THE ASPER FOUNDATION

RadyJCC

2026
WINNIPEG INTERNATIONAL
JEWISH FILM FESTIVAL
MAY 6 - 23
WINNIPEG | MANITOBA | CANADA



Pictured: We Met at Grossinger's | May 9 | 7:30 p.m.

AWARD-WINNING FILMS | VISITING FILMMAKERS
SPECIAL EVENTS | MATINEE & EVENING SCREENINGS

Asper Jewish Community Campus
123 Doncaster Street
www.radyjcc.com

TICKETS

The WIJFF is supported through the Asper Cultural Enrichment Initiative.

Beneficiary Agency of the Jewish Federation of Winnipeg

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2026 WINNIPEG INTERNATIONAL JEWISH FILM FESTIVAL

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CELEBRATING 25 YEARS OF JEWISH CINEMA!

Welcome to the 2026 Winnipeg International Jewish Film Festival, proudly supported through The Asper Foundation's Cultural Enrichment Initiative. For 25 years, we have shared stories that connect us.

What began as a love of film has grown into a cherished community tradition, celebrating the diversity and spirit of Jewish life through cinema. Over the years, we have laughed, reflected, learned, and been inspired together.

This year, we are proud to present an exceptional, thoughtfully curated lineup of films, complemented by meaningful post screening conversations and dynamic special events. Together, they reflect the essence of a true film festival: conversation and storytelling that lingers long after the credits roll.

Come celebrate the joy and power of cinema with us!

VENUES

Main Venue:

- Berney Theatre | Asper Jewish Community Campus | 123 Doncaster Street
  Complimentary parking available in large lot across the street.

Specialty Screening Venues:

- Centre Culturel Franco-Manitobain | 340 Provencher Boulevard
  Screening *La Cache* | Monday, May 11 | 7:00 p.m.
- The Handsome Daughter | 61 Sherbrook Street
  Featuring *Shorts on Sherbrook* | Tuesday, May 19 | 8:00 p.m.

LEGEND

Specialty Screening Venue

Matinee Screening

Special Event

TICKET OPTIONS & BULK DISCOUNTS

Feature Length Films
Individual Tickets: $13

Shorts on Sherbrook
Individual Passes: $15

Rady Members receive 25% off total price. It pays to be a Member!

See more, save more!
See 5 films, get 5% off
See 10 films, get 10% off
See 15 films, get 15% off
See them all, get 25% off

Tickets must be purchased during the same transaction and must be for different films. 'Shorts on Sherbrook' does not qualify for this discount. Final discount will be calculated at check-out.

For all tickets, trailers, schedules, and more please visit our website at www.radyjcc.com or scan the various QR codes.

WINNIPEG INTERNATIONAL JEWISH FILM FESTIVAL STAFF

Laura Marjovsky *Director of Programming,* Rady JCC
Karen Burshtein *Producer,* Winnipeg International Jewish Film Festival
Natali Halberthal *Manager of Programming,* Rady JCC
Karolina Garlinska *Coordinator of Adult and Older Adult Programming,* Rady JCC
Tomer Levy *Community Engagement Coordinator,* Rady JCC
Roberta Malam *Programming Assistant,* Rady JCC
Chris Allinotte *Communications & Digital Content Manager,* Rady JCC
Gwendolyn Penner *Coordinator of Graphic Design & Digital Content,* Rady JCC
Jerry Augustin *Technical Coordinator,* Winnipeg International Jewish Film Festival

WITH THANKS

THE ASPER FOUNDATION

The Winnipeg International Jewish Film Festival is made possible through the generous support of The Asper Foundation and its Cultural Enrichment Initiative.

At the Rady JCC, we believe arts and culture have the power to connect and strengthen community. Through this transformative investment, we are able to expand cultural programming, remove barriers to access, and create meaningful experiences that bring people together.

This festival is a reflection of that vision. Thanks to The Asper Foundation, we are proud to continue sharing powerful stories, sparking conversation, and celebrating Jewish life through film.

Live programming events are subject to change.

OPENING NIGHT



WEDNESDAY, MAY 6 | 7:00 P.M.

Fantasy Life

Comedy | USA | 2025 | Director: Matthew Shear
English | 91 minutes

Writer-director Matthew Shear stars as Sam, an anxious law school dropout who stumbles into a job babysitting his psychiatrist's three granddaughters, and falls for the girls' mother, Dianne, a once-promising actress in a rocky marriage. Sam agrees to babysit for the summer on Martha's Vineyard, and he ends up in a house with the woman he pines for, her husband, the three kids, and all four grandparents, including his psychiatrist.

In his directorial debut, Shear gives us a film that is both lighthearted and deeply real. An outstanding ensemble cast also includes Judd Hirsh, Amanda Peet, Bob Balaban, Jessica Harper, Holland Taylor, and Zosia Mamet.

"One of the most flagrantly, hilariously Jewish movies in recent memory" —Austin Chronicle

POST-FILM RECEPTION:
Join us after the film for a special opening night reception.



THURSDAY, MAY 7 | 2:00 P.M.

Jaffa Stories

Comedy | Israel | 2025 | Directors : Matti Harari and Arik Lubetzki | Hebrew with English subtitles
100 minutes

Directors Matti Harari and Arik Lubetzki *(Apples from the Desert)* transform the beloved tales of Israeli writer Menahem Talmi into a cinematic mosaic pulsing with energy, wit, and nostalgia. This vibrant comedy focuses on the legendary Gang of Jaffa—unforgettable streetwise characters who talk fast, fight hard, and live by their own offbeat code.

They may live on society's edge, but their spirit, loyalty, and humour informs their lives, and it shines through every punchline and every heartbreak in the film. **Jaffa Stories** is a love letter to one of Israel's most storied cities, and its people—a celebration of language, resilience, and the timeless art of storytelling.

"A comic fable in which larger-than-life heroes and antiheroes fight, love, gamble, and drink arak….Funny and charming" —Jerusalem Post



THURSDAY, MAY 7 | 7:00 P.M.

©YANIV LINTON

A Letter to David *(Michtav Le'David)*

Documentary | Israel/USA | 2025 | Director: Tom Shoval | Producer: Nancy Spielberg | Hebrew with English subtitles | 74 minutes

In 2013 Israeli filmmaker Tom Shoval was casting for twins for his debut feature *Youth.* Among the auditionees was a pair of charismatic, non-professionals, identical twins Eitan and David Cunio, who won the lead roles. Ten years later the Cunios were at their homes in Kibbutz Nir Oz when Hamas terrorists infiltrated. David, his wife, toddlers, and younger brother Ariel were taken hostage along with many others from the kibbutz—the hardest hit on October 7th.

A distraught Shoval crafted **A Letter to David,** a cinematic letter to his friend whose fate was then unknown. Shoval uses unedited, behind-the-scenes footage and audition tapes from *Youth,* archival footage of the kibbutz, and present-day interviews with the Cunio family who fought tirelessly for the brothers' release, to build a multi-layered documentary that explores the inexplicable connections between life and cinema, memory and reality and fraternal connection.

When the film was released last year, David and Ariel were still being held in Gaza, and Shoval called **Letter** an unfinished film. Following their release after 738 days in captivity, Shoval added a new, longed-for happy ending. **A Letter to David The Complete Version** is a cinematic experience not to be missed.

"A cinematic act of love, grief, and resistance—and a reminder that even in the face of horror, art can still bear witness."
—Solzy At the Movies

WINNER
Ophir (Israeli Film Academy) Award 2025 for Best Documentary Feature

POST-FILM
The film will be followed by a special in-person Q&A with Director Tom Shoval.



FRIDAY, MAY 8 | 5:30 P.M.

Lucky Star
(La Bonne Étoile)

Comedy-Drama | France | 2025 | Director: Pascal Elbé | French with English Subtitles | 91 minutes

Benoît Poelvoorde *(Man Bites Dog, The Brand New Testament)* stars as Jean Chevalin, a bumbling trickster who accidentally deserts the army in 1940s France and must protect his family from the advancing Nazi threat. In a desperate bid for survival, he concocts a plan to pretend to be Jewish in order to receive help from smugglers to reach the free zone.

This inane and misguided plan throws his family into the heart of the Resistance – and into a chaotic journey filled with danger, unexpected heroism, and personal transformation. A surprising but hilarious and heartwarming new WWII comedy.

"Through this heartfelt historical comedy, Pascal Elbé offers an approachable yet nuanced perspective on cowardice, prejudice, and the possibility of redemption"—Sortir à Paris



SATURDAY, MAY 9 | 7:30 P.M.

We Met at Grossinger's

Documentary | USA | 2026 | Director: Paula Eiselt English | 104 minutes

Throughout decades of prejudice hampering the integration of Jewish immigrants in America, the Borscht Belt in New York's Catskills provided an oasis of belonging. Grossinger's Resort was at the centre of it all, providing a physical and mental getaway where Jews—and others from marginalized communities—needing a break from the city could relax.

Over the years this real-life inspiration for Dirty Dancing attracted a who's who of comedy, as well as political and athletic figures. In her high spirited and comprehensive documentary, Eiselt resurrects this vanished world with an immersive warmth, while providing a timely reminder of the historic richness of Jewish culture and its immeasurable contributions to American life.

"An inspiring affirmation of the American Dream, female empowerment, and the importance of diversity in the face of intolerance"
—Forbes

With Special Appearance by Benji Rothman



SUNDAY, MAY 10 | 1:00 P.M.

Labors of Love: The Life and Legacy of Henrietta Szold

Documentary | USA | 2025 | Director: Abby Ginzberg | English | 81 minutes

A must-see documentary that foregrounds one of history's most influential, yet under-recognized, American-Jewish women. This is the story of the visionary leader Henrietta Szold who founded Hadassah, established a healthcare system treating Arabs and Jews equally, and led Youth Aliyah, saving 11,000 children from the Nazis.

Peabody Award-winning filmmaker Ginzberg brings to life the incredible story of a woman who reshaped history through personal setbacks, compassion and an unwavering belief in humanity.

"A compelling portrait of a complex, brilliant Jewish woman"— jweekly.com

Special Mother's Day Event
LUNCH AND A MATINEE

1:00 p.m. - Buffet Lunch
2:00 p.m. - Movie

Ticket includes both events



SUNDAY, MAY 10 | 7:00 P.M.

You Had to Be There
How the Toronto Godspell Ignited the Comedy Revolution, Spread Love & Overalls, and Created a Community That Changed the World (In a Canadian Kind of Way).

Documentary | USA | 2025 | Director: Nick Davis English | 98 minutes

Remember that time a bunch of scrappy, mostly Jewish, mostly Canadian performers and producers got together to put on a production of the hippie musical Godspell, and, in so doing, changed the world of comedy forever? This dazzling, fun-filled and touching documentary brings you behind the scenes of the Toronto production of Steven Schwartz's Toronto production of Godspell, starring a young Martin Short, Eugene Levy, Andrea Martin, Paul Schaffer and Gilda Radner.

Davis delves into how the hit production also became an incubator for modern humour and made Toronto in the 1970's the place to be. A cultural shift yet to be named was happening in real time resulting in SNL and SCTV, and everything these iconic shows spanned.

"An exuberant and essential doc for comedy heads"—Variety



MONDAY, MAY 11 | 7:00 P.M.

at CCFM
340 Provencher Boulevard

CCFM
CENTRE CULTUREL FRANCO-MANITOBAIN

La Cache
(The Safe House)

Comedy | Switzerland, Luxembourg, France | 2025 | Director: Lionel Baier | French with English subtitles
90 minutes

Paris, May 1968. A nine-year-old boy is thrilled to be staying with his grandparents for a few days while his left-y parents take part in France's historic student protests. He is joined by two fun-loving uncles – a visual artist and an aspiring intellectual – and by his flamboyant great-grandmother from Odessa. As France is turned upside down by the strikes, the family is forced to confront its own past when an illustrious guest seeks refuge in their hideout.

Lionel Baier's buoyant comedy is based on the novel which Christophe Boltanski, nephew of the renowned French visual artist Christian Boltanski, wrote about his family. The film also gives us the poignant final performance of legendary French actor Michel Blanc before his 2024 passing.

6:00 P.M. PRE-FILM RECEPTION:

Join us before the film for a Wine & Cheese reception.



TUESDAY, MAY 12 | 2:00 P.M.

Oxygen

Feature | Israel | 2025 | Director: Netalie Braun
Hebrew with English subtitles | 95 minutes

Anat, a single mother and devoted primary schoolteacher whose world is shaped by poetry and language, awaits her son Ido's army discharge. When a new war erupts and she learns he has volunteered to fight, their tight bond fractures.

Oxygen is an intimate, politically charged drama about a mother confronting the emotional and moral cost of her son's military service.

POST-FILM Q&A:

The film will be followed by a pre-recorded Q&A with Director Netalie Braun.

WINNER
Best Feature, Jerusalem Film Festival, 2025



©ZIV BERCOVITCH

TUESDAY, MAY 12 | 7:00 P.M.

Tell Me Everything

Feature | Israel/France | 2026 | Director: Moshe Rosenthal | Hebrew with English subtitles
109 minutes

Set against the backdrop of the HIV epidemic of the 1980s and the era's pop craze. 12-year-old Boaz (a mesmerizing Yair Mazo) is about to celebrate his Bar Mitzvah. We get a sense of excitement with the opening scenes of him lip-syncing and performing a pop song. But after a swim at the local pool, he discovers a shattering secret about his beloved father, Meir (Assi Cohen; *Hatufim*), that threatens to tear his close family apart.

This is a story told through Boaz's eyes, trauma and blurry memory, and across the years, as we follow his journey to heal the wound, and restore the bond with the father he never stopped yearning for. Rosenthal *(Karaoke)* doesn't shy away from the homophobia of that era in a film that also speaks to societal hysteria and ignorance.

"A detailed and meticulous work…Rosenthal's script is rich and touches upon many other topics besides masculinity and the father-son relationship, sometimes peeking into corners that are taboo even today." — Vladan Petkovic, Cineuropa



WEDNESDAY, MAY 13 | 2:00 P.M.

Love, Statistically Speaking

Comedy-Drama | Israel | 2025 | Director: Amichai Greenberg | Hebrew with English subtitles
90 minutes

When Reuben, an 80-year-old actuary who lives by statistics, loses both his wife and her insurance money at the swimming pool, he's forced into a reluctant detective partnership with his free-spirited granddaughter. Their bumbling investigation of eccentric pool regulars turns into a classic caper à la Manhattan Murder Mystery.

Amichai Greenberg, who came to WIJFF in 2018 with his film *Testament*, this year treats us to a funny, heartfelt film proving that, while you can calculate almost anything, you can't predict love or family.

SCHEDULE

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MAY 6 - 23

WINNIPEG | MANITOBA | CANADA

LEGEND

- Special Event
- Matinee
- Off-site Location
- Berney Theatre - Rady JCC, 123 Doncaster Street
- Centre Culturel Franco-Manitobain, 340 Provencher Boulevard
- The Handsome Daughter, 61 Sherbrook Street

SCAN FOR TRAILERS & TICKETS:

W	T	F	S
MAY 6 **7:00 p.m.** Fantasy Life	**MAY 7** **2:00 p.m.** Jaffa Stories **7:00 p.m.** A Letter to David	**MAY 8** **5:30 p.m.** Lucky Star (La Bonne Etoile)	**MAY 9** **7:30 p.m.** We Met at Grossinger's

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
MAY 10 **1:00 p.m.** Labors of Love: The Life & Legacy of Henrietta Szold **7:00 p.m.** You Had to Be There	**MAY 11** **7:00 p.m.** La Cache (The Safe House)	**MAY 12** **2:00 p.m.** Oxygen **7:00 p.m.** Tell Me Everything	**MAY 13** **2:00 p.m.** Love, Statistically Speaking **7:00 p.m.** The Sound Man	**MAY 14** NO FILMS	**MAY 15** **2:00 p.m.** SHEITEL: Beauty in the Hidden **7:00 p.m.** Nandauri	**MAY 16** **8:00 p.m.** Matchmaking 2
MAY 17 **2:00 p.m.** Hola Chau **7:00 p.m.** Rosenthal: The Great Showman	**MAY 18** **7:00 p.m.** The Sea (HaYam/ Al-Bahar)	**MAY 19** **2:00 p.m.** UNravelling UNRWA **7:30 p.m.** Shorts on Sherbrook	**MAY 20** **2:00 p.m.** Orna and Ella **7:00 p.m.** A Proud Jewish Boy, The Herschel Grynszpan Story	**MAY 21** **7:00 p.m.** The True Story of Tamara de Lempicka & The Art of Survival	**MAY 22** NO FILMS SHAVUOT	**MAY 23** **7:00 p.m.** The Floaters



WEDNESDAY, MAY 13 | 7:00 P.M.

The Sound Man

Feature | Belgium | 2025 | Director: Frank Van Passel
Dutch with English subtitles | 110 minutes

The Sound Man is set at Brussels' iconic Flagey radio station on the eve of the German invasion of Belgium in 1940. This deeply human tragicomic film centres on the crossed destinies of Berre, a youthful sound engineer, with an almost otherworldly ear, and Elza, a talented Jewish actress who is enchanted by the magic of radio drama.

As tension mounts and Europe slides into war, the Flagey building pulses with voices and dreams. What's unique about **The Sound Man** is its bold inversion of cinematic language. Rather than treating sound as a supporting element to image, Van Passel builds the film sound first. It's a film that explores isolation, intimacy, and the ways people communicate beyond words.

"A visually poetic and emotionally immersive film, where Brussels is rendered not as a literal cityscape but as a sensory memory, shaped by sound, silence, and imagination"
— Hollywood Times



FRIDAY, MAY 15 | 2:00 P.M.

SHEITEL: Beauty in the Hidden

Documentary | Canada | 2025 | Director: Lynda Medjuck Suissa | English | 86 minutes

A documentary exploring the cultural, religious, and personal significance of hair covering among Jewish women, particularly in Orthodox and Hasidic communities. The film reveals how wigs, scarves, and other coverings serve as self expressions of faith, marriage, identity, spirituality, and empowerment.

At its core, **SHEITEL: Beauty in the Hidden** invites audiences to look beyond appearances and cultural divides. It also offers a rare look into the global wig industry, uncovering the artistry, symbolism, and emotional weight behind the choices women make. A deeply personal and emotionally resonant film with messages highly relevant to today's conversations around identity, culture, and choice.



FRIDAY, MAY 15 | 5:30 P.M.

Nandauri

Feature | Israel | 2025 | Director: Eti Tsicko | Georgian and Hebrew with English subtitles | 93 minutes

A strange woman arrives in a lost village in northern Georgia. Marina, played by the wonderful Netta Riskin *(Shtisel; Saving Netta),* enters the first frame wearing a long red coat with embroidered flowers and a fur-trimmed hood framing her face like a lion. A Georgian-born lawyer, now living in Israel, Marina has spent her life in denial about her past and its suffocating traditions. Now she's returning to bring back an 11-year-old boy who was abandoned by his mother, Nino, as a baby. She meets Dato (Roland Okropiridze), Nino's domineering brother, who has cared for the boy, and who bristles at her arrival. Despite adversity, he agrees to help, and as they spend time together, layers of the past, family, pain, and longing create a bond.

Tsicko, along with the brilliant cinematographer Shai Goldman, creates a psychologically complex, powerful cinematic experience of breathtaking landscapes and where intimate character moments transform emotion into visual language.

This film contains adult graphic content.

POST-FILM Q&A:

The film will be followed by a pre-recorded Q&A with Director Eti Tsicko.



SATURDAY MAY 16 | 8:00 P.M.

Matchmaking 2

Romantic Comedy | Israel | 2024 | Director: Erez Tadmor | Hebrew with English Subtitles
100 minutes

The long-awaited sequel to Erez Tadmor's 2022 joyful, warm romantic comedy set against Ashkenazi and Sephardic cultural tensions is here, and it's even more joyful, with even more heart, and even more romantic entanglements than the first.

This time, the spotlight is on Baruch Auerbach (Maor Schwitzer; *Valley of Tears, Shtisel).* He's a graduate student living in a small room at his yeshiva, and also now serves as the faithful assistant to the matchmaker Malchi (Irit Kaplan; *The Beauty Queen of Jerusalem).* While still longing for his soulmate, and finding ways to undermine himself, Baruch finds himself unexpectedly drawn to Shira, Malchi's daughter. The film balances sharp dialogue and warm humor, with cultural insights, and is a fun romp in its own right even if you haven't seen the first *Matchmaking*.



SUNDAY, MAY 17 | 2:00 P.M.

Hola Chao

Comedy-Drama | Israel | 2026 | Director:Jorge (Yohanan) Weller | Spanish and Hebrew with English subtitles | 86 minutes

Marcelo, an Argentinian Israeli, is a frustrated and neurotic movie producer and screenwriter suffering from writer's block. He's also suffocating: Marcelo lives with his Israeli-born wife, his children, his son-in-law, his mother-in-law, his mother-in-law's caretaker, and a crazy cat in a small apartment in a modest neighbourhood.

Just when he thinks life couldn't get more chaotic, his dysfunctional Argentinian family, who he hasn't seen for ten years, arrives in Israel. What follows is a whirlwind of hilarious, tense, and surprisingly moving moments that transform this family into a dysfunctional yet endearing team. Because when everything seems like a disaster, sometimes life gives you the perfect script: one you didn't write, but that changes you forever.



SUNDAY, MAY 17 | 7:00 P.M.

Rosenthal: The Great Showman

Biographical Drama | Germany | 2025 | Director: Oliver Haffner | German with English subtitles 92 minutes

Starring Florian Lukas *(Good Bye Lenin!; The Grand Budapest Hotel)* and Anatole Taubman *(Quantum of Solace 007),* this powerful and deeply human drama reveals the little-known backstory of Hans Rosenthal. Rosenthal was the funloving and effervescent host of a wildly popular 1970s German game show Dalli, Dalli.

It was the number one show in a country eager only to look forward. But, on the eve of the 40th anniversary of Kristallnacht, Rosenthal finds himself forced to confront his traumatic past as a Holocaust survivor – and the past of the country as a whole.



MONDAY, MAY 18 | 7:00 P.M.

The Sea *(HaYam/Al-Bahar)*

Feature | Israel | 2025 | Director: Shai Carmeli-Pollak Arabic and Hebrew with English subtitles | 93 minutes

The Sea is a tender father–son odyssey. Khaled is a willful 12-year-old Palestinian boy who is granted the rare chance to see the sea for the first time on a school trip. But for reasons left unexplained, his permit is missing at the crossing, and he is told to leave the bus while the rest of the class continues on.

Determined to fulfil his dream, he enters Israel on his own, speaking no Hebrew, with no money, and no idea how to get to the sea, but equipped with curiosity and determination. Alerted to his absence, Khaled's father, an illegal laborer in Israel, ventures into the unknown to find him, risking arrest and the loss of his livelihood.

At once tender, and wryly comic, The Sea is told with measures of courage, kindness, and hard truths; The film recalls Vittorio De Sica's *Bicycle Thief.* This is Carmeli Pollak's debut feature. Shai Goldman, the renowned Israeli cinematographer whose beautiful work we also saw in Nandauri, brings the deeply humanist story alive with imagery.

WINNER
2025 Ophir (Israeli Film Academy Awards): Best Picture, Best Director, Best Screenplay, Best Supporting Actress, Best Cinematography

Emerging Filmmaker Award, 2026 Atlanta Jewish Film Festival

Critics Jury Prize, 2026 Miami Jewish Film Festival



TUESDAY, MAY 19 | 2:00 P.M.

UNravelling UNRWA

Documentary | Israel | 2025 | Director: Duki Dror | Hebrew, Arabic with English subtitles | 75 minutes

This insightful and revelatory documentary traces UNRWA's 75-year evolution, from its post-1948 origins as a temporary relief organization for Palestinian refugees to its pivotal and often-controversial role amid the decades-long Israeli-Palestinian conflict.

Special Sneak Preview before Canadian Premiere

"The film excels in its comprehensive historical research, revealing new layers and diverse perspectives on the controversial relief organization UNRWA.
— Jury

WINNER
Investigative Documentary Award: Haifa International Film Festival 2025

Tuesday, May 19
7:30 p.m.

‘Shorts on Sherbrook’

at The Handsome Daughter
61 Sherbrook Street | 18A

The days are getting longer but one day in our festival is getting “Short”er.

Join us for our ever-popular Shorts on Sherbrook. We’re taking over The Handsome Daughter to present a remarkable short film line-up with a break in between for snacks, drinks and socializing (all included in the ticket price).

GET YOUR TICKETS NOW. Seating is limited and this event sells out fast!





WEDNESDAY, MAY 20 | 2:00 P.M.

Orna and Ella

Documentary | Israel | 2025 | Director: Tomer Heymann | Hebrew with English subtitles
54 minutes

What does it mean to close down a business that has defined your identity most of your adult life? Orna and Ella, an iconic restaurant synonymous with the scene on Tel Aviv’s hip Sheinkin Blvd, is closing after twenty-six years. Award-winning director Tomer Heymann —who once worked at the restaurant—documents its last week, and reveals the complex relationship between the two groundbreaking owners, Orna Agmon and Ella Shine, through a spectrum of powerful emotions. Questions of love, dependence, conflicting desires, fears, female friendship, self-fulfillment, the cost of freedom, and nostalgia for an era that will never return, are all explored in this deeply poignant film.

This film will be preceded by the short film

Night of Broken Glass

Animated Documentary created with AI Tools
Israel | 2025 | Director: Dalit Kimor | English | 3 minutes





WEDNESDAY, MAY 20 | 7:00 P.M.

A Proud Jewish Boy
The Herschel Grynszpan Story

Documentary | Israel | 2025 | Director: Isri Halpern | German, Hebrew, French with English subtitles, and English | 90 minutes

Acclaimed Israeli filmmaker Isri Halpern brings us the fascinating story of the 17-year-old Jewish teenager who, they say, started it all. On November 7, 1938, Herschel Grynszpan, a Polish-born, German-raised, illegal resident in France, entered the German embassy in Paris and shot diplomat Ernst vom Rath. Less than 48 hours later, Nazi propaganda minister Joseph Goebbels called on the German people to take revenge on all Jews.

In what became known as Kristallnacht, more than a thousand synagogues were burned, hundreds of Jews were murdered or committed suicide, thousands of businesses were looted, and tens of thousands of men were sent to concentration camps.

The film explores the circumstances that led to the assassination, and the dramatic sequence of events that followed, including why the Germans kept Grynszpan alive. It’s a story that culminates in a battle of wits between Goebbels, the second most powerful man in the Nazi regime, and the “proud Jewish boy.”

POST-FILM Q&A:

The screening will be followed by a pre-recorded Q&A with director Isri Halpern.





PHOTOS ©2024 TAMARA DE LEMPICKA ESTATE, LLC/ADAGP, PARIS/ARS, NY

THURSDAY, MAY 21 | 2:00 P.M.

The True Story of Tamara de Lempicka & The Art of Survival

Documentary | USA | 2024 | Director: Julie Rubio | English | 96 minutes

Tamara de Lempicka's story and life is one of art-deco glamour and resilience. She was the foremost portrait and fashion artist of her time whose work today is collected by art and entertainment world titans. This documentary offers a groundbreaking new perspective of the artist's life and legacy by revealing, for the first time, her Jewish heritage – a powerful and previously untold aspect of her identity.

By exploring her journey through a Jewish lens, the film not only celebrates her remarkable artistic achievements but also acknowledges the resilience she demonstrated in the face of antisemitism, and societal challenges. A film that brings a new understanding and deeper cultural and historical context to one of the 20th centuries most prominent.

POST-FILM TALK:

The screening will be followed by a talk with Winnipeg art history enthusiast and and Exchange District First Fridays Art moderator, Susan Freig.

WIJFF CLOSING NIGHT 2026

SATURDAY, MAY 23 | 7:00 P.M.

The Floaters





Comedy | USA | 2025 | Director: Rachel Israel | Producers: Shai Korman, Becky Korman, Lily Korman | English | 101 minutes

Camp Daveed is Coming to Winnipeg!

Freshly ousted from her rock band on the eve of a European tour, Nomi takes a last-resort job from her best friend Mara at their childhood Jewish summer camp. While camp director Mara deals with a busted septic system, she tasks Nomi with supervising a group of misfit teens called "The Floaters."

When a rival camp threatens their future, the group must band together to save the camp they love. Comedy icons Steve Guttenberg and Seth Green and Toronto's Sarah Podemski add laughs to this warm-hearted, funny and bang-on depiction of Jewish summer camp culture.

Framed through multigenerational perspectives, it's a film that everyone will love.

"Offbeat… and charming from start to finish, The Floaters is a sweet, funny coming-of-age comedy showcasing authentic Jewish storytelling."

— filmfocusonline.com

POST-FILM RECEPTION:

The screening will be followed by:

- **In-person conversation with producer Shai Korman**
- **Closing night reception**

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WINNIPEG | MANITOBA | CANADA

Scan QR code for trailers & tickets:

