

November 13-16, 2014 Halifax, Nova Scotia

SCHEDULE ON PAGES 12-13

HOW TO RE-ESTABLISH A VODKA EMPIRE
WELCOME... AND OUR CONDOLENCES
THE OUTRAGEOUS SOPHIE TUCKER
THE JEWISH CARDINAL
THE ZIG ZAG KID
CUPCAKES
24 DAYS

Tickets: \$12 | Students & Seniors: \$10

AJFF Gala Party: \$15

We thank the Atlantic Jewish Council for its support of Jewish cinema and for giving a voice to our shared story of promise, leadership, hope, loyalty, dedication, courage, ambition, tradition, innovation, history and passion.



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Executive VP & CEO Yona Gazit

Executive Director, Ottawa & Atlantic Canada Marcia Cantor

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#### WELCOME TO THE AJFF – THE ATLANTIC JEWISH FILM FESTIVAL

Please join us from November 13<sup>th</sup> to 16<sup>th</sup> in celebrating Jewish culture through film. **But... you don't have to be Jewish** to enjoy and appreciate these films. They cover many topics of interest to a broad range of people, no matter what your faith or background.

And, don't forget, you're also invited to the GALA PARTY, Saturday evening November 15th.

#### WHO WE ARE AND WHAT WE DO

The mission of the Atlantic Jewish Film Festival (AJFF) is to provide an opportunity for the public to experience the Jewish world through film. It is presented by the Atlantic Jewish Council, a registered not-for-profit society in Nova Scotia.

Our committee of dedicated volunteers has spent many months searching out the best of the current Jewish-themed films from around the world to entertain and engage you. These include comedies, dramas and documentaries.

The AJFF supports cultural diversity by promoting learning for people of all ages through these films. We have invited knowledgeable guests to lead Q and A sessions after some of the films. We invite you to participate.

#### JEWISH FILM FESTIVALS AROUND NORTH AMERICA

Throughout North America and around the world, film festivals are a popular form of Jewish expression. Starting with the San Francisco Jewish Film Festival and spreading to cities around the United States and Canada, Jewish film festivals have been engaging diverse audiences in inter-faith dialogue, celebrating diversity and building bridges to better understanding.

#### Hope to see you there!

#### AJFF COMMITTEE

Rosalind Belitsky | Anna Epshtein | Marcie-Ann Gilsig Jon Goldberg | Edna LeVine | Lynn Rotin | Peggy Walt



#### PREMIER'S MESSAGE

On behalf of the Province of Nova Scotia, I am pleased to extend a warm welcome to the Atlantic Jewish Film Festival.

From the opening night to the closing film, moviegoers will be entertained. The selection of films is a showcase of exceptional talent, with just the right blend of engaging and progressive films, including comedies, dramas and documentaries to inspire all of us.



Thanks to the Atlantic Jewish Film Festival, we will all have a greater understanding of the Jewish experience through film.

Our government is committed to encouraging artistic innovation and creativity, and we're proud to support initiatives that give Nova Scotians access to a variety of artistic experiences.

I would like to congratulate the organizers and all those involved with the Atlantic Jewish Film Festival.

Sincerely,

Honourable Stephen McNeil, M.L.A.

teple mc Nil

Premier





#### **GREETINGS FROM THE MAYOR**

As Mayor of Halifax, I am delighted to extend warm greetings and a special welcome to everyone attending the 2014 Atlantic Jewish Film Festival.

We have a rich and vibrant arts and culture community here in Halifax. The Atlantic Jewish Film Festival will engage audiences with its celebration of heritage, culture, and diversity of our people by fostering awareness, understanding and appreciation diversity brings to our communities.



I want to acknowledge, with gratitude, the Atlantic Jewish Council, Festival organizers, sponsors and volunteers for making this cinematic experience a success.

We are all made richer by the gifts that are shared on screens large and small. Whether you're an artist, visitor, or resident, you are sure to enjoy the celebration as you experience the Jewish world through film.

Kindest regards,
Mille Swage

Mike Savage

Mayor





#### MINISTER'S MESSAGE

On behalf of the Province of Nova Scotia, it is my pleasure to welcome you to the Atlantic Jewish Film Festival.

Whether you enjoy 'a night at the movies' or documentaries – or both – film is a powerful medium that educates and entertains us. It can impact the way we think, feel and behave.



The Atlantic Jewish Film Festival is the place to be to explore the Jewish experience through film from November 13-16. Moviegoers are sure to enjoy the four days of screenings, events, special presentations, and more.

The Province of Nova Scotia is pleased to be a supporter of the Atlantic Jewish Film Festival. We are dedicated to growing our film industry, as well as developing and promoting a strong overall cultural industry in the province.

I would like to extend my sincere thanks and congratulations to the festival organizers and volunteers for producing such a wonderful event.

Sincerely,

Tony Ince,

Minister of Communities, Culture and Heritage and the Minister of African Nova Scotian Affairs



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#### TICKET PRICES

Tickets: \$12 | Students & Seniors: \$10 | AJFF Gala Party: \$15

#### TICKETS ARE AVAILABLE

Online at ticketatlantic.com | Atlantic Superstore Ticket Outlets Purchase by Phone: 902-451-1221 | Toll free: 877-451-1221

Ticket Atlantic Box Office: Scotiabank Centre Carmichael & Duke Street entrances

Don't be disappointed... Purchase your tickets early!

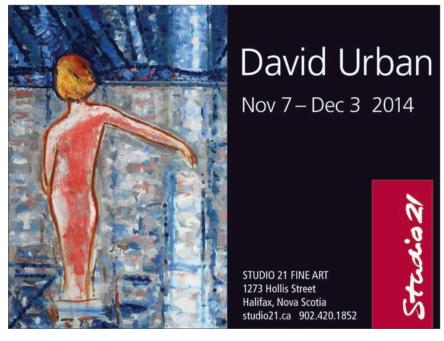
#### PARKING

Free Parking at the Museum of Natural History during AJFF screenings

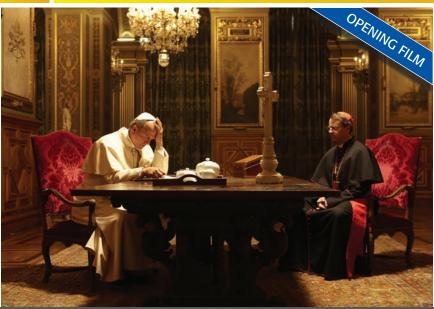
#### **VENUE ADDRESSES**

Cineplex Cinemas Park Lane: 5657 Spring Garden Road, Halifax, Nova Scotia Museum of Natural History: 1747 Summer Street, Halifax, Nova Scotia

Films, venues and times are subject to change. Updates available at AJFF.ca







THE JEWISH CARDINAL

French with English subtitles

**Director:** Ilan Duran Cohen

Producers: Ilan Duran Cohen, Joey Färé

Cast: Laurent Lucas, Aurelien Recoing, Audrey Dana

Writers: Ilan Duran Cohen, Chantal Derudder

Distributor: Film Movement

Country: France Year: 2013 Run Time: 90 minutes

The Jewish Cardinal tells the true story of Jean-Marie Lustiger, the son of Polish-Jewish immigrants, who maintained his cultural identity as a Jew even after converting to Catholicism at a young age, and later joining the priesthood. Lustiger rose quickly within the ranks of the church and was appointed Archbishop of Paris by Pope Jean Paul II. Here he finds a new platform to celebrate his dual identity as a Catholic Jew, gaining friends and enemies from both groups. When Carmelite nuns install a convent very close to Auschwitz, Lustiger finds himself a mediator between the two communities. Finally, he might have to choose sides.





Known as the "Last of the Red Hot Mamas," Sophie Tucker and her smokey voice worked through vaudeville, the first talking motion pictures, and eventually television. She inspired stars like Bette Midler and Judy Garland, and may be one of the most important names in jazz and blues you've never heard of. Before Mae West, Marilyn Monroe, Madonna and Lady Gaga, Sophie Tucker was the first woman to infatuate her audiences with her bold, bawdy and brassy style unlike any other previous performer.

#### THE OUTRAGEOUS SOPHIE TUCKER

Director: William Gazecki

Producers: Lloyd Ecker and Susan Ecker

**Featuring:** Barbara Walters, Carol Channing, Shecky Greene, Tony Bennett and Michael Feinstein, with cameos by Paul Anka, Chubby Checker, Brenda Lee, Mickey Rooney, Connie Stevens, and Mamie van Duren

Distributor: Menemsha Films

Country: USA Year: 2014 Run Time: 96 minutes

Born into an Orthodox Jewish family, Sophie wasn't what you would expect for a star. She wasn't exactly beautiful, but her voice, attitude and humour were enough to pack the house.

Producers Lloyd and Susan Ecker take us on a seven year journey retracing Tucker's 60 year show business career. Sophie Tucker died of a lung ailment and kidney failure on February 9, 1966, in New York at age 79. Tucker had continued working up until the months before her death, playing shows at the Latin Quarter just weeks before she died. She is buried in Emmanuel Cemetery in Wethersfield, Connecticut, her home state.





#### "How to Re-establish a Vodka Empire

is a meditation on loss and identity and a celebration of family and life itself, cleverly disguised as a screwball business adventure. This film is so special to me as it has allowed me to explore my family's rich history and discover beautiful and tragic stories I could never have guessed were just below the surface. It's a very personal story of me and my grandmother Maroussia Zorokovich, but I do hope it will speak to audiences in a universal way."

- Dan Edelstyn, Director

#### HOW TO RE-ESTABLISH A VODKA EMPIRE

**Director:** Daniel Edelstyn

**Producers:** Daniel Edelstyn, Christopher Hird, Hilary Powell

Cast: Anthony Styles, Conrad Asquith, Dan Edelstyn,

Hilary Powell

Writer: Daniel Edelstyn

Distributors: The National Center for Jewish Film, Brandeis University

Country: UK Year: 2012 Run Time: 75 minutes

British filmmaker Daniel Edelstyn became mildly obsessed after discovering his grandmother's journals in the attic of his family home. Maroussia Zorokovich, born into a wealthy Ukrainian family, was a budding writer before the 1917 Bolshevik Revolution rewrote her destiny and sent her into exile. When Edelstyn travels to the Ukraine in search of his roots and discovers that the vodka distillery opened by his great grandfather in 1904 is still in operation, he decides – despite his lack of business experience – to become a liquor entrepreneur and import the vodka to the UK. This funny, charming documentary employs an ambitious mixture of vérité cinematography and inventive animated sequences created by and starring the artist Hilary Powell (director Edelstyn's wife).

British filmmaker Dan Edelstyn will be in attendance

## 2014 Atlantic Jewish Film Festival SCIENTIFE SCIENTIFE ACTURE 1 Transport of the content of





The Jewish Cardinal



The Outrageous Sophie Tucker



How to Re-establish a Vodka Empire

AJFF GALA PARTY - Museum of Natural History



The Zig Zag Kid

English Subtitles



Welcome... and our Condolences

Russian with English Subtitles

FOLLOWED BY

**Cupcakes** 

Hebrew with English Subtitles



**CLOSING FILM**24 Days

French with English Subtitles



#### November 13-16, 2014 • Halifax, Nova Scotia

Tickets: \$12 | Students & Seniors: \$10 | AJFF Gala Party: \$15

Tickets available at Ticket Atlantic (page 8 for details)

Date: Thursday, November 13, 2014

Time: 7:00 pm

Location: Cineplex Cinemas Park Lane

Address: 5657 Spring Garden Road

Date: Friday, November 14, 2014

**Time:** 1:00 pm

Location: Museum of Natural History

Address: 1747 Summer Street

Date: Saturday, November 15, 2014

**Time:** 6:00 pm

**Location:** Museum of Natural History

Address: 1747 Summer Street

**Director:** Ilan Duran Cohen

**Country:** France

Run Time: 90 minutes

More Information: See page 9

Director: William Gazecki

Country: USA

Run Time: 96 minutes

More Information: See page 10

**Director:** Daniel Edelstyn

Country: UK

Run Time: 75 minutes

More Information: See page 11

#### AJFF GALA PARTY - 9:00 PM to 1:00 AM - See page 14

Date: Sunday, November 16, 2014

**Time:** 1:00 pm

Location: Museum of Natural History

Address: 1747 Summer Street

**Director:** Vincent Bal

Country: Belgium/Netherlands

Run Time: 95 minutes

More Information: See page 15

#### **DOUBLE FEATURE**

Date: Sunday, November 16, 2014

**Time:** 3:00 pm

**Location:** Museum of Natural History

Address: 1747 Summer Street

WELCOME... AND OUR CONDOLENCES

**Director:** Leon Prudovsky

Country: Israel

Run Time: 26 minutes

**CUPCAKES** 

**Director:** Eytan Fox **Country:** France

Run Time: 100 minutes

More Information: See pages 16-17

Date: Sunday, November 16, 2014

Time: 7:30 pm

Location: Cineplex Cinemas Park Lane

Address: 5657 Spring Garden Road

**Director:** Alexandre Arcady

Country: France

Run Time: 110 minutes

More Information: See page 19

# A) File of the second s

at the Museum of Natural History following the screening of

#### HOW TO RE-ESTABLISH A VODKA EMPIRE

9:00 pm to 1:00 am 1747 Summer Street Halifax, Nova Scotia

Taste Zorokovich 1917 Vodka with British filmmaker & vodka entrepreneur Dan Edelstyn!

Free parking | Food and music

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A witty, spirited and action-packed adventure about an almost-thirteenyear-old boy named Nono, his world of confusions, fears and fantasies...

Based on the beloved novel by Israeli author David Grossman, the **Zig Zag Kid** uses wit and humour to explore the most fundamental questions of good and evil and to speak directly to adults and teenagers.

#### THE ZIG ZAG KID

English subtitles

**Director:** Vincent Bal

Producers: BosBros, N279 Entertainment

Cast: Isabella Rossellini, Burghart Klaussner, Camille de Pazzis, Edja van Huêt,

Jessica Zeylmaker, and Thomas Simon as Nono

Writer: Adapted from David Grossman's novel "The Zigzag Kid"

Distributor: Menemsha Films

Country: Belgium/Netherlands Year: 2012 Run Time: 95 minutes

Nono longs to be a good detective like his father, a famous police inspector, but his wild nature constantly gets him into trouble. Gaby, his father's secretary, cherishes Nono and recognizes his anguish which comes from his lack of knowledge about his mother who died when he was very young. Two days before his Bar Mitzvah he is sent off to his uncle's home to be disciplined yet again. Once on the train, the over-imaginative boy discovers one last chance to prove himself. Together with international thief Felix Glick, an old acquaintance of his father's, he travels to the French Riviera and enters a world of disguises and crazy pursuits, crossing paths with the famous singer Lola Ciperola (played by Isabelle Rosellini) and Zohara, a mysterious woman whose secrets will forever change Nono's life.





WELCOME... AND OUR CONDOLENCES Russian with English subtitles

**Director:** Leon Prudovsky

**Producers:** Haim Mecklberg and Estee Yacov-Mecklberg Cast: Gera Sandler, Ola Schur-Selektar, Irit Kaplan, Eigal Adika

Writer: Leon Prudovsky

Genre: Comedy/Mockumentary Distributor: Hedva Goldschmidt

Country: Israel Year: 2012 Run Time: 26 minutes

The year is 1991. The beginning of the massive Jewish immigration wave from the USSR to Israel. Twelve year old Misha is documenting his family's journey on a home-video camera. The already traumatic immigration experience is enhanced to absurd proportions when the family's old aunt dies on the plane just before they reach the land of their ancestors. Now, the family will have to go through various levels of bureaucracy with an immigrating corpse.



When the night of the Universong final rolls around, they gather to watch and are depressed by the lifelessness of the Israeli entry, a parody of many recent offerings, a flashy, grating song about "amour." After they realize that Anat is distraught over the crisis in her marriage, they compose a song to cheer her up. As a lark, Ofer enters their cellphone video of it in next year's contest, and it becomes Israel's entry.



#### **CUPCAKES**

Hebrew with English subtitles

**Director:** Eytan Fox

Producers: Marco Cherqui, Lauranne Bourrachot, Guy Hameiri, Eitan Abot,

Edery Moshe, Edery Leon, Gal Uchovsky, Yoav Roeh

Cast: Anat Waxman, Keren Berger, Ofer Shechter, Efrat Dor, Yael Bar-Zohar,

Dana Ivgi, Édouard Baer

Writers: Eli Bijaoui and Eytan Fox

**Production Companies:** Chic Films, Abot Hameiri + United King Films + Keshet

Country: France Year: 2013 Run Time: 100 minutes

A group of friends in a Tel Aviv suburb get together to watch Universong, a Eurovision-like television song contest. They'd all like to forget the stress of their daily lives. Yael is a former beauty queen who is unfulfilled by her job as a corporate lawyer; Dana is a stressed-out aide to a cabinet minister and timidly tries to please her traditional father; Anat, has a successful bakery but an unsuccessful marriage; Keren is a shy blogger; Efrat is a frustrated singer-songwriter whose career has stalled; and Ofer is a nursery-school teacher who is upset that his boyfriend, a spokes-model for his family's famous brand of hummus, is still in the closet and won't publicly acknowledge their romance.





SHAAR SHALOM PROUDLY SUPPORTS AJFF 2014
AND CONGRATULATES ITS ORGANIZERS

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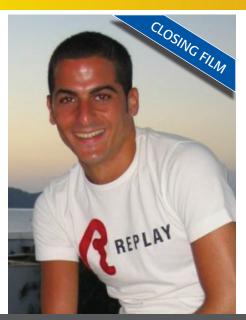
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January 20, 2006. After Friday night dinner with his family, 23 year old llan Halimi called an attractive girl he had met at work and made plans to meet her for coffee. The next time his family heard from him it was through a cryptic on-line message from kidnappers demanding a ransom in exchange for their son's life.



#### 24 DAYS

French with English subtitles

**Director:** Alexandre Arcady

Producers: Alexandre Films, Orange Studios, New Light Films

Cast: Zabou Breitman, Pascal Elbé, Jacques Gamblin, Sylvie Testud, Éric Caravaca

Writers: Émile Freché, Antoine Lacomble, Alexandre Arcady

Based on the novel by Ruth Halimi

Distributor: Menemsha Films

Country: France Year: 2014 Run Time: 110 minutes

French director Alexandre Arcady delivers one of the most "wrenching and politically astute" films to come out of France over the past year (Screen Daily). Based on a book co-written by the victim's mother, Ruth Halimi, Arcady's cinematic adaptation offers a vicious circle of dangerously realistic events: from the kidnapping and torture of Ilan Halimi at the hands of the Gang of Barbarians, to the 600-plus phone calls, insults, and threats received by the family, through the Parisian police's incompetence and failure to recognize what was clearly an antisemitic crime.



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