



## Announcing the 24<sup>th</sup> Annual Seattle Jewish Film Festival

*36 films. 180 emotions. thousands of friends*

March 23-31 & April 6-7, 2019

AMC Pacific Place | SIFF Uptown Cinema | Stroum JCC | Aegis Living of Queen Anne  
| Regal Cinebarre Issaquah

[seattlejewishfilmfestival.org](http://seattlejewishfilmfestival.org)

In its 24<sup>th</sup> year, the 2019 Seattle Jewish Film Festival is the largest Jewish event in the Pacific Northwest and one of the largest and longest-running film festivals in the Puget Sound region, attracting over 7,000 attendees annually. SJFF is an eleven-day exploration and celebration of Israel life and Jewish culture, history, and filmmaking, where everyone can take a global Jewish journey through cinema.

This year, SJFF celebrates a number of films and events about music. In celebration of Leonard Bernstein's Centennial, **we welcome daughter, author and filmmaker Jamie Bernstein (in attendance)** to discuss her new memoir, "Famous Father Girl: A Memoir of Growing Up Bernstein," followed by the documentary film LEONARD BERNSTEIN: LARGER THAN LIFE, in which she also appears. A book signing and reception to follow the screening.

BLUE NOTE RECORDS: BEYOND THE NOTES takes us on a complicated musical odyssey

about the unlikely partnerships behind the legendary jazz label founded by German-Jewish refugees as told by jazz greats and some of the brightest stars of hip-hop. **A live performance by the Garfield High School Jazz Combo** kicks off the screening.

Opening weekend, enjoy the annual **Sunday Klezmer Brunch & Sports Film**. This special event features a delicious Jewish comfort-food spread catered by Mangia Bene Catering and music from **The Klez Katz!** before the all-ages baseball documentary HEADING HOME: THE TALE OF TEAM ISRAEL, called “A Grand Slam” by *The Atlanta Jewish Times*.

Other confirmed guests to date include, first-time **filmmaker Paula Eiselt (in attendance)** with her documentary 93QUEEN about a group of tenacious Orthodox Hasidic women who are smashing the patriarchy by creating the first all-female volunteer ambulance service in Brooklyn, and **Joseph Lovett**, an award-winning filmmaker and former ABC News 20/20 director/producer, with his documentary film CHILDREN OF THE INQUISITION for our Sephardic Spotlight, featuring University of Washington **Professor Devin Naar (both in attendance)**.

The 2019 Festival runs March 23-31 at various venues downtown and on Mercer Island and continues April 6-7 for our second Eastside edition. SJFF’s full lineup and tickets go on sale February 1, 2019 at [seattejewishfilmfestival.org](http://seattejewishfilmfestival.org). More guests and events will be announced at that time. SJFF is a vital cornerstone of the Stroum Jewish Community Center’s Arts+Ideas season, featuring 40 performing and visual arts programs year-round, and is central to SJCC’s community-building mission, showcasing the vibrancy and diversity of global Jewish and Israeli life, art, and culture.

**Ticket Pricing:** General admission tickets: \$12-\$15 | Special events: \$20-\$25.

Full Festival passes: \$200-\$225 | 8-Packs of discount tickets: \$100-\$125.

Discounts apply to SJCC members, students, and seniors 65+. SJFF also accepts TeenTix. SJCC also works with many partner nonprofits and agencies to provide free and low-cost tickets.



## PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

Check website for announced time listings: [www.seattlejewishfilmfestival.org](http://www.seattlejewishfilmfestival.org).

Full lineup, schedule, and tickets on sale: February 1, 2019.

**Opening Night Film & Tom Douglas Dessert Party**

**Film: THE UNORTHODOX**

Saturday, March 23, 2019 | AMC Pacific Place

Shuli Rand (in his first role since USHPIZIN) dazzles in this spirited, suspenseful story about Israel's first ultraorthodox, Sephardi political party, proving that one man can create powerful social change.

### **Sunday Brunch & Film**

#### **Film: HEADING HOME: THE TALE OF TEAM ISRAEL**

Sunday, March 24, 2019 | 9:30 AM brunch followed by the film | AMC Pacific Place

Thanks to the World Baseball Classic's rules on eligibility, Team Israel consists of a number of Jewish-American Major League Baseball players, most of whom haven't had much exposure to Judaism, let alone been to Israel. This stirring story of sports, patriotism, and personal growth chronicles the exhilarating run of this underdog baseball team on the world stage.

### **Matinees**

#### **Film: LOVE, GILDA**

Wednesday, March 27, 2019 | 1:00 PM | Aegis of Queen Anne at Rogers Park

Friday, March 29, 2019 | 12:30 PM | SJCC Mercer Island

A special \$8 matinee for film fans 65 and better. Served with delicious desserts and small bites! LOVE, GILDA opens a unique window into the honest and whimsical world of beloved performer Gilda Radner, whose greatest role was sharing her story.

#### **Film: 93QUEEN**

##### **Guest Director: Paula Eiselt**

Thursday, March 28, 2019 | SIFF Uptown

A group of tenacious ultraorthodox women are shattering the glass ceiling in their Hasidic Brooklyn neighborhood by creating the first all-female volunteer EMS corps in Brooklyn.

#### **Film: SUSTAINABLE NATION**

##### **Guest Director: Micah Smith**

Wednesday, March 27, 2019 | SIFF Uptown

1.2 billion people live without access to clean drinking water. Meet Israeli innovators working with partners across the globe to create sustainable solutions in water-scarce communities In the US, Uganda, and India in this eye-opening documentary with a social and ecological conscience.

### **Israeli Film Night & Happy Hour**

#### **Film: THE OTHER STORY**

Saturday, March 30 | SJCC Mercer Island

Two rebellious young women, one fleeing the chaos of secular hedonism for the disciplined

comforts of faith, the other desperate to transcend her oppressive religious upbringing for sexual and spiritual freedom, cross paths unexpectedly in Jerusalem—with startling consequences.

**Centerpiece Author Talk & Film**

**Film: LEONARD BERNSTEIN: LARGER THAN LIFE**

**Featured Guest: Jamie Bernstein**

Sunday, March 31 | SJCC Mercer Island

Leonard Bernstein, one of the most influential classical musicians of the 20th century, was a complex and colorful genius whose creative gifts knew no limits. Illuminating interviews complement family photos and archival clips to tell his life story in celebration of the centennial of his birth.

Special guest, daughter Jamie Bernstein, discuss the film and her new memoir, “Famous Father Girl.”

**SJCC Closing Night Film, Happy Hour & Reception**

**Film: HOLY LANDS**

Sunday, March 31 | SJCC Mercer Island

Oscar-nominee James Caan, Rosanna Arquette, and Jonathan Rhys Meyers star in this heartwarming and comic portrayal of an American Jewish family of colorful eccentrics in the Holy Land.

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To request interviews with SJFF staff or guests, press passes or tickets to any events or screenings, please contact Ryan Davis at [ryan@smarthousecreative.com](mailto:ryan@smarthousecreative.com) or 206.491.3738.



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[www.seattlejewishfilmfestival.org](http://www.seattlejewishfilmfestival.org)

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[www.seattlejewishfilmfestival.org](http://www.seattlejewishfilmfestival.org)



**Stroum Jewish Community Center (SJCC)** creates outstanding programs, partnerships and spaces that welcome everyone to learn grow and celebrate Jewish life and culture. Each year the SJCC serves over 15,000 people around the Puget Sound through Early Childhood Education, summer camp, enrichment, fitness and aquatics programs, and a rich cultural and performing arts lineup.

[www.sjcc.org](http://www.sjcc.org)



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