

The 15th Washington Jewish Film Festival

An Exhibition of International Cinema

SPONSORED BY the Hamilton Street Family Foundation

FRIDAY

at the
AARON AND CECILE GOLDMAN THEATER
Lost Embrace
 Opening Night Film and Reception
 6:45 pm
Tomorrow We Move
 9:00 pm

FRIDAY

at the
AARON AND CECILE GOLDMAN THEATER
Tomorrow We Move
 1:00 pm

at the
AARON AND CECILE GOLDMAN THEATER
Heir to an Execution
 5:45 pm
Nina's Tragedies
 with
The Nuclear Physicist Gives His Son A Haircut
 8:00 pm
Love, Briefly: Six Short Films
 10:30 pm

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SPONSORED BY Deborah Ratner Salzberg & Michael Salzberg

SUNDAY SPONSORED BY Micheline Klagsbrun Frank

at the
AARON AND CECILE GOLDMAN THEATER
Works-In-Progress: Jewish-American Biography
 12:00 pm
Imaginary Witness: Hollywood and the Holocaust
 With Panel Discussion
 1:45 pm
Tomorrow We Move
 4:30 pm

Nina's Tragedies
 with
The Nuclear Physicist Gives His Son A Haircut
 6:30 pm
Love, Briefly: Six Short Films
 8:45 pm
 at the **AFI SILVER THEATRE**
The Diary of Anne Frank
 1:00 pm
Princesse Marie
 4:15 pm

MONDAY

at the
AARON AND CECILE GOLDMAN THEATER
Princesse Marie
 12:00 pm
Behind Enemy Lines
 with
The Skies are Closer in Homesh
 6:15 pm
Bloom
 8:30 pm

TUESDAY SPONSORED BY Amtrak

at the
AARON AND CECILE GOLDMAN THEATER
Bloom
 1:00 pm
Chanukah Candle-lighting
 6:30 pm
Watermarks
 7:00 pm
Red Diaper Baby
 9:00 pm

WEDNESDAY

at the
AARON AND CECILE GOLDMAN THEATER
Watermarks
 1:00 pm
Shivah For My Mother: Seven Days of Mourning
 6:00 pm
Mixed Blessings: The Challenges of Raising Children in a Jewish-Christian Family
 7:30 pm
Or
 9:30 pm

THURSDAY SPONSORED BY VideoArt Productions

at the
AARON AND CECILE GOLDMAN THEATER
The Chosen People
 6:30 pm
Or
 8:45 pm
 at the **AVALON THEATER**
Red Diaper Baby
 1:00 pm
Wondrous Oblivion
 6:30 pm
Or
 8:30 pm

FRIDAY

at the
AARON AND CECILE GOLDMAN THEATER
Columbia: The Tragic Loss
 1:00 pm

11
 at the
AARON AND CECILE GOLDMAN THEATER
Walk on Water
 5:45 pm
Wondrous Oblivion
 7:45 pm
The Hebrew Hammer
 DVD Release Party & Screening
 9:00 pm
 at the **AFI SILVER THEATRE**
Le Grand Role
 6:00 pm
Carnal Knowledge with Munro
 8:00 pm

SUNDAY SPONSORED BY the David Bruce Smith Family Foundation

12
 at the
AARON AND CECILE GOLDMAN THEATER
Jules Feiffer and Kids Make an Instant Children's Book
 10:00 am
Another Road Home
 1:00 pm
The Rashevski's Tango
 3:00 pm
Walk on Water
 5:00 pm

at the
NATIONAL GALLERY OF ART - EAST BLDG AUDITORIUM
Film as a Subversive Art: Amos Vogel and Cinema 16
 4:00 pm
 at the
GOETHE-INSTITUT WASHINGTON
Return of the Tudelband
 1:15 pm

at the
EMBASSY OF FRANCE

Modigliani
 7:15 pm
 Closing Night Film and Embassy Reception

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MESSAGE FROM THE FESTIVAL DIRECTOR

In 1990 the Washington Jewish Film Festival began with eight films at the old Biograph Theatre and the audacity to hang the preface "First Annual" over the marquee. At the time, one local critic responded to the moniker by wondering aloud whether there would be sufficient output of films on Jewish themes to justify making the Festival a perennial event.

Fifteen years later, the answer is obvious. The proliferation of Jewish films, combined with the cultural ascendancy of the independent film movement, has propelled this Festival to grow both in the scope of its program and in its popularity. What once was seen by the uninformed as a provincial niche is now a thriving field on the leading edge of popular culture with films that cross genres, win awards at major international festivals and appeal to diverse audiences.

This year's program is perhaps the best example yet of that diversity. We open the Festival with the story of a young man in Buenos Aires struggling with his decision to emigrate to Europe and conclude with a dramatic new look at a brilliant and tragic artist in 1920s Paris. In between there is a parade of characters and stories including: a Jewish actor auditioning for the role of Shylock; an heir of Napoleon Bonaparte trying to get Freud out of Nazi-occupied Vienna; an Israeli policeman and a Palestinian journalist taking a road trip together; Leopold Bloom wandering the streets of Dublin; interfaith couples struggling with how to raise their children; a "red diaper baby" celebrating his father and the granddaughter of Ethel and Julius Rosenberg charting the complex emotional terrain of her family history; a private eye seeking to save Chanukah and a lesbian couple seeking to have their marriage legally recognized; and so much more than I can mention here. From the dramatic to the comic, from the sacred to the profane, the 15th Washington Jewish Film Festival is a multitude of journeys through the Jewish experience.

Joshua Ford
Festival Director

PS-If you value the opportunity the Festival provides to explore the world of Jewish film, we hope you will consider supporting us financially with a tax-deductible donation. Ticket sales cover a mere 30% of our expenses. Despite the pressure to raise prices, we're determined to keep the Festival open to all members of the Washington community. Our goal is to raise another \$10,000 during the Festival to support the important work that we do. If you've not already contributed to the cause, we hope you will take this opportunity to make a year-end donation to the Washington Jewish Film Festival. Information on how to donate appears in the back of this brochure.

ALPHABETICAL LISTING of the FILMS

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for descriptions of movies)

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OPENING NIGHT FILM

LOST EMBRACE

Argentina, 2004, 35mm

100 minutes

Spanish with English subtitles

Director: Daniel Burman

Thursday, December 2, 6:45 pm at the Aaron and Cecile Goldman Theater
Hors d'oeuvres and Wine reception to follow in the Q Street Lobby

This Silver Bear winner at the 2004 Berlin International Film Festival is set among the world of small time merchants in a Buenos Aires shopping mall. Ariel, a young man in his twenties, is our guide through this community of mostly Jewish business owners struggling to stay afloat. Meanwhile, Ariel attempts to gain Polish citizenship so he can leave the country to become "European." Torn over whether or not to leave, Ariel's feelings are amplified by his father's abandonment of the family back during the Yom Kippur War when he left for Israel and never returned. Seeking guidance, Ariel consults his mother, brother, grandmother (whose childhood in Poland is the conceit under which he is applying for Polish citizenship) and the other assorted denizens of his multi-cultural Buenos Aires neighborhood. *Lost Embrace* is an uplifting example of the prodigious output of Argentinean cinema that has recently taken the film world by storm.

Official Argentinean Submission for Best Foreign Film Oscar

Welcoming Remarks: Francine Zorn Trachtenberg, President, Washington DCJCC;

His Excellency, José Bordon, Ambassador of Argentina

Sponsored by the Hamilton Street Family Foundation

Co-sponsored by the Embassy of Argentina

CLOSING NIGHT FILM

MODIGLIANI

France/UK/Germany/Romania/Italy, 2004, 35mm

126 minutes

English and Italian with English subtitles

Director: Mick Davis

Sunday, December 12, 7:15 pm at the Embassy of France
4101 Reservoir Road NW, Washington, DC 20007
Wine reception to follow

Tickets must be purchased by 1:00 pm on Friday, December 10. No sales at the door.

Andy Garcia stars in a tour-de-force performance as the Italian painter Amedeo Modigliani. Seizing on the fervor of Paris in the Twenties—when Picasso, Gertrude Stein, Diego Rivera and Jean Cocteau could often be found in the same café—the film presents the romantic, tragic, brilliant life of Modigliani in his final years when he created some of his most famous paintings. The film makes an explicit connection between Modigliani's identity as a Jew and his outsider status, even within the Paris art scene where he never aligned with any of the in-vogue artistic movements. The plot centers on Modigliani's intense rivalry with Picasso and his passion for Jeanne Hebuterne (*Elsa Zylberstein, Man is a Woman*, WJFF 1999), his muse and the subject of his most famous portraits.

Sponsored by the David Bruce Smith Family Foundation

Co-sponsored by the Embassy of France, Alliance Française de Washington, DC,
and The Phillips Collection Department of Education
Special Guest: Mick Davis, Director

TICKET INFORMATION

TICKET PRICES

Opening Night Film and Reception:	\$20
Closing Night Film and Embassy Reception:	\$20
Evening and Weekend Screenings:	\$9
Bargain Matinees and Weekday shows before 6:00 pm:	\$6 (all tickets)
Student and Senior Discount:	\$1 off (evening screenings except Opening and Closing Nights)

ALL TICKET SALES ARE FINAL

Advance Tickets

Advance tickets available only through WWW.BOXOFFICETICKETS.COM. Washington DCJCC members and Film Festival Funders have priority ticket purchasing on November 16 and 17. Tickets for the general public go on sale on November 18. There is no service charge on advance tickets; however, there is a **\$1.50 per film handling fee**.

Tickets ordered at least **10 days prior to the screening date will be mailed to the purchaser**.

Tickets ordered **less than 10 days prior to the screening date must be picked up in person at the Will Call table of the theater where the film is playing**. Will Call tickets are available on the day of the screening only.

Secure Online Ticketing

Visit WWW.WJFF.ORG, or go directly to WWW.BOXOFFICETICKETS.COM

Order by Phone or Fax

Tel 1-800-494-8497
Fax 1-800-329-8497
Open Monday thru Friday 10 am-6:00 pm
Saturday and Sunday 11 am-4:00 pm
Closed Thursday, November 25 (Thanksgiving)

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WWW.WJFF.ORG

Same Day Tickets

Same day tickets can be ordered online or by phone or fax until 10 am the day of the show. Tickets can be purchased one hour before the show at the box office of the theater where the film is being screened.

Box Office Information

Washington DCJCC

Aaron and Cecile Goldman Theater

Monday through Friday, the Box Office opens one hour prior to the first daytime screening and re-opens one hour prior to the first evening screening. Saturday and Sunday, the Box Office opens one hour prior to the first screening of the day and remains open. For further information, call the festival office at 202-777-3248. During screening hours December 2-12, call the box office at 202-777-3229.

No advance ticket sales at the Washington DCJCC—same day sales only. Box Office and Will Call tables are located in the 16th Street Lobby. The entrance to the Aaron and Cecile Goldman Theater is on the 2nd floor.

Goethe-Institut Washington

Doors open at 12:30 pm. FREE. For reservations, call 202-289-1200 ext 167.

The Avalon Theater

Box office opens at noon. No advance ticket sales at the Theatre—same day sales only.

AFI Silver Theatre

Box office opens at noon. No advance ticket sales at the Theater—same day sales only.

National Gallery of Art

East Building Auditorium

Doors open at 3:30 pm. FREE; seating is first come, first served. For recorded information, call 202-842-6799.

The Embassy of France

Doors open at 6:30 pm. Your tickets must be purchased by Friday, December 10 at 1:00 pm to enter the Embassy.

GENERAL INFORMATION

- For the latest information on Festival films, guests and events, call the Washington Jewish Film Festival hotline at **202-777-3248** or visit us on the Web at WWW.WJFF.ORG
- General seating will begin 15 minutes prior to screening time.
- All theaters are wheelchair accessible.
- A limited number of free tickets are allocated for each screening for those who cannot afford the cost of admission. Arrangements must be made at least one day before the show by calling 202-777-3248.

Security Notice

Please arrive early to allow enough time for security checks at all venues. Briefcases, shopping bags, etc. are not permitted in Theaters. All backpacks, purses and handbags are subject to inspection.

FILMS AND GUESTS ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE.

PARENTAL DISCRETION ADVISED FOR MOST FILMS.

PLEASE BRING A PHOTO ID WITH YOU TO ALL SCREENINGS.

THEATER LOCATIONS and TRANSPORTATION

AARON AND CECILE GOLDMAN THEATER

Washington District of Columbia Jewish Community Center
1529 16th Street NW
Washington, DC
(Corner of 16th and Q Streets NW)

Metro

Red line to Dupont Circle. Exit north to "Q" Street.

The **free shuttle** between the Dupont Circle Metro and the Washington DCJCC has extended hours during the week of the Festival! Look for the white Washington DCJCC van at the northwest corner of 20th and Q Streets. Shuttle runs approximately every 15 min.

Washington DCJCC Shuttle Schedule for December 2-12, 2004

MON	5:30 pm-11:30 pm
	11:00 am-3:30 pm (daytime screenings)
T-TH	5:30 pm-11:30 pm
	12:00 pm-3:30 pm (daytime screenings)
FRI	11:00 am-3:30 pm
SAT	5:15 pm-12:15 am
SUN	11:30 am-10:45 pm

Washington DCJCC Parking Lot Hours:

M-TH: 6:00 pm-11:00 pm
FRI: 6:00 am-5:30 pm
Saturday evening
Sunday day and evening

THE GOETHE-INSTITUT WASHINGTON

814 Seventh Street NW
(7th and "I" Streets NW)

Metro

Red, Yellow or Green Lines to Gallery Place-Chinatown. Exit at 7th and H Streets and walk North 1 block.

Metrobus

The 70, X2 , P6 provide transportation to 7th Street and "I" Street.

Public Parking

Unrestricted parking on surrounding streets in the evening. Commercial garages within a few blocks.

THE AVALON THEATER

5612 Connecticut Avenue, NW
(btwn McKinley and Northampton Streets, apprx 1/4 mile south of Chevy Chase Circle)

Metro/Metrobus

Red Line to Friendship Heights metro station. Transfer to the E2, E3, E4, or E6 bus, which will drop you a half-block from the Theatre at the corner of McKinley and Connecticut Avenue.

Metrobus: L1, L2, and L4 provide transportation from points South on Connecticut Avenue to the Avalon.

Public Parking: Unrestricted parking on surrounding streets in the evening.

AFI SILVER THEATRE

8633 Colesville Road
Silver Spring, MD 20910

Metro

Red Line to Silver Spring metro station. Exit Colesville Rd, walk north 2 blocks.

Parking
Garage parking available at the Embassy. Stairs only. Visitors with disabilities should be dropped off outside the Maison Francaise doors.

Metrobus

The Silver Spring station is served by Metrobuses routes 70, 71, J5, F4, F6, J1, J2, J3, J4, Q2, S2, S4, Y8, Z5.

Public Parking

Surrounding streets and public garages have unrestricted parking in the evening and on weekends. Commercial parking is available behind the Lee Building at the corner of Colesville Road and Georgia Ave or at the Gateway Plaza after 6:00 pm.

THE NATIONAL GALLERY OF ART-EAST BUILDING AUDITORIUM

4th St and Constitution Ave NW
(Entrance on 4th St)

Metro

Red Line: Judiciary Square
Yellow/Green Lines: Archives
Blue/Orange Lines: Smithsonian

Metrobus

The 32, 34, 36, P1, P2 and P3 provide transportation to 4th Street.

Public Parking

Unrestricted parking in the evening on surrounding streets. Commercial garages within a few blocks. Parking areas, ramps, and elevators provide access for visitors with disabilities.

THE EMBASSY OF FRANCE

4101 Reservoir Road NW
(Enter through the La Maison Francaise doors up the driveway on the right.)

Metro

No metro station near the Embassy, but Metrobuses D3 and D6 leave regularly from Red Line's Dupont Circle.

Metrobus

The D3 and D6 provide transportation to Reservoir Road.

Parking

Garage parking available at the Embassy. Stairs only. Visitors with disabilities should be dropped off outside the Maison Francaise doors.

TIX 1.800.494.8497



LOST EMBRACE

THURSDAY, DEC 2
sponsored by the Hamilton Street Family Foundation

LOST EMBRACE
6:45 pm
Aaron and Cecile Goldman Theater

100 minutes
Spanish with English subtitles
Director: Daniel Burman

This Silver Bear winner at the 2004 Berlin International Film Festival is set among the world of small time merchants in a Buenos Aires shopping mall. Ariel, a young man in his twenties, is our guide through this community of mostly Jewish business owners struggling to stay afloat. Meanwhile, Ariel attempts to gain Polish citizenship so he can leave the country to become "European." Torn over whether or not to leave, Ariel's feelings are amplified by his father's abandonment of the family back during the Yom Kippur War when he left for Israel and never returned. Seeking guidance, Ariel consults his mother, brother, grandmother (whose childhood in Poland is the conceit under which he is applying for Polish citizenship) and the other assorted denizens of his multi-cultural Buenos Aires neighborhood. *Lost Embrace* is an uplifting example of the prodigious output of Argentinean cinema that has recently taken the film world by storm.

Hors d'oeuvres and Wine reception to follow in the Q Street Lobby

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WWW.WJFF.ORG



Official Argentinean Submission for Best Foreign Film Oscar

Welcoming Remarks: Francine Zorn Trachtenberg, President, Washington DCJCC; His Excellency, José Bordon, Ambassador of Argentina

Co-sponsored by the Embassy of Argentina

husband liked it. The only solution? Sell the place for something bigger. The apartment goes on the market bringing through the door a group of prospective buyers that only complicates the situation.

Co-sponsored by the Embassy of France and the Alliance Francaise de Washington, DC

Invited Guest:
Chantal Akerman

TOMORROW WE MOVE

9:00 pm
Aaron and Cecile Goldman Theater
Belgium/France, 2004, 35mm

111 minutes
French with English subtitles
Director: Chantal Akerman

Legendary filmmaker Chantal Akerman's newest film defies definition but can perhaps be described as a semi-autobiographical, absurd farce, or as Akerman herself describes it: "A comedy that only a pessimist could make." Charlotte Weinstein, a child of Holocaust survivors, attempts to make room in her cluttered apartment for her newly widowed mother. Charlotte is experiencing an acute case of writer's block that is preventing her from completing her erotic novel.

This predicament is exacerbated when her mother repeatedly smokes up the small flat with the smell of chicken cooked the way her deceased



FRIDAY, DEC 3

TOMORROW WE MOVE

1:00 pm
Aaron and Cecile Goldman Theater
See previous page

SPECIAL DECEMBER 5 PROGRAMS

WORKS-IN-PROGRESS:
Jewish-American Biography
Sunday, December 5, 12:00 pm, **FREE**
Aaron and Cecile Goldman Theater

Two filmmakers share excerpts from their documentary film projects which they are currently working to complete.

Aviva Kempner, in *Gertrude Berg: America's Molly Goldberg*, looks at the life and career of Gertrude Berg, the creator, writer and star of *The Goldbergs*, a popular 1930s radio show that was subsequently a weekly TV program. Berg pioneered the family-based sitcom format that has proven to be television's most durable and popular genre. More remarkably, she did it by presenting America with an outwardly Jewish family that wore its immigrant heritage on its sleeve. A special sneak peek from the director of *The Life and Times of Hank Greenberg* (WJFF 1999).

Steve Brand brings his work-in-progress *Praying With My Legs: Abraham Joshua Heschel* about one of the most widely respected religious thinkers of the 20th century. Perhaps best known for marching alongside Martin Luther King in the Selma to Montgomery voting rights march, Heschel was compelled by his religious beliefs to leave the confines of his study to fight for human dignity—immersing himself in the struggle for civil rights and the religious opposition to the war in Vietnam.

DISCUSSION MODERATOR:
David Weinstein, Senior Program Officer,
National Endowment for the Humanities

PANEL DISCUSSION: HOLLYWOOD AND THE HOLOCAUST

Sunday, December 5, Aaron and Cecile Goldman Theater, **FREE**
Following the 1:45 pm screening of
IMAGINARY WITNESS: HOLLYWOOD AND THE HOLOCAUST

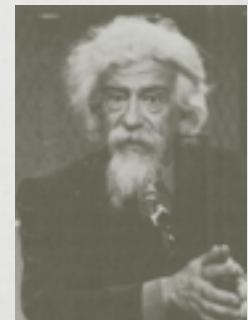
A fascinating documentary by Academy Award™ nominee (and Washington-native) Daniel Anker examines the American film industry's response to the horrors of Nazi Germany. Join a group of esteemed panelists as they discuss the issues raised in the film and take your questions.

PANELISTS:
Daniel Anker, Director
Eddie Cockrell, *Variety* film critic
Eric Zakim, Professor, University of Maryland

continued on page 13



GERTRUDE BERG: AMERICA'S MOLLY GOLDBERG



PRAYING WITH MY LEGS



TOMORROW WE MOVE

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TIX 1.800.494.8497



SATURDAY, DEC 4
sponsored by Delta Air Lines

HEIR TO AN EXECUTION

5:45 pm
Aaron and Cecile Goldman Theater

USA, 2003, BetaSP
99 minutes
English
Director: Ivy Meeropol

A moving documentary film by the granddaughter of Ethel and Julius Rosenberg examines how the arrest and execution of her grandparents has affected her extended family relationships. Ivy Meeropol investigates the complex legacy she has inherited—from Ethel's brother, who fabricated his testimony to implicate his sister, to their children (the filmmaker's father), whose parents chose death over betraying their principles, and the insistence that they had not committed the crimes for which they had been condemned.

Introduction: Aviva Kempner, Filmmaker

Special Guests: Ivy Meeropol, Director; Michael Meeropol, son of Ethel and Julius Rosenberg; Greg Meeropol, grandson of Ethel and Julius Rosenberg

This program is made possible by the Milton Covensky Fund.



NINA'S TRAGEDIES

8:00 pm
Aaron and Cecile Goldman Theater

Israel, 2003, 35mm
110 minutes
Hebrew with English subtitles
Director: Savi Gabizon

Winner of 11 Israeli Academy Awards (including Best Picture, Director and Screenplay) *Nina's Tragedies* follows 14-year-old Nadiv as he records in his journal an emotionally turbulent six-months during which he is sent to live with his sexy aunt Nina following the untimely death of her husband. Nadiv is subsequently reunited with his estranged Ultra-orthodox father, abandoned by his best friend, and unexpectedly stumbles into adulthood. Profound, whimsical, sexy and surprising, *Nina's Tragedies* is about unconditional acceptance and the power of love to heal.

preceded by

THE NUCLEAR PHYSICIST GIVES HIS SON A HAIRCUT

USA, 2003, DVD
6 minutes
English
Director: Hanan Harchol

A father gives his son advice on the matter of love and hormones in this simply animated short film.

Co-sponsored by the Embassy of Israel

Special Guest: Hanan Harchol, Director



HEIR TO AN EXECUTION



LOVE, BRIEFLY: SIX SHORT FILMS ON THE ONLY TOPIC THAT MATTERS

10:30 pm
Aaron and Cecile Goldman Theater

AS FOLLOWS

Uruguay/Spain, 2004, 35mm, 13 minutes, Spanish with English subtitles, Director: Federico Veiroj

SLIDING FLORA

Israel, 2003, 16mm, 10 minutes, Hebrew with English subtitles, Director: Talya Lavie

THE CLAY MAN

USA, 2004, Beta-SP, 20 minutes, English, Director: Raelle Tucker

ALICE ET MOI

Belgium, 2004, 35mm, 19 minutes, French with English subtitles, Director: Micha Wald

MY SISTER, MY BRIDE

USA, 2004, DVD, 28 minutes, English, Director: Bonnie Burt

BACKSEAT BINGO

USA, 2004, 35mm, 5 minutes, English, Director: Liz Blazer

The first clumsy experiences with love are almost always tied to adolescence, as they are for Rafael on the eve of his Bar Mitzvah in *As Follows*. As young adults, we can find love in the most unlikely places, but can the title character in *Sliding Flora* find it while working as a waitress in a restaurant with a most challenging path from kitchen to table? When discouraged, one may go to great lengths to find love, like Leslie, who inspired by the legend of the Golem, creates a *Clay Man* to call her own. People always have plenty of advice when your relationship hits a rough patch. Unfortunately for Simon in *Alice Et Moi*, those people are his grandmother and her two friends who occupy the back of his car during a long drive. Even settling down can be complicated, as it is for Caren and Farrell who are looking to join thousands of other gay couples who make the pilgrimage to San Francisco to be married in *My Sister, My Bride*. The need for intimacy is a life-long affair, and it is wonderfully displayed in *Backseat Bingo*—a delightful short that mixes animation with interviews of seniors who assert that the golden years need not also be celibate ones.

IF THE WASHINGTON JEWISH FILM FESTIVAL LEAVES YOU ASKING FOR MORE...

Become a year-round filmgoer at THE SCREENING ROOM...the continuing repertory arm of the Washington Jewish Film Festival featuring speakers, discussions, live performances, and the best of Jewish cinema.

Pick up the January 2005 schedule at the 15th WJFF or visit www.dcjcc.org.

Volunteer at The Screening Room box office and get a peek at the evening's featured film. Call 202.777.3248.

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WWW.WJFF.ORG

TIX 1.800.494.8497

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SUNDAY, DEC 5
sponsored by Micheline Klagsbrun Frank

**WORKS-IN-PROGRESS:
Jewish-American Biography**
12:00 pm
Aaron and Cecile Goldman Theater, FREE

Two filmmakers share excerpts from their documentary film projects which they are currently working to complete. Once again, go behind the scenes as we discuss the specific issues involved in filmmaking, this time with a special emphasis on the historical-biographical film. Both projects deal with influential 20th century figures who brought their distinct Jewish identities to the American cultural and political mainstream, thereby altering our notions of what it means to be Jewish and American.

Aviva Kempner, in *Gertrude Berg: America's Molly Goldberg*, looks at the life and career of Gertrude Berg, the creator, writer and star of *The Goldbergs*, a popular 1930s radio show that was subsequently a weekly TV program. Steve Brand brings his work-in-progress *Praying With My Legs: Abraham Joshua Heschel* about one of the most widely respected religious thinkers of the 20th century.

**Discussion Moderator: David Weinstein,
Senior Program Officer, National
Endowment for the Humanities**

See page 9 (Special Programs page)



THE DIARY OF ANNE FRANK

1:00 pm
AFI Silver Theatre

USA, 1959, 35mm
170 minutes
English
Director: George Stevens

Two filmmakers share excerpts from their documentary film projects which they are currently working to complete. Once again, go behind the scenes as we discuss the specific issues involved in filmmaking, this time with a special emphasis on the historical-biographical film. Both projects deal with influential 20th century figures who brought their distinct Jewish identities to the American cultural and political mainstream, thereby altering our notions of what it means to be Jewish and American.

Aviva Kempner, in *Gertrude Berg: America's Molly Goldberg*, looks at the life and career of Gertrude Berg, the creator, writer and star of *The Goldbergs*, a popular 1930s radio show that was subsequently a weekly TV program. Steve Brand brings his work-in-progress *Praying With My Legs: Abraham Joshua Heschel* about one of the most widely respected religious thinkers of the 20th century.

**Discussion Moderator: David Weinstein,
Senior Program Officer, National
Endowment for the Humanities**

See page 9 (Special Programs page)

**IMAGINARY WITNESS:
Hollywood and The
Holocaust**

1:45 pm
Aaron and Cecile Goldman Theater

USA, 2004, 35mm
92 minutes
English
Director: Daniel Anker

George Stevens has brilliantly flowed a three-hour picture through an attic in Nazi-occupied Amsterdam and etched a harrowing ordeal for survival in the brave behavior of eight Jews hiding there. Superbly detailed scenes convey the shuttered, claustrophobic nature of their hideout; and with a beautiful series of balanced close-ups of his assorted characters, he has probed the slow drama of the erosion and the expansion within their hearts and minds." Bosley Crowther, *The New York Times*. Three Oscars among eight nominations, including Best Supporting Actress for Shelley Winters.

THIS FILM ONLY: Tickets are \$8.50, \$7.50 for AFI members, seniors or students with valid ID. Tickets are available at the AFI Silver Theatre box office or online at www.afi.com/silver. Tickets purchased on-line must be picked up at the AFI Silver box office.

Post-Screening Panel Discussion with:

Daniel Anker, Director
Eddie Cockrell, Variety film critic
Eric Zakim, Professor, University of Maryland



PRINCESSE MARIE

4:15 pm
AFI Silver Theatre

France, 2004, BetaSP
185 minutes
French and German with English subtitles
Director: Benoit Jacquot
US PREMIERE

Catherine Deneuve stars as Marie Bonaparte, grand-niece of Napoleon and princess of Greece and Denmark. In the 1920s suffering from "frigidity," she travels to Vienna to begin a new experimental form of treatment, psychoanalysis with Dr. Sigmund Freud. Their doctor-patient relationship eventually transforms into a twenty-year friendship during which Princess Marie served as Freud's disciple, patron and after the rise of the Nazis, protector—at one point personally retrieving Anna Freud from Gestapo detention. Deneuve sparkles both in the intimate scenes depicting her psychoanalysis and in the powerful moments where the Princess' dominating and eccentric personality make her a formidable heroine.

**Co-sponsored by the Embassy of France
and the Alliance Francaise de
Washington, DC**

TOMORROW WE MOVE

4:30 pm
Aaron and Cecile Goldman Theater
See page 8

**NINA'S TRAGEDIES with
THE NUCLEAR PHYSICIST
GIVES HIS SON A HAIRCUT**

6:30 pm
Aaron and Cecile Goldman Theater
See page 10

**LOVE, BRIEFLY:
SIX SHORT FILMS ON THE
ONLY TOPIC THAT MATTERS**

8:45 pm
Aaron and Cecile Goldman Theater
See page 11

SPECIAL PROGRAMS

PEACE CAFE
Sunday, December 12th,
following 1:00 pm screening of
ANOTHER ROAD HOME
Ina and Jack Kay Community Hall, Wash-
ington DCJCC

Join Israeli filmmaker Danae Elon and members of the Obeidallah family, including several of Musa's sons (Danae's childhood Palestinian caretaker) grown sons, as they share accounts of their childhood and explore the contradictions of their relationship. Can personal relationships transcend the politics of conflict? How can those relationships be channeled to resolve conflict? Your opinions are welcome in this on-going series designed to bring together Jews, Arabs, and those interested in working toward a resolution in the Middle East.

Sponsored by Skewers and Café Luna

continued on page 18



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**6th
DECEMBER**

MONDAY, DEC 6

PRINCESSE MARIE

12:00 pm
Aaron and Cecile Goldman Theater
See page 13

BEHIND ENEMY LINES

6:15 pm
Aaron and Cecile Goldman Theater

Israel, 2004, Beta-SP
64 minutes
English, Hebrew, and Arabic
with English subtitles
Director: Dov Gil-Har

An Israeli policeman and a Palestinian journalist go on a politically tense road trip into "Intifada Land" to share with one another the places and symbols that embody the conflict. Each has selected locations that plead their case in compelling terms: the Jenin refugee camp, the site of a terrorist attack in Jerusalem, the disputed Temple Mount, the family of a suicide bomber, the Yad Vashem Holocaust Memorial and more. At stake is more than a political debate, but the very principle that these two men from different backgrounds can share in any authentic dialogue given the violence of the recent past. *Behind Enemy Lines* is a rare account of the conflict that does not attempt to minimize the differences or simplify the complexity of the situation.



followed by

THE SKIES ARE CLOSER IN HOMESH

Israel, 2004, Beta-SP
53 minutes
Hebrew with English subtitles
Director: Manora Hazani

A rare first-person documentary about a young couple's new life on an isolated settlement in the northern part of Samaria in the West Bank. As religious settlers in a secular settlement they at first feel isolated but over time become emotionally attached to the land they are ideologically committed to live on. With this commitment comes the concurrent risk of violence that living on disputed land entails—violence which all too often strikes close to home and people they know.

Homesh is one of four northern Samaria settlements that has been slated for dismantling according to the disengagement plan that passed the Israeli Knesset in October.

Co-sponsored by the Embassy of Israel

BLOOM

8:30 pm
Aaron and Cecile Goldman Theater

Ireland, 2004, 35mm
113 minutes
English
Director: Sean Walsh

Director Sean Walsh takes an admirable stab at the Holy Grail of literary filmmaking, an adaptation of James Joyce's epochal novel *Ulysses*. Stephen Rea stars as Leopold Bloom who, despondent over his wife Molly's infidelity, steps out on a journey through Dublin on the morning of June 16, 1904. This has become one of the greatest tales of the 20th century. Faithful to Joyce's stream-of-consciousness language, yet surprisingly accessible and clear, *Bloom* re-captures the scandalous heart of Joyce's novel with its scatological humor and unflinching forays into the realms of sexual fantasy and desire. Stephen Dedalus and Leopold Bloom's twin journeys mirror Joyce's own belief that the Jews were the Irishmen of Europe—colonized, oppressed, and exiled from their own language. *Bloom* is a startling piece of filmmaking for both the Joycean scholar and neophyte.

Special Guest: Sean Walsh, Director

Co-sponsored by the Embassy of Ireland



TUESDAY, DEC 7

sponsored by Amtrak

BLOOM

1:00 pm
Aaron and Cecile Goldman Theater
See page 14

WATERMARKS

7:00 pm
Aaron and Cecile Goldman Theater

Israel, 2004, 35mm
80 minutes
English and Hebrew with English subtitles
Director: Yaron Zilberman

Watermarks is the story of the champion women swimmers of the legendary Jewish sports club, Hakoah Vienna. Hakoah ("Strength" in Hebrew) was founded in 1909 in response to the notorious Aryan Paragraph, which forbade Austrian sports clubs from accepting Jewish athletes. Its



**7th
DECEMBER**

RED DIAPER BABY

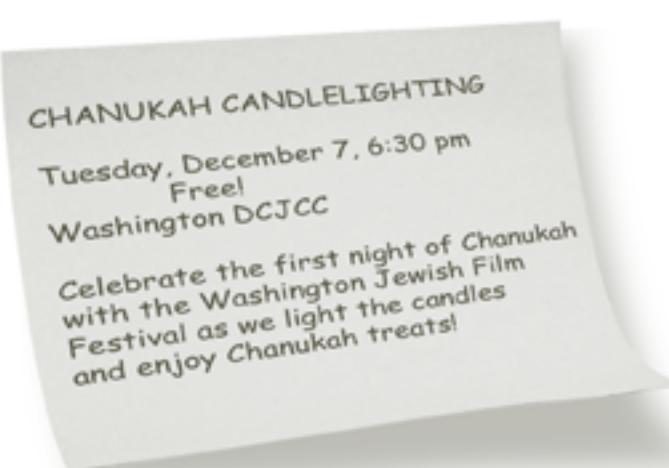
9:00 pm
Aaron and Cecile Goldman Theater

USA, 2004, Beta-SP
91 minutes
English
Director: Doug Pray

Josh Kornbluth's one-man show, which originally ran at Theater J in 2000, returns in film form. Josh tells his hilarious true tale of growing up the son of a committed New York Communist who believed there would be a bloody revolution in America and that Josh was destined to lead it. Josh returns to DC following the successful run of his newest one-man show *Death and Taxes* at Arena Stage.

Special Guest: Josh Kornbluth

Co-sponsored by the DC Labor
Film Festival





8th
DECEMBER

WEDNESDAY, DEC 8

WATERMARKS

1:00 pm
Aaron and Cecile Goldman Theater
See page 15

SHIVAH FOR MY MOTHER: Seven Days Of Mourning

6:00 pm
Aaron and Cecile Goldman Theater

Israel, 2004, DVD
55 minutes
English and Hebrew with English subtitles
Director: Yael Katzir

Yael Katzir's (*Company Jasmine*, WJFF 2001) very personal film about the seven days of mourning that followed her mother's death serves simultaneously as an examination of the political and emotional relationships between three generations of Israelis. Katzir's mother was part of the generation of sabras who helped Israel gain its independence and oversaw the renaissance of the Hebrew language. But her devotion to the national mission often times came at the expense of her own family. In the process of judging her mother, Yael realizes that she is judged by her own children, who call her to account both for her personal shortcomings, and what her own generation of sabras has foisted on the youth of Israel.

Co-sponsored by the Embassy of Israel

MIXED BLESSINGS: The Challenges Of Raising Children In A Jewish-Christian Family

7:30 pm
Aaron and Cecile Goldman Theater

USA, 2004, BetaSP
55 minutes
English
Director: Jennifer Kaplan

Part of the success story of Jewish life in America is the reality that intermarriage has become both a source of great anxiety for the organized Jewish community and a very real personal struggle for those engaged in these relationships when the time comes to make decisions regarding the raising of children. *Mixed Blessings* focuses on four interfaith couples who are at varying levels of agreement on how to raise their children. The film presents, in a non-judgmental, open manner, the plethora of issues surrounding this emotional and spiritual choice.

Post-Screening Panel Discussion with:
Jennifer Kaplan, Director
Dr. Marion Usher, PhD., Clinical Professor, George Washington University Department of Psychiatry, School of Medicine
Ed Case, Director, InterfaithFamily.com

Film and discussion made possible by
InterfaithFamily.com

OR

9:30 pm
Aaron and Cecile Goldman Theater

Israel/France, 2004, 35mm
91 minutes
Hebrew with English subtitles
Director: Keren Yedaya

A powerful debut feature film from Keren Yedaya shows the tragic arc of a mother-daughter relationship trapped in a cycle of poverty. 17-year-old Or has spent much of her life trying to convince her mother to quit working the streets as a prostitute. In a world in which adults have utterly failed her, Or works menial jobs cleaning dishes and collecting deposit bottles while sporadically attending school. When her mother returns bloody and badly beaten from a night on the streets, Or makes a drastic choice to attempt to regain control of their lives. *Or* wowed critics at the Cannes International Film Festival and went on to win the Wolgin Award for Best Israeli Film at the Jerusalem International Film Festival.

Special Guest: Dana Ivgy, Actress

Co-sponsored by the Embassy of Israel, the Embassy of France, and the Alliance Francaise de Washington, DC



9th
DECEMBER

THURSDAY, DEC 9
sponsored by VideoArt Productions

RED DIAPER BABY

1:00 pm
Avalon Theater
See page 15

6:30 pm
Avalon Theater

THE CHOSEN PEOPLE

6:30 pm
Aaron and Cecile Goldman Theater

Canada, 2004, BetaSP
68 minutes
English, Hebrew, Russian with English subtitles
Director: Igal Hecht
US PREMIERE

This new documentary takes us inside the chilling alternate universe of Messianic Jews (also known as Jews for Jesus), a movement that proselytizes that Jews can accept Jesus as the messiah and keep their Jewish identity. The film spotlights two sisters in their early twenties who recently "converted" to the messianic movement. Alternately, the film also gives voice to the counter-missionary efforts of organizations like Jews for Judaism, who in Toronto occupy a storefront space next-door to a Messianic congregation. On the heels of this past summer's missionary campaign by a local DC-area church as well as by Jews for Jesus, this is clearly an issue of great urgency that only promises to escalate in coming years.

Special Guests: Igal Hecht, Director and Scott Hillman, Director, Jews for Judaism

Co-sponsored by the Canadian Embassy

WONDROUS OBLIVION

6:30 pm
Avalon Theater

UK, 2002, 35mm
106 minutes
English
Director: Paul Morrison

Set in a working-class London neighborhood in 1960, David is a young Jewish boy with a passion for cricket, despite his klutzy ineptitude at the sport. When a Jamaican family moves in next door, David is thrilled when they install a cricket green in the backyard. He immediately befriends them and gets remedial cricket tutoring from Dennis, the father. However, the other neighbors—mostly white Christians—are significantly less pleased by the new diversity of their community. A moving coming-of-age tale set against resonant themes of race, class and ethnicity.

Introduction: Sarah Frankland, Arts Manager, The British Council USA

Co-sponsored by The British Council USA

THE RASHEVSKI'S TANGO

8:30 pm
Avalon Theater

Belgium/France/Luxembourg, 2003, 35mm

97 minutes
French and Hebrew with English subtitles
Director: Sam Garbarski

The Rashevski's Tango begins with the demise of the Rashevski's matriarch, Rosa, who hated religion and rabbis, but shocks her family by requesting an Orthodox burial. As her extended clan gathers for the funeral, the film presents us with the kaleidoscope of Jewish life in one family with Holocaust survivors, twenty-somethings, inter-marrieds, newly-observants, converts, Israelis and diaspora-dwellers. *The Rashevski's Tango* is a heartwarming ensemble comedy that celebrates the multiplicity of Jewish lives in the modern world.

Co-sponsored by the Embassy of France, the Alliance Francaise de Washington, DC, and the Embassy of Belgium

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MORE SPECIAL PROGRAMS

THE HEBREW HAMMER DVD-RELEASE PARTY
 Saturday, December 11th, 9:00 pm
 Q Street Lobby, Washington DCJCC

Tasteless taglines and all, this movie hit the major fests by storm and hightailed into mainstream media. Profane, shockingly un-PC and often laugh-out-loud hilarious, *The Hebrew Hammer*, a.k.a. the Jewish *Shaft*, is pissing off Jews and Gentiles alike.

Join Director Jonathan Kesselman and Comedy Central for a wild Jewish ride as you get the low-down on the making of the movie. Grab some grub, down a brew, and hear about the dirty hidden details you missed when you saw this movie the first time. After the screening, get your signed copy of this hilarious DVD—the uncircumcised version!

THE HEBREW HAMMER
 USA, 2002, 35mm • 82 minutes • English • Director: Jonathan Kesselman

Join us as we celebrate Mordechai Jefferson Carver, aka the Hebrew Hammer as he fights to save Chanukah from Santa's evil spawn, Damian Claus and his henchman Tiny Tim. In his quest to make Christmas the only year-end holiday, Claus has begun flooding Jewish neighborhoods with bootleg copies of *It's A Wonderful Life* in an attempt to brainwash Jewish children. A rollicking tribute to 1970s Blaxploitation films retro-fitted with peyos and yarmulkes, what *The Hebrew Hammer* lacks in taste, it makes up for in pure energy and satirical ruthlessness.

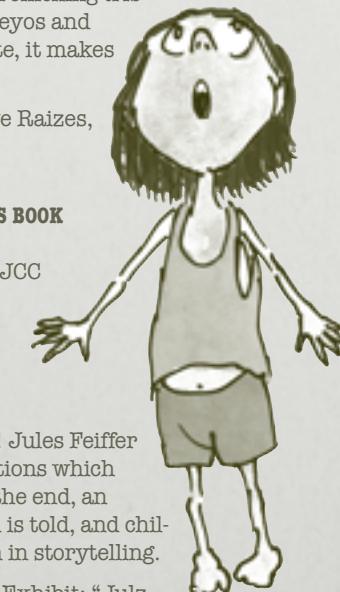
Special Guest: Jonathan Kesselman, Director; Steve Raizes, Comedy Central

JULES FEIFFER AND KIDS MAKE AN INSTANT CHILDREN'S BOOK
 Sunday, December 12th, 10:00 am
 Ina and Jack Kay Community Hall, Washington DCJCC

For elementary school age children
 Washington DCJCC Members FREE/
 Non-Members \$5 • Call 202-777-3208
 for information and reservations.

Kids are invited to create their own children's book! Jules Feiffer encourages them to improvise characters and situations which they shout out, as he sketches as fast as he can. By the end, an original story with a beginning, a middle and an end is told, and children have received an anarchic and hilarious lesson in storytelling.

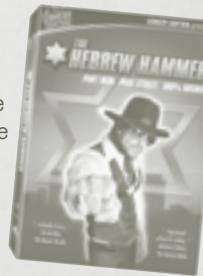
Co-sponsored by the Ann Loeb Bronfman Gallery's Exhibit: "Julz Rulz: Inside the Mind of Jules Feiffer."



FRIDAY, DEC 10

COLUMBIA: **THE TRAGIC LOSS**

1:00 pm
 Aaron and Cecile Goldman Theater



Israel, 2004, BetaSP
60 minutes
English and Hebrew with English subtitles
Director: Naftaly Gliksberg

Two months following the Columbia disaster, the remains of a tattered book were found as part of the attempt to recover the fragments of the destroyed space shuttle. Miraculously, the book turned out to be the flight diary of Ilan Ramon, the first Israeli astronaut, and in it he had recorded the thoughts and emotions of his journey into space. The diary was sent to the Israeli police who cooperated with the Israel Museum to reconstruct as much as possible of the badly singed text. As the contents of the diary are movingly revealed in the documentary, the film simultaneously examines the fateful narrative of the doomed mission. Employing expert testimony, interviews with Ramon's widow and internal NASA communications, *Columbia: The Tragic Loss* questions what could and should have been done to prevent the break-up of the spacecraft during re-entry.

Co-sponsored by the Embassy of Israel



SATURDAY, DEC 11

sponsored by Deborah Ratner Salzberg
 and Michael Salzberg

WALK ON WATER

5:45 pm
 Aaron and Cecile Goldman Theater

Israel, 2004, 35mm
104 minutes
English, Hebrew, and German with English subtitles
Director: Eytan Fox

Eyal, an emotionally fragile Mossad hitman, is assigned to shadow Axel, a young German whose grandfather is a notorious Nazi war criminal that has eluded justice. Posing as a tour guide, Eyal shepherds Axel around Israel when he comes to visit his kibbutnik sister. Although Eyal at first resists what he considers a boring assignment, he soon warms up to Axel's bright enthusiasm and intellect, even overcoming his own homophobia when he realizes Axel is gay. When the action shifts to Berlin and the prospect of discovering Axel's grandfather, the film becomes a taut emotional thriller. Director Eytan Fox (*Florentine and Yossi and Jagger*) once again shows he is a master at presenting characters crossing social and cultural chasms whether they be gay, straight, men, women, Jewish or German.

Co-sponsored by the Embassy of Israel
 and the Goethe-Institut Washington



LE GRAND ROLE

6:00 pm
 AFI Silver Theatre

France, 2004, 35mm
89 minutes
English and French with English subtitles
Director: Steve Suissa



CARNAL KNOWLEDGE

8:00 pm
 AFI Silver Theatre

USA, 1971, 35mm
98 minutes
English
Director: Mike Nichols

A classic exploration of heterosexual male behavior, *Carnal Knowledge* details the sexual misadventures of Jonathan (Jack Nicholson) and Sandy (Art Garfunkel) from their days as college boys in the 1940s through advancing middle age in the 1970s. Adapted by Jules Feiffer from his play of the same title, the film features a stellar supporting cast of the women in Jonathan and Sandy's lives including Candace Bergen, Ann-Margaret Cynthia O'Neal, Rita Moreno and Carol Kane.

preceded by **Munro**
 (continued on next page)

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12th
DECEMBER

MUNRO

USA, 1961, 35mm

9 minutes

English

Director: Gene Deitch

A four-year-old boy is drafted into the Army in this Academy Award-winning short film written by Jules Feiffer.

Special Guest: Jules Feiffer, screenwriter of *Carnal Knowledge*

In conjunction with Sunday's children's program entitled "Jules Feiffer and Kids Make an Instant Children's Book" at 10:00 am. See page 18.

Co-sponsored by The Ann Loeb Bronfman Gallery, presenting the exhibit "Julz Rulz: Inside the Mind of Jules Feiffer" at the Washington DCJCC through Jan 31, 2005.

THE HEBREW HAMMER DVD Release Party & Screening

9:00 pm

Aaron and Cecile Goldman Theater

See page 18

SUNDAY, DEC 12

sponsored by The David Bruce Smith Family Foundation

ANOTHER ROAD HOME

1:00 pm

Aaron and Cecile Goldman Theater

USA/Israel, 2004, Beta-SP

78 minutes

English

Director: Danae Elon

The Israeli-Palestinian conflict is given a human face—actually, as many human faces as a family reunion—through Israeli filmmaker Danae Elon's quest to find Musa Obeidallah, the Palestinian man who kept house for her family in Jerusalem for more than 20 years. The search begins soon after September 11, in Paterson, New Jersey, one of the largest Arab communities in the country and ends in a moving encounter between two families simultaneously linked and divided by conflict and history.

Special Guests: Danae Elon, Director Sons of Musa Obeidallah

Co-sponsored by the Embassy of Israel

Followed by a Peace Café in the Ina and Jack Kay Community Hall.

RETURN OF THE TÜDELBAND

1:15 pm

Goethe-Institut Washington

FREE screening. For reservations, call 202-289-1200 ext 167

Germany, 2003, 35mm

82 minutes

English and German with English subtitles

Director: Jens Huckereide

At the end of the 19th century, the brothers Ludwig, Leopold and James Wolf started a musical comedy band that enjoyed unprecedented success in Hamburg. The Wolf Brothers reached the height of their success in the 20s and 30s with their song "Tüdelband" which is still sung in Hamburg today. Despite their celebrity, the Wolf Brothers and their families were not spared when the Nazis rose to power—although some of the relatives were able to escape the country. Today, rap artist Dan Wolf, the grandson of one of these Jewish refugees returns to Hamburg to explore his familial and musical roots.

Co-sponsored by the Goethe-Institut Washington

THE RASHEVSKI'S TANGO

3:00 pm

Aaron and Cecile Goldman Theater

See page 17

FILM AS A SUBVERSIVE ART: AMOS VOGEL AND CINEMA 16

4:00 pm

The National Gallery of Art – East Building Auditorium

FREE screening; first-come, first-served
For more information, call 202-842-6799

UK, 2003, Beta-SP

56 minutes

English

Director: Paul Cronin

A fascinating profile of Amos Vogel, an 82-year old New York resident, a Jewish émi-

gré from Austria and founder of the New York Film Festival. In 1947 Vogel established Cinema 16, a pioneering film club aimed at audiences thirsty for work that could not be seen elsewhere. Through Cinema 16 and the NYFF which he founded in 1967, Vogel was the first to introduce American audiences to the works of Roman Polanski, John Cassavetes, Paul Kluge as well as educational, scientific and experimental films—among them the first American screening of the Nazi propaganda film *The Eternal Jew*. *Film As Subversive Art* is a fitting tribute to one of the earliest advocates in America for foreign, independent and avant-garde film.

Co-sponsored by The National Gallery of Art

Invited Guests: Amos and Marcia Vogel



MODIGLIANI

WALK ON WATER

5:00 pm

Aaron and Cecile Goldman Theater

See page 19

MODIGLIANI

7:15 pm

The Embassy of France

See page 5

Need to finish your Chanukah shopping? Bring your ticket stub to the Washington DCJCC's Abramson Family Foundation Gift Shop and receive 10% off. Offer good until the end of Chanukah.

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**Denotes donation to Harriet J. Neuman Fund



WASHINGTON DCJCC

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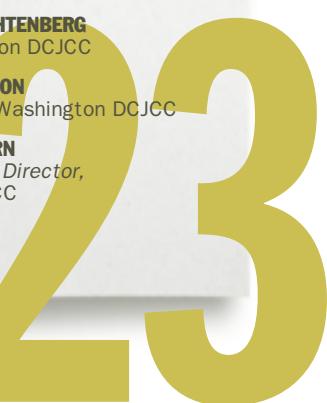
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