

Acknowledgments

The Kehillah of Chester County's **Summer Shorts** film festival, now in its third year, celebrates the richness and diversity of Jewish experience through short films and media. **Summer Shorts** is intended to engage and to inspire the community as we explore the full spectrum of Jewish life, values and culture.

We are very grateful to **Seymour Levin** for his expertise, enthusiasm and commitment, in curating the selections for this series. And, thanks to **Joyce Brown** and **Roz Lifshitz**, members of our newly formed Film Festival Committee, for screening films for us to enjoy. We also greatly appreciate the cooperation and assistance of the Gershman Y's **Philadelphia Jewish Film Festival**, and its director, **Olivia Antsis**, in planning **Summer Shorts**; and **Lydia Bennett** for her assistance with developing copy for this brochure.

We also thank **Mary Foote**, Executive Director of **The Colonial Theatre**, for her valuable advice and support.

SPONSORS (AS OF JUNE 30, 2016)

PRESENTING SPONSOR



The Drafting Room Tap Room & Grill/Andrew Weintraub
Tom Bissinger

For additional information about the Kehillah of Chester County and its programs, contact **Shelley Rappaport**, Kehillah Director: 484.582.0210 • cckehillah@jfgp.org

In cooperation with and funded by



The Jewish Federation of Greater Philadelphia's mission is to mobilize financial and volunteer resources to address the community's most critical priorities in Greater Philadelphia, in Israel and in the Former Soviet Union.

2100 ARCH STREET, PHILADELPHIA, PA 19103 ■ JEWISHPHILLY.ORG



The Kehillah of Chester County

A Jewish Community Collaboration funded by a grant from
The Jewish Federation of Greater Philadelphia

presents the 3rd Annual

SUMMER SHORTS

An Eight-Session Film Festival & Discussion Series
of Contemporary International Jewish Short Films

Wednesdays, July 13th through August 31st • 7:45 p.m. to 9:30 p.m.

The Colonial Theatre, 227 Bridge Street, Phoenixville, PA
3rd Floor Screening Room (wheelchair accessible)

Suggested donation per session: \$10.00
Seating is limited. Reservations are encouraged.

Chai-lighter Pass: \$72.00 per person for the 2016 season
Checks payable to: Jewish Federation of Greater Philadelphia,
memo: Kehillah of Chester County Film Festival

In cooperation with and funded by



PRESENTING SPONSOR



One People ■ One Community ■ One Federation™

PROGRAM 1: OPENING NIGHT JULY 13TH

G-D IS KIDDING Israel | 2012 | 7 min.

Bezalel students Boaz Balachsan and Dima Tretyakov recorded Israeli children from different backgrounds giving their opinions about G-d and faith, and interpreted their thoughts through animation.

THE TRIBE USA | 2006 | 18 min.

What can the Barbie doll show us about being Jewish today? What does it mean to be an American Jew? What does it mean to be a member of any tribe in the 21st Century?

THE MAN WHO SHOT HOLLYWOOD USA | 2015 | 12 min.

Jack Pashkovsky lived quietly in a town lit up by a thousand stars. He practiced his art anonymously. By the time he was finished, he had compiled what must be the greatest collection of celebrity photographs never seen.

MAKING OF A MENSCH USA | 2015 | 11 min.

Explore character education through the wonderful ancient Jewish teachings of *Mussar*, through an engaging and accessible lens, reminding us all how relevant these Jewish tools are to our 21st century lives.

WOMEN IN SINK Israel | 2015 | 36 min.

At a hair salon owned by a Christian Arab in Haifa, Israel, filmmaker Iris Zaki chats with the clients she is shampooing. She paints an unexpected portrait of this space where women freely share their differences and a community of views on politics, history and love.

PROGRAM 2: JULY 20TH

SAMUEL-613 UK | 2015 | 15 min.

The story of Shmilu, a Hasidic Jew in crisis, torn between his community and the romantic possibilities of trendy East London.

WANDERING RABBI USA | 2014 | 14 min.

A young, traveling rabbi makes his way through the American South, struggling to breathe life back into dwindling rural Jewish congregations, while finding strength and music along the way.

REMEMBER AT'ALLE Israel | 2013 | 8 min.

Holocaust Memorial Day is approaching. The preparations for the ceremony at Hagar's new school are at their peak. Will Hagar get the lead role? And does she deserve it?

BROKEN MIRRORS USA | 2013 | 10 min.

The story of the filmmaker's lost identity, a Jewish heritage that had been suppressed for generations. The film poses the question: "What are the ethical and emotional costs of denying Jewish identity?"

BENE ISRAEL: A FAMILY PORTRAIT India | 1994 | 33 min.

This documentary is both an intimate family portrait and a fascinating ethnographic study of the Bene Israel, one of three groups of Jews living in India today.

PROGRAM 3: BUBBE & ZAIDE JULY 27TH

SHASHENKA Israel | 2011 | 9 min.

One day Shashenka and his grandma are asked to come to the principal's office. In order not to disappoint his family, Shashenka translates the principal's words incorrectly, but the plan backfires.

AVÓS Brazil | 2009 | 12 min.

Leo is celebrating his birthday. From one grandmother, he receives socks, from the other, underwear. From his grandfather, Leo gets an old Super-8 camera; with it he tells us of his attempts to change the gifts.

LOVE & GENEALOGY Canada, USA | 2014 | 20 min.

An American filmmaker goes to Canada in search of his grandfather's past. He meets a girl, and they fall in love. As they search for information on the grandfather, they create their own living myth.

DUDE, WHERE'S MY CHUTZPAH? USA | 2014 | 8 min.

After learning that her recently deceased *Bubbe* left her a large sum of money, Jessie discovers that in order to get the cash she must "live JEWISH for a year." Oy...

MIRROR IMAGE Israel | 2013 | 11 min.

Jewish Israeli grandparents are challenged by their grandchild to compose an agreed-upon version of the untold story of a large crystal mirror, taken from the Palestinian village of Zarnuqa during the Nakba - the expulsion of hundreds of thousands of Palestinians by the new Israeli state in the 1948 war.

TORAH TREASURES AND CURIOUS TRASH Israel | 2015 | 25 min.

Jo Milgrom, artist/feminist/Jewish thinker, scavenges Jerusalem dumpsters for choice junk that she combines with worn-out ritual objects rescued from synagogues and funeral homes. A rich portrait of the artist's world.

PROGRAM 4: AUGUST 3RD

A GOOD STORY USA | 2013 | 20 min.

An elderly woman wants to buy a jug in an antiques shop in Goerlitz, but the shop assistant does not want to sell it for money. He will only sell the jug for a good story - her story.

THE KING OF JEWISH BASEBALL USA | 2016 | 3 min.

Jewish culture, sports, romance, heroism - all in three minutes! (www.kingofjewishbaseball.com).

7 DAY GIG USA | 2013 | 10 min.

A punk, an old man, and a chicken gather for a makeshift Shiva after Jay (a Romanian/Guamanian/Catholic/Jew) puts an ad on Craigslist looking for mourners to join him. A comedy about loss.

JEWISH LIFE IN VILNA Poland | 1939 | 10 min.

This rare film captures Jewish life in pre-World War II Vilna. Lively narration and music accompany sequences of people engaged in daily existence - at work, at play, in the synagogue, and in school.

NO WAY TO SAY GOODBYE Bolivia | 2010 | 40 min.

Documentary about the dwindling Jewish community in Cochabamba, Bolivia told through interviews with three generations of Jews living in Cochabamba, along with the director's search for what it means to be Jewish today.

Speaker: Iris Drexler, Artistic Director of the Philadelphia Jewish Film Festival.

PROGRAM 5: THROUGH OUR NEIGHBORS' EYES AUGUST 10TH

AVE MARIA USA, Israel | 2015 | 15 min.

The silent routine of five Palestinian nuns in the West Bank wilderness is disrupted when a family of Israeli settlers knocks on their door after crashing their car into the convent's wall. Together they come up with an unorthodox plan to get them home.

HABER USA | 2008 | 34 min.

As World War I breaks out across Europe, the German military asks Fritz Haber to invent a new kind of weapon. Haber's decision unleashes the rise of weapons of mass destruction, and also threatens to destroy his family.

SISTER ROSE'S PASSION USA | 2004 | 39 min.

This lovely film celebrates Sister Rose Thering, who, for 67 years, has been a Dominican nun. Her research in the 1950s into the way Jews were presented within Catholic educational materials led to the publication of "Nostra Aetate," a document released in 1965 by the Second Vatican Council. Since that time, she's dedicated herself to eradicating anti-Semitism.

PROGRAM 6: AUGUST 17TH

TWO LANDSCAPES USA | 2015 | 3 min.

A clash between the landscape the eye perceives and the one that's remembered.

HOW TO MAKE IT TO THE PROMISED LAND USA | 2015 | 17 min.

Summer camp becomes very strange for 15-year-old Lizzie when she is forced to play a Holocaust role-play game. A compelling look into how easy it might be to become petty monsters ourselves, teenage or otherwise.

THESE ARE THE PEOPLE Germany | 1946 | 18 min.

Documentary produced in a Displaced Persons camp in Germany, from the Spielberg Jewish Film Archive at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem.

SALOMEA'S NOSE USA | 2014 | 22 min.

Salomea remembers the day her brothers disfigured her and themselves for life. Their mother called it The Day of Tragedy, and blamed it on fate, though fate and tragedy have a different meaning by the end of her tale.

TALE OF A WOMAN AND A ROBE Israel | 2015 | 30 min.

Controversy over ritual immersion for female Jewish converts, required to immerse themselves in the *mikveh* in the presence of three rabbinical judges (who are male), wearing nothing but a robe.

PROGRAM 7: HUNGRY? AUGUST 24TH

GEFILTE FISH Israel | 2008 | 21 min.

In Gali's family tradition, every bride must prepare gefilte fish from scratch for the wedding party, to guarantee a successful marriage. When Gali's mother and grandmother give her a live carp to cook, Gali is torn between her need for tradition and her sympathies for the fish.

888 GO KOSHER USA | 2008 | 11 min.

A day in the life of New York City's only rapid-response kitchen koshering service. Rabbi Sholtiel Lebovic answers calls and snaps into action with his full-service team to kosher kitchens in the New York area.

PIZZA BAGEL Canada | 2012 | 9 min.

Tommy is nervous about his traditional Italian father hosting an important kosher dinner.

YIDLIFE CRISIS: THE DOUBLE DATE Canada | 2016 | 6 min.

Chaimie and Leizer (www.yidlifecrisis.com) are best friends, who tackle life, love and lactose intolerance in this foodie-centric web series done entirely in Yiddish. Leizer's blind date with the prefect woman turns into a battle of nebbish proportions.

SOUL FOOD: KEEPING IT KOSHER IN LA'S KOSHER CORRIDOR

USA | 2014 | 19 min.

Kiran Deol, host of Soul Food on MUNCHIES, a website and digital video channel (<https://munchies.vice.com/en/>), heads to LA's Kosher Corridor to explore the ways one can keep it kosher. She discovers that in today's cuisine any style of food can be kosher - as long as one follows strict kosher guidelines.

THE LAST BLINTZ USA | 2015 | 25 min.

This is not just a story about The Café Edison shutting its doors, it's about the heart and distinctiveness of cities being ripped away by impersonal, cookie-cutter, corporate chains. An impassioned plea for progress that honors the past, protects the future and preserves the culture of our great cities.

PROGRAM 8: CLOSING NIGHT AUGUST 31ST

VISHNEVA, BELARUS, SOVIET UNION, POLAND Poland | 2014 | 3 min.

The testimony of a Holocaust survivor is deconstructed by the interviewee's son. In this film the filmmaker uses silent images from the interview superimposed with typed memories that describe the unspoken pain borne by father and son.

INTA OMRI Israel | 2013 | 23 min.

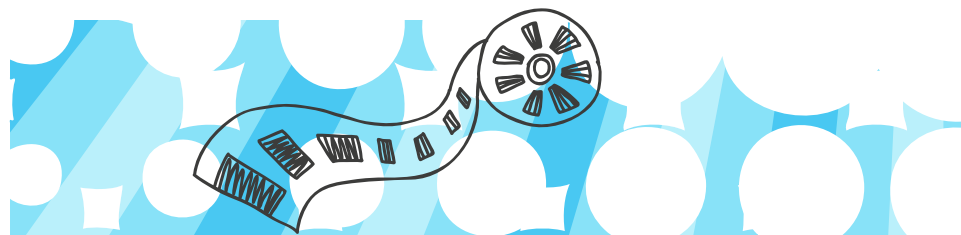
In the already conflicted reality of Israel, Arab soldiers also serve in the Israeli army. On Yom Kippur, a small unit is sent to reinforce a remote post near the Syrian border, but they discover it is surprisingly abandoned.

MY BROTHER'S KEEPER USA | 2010 | 42 min.

The story of the re-creation of the Sovereign State of Israel. A group of 4,400 volunteers from 56 countries, Jews and Christians, volunteered to join the fledgling Israel Defense Forces. The stories of their experiences describe those days in 1947 and 1948 when the fate of Israel and the Jewish people hung by a thread and a prayer.

ADVICE AND DISSENT USA | 2002 | 21 min.

A frustrated businessman tries to end his hopeless marriage by asking his rabbi to place a curse on his wife. The rabbi gives him peculiar advice on how to do away with her, setting into motion a series of unexpected events.



Although we will make every effort to adhere to this schedule, it is subject to change. When possible, we will announce changes prior to the screening date.