

הקשר היהודי שלך

Your Jewish Connection

Brought to you by the TBA Lifelong Learning Committee – By Linda S Trapasso

Have You Seen a Good (Jewish) Movie Lately?

Many Jewish communities across the US, and in other countries, hold Jewish film festivals. Go to Google (<http://www.google.com>) and do a search on Jewish film festivals, and you'll see what I mean. We have our own festival here in NH coming up in April, and there are ones in Portsmouth, Boston, and Maine.



I thought I would see what I know about Jewish film. I went to My Jewish Learning for a short quiz <http://www.myjewishlearning.com/quiz/?tid=CL.AA.FI>. Then followed it with an overview of American Jewish film (http://www.myjewishlearning.com/culture/2/Film/Film_101.shtml).

If you have a passion for movies, the National Center for Jewish Film may be just what you're looking for (<http://www.jewishfilm.org/about.htm>). The Center is a unique, independent nonprofit motion picture archive, distributor, resource center, and exhibitor. NCJF's ongoing mission is the collection, preservation and exhibition of films with artistic and educational value relevant to the Jewish experience. It has over 12,000 reels of film dating from 1903 (check the A to Z listing) and is based at Brandeis University. Plus the Center screens films in conjunction with the Boston Jewish Film Festival (<http://www.bjff.org>). The Boston

festival is in the fall plus there are movie screenings year round. The 2013 schedule is not yet available, but there are other screenings around Boston—click Up-coming for movies in March.



Another site of interest is Jewish-Film.com (<http://www.jewishfilm.com/>). Its purpose is to highlight notable films and videos of Jewish interest. The focus is to entertain readers and to aid in Jewish film festival programming (it's associated with the San Francisco Jewish Film Festival). Scroll down to the bottom of the page to find links for many Jewish film festivals. Films are listed alphabetically as well as by genre, each with a short description.

Tablet Magazine has a 100 greatest Jewish films list (<http://www.tabletmag.com/jewish-arts-and-culture/84451/100-greatest-jewish-films>). It will take some time to go through the list, as each movie is presented on its own page. Contrast the Tablet list with this short one from Beliefnet (<http://www.beliefnet.com/Entertainment/Movies/Galleries/Six-Jewish-Films-Everyone-Should-See.aspx>). Do you agree with the lists? Would you change the rankings?



If you're looking for links for Jewish movies and similar subjects, go to the Jewish Museum, which also has a film festival (<http://www.thejewishmuseum.org/NYJFF>), and click on Related Links on the left. There are links to film festivals as well as media organizations.

What about rabbinic commentary on Jewish films? Try the Jewish Film blog (<http://jewishfilm.wordpress.com/>) by Rabbi Ruth Adar. In addition to (limited) movie commentary, she has a list of Other Resources. Leave a comment if there is a particular film you'd like her to view.



Interested in finding out which actors and actresses, or producers and directors, are Jewish? Then head over to Heebz, the web site with lists of famous Jews (<http://www.heebz.com/categories>). [I would venture that any category you can think of is listed here.] Click on the Actors and Actresses list, or the Directors and Producers list. How many names do you recognize? Are there any surprises on the lists?

So go grab yourself some popcorn and I'll see you at the movies!