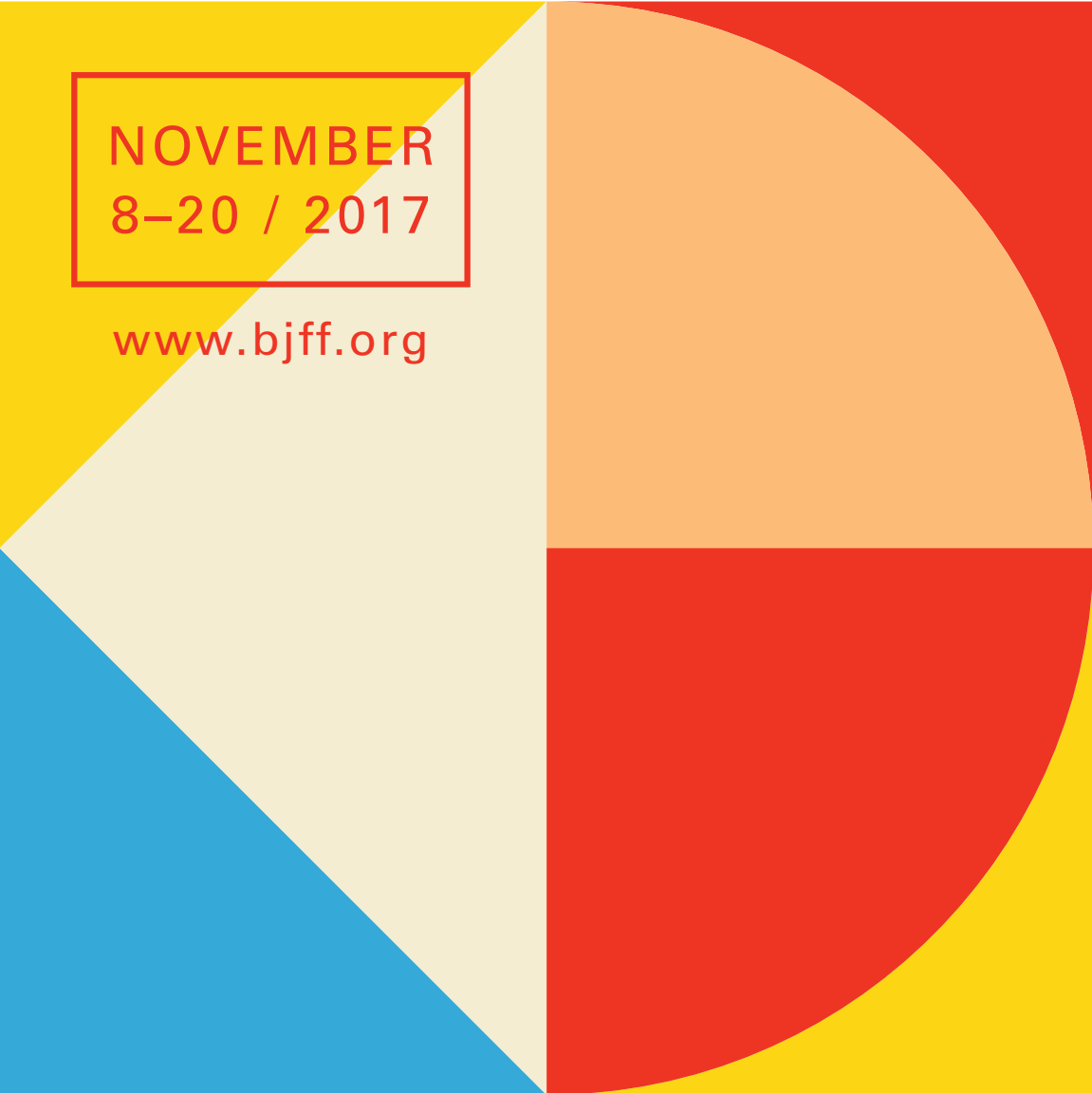


BOSTON JEWISH FILM FESTIVAL

NOVEMBER
8-20 / 2017

www.bjff.org

The background of the lower half of the poster is composed of several large, overlapping geometric shapes. On the left, there is a yellow triangle pointing towards the top right, and a light blue triangle pointing towards the bottom left. In the center, there is a large, light orange shape that resembles a stylized 'C' or a partial circle. To the right of this, there is a large red shape that also resembles a partial circle or a large triangle. The overall effect is a vibrant, modern, and abstract design.

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2017



OPENING NIGHT

Bye Bye Germany

Frankfurt, 1946. Jews remaining in Displaced Persons camps must make new rules to survive. So, David Bermann (Moritz Bleibtreu, *Run Lola Run*) recruits some friends to sell linens to Germans at highly inflated prices. But while his friends are earning the money for their tickets to America, David is meeting with an American investigator who is determined to discover the secret he is hiding.

Official Selection, Berlin International Film Festival, 2017

Invited

Moritz Bleibtreu

Wednesday
NOVEMBER 8
7:00 pm
Coolidge Corner
Theatre

Director Sam Garbarski
Narrative, 2017
Germany/Luxembourg/Belgium
101 min
German with subtitles
Boston Premiere

Join us for a Passholder Party at Osaka Restaurant following the Opening Night screening. Sponsored by First Republic Bank



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MIDFEST EVENT

Wednesday
NOVEMBER 15
6:30 pm
Coolidge Corner
Theatre

Director Alexandra Dean
Documentary, 2017
USA, 90 min
English
Boston Premiere

Join us for a Passholder Party at
Hops n Scotch after the MidFest
screening

Bombshell: The Hedy Lamarr Story

Hedy Lamarr was called the most beautiful woman in the world, but she was so much more. From her early role in a pre-war erotic film to her invention of the cellular technology used in WiFi, Lamarr's life was filled with excitement and intrigue. Rare recordings, interviews, and excerpts from Lamarr's own diary expose how this secret genius with a scandalous past never received the respect she deserved – in film or in science. *Narrated by Susan Sarandon, voiced by Diane Kruger.*

Official Selection, Tribeca Film Festival, 2017

Preceded by

A performance of History at Play's
"Tinseltown Inventor: The Most Beautiful
Woman in the World, Hedy Lamarr"
(November 15)

In Person

Director Alexandra Dean



CLOSING NIGHT

Keep the Change

A rom-com set in world where no character is typical. David is obsessed with being perceived as “normal” – thanks in part to his parents (Tibor Feldman, *The Sopranos* and Jessica Walter, *Arrested Development*). When David is forced to attend an autism support group, he wants nothing to do with the other members...until he meets Sarah, who exudes positivity and confidence. But when David brings Sarah home to meet his family, their romance is challenged.

Keep the Change’s cast includes actors on the autism spectrum.

In Person

Director Rachel Israel,
Actors Brandon Polansky and
Samantha Elisofon

Monday
NOVEMBER 20
6:30 pm
Boston Public
Library

Director Rachel Israel

Narrative, 2017

USA, 94 min

English

New England Premiere

Join us for a Passholder Party
at the Back Bay Social Club after
the screening

Co-presented with

ReelAbilities
FILM FESTIVAL

BOSTON

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FRESHFLIX Events

Join fellow young professionals for films, parties, and special events that celebrate new voices in Jewish film. Look for the FRESHFLIX icon in the brochure and check bjff.org for updates. This year's FreshFlix films are:

In Between

Saturday, November 11, 8:45 pm
Museum of Fine Arts

Saturday, November 18, 6:30 pm
Somerville Theatre

Pinsky

Saturday, November 18, 9:15 pm
Somerville Theatre

House of Z

Tuesday, November 14, 7:00 pm
Coolidge Corner Theatre

NuWave:

The Virtual Reality Experience

Thursday, November 16, 5:30 pm
Brookline Interactive Group

Keep the Change

Monday, November 20, 6:30 pm
Boston Public Library

Winter Hunt

Monday, November 13, 7:00 pm
Somerville Theatre

Wednesday, November 15, 6:30 pm
Museum of Fine Arts (Alfond Auditorium)

7th annual FRESHFLIX Short Film Competition

Screening Time

Thursday, November 9, 7:00 pm
Somerville Theatre

Our annual celebration of the next generation of filmmakers. Selected by a jury of young professionals, this year's program includes short films from Israel, USA, and the UK. Film selections include:

Black Swell

Dir. Jake Honig (Narrative, 2016, USA, 9 min)

The Chop

Dir. Lewis Rose (Narrative, 2015, UK, 17 min)

The Disposers

Dir. Eden Hadad (Narrative, 2016, Israel, 14 min)

In Other Words

Dir. Tal Kantor (Narrative, 2015, Israel, 6 min)

Join The Club

Dir. Eva Vives (Narrative, 2016, USA, 5 min)

Out of Reach

Dir. Efrat Rasner (Narrative, 2015, Israel, 19 min)

The Seven Men of Hanukkah

Dir. Daryl Lathon (Narrative, 2016, USA, 16 min)

Thank you to our prestigious jury for selecting this year's lineup: Goldie Eder, Mollie Elkin, Emilie Golenberg, Mark Kiefer, Matt Kramer, Emily Lodish, Laura Mandel, Adam Riemer, Anna Shur-Wilson, Ben Vainer

Sponsored by





Community Spotlight

Etched in Glass: The Legacy of Steve Ross

Director Roger Lyons

Documentary, 2017

USA, 55 min

English

Massachusetts Premiere

Local filmmaker Roger Lyons pays tribute to Boston's own Steve Ross.

Only 9 years old when he was first taken by the Nazis, Steve Ross miraculously survived ten concentration camps. His experience in the camps as well as his memory of liberation – when a kind American soldier showed him the compassion he hadn't seen in years – shaped his life moving forward. While working with disadvantaged youth and establishing Boston's iconic Holocaust Memorial, Ross continued his tireless search for the kind soldier who changed his life.

In Person

Director Roger Lyons and other special guests

Screening Times

Friday, November 10, 12:00 pm
Coolidge Corner Theatre

Monday, November 20, 5:30 pm
The Center for the Arts in Natick

BJFF Jr! with WBUR present: Circle Round

Join us for a live recording of *Circle Round*, WBUR's new storytelling podcast for kids and the young at heart! Created and produced by parents of young children, *Circle Round* tells folktales from around the world with an eye toward inclusivity, featuring notable voices from the stage and screen.

Take part in the live podcast recording, hear great stories, dance along to live music, and learn the secrets behind radio sound effects, in this celebration of the traditional storytelling. An event for the entire family to enjoy!

For ages 3 to 103

Event Time

Sunday, November 12, 2:30 pm
Coolidge Corner Theatre

Sponsored by

ELIE WIESEL
מרכז אדלר ללימודי יהדות
CENTER FOR JEWISH STUDIES

Sponsored by

JCDS
בית ספר יהודי קהילתי
JEWISH COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT CENTER



NuWave: The Virtual Reality Experience

Virtual Reality has recently emerged as a new medium for storytelling, and filmmakers around the world have been embracing and experimenting with it.

Experience VR films from the US and Israel over cocktails and join us for a discussion focusing on some of the most interesting trends in virtual reality storytelling.

Check bjff.org for more details on these five amazing virtual reality experiences.

Presented in partnership with the Brookline Interactive Group.



Event Time

Thursday, November 16
Discussion at 5:30 pm
Cocktails & VR Viewing at 6:30 pm
Brookline Interactive Group

Marlee Matlin Presents

Join Marlee Matlin for a screening and conversation about a Jewish film that inspired her.

Marlee Matlin is an Academy Award winning actress (*Children of a Lesser God*, 1986) who has starred in film and TV across genres, from series like *The L Word* and *The West Wing* to classic films like *The Player*. Marlee works with Deaf and hard of hearing children throughout the world and, in 1994, was appointed to the Corporation for National Service by President Clinton. Marlee is a national celebrity spokesperson for The American Red Cross and was instrumental in getting legislation passed in Congress in support of Closed Captioning. She has written three novels for children as well as a *New York Times* Best Selling autobiography, *I'll Scream Later*.

With appreciation to The Ruderman Family Foundation for their support of this event.

Event Time

Sunday, November 19, 12:00 pm
Museum of Fine Arts
(Remis Auditorium)

Sponsored by



Sponsored by





Women on the Verge: Short Film Program

Screening Time

Sunday, November 19, 2:30 pm
Institute of Contemporary Art

116 Cameras

Director Davina Pardo

Documentary, 2017

USA, 16 min

English

New England Premiere

Eva Schloss, a Holocaust survivor, takes part in a new project: preserving survivors' stories as interactive holograms.

Hinda and Her Sisterrr

Director Michael Kissinger

Documentary, 2017

Canada, 27 min

English

New England Premiere

When Hinda Avery began painting the women in her family, they emerged as heroic women taking on the Nazis.

A Portrait of a Beautiful Woman

Director Yula Gidron

Narrative, 2017

Israel, 21 min

Hebrew with subtitles

New England Premiere

After an argument shakes up the comfortable routine of her marriage, Gabi runs away to wander the streets on a nocturnal journey.

Wig Shop

Director Kat Coiro

Narrative, 2016

USA, 15 min

English, Russian, and Yiddish with subtitles

At a visit to a local wig shop, an Orthodox Jewish woman (Emily Mortimer, *The Newsroom*) uncovers a life-changing secret.

Winner of the FreshFlix Short Film Competition

Film to be announced November 9th.

Check www.bjff.org/guests for complete list of guest speakers and post-film discussion information.



32 Pills: My Sister's Suicide

Director Hope Litoff

Documentary, 2017, USA, 85 min

English

Massachusetts Premiere

Hope Litoff's sister, Ruth, was dynamic and artistic. But after years of mental health struggles, Ruth committed suicide in 2008. Since then, her belongings, including her exceptional photography, have lived in a storage facility. In this beautifully crafted, intimate film, Hope unpacks the storage space and explores her sister's life and relationships while opening a painful — and potentially dangerous — path for herself.

Official Selection, HotDocs, 2017

Co-presented with

ReelAbilities | BOSTON
FILM FESTIVAL

Invited

Director/Protagonist Hope Litoff

Sponsored by



Screening Time

Thursday, November 16, 6:30 pm
Brattle Theatre



The 90 Minute War

Director Eyal Halfon

Narrative, 2016, Israel/Germany/
Portugal, 85 min

*Arabic, English, Hebrew and
Portuguese with subtitles*

Boston Premiere

The Israeli-Palestinian conflict is about to be resolved...by a soccer match. In this politically-incorrect, satirical mockumentary, it's winner-take-all to remain in the Holy Land. As managers Moshe Ivgy (*My Lovely Sister*) and Norman Issa (*Arab Labor*) prepare for the highest-stakes game of their careers, nothing is easy — from finding a stadium to agreeing on a referee. The trials that ensue take a fresh, and hilarious, lens to the conflict.

3 Ophir (Israeli Academy) Award
Nominations

Screening Times

Saturday, November 11, 9:15 pm
Brattle Theatre

Saturday, November 18, 6:30 pm
Museum of Fine Arts (Remis Auditorium)



1945

Director Ferenc Török

Narrative, 2017, Hungary, 91 min
Hungarian with subtitles

Boston Premiere

1945. Two Orthodox Jewish strangers are spotted at the train station of a small Hungarian village that is the middle of preparing for a wedding and quickly becomes abuzz — who are these men? Have they come to reclaim stolen Jewish property? Shot in breathtaking black and white, *1945* revisits a time of uncertainty and chaos, as Hungary rebuilds itself post-war and must define its relationship with Europe's surviving Jews.

Official Selection, Berlin International Film Festival, 2017

Screening as part of the Cummings Social Justice Film Series

Screening Times

Thursday, November 9, 7:00 pm
West Newton Cinema

Sunday, November 12, 12:00 pm
Museum of Fine Arts (Remis Auditorium)

Tuesday, November 14, 7:00 pm
Arlington Capitol Theatre



A Bag of Marbles

Director Christian Duguay

Narrative, 2017, France/Canada/
Czech Republic, 110 min
French with subtitles

Massachusetts Premiere

In German-occupied France, 10-year-old Joseph and his older brother Maurice have to make it all the way to the "Free Zone" where they will meet their parents. On their way, they meet a few kind, and not-so-kind, strangers. But their adventures do not end when they arrive...soon the Nazis invade and the brothers must form a new plan for survival. Based on the autobiographical novel by Joseph Joffo.

Note: Ages 10+

Screening with *The Forger* (16 min)
November 13 and 16

Screening as part of the Cummings Social Justice Film Series

Join us in the Passholder Lounge at L' Aroma Café after the West Newton screening

Sponsored by

GANN ACADEMY
תיכון חדש

Screening Times

Saturday, November 11, 6:30 pm
JCC Riemer-Goldstein Theater

Monday, November 13, 7:00 pm & 7:15 pm
Foxboro Patriot Place

Thursday, November 16, 7:00 pm
Arlington Capitol Theatre

Sunday, November 19, 12:00 pm
West Newton Cinema



Bang! The Bert Berns Story

Directors Brett Berns and Bob Sarles
Documentary, 2016, USA, 95 min
English

Music meets the mob in this documentary about Bert Berns, the record producer who brought us hits like *Twist and Shout*, *Brown Eyed Girl*, and *Piece of My Heart*. He launched the careers of greats like Van Morrison and The Isley Brothers, but Berns' life was cut short at the young age of 38. Directed by Berns' son with interviews by the likes of Ben E. King, Van Morrison, Keith Richards, and Paul McCartney, *Bang! The Bert Berns Story* is a delightful foray into Berns' world – one inhabited by some of the brightest lights in rock and soul as well as shady characters of the gangster underworld.

Join us for a Rock 'n Roll Party after the November 18 screening

In Person

Directors Brett Berns and Bob Sarles

Screening Times

Saturday, November 18, 6:30 pm
JCC Riemer-Goldstein Theater

Sunday, November 19, 3:00 pm
Brattle Theatre



Big Sonia

Directors Leah Warshawski & Todd Soliday
Documentary, 2016, USA, 93 min
English

Boston Premiere

At 90, Sonia is famous around town – at her shop for her huge personality, and at schools and prisons for her visits to share her Holocaust experience. When she learns her shop must close, Sonia must imagine life without the work that keeps her mind off the past. Directed by Sonia's granddaughter, the film is a portrait of an incredible nonagenarian and a reflection on how the Holocaust affects generations of family.

Screening with *Joe's Violin*

Director Kahane Cooperman
Documentary, 2016, USA, 24 min
English

A violin changes the lives of a Holocaust survivor and a young girl.

Screening as part of the Cummings Social Justice Film Series

Join us in the Passholder Lounge at L' Aroma Café before and after the West Newton screening

Sponsored by



Northeastern University

College of Social Sciences and Humanities
Jewish Studies Program, and Departments of History, Political Science, and Sociology & Anthropology

Screening Times

Wednesday, November 15, 1:00 pm
Coolidge Corner Theatre

Sunday, November 19, 3:30 pm
West Newton Cinema



Bombshell: The Hedy Lamarr Story

Director Alexandra Dean
Documentary, 2017, USA, 90 min
English

Boston Premiere

Hedy Lamarr was called the most beautiful woman in the world, but she was so much more. From her early role in a pre-war erotic film to her invention of the cellular technology used in WiFi, Lamarr's life was filled with excitement and intrigue. Rare recordings, interviews, and excerpts from Lamarr's own diary expose how this secret genius with a scandalous past never received the respect she deserved – in film or in science. *Narrated by Susan Sarandon, voiced by Diane Kruger.*

Preceded by a performance of History at Play's "Tinseltown Inventor: The Most Beautiful Woman in the World, Hedy Lamarr" (November 15)

Join us for a Passholder Party at Hops n Scotch after the MidFest screening

In Person

Director Alexandra Dean
November 15 and 16 Screenings

Sponsored by

November 16



November 19



Screening Times

MidFest:

Wednesday, November 15, 6:30 pm
Coolidge Corner Theatre

Thursday, November 16, 1:00 pm
Coolidge Corner Theatre

Sunday, November 19, 1:00 pm
Orchard Cove



Bye Bye Germany

Director Sam Garbarski
Narrative, 2017, Germany/Luxembourg/
Belgium, 101 min
German with subtitles

Boston Premiere

Frankfurt, 1946. Jews remaining in Displaced Persons camps must make new rules to survive. So, David Bermann (Moritz Bleibtreu, *Run Lola Run*) recruits some friends to sell linens to Germans at highly inflated prices. But while his friends are earning the money for their tickets to America, David is meeting with an American investigator who is determined to discover the secret he is hiding.

Screening as part of the Cummings Social Justice Film Series

Join us for a Passholder Party at Osaka Restaurant following the Opening Night Screening. Sponsored by First Republic Bank.

Invited

Moritz Bleibtreu

Supported by



Screening Times

Opening Night:

Wednesday, November 8, 7:00 pm
Coolidge Corner Theatre

Sunday, November 12, 7:30 pm
The Center for the Arts in Natick

Tuesday, November 14, 7:00 pm
West Newton Cinema



Dimona Twist

Director Michal Aviad
Documentary, 2016, Israel, 71 min
Hebrew with subtitles

Massachusetts Premiere

In the 1950s and 60s Jews from cosmopolitan Arab cities like Baghdad and Casablanca arrived in Israel, often finding themselves in small, undeveloped towns. Meet seven women who grew into adulthood in Israel's Negev, where food was often scarce and education lacking. But for these women, this new reality wouldn't stop them from creating rich lives - or from throwing dance parties set to twist records smuggled from Morocco. A glimpse into an important and overlooked chapter of Israel's early history.

Best Documentary Film Award,
Jerusalem International Film Festival

Ophir (Israeli Academy) Award
Nomination, Best Documentary, 2017

Followed by a conversation

Sponsored by



HADASSAH-BRANDEIS INSTITUTE



Screening Times

Saturday, November 11, 6:30 pm
Museum of Fine Arts (Remis Auditorium)

Sunday, November 12, 1:00 pm
West Newton Cinema



The Genius and the Opera Singer

Director Vanessa Stockley
Documentary, 2017, UK, 70 min
English

Boston Premiere

Jessica and her mother, Ruth, have lived in the same crowded rent-stabilized NYC apartment for over 50 years. Jessica is fiercely intelligent and hot-tempered — and living a different life from the one she imagined. Ruth, now housebound and under her daughter's care, was once an aspiring opera diva. The two spend their days crooning old Sinatra standards and slinging bitter insults at each other and anyone else who gets in their way. A cinema vérité portrait of an intense mother-daughter relationship.

Official Selection, HotDocs, 2017

Co-presented with



Sponsored by



Screening Time

Thursday, November 16, 9:15 pm
Brattle Theatre



Heather Booth: Changing the World

Director Lilly Rivlin

Documentary, 2017, USA, 60 min
English

Massachusetts Premiere

From registering Black Mississippians to vote in the 1960s to advocating for affordable childcare for working parents, Heather Booth has played a role in forging civil rights since her teenage years. She continues to educate community organizers through the Midwest Academy, which she founded. *Heather Booth: Changing the World* is both a tribute to Booth herself — revealing her to be an inspiration in our current climate and a necessary role model for activists and the average citizen alike — and a guide on how to make a difference.

Join us for a Passholder Party at L' Aroma Café following the screening

In Person

Director Lilly Rivlin

Protagonist Heather Booth

Sponsored by



Screening Time

Monday, November 13, 7:00 pm
West Newton Cinema



Holy Air

Director Shady Srour

Narrative, 2017, Israel, 81 min
Arabic, English, French, Hebrew and Italian with subtitles

Boston Premiere

With news of a new baby on the way, Adam reevaluates his life and realizes it isn't amounting to much. And to top it off, he needs to make some cash — fast! An Arab Christian in Nazareth, Adam comes up with an idea that is perfect for the Pope's upcoming visit: he will bottle and sell "Holy Air" — the very air that the Virgin Mary breathed. But before he can bring this groundbreaking product to market he'll need to become allies with Nazareth's three ruling cultures: the Jewish politicians, the Muslim mafia boss, and the Catholic church officials. In a politically unstable world where religion is just merchandise, can Holy Air become Adam's salvation?

Official Selection, Tribeca Film Festival, 2017

Invited

Director/Actor Shady Srour

Screening Times

Thursday, November 9, 6:45 pm
Coolidge Corner Theatre

Saturday, November 11, 6:30 pm
Brattle Theatre



House of Z



Director Sandy Chronopoulos
Documentary, 2017, USA, 87 min
English

Zac Posen is one of the most recognizable brands in the fashion world. Discovered as a teenager, Posen would design clothes for his high school friends: New York cool kids such as Chloë Sevigny and Claire Danes. A wunderkind who crashed and burned at an age when many designers are still finding their footing, his fast ascent to fashion stardom also was his downfall. Featuring interviews with Posen's family and friends (including Naomi Campbell and André Leon Talley) and lots of style, *House of Z* follows Posen's rise and fall...and, at last, his recovery.

Official Selection, Tribeca Film Festival, 2017

Followed by a conversation

Screening Time

Tuesday, November 14, 7:00 pm
Coolidge Corner Theatre

Humor Me

Director Sam Hoffman
Narrative, 2017, USA, 93 min
English

New England Premiere

Once an acclaimed New York playwright, Nate (Jemaine Clement, *Flight of the Conchords*) can't finish his new play. And when his wife (Maria Dizzia, *Orange is the New Black*) leaves him, taking their son with her, he becomes desolate. Broke and unable to pay the rent, Nate begrudgingly moves to New Jersey to live with his father (Elliott Gould), in a retirement community. There, Nate's misery is tested by his dad's endless jokes. When he stumbles across the senior citizens' community-theater troupe, he tries to give directing — and human interaction — another shot.

Invited

Director Sam Hoffman

Screening Times

Thursday, November 16, 6:30 pm
Coolidge Corner Theatre

Saturday, November 18, 6:30 pm
Brattle Theatre

TICKETS

\$16 General Admission, \$14 Discount:

Discounted tickets are available for seniors (65+), students, and members of The Boston Jewish Film Festival, Coolidge Corner Theatre, Institute of Contemporary Art, Museum of Fine Arts, and WGBH.

Matinees:

November 15 & 16, 1:00 pm: \$6 General Admission/\$4 Discount. BJFF offers free matinee tickets to *EBT Card to Culture* Cardholders, 2 per card.

Special Events:

Opening Night November 8, 7:00 pm (Coolidge Corner Theatre): \$36/\$32

BJFF Jr! Event November 12, 2:30 pm (Coolidge Corner Theatre): Adults \$24, Kids \$12, Ages 5 and under free

MidFest Event November 15, 6:30 pm (Coolidge Corner Theatre) \$36/\$32

NuWave Event November 16, 5:30 pm (Brookline Interactive Group): \$30

Closing Night November 20, 6:30 pm (Boston Public Library) \$36/\$32

Group Sales (10 ticket minimum):

\$11 per ticket, plus \$4 per order mailing fee. Order online at www.bjff.org, by email at info@bjff.org, or by phone at 617.244.9899. *Not available for the special events listed above.*

PURCHASING TICKETS

Tickets are not available at the Festival Office.

Purchase Tickets Online at

www.bjff.org: \$1.50 processing fee per ticket. Online purchase closes at midnight the day of the screening.

By Phone:

Call 888.615.3332 (9:00 am - 9:00 pm Mon-Sat, 9:00 am - 6:00 pm Sun), \$3.50 processing fee per ticket. Phone purchases close at noon the day before a screening.

At Cinema Box Office Locations:

Tickets available beginning September 25 at Arlington Capitol Theatre, Coolidge Corner Theatre, Institute of Contemporary Art, Maynard Fine Arts Theatre Place, and the Museum of Fine Arts. Each venue sells for its location only, with no processing fees.

For MFA screenings:

MFA tickets ordered on the BJFF website or by phone will be at will-call and available for pickup at any MFA ticket desk on the day of the screening.

The BJFF closes ticket sales on our website and phone at 3:00 pm the Thursday before a MFA weekend screening.

For available tickets after then, check www.mfa.org, or the MFA box office. Tickets can be picked up in person. Tickets cannot be exchanged or refunded. Please note that a film or Museum Admission ticket is required in order to enter the Museum; therefore, tickets cannot be held at the box office inside the Museum.

For weekend evening screenings at the MFA: Doors open 45 minutes before showtime. Enter through the Linde Family Wing on Museum Road.

Rush Line:

The Rush Line starts to form one hour before the screening. Additional tickets are then released to the Rush Line fifteen minutes before showtime. While we can't make any guarantees, people in the rush line have a very high probability of getting tickets.

Passes:

Passes are available until October 16. Order your pass online or call 617.244.9899. Admission is guaranteed to passholders who arrive at least twenty minutes before a screening. Present your pass at the BJFF table (or for MFA screenings, at the MFA ticket desk).

Friends Pass:

Admission to every film, and post-screening Parties, plus priority seating. (\$300)

REELPass:

One admission to three screenings. Special Events (listed above) excluded. (\$42)

FESTIVAL SCHEDULE

Wednesday, November 8, 2017

7:00 pm **Opening Night** Bye Bye Germany Coolidge Corner Theatre

Thursday, November 9, 2017

6:45 pm Holy Air Coolidge Corner Theatre

7:00 pm 1945..... West Newton Cinema

7:00 pm **FreshFlix Short Film Competition** ... Somerville Theatre

9:15 pm Let Yourself Go! Coolidge Corner Theatre

Friday, November 10, 2017, Veterans Day

12:00 pm **Community Spotlight**

Etched in Glass Coolidge Corner Theatre

Saturday, November 11, 2017

6:30 pm A Bag of Marbles JCC Riemer-Goldstein Theater

6:30 pm Dimona Twist Museum of Fine Arts
(Remis Auditorium)

6:30 pm Holy Air Brattle Theatre

8:45 pm In Between Museum of Fine Arts
(Remis Auditorium)

9:15 pm Sneak Preview Screening* JCC Riemer-Goldstein Theater

9:15 pm The 90 Minute War Brattle Theatre

Sunday, November 12, 2017

12:00 pm Let Yourself Go! JCC Riemer-Goldstein Theater

12:00 pm 1945..... Museum of Fine Arts
(Remis Auditorium)

1:00 pm Dimona Twist West Newton Cinema

2:30 pm **BJFF Jr! with WBUR: Circle Round** ... Coolidge Corner Theatre

2:30 pm The Jazz Singer..... Museum of Fine Arts
(Remis Auditorium)

4:30 pm Muhi-Generally Temporary West Newton Cinema

6:00 pm Subte-Polska Coolidge Corner Theatre

7:30 pm The Midnight Orchestra..... West Newton Cinema

7:30 pm Bye Bye Germany..... The Center for the Arts in Natick

8:30 pm The Young Karl Marx Coolidge Corner Theatre

Monday, November 13, 2017

7:00 pm The Forger + A Bag of Marbles Foxboro Patriot Place

7:00 pm Winter Hunt..... Somerville Theatre

7:00 pm Heather Booth: Changing the World... West Newton Cinema

7:00 pm The Midnight Orchestra..... Maynard Fine Arts Theatre Place

7:15 pm The Forger + A Bag of Marbles Foxboro Patriot Place

Tuesday, November 14, 2017

7:00 pm 1945 Arlington Capitol Theatre

7:00 pm Bye Bye Germany West Newton Cinema

7:00 pm House of Z..... Coolidge Corner Theatre

Wednesday, November 15, 2017

1:00 pm Joe's Violin + Big Sonia Coolidge Corner Theatre

6:30 pm Winter Hunt Museum of Fine Arts
(Alfond Auditorium)

6:30 pm **MidFest**

Bombshell: The Hedy Lamarr Story Coolidge Corner Theatre

Thursday, November 16, 2017

1:00 pm	Bombshell: The Hedy Lamarr Story ...	Coolidge Corner Theatre
5:30 pm	NuWave: The Virtual Reality Experience	Brookline Interactive Group
6:30 pm	32 Pills: My Sister's Suicide.....	Brattle Theatre
6:30 pm	Humor Me	Coolidge Corner Theatre
7:00 pm	The Forger + A Bag of Marbles	Arlington Capitol Theatre
9:15 pm	The Genius and the Opera Singer	Brattle Theatre
9:30 pm	A Quiet Heart.....	Coolidge Corner Theatre

Saturday, November 18, 2017

6:30 pm	The 90 Minute War	Museum of Fine Arts (Remis Auditorium)
6:30 pm	Bang! The Bert Berns Story.....	JCC Riemer-Goldstein Theater
6:30 pm	Humor Me	Brattle Theatre
6:30 pm	In Between	Somerville Theatre
8:45 pm	Sneak Preview Screening*	Museum of Fine Arts (Remis Auditorium)
9:00 pm	The Young Karl Marx	Brattle Theatre
9:15 pm	Pinsky	Somerville Theatre

Sunday, November 19, 2017

12:00 pm	A Bag of Marbles	West Newton Cinema
12:00 pm	Muhi - Generally Temporary	Brattle Theatre
12:00 pm	Marlee Matlin Presents	Museum of Fine Arts (Remis Auditorium)
1:00 pm	Bombshell: The Hedy Lamarr Story	Orchard Cove
2:30 pm	Women on the Verge: Short Film Program	Institute of Contemporary Art
3:00 pm	Bang! The Bert Berns Story.....	Brattle Theatre
3:30 pm	Joe's Violin + Big Sonia.....	West Newton Cinema
5:30 pm	Subte-Polska	Institute of Contemporary Art
8:00 pm	A Quiet Heart.....	Institute of Contemporary Art

Monday, November 20, 2017

5:30 pm	Etched in Glass	The Center for the Arts in Natick
6:30 pm	Closing Night Keep the Change.....	Boston Public Library
7:30 pm	Let Yourself Go!	The Center for the Arts in Natick

***Sneak Preview Screenings will be announced in October. Please check bjff.org for details.**

VENUES

Arlington Capitol Theatre

204 Massachusetts Avenue, Arlington
781.648.4340
www.capitoltheatreonline.com



Brookline Interactive Group*

The Unified Arts Building
46 Tappan Street, Brookline
617.731.8566
www.brooklineinteractive.org



Boston Public Library*

Rabb Hall
700 Boylston Street, Boston
617.536.5400
www.bpl.org



Brattle Theatre

40 Brattle Street, Cambridge
617.876.6837
www.brattlefilm.org



The Center for the Arts in Natick*

14 Summer Street, Natick
508.647.0097
www.natickarts.org



Coolidge Corner Theatre

290 Harvard Street, Brookline
617.734.2500
www.coolidge.org



Institute of Contemporary Art

25 Harbor Shore Drive, Boston
617.478.3100
www.icaboston.org



JCC Greater Boston

Riemer-Goldstein Theater
333 Nahanton Street, Newton
617.558.6522
www.bostonjcc.org



Maynard Fine Arts Theatre Place

19 Summer Street, Maynard
978.298.5626
www.fineartstheatreplace.com



Museum of Fine Arts, Boston

465 Huntington Avenue, Boston
617.267.9300
www.mfa.org



Orchard Cove*

1 Del Pond Drive, Canton
781.821.3100
www.hebrewseniorlife.org/orchard-cove



Foxboro Patriot Place

24 Patriot Place, Foxboro
508.543.1450
www.patriot-place.com/cinemadelux



Somerville Theatre

55 Davis Square, Somerville
617.625.5700
www.somervilletheatreonline.com



West Newton Cinema

1296 Washington Street
Route 16, West Newton
617.964.6060
www.westnewtoncinema.com



*`New BJFF venues



In Between



Director Maysaloun Hamoud
Narrative, 2016, Israel/France, 102 min
Arabic and Hebrew with subtitles

Massachusetts Premiere

Laila, a sharp-witted lawyer, and Salma, a lesbian DJ, are part of Tel Aviv's ultra-hip Palestinian scene. When Nour, a devout Muslim, moves into their apartment, their lifestyles initially clash. But after Nour faces a devastating event, a unique sisterhood forms. Slowly it becomes clear that even in liberal Tel Aviv, these women must grapple with traditional culture. This taboo-defying, award-winning film exposes the world of Palestinians living outside of traditional homes.

Note: Graphic content

12 Ophir (Israel Academy) Award
Nominations, 2017

Invited

Director Maysaloun Hamoud

Sponsored by

הקרן החדשה לישראל
New Israel Fund
الصندوق الجديد لإسرائيل

Screening Times

Saturday, November 11, 8:45 pm
Museum of Fine Arts (Remis Auditorium)

Saturday, November 18, 6:30 pm
Somerville Theatre

90th Anniversary Screening and Panel: The Jazz Singer

Director Alan Crosland
Narrative, 1927, USA, 88 min
English

90 years after it became the first "talkie," *The Jazz Singer* is still relevant. The film is an important touchstone in conversations about Jewish life in America, Jews on the silver screen, the history of cinema, and the relationship between Jews and African Americans.

Jakie Rabinowitz (Al Jolson) defies his cantor father by leaving home to become a jazz singer. But despite his success, Jakie, now Jack Robin, feels conflicted about leaving his home and his heritage.

Join us for a screening of this seminal film, followed by an in-depth panel discussion about Jews in cinema, assimilation, race, and jazz as an instrument of acculturation.

See website for panel speakers and information.

Screening Time

Sunday, November 12, 2:30 pm
Museum of Fine Arts (Remis Auditorium)



Keep the Change



Director Rachel Israel
Narrative, 2017, USA, 94 min
English

New England Premiere

A rom-com set in a world where no character is typical. David is obsessed with being perceived as “normal” — thanks in part to his parents (Tibor Feldman, *The Sopranos*, and Jessica Walter, *Arrested Development*). When David is forced to attend an autism support group, he wants nothing to do with the other members...until he meets Sarah, who exudes positivity and confidence. But when David brings Sarah home to meet his family, their romance is challenged.

Keep the Change's cast includes actors on the autism spectrum.

Join us for a Passholder Party at the Back Bay Social Club after the screening

Co-presented with **ReelAbilities** FILM FESTIVAL **BOSTON**

In Person

Director Rachel Israel,
Actors Brandon Polansky and
Samantha Elisofon

Sponsored by



Screening Time

Closing Night:

Monday, November 20, 6:30 pm
Boston Public Library



Let Yourself Go!

Director Francesco Amato
Narrative, 2017, Italy, 98 min
Italian with subtitles

New England Premiere

In this screwball comedy, psychoanalyst Dr. Elia Venezia (Toni Servillo, *The Great Beauty*) is long separated from his wife — but she lives in the apartment next door, does his laundry, and cooks his meals. When his doctor insists he begin exercising, Elia meets Claudia, a feisty and uninhibited personal trainer. His methodical and regulated life is swept into chaos as he finds himself letting go of more than just a few extra pounds.

Globo d'oro (Italian Golden Globe) for Best Comedy, 2017

Preceded by A brief NIA instruction, a fun, cardio workout based on dance, martial arts and healing arts, fueled by inspiring music and rhythms. (November 12)

Screening Times

Thursday, November 9, 9:15 pm
Coolidge Corner Theatre

Sunday, November 12, 12:00 pm
JCC Riemer-Goldstein Theater

Monday, November 20, 7:30 pm
The Center for the Arts in Natick



The Midnight Orchestra

Director Jérôme Cohen-Olivar
Narrative, 2016, Morocco, 102 min
Arabic, English and French with subtitles

New England Premiere

Michael Botbol and his father Marcel, once a famous Jewish musician, return to Casablanca, which they left over forty years ago amidst a sudden rise in anti-Semitism. But only hours after arriving, Marcel dies and Michael sets out to honor his father by gathering his beloved band from decades earlier. Together with a taxi driver (a fan of Marcel Botbol overcome by grief at his passing), Michael travels the city of his childhood, searching for the band's scattered members and unexpectedly discovering his own identity.

Join us in the Passholder Lounge at L' Aroma Café before the West Newton screening

Screening Times

Sunday, November 12, 7:30 pm
West Newton Cinema

Monday, November 13, 7:00 pm
Maynard Fine Arts Theatre Place



Muhi – Generally Temporary

Directors Rina Castelnovo-Hollander and Tamir Elterman
Documentary, 2017, Israel/Germany, 87 min

Hebrew and Arabic with subtitles

Massachusetts Premiere

Four-year-old Muhi was brought to an Israeli hospital from Gaza as an infant. His illness required amputating his limbs and he has lived there ever since. While most of his family is still in Gaza, Muhi has grown up speaking Hebrew and celebrating Jewish holidays with the other kids in his ward. His grandfather lives with him at the hospital and there they have created a kind of "family" — an Israeli man who lost a son to the conflict, Israeli nurses, and hospital volunteers who dote on the infectious-sweet Muhi.

Ophir (Israel Academy) Award
Nomination, 2017

Co-presented with

ReelAbilities BOSTON
FILM FESTIVAL

Join us in the Passholder Lounge at L' Aroma Café before and after the West Newton screening

Screening Times

Sunday, November 12, 4:30 pm
West Newton Cinema

Sunday, November 19, 12:00 pm
Brattle Theatre



Pinsky



Director Amanda Lundquist
 Narrative, 2017, USA, 74 min
English and Russian with subtitles
Massachusetts Premiere

Sophia Pinsky is doing just fine in NYC: she has a job, an apartment, and a girlfriend. That is, until her girlfriend breaks up with her and her grandfather dies on the same day. As her life starts to unravel, Sophia moves back in with her overbearing Russian-Jewish grandmother in the Boston suburbs. When her grandmother reveals that not only is she dating again but she's in love with the family's rabbi, Sophia is pitted against her grandmother in a struggle to define loyalty and love, all while trying to become a "real adult," once and for all.

In Person

Director Amanda Lundquist,
 Writer/Actress Rebecca Karpovsky,
 and other special guests

Supported by

Action for Post-Soviet Jewry

Screening Time

Saturday, November 18, 9:15 pm
 Somerville Theatre



A Quiet Heart

Director Eitan Anner
 Narrative, 2016, Israel, 92 min
Hebrew, English and Italian with subtitles
New England Premiere

Naomi moves to Jerusalem to find refuge from the pressure of her life as a concert pianist but finds herself pulled into a struggle between her ultra-Orthodox and secular neighbors. A talented ultra-Orthodox kid from her building befriends her, sneaking in to play her piano. When her neighbors discover that Naomi has been taking organ lessons from a charismatic Italian monk, she is faced with escalating isolation and violence and she must use music to bridge religious difference.

Screening Times

Thursday, November 16, 9:30 pm
 Coolidge Corner Theatre

Sunday, November 19, 8:00 pm
 Institute of Contemporary Art



Subte-Polska

Director Alejandro Magnone

Narrative, 2015, Argentina, 99 min

Spanish with subtitles

New England Premiere

As a young man, Tadeusz left Poland to fight in the Spanish Civil War, leaving behind his family and the girl he loved, and then immigrating to Argentina. Decades later, the years he spent digging Buenos Aires' subway tunnels and images of his past return to him in disorienting flashes. His family urges him to take care of his health, but Tadeusz and his buddies from his chess club have other plans — to reconnect him with his long-lost love.

Screening Times

Sunday, November 12, 6:00 pm

Coolidge Corner Theatre

Sunday, November 19, 5:30 pm

Institute of Contemporary Art



Winter Hunt



Director Astrid Schult

Narrative, 2017, Germany, 74 min

German with subtitles

USA Premiere

On a cold, wintry night, Lena shows up on the doorstep of the Rossberg family mansion. She claims her car has broken down, but her arrival is intentional. Lena is in pursuit of Anselm Rossberg (Michael Degen, *Hannah Arendt*), an aged Auschwitz guard who lives with his daughter Maria (Elisabeth Degen, *Aimée & Jaguar*). Anselm and Maria both deny Anselm's past, but Lena is determined to get him to confess, even as her own weapon is turned on her and she is forced into a moral dilemma.

Screening Times

Monday, November 13, 7:00 pm

Somerville Theatre

Wednesday, November 15, 6:30 pm

Museum of Fine Arts (Alfond Auditorium)



The Young Karl Marx

Director Raoul Peck

Narrative, 2017, France/Germany/
Belgium, 118 min

German, French, and English with
subtitles

New England Premiere

This biopic by Raoul Peck (*I Am Not Your Negro*) finds Karl Marx in 1844 when he and his wife Jenny have been exiled to Paris. There, Marx, a radical German journalist, meets Friedrich Engels, the rebellious son of a wealthy factory owner. Together, these new best friends — brilliant, insolent and sharp-witted young men from good families — will go on to found the Communist League and to write its defining document, *The Communist Manifesto*. But in order to create the biggest theoretical and political transformation of the world since the Renaissance, they must withstand censorship, police raids, riots, and political upheavals.

Official Selection, Berlin International
Film Festival, 2017

Screening Times

Sunday, November 12, 8:30 pm
Coolidge Corner Theatre

Saturday, November 18, 9:00 pm
Brattle Theatre

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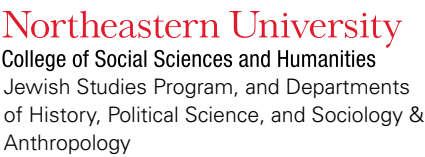
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After each screening, tear your paper ballot or text your vote. The winning films will be announced on our website and social media after Thanksgiving.





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This year ReelAbilities is proud to co-sponsor several films at this year's Boston Jewish Film Festival.

32 Pills: My Sister's Suicide

Thursday, November 16, 6:30 pm

Brattle Theatre

See page 8 for more information

The Genius and the Opera Singer

Thursday, November 16, 9:15 pm

Brattle Theatre

See page 12 for more information

Keep the Change

Monday, November 20, 6:30 pm

Boston Public Library

See pages 3 & 20 for more information

Muhi – Generally Temporary

Sunday, November 12, 4:30 pm

West Newton Cinema

Sunday, November 19, 12:00 pm

Brattle Theatre

See page 21 for more information



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BJFF

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