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FLICKERS PARTNERS WITH ROGER WILLIAMS UNIVERSITY TO PRESENT THE RABBI MARC JAGOLINZER FILM/SPEAKER SERIES ON THE JEWISH EXPERIENCE

FREE PROGRAM SPONSORED BY THE HELENE AND BERTRAM BERNHARDT FOUNDATION

BRISTOL, RI (October 20, 2019) – The Flickers' Rhode Island International Film Festival has partnered with Roger Williams University (RWU), to present its Fall-edition of the annual Roving Eye International Film Festival, named after the late Rabbi Marc Jagolinzer.

The popular and acclaimed festival celebrating global cinema and artists, announces its 2019 sidebar program on the Jewish Experience through short films, documentary, media and guest speakers. The event takes place **November 5, 6, & 10th**.

This year's series explores representations of the Jewish experience in Israel, across the globe and the Holocaust through 10 recent films and is entitled: "**ARTS AND CULTURE: SHAPING THE FUTURE**, **REFLECTING THE PAST.**" The series includes a talk by the **Rev. Nancy Hamlin Soukup**, University Multifaith Chaplain, RWU. All programming will take place on the Bristol, RI, campus of Roger Williams University at the Global Heritage Hall, Room 01.

The series is free and open to the public.

"The annual **Rabbi Marc Jagolinzer Series** tells the stories of the Jewish experience globally through film and scholarship. These are stories of joy, sorrow, faith, a rich culture, diasporas, fear and ultimately, hope," said the Rev. Nancy Hamlin Soukup, RWU University Multifaith Chaplain co-organizer of the event with Flickers.

The Fall Jewish Experience sidebar of the Roving Eye Festival is presented in partnership with Flickers' Rhode Island International Film Festival, the Helene and Bertram Bernhardt Foundation, the RWU School of Humanities, Arts and Education, Dean Cynthia Scheinberg, RWU Department of Communication, Graphic Design and Web Development, Dr. Robert Cole, Department Chair, the RWU Hawk's Herald, WQRI, RWU Hillel, and the Spiritual Life Office.

THIS YEAR'S SCHEDULE:

<u>Tuesday, November 5, 2019</u> 6:00 p.m. HOW WE SEE OURSELVES... Documentary and Narrative Film Screenings with Director's Discussion Hosted by the **Rev. Nancy H. Soukup**, RWU Multifaith Chaplain WRITE ME | Directed by: Pearl Gluck | 7 min. United States, 2019

Write Me, a poetry film, follows an older woman who joins other survivors in reclaiming the histories tattooed on their bodies. The film is adapted from and driven by an award-winning poem, "After Auschwitz," written by Deborah Kahan Kolb.

SHEHITA | Directed by: Dean Gold | 26 min. Canada, 2018

A Yiddish-speaking Jewish community in Quebec begins to unravel after a horrific discovery stirs up demons from the past. Tensions rise between a young farm owner, a kosher inspector, and a rabbi who must make a grave decision before the eve of Shabbat closes in.

REFUGE | Directed by: Sara Logan Hofstein | 22 min. Austria, 2018

After her recent move to Vienna as a negotiator with the IAEA, Rachel is overcome by the inherited trauma of her family's Holocaust past when her life unintentionally intersects with a displaced Syrian refugee family. With guidance from a former refugee, she searches for understanding which could alter her life and destiny.

THE OUTER CIRCLE | Directed by: Adam Baroukh | 12 min. United Kingdom, 2019

The Outer Circle is a portrait of four generations of the Fattals as they gather for their annual feast in Mama's house on Rosh Hashanah. The story takes place in Regents Park townhouse furnished in gilded tissue-box covers, ivory statuettes, marble fruit decorations, and enough Persian rugs to stock a small vendor. Midway through a gruelling Orthodox conversion, Daniel and his fiancée Katherine are eager to gain the blessing of his intimidatingly large and loud Iraqi Jewish family.

AMERICA (FORMERLY GOLDEN STATE) | Directed by: Jonathan Avigdori and Rani Sa'ar | 32 min. USA, 2018

A comedy about a group of Israelis who come to the United States in order to pursue the 'American dream' and the ongoing challenges that each one of them must face while trying to manifest such dreams.

<u>Wednesday, November 6, 2019</u> 6:00 p.m. <u>MEMORIES NEVER DIE</u> Documentary and Narrative Film Screenings with Director's Discussion

LILY | Directed by: Adrienne Grubien | 26 min. | USA, 2019

Artist, fugitive, trailblazer...the incredible true story of Lily Renée, who escaped Nazi-occupied Vienna as a teenager, and went on to become one of the true pioneers during the Golden Age of comics.

MOON DROPS | Directed by: Yoram Ever-Hadani | 16 min. Israel, Serbia/Montenegro, 2018 A factory worker assembles an enigmatic machine that produces liquid drops from the moonlight.

SUSTAINABLE NATION | Directed by: Micah Smith | 60 min. India, Israel, USA, Uganda, 2019 Sustainable Nation, an hour-long documentary from Imagination Productions, follows three individuals working to bring sustainable water solutions to an increasingly thirsty planet.

Using solutions developed in water-poor Israel, they are working to change the status quo of a world where one in 10 people lacks access to safe drinking water.

Sunday, November 10, 2019

2:00 p.m. THE STORIES WE TELL. THE STORIES WE SHARE Documentary and Narrative Film Screenings with Director's Discussion **CHILDREN OF THE INQUISITION** | Directed by: Joseph Lovett | 124 min. Brazil, Spain, United States, 2018

Children of the Inquisition is a two hour documentary film, immersive website, and educational outreach project that unearths 500 years of hidden history. The project looks at what happened to the families forced to convert to Catholicism or flee during the Spanish and Portuguese Inquisitions through the eyes of their contemporary descendants, many of whom are just discovering their often nuanced Jewish roots. Our storytellers uncover the connections between their families' journeys and this buried history. The discoveries of these flights to safety allow our characters access to a fuller understanding of how their lives were shaped by a perilous history.

After 6 years of shooting in 12 cities spanning 4 continents, Children of the Inquisition is more than just a film. It's an opportunity to better understand our complex world and identities.

Reception Follows at 4:15 p.m.

4:30 p.m. Global Heritage Hall, Room 01 THE STORIES WE TELL. THE STORIES WE SHARE – PART II

DAVE GRUSIN: NOT ENOUGH TIME | Directed by: Barbara Bentree | 98 min. United States, 2019 Millions of people all over the world love the music of Dave Grusin. "Dave Grusin: Not Enough Time," is a full-length documentary about the legendary award-winning music producer, composer and pianist. Grusin's work during his extensive six-decade career has resulted in some of the most moving and memorable music for iconic films and television shows including "Tootsie," "The Firm," "On Golden Pond," "The Fabulous Baker Boys," and "Three Days of the Condor" to name just a few. The film is being produced with the full participation from Dave Grusin and his family.

"Dave Grusin: Not Enough Time" explores Dave's meteoric rise from rural Colorado to being one of the most influential composers and arrangers of the last century. Of his eight Academy Award nominations he took home the Oscar for Best Original Score for "The Milagro Beanfield War." Grusin was also nominated for thirty-eight Grammys (winning 10) one Emmy award and four Golden Globe awards. He has partnered with an illustrious list of industry icons including Quincy Jones, Barbra Streisand, Warren Beatty, Steven Spielberg, Sydney Pollack, Robert Redford, Renee Fleming, James Taylor, Paul Simon, and many, many others.

GUEST SPEAKER

Rev. Nancy Hamlin Soukup, RWU Multifaith Chaplain.

The **Rev. Nancy Hamlin Soukup** is the University Multifaith Chaplain and Director of the Office of Spiritual Life at Roger Williams University. She has been working in campus ministry for over a decade, first at Brown University and now at RWU. Overall, Rev. Soukup has three decades of experience in higher education. Her areas of expertise include pastoral care, liturgy and worship, social justice, and both modern secular and religious history. Since coming to RWU, she has been responsible for the support of student spiritual care primarily but also offers the same to faculty, staff, and alumni. Furthermore, she seeks places where multifaith dialogue can be nurtured on campus. Rev. Soukup has a M.Div. from the Episcopal Divinity School and M.A. in modern European history from Boston College (human rights history). She will complete her D.Min. At Hartford Seminary, Writing About the role religious groups play in modern refugee crises.

For more information, contact the Spiritual Life Program at Roger Williams University, email <u>nsoukup@rwu.edu</u>. Directions to Roger Williams University can be found at <u>www.rwu.edu</u>

Location: Global Heritage Hall, Room 01 Roger Williams University, One Old Ferry Road, Bristol, RI Time: 2:00 and 4:30 p.m.

ABOUT ROGER WILLIAMS UNIVERSITY:

Roger Williams University is ranked by U.S. News & World Report as eighth among comprehensive colleges in the north. Roger Williams offers undergraduate and graduate programs in the arts and sciences, architecture, business, construction management, education, engineering, historic preservation, justice studies, legal studies, visual arts studies and law. For more information, go to: <u>www.rwu.edu</u>.

ABOUT THE RHODE ISLAND INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL:

The **Flickers' Rhode Island International Film Festival (RIIFF)**, has secured its place in the global community as the portal for the best in international independent cinema, earning the respect of domestic and foreign filmmakers, filmgoers and trend watchers. This confluence of art and commerce brought together world-class celebrities, award-winning filmmakers, new talent and audience members in record numbers last year. Ranked as one of the top 10 Festivals in the United States, RIIFF is a qualifying festival for the Live Action, Animation and Documentary Short Film Academy Awards through its affiliation with the Academy of Motion Picture Arts & Sciences, the British Academy of Film and Television Arts (BAFTA) and the Canadian Screen Awards. There are only 6 film festivals worldwide that share this distinction and RIIFF is the only festival in New England. The Festival takes place every August.

For more information about the Flickers' Rhode Island International Film Festival, running August 4-9, 2020 at The Vets, One Avenue of the Arts, Providence, RI. Please visit our website at www.RIFilmFest.org or call 401.861.4445.

Watch our series **"doubleFEATURE**," now in its fourth season on RI PBS, each Thursday night at 8:00 p.m.

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