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PHOTOS AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST:

MEDIA ALERT:

FLICKERS PARTNERS WITH ROGER WILLIAMS UNIVERSITY TO PRESENT THE ANNUAL RABBI MARC JAGOLINZER JEWISH EXPERIENCE SERIES VIRTUAL PROGRAM SPONSORED BY THE HELENE AND BERTRAM BERNHARDT FOUNDATION

WHAT: The Annual **Rabbi Marc Jagolinzer Jewish Experience Series** at the **15th Annual Roving Eye International Film Festival**

WHEN: November 30-December 6, 2020

WHERE: A Virtual Program, <https://prog.tsharp.xyz/en/riiff/10> or www.rifilmfest.org

WHO: Flickers' Rhode Island International Film Festival (RIIFF) and Roger Williams University (RWU)

HOW MUCH: This is a Free Online Event

WHY: To Celebrate The Jewish Experience Through The Art of International Filmmaking.

Roger Williams University (RWU) has partnered with the **Flickers' Rhode Island International Film Festival (RIIFF)** to present its Fall-edition of the bi-annual **Roving Eye International Film Festival**. The popular and acclaimed Festival celebrating global cinema and artists, announces its 2020 Fall sidebar program, the **Rabbi Marc Jagolinzer Jewish Experience Series** through short films, documentary, media and guest speakers. This year's Jewish Experience theme is "**ARTS AND CULTURE: Shaping The Future, Reflecting, The Past,**" and is presented by a grant from the **Helene And Bertram Bernhardt Foundation**.

The event takes place virtually **November 30-December 6th**. This year's programming explores representations of the Jewish experience in Israel, across the globe and the Holocaust through **18 premiere films**. George T. Marshall, Adjunct Professor of Communications and Film Studies at Roger Williams University and Shawn Quirk, Program Director at Flickers organized the series. The program will include conversations with **Andy Smith**, writer/journalist; **Steven Feinberg**, executive director of the Rhode Island Film/TV Office; **Andrew Lund**, director of the Integrated Media Arts - MFA Program at Hunter College; and **Rachel Goldberg**, filmmaker/screenwriter. *The virtual series is free and open to the public!*

The programming for the **Fall 2020 Rabbi Marc Jagolinzer Jewish Experience Series** can be found at this URL: <https://prog.tsharp.xyz/en/riiff/10>

"In showcasing these dynamic films, this series tells the stories of the Jewish experience globally, creating a space for dialogue and discussion about the plethora of perspectives and identities

that define Jewish culture," said George T. Marshall.

The **Fall 2020 Jewish Experience** sidebar of the Roving Eye International Film Festival is Presented in partnership with *Flickers' Rhode Island International Film Festival*, Helene and Bertram Bernhardt Foundation, *the RWU Department of Communication, Graphic Design and Web Development*, Dean Jeffrey L. Meriwether, *RWU School of Humanities, Arts and Education*, the *RWU Film Production Collaborative* and *RWU Hillel*.

THIS YEAR'S SCHEDULE INCLUDES:

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 30, 2020

4:00 PM:

BEHIND THE CAMERA LENS: A CONVERSATION WITH...

Virtual Conversation/Facebook Live

Rachel Goldberg, Director "Welcome to Camelot," "American Horror Story"

Steven Feinberg, Executive Director, Rhode Island Film & Television Office

ABOUT OUR GUEST SPEAKERS:

Rachel Goldberg is an award-winning filmmaker who has directed more than 40 productions for stage and screen, garnering over 20 awards for her work. Her most recent directing credits include *AMERICAN GODS*, *MAYANS, MC*, *RAISING DION*, *AMERICAN HORROR STORY*, *THE SINNER*, *CLOAK & DAGGER*, and *VERONICA MARS*.

Steven Feinberg is the Executive Director of the Rhode Island Film & Television Office. He formerly spent 22 years in Los Angeles and worked with every major Hollywood studio as a writer, director and producer. Since 2004, in his capacity at the Film & TV Office, he shepherded over \$300 million of film and television production into the state, creating thousands of jobs for local talent, crew and small businesses.

6:00 PM:

HOW WE SEE OURSELVES | SHORT FILM SCREENING

GANEF | Mark Rosenblatt, director | 15 min. | United Kingdom, 2019.

London 1962. A little girl, spooked by a dark tale from her mother's wartime past, starts to imagine their beloved family cleaner is a thief. *GANEF* (Yiddish for 'thief') explores how trauma can be passed from one generation to the next.

CINDY | Shemer Gaon Baraba, director | 16 min. | Israel, 2019.

Navit (15), a young dairy farmer in a village at the south of Israel, drives together with her dad Victor to sell their cow Cindy to an Arab meat dealer. While Navit is convinced that her dad thinks she is a pro dairy farmer and knows Cindy the best, she realizes he uses her in a different way.

BUTTERFLIES | Yona Rozenkier, director | 8 min. | Israel, 2019.

Everyone will have a moment when they realize one of their dear ones is about to die. It can happen anywhere. I was lucky enough it happened in the middle of a rare butterfly's migration, surrounding us while driving to the hospital. I will never forget how we stood in the middle of thousands of butterflies my father couldn't see. *Butterflies* is about a moment, a brief and beautiful moment of great sadness.

48 HOURS WITH DAD | Gal Dor, director | 43 min. | Israel, 2019.

Director Gal Dor's father is in prison. He sometimes receives a 48-hour furlough, quarantined in a small apartment and under her court-ordered supervision. Gal fears she might end up as her dad and decides to use "imprisonments" to learn how to avoid it. With the usage of archived videos, their past and current lives are revealed as the camera documents their relationship's development.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 1, 2020

6:00 p.m.

MEMORIES NEVER DIE

Documentary and Narrative Film Screenings

ALINA | Directed by: Rami Kodeih | 25 min. United States, 2019

As Nazis separate children from their parents in the Warsaw Ghetto, a gang of women risks everything to smuggle their friend's three-month-old baby to safety. Inspired by true events. Starring Alia Shawkat ("Arrested Development," "Search Party"), Edin Gali ("Mad Men"), Rebeca Robles ("Better Things"), Erika Soto ("Vida"), and Mark McCullough ("Logan Lucky").

THE LESSON | Directed by: Elena Horn | 60 min. Germany, 2019

The Lesson' follows four children through their experience of learning about the Holocaust in a German state school. Filmed over five years during 2014-2019, the film touches upon important social and political issues including the resurgence of the far-right, xenophobia, the fractured, disparate collective memory of National Socialism and the surprising lack of intimate knowledge of the younger generations on the subject.

Wednesday, December 2, 2020

6:00 p.m.

THE WORLD WE LIVE IN...

Documentary and Narrative Film Screenings

JOAN ON HER OWN | Directed by: Sherise Dorf | 8 min. United States, 2019

A nice Jewish girl's effort to stop her beloved brother from marrying the wrong person backfires when he dumps her instead.

UNDERCOVERED | Directed by Alexandra Geller | 10 min. United States, 2019

Two suburban kids stumble into an uncomfortable confrontation – and a biology lesson – under the cloak of the woods.

GIVE IT BACK | Directed by Ruchama Ehrenhalt | 14 min. Israel,

Olivia just moved to Israel from New York. Throughout her first day of school in the 6th grade she tries to survive, navigating through the new country she just landed in, her new school and new peers, unsure where she will end up at the end of the day.

THE TATTOOED TORAH | Directed by: Marc Bennett | 21 min. United States, 2019

An animated film based on the renowned children's book that has been educating young children about the Holocaust for generations.

Thursday, December 3, 2020

6:00 p.m.

TRANSFORMATIVE PORTRAITS

Documentary Film Screenings

6:00 p.m.

BURKA FIL MISHMISH | Directed by Tal Michael | 74 min. Israel, 2019.

The rise and fall of the Frenkel brothers, pioneers of Animation in Egypt and creators of Mish-Mish Effendi, the "Mickey Mouse" of the Arab world.

Friday, December 4, 2020

12:00 NOON

DEFINING MOMENTS

Documentary and Narrative Film Screenings

MOTHER OF | Directed by: Gan | 10 min. Israel, 2018

A mother discovers that something happened to her daughter, instantly her whole being becomes mother of.

DIY: A GUIDE FOR KILLING IT | Directed by: Shaool Levy | 6 min. Israel, 2019

Shmulik is the kind of guy who would sell you out for a dime. But he is not to blame, it's society, the government, and the universe's fault, as a matter of fact, he is the victim here! Shmulik lives inside a guidebook for the average dodger. Living through a typical Israeli life, from circumcision to military service and the imperative trip to India. He loses his naiveté' along the way and resolves to act, never again will he be caught with his pants down.

GENTLE | Directed by: Josh Green | 9 min. United Kingdom, 2020

When repressed Jewish matriarch CAROL invites her son ALEX and his non-Jewish girlfriend AMY over for Friday Night Dinner, she has no intention of allowing the relationship to continue. As the evening progresses, Carol's patience is pushed to its limits as she does battle with her remarkably polite intruder.

THE LIGHTNING MAN | Directed by: Jonathan Goetzman | 19 min. United States, 2019

The Lightning Man explores the story of Rafi Cohen in 1973 Los Angeles, who struggles to come to terms with the closing of his barbershop. A barber-sonderkommando in the Treblinka death camp, Cohen deals with the guilt of being a survivor. The temple persistently reaches out to Rafi to join the Jewish community but his battle with God and his guilt keep him away. Through the temple's efforts and the passion of one young boy, Rafi is able to see the importance in his voice for not only the survival of the Jewish people but to embrace his identity.

WHITE EYE | Directed by Tomer Shushan | 21 min. Israel, 2019.

A man finds his stolen bicycle and it now belongs to a stranger. In his attempts to retrieve the bicycle, he struggles to remain human.

2:15 p.m.:

BEHIND THE CAMERA LENS: A CONVERSATION WITH...

Virtual Conversation/Facebook Live

Andy Smith, Arts Writer, Providence Journal

ABOUT OUR GUEST SPEAKER:

Andy Smith is a freelance journalist/entertainment writer who has worked for 30 years in the Providence Journal feature department. In addition, his writing has appeared in *The Daily Mirror*, *The Washington Post*, and *The Boston Globe*.

Sunday, December 6, 2020

2:00 p.m.

THE STORIES WE TELL. THE STORIES WE SHARE

Documentary and Narrative Film Screenings

MY TWO LIVES, CREATIVE RESPONSE TO THE HOLOCAUST | Directed by: Sarita Gold | 11 min.

Australia, 2019

Lotte Weiss is a Holocaust survivor. She has never forgotten the horrors of her three years of internment at Auschwitz and Birkenau. Yet it is her immense life force that propelled her through the torture and devastation enveloping her. Her inherent integrity and morality remained steadfast. It was her capacity for goodness, kindness, forgiveness and love which never faltered throughout the misery and beatings she endured, to give her the strength and the will for survival. This is her story interpreted by artist Thea.

CODE NAME: AYALON | Directed by Michael Lopatin | 70 min. Israel, 2019.

The untold story of Jewish teens who against all odds changed the course of Middle East history.

4:00 p.m.

BEHIND THE CAMERA LENS: A CONVERSATION WITH...

Virtual Conversation/Facebook Live

Andrew Lund, Professor Film Studies, Hunter College

ABOUT OUR GUEST SPEAKER:

A narrative filmmaker and entertainment lawyer, **Andrew Lund** recently produced and co-edited the feature film *Brief Reunion*, which was distributed internationally on television, VOD, and digital outlets following theatrical exhibition in New York and LA, and a successful festival run, including the award for best narrative film from the University Film and Video Association (UFVA) and the audience award for best film at the Gotham International Film Festival. My Last Day Without You, on which Andrew served as a producer, was also recently released theatrically after winning top producing honors at the Brooklyn International Film Festival. Andrew is the Executive Producer of nine feature films that tackle social and political issues, including *The Hungry Ghosts*, written and directed by Michael Imperioli; *Vanaja*, named by Roger Ebert as one of the top five foreign films of 2007, and *Arranged*, an international hit that Variety called "a pure pleasure to watch." Andrew is currently producing and writing the screenplay for *Mocking Justice*, a narrative feature based on Vermont's 1970's culture wars.

To see a full listing of this year's programming and to learn more about the **Roving Eye International Film Festival**, go to: <http://www.film-festival.org/RovingEye.php>

ABOUT ROGER WILLIAMS UNIVERSITY:

Roger Williams University located in Bristol, R.I. is a leading independent, coeducational university with programs in the liberal arts and the professions, where students become community- and globally-minded citizens. With 42 academic majors, an array of co-curricular activities and study abroad opportunities on six continents, RWU is an open community dedicated to the success of students, commitment to a set of core values and providing a world-class education above all else. In the last decade, the University has achieved unprecedented successes including recognition as one of the best colleges in the nation by *Forbes*, a College of Distinction by Student Horizons, Inc. and as both a best college in the Northeast and one of the nation's greenest universities by *The Princeton Review*. For more information, go to: www.rwu.edu.

ABOUT FLICKERS' 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. Ranked as one of the top 10 Festivals in the United States, RIIFF is a qualifying festival for the Live Action, Documentary and Animation Short Academy Awards through its affiliation with the Academy of Motion Picture Arts & Sciences, the Canadian Screen Awards and the British Academy of Film and Television Arts (BAFTA). There are only 10 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, go to: www.rifilmfest.org

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