: 1950s Television, Celebrity, Blacklist, Jews in Popular Culture



COMMUNITY PARTNERS: Seattle Office for Civil Rights and Teamsters Local Union No. 117

CLOSING SUNDAY 5/3: SIFF 14, GO GREEN SCREENS

RENEWAL: STORIES FROM AMERICA'S RELIGIOUS ENVIRONMENTAL MOVEMENT (SELECTED SHORTS)

5:00 PM ■ MOHAI McCurdy Gallery (enter upstairs)

■ 2007 ■ Martin Ostrow ■ English ■

Post-Panel Reception by Catering By Phyllis: Suggested donation \$5.

SIFF will screen three short films from the documentary *Renewal* as part of our Closing Sunday Panel, "Green Faith/Faithfully Green" — an interfaith roundtable with religious leaders, eco-advocates and artists: "Ancient Roots" about the Teva Learning Center from the Jewish tradition; "Food For Thought" about Muslim traditions, charity and sustainable farming; and "Interfaith Power and Light" depicting multi-faith religious responses to global warming.

FUEL

7:00 PM ■ MOHAI McEachern Auditorium (line forms downstairs)

■ 2008 ■ United States ■ Josh Tickell ■ 112 min. ■ English ■

Fuel is an insightful portrait of America's addiction to oil and an uplifting testament to the immediacy of new energy solutions. Director, Josh Tickell, a young activist, shuttles us on a whirlwind journey to track the rising domination of the petrochemical industry and reveals a gamut of available solutions to "repower America" — from vertical farms that occupy skyscrapers to algae facilities that turn wastewater into fuel. *Fuel* illuminates a hopeful, achievable future, where decentralized, sustainable living is not only possible, it's imperative.



FREE PUBLIC
EVENTS
No tickets
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COMMUNITY PARTNERS (Both Films): American Technion Society NW, Earth Ministry/Washington Interfaith Power & Light, The Jewish Climate Challenge™, The Jewish National Fund and Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust.

SPONSOR: Carter Subaru

The Seattle Jewish Film Festival gratefully acknowledges the following individuals, corporations, foundations and organizations for their support, ensuring the success of this year's film festival.



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A Diversity Education Workshop for Youth Presented by the American Jewish Committee's Seattle Jewish Film Festival

FILMTalks! is a free, daylong diversity education program for high school students in the Seattle area, designed to foster respect and understanding among individuals of different backgrounds. Through the engaging art of film, students discuss difficult issues of diversity, prejudice and intolerance. The mission is to help young people become more aware of the pressing issues of prejudice and intolerance, and to encourage them to make proactive steps and a real-life commitment to improving diversity relations in their schools and communities. Students exercise their ability to define core values and negotiate group definitions of such profound terms as: freedom, justice, loyalty, courage and compassion.

For more information or to volunteer to facilitate a discussion group, please contact Lois Fein at: filmtalks2009@gmail.com

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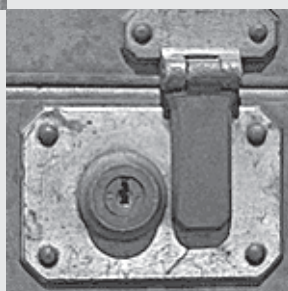
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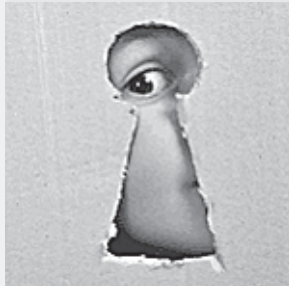
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KEYNOTE SPEAKER
Dr. Eboo Patel, founder and executive director of the Interfaith Youth Core, a Chicago-based international nonprofit working to build mutual respect and pluralism among religiously diverse young people by empowering them to work together to serve others.

For more information or to purchase tickets or become a sponsor, please contact Kathleen Crowell at crowellk@ajc.org or the Greater Seattle Chapter of American Jewish Committee at 206-622-6315x4.

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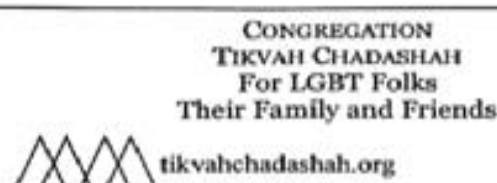


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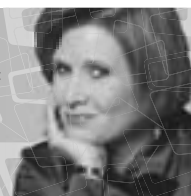
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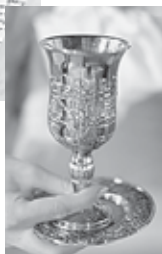
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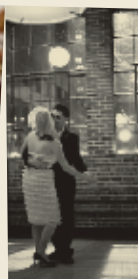
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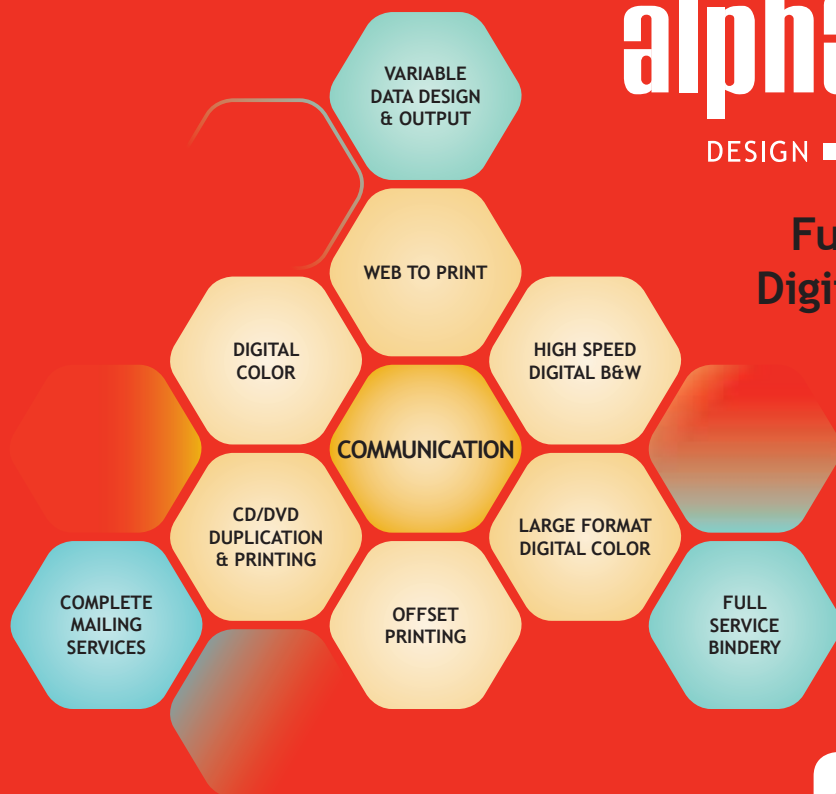
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2009 TICKET AND PASS PRICES

ADVANCE TICKET SALES:

Tickets and passes are non-refundable and can be purchased through SJFF's official Web site and Brown Paper Tickets. Tickets purchased online or by phone can be mailed or picked up at SJFF will-call, open one hour prior to screenings the day-of-show. You can also purchase tickets with cash or credit cards in person at Brown Paper Ticket locations.

SJFF BOX OFFICE: DAY OF SHOW

Same-day tickets can only be purchased in person at the theatre box office, open one hour prior to screenings. Please check Web site to make sure the screening is not sold out in advance and check schedule for box office location by venue. Cash, VISA/MC or check only.

TICKET PRICES

INDIVIDUAL SALES: \$11 General;

\$8 student w/valid ID/youth under 13/senior 65+/SJFF Supporters.

GROUP SALES: \$8 per person (groups of 12+ receive discount)

SPECIAL EVENTS:

- **Opening Night Film & Cocktail Party hosted by Tom Douglas at the Palace Ballroom:** \$50 (includes film). Advance tickets only.
No tickets sold at the door.
- **Opening Night Film & Centerpiece Comedy Performance:** \$25 each;
\$15 student/youth.
- **Matzoh Momma Sunday Brunch & Film:**
\$22; \$15 student/youth/senior; \$60 family (up to 4)
- **Stroum JCC "Senior" Screening:** \$7 Reservations required.

PASSES

SJFF FILM ONLY PASS: \$150; \$125 student/senior/AJC member. Festival films only. Includes Centerpiece Comedy Performance.

SJFF FESTIVAL PASS PLUS: \$200; \$175 student/senior/AJC member. All festival films and ticketed events, including one ticket to the Opening Night Party hosted by Tom Douglas.

SJFF FLEX PASS: "8 PUNCH & BRUNCH: \$85; \$60 student/senior/AJC member.

- 8 films total plus one admission to Brunch. So bring a friend or seven to the movies. Each screening/person is a punch.
- Restrictions: Only one admission to special events. Does not include Opening Night Party.

PASS HOLDER POLICY

Passholders must arrive 20 minutes before show time to be guaranteed seating!

All passes, except SJFF Flex Pass, are non-transferable. Please support the festival by encouraging family and friends to purchase tickets and passes.

Please arrive with your pass visible! You will be seated first so we can determine the number of tickets the box office can sell. This is especially important at MOHAI, where there is limited seating. If you wish to stay for multiple contiguous screenings, you can leave your things while we clean the theatre. We thank you for your support and cooperation!

VENUE INFORMATION



CINERAMA THEATRE

2100-4th Avenue (@ Lenora), Seattle

Phone 206.441.3653

www.cinerama.com

Limited paid parking in the lot adjacent to Cinerama (corner of Lenora and 5th). This parking lot includes 3 handicapped spaces. More paid parking across the street at the Warwick Hotel.



IL FORNAIO

600 Pine St # 132,

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206.264.0994

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Paid parking in Pacific Place garage.

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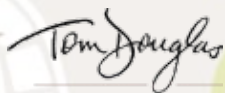


MUSEUM OF HISTORY & INDUSTRY/MOHAI

2700-24th Ave East, Seattle

Phone 206.324.1126

www.seattlehistory.org



Catering & Events

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206.448.2001

www.tomdouglas.com/ballroom



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Parking info?



WA STATE HISTORY MUSEUM

1911 Pacific Avenue, Tacoma

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www.washingtonhistory.org/wshs/contact.htm

Parking for our disabled visitors is available on the back (east) side of the museum, next to the freeway. There is an entrance at the lower level with an elevator, and a ramp leads up to the Pacific Avenue level.

To our friends at the Seattle Jewish Film
Festival who illuminate the beauty and
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– Mazel tov.

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