RUTH AND CARL J. SHAPIRO FILM PROGRAM

MFA FILM

AT THE MUSEUM OF FINE ARTS, BOSTON

April 2012



Max Davidson 1920s Silent Comedies
The National Center for Jewish Film's Annual Festival



Death
Winner of Best Short Audience Award
Boston Turkish Festival Documentary and Short Film Competition



Joanna
The National Center for Jewish Film's 15th Annual Festival

THE 11TH ANNUAL BOSTON TURKISH FILM FESTIVAL

Explore the best of contemporary Turkish cinema in these award-winning films. All films are in Turkish with English subtitles. Programmed by Erkut Gömülü, founder and director of the Boston Turkish Film Festival. Co-presented by the Turkish American Cultural Society of New England.

Somersault in a Coffin preceded by *In Out* and *Journey of No Return: Last Stop at Frankfurt Airport*

Sun, Apr 1, 3:15 pm (AA)

Somersault in a Coffin (Tabutta Rövaşata) by Derviş Zaim (1996, 76 min.). Mahsun steals food and cars in an attempt to survive the bitter winter nights in Istanbul. A gritty portrait of the city, this Turkish drama captures a mood of frustration and disenchantment with authority, and questions what constitutes a crime.

In Out by Zeynep Merve Uygun (2011, 15 min.). This animated documentary tells the story of probation and deportation at the border of Serbia and Bulgaria. **Winner of Best Documentary Jury Award at the 16th Boston Turkish Festival Documentary and Short Film Competition.**

Journey of No Return: Last Stop Frankfurt Airport (Dönüşü Olmayan Yolculuk: Son Durak Frankfurt Havaalanı) by Güçlü Yaman (2010, 25 min.). Based on a true story, this harrowing look at immigration and human rights chronicles a Sudanese refugee's experience after he reports the theft of his jacket to the police. **Winner of Best Short Jury and Audience Awards at the 16th Boston Turkish Festival Documentary and Short Film Competition.**

Hair

Fri, Apr 6, 7:30 pm (RA)

Hair (Saç) by Tayfun Pirselimoğlu (2010, 131 min.). Hamdi, a lonely wig-seller in Istanbul, has no motivation to leave his job and chain-smokes even though he has been diagnosed with cancer. After a beautiful, intriguing woman enters the shop to sell her hair, Hamdi decides to follow her and makes some discoveries along the way. **The Boston Turkish Film Festival Excellence in Turkish Cinema Award presented to the director preceding screening.**

Recycling Life: I Found Dostoyevsky in the Garbage

Sat, Apr 7, 1 pm (RA)

Recycling Life: I Found Dostoyevsky in the Garbage (Cöpte Dostoyevski Buldum) by Enis Rıza (2010, 100 min.). Oktay's life changed through chance meetings with university students and collecting discarded books found in trashcans. From homeless beggar to the owner of a secondhand bookshop, his life is an inspirational story that challenges the prejudices about people living and working in the streets. **Winner of Best Documentary Jury Award at the 16th Boston Turkish Festival Documentary and Short Film Competition.**

Ecotopia

Sat, Apr 7, 3:15 pm (RA)

Ecotopia (Entelköy Efeköy'e Karşı) by Yüksel Aksu (2011, 117 min.). This comedic clash of civilizations examines how things go amiss for villagers in an ecological utopia when they are presented with an opportunity to make more money. Director Yüksel Aksu creates powerful humor with political arguments and local culture in this playful criticism of the erosion of societal values.

Göbeklitepe: The World's First Temple preceded by *Death*

Sun, Apr 8, 1 pm (RA)

Göbeklitepe: The World's First Temple by Ahmet Turgut Yazman (2010, 80 min.). Named an official selection at Iran Cinema Verité, *Göbeklitepe* takes audiences back 12,000 years to an ancient site in Şanliurfa, Turkey. **Winner of Best Documentary Audience Award at the 16th Boston Turkish Festival Documentary and Short Film Competition.**

Death (Ölüm) by Uygar Şirin and Burcu Aykar Şirin (2009, 12 min.). The news of his grandmother's death cracks Emre's picture-perfect world—and he'll do anything he can to avoid reality. **Winner of Best Short Audience Award at the 16th Boston Turkish Festival Documentary and Short Film Competition.**

Losers Anonymous

Sun, Apr 8, 3 pm (RA)

Losers Anonymous (Kaybedenler Kulübü) by Tolga Örnek (2011, 115 min.). This comedy was one of highest grossing Turkish films of 2011 and based on the true story of Kaan and Mete, co-hosts of a 1990s radio show *Kaybedenler Kulübü (Losers' Club)*. Their honest and candid discussion about their daily lives became an instant hit and attracted fans from every segment of Istanbul society.

JEWISHFILM.2012: THE NATIONAL CENTER FOR JEWISH FILM'S 15TH ANNUAL FESTIVAL

The Festival features North American, New England, and Massachusetts premieres.

Never Forget to Lie

Wed, Apr 18, 6:15 pm (AA)

Never Forget to Lie by Marian Marzynski (US, 2012, 90 min.). Emmy Award-winning filmmaker—and Boston resident—Marian Marzynski tells a story of survival and determination with this autobiographical film that explores how Christians sheltered him as a child in the midst of the Holocaust. A wry observer of life and pioneer of European cinéma vérité, Marzynski has worked alongside Roman Polanski and taught American filmmakers such as Gus Van Sant. **Discussion with director follows screening.** In English and Polish with English subtitles.

Joanna

Thu, Apr 19, 5 pm (AA)
Thu, Apr 19, 7:15 pm (AA)

Joanna by Feliks Falk (Poland, 2010, 105 min.). A young Polish woman (Urszula Grabowska) in German-occupied Krakow makes a difficult choice to take in an 8-year-old Jewish girl she finds hiding in a church. Soon, though, she is faced with tough decisions when neighbors and family grow suspicious. Grabowska's portrayal of an unselfish heroine garnered her **acting awards** at the **Moscow Film Festival** and the **Gdynia Polish Film Festival.** "Thanks to Falk's artistry and his first-class actors, *Joanna* is a true masterpiece of timeless validity," (Kirsten Liese, FIPRESCI). In Polish, German, and French with English subtitles.

The Policeman

Fri, Apr 20, 8:15 pm (AA)

The Policeman (Hashoter) by Nadav Lapid (Israel, 2011, 100 min). A boldly conceived psychological drama, *The Policeman* is a controversial debut feature from writer-director Nadav Lapid about a policeman and his struggle with revolutionary extremists. An experiment in tone that posits a new direction for Israeli cinema, the film is bathed in cool emotional detachment deliberately juxtaposed against its operatic story. **Winner of three prizes at the Jerusalem Film Festival and a special jury prize at Locarno.** In Hebrew with English subtitles.





Max Davidson 1920s Silent Comedies

Sun, Apr 22, 11:15 am (RA)

Treat yourself to the best laugh you'll have all year! In 1920s Hollywood, Berlin-born comedian Max Davidson starred in some of the most uproarious comedies in film history—and some of the most Jewish! Playing an old world Jew adrift in a land of goyim, Davidson finds hilarity in the antics of a stereotypical European Jew struggling as a fish out of water in 1920s Los Angeles. **US premier of restored prints.** Special ticket price: $9, $11.

Why Girls Say No (1927, 23 min.) Max hopes his daughter will marry a nice Jewish boy only to find her falling for "an Irisher"—with a secret.

Jewish Prudence (1927, 21 min.). Trying to find vocations for his good-for-nothing sons, Papa comes up with a none too brilliant scheme that lands him in court.

The Boy Friend (1928, 20 min.) When Max's daughter brings home a darling young man she met at the store, her parents try to prevent the marriage by acting crazy.

How To Re-Establish a Vodka Empire

Sun, Apr 22, 1:30 pm (RA)

How to Re-Establish a Vodka Empire by Daniel Edelstyn (UK, 2012, 75 min.). When the director travels to the Ukraine in search of his roots and discovers that his great grandfather's vodka distillery is still in operation, he decides—despite his lack of business experience—to become a liquor entrepreneur. This charming documentary employs an ambitious mixture of vérité cinematography and inventive animated sequences created by and starring artist Hilary Powel (Edelstyn's wife). "A tender, extraordinary underdog tale filled with humour, fear and above all, spirit," (*Empire Magazine*).

See a film and stay for a drink!

Check out Taste, our café and wine bar in the Linde Family Wing for Contemporary Art. Offering light food options as well as coffee and a selection of wines, Taste is a great spot for post-film discussions with friends.

My Australia

Sun, Apr 22, 3:15 pm (RA)

My Australia by Ami Drozd (Israel/Poland, 2011, 96 min.). This tender and humorous drama based on Drozd's own experiences tells the story of two brothers in Poland who joined a gang with neo-Nazi orientations. After the gang is arrested for vandalizing a Jewish neighborhood, the boys' mother decides to tell them the truth—that she is Jewish and a Holocaust survivor. She informs them they are immigrating to Australia, while in truth, they are moving to Israel. **Winner of the Best Film Audience Award at the Jerusalem Film Festival.** In Polish and Hebrew with English subtitles.

Women Unchained

Wed, Apr 25, 6 pm (AA)

Women Unchained by Beverly Siegel (US, 2011, 60 min.). Filmed in the US and Israel, and narrated by actress Mayim Bialik (*Blossom, The Big Bang Theory*), this documentary explores the experiences of *agunot*, women whose husbands refuse to grant them a Jewish divorce. The film exposes extortion schemes and offers illuminating interviews with leading women's rights advocates, rabbis, and experts. "A daring yet dignified film…" (*The Jerusalem Post*). In English and Hebrew with English subtitles. **Discussion with director and Lisa Fishbayn, Hadassah Brandeis Institute, follows screening.**

Punk Jews

Wed, Apr 25, 8 pm (AA)

Punk Jews by Jesse Zook Mann (US, 2012, 60 min.). Profiling Hassidic punk rockers, Yiddish street performers, African-American Jewish activists, and more, *Punk Jews* explores an underground New York Jewish community that expresses its identity in unconventional ways. Meet Yishai, lead singer of Moshiach Oi, the diverse members of Cholent, the Amazing Amy Yoga Yenta, and hip hop sensation Y-Love. **Discussion with director Jesse Zook Mann and producer Evan Kleinman follows screening.**

(AA) Alfond Auditorium
(RA) Remis Auditorium

Films are shown in two locations:
Alfond Auditorium in the Art of the Americas Wing and Remis Auditorium in the Linde Family Wing

HOLLYWOOD SCRIPTURES

The second annual Hollywood Scriptures film series explores the psychology of human nature. This year's series focuses on family and divorce in four highly acclaimed contemporary feature films. Panel discussions follow each screening.

The Squid and the Whale

Thu, Apr 12, 7:30 pm (RA)

The Squid and the Whale by Noah Baumbach (U.S. 2005, 81 min.). Starring Jeff Daniels, Laura Linney, and Jesse Eisenberg, *The Squid and the Whale* offers a candid look at divorce and its effect on families. "*The Squid and the Whale* is the most perceptive film about parents and children to come out since *The Royal Tenenbaums*," (Elbert Ventura, IndieWire).

Viva Cuba

Fri, Apr 13, 7:45 pm (AA)

Viva Cuba by Juan Carlos Cremata and Iraida Malberti Cabrera (Cuba, 2005, 80 min.). In a dark comedy akin to *Romeo and Juliet*, the friendship between two children is threatened by their parents' social class differences. ***Viva Cuba*** **won 34 national and international awards including the Grand Prix Ecrans Juniors at the 2005 Cannes Film Festival.** In Spanish with English subtitles.

We Need to Talk About Kevin

Sat, Apr 14, 3 pm (AA)

We Need to Talk About Kevin by Lynne Ramsay (US/UK, 2011, 112 min.). A psychological drama based on the award-winning novel by Lionel Shriver, *We Need to Talk About Kevin* stars Tilda Swinton and John C. Reilly as parents who struggle to cope with their son's irrational, irredeemable actions. "A masterful film." (Roger Ebert, *Chicago Sun-Times*). **Nominated for Golden Globe Best Actress and the Palme d'Or at Cannes.**

Circumstance

Sun, Apr 15, 3 pm (RA)

Circumstance by Maryam Keshavarz (Iran, 2011, 107 min.). Maryam Keshavarz's drama has received rave reviews since its 2011 Sundance premiere. Nikohl Boosheri and Sarah Kazemy are two teenage girls navigating the wild Iranian underground scene—and their attraction for one another—against the backdrop of an impossibly homophobic society. In Persian with English subtitles.

EXCLUSIVE SCREENINGS

The Athlete

Sat, Apr 14, 12:40 pm (AA)

The Athlete (Atletu) by Davey Frankel and Rasselas Lakew (2009, 93 min.). Just in time for marathon weekend: the inspirational true story of Olympian Abebe Bikila, who was not only the first black African to win an Olympic gold but ran the entire distance barefoot. Years later, Bikila suffered an accident that left him paraplegic, but he persevered to compete as an archer in the International Paralympics despite his injuries. In English and Amharic with English subtitles. Co-presented by The Roxbury International Film Festival. **Discussion with director follows screening.**

SMFA Student Films

Thu, Apr 19, 5:30 pm (RA)

Check out the new visions and imaginative ingenuity of SMFA students. This juried screening celebrates the year's best work from undergraduate and graduate students. **SMFA alums and artists Cliff Evans, David Matorin, Laila Haddad, and Danica Mills have shown in past.** Tickets are free, available in person from 10 am day of event.

Under the Boardwalk: A Ukulele Love Story

Sat, Apr 21, 3 pm (RA)

Under the Boardwalk: A Ukulele Love Story by Nina Koocher (2011, 74 min.). This documentary offers a look at the largest ukulele social group in the world—The Ukulele Club of Santa Cruz—and explores the instrument's history from its beginnings in Portugal to its latest resurgence in popularity. **Ukulele performance by Joel Eckhaus, Maine's "Ukulele Eck," follows the screening.**

ENGAGEMENTS


Gerhard Richter Painting

Gerhard Richter Painting

Wed, Apr 11, 6 pm (AA)
Wed, Apr 11, 8 pm (AA)
Thu, Apr 12, 5:20 pm (RA)
Fri, Apr 13, 5:20 pm (AA)
Sat, Apr 14, 10:30 am (AA)
Sun, Apr 15, 10:30 am (RA)
Sun, Apr 15, 12:40 am (RA)

Gerhard Richter Painting by Corinna Belz (Germany, 2011, 97 min.). An intimate profile of one of the world's greatest living painters, 79-year-old German artist Gerhard Richter, juxtaposed with rare archival footage and conversations with the artists' critics and collaborators. In English and German with English subtitles.

Senna

Sun, Apr 1, 1 pm (AA)
Wed, Apr 4, 5:30 pm (AA)
Wed, Apr 4, 7:45 pm (AA)
Thu, Apr 5, 3:15 pm (RA)
Thu, Apr 5, 5:30 pm (RA)
Fri, Apr 6, 4:45 pm (RA)
Sun, Apr 8, 10:45 am (RA)

Senna by Asif Kapadia (UK, 2010, 104 min.). A documentary spanning the life of Formula One racing champion Ayrton Senna, from his opening season in 1984 to his untimely death a decade later. *Senna* makes full use of astounding, previously unseen footage drawn from Formula One archives. "Sometimes a documentary will unexpectedly reach out and grab you by the throat, not giving you a second to breathe." (Kenneth Turan, *Los Angeles Times*). Description adapted from Sundance Film Festival. In Portuguese and English with English subtitles.

GENERAL INFO 617-267-9300

MFA TICKET LINE 1-800-440-6975

WEB www.mfa.org

TICKETS

Members, seniors, and students $9; nonmembers $11. Discount matinee prices (weekdays before 5 pm, weekends before 12:30 pm) $7, $8. Film Scrips may only be used for regularly priced screenings. Exceptions: *Max Davidson 1920s Silent Comedies*, $9, $11. All dates and times are subject to change; please visit www.mfa.org/film for the most up-to-date schedule.

Visitors are advised to arrive 30 minutes prior to the program start time in order to pick up tickets and get to the program location. Remis Auditorium is convenient to both the Huntington and State Street Corporation Fenway entrances. Alfond Auditorium is reached most easily from the State Street Corporation Fenway Entrance.

UPCOMING FILM INFORMATION

Call the MFA Film Line at 617-369-3907, Monday–Friday, 9 am–5 pm.

TO ORDER

Online Tickets may be purchased through our secure website at www.mfa.org/tickets.

By Phone To charge tickets to American Express, MasterCard, or Visa, call the MFA Ticket Line at 1-800-440-6975. Have your MFA membership number (if you have one) and credit card information ready.

In Person Visit MFA ticket desks or kiosks; desks close 30 minutes before the Museum.

A $1 per-ticket processing fee applies to all online and phone orders ($12 maximum for phone orders). An additional $4.50 fee applies to mail delivery. Tickets ordered within ten days of a program are held at MFA and may be obtained at any ticket desk or kiosk. Tickets may not be refunded or exchanged.

MFA MEMBERSHIP

Free and faster admission, discounts on dining, shopping, and parking, and a full calendar of events—with MFA Membership there's always more than meets the eye. Join today—visit www.mfa.org, speak with a Museum representative, or call 617-369-3395.

SERVICES FOR VISITORS WITH DISABILITIES

All Museum entrances are wheelchair accessible. For information call 617-267-9300 or TTY 617-369-3188, or e-mail access@mfa.org. FM-assistive listening devices are available for programs in Remis Auditorium and Alfond Auditorium. Wheelchairs are available on a first-come, first-served basis.

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