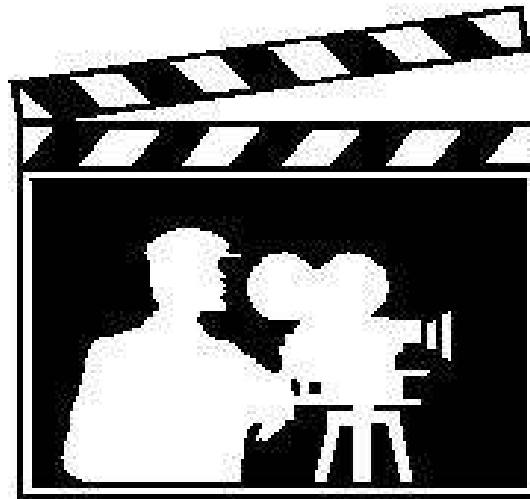


The 21st Annual Orange County International

Jewish Film Festival 2011

Sponsored by University Synagogue



Regal Westpark 8 Cinemas – 3735 Alton Parkway, Irvine

First Showing: Sun. mornings, Jan. 9 & 23, Feb. 6, Mar. 13 & 27

Bagel breakfast from 8:15 a.m., film at 9:00 a.m.

Second Showing: Refreshments at 10:45 a.m., film at 11:30 a.m.

Wed. evenings, Jan. 19, Feb. 2 & 16, Mar. 2 & 23 –7:00 p.m.

All films are shown in 35mm, in the comfort of a Regal Theater and are presented by screenwriter and psychologist Michael Berlin, followed by a lively audience discussion.



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Sunday Films

When: Sunday mornings, January 9 & 23, February 6, March 13 & 27

Where: Regal Westpark 8 Cinemas – 3735 Alton Parkway, Irvine

What: Bagel breakfast from 8:15 a.m., film at 9:00 a.m. and again at 10:45 a.m. for refreshments with the film at 11:30 a.m. presented by screenwriter and psychologist Michael Berlin, followed by a lively audience discussion.

HEY, HEY, IT'S ESTHER BLUEBERGER – Sunday, January 9



This is a delightful coming of age story about young Esther trying to fit into a posh private school with taunting classmates. She must also deal with her perfectionist mother's preparations for her upcoming Bat Mitzvah. (In English.)

LA RAFFLE – Sunday, January 23



This is one of the most important historical films your Film Festival Committee has ever screened. It is the harrowing true story of the round up in 1942 by the French police of Jews living in Paris and of sending 13,000 men, women and children to Auschwitz. The film shows how the French authorities pandered to the Nazis. The USA premiere will be December 2010 in Washington, DC. It opened the Jerusalem Film Festival before 6,000 people in an outdoor theater and was the largest grossing film in France this year. (In French with English subtitles.)

LEBANON – Sunday, February 6



It is June 1982 – the first Lebanon War. A lone tank and a paratrooper platoon are dispatched to search a hostile town. A simple mission turns into a nightmare. The four members of the tank crew find themselves in a violent situation that they can't contain. (In Hebrew with English subtitles.)

SIXTY SIX – Sunday, March 13



It is the summer of '66. England is consumed by World Cup Fever. The date coincides with twelve year old Bernie's approaching Bar Mitzvah. His parents are distracted because they may be losing their business. All this causes the scale and grandeur of his Bar Mitzvah to diminish daily. Bernie realizes to his horror that if England does well, the final in London will occur on his Bar Mitzvah day. He tries all methods to deter this outcome, but England gets to the finals versus Germany. (English.)

BROTHERS – Sunday, March 27



Two long-estranged brothers reunite in Israel, but the reunion is fraught with difficulty. Daniel is a secular Israeli, fighting to keep his struggling kibbutz going. The Orthodox Aaron is a Brooklyn-based scholar and attorney who comes to Jerusalem to defend the exemption of *yeshiva* students from compulsory military service. (In Hebrew with English subtitles.)

Wednesday Films

When: Wednesday evenings, January 19, February 2 & 16, March 2 & 23

Where: Regal Westpark 8 Cinemas – 3735 Alton Parkway, Irvine

What: Film at 7:00 p.m. presented by screenwriter and psychologist Michael Berlin, followed by a lively audience discussion.

INSIDE HANA'S SUITCASE— Wednesday, January 19



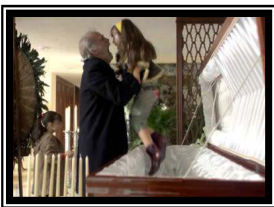
This is a pre-World War Two documentary about two young Czechoslovakian children and the terrible events they had to endure just because they were Jewish. It ties in with a story about some Japanese children who received a battered suitcase sent from Auschwitz with the name Hana Brady on it and how they and their teacher solved its mystery and memories. The film is based on the internationally acclaimed book “Hana's Suitcase” which has been translated into forty languages. (English subtitles.)

ANITA— Wednesday, February 2



Anita is a young woman with Down syndrome who loses her mother in the 1994 bombing of the Jewish Community Center in Buenos Aires. The helpless Anita tries to find her only to get lost in the city. She wanders for several days, confused as her world had been limited to her mother's company. The people she meets in her wanderings don't know what to do to help her. (In Spanish with English subtitles.)

NORA'S WILL — Wednesday, February 16



Jose finds out that Nora, the woman he'd been married to for thirty years and then divorced, has committed suicide. The Rabbi explains that Nora must be buried that same day or they will have to wait almost five days. Jose discovers a hidden photograph among her effects. This leads to a surprising revelation that changes everyone's perspective about Nora. (In Hebrew with English subtitles.)

HOLY ROLLERS — Wednesday, March 2



In 1998 one million Ecstasy pills were smuggled into the United States by a group of Hasidic Jews. In Brooklyn, a youth from an Orthodox Jewish community is lured into becoming an Ecstasy dealer by his pal who has ties to an Israeli drug cartel. (In English.)

GRIPSHOLM — Wednesday, March 23



This beautifully produced film is based on Kurt Tucholsky's life and his novel “Schloss Gripsholm.” It plunges the audience into the pleasure-craving, decadent world of Berlin cabaret at the beginning of the 1930's. Tucholsky was an important Jewish German intellectual who wrote risqué lyrics for the cabaret and inflammatory articles about the Nazis. When it became dangerous for him in Berlin, he and his friends went to the Swedish palace of Gripsholm in Sweden. (In German with English subtitles.)