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10th Annual Israel Film Center Festival Announces Lineup

Tickets on Sale Now; Hybrid Festival Runs June 1–8

New York, NY (May 10, 2022) -- The Marlene Meyerson JCC Manhattan's (MMJCCM) **Israel Film Center Festival** celebrates its 10th edition next month with a powerful lineup of award-winning and cutting-edge films from Israel. New York's leading Israeli film festival returns from June 1–8, with screenings in person and virtually. Tickets go on sale today and can be purchased at israelfilmcenter.org/festival.

The 10th annual Israel Film Center Festival's **Opening Night** selection will be **IMAGE OF VICTORY**, directed by **Avi Neshet** (*The Other Story*). Based on true events, **IMAGE OF VICTORY** follows the 1948 war from the two perspectives of an Egyptian filmmaker tasked with documenting a raid at an isolated kibbutz commune, and an Israeli soldier in the conflict who becomes a war hero. As more troops are sent into the battlefield and tensions escalate, both sides must reevaluate everything they know about life and war. **IMAGE OF VICTORY** screens Wednesday, June 1 in person at the MMJCCM, and virtually June 1–8.

"This year, we focused on truly bringing the best new Israeli cinema to New York with a hand-picked selection of diverse premieres," said **Isaac Zablocki, Israel Film Center Festival director and founder**. "Making the films available both in person and virtually will give audiences across the country access to these gems throughout the week."

The festival will also include an in-person screening at the MMJCCM's 19th annual all night Paul Feig z"l Tikkun Leil Shavuot on Saturday, June 4. The Tikkun, which returns in person at the MMJCCM for the first time in two years, brings together thousands of guests for a night of arts, study, and celebration. The Israel Film Center Festival will highlight Israel's blossoming television industry and showcase three episodes from season two of the acclaimed series, **THE NEW BLACK**, about young rebellious Orthodox students interacting with the modern world.

[Israel Film Center](#) is an initiative of The Carole Zabar Center for Film at the Marlene Meyerson JCC Manhattan, a leading resource for Israeli film, expanding Israel's emerging film industry and promoting Israeli culture in America. The center serves as an exhibitor, promoter, educator, funder, distributor, producer, network organizer, adviser, and festival producer, as well as a viewing library and online database of Israeli cinema, Israel Film Center STREAM.

10th ANNUAL ISRAEL FILM CENTER FESTIVAL LINEUP:

IMAGE OF VICTORY

Dir. Avi Neshet

(Israel, 2021, 128 min)

In Person: June 1, 7 pm; Streaming: June 1–8

Based on true events, *Image of Victory* follows the 1948 war from the two perspectives of an Egyptian filmmaker tasked with documenting a raid at an isolated kibbutz commune, and an Israeli soldier in the conflict who becomes a war hero. As more troops are sent into the battlefield and tensions escalate, both sides must reevaluate everything they know about life and war.

PROMISED LANDS

Dir. Yael Reuveni

(Israel, 2021, 84 min)

In Person: June 2, 6 pm; Streaming: June 1–8

40-year-old filmmaker Yael Reuveni returns to Israel to reunite with former classmates from 1988, who were all coming of age as Israel was turning 40. They were the first Jews born in Israel, a dream come true for the many generations before them. Examining a decade that began with optimistic peace agreements and ended with the painful clash of the Second Intifada, Reuveni and her classmates discuss growing up as the first Israeli generation to know hope and perhaps the first to lose it.

THE SWIMMER

Dir. Adam Kalderon

(Israel, 2021, 83 min)

In Person: June 2, 8 pm; Streaming: June 1–8

Erez, a rising Israeli swimming star, arrives at training camp—where the top swimmer gets a chance to compete at the Olympics. Despite being warned to avoid friendship with other competitors, he becomes enchanted with the beautiful and talented Nevo. Erez treads the waters between his lust for Nevo and his desire to win.

QUEEN SHOSHANA

Dir. Kobi Farag and Morris Ben-Mayor

(Israel, 2021, 110 min)

In Person: June 3, 5 pm; Streaming: June 1–8

Shoshana Damari, “Queen of Hebrew Music” and Israel’s first diva, graced local and international stages with a larger-than-life personality and renowned voice. Yet beneath the persona, Shoshana kept her personal and family life hidden. Now, for the first time, the woman behind the crown will come to light—a story of motherhood and affairs, fame and loneliness, isolation and confidence.

THE NEW BLACK

Created by Eliran Malka and Daniel Paran

(Israel, 2021, TV series)

In Person: June 4 at MMJCCM’s 19th annual Paul Feig z”l Tikkun Leil Shavuot; Streaming: June 1–8

A new season of the award-winning Israeli series, following the exploits of four students who dropped out of their prestigious Yeshiva and are searching for their place in the world. In this season they’ll open a yeshiva on a central, non-religious street in Jerusalem—to the chagrin of the neighbors—and not only that, but right across the street from a co-ed secular seminary.

Disagreements and differences will crop up soon enough, but there'll also be moments of harmony and bridge-building between the two worlds.

ABOUT ISRAEL FILM CENTER

The Israel Film Center of the Marlene Meyerson JCC Manhattan is the leading resource for Israeli films in America, with the goal of expanding Israel's emerging film industry and promoting Israeli culture in America. The center, a program of The Carole Zabar Center for Film, serves as an exhibitor, promoter, educator, funder, distributor, network organizer, advisor, and festival producer, and includes a viewing library and online database of Israeli cinema and the leading Israeli film streaming site, israelfilmcenterstream.org.

ABOUT THE MARLENE MEYERSON JCC MANHATTAN

Together with its community, the Marlene Meyerson JCC Manhattan creates opportunities for people to connect, grow, and learn within an ever-changing Jewish landscape. Located on 76th Street and Amsterdam Avenue, the JCC is a vibrant non-profit community center on the Upper West Side. It also presents a robust slate of virtual programming, serving an even wider community. The JCC serves over 55,000 people annually through 1,200 programs each season that educate, inspire, and transform participants' minds, bodies, and spirits. Throughout COVID-19, the JCC has pivoted to meet the community online, exceeding 102,000 registrations to over 3,000 virtual classes and programs in the earliest part of the pandemic. Since its inception, the JCC has been committed to serving the community by offering programs, classes, and events that extend beyond neighborhood boundaries, reaching people at all stages of their lives. Learn more at mmjccm.org

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