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## 16th Annual Other Israel Film Festival Lineup Announced at Marlene Meyerson JCC Manhattan November 3–10

Over a dozen films featured in 2022 lineup including Alon Schwarz's  
**TANTURA** as Opening Night selection & Academy Screening of  
Orit Fouks Rotem's **CINEMA SABAYA**

*Tickets on sale now*

**NEW YORK (October 3, 2022)** - The Marlene Meyerson JCC Manhattan (MMJCCM) announced today the lineup for its **16th Annual Other Israel Film Festival**, running **November 3–10, 2022**. This year's festival, featuring over a dozen feature length films, continues to highlight top cinema from Israel and Palestine and provides an internationally recognized platform for meaningful discussion on the past, present, and future of the region. The week-long festival returns this year with a hybrid format, including in-person premieres and filmmaker Q+As in **The Carole Zabar Center for Film / Goldman-Sonnenfeldt Auditorium** at the Marlene Meyerson JCC Manhattan. Films and conversations will be available to stream online throughout the festival, and also during a special extension through November 13. Tickets go on sale today, October 3, 2022, at [otherisrael.org](http://otherisrael.org).

The Other Israel Film Festival, founded in 2007, presents high-quality cinema that inspires conversation and takes an in-depth look into Israeli and Palestinian societies and underrepresented populations in Israel. The festival explores human stories and social issues for Israel and its neighbors through dramatic and documentary films, as well as panels and events about history, culture, and identity.

The 16th Annual Other Israel Film Festival boasts international and New York premieres, with documentaries from Canada, France, Germany, Israel, Palestine, and the US. Highlights include the New York City premiere of Alon Schwarz's **TANTURA**, as the festival's Opening Night selection, documenting the polarizing Arab-Israeli War of 1948, which premiered at this year's Sundance Film Festival; Yigael Sachs and Noam Gil's international premiere of **LADY AMAR**, an inter-familial kidnapping transformed into a war on identity, set as the festival's Closing Night selection; a pre-US election screening of Peabody Award-winning filmmaker Julia Bacha's **BOYCOTT**, a legal thriller examining the anti-boycott legislation and related freedom of speech issues across America; and the east coast premiere of Ran Tal's DocAviv Award-winning documentary **1341 FRAMES OF LOVE AND WAR**, an intimate portrait of acclaimed Israeli photojournalist Micha Bar-Am.

The festival will also feature a special screening of Orit Fouks Rotem's **CINEMA SABAYA**, Israel's official selection for consideration for a nomination for the 2023 Best International Feature Film at the Academy Awards. An encore from the 2021 Other Israel Film Festival lineup and winner of four Ophir Awards, **CINEMA SABAYA** follows nine women, Arab and Jewish, who take part in a video workshop to learn how to document their lives.

“These films give us a deeper look into Palestinian life and other minorities in Israel,” shares **Carole Zabar**, Founder of the Other Israel Film Festival. “We are excited to re-engage with our audiences and host these timely conversations, with hopes of activating people and changing perceptions.”

“This year's lineup of films is one of our most exciting and most diverse,” says **Isaac Zablocki**, Executive Director of the Other Israel Film Festival and MMJCCM Senior Director of Film Programs. “With Israel once again in an election year, the importance of amplifying messages of social change through these films feels more needed than ever.”

Along with in-person and on-demand screenings, the festival will feature Q+As with the filmmakers and panel discussions to create a welcoming dialogue about underrepresented populations, the Middle East conflict, and more. With the support of valuable partner organizations across the globe, the festival aims to engage the community, deepen its views, challenge its perspectives, and drive it to action.

Festival Passes are \$70–\$95 and are available for both in-person and virtual screening options, and include access to all films and conversations. Access to individual screenings is \$18 per film. Conversations and guest speakers will be announced soon. For more information about the festival and films, and to purchase tickets and passes, visit [otherisrael.org](https://otherisrael.org).

## 2022 OTHER ISRAEL FILM FESTIVAL LINEUP

### **Tantura**

Dir. Alon Schwarz

*New York City Premiere* – Opening Night Selection

Israel | 2022 | 94 min | Documentary

*Tantura*, Sundance's opening night film, documents the war of 1948. To Israelis, this is known as the War of Independence; to Palestinians, it is “Al Nakba” (the Catastrophe). Interviews with former Israeli soldiers as well as Palestinian residents expose how power, silencing, and protected narratives sculpt history.

In-person screening: Opening Night, Thu, Nov 3, 7 PM

Streaming: Nov 3-13

### **1341 Frames of Love and War**

Dir. Ran Tal

*East Coast Premiere*

Israel | 2022 | 90 min | Documentary

From an archive of over half a million negatives taken by Israel's most celebrated war photographer, Micha Bar-Am, this film reveals an epic journey and the enormous price that comes along with documenting atrocities and wars. It is a complex love letter to the power, beauty, and horror of photographic imagery.

In-person screening: Fri, Nov 4, 6 PM

Streaming: Nov 3-13

### **A Reel War: Shalal**

Dir. Karnit Mandel

*US Premiere*

Israel | 2021 | 55 min | Documentary

Filmmaker Karnit Mandel stumbles across film reels from a long-lost PLO archive seized by Israel during the 1982 Lebanon war. As the truth of these historical records unravel, she comes into conflict with the bureaucracy of Israel's defense system. Mandel wrestles to expose the buried reels' untold history.

In-person screening: Sat, Nov 5, 2 PM

Streaming: Nov 3-13

### **The Soldier's Opinion**

A film by Assaf Banitt and Shay Hazkani

Dir. Assaf Banitt

*International Premiere*

Israel | 2022 | 57 min | Documentary

Over the span of 50 years, the Israeli military censorship secretly read and copied soldiers' personal letters, extracting their views on the most contentious issues facing Israeli society. The findings were presented to leaders in a top-secret report titled "The Soldier's Opinion."

In-person screening: Sat, Nov 5, 4:30 PM

Streaming: Nov 3-13

## **H2: The Occupation Lab**

Dir. Idit Avrahami and Noam Sheizaf

*North American Premiere*

Israel/Canada | 2022 | 94 min | Documentary

Segregated, highly surveilled, heavily filmed, and intensely guarded, a single neighborhood in Hebron fuels the entire Israeli-Palestinian conflict. This film tells the story of 54 years of military occupation by looking closely at a one kilometer-long street.

In-person screening: Sat, Nov 5, 7 PM

Streaming: Not available

## **Razzouk Tattoo**

Dir. Orit Ofir Ronell

*North American Premiere*

Israel | 2021 | 68 min | Documentary

The sole heir of a 500-year lineage of Christian tattoo artists in Jerusalem goes on a quest to find missing ancient stencils that belong to his family dynasty, and finds dark secrets and an unsolved murder instead.

In-person screening: Sun, Nov 6, 2 PM

Streaming: Nov 3-13

## **Dead Sea Guardians**

Dir. Ido Glass, Yoav Kleinman

Israel | 2022 | 78 min | Documentary

The Dead Sea—the lowest place on earth and one of the wonders of the world—is dying. Three men, a Jordanian, an Israeli, and a Palestinian, join forces on a heroic journey to stop this catastrophe and prevent the Dead Sea from disappearing.

In-person screening: Sun, Nov 6, 4:30 PM

Streaming: Nov 3-13

## **Special Academy Screening: Cinema Sabaya**

Dir. Orit Fouks Rotem

Israel/Belgium | 2021 | 92 min | Narrative

Actress Dana Ivgy leads a cast of non-actors in this dramatic narrative. Nine women, Arab and Jewish, take part in a video workshop to learn how to document their lives, hosted by a young film director named Rona. As the women begin to film their lives and share the raw, homemade footage with the rest of the group, the group dynamic shifts, forcing each of them to challenge their views and beliefs as they get to know one another and themselves better.

In-person screening: Sun, Nov 6, 7 PM

## **Boycott**

Dir. Julia Bacha

US | 2021 | 73 min | Documentary

When a news publisher in Arkansas, an attorney in Arizona, and a speech therapist in Texas are told they must choose between their jobs and their political beliefs, they launch legal battles that expose an attack on freedom of speech through anti-BDS laws across 33 states in America.

In-person screening: Mon, Nov 7, 5:30 PM

Streaming: Nov 3-13

## **The Devil's Drivers**

Dir. Daniel Carsenty, Mohammed Abugeth

Germany | 2021 | 93 min | Documentary

Drivers Hamouda and Ismail navigate the Israel-Palestine border and smuggle Palestinian workers who need to provide for their families. An intimate yet harrowing portrait, *The Devil's Drivers* is an immersion into life under occupation, documenting car chases and perilous trips in breathless suspense.

In-person screening: Mon, Nov 7, 7:30 PM

Streaming: Nov 3-13

### **The Samaritans: A Biblical People**

Dir. Moshe Alafi

*World Premiere*

Israel | 2022 | 78 min | Documentary

On Mt. Gerizim, a community of 850 Samaritans and their 3,500-year-old biblical tradition struggle to survive.

Endangered by modern life and strict customs on marriage, they try to preserve the community, the Torah, and their Holy Mountain.

In-person screening: Tue, Nov 8, 7 PM

Streaming: Nov 3-13

### **The Last Chapter of A.B. Yehoshua**

Dir. Yair Qedar

Israel | 2021 | 55 min | Documentary

This film is a loving portrait of A.B. Yehoshua as he faces death with unflinching honesty, without giving up his joie de vivre. It is a rare and striking look into the life of one of Israel's most beloved writers, who passed away in June 2022.

In-person screening: Wed, Nov 9, 5:30 PM

Streaming: Nov 3-13

### **The Forgotten Ones**

Dir. Michale Boganim

Israel/France | 2022 | 93 min | Documentary

In the 1950s, immigrating Mizrahi Jews were denied their right to a better life in Israel, being forced to move into development towns in the Negev Desert. Seventy years later, Michale Boganim embarks on a road trip through Israel's history to chronicle the impact on three generations of Mizrahim.

In-person screening: Wed, Nov 9, 7:30 PM

Streaming: Nov 3-13

### **Lady Amar**

Dir. Yigael Sachs, Noam Gil

*International Premiere* – Closing Night Selection

Israel | 2020 | 77 min | Narrative

An elderly woman is kidnapped in the middle of the night. She identifies as Pauline Weiss, a wealthy philanthropist, and demands her abductors release her back to her husband. The three "kidnappers" claim she is their mother, Jackie Amar, who lost her mind after her husband's and son's deaths.

In-person screening: Thu, Nov 10, 7 PM

Streaming: Nov 3-13

### **About the Other Israel Film Festival**

The Other Israel Film Festival, founded in 2007, presents high-quality cinema that inspires conversation and takes an in-depth look into Israeli and Palestinian societies and underrepresented populations in Israel. The festival explores human stories and social issues for Israel and its neighbors. Other Israel presents dramatic and documentary films, as well as panels and events about history, culture, and identity. With partner organizations, the festival aims to engage the community, deepen its views, challenge its perspectives, and drive it to action. Learn more at [otherisrael.org](https://otherisrael.org).

### **About the 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, producer, network organizer, advisor, and festival producer, and includes a viewing library and online database of Israeli cinema and the leading Israeli film streaming site.

### **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 reach beyond neighborhood boundaries, reaching people at all stages of their lives. Learn more at [mmjccm.org](http://mmjccm.org).

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