

Third Annual
—
SEATTLE
JEWISH
FILM
FESTIVAL
—

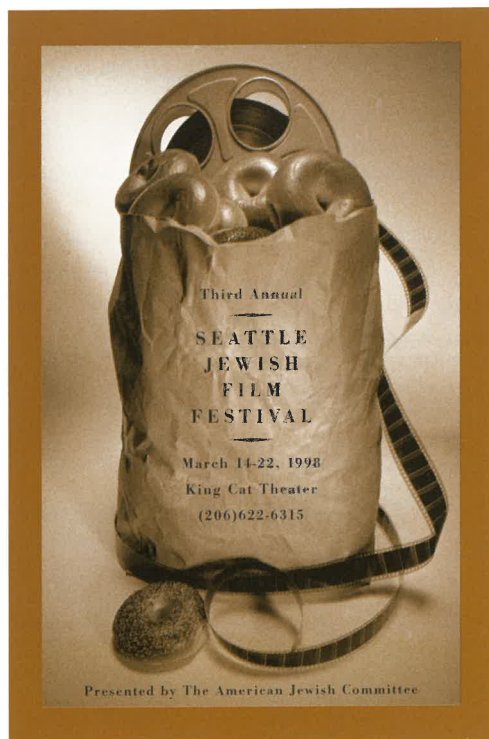
March 14-22, 1998

King Cat Theater

(206)622-6315

Presented by The American Jewish Committee

The American Jewish Committee



We have more than just film in our bag.

Jewish Identity • Political Advocacy • Civil Rights • Israel/Diaspora Relations
Anti-Semitism • Middle East Peace • Jewish Literacy • Church/State Separation
International Human Rights • Terrorism • Race Relations

Join AJC today and discover innovative programs based on the principles of American democracy and the traditions of Jewish teaching.

Call (206) 622-6315 for membership information, or stop by the AJC table at the Seattle Jewish Film Festival.

www.ajc.org

FESTIVAL INFORMATION

Screenings

- All screenings begin promptly at announced time
- All programs subject to change
- Information about screening changes will be announced on SJFF's recorded telephone announcement:
- Films are not rated; parental discretion is advised

Seating

- Only SJFF Sponsors seating is reserved
- Seating is limited, advance purchase is recommended

Theater & Parking Information

- All screenings take place at the King Cat Theater
- The King Cat Theater is located on the southeast corner of Sixth Avenue and Blanchard Street in downtown Seattle
- Ample parking for film festival events is located in lots and on streets adjacent to theater

Ordering Advance Tickets (see order form on reverse side)

- Advance tickets are non-refundable
- Tickets ordered by mail, phone, and fax will be held at King Cat Theater box office, unless a self-addressed stamped envelope is provided and order received by MARCH 12

Individual Ticket Prices

- \$7.50 General Admission
- \$6.00 AJC Members (current), Seniors, & Students
- \$4.00 Pre-Bar/Bat Mitzvah (Kids under age 13)

Special Event Prices

- Sorry, no discounts available
- \$18.00 OPENING NIGHT GALA
- \$12.00 BAGEL & FILM BRUNCH

Festival Passes

A festival pass is a fantastic deal and a good way to guarantee you won't get sold-out!

- \$100 **FULL Pass** Admission to all events, programs and screenings
- \$80 **AJC Pass** Full pass benefits at a discount for current AJC members
- \$60 **HALF Pass** Opening Night Gala, Bagel & Film Brunch, plus five screenings of your choice

Passholder seating held until 10 minutes prior to start of screening

Group Sales

- Group discount by pre-arrangement only!
- \$6.00 per person for groups of 12 or more

SJFF Volunteers

A variety of volunteer opportunities are available.

Please contact the SJFF Volunteer Coordinator at (206) 622-6315

AJC MEMBERSHIP

Join or Renew Today! • Regular Member: \$100 • Under Age 35: \$35

- Support SJFF • Help AJC's year-round efforts • Save on tickets & passes
- Win big in the membership raffle!

WELCOME

Dear Friends:

Do you remember our first year?

Were you among the hundreds who made a mad dash for one of the 96 seats at the Grand Illusion when we introduced Jewish film to Seattle in 1995?

How about year two? Did you attend the premiere of Michael Verhoeven's A Mother's Courage, which went on to critical acclaim in theaters across the country? Did you nosh on bagels and dance to the Mexican band at our sold-out Bagel & Film Fiesta featuring A Kiss to this Land?

In just three short years we have achieved a level of growth that is truly remarkable: from a five-day, five-film run to an eight-day festival jam-packed with over 30 films, representing cinema from 15 countries, and playing host to eight award-winning filmmakers.

Comedies, dramas, documentaries, animation and shorts — our '98 line-up has it all. From the powerful The Long Way Home to the hilarious Punch Me in the Stomach, from the innovative Everlasting Joy to the jubilant Best Man, each film is a jewel; together they are guaranteed to inform and entertain, encouraging lively discussion and personal reflection.

Join us in celebrating Israel's Jubilee and partake in the extended line-up of contemporary Israeli cinema. Join us for Family Day — and don't forget to bring your kids, parents, grandparents, and significant others! Join us for a dazzling array of Jewish life, culture and history that offers new answers to the age-old question, "What does being Jewish mean?"

Once a year the American Jewish Committee adopts the magic of film to promote awareness and appreciation of Jewish issues. SJFF has become a centerpiece of our efforts to enhance the quality of Jewish life. With its international focus, the festival highlights the intersection of Jewish life with that of our neighboring communities, reflecting the broader human relations mission of AJC.

If you're already a member of the American Jewish Committee, thank you! Your ongoing support is vital to the success of SJFF. If you haven't yet joined AJC, we welcome you to get involved in our year-round efforts and invite you to take advantage of the special discounts members of AJC enjoy at the SJFF.

Whether this is your third season with us, or if this is your first introduction to the world of Jewish film, have we got a program for you!

Welcome to the third annual Seattle Jewish Film Festival.

Michael Levin & Leslie Rosen
SJFF '98 Co-Chairs

Nancy F. Vineberg
AJC Executive Director

OPENING NIGHT
SATURDAY, MARCH 14

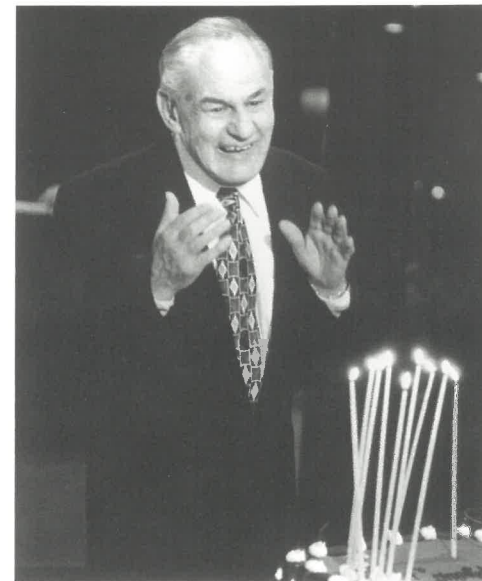
PREMIERE SCREENING and GALA
DESSERT RECEPTION

7:30 PM
THE DYBBUK OF
THE HOLY APPLE FIELD
Israel, 1997

Using a dazzling magical realism style, award-winning Israeli director Yossi Somer gives *The Dybbuk* a stunning and provocative makeover. A Romeo and Juliet tale of love, fate, and mystery is now set in contemporary Jerusalem's Orthodox Quarter, Mea She'arim. After what seems like a chance encounter, Hanan and Lea fall deeply in love, unaware that they had been pledged to each other at birth. When Lea's avaricious father reneges on his promise and engages her to a prominent scholar, Hanan becomes desperate to win her hand. He immerses himself in the study of kabbala (Jewish mysticism) and the lovers are forced to rebel against the strict social and religious laws that keep them apart. Combining striking cinematography and a contemporary soundtrack, *The Dybbuk of the Holy Apple Field* captivates with its stylized retelling of a classic Yiddish story.

Winner of 7 Israeli Academy Awards
IN PERSON: Director Yossi Somer!

JOIN US for a very special evening featuring the Northwest premiere of *The Dybbuk of the Holy Apple Field*. After the screening and a visit with its award-winning director and stars, we'll treat you to a gala dessert reception with the filmmakers and actors featured in SJFF's 1998 Opening Weekend line-up.



CLOSING NIGHT

BEST MAN
USA, 1997
Ira Wohl, Director

Since winning an Oscar in 1976 for his groundbreaking documentary *Best Boy*, Ira Wohl has been asked repeatedly about the film's subject, his mentally retarded cousin, Philly. In *Best Man*, Wohl brings us up-to-date on Philly and his Bronx-based circle of supporters, with equally heartfelt results. Engaging vignettes capture the ever-spirited Philly as an independent senior citizen — attending weekly Jewish classes at the Y, facing the challenges of aging, coming to grips with the loss of his parents, and in *Best Man*'s jubilant finale — celebrating his Bar Mitzvah at age 70. A moving tribute revealing much about the strength of family ties — no matter the configuration.

IN PERSON: Director Ira Wohl!

CELEBRATE THE FINALE of another successful season of Jewish film by joining us for an uplifting evening with filmmaker Ira Wohl. Awaiting you is a night filled with surprises, including the drawing of AJC's membership raffle.

SCHEDULE AT A GLANCE

SATURDAY/MARCH 14

7:30 PM The Dybbuk of the Holy Apple Field

SUNDAY/MARCH 15

11 AM A Letter without Words
12:30 PM Punch Me In the Stomach
Bubbeh Lee & Me
The Party Favor
3:30 PM Aaron's Magic Village
Ma Zeh?
6:30 PM Jenny & Jenny
Mothers Left Behind
8:30 PM The Long Way Home

MONDAY/MARCH 16

6:30 PM Sterne
Love Story
9:00 PM How I Learned to Overcome My Fear and Love Arik Sharon
Ever Shot Anyone?

TUESDAY/MARCH 17

7:00 PM A Summer in La Goulette
9:00 PM The Milky Way

WEDNESDAY/MARCH 18

2:00 PM SENIORS MATINEE
Mendel
Odessa Steps
6:50 PM Hannah
9:15 PM The Truce

THURSDAY/MARCH 19

7:00 PM Rothschild's Violin with
In Broad Daylight
9:00 PM Afula Express with
The Thunder Cats

SATURDAY/MARCH 21

7:30 PM Everlasting Joy
9:00 PM Afula Express

SUNDAY/MARCH 22

10 AM BAGEL & FILM BRUNCH
Haute Cuisine Goes Kosher in Jerusalem
Hummus for Two
1:00 PM Chants of Sand and Stars
2:30 PM A Life Apart
The Return of Sarah's Daughters
5:30 PM Mendel
Odessa Steps
7:30 PM Best Man

CELEBRATING ISRAEL AT 50

As part of worldwide celebrations of Israel's Jubilee, SJFF '98 features a line-up of contemporary Israeli cinema. Starting with our Opening Night Gala premiere of The Dybbuk of the Holy Apple Field, you won't want to miss these award-winning selections. From brilliant political satire to compelling portraiture to heartwarming comedy, our Israel at 50 highlights offer a glimpse at the changing face of Israeli society — in all of its diversity and complexity.

FAMILY DAY AT SJFF '98

Jewish film for the whole mishpacheh! Start the day with Lisa Lewenz and the West Coast premiere of A Letter without Words, an unparalleled exploration of family identity and memory. Grab a coffee in the lobby and get ready to laugh until your sides ache watching our comedic triple feature: Punch Me in the Stomach, Bubbeh Lee and Me and The Party Favor. Our afternoon matinee Aaron's Magic Village, will delight 5 to 12-year olds, and even your hardest-to-please teen will be engrossed by Jenny & Jenny and Mothers Left Behind. For a dramatic conclusion to the day, join Mark Jonathan Harris as he presents his Oscar-nominated documentary The Long Way Home.

See March 15 for film descriptions.



BAGEL & FILM BRUNCH

Eat! Eat! You'll definitely want to fill up on our spread of bagels with all the shmears before you get a taste of Israeli gastronomy, kashrut and local politics in the mouth-watering documentaries Haute Cuisine Goes Kosher in Jerusalem and Hummus for Two.

Dietary Laws Observed

COMMUNITY PROGRAMS

Community Tickets: Free tickets to every regular festival screening are made available through community social service agencies and non-profit organizations, for use by seniors, new immigrants, low income families and all others who would otherwise be unable to participate in SJFF.

Free for Seniors Matinee: An annual event at SJFF, the free for seniors matinee takes place this year on March 18. Join us for an afternoon screening of Mendel with Odessa Steps. All are welcome, but only seniors get in free!

**TO REACH THE COMMUNITY PROGRAMS
COORDINATOR CALL: (206) 622-6315**

FILM Talks!

**March 18, 1998
Langston Hughes Cultural Arts Center**

Announcing FILM Talks!, a daylong diversity program for 9th and 10th graders attending Seattle public and private schools, presented as part of SJFF '98.

Featuring award-winning screenwriter Sherman Alexie (Smoke Signals), FILM Talks! uses film as a vehicle to engage students in discussions about bigotry, intolerance and prejudice, and provides an opportunity for youth to find their own voice in the production of a film about these issues.

Using the American Jewish Committee's acclaimed education program "Hands Across the Campus" as its foundation, FILM Talks! brings youth from all areas of the city together to begin developing the skills necessary to enhance intergroup communication, promote intercultural understanding, and foster respect for diversity in their schools and community.

At the outset of FILM Talks!, students participate in an interactive viewing of Black to the Promised Land, a remarkable film about a group of African American high school students from Brooklyn who spend three months on an Israeli kibbutz. The film's director Madeleine Ali will be on hand to join students in discussing her film.

During the program, representatives of each school will videotape the discussions and interview participants, later using their footage to produce a short documentary about FILM Talks! for use in schools.

**For more information, contact SJFF's FILM Talks!
Coordinator: (206) 622-6315.**

SEATTLE JEWISH FILM FESTIVAL
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