

# FESTIVAL SPONSORS

As of March 6, 2024

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To see names of Festival Supporters and Community Sponsors, along with sponsors submitted after the printing of this brochure, please visit our website at [jccmetrowest.org/njfff](http://jccmetrowest.org/njfff).

Festival programs are subject to change or cancellation. Please check [jccmetrowest.org/njfff](http://jccmetrowest.org/njfff) for the most up-to-date schedule.

### TICKETS

[jccmetrowest.org/njfff](http://jccmetrowest.org/njfff)

- Regular festival films are \$15/ticket
- Special Events are \$18/ticket and there are two \$10 events; all are noted in the schedule
- Eventbrite service fees apply to online ticket sales
- All events are FREE for NJJFF Sponsors and Festival Supporter Pass holders
- Advance registration preferred
- Limited tickets sold at the door; to buy advance tickets with cash, please see our box office hours below.
- Sorry, no refunds or exchanges

### EVENTBRITE TECHNICAL SUPPORT

For questions, please email:

[NJFFsupport@jccmetrowest.org](mailto:NJFFsupport@jccmetrowest.org)

We are not able to offer ticket sales over the phone. Please instead come to our in-person box office hours, listed below.

### IN-PERSON BOX OFFICE AT THE J

Advance cash tickets are available at the following times:

11AM – 1PM • Wednesday, March 20

11AM – 1PM • Monday, March 25

8:30 – 10:30AM • Wednesday, March 27

### ALL EVENTS AT:

Maurice Levin Theater at the Leon & Toby Cooperman JCC  
760 Northfield Avenue  
West Orange, New Jersey



Please enter through the lower-level glass doors, by our theater.

JCC MetroWest is a mask-friendly environment. While masks and proof of COVID vaccination are not currently required inside JCC MetroWest, we remain compliant with all local guidelines and will update our policies as needed.

### SEATING POLICY

Sponsor and Passholder seating will begin 30 minutes prior to all screenings. General admission ticket holders will be admitted 20 minutes prior to all screenings. In the event of a sell-out, a wait list will be created for any further sales.

### GENERAL INFO

  Films are not rated and may contain violence, sexual content, and/or explicit language. Parental discretion is advised. Please see each film's listing for information about its language, subtitles, and availability of English captions.

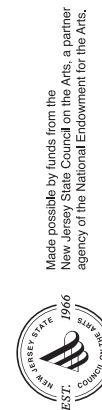


THE LEON & TOBY COOPERMAN JCC ON THE ROSS FAMILY CAMPUS  
760 NORTHFIELD AVENUE, WEST ORANGE NEW JERSEY, 07052  
[jccmetrowest.org](http://jccmetrowest.org)



JCC MetroWest is a beneficiary agency of the Jewish Federation of Greater MetroWest NJ.

JCC MetroWest strives to ensure access and meaningful participation by all members of the community.



Made possible by funds from the New Jersey State Council on the Arts, a partner agency of the National Endowment for the Arts.

# 24TH ANNUAL METROWEST NEW JERSEY JEWISH FILM FESTIVAL

MARCH 28 – APRIL 14, 2024

## AWARD-WINNING FILMS

Q&A SESSIONS WITH GUEST SPEAKERS  
SPECIAL PROGRAMS ■ RECEPTIONS



Delegation, 2023, Asaf Saban, Israel



**THURSDAY 3/28  
OPENING FILM**



**7–10 PM  
Seven Blessings**

**\$18 tickets**  
Ayelet Menahemi  
2023, 111 minutes

FEATURE

Hebrew, French, and Arabic with English Subtitles  
Marie reunites with her Moroccan-Jewish family for her wedding, forcing them to confront their past over the course of seven elaborate celebratory meals. This tragicomedy swept the 2023 Ophir Awards (Israel's Oscars), winning Best Picture and nine others, and was Israel's entry for the Best International Feature Oscar.

POST-SCREENING ZOOM Q&A  
with the co-writer and actress, **Eleanor Sela**, and producer, **Ronen Ben Tal**

**SATURDAY 3/30**



**8:30–10:15 PM  
All About The Levkoviches**

**Ádám Breier**  
2024  
85 minutes

FEATURE

Hungarian and Hebrew with English subtitles  
In this wry comedy, Tamás, an elderly boxing coach, gets along well with everyone—except his own son, Iván. When Tamás's wife dies unexpectedly, they are reunited for the shiva and must face their past conflicts for the good of Iván's young son.

**NJJFF SPOTLIGHT SUNDAY 3/31**



**NOON–3 PM  
Stay with Us**

**\$18 tickets**  
Gad Elmaleh  
2022, 90 minutes

FEATURE

French with English subtitles  
Superstar Jewish-French comedian Gad Elmaleh returns to Paris with plans to be baptized a Catholic and struggles to tell his family (portraying themselves) about his new beliefs. A hilarious spiritual crisis ensues in this clever blend of fiction and autobiography.

**FRENCH CAFÉ RECEPTION**  
following the film

**TUESDAY 4/2**



**7–9:45 PM  
Irena's Vow**

Louise Archambault  
2023  
120 minutes

FEATURE

English with English subtitles

19-year-old Irena Gut is a Polish nursing student conscripted to work as a Nazi officer's housekeeper. She decides to shelter 12 Jewish people in the safest place she knows: the cellar of the Nazi officer's villa. This thrilling drama tells a true story of heroism in the face of certain death.

POST-SCREENING ZOOM Q&A  
with **Jeannie Smith**, daughter of Irena Gut Opydke

**WEDNESDAY 4/3**



**1–3:30 PM  
Love Gets a Room**

**\$10 matinee**  
Rodrigo Cortes  
2021, 103 minutes

FEATURE

English with English subtitles

Inspired by true events, *Love Gets a Room* is the story of a Jewish stage actress who must make the gut-wrenching decision to follow her heart or escape the Warsaw Ghetto in the midst of a performance by her beleaguered theater company.

POST-SCREENING ZOOM Q&A  
with writer-director-editor, **Rodrigo Cortes**

**THURSDAY 4/4**



**7–9 PM  
Arugam Bay**

Marco Carmel  
2022  
97 minutes

FEATURE

Hebrew, English, and Sinhala with English subtitles

After completing their military service, three Israeli surfers set out on a soul-searching visit to Sri Lanka while grieving their friend's death in combat. This drama captures a uniquely Israeli coming-of-age journey that resonates deeply today.

**SHORTS PROGRAM FRIDAY 4/5**

**NOON**

Total running time: 108 minutes  
All short films have English subtitles

**The Father, the Son, and the Rav Kalmenson**

France, Dayan D. Oualid, 15 minutes



**Letter to a Pig**

Israel/France, Tal Kantor, 17 minutes

**The Soldier on Smithdown Road**

UK, Barney Pell Scholes and Thomas Harnett O'Meara, 13 minutes

**Finding Fate**

USA, Beth Toni Kruvant, 27 minutes



**Heritage Day**

USA, Lara Everly, 20 minutes

**Happy BirthGay**

Israel, Niv Manzur, 16 minutes

**SATURDAY 4/6**



**8:45–10:30 PM  
Matchmaking**

Erez Tadmor  
2022  
96 minutes

FEATURE

Hebrew with English subtitles

In this hit Israeli romantic comedy, a high-achieving Ashkenazi yeshiva student is on the path toward a perfect arranged marriage. He leaps off this path when he falls in love with a Mizrahi girl and takes his match into his own hands with a radical solution.

**SUNDAY 4/7**



**NOON–2 PM  
It's a Wrap**

Amit Miller & Miri Urman  
2022  
56 minutes

DOCUMENTARY

Hebrew with English subtitles

Grandma Haya, sick of cancer treatment, takes control and plans her own goodbye party. Her daughter, Miri (the film's co-director), struggles with her own feelings while supporting her mother. This uplifting documentary depicts challenging end-of-life decisions with warmth, empathy, and humor.

POST-SCREENING ZOOM Q&A  
with the filmmakers, **Amit Miller** and **Miri Urman**

IN-PERSON Q&A  
with **Shari Haber** of *My Great Goodbye*



**3–6 PM  
Kidnapped**

Marco Bellocchio  
2023  
134 minutes

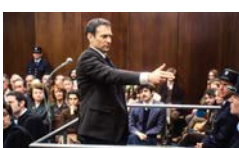
FEATURE

Italian with English subtitles

In this true story, set in 1858, papal soldiers forcibly take a seven-year-old Jewish boy from his family in Bologna, Italy, based on a claim that he was secretly baptized. His parents' struggle to free their son becomes part of a larger political battle pitting the papacy against forces of democracy and Italian unification.

IN-PERSON Q&A  
with **Andrea Grover**, translator, author, and NYU professor of Jewish-Italian History and Italian Culture

**MONDAY 4/8**



**7–9:30 PM  
The Goldman Case**

Cédric Kahn  
2023  
115 minutes

FEATURE

French with English subtitles

The 1975 "trial of the century" of far-left activist Pierre Goldman electrified the French public while unearthing persistent trends of antisemitism, racism, and injustice. This courtroom thriller brings the case to life in exacting detail and with vivid performances.



**TUESDAY 4/9**



**10–11:45 AM  
Stay with Us Encore!**

Gad Elmaleh  
2022  
90 minutes

FEATURE

French with English subtitles

An encore screening of *Stay with Us* for parents and caregivers with babies. Noise and distractions are expected. No charge for children and no worries!

**TUESDAY 4/9**



**7–9:30 PM  
The Monkey House**

Avi Nesher  
2023  
120 minutes

FEATURE

Hebrew with English subtitles

In this bittersweet comedy by celebrated Israeli filmmaker Avi Nesher, a has-been novelist mounts an elaborate ruse to resurrect his literary reputation. Plot twists ensue.

**WEDNESDAY 4/10**



**1–3 PM  
The Three of Us**

Henya Brodbeker  
2023  
78 minutes

DOCUMENTARY

Hebrew with English subtitles

Filmmaker Henya Brodbeker documents her and her husband's struggle to provide an education and social connections for Ari, their autistic son. Their journey brings them out of their Haredi Orthodox community and into contact with secular Israel, where they discover new challenges—and, possibly, solutions—for their family.

PRE-RECORDED Q&A  
with director, **Henya Brodbeker** will follow the film



**THURSDAY 4/11**



**7–9:30 PM  
Delegation**

**\$10 tickets**  
Asaf Saban  
2023, 105 minutes

FEATURE

Hebrew and Polish with English subtitles

Preceded by the short film, **Yiddish Mean Girls 2023**, **Dylan Seders Hoffman**, 3 minutes

Three childhood friends take part in a common Israeli rite of passage: a high-school trip to Holocaust memorial sites in Poland. Between death camps and foreign cities, they go through their own personal journeys, face their fears, and imagine their futures.

POST-SCREENING ZOOM Q&A  
with the writer-director, **Asaf Saban**, and lead actor, **Naomi Harari**

**SATURDAY 4/13**



**8:45–10:45 PM  
The Road to Eilat**

Yona Rozenkier  
2023  
105 minutes

FEATURE

Hebrew with English subtitles

A drunken bet takes an estranged father and son on a road trip through Israel on the back of a beat-up tractor. Can they make it to Eilat in one week without destroying the tractor or killing each other?

**NJJFF LEGENDS SUNDAY 4/14 CLOSING FILM**



**3–6 PM  
Remembering Gene Wilder**

**\$18 tickets**  
Ron Frank, 2023  
92 minutes

DOCUMENTARY

English, subtitles not available

This loving tribute to Gene Wilder features interviews with his collaborators—including Mel Brooks, Alan Alda, and Carol Kane—and family members, shining a light on an essential performer, writer, director, and all-around *mensch*.

POST-SCREENING ZOOM Q&A  
with the director, **Ron Frank**, and screenwriter, **Glenn Kirschbaum**

**CLOSING RECEPTION**  
following the Q&A