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

FREE PROGRAM SPONSORED BY THE HELENE AND BERTRAM BERNHARDT FOUNDATION

(November 2, 2014) – 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. The popular and acclaimed festival celebrating global cinema and artists, announces its 2014 sidebar program on the Jewish Experience through short films, documentary, media and guest speakers. The event takes place **November 11, 12 & 16th**. This year's series explores representations of the Jewish experience in Israel, across the globe and the Holocaust through eight recent films. The series includes a talk by the **Rev. Nancy Hamlin Soukup**, University Multifaith Chaplain, RWU and a conversation with **Frank Eisinger**, one of the twelve émigrés whose experiences are profiled in the award-winning film "Emigration, N.Y. The Story of an Expulsion." All programming will take place on the Bristol, RI, campus of Roger Williams University. The series is free and open to the public!

"Through film and scholarship, this series tells the stories of the Jewish experience globally—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 Department of Communication, the RWU Feinstein College of Arts and Sciences, Dean Robert Eisinger, Associate Dean Roberta Adams, the RWU Film Production Club, RWU Hillel, and the Spiritual Life Office.*

THIS YEAR'S SCHEDULE:

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 11th:

FACING FORWARD WHILE LOOKING BACKWARD: THE JEWISH EXPERIENCE TODAY

Introduced by Adjunct Professor George T. Marshall and the Rev. Nancy Hamlin Soukup, RWU Multifaith Chaplain

Lunches With Mel | Directed by: Alex Beh | 6 min. | USA | 2014

By the time jazz violinist Aaron Weinstein came on the scene, jazz had been kicked to the curb of popular culture. So when legendary entertainment agent, Mel Howard offered to work with Aaron, the young violinist eagerly signed a long-term deal with the veteran agent. Unfortunately, Mel's golden touch has rusted with age.

Me Reencontrara's Dentro De Ti (You Will Find Me Within You) | Directed by: Eitan Pitigliani | 15 min. | Argentina, France, Italy | 2013

Pablo, an Argentinean, travels to Rome to find his grandfather, of whom he has only got a painting and a poem. During his stay in Rome he will discover his true origins.

No Love Lost | Directed by: Shekhar Bassi | 15 min. | United Kingdom | 2013

A Jewish boy, nurturing a secret romance with a Muslim girl despite the realities of their backgrounds, is unaware that he is being stalked. While the young lovers struggle to be open about their relationship, the stalker's obsession reveals a thought provoking turn culminating in the trio coming face to face. No Love Lost is an intriguing tale of love, obsession and unyielding prejudice.

SILENT | Directed by: Jaco Dukes | 9 min. | Chile, USA | 2013

During World War II, Josy was about to be executed by a Nazi soldier with a group of Jewish people, but he had the key for survival. Now, as an old man, he is tormented by the guilt of survival, and he must face his memory before leaving this world.

Location: Global Heritage Hall, Room GH01
Roger Williams University, One Old Ferry Road, Bristol, RI

Time: 6:00 p.m.

Cost: Free Admission

WEDNESDAY NOVEMBER 12th:

IMMUTABLE MEMORIES: The Jewish Experience And The Holocaust.

Introduced by the Rev. Nancy Hamlin Soukup, RWU Multifaith Chaplain

Complicit | Directed by: Michael Schwartz | 61 min. | USA | 2014

On September 24, 2012, at the direction of Secretary of State Hillary Clinton, Deputy Secretary William Burns, issued the first ever apology to the surviving passengers of the Jewish refugee ship, SS St Louis.

The St. Louis left the Hamburg, Germany on May 13, 1939, bound for Havana, Cuba, and seeking refuge from Nazi tyranny. Upon arriving in Havana in late May 1939, the passengers were refused entry into Cuba. The captain of the luxury liner, Gustav Schroeder, turned northward and steered the vessel to within sight of the Miami coastline where he and the passengers formally pleaded with President Franklin D. Roosevelt and the State Department to grant them safe harbor and freedom from the Nazi web of terror. The US refused and the ship was forced to return to Europe where many of the passengers perished in the Auschwitz death camp. The story became a symbol of America and Canada's indifference to the plight of the Jews suffering under Hitler. The documentary explores the political backstory of why Roosevelt and Secretary of State Cordell Hull refused to grant safe harbor to the passengers thus giving them a death sentence when they returned to Europe. The documentary incorporates segments of the State Department ceremony including scenes from The Trial of Franklin D. Roosevelt. The film also includes archival footage of the ship's voyage as well as never before seen interviews with the surviving passengers of the SS St Louis and an exclusive interview with Ambassador Stuart Eizenstat.

Featuring a discussion with **Rev. Soukup**, who has studied the Holocaust as part of her research on religious and refugee movements from 1939 to 1951. Currently, she is completing her study about the Unitarian Service Committee's work in Europe as a refugee and rescue organization working as war commences and later as one of many religious and secular relief organizations throughout Europe after the war. Its founders, the Rev. Waitstill Sharp and Martha Sharp, are only two of three Americans honored among Yad Vashem's Righteous Among the Nations for saving Jews from the Nazi regime. Rev. Soukup holds an M.A. in human rights history from Boston College and is completing her Doctorate of Ministry at Andover Newton Theological School.

Location: Architecture 132
Roger Williams University, One Old Ferry Road, Bristol, RI

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Time: 6:00 p.m.
Cost: Free Admission

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 16th:

FORWARD MOVEMENTS: TRANSCENDING BOUNDARIES

Introduced by Dean Robert Eisinger, Feinstein College of Arts and Sciences, Roger Williams University with the Rev. Nancy Hamlin Soukup, University Multifaith Chaplain

Emigration, N.Y. The Story of an Expulsion ('Die Geschichte einer Vertreibung') | Directed by: Egon Humer | 177 min. | Austria | 1995 | Language: German, w/Eng. Subtitles
When Hitler's infamous "Anschluss" annexed Austria to Germany in 1938, the lives of 130,000 Jewish Austrians were placed at risk. Over the next three years, some 30,000 managed to emigrate to the United States, settling mainly in New York City. In Austrian filmmaker Egon Humer's brilliant and moving documentary EMIGRATION N.Y., twelve Viennese Jews -- seven women, five men -- recount their lives as children in Austria, as emigrants, and as New Yorkers.

Featuring a conversation with **Frank Eisinger**, one of the twelve émigrés whose experiences are profiled in the film.

Plus the 2014 RIFF Grand Prize Award Winner:

Mein letztes Konzert (My Last Concert) | Directed by: Selcuk Zvi Cara | 15 min. | Germany | 2014

During this short film, the protagonist ponders, "my last concert in the town I was born. My last concert in the town where a part of me died. My last concert in the town where I am hoping to find my inner peace."

Location: Global Heritage Hall, Room GH01
Roger Williams University, One Old Ferry Road, Bristol, RI
Time: 1:00 p.m.
Cost: Free Admission

A Reception Sponsored by RWU Spiritual Life Office will take place during the intermission.

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

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: www.rwu.edu.

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 also a qualifying festival for the Short Film Academy Award through its affiliation with the Academy of Motion Picture Arts & Sciences. There are 19 film festivals worldwide which share this distinction and RIIFF is the only festival in New England. The Festival takes place every August. For more information about RIIFF, please visit www.rifilmfest.org.

For more information about the **FLICKERS: Rhode Island International Film Festival**, running **August 4-9, 2015** at **The Vets** (formerly Veterans Memorial Auditorium), please visit our website at www.RIFilmFest.org or call **401.861.4445**.

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