

REHOBOTH BEACH JEWISH FILM FESTIVAL

MAR 2016

THURSDAY-SUNDAY, MARCH 17-20, 2016

Presented by the REHOBOTH BEACH FILM SOCIETY in
partnership with the SEASIDE JEWISH COMMUNITY



CINEMA ART THEATER 17701 Dartmouth Drive, #2 Dartmouth Plaza, Lewes DE (behind Wawa)

www.rehobothfilm.com

REHOBOTH BEACH JEWISH FILM FESTIVAL

MAR 2016

WELCOME TO THE REHOBOTH BEACH JEWISH FILM FESTIVAL (MARCH 17–20, 2016)

The Rehoboth Beach Film Society is pleased to partner with Seaside Jewish Community in presenting this new event. The mission of the Festival is to deepen awareness of Jewish cultures and experiences, and to explore community differences and commonalities through the art of film.

Seven films (a total of eight screenings) will be presented over four days (Thursday – Sunday) at the Cinema Art Theater located at 17701 Dartmouth Drive, #2, Dartmouth Plaza, Lewes (behind Wawa). This year’s diverse selection of films comes from Israel, Germany, Canada, and the United States. Collectively the films offer glimpses of historical happenings, perspectives on current cultural conflicts, and the always-enticing romantic drama.

ADMISSION:

Individual screenings	\$11
Three-film package	\$30
Five-film package	\$45

Purchase in advance online with a credit card at www.rehobothfilm.com (click on the “Tickets” link, upper left), or at the door if space permits.



The Rehoboth Beach Film Society presented the idea of creating a Jewish Film Festival in Sussex County to a couple members of Seaside Jewish Community in the summer of 2015. The response was genuinely enthusiastic. Immediately a Planning Committee was developed consisting of George Beckerman, Helen Gates, Fran Salzman, Mike Salzman, and RBFS Education/Outreach Coordinator Denise Hoban. The group pre-viewed and discussed more than 20 films, always being respectful of differences in opinion and committed to reaching consensus. The outcome is a wonderful selection of films that addresses a broad scope of diverse issues. This group worked as a fantastic team, thinking creatively yet practical, identifying potential resources to enhance the festival experience, and striving to provide the best Jewish Film Festival for audiences of all religions and ethnic backgrounds.

The Rehoboth Beach Film Society greatly appreciates their efforts to plan what I anticipate will be a very successful festival, the first of many more to come. In addition, a special thanks to the Seaside Jewish Community for being supportive of this event in numerous ways.

I trust the audience will be enlightened, entertained, and inspired by films, speakers, and post-screening discussions they will enjoy during this four-day experience.

Shalom,

Sue Early
Executive Director
Rehoboth Beach Film Society

SCHEDULE:

Thursday	March 17	7:00 pm	<i>Rabin in His Own Words</i> post-film discussion led by Dr. Yoram Peri	page 3
Friday	March 18	3:00 pm	<i>A Blind Hero: The Love of Otto Weidt</i>	page 4
Friday	March 18	7:30 pm*	<i>A Borrowed Identity</i>	page 5
Saturday	March 19	12:00 noon*	<i>Apples from the Desert</i>	page 6
Saturday	March 19	3:00 pm*	<i>Above and Beyond</i> post-film discussion led by Dr. Alan Gropman	page 7
Saturday	March 19	7:30 pm	<i>Apples from the Desert</i>	page 6
Sunday	March 20	12:00 noon	<i>Félix & Meira</i>	page 8
Sunday	March 20	3:00 pm	<i>Paper Clips</i> post-film discussion led by Dr. Joel Simon	page 9

Theater opens 30 minutes before screening begins.

A BREAKFAST CONVERSATION WITH . . .

The Festival will include two breakfast discussions with special guest speakers. The schedule could not be finalized in time for the printing of this program. Please visit the website (www.rehobothfilm.com or www.seasidejewishcommunity.com) for complete event information and to register.

*Note: To respect the Jewish Sabbath, Seaside Jewish Community is not hosting the films on Friday night or Saturday afternoon.



Rabin in His Own Words

Thur, March 17 at 7:00 pm

Twenty years after his assassination, Yitzhak Rabin tells his own dramatic life story through a combination of rare archival footage, home movies and private letters. Articulated entirely through Rabin's own voice, from his childhood as the son of a labor leader before Israel gained statehood, through his years as farmer turned army man, and later as Prime Minister, he stood at some of the most critical junctures in Israeli history. Winner of the Best Documentary at the 2015 Haifa Film Festival. Ron Kronish of *The Times of Israel* said *Rabin in His Own Words* ". . . was one of the most beautiful and inspiring Israeli documentaries that I have ever seen, and I was very moved by it. It was personal, poignant, and professionally done." [2015, Israel, Runtime: 100 minutes, Hebrew and English with English subtitles, Not Rated]

A post film discussion will be led by Yoram Peri. Read more about Dr. Peri on page 12.

This film is sponsored by
Bud and Carol Simon.

Jointly presented by the Seaside Jewish Community and the Rehoboth Beach Film Society.

March 17–20, 2016



A Blind Hero: The Love of Otto Weidt Fri, March 18 at 3:00 pm

This powerful docudrama is based on the true story of Otto Weidt, a middle-aged, almost blind industrialist who used his factory to save the lives of dozens of Berlin Jews. Weidt bribed Gestapo agents with cigars, perfume, and other hard-to-find items in exchange for allowing his employees refuge in his factory. Told through the eyes and voice of his young secretary, Jewish writer Inge Deutschkron, the film is a moving testament to the Talmudic notion that he who saves one life is considered to have saved the entire world. This film won a Gold World Medal for Germany's Best Docudrama at New York Festivals 2015. [2014, Germany, Runtime: 90 minutes, German with English subtitles, Not Rated]

This film is sponsored by **Fran and Mike Saltzman** – in memory of their grandparents who were persecuted in Europe.

Jointly presented by the Seaside Jewish Community and the Rehoboth Beach Film Society.



A Borrowed Identity

Fri, March 18 at 7:30 pm*

This complex Israeli drama is about Eyad, a smart Palestinian boy who lives in a village where opportunities are limited. He wins a coveted scholarship to attend a Jewish boarding school and struggles to fit in with his classmates and within Israeli society. As Eyad attempts to find a place for himself, his scholarly pursuits become disrupted and he discovers that he will have to sacrifice his identity in order to be accepted. Faced with this choice, Eyad will have to make a decision that could change his life forever. Film critic David Lewis of the *San Francisco Chronicle* says, “Talented director, Eran Riklis’s film . . . carries an emotional wallop. It’s a doozy, and shows us that life can be a complex whirl of dueling identities.” [2014, Israel, Runtime: 104 minutes, Hebrew with English subtitles, Not Rated]

This film is
sponsored by
George Beckerman.

*Presented by the Rehoboth Beach Film Society.

March 17–20, 2016



Apples from the Desert

Sat, March 19 at 12:00 noon*

Sat, March 19 at 7:30 pm

Based on the award-winning Israeli play, this coming-of-age drama explores conflicts that arise in a Jewish Orthodox family when traditional values are challenged by a modern-day perspective. A daughter maintains a courageous stance as she challenges her parent's adherence to strict traditions. This film won an Audience Award at the Atlanta JFF 2015, Best Feature Film at the 28th Israel Film Festival, an Audience Choice Award at Haifa International Film Festival, and a Special Jury Award at San Diego JFF 2015. *San Diego Jewish World* says, "this understated drama is a gem!" [2014, Israel, Runtime: 96 minutes, Hebrew with English subtitles, Not Rated]

Félix & Meira (screening March 20) explores this same theme of challenging traditional values, but through the eyes of a young Hasidic housewife and mother.

The noon screening is sponsored by **Marcia and Paul Zimmet** – in honor of Parkinson's patients everywhere and the loving care partners who support them. Marcia and Paul would also like to recognize Bobby at Atlantic Physical Therapy for his dedicated assistance.

The 7:30 pm screening is sponsored by The Press Attaché **Rochelle Cohen** Marketing, Public Relations, Editorial.

*Screening at noon presented by the Rehoboth Beach Film Society.

Screening at 7:30 jointly presented by the Seaside Jewish Community and RBFS.



Above and Beyond

Sat, March 19 at 3:00 pm*

In 1948, just three years after the liberation of the Nazi death camps, a group of Jewish-American pilots smuggled planes out of the U.S. and flew for Israel in its War of Independence. This stirring documentary follows the pilots on their route from the United States—where they trained in secret, struggling to stay ahead of the FBI—to Panama, Italy, and Czechoslovakia, where they flew versions of the Nazi planes they had tried to shoot down. This film presents a little-known tale filled with heart and heroism. Frank Scheck of *The Hollywood Reporter* says, “*Above and Beyond* pays well-deserved homage to these men who helped create the Israeli Air Force and ensured the survival of the burgeoning nation.” [2014, USA, Runtime: 90 minutes, Not Rated]

A post-film discussion will be led by Dr. Alan Gropman. Read more about Dr. Gropman on page 12.

This film is sponsored by **Hank Smith** to honor the legacy of David Hoffman and William Peltz – who served in Europe during WW II – as well as all of the men and women who fought to ensure Israel’s independence, especially Avraham Hiram.

*Presented by the Rehoboth Beach Film Society.

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Félix & Meira

Sun, March 20 at 12:00 noon

In this romantic drama, Meira, a young Hasidic housewife and mother, and Félix, an older man mourning the death of his father, find comfort in each other's company. Their innocent friendship soon turns serious. As Félix opens Meira's eyes to a world outside her Orthodox community, she is faced with the conflicts that arise when traditional values are tested by modern day desires. This film was listed in 'Canada's Top Ten' feature films of 2014. Jeannette Catsoulis of *The New York Times* says, "... this love story isn't about religion—or its lack—but about the attraction of difference and the undeniable need to feel alive." [2014, Canada, Runtime: 105 minutes, Not Rated]

Apples from the Desert (screening March 19) explores the same issue through the eyes of a young teen.

This film is sponsored by the **Thomas Merton Society Interfaith Chapter.**

Jointly presented by the Seaside Jewish Community and the Rehoboth Beach Film Society.



Paper Clips

Sun, March 20 at 3:00 pm

Students in a rural Tennessee town collect six million paper clips to represent the six million Jews killed by the Nazis. After millions of paper clips are collected, the last step is to place them inside a German rail car, a poignant echo of the Final Solution. This inspiring documentary features interviews with students, teachers, and Holocaust survivors. Winner of five Audience Choice Awards in 2004, the film was also nominated for an Emmy for Outstanding Historical Programming. This is a great film for children to learn about a major catastrophic episode in world history. Critic Roger Ebert says, “. . . there is something innocently naive about the paper clip project, which transforms a silly mountain of paper clips into a small town’s touching gesture.” [2004, USA, Runtime: 82 minutes, Rated G]

An introduction and post film discussion will be led by Dr. Joel Simon. Read more about Dr. Simon on page 12.

This film is sponsored by **Hank Smith** – in loving memory of his late wife Deborah Lynn (Debi) Smith. Debi was a Special Education teacher whose personal mission was advancing educational opportunities for children.

Jointly presented by the Seaside Jewish Community and the Rehoboth Beach Film Society.

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Seaside Jewish Community is a faith-based organization that supports and fosters Jewish identity through religious, cultural, educational, social and outreach programs. We are an independent, unaffiliated, and egalitarian community of more than 275 families comprised of over 450 adults and children who live in or vacation in Sussex County.

Seaside is an open community, welcoming people of all national origins and races, young, old, gay, straight, married, single, firmly rooted, or new seekers.

We actively participate in the Lewes, Rehoboth Beach, and nearby communities with food donations, a coat drive, a large collection for “Toys for Tots,” working with another faith-based community in the International Student Outreach Program summer dinners, and in preparing and serving meals to the homeless.

We are delighted to be joining with the Rehoboth Beach Film Society to fulfill the mission of the Jewish Film Festival: To deepen awareness of Jewish cultures and experiences and to explore differences and commonalities through the art of film.

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18970 Holland Glade Road, Rehoboth Beach



REHOBOTH BEACH FILM SOCIETY

Mission: Promoting cinematic arts and providing education and cultural enrichment for our community.

The Rehoboth Beach Film Society, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit arts organization, provides engaging, thought-provoking, and diverse film programming throughout the year. The organization's award-winning signature event, Rehoboth Beach Independent Film Festival, is held every November. Film enthusiasts come from more than twenty states to see the best domestic and international independent films including features, documentaries, and shorts during a nine-day period.

Now in its 19th year, the Film Society is proud to announce the recent opening of its Cinema Art Theater, the new home for independent films in Sussex County. To the right is a list of programs that will be available at this venue. Visit www.rehobothfilm.com to see what is currently playing and learn more about each event.

Are you interested in volunteering? Do you know someone looking for an internship? The Film Society has many opportunities for people to get involved and make new friends while enjoying films. Call us at 302-645-9095, ext 1 to see what may interest you.

FILM PROGRAMS

- Another Take
- Around the World
- Children's Cinema Corner
- Cinema & Art
- Delmarva Connections
- Festival Film Reviews
- Film Club
- Rehoboth Beach Jewish Film Festival
- Members' Film Library
- Metropolitan Opera, Live in HD
- Monthly Screenings
- Outdoor Screenings
- Read a Movie
- Special Film Screenings
- Student Film Award
- What Makes Us Tick?
- Women's Film Series
- Rehoboth Beach Independent Film Festival



www.rehobothfilm.com

Delaware Division of the 



RBFS is Standards for Excellence® accredited, having met all the requirements for best practices in nonprofit management

This program is made possible, in part, by a grant from the Delaware Division of the Arts, a state agency dedicated to nurturing and supporting the arts in Delaware, in partnership with the National Endowment for the Arts.

SPEAKER BIOS

Professor Yoram Peri is the Abraham S. and Jack Kay Chair in Israel Studies and the Director of the Joseph and Alma Gildenhorn Institute for Israel Studies at the University of Maryland. Dr. Peri was a former political advisor to the late Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin. He founded the Chaim Herzog Institute for Media, Politics and Society at Tel Aviv University and has been the editor of *Israel Studies Review* since 2011. Dr Peri has authored many well regarded books on Israel politics most notably, *Generals in the Cabinet Room: How the Military Shapes Israel Policy* and *Brothers at War: The Rabin's Assassination and the Cultural War in Israel*.

Dr. Peri will lead the post-film discussion at the screening of *Rabin in His Own Words* on March 17.

Dr. Alan L. Gropman is the Distinguished Professor Emeritus for National Security Policy at the National Defense University, and is Adjunct Professor at George Mason University

School for Conflict Analysis and Resolution, teaching Grand Strategy in Peace and War. An expert on air power, he was Director of Military History Instruction at the United States Air Force Academy. Dr. Gropman served 27 years in the United States Air Force and had two combat flying tours in Vietnam. He and his wife live in Northern Virginia and in Rehoboth Beach, Delaware.

Dr. Gropman is the post-film discussion leader for the screening of *Above and Beyond* on March 19.

Dr. Joel Simon is a School Counselor at Cape Henlopen High School in Lewes, DE. He is also Adjunct Professor of Behavioral Sciences and Counseling at Wilmington University, and the Director of the Religious School at Seaside Jewish Community. Throughout his career, Dr. Simon has taught courses on a variety of subjects including history, sociology, and civics.

Dr. Simon will lead the discussion after *Paper Clips*, screening on March 20.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Thank you to the following individuals and organizations for their contributions and/or efforts to support this year's Rehoboth Beach Jewish Film Festival:

- Beebe Healthcare for underwriting the program
- Planning Committee members for helping to create the Festival (George Beckerman, Helen Gates, Fran Salzman, and Mike Salzman)
- Seaside Jewish Community for supporting the speaker costs
- Rosenfeld's Jewish Delicatessen for purchasing an ad to support the event
- Progar & Company, P.A. for purchasing an ad to support the event
- Bud and Carol Simon, Fran and Mike Saltzman, George Beckerman, Marcia and Paul Zimmet, Rochelle Cohen, Hank Smith, and the Thomas Merton Society Interfaith Chapter for sponsoring film screenings
- Rochelle Cohen for helping to create a press release contact list



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