

BETH TZEDEC CONGREGATION



CALGARY JEWISH **FILM FESTIVAL**



VIRTUAL AGAIN! |

NOVEMBER 5 - 23, 2022

TICKETS AT [CALGARYJEWISHFILMFESTIVAL.COM](https://calgaryjewishfilmfestival.com)

BETH TZEDEC CONGREGATION

20th ANNUAL

CALGARY JEWISH

FILM FESTIVAL



AMERICA

Israel 2022
Director: Ofir Raul Graizer
Hebrew with English subtitles
127 minutes

Drama
Eli, a thirtysomething Israeli swimming coach living in America, hasn't been back to his native Israel since he left 10 years ago. But news of his estranged father's death necessitates Eli's return to Tel Aviv, where he decides to reconnect with Yotam, a childhood friend, who now runs a flower shop together with his fiancée Iris. Rekindling their old friendship will set in motion a series of events that will change the lives of all three of them. A story set between a flower shop and an ancient monastery, between a swimming pool and the Mediterranean, between life and death - and somewhere in the middle. Featuring evocative, vibrant cinematography and gracefully restrained performances, this critically acclaimed film is an affecting tale of conflicted identity, redemption, love and the bonds of friendship.

Winner – Best Actress, Jerusalem Int'l FF 2022

Saturday, November 5th starting at 7:00 PM

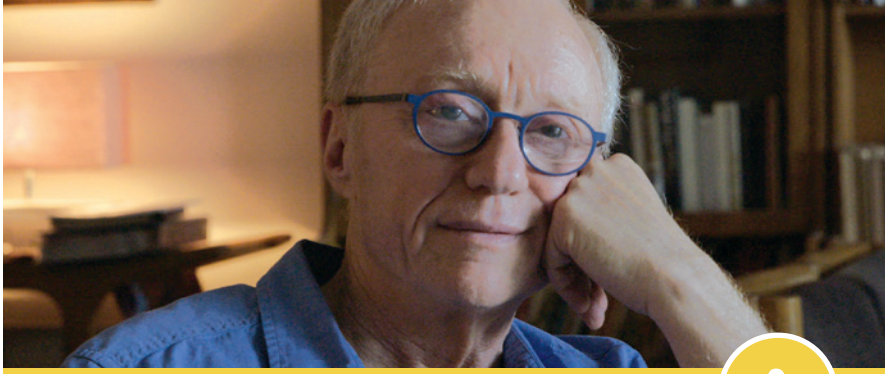


ALL I CAN DO

Israel 2022
Director: Shiri Nevo Fridental
Hebrew & Russian with English subtitles
87 minutes

Drama
In this powerful drama, Ania Bukstein (*Game of Thrones*, *A Quiet Heart*), stars as Reut, a young and ambitious prosecutor whose orderly world is disrupted when she takes over a sexual abuse case – a case based on the sole testimony of Efrat, a rebellious yet fragile victim who lives with her devoted but tempestuous female partner. Reut becomes emotionally involved as she discovers her own vulnerabilities and family secrets, and is committed to getting justice for Efrat, no matter what it costs her professionally and emotionally. As the trial progresses, Reut learns the true nature of strength, love and sisterhood.

Sunday, November 6th starting at 7:00 PM



GROSSMAN

Israel 2021
Director: Adi Arbel
Hebrew with English subtitles
54 minutes

Documentary
An intimate portrait of internationally acclaimed Israeli author and outspoken peace activist David Grossman. One of the most prominent and influential voices in modern Israeli literature of this generation, Grossman's writings have been translated into 45 languages and garnered him myriad accolades, including the prestigious Man Booker International Prize. The film follows Grossman up close and takes the viewers on a personal journey into the soul and work of a captivating individual, as he shares honest, private and intimate insights on camera, speaks poignantly about the profound impact that the tragic death of his son Uri in combat has had on him, and exposes the delicate and complex connection between his novels and his personal life.

Nominated – Best Documentary, Israeli Academy Awards 2022

Monday, November 7th starting at 7:00 PM



SUMMER NIGHTS

Israel/Switzerland 2021
Director: Ohad Milstein
Hebrew, French with English subtitles
53 minutes

Documentary
How does the world look through the eyes of a 6-year-old child? Winner of the 2021 Israeli Academy Award for Best Documentary, this aesthetically unique and visually stunning film offers a window into a child's world: his fears, his desires, his way of thinking. It's a journey into the subconscious of an innocent child, as he falls asleep and drifts into the depths of his own mind. Award-winning Israeli director Ohad Milstein films his own son, Alva, as night falls and the two of them engage in bedtime conversations. The father and son, whispering to one another so as not to wake Alva's sister, talk about life, death, and everything in between. The resulting film, with its distinctive cinematic style, is a tender, intimate and poetic reflection on the passage of time, aging, death and the relationship between a father and a son.

Winner – Best Documentary, Israeli Academy Awards 2021
Winner – Best Israeli Film, DocAviv Int'l FF 2021

Tuesday, November 8th starting at 7:00 PM



Presented in collaboration with the Calgary JCC's Literary Festival

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RECKONINGS


USA 2022
Director: Roberta Grossman
English, Geman, Hebrew with English subtitles
74 minutes

Documentary

In the aftermath of the Holocaust, in a hidden castle near the Hague, secret meetings were held to negotiate the unthinkable -- compensation for the survivors of the largest mass genocide in history. Survivors were in urgent need of help, but how could reparations be determined for the unprecedented destruction and suffering of a people? Directed by award-winning filmmaker Roberta Grossman, *Reckonings* chronicles the tense negotiations between Jewish and German leaders. Under constant threat of violence, they forged ahead, knowing the compensation would never be enough but hoping it could at least be an acknowledgement of the genocide and a first step towards healing. Through a captivating mix of dramatic re-enactments and interviews, *Reckonings* brings to life the untold story behind the ground-breaking Luxembourg Agreements of 1952 - the first time in history that individual victims of persecution received material compensation from the perpetrators.

Wednesday, November 9th starting at 7:00 PM

Screening of the film RECKONINGS is open to the entire community at NO CHARGE as part of our community-wide KRISTALLNACHT COMMEMORATION

 Proudly co-sponsored by
CALGARY JEWISH FEDERATION



KARAOKE

Israel 2022
Director: Moshe Rosenthal
Hebrew with English subtitles
100 minutes

Comedy/Drama

Meir and Tova, an upper-middle-class couple in their late 60's, live a comfortable, quiet -- if somewhat passionless and routine - life in an upscale apartment complex in a sleepy Tel Aviv suburb. Their world is shaken up when Itzik, a flashy and charismatic bachelor with a fondness for karaoke, moves into the building's penthouse. The couple find themselves drawn to Itzik and his flamboyant lifestyle, and their newfound friendship with him causes a stir in their lives, as long-dormant ambitions and identities are reawakened. Blending moments of humor and pathos, this heartfelt dramedy delights and surprises as it follows Meir and Tova on a journey of mid-life self-discovery, both as individuals and as a couple.

Winner -- 4 Israeli Academy Awards 2022 (including Best Actor, Best Actress)
Winner -- Audience Choice Award & Best Debut Film, Jerusalem Int'l FF 2022
Nominated -- 13 Israeli Academy Awards

Saturday, November 12th starting at 7:00 PM



LET IT BE MORNING

Israel/France 2021
Director: Eran Kolirin
Arabic & Hebrew with English subtitles
101 minutes

Drama

Israel's official submission to the 2022 Oscars for Best International Feature Film and winner of seven Israeli Academy Awards, this gently satirical tale centers on Sami, an Arab Israeli telecom executive who lives in Jerusalem. An invitation to his younger brother's wedding brings Sami, his wife and young son back to the small Arab village where he grew up. But after the wedding, as he starts his journey back to the city, he discovers that the Israeli military has imposed a security lock down on the village without warning and has forbidden anyone from leaving. Cut off from the outside world, trapped in an unexpected situation, Sami is forced to face what he has been running away from, to re-evaluate his life choices and to ponder whether his sense of security as an Israeli citizen has been nothing but an illusion.

Winner -- 7 Israeli Academy Awards (2021) including Best Picture, Best Director, Best Actor, Best Actress

Sunday, November 13th starting at 7:00PM




THE LEVYS OF MONTICELLO

USA 2021
Director: Steven Pressman
English
72 minutes

Documentary

Monticello, a US National Historic Landmark and UNESCO World Heritage site, was the long time and cherished home of Thomas Jefferson, one of America's Founding Fathers. When Jefferson died in 1826, he left behind a mountain of personal debt, which forced his heirs to sell his beloved Monticello home and all its possessions. *The Levys of Monticello* tells the astonishing and little-known story of the Levy family, who owned and carefully preserved Monticello for nearly a century -- far longer than Jefferson or his descendants. Through the remarkable story of the Levy family, the film also tells a broader story about racism and anti-Semitism that runs throughout the course of American history, right up to the present day, while also addressing the pivotal role that enslaved people played at Monticello.

Monday, November 14th starting at 7:00 PM

 Proudly co-sponsored by the
JEWISH HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF SOUTHERN ALBERTA
Jay Joffe Memorial Program

TICKETS AVAILABLE ONLINE AT CALGARYJEWISHFILMFESTIVAL.COM

SINGLE TICKETS: \$12 PER FILM | FESTIVAL PASS: \$45 FOR ALL 16 FILMS



9

THAT ORCHESTRA WITH THE BROKEN INSTRUMENTS

Israel 2021
Director: Yuval Hameiri
Hebrew, Arabic and English with English subtitles
79 minutes

Documentary
A broken string, fractured echo chamber, rusting valves. One brilliant conductor, three gifted composers, and 100 musicians meet for four days of rehearsals. They speak different languages. Their instruments are broken. An orchestra of professional and amateur musicians, young and old, prepare, against all odds, for a one-time-only concert in Jerusalem. The film traces the creative process - from collecting the instruments, to workshops, intensive rehearsals, and the night of the performance - and offers us a lyrical and engaging take on what is broken and what is whole, as it chronicles a determined attempt, if only for a moment, to create harmony in a discordant city.

Tuesday, November 15th starting at 7:00 PM

THE DR. RALPH GUREVITCH TIKKUN OLAM SCREENING
Proudly sponsored by
The Gurevitch Family Endowment Fund



10

THE LAST CHAPTER OF A.B. YEHOSHUA

Israel 2021
Director: Yair Qedar
Hebrew with English subtitles
55 minutes

Documentary
This captivating documentary offers a loving portrait of A.B. Yehoshua, one of Israel's greatest contemporary writers. At 83 years of age, Yehoshua struggles with widowhood, loneliness, and a serious illness, yet his mind remains agile and his perspective clear. Despite his declining health, he does not for one moment give up his joie de vivre, faces the prospect of death with unflinching honesty, and still embraces his work on a new book. Filmmaker Yair Qedar follows the illustrious and outspoken author as he reflects on his life, his literary work, and on mortality, and shares his perspectives on the Arab-Israeli conflict and his concerns for Israel's future. A rare and fascinating look at one of Israel's most widely read and beloved writers, who just recently passed away.

Nominated – Best Documentary, Jerusalem Int'l FF 2021

Wednesday, November 16th at 7:00 PM



Presented in collaboration with the Calgary JCC's Literary Festival



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SCHÄCHTEN - A RETRIBUTION

Austria 2021
Director: Thomas Roth
German with English subtitles
110 minutes

Drama/Thriller
As a child, Victor witnessed the merciless killings of Jews by Nazis, and lost his mother and little sister in the Mauthausen concentration camp. Now, two decades later, he is a successful businessman living in Vienna, but still carries a burning desire for justice. But in 1960's Austria, where the political and legal systems are still riddled with former Nazis, and large parts of Austrian society are still entangled in the past, the trial of the Nazi war criminal responsible for the murder of his mother and sister fails to secure just punishment and ends in an acquittal. When Victor also loses his grief-ridden father and his girlfriend's family opposes their relationship because of his Jewish identity, Victor begins to lose faith in formal justice and feels he has no choice but to take matters in his own hands...

Thursday, November 17th starting at 7:00 PM



12

WHERE LIFE BEGINS

Italy/France 2022
Director: Stephane Freiss
French & Italian with English subtitles
100 minutes

Drama
This poignant and beautifully rendered drama is set on a farm in the countryside of southern Italy during the autumn harvest season, where a large, extended ultra-Orthodox Jewish family from France comes for a brief stay every year to carry out a sacred mission: harvesting citrons (etrogs) perfect enough to be considered kosher for the upcoming festival of Sukkot. In this pastoral setting, Elio, the farm owner, meets Esther, the rabbi's rebellious 26-year-old daughter. Although Esther feels a strong sense of devotion to her family, she also feels stifled by the constraints and restrictions imposed by her religion, and is contemplating abandoning Orthodox life. Through the bond that slowly develops between the two of them, Esther will understand the importance of freedom and following her own path. And in the same way, thanks to her, Elio will find the peace he has long sought.

Saturday, November 19th starting at 7:00 PM

THE DR. MARTHA COHEN MEMORIAL SCREENING
Proudly sponsored by
Dr. Martha Cohen Bequest, Beth Tzedec Congregation

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ENJOY THIS YEAR'S EXCITING LINE-UP OF OUTSTANDING FILMS FROM THE COMFORT AND CONVENIENCE OF YOUR OWN HOME!
VISIT THE FESTIVAL'S WEBSITE AT CALGARYJEWISHFILMFESTIVAL.COM FOR ALL THE DETAILS.

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ROSE
France 2021
Director: Aurélie Saada
French with English subtitles
102 minutes

Drama
Legendary French actress Françoise Fabian stars as a recent widow reawakening to life's possibilities in this heartwarming French drama. The sudden death of her beloved husband leaves Rose feeling lost and uncertain how to navigate life as a widow approaching 80. But her sorrow soon gives way to a deep thirst for life as she embraces new experiences and long-ignored aspirations, realizing that there is still time for her to redefine herself as a woman – much to the surprise of her adult children. Richly textured with both Sephardic and Ashkenazi atmosphere, this life-affirming drama is a tender reminder that it's never too late to seek fulfillment.

Winner – Variety Piazza Grande Award, Locarno Int'l FF2021

Sunday, November 20th starting at 7:00 PM



ON THIS HAPPY NOTE
Israel 2021
Director: Tamar Tal Anati
Hebrew with English subtitles
67 minutes

Documentary
Anat Gov, one of the most influential playwrights in Israeli theatre, is preparing for her death. She asks Arik Kneller, an artists' agent, to be the executor of her will. Arik struggles to accept the humor and serenity with which she faces her upcoming demise. Anat, consciously accepting her nearing end, wishes to leave a spiritual legacy: there can be a happy ending. Almost a decade after her death, her loved ones try to fill the void left by her words with their own. Through excerpts from her plays and footage of her family and political activism, a new script is written: one in which the line between the play and reality is blurred.

Nominated – Best Documentary, Israeli Academy Awards 2022

Tuesday, November 22nd starting at 7:00 PM



THE FOURTH WINDOW
Israel 2021
Director: Yair Qedar
Hebrew & English with English subtitles
84 minutes

Documentary
Behind the international success story of Amos Oz—the celebrated Israeli writer and intellectual whose works have been translated into 45 languages and who has been held up as a spokesperson and symbol of the Israeli conscience—lurked a tumultuous personal life marked by a double tragedy. When he was 12 years old, his mother committed suicide, and several years before his death, his daughter accused him of being physically and emotionally abusive to her during her childhood, ending all communication with him. Anchored by a series of conversations with Nurit Gertz, his friend and latest biographer, this engaging film weaves a tapestry of biography, literature, and conversations with significant people in his life, as Amos Oz tells his last story.

Nominated – Best Israeli Film, DocAviv Int'l FF 2021

Monday, November 21st starting at 7:00 PM



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FIDDLER'S JOURNEY TO THE BIG SCREEN
USA 2022
Director: Daniel Raim
English
88 minutes

Documentary
The Fall of 2021 marked the 50th anniversary of *Fiddler on the Roof*, the film Pauline Kael of The New Yorker called "the most powerful movie musical ever made". Now, the engrossing and exuberant *Fiddler's Journey to the Big Screen* captures the humor and drama of director Norman Jewison's quest to recreate the lost world of Jewish life in Tsarist Russia and re-envision the beloved stage hit as a wide-screen epic. Oscar-nominated filmmaker Daniel Raim puts us in the director's chair and in Jewison's heart and mind, drawing on behind-the-scenes footage and never-before-seen stills, as well as original interviews with Jewison, Topol (Tevye), other members of the cast, and many others involved in the creative process. At its heart, this delightful documentary explores how the experience of making *Fiddler* deepened Jewison as an artist and revived his soul.

Wednesday, November 23rd starting at 7:00 PM

Screening of this film is FREE OF CHARGE

TICKETS AVAILABLE ONLINE AT CALGARYJEWISHFILMFESTIVAL.COM



We would like to express our deepest thanks to all of the sponsors of the 2022 Beth Tzedec Calgary Jewish Film Festival. It is their generosity, community-mindedness and commitment to Jewish culture that enables us to offer this event to the community.

And we'd like to acknowledge and offer a special thank you to the sponsors of two of the annual highlights of our festival:

The “Dr. Martha Cohen Memorial Screening”, which this year features the poignant drama *Where Life Begins*, is sponsored annually by the **Dr. Martha Cohen bequest to Beth Tzedec Congregation**

The “Dr. Ralph Gurevitch Tikkun Olam Screening”, which this year features the inspiring documentary *That Orchestra with the Broken Instruments*, is sponsored annually by the **Gurevitch Family Endowment Fund**

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