



THE DONALD M. EPHRAIM
SUN & STARS INTERNATIONAL
FILM FESTIVAL
Presented by
MORSELIFE

FEBRUARY 27 - MARCH 11, 2024





Welcome

On behalf of MorseLife Health System, I'd like to extend my personal welcome to each and every film lover who is about to discover all that the 2024 *Donald M. Ephraim Sun & Stars International Film Festival* has to offer. We're proud for the festival to take a place in the pantheon of significant cultural events in our greater West Palm Beach region and in South Palm Beach County. This festival is made possible by you; your keen interest, your curiosity and your sense of adventure. Please enjoy the film screenings, the personal appearances and the special events that make up our celebration of the best the film world has to offer.

Keith A. Myers

President and CEO

MorseLife Health System



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OPENING NIGHT

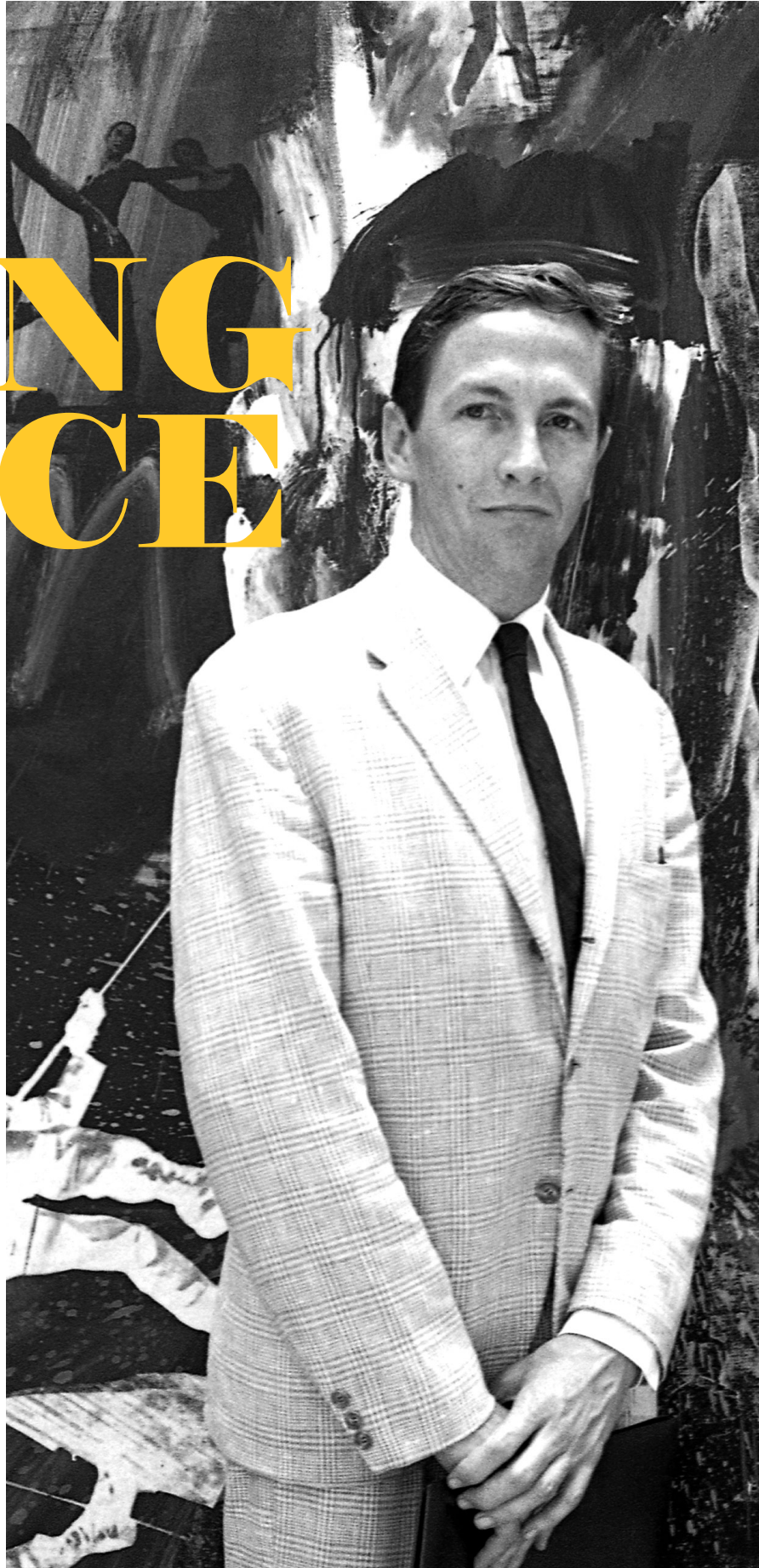


The Rinker Playhouse at the Kravis Center
Tuesday, February 27, 2024 | 7:30 PM

TAKING VENICE

An art heist like no other unfolds in this documentary that plays like a whodunit. The subject is not stolen paintings but a 1964 scheme by U.S. government officials, in league with powerful gallery owner Leo Castelli and curator Alan Solomon, to hijack the Grand Prize of the venerable Venice Biennale, considered the Olympics of the art world, and assure that it is awarded to an American for the first time ever. The favored artist, Robert Rauschenberg, known for “combine” paintings incorporating found objects and junk from the streets, is oblivious to the daring plot. Director Amei Wallach deftly sets the global scene - the Cold War; the Pop Art Movement; societal turmoil in the U.S.; and the cultural ambitions of the JFK administration. Amid the manipulation and the international controversy, the epicenter of the art world is about to shift from Paris to New York.

Amei Wallach, Director
USA, 2023, 98 minutes

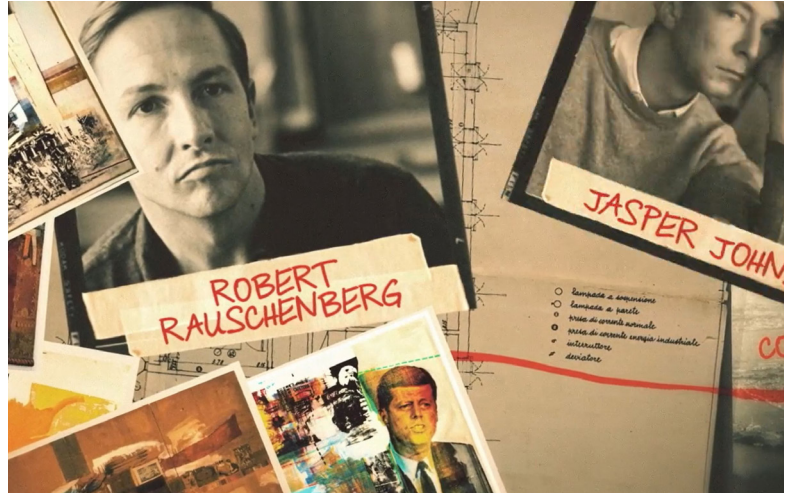


**Photo of Robert Rauschenberg*

“Maneuvers that could have come from a Hollywood thriller...skullduggery, but no smoking gun.”

-David D'Darcy, *The Art Newspaper*

Amei Wallach, Director
and Dr. Philip Rylands,
President and CEO of The Society
of the Four Arts will be present for
audience discussion!





CLOSING NIGHT



EVO Entertainment | Delray Marketplace
 (Formally Paragon Theaters)
Monday, March 11, 2024 | 7:00 PM

Director/actor Di Gregorio, known for gently comic arthouse hits including *THE SALT OF LIFE* and *MID-AUGUST LUNCH*, serves up sun-drenched provincial Italy as the backdrop to late-life romance. After being kicked out of his retirement pad in Rome, a dapper aging professor heads for the village he had long ago abandoned along with his inheritance, the ancestral castle. He discovers the crumbling place now the prized turf of a clutch of squatters, including an elderly chef, an unemployed handyman, and even the local priest. Settling in and achieving détente with his new housemates, the professor gets a jolt to the libido when he is introduced to a radiant and curvaceous local lady of a certain age (Italian cinema icon Stefania Sandrelli, acclaimed for films including Bernardo Bertolucci's *THE CONFORMIST* and comedies *DIVORCE ITALIAN STYLE* and *SEDUCED AND ABANDONED*). In Italian with English subtitles.

Gianni Di Gregorio, Director
 Italy/France, 2022, 97 minutes
 With Gianni Di Gregorio, Stefania Sandrelli



“A brilliant comedy with no shortage of hilarious scenes.”

-Davide Abbatescianni, Cineuropa



How To Fest



Ticket sales open **January 17, 2024**.
Easily purchase your tickets today.

THE RINKER PLAYHOUSE AT THE KRAVIS CENTER

Online Purchase

sasiff.org/tickets

Call The Box Office

561.832.7469

Visit The Box Office

Monday - Saturday
(12:00 - 5:00 PM)

EVO ENTERTAINMENT DELRAY MARKETPLACE (Formally Paragon Theaters)

Online Purchase

sasiff.org/tickets

Call The Festival Office

561.220.6735

Please note: Festival staff makes every effort to accommodate everyone that wishes to attend; early ordering is suggested to avoid disappointment. Films are generally not rated; parental discretion is advised. Films may be canceled or withdrawn without notice. If you need assistance, please contact us via email at info@sasiff.org or call 561.220.6735.



Film Festival Pricing

All ticket prices are per person and **NON-REFUNDABLE**.

Film Festival Office: 561-220-6735

TICKET

Opening Night

\$60.00

Cocktail reception with light bites and beverages 6:00 - 7:00 pm included with ticket price.

General Screening

\$13.00

Centerpiece Night

\$35.00

Snacks and soft drinks included with ticket price.

Closing Night

\$35.00

Light bites and soft drinks included at after party included with ticket price.

VENUE

The Rinker Playhouse
at the Kravis Center

Feb. 27 - Mar. 5, 2024

EVO Entertainment
in Delray Marketplace
(Formally Paragon Theaters)

Mar. 8 - 11, 2024

FOLLOW US





KRAVIS CENTER FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS

18

Screenings
February 27 - March 5

THE RINKER PLAYHOUSE AT THE KRAVIS CENTER




701 Okeechobee Blvd, West Palm Beach, FL 33401

THE RINKER PLAYHOUSE AT THE KRAVIS CENTER

<p>Tue Feb. 27</p>	<p>TAKING VENICE (98 Minutes + Q&A) ➔ OPENING NIGHT</p> <p>7:30 PM</p> 		
<p>Wed Feb. 28</p>	<p>MARTHA LIEBERMANN: A STOLEN LIFE (88 Minutes) 4:00 PM</p>	<p>SEVEN WINTERS IN TEHRAN (97 Minutes) 7:00 PM</p>	
<p>Thu Feb. 29</p>	<p>MARGUERITE'S THEOREM (112 Minutes) 4:00 PM</p>	<p>ALL ABOUT THE LEVKOVICHES (86 Minutes) 7:00 PM</p>	
<p>Fri Mar. 01</p>	<p>MY NAME IS ALFRED HITCHCOCK (120 Minutes + Q&A) 1:00 PM</p>	<p>TONI (96 Minutes) 4:00 PM</p>	<p>EGOIST (120 Minutes) 7:00 PM</p>
<p>Sat Mar. 02</p>	<p>JAMIE WYETH AND THE UNFLINCHING EYE (72 Minutes+ Tentative Q&A) 1:00 PM</p>	<p>VICTIMS OF SIN (84 Minutes) 4:00 PM</p>	<p>THE GOLDMAN CASE (115 Minutes) 7:00 PM</p>
<p>Sun Mar. 03</p>	<p>RABBI ON THE BLOCK (88 Minutes + Q&A) 1:00 PM</p>	<p>LIV ULLMANN: A ROAD LESS TRAVELED (135 Minutes) 4:00 PM</p>	<p>GOD & COUNTRY (95 Minutes) 7:00 PM</p>
<p>Mon Mar. 04</p>	<p>I LIKE IT HERE (88 Minutes) 4:00 PM</p>	<p>KIDNAPPED: THE ABDUCTION OF EDGARDO MORTARA (134 Minutes) 7:00 PM</p>	
<p>Tue Mar. 05</p>	<p>BECOMING GIULIA (100 Minutes) 4:00 PM</p>	<p>LESS THAN KOSHER (65 Minutes + Q&A) ➔</p> <p>7:00 PM</p>	<p>CENTERPIECE NIGHT</p> 


EVO ENTERTAINMENT DELRAY MARKETPLACE (Formally Paragon Theaters)

 14775 Lyons Road Delray Beach, FL 33446

 8 Screenings
March 8 - March 11



EVO ENTERTAINMENT DELRAY MARKETPLACE

<p>Fri Mar. 08</p>	<p>THE SHADOW OF THE DAY <i>(125 Minutes)</i> 4:00 PM</p>	<p>MY NAME IS ALFRED HITCHCOCK <i>(120 Minutes)</i> 7:00 PM</p>	
<p>Sat Mar. 09</p>	<p>INSHALLAH A BOY <i>(113 Minutes)</i> 1:00 PM</p>	<p>SMOKE SAUNA SISTERHOOD <i>(89 Minutes)</i> 4:00 PM</p>	<p>HUNDREDS OF BEAVERS <i>(108 Minutes)</i> 7:00 PM</p>
<p>Sun Mar. 10</p>	<p>GOLDEN YEARS <i>(100 Minutes)</i> 1:00 PM</p>	<p>THE FANTASTIC MACHINE <i>(88 Minutes)</i> 4:00 PM</p>	
<p>Mon Mar. 11</p>	<p>NEVER TOO LATE FOR LOVE <i>(97 Minutes)</i> 7:00 PM</p>	<p>➔ CLOSING NIGHT</p> 	





Palm Beach County Premiere

Documentary, Art-World Intrigue

TAKING VENICE

Director: Amei Wallach
USA, 2023, 98 minutes

An art heist like no other unfolds in this documentary that plays like a whodunit. The subject is not stolen paintings but a 1964 scheme by U.S. government officials, in league with powerful gallery owner Leo Castelli and curator Alan Solomon, to hijack the Grand Prize of the venerable Venice Biennale, considered the Olympics of the art world, and assure that it is awarded to an American for the first time ever. The favored artist, Robert Rauschenberg, known for “combine” paintings incorporating found objects and junk from the streets, is oblivious to the daring plot. Director Amei Wallach deftly sets the global scene - the Cold War; the Pop Art Movement; societal turmoil in the U.S.; and the cultural ambitions of the JFK administration. Amid the manipulation and the international controversy, the epicenter of the art world is about to shift from Paris to New York.

“Maneuvers that could have come from a Hollywood thriller...skullduggery, but no smoking gun.” -David D’Arcy, The Art Newspaper

Amei Wallach, Director and Dr. Philip Rylands, President and CEO of The Society of the Four Arts will be present for audience discussion.

OPENING NIGHT



The Rinker Playhouse at the Kravis Center
Tuesday, February 27, 2024 | 7:30 PM



West Palm Beach Premiere

Drama, Jewish, WWII, German

**MARTHA LIEBERMANN: A STOLEN LIFE
(MARTHA LIEBERMANN:
EIN GESTOHNENES LEBEN)**

Director: Stefan Bühling
Germany, 2022, 88 minutes
With Thekla Carola Weid, Lana Cooper

Celebrated Berlin artist Max Liebermann died in 1935, on the cusp of Germany’s savagely escalating persecution of its Jewish population. His death left his widow Martha heir to his exceedingly valuable body of work and vast art collection, and increasingly made her the vulnerable target of acquisitive Nazi greed. As tense and intrigue-filled as a thriller, this meticulously crafted drama of a strong-willed widow’s struggle against the coming threat presents a world of shadowy peril where every friend and associate must be viewed as a potential betrayer. Urged to flee the country with a resistance group, yet hesitant, she receives a suspect offer from a shady art expert and even comes to doubt the motives of her loyal housekeeper Luise. With deportation to a camp looming, Martha makes a decision of ultimate resistance. In German with English subtitles.



The Rinker Playhouse at the Kravis Center
Wednesday, February 28, 2024 | 4:00 PM



Florida Premiere

Documentary, Human Rights, Woman Directed

**SEVEN WINTERS IN TEHRAN
(SIEBEN WINTER IN TEHRAN)**

Director: Steffi Niederzoll
France/Germany, 2023, 97 minutes

In 2007, Reyhaneh Jabbari, a 19-year-old Tehran interior design student just launching her career is lured to the home of a prospective client where he attempts to rape her. In self-defense she reaches for a kitchen knife, and the would-be rapist dies of his injury. In the ancient convoluted system of justice that prevails in Iran under Sharia law, she is charged with murder and sentenced to hang. Tracing the remarkable story of Jabbari’s prison years as she becomes an international activist for women’s justice from behind bars, director Niederzoll assembles secret videos, chilling phone recordings, letters and live testimonies. Jabbari’s family desperately attempts to appeal for clemency, but the dead man’s relatives steadfastly demand her execution. Peace Film Award, 2023 Berlin International Film Festival; Compass-Perspektive Award, Berlin International Film Festival. In Persian with English subtitles.

“Powerful...enraging and heartbreaking in equal measures.” -Joseph Fahim, Middle East Eye



The Rinker Playhouse at the Kravis Center
Wednesday, February 28, 2024 | 7:00 PM



Palm Beach County Premiere

Drama/Romance, Feminism, Woman Directed

**MARGUERITE'S THEOREM
(LE THÉORÈME DE MARGUEURITE)**

Director: Anna Novion
France/Switzerland, 2022, 112 minutes
With Ella Rumpf, Jean-Pierre Darroussin

A female mathematician defending her PhD thesis to a room packed with male colleagues is humiliatingly caught in a mistake that reduces her complex theory to zero. The brilliant protégé of a famous professor, Marguerite (Rumpf) is utterly shattered by her failure. Abandoning career, research and degree for a menial job in another city, she is baffled by the emotional intricacies of life outside the cocoon of academia. While earning a living as a gambler in Chinatown Mahjong games, she becomes newly obsessed with tackling a notoriously unsolved mathematical problem. Reaching out to a male rival she finds a wary partner in the quest, but will the driving forces of ambition and obsession forever preclude intimacy for a woman in a man's world? World premiere, 2023 Cannes International Film Festival. In French and English with English subtitles.

"Rare for a film to feel this familiar, yet refreshing...a testament to Novion's creative instincts as a filmmaker."

-Wilson Kwong, Film Inquiry



FESTIVAL DE CANNES
OFFICIAL SELECTION

The Rinker Playhouse at the Kravis Center
Thursday, February 29, 2024 | 4:00 PM



West Palm Beach Premiere

Drama/comedy, Jewish, Family

**ALL ABOUT THE LEVKOVICHES
(LEFKOVICSÉK GYÁSZOLNAK)**

Director: Ádám Breier
Hungary, 2023, 86 minutes
With Zoltán Bezerédy, Tamás Szabó Kimmel

The tradition of dysfunction in the Levkovich clan comes to a turning point in this brisk bittersweet comedy, with the sudden death of Zsuzsa, the family matriarch. Husband Tamás (Bezerédy), a strict old-school boxing coach, and his somber and bookish adult son Iván (Kimmel) haven't spoken a word to each other in eight years. Iván, now an Orthodox Jew living in Israel, arrives for the funeral with his little boy Ariel. The two men are soon butting heads in the same old way. Ariel, meanwhile, is blithely communing with Grandma's spirit, who seems to have taken up residence in a living room cabinet. It could seem like child's play, but the film's light and gentle humor serves to poignantly underline the issues at stake – death, family separation, generational conflict and reconciliation. In Hungarian and Hebrew with English subtitles.

The Rinker Playhouse at the Kravis Center
Thursday, February 29, 2024 | 7:00 PM



Palm Beach County Premiere

Documentary, Movie Nostalgia

**MY NAME IS
ALFRED HITCHCOCK**

Director: Mark Cousins
UK, 2022, 120 minutes

What if Alfred Hitchcock, cinema's enduring master of suspense, were able to guide us through a personal and brilliantly witty behind-the-scenes commentary on his films from beyond the grave, forty-three years after his death? That is the premise of this highly entertaining documentary, a Hitchcock fan's dream packed with tasty clips from virtually every one of his masterworks. Through the magic of the movies and the art of actor-impersonator Alistair McGowan, the great director is resurrected in all his sardonic humor and tongue-in-cheek pomposity. This spot-on "Hitchcock" views a larger-than-life monument to himself in a London courtyard with some mixed feelings, then embarks on an incisive and revealing tour through his films, with cheeky observations on preoccupations including escape, desire, loneliness, and much more.

"Feels like a time-travel machine...Hitch feels brought to life again." **-Christian Zilko, IndieWire**

"As a primer on the master's ingenious methods, MY NAME IS ALFRED HITCHCOCK is a treat."
-Graham Fuller, The Arts Desk

Laurence Leamer, Author of Hitchcock's Blondes: The Unforgettable Women Behind The Legendary Director's Dark Obsession, will be present for audience discussion.

The Rinker Playhouse at the Kravis Center
Friday, March 1, 2024 | 1:00 PM



Palm Beach County Premiere
Comedy/Drama, Family, Relationships

TONI
(TONI, EN FAMILLE)

Director: Nathan Ambrissioni
France, 2023, 96 minutes
With Camille Cottin, Léa Lopez

Hilarity and pathos alternate in a lively family comedy/drama in which former pop-star Toni (Camille Cottin of the hit Netflix series CALL MY AGENT!) is now a harried multi-tasking single mother of five teenagers living in Grasse in the South of France. Director Ambrissioni brings lived-in insight to the humorous portrayal of this mash-up of a family, where mom Toni anxiously reaches for opportunities to reinvent herself against the day when she's an empty nester while actively marshaling the fledglings in her rambunctious brood through identity crises, sexual discovery, and their growing urges to strike out on their own. Cottin is ever a treat to watch, a consummate actor who manages the near impossible of being funny and dead serious at the same time. In French with English subtitles.

"One of the season's must-sees." -Sortir à Paris



Palm Beach County Premiere
Drama, Romance, LGBTQ

EGOIST
(EGOISUTO)

Director: Daishi Matsunaga
Japan, 2023, 120 minutes
With Ryohei Suzuki, Hiro Mayazawa

Countering a longstanding Japanese cultural resistance to films that portray gay relationships, this superbly acted drama based on the semi-autobiographical novel by Makoto Takayama deftly merges strains of attraction, eroticism, love, loss and family into an affecting love story. Kosuke (Suzuki), an eminently sophisticated fashion magazine editor, seeks out the younger handsome personal trainer Ryuta (Mayazawa) on the recommendation of a friend. Their professional relationship quickly turns intimate and the two develop an ever-deepening emotional bond after Ryuta introduces Kosuke to his aged mother, who raised him alone, and reveals a painful secret from his past. The limits of true love are tested when tragedy strikes. Note: features explicit sexual scenes. In Japanese with English subtitles.

"A joy; infused with warmth and energy."
-Wendy Ide, Screen International

"Groundbreaking...moving and intimate direction...raw and immediate."
-Mark Schilling, The Japan Times

"A stunning and truly haunting work."
-Frank J. Avelia, Edge Media Network



Palm Beach County Premiere
Documentary, Contemporary Art

JAMIE WYETH AND THE UNFLINCHING EYE

Director: Glenn Holsten
USA, 2024, 72 minutes

The scion of this country's most notable artistic dynasty, painter Jamie Wyeth has for decades burnished the family name with his own extraordinary body of work, most notably portraits in a realist tradition. This in-depth profile unfolds the life and career of a very private man, exploring his relationship with his father Andrew Wyeth, his grandfather N.C. Wyeth, and the influence and pressures of the family legacy. Wyeth's own unique working relationship with subjects including Rudolf Nureyev, Andy Warhol, and Arnold Schwarzenegger, who became close personal friends in the process, reveals the ways in which his art of portraiture transcends what the eye perceives. Among other insider views, the film traces Wyeth's meticulous method in creating his iconic 1967 posthumous portrait of John F. Kennedy, startlingly capturing the living essence of a man he never met.

The Rinker Playhouse at the Kravis Center
Friday, March 1, 2024 | 4:00 PM

The Rinker Playhouse at the Kravis Center
Friday, March 1, 2024 | 7:00 PM

The Rinker Playhouse at the Kravis Center
Saturday, March 2, 2024 | 1:00 PM



The Golden Age of Mexican Cinema
Film Noir Afro-Caribbean Musical

VICTIMS OF SIN
(VICTIMAS DEL PECADO)

Director: Emilio Fernández
Mexico, 1951, 84 minutes
With Ninón Sevilla

Ripe for rediscovery, this astoundingly erotic film noir musical from the golden age of Mexican cinema returns in all its restored glory, one of the masterworks of director Fernández (FLOR SILVESTRE, MARIA CANDELARIA) and his acclaimed cinematographer Gabriel Figueroa. Prostitutes, pimps, and nightclub denizens populate a demi-world where Violeta (Sevilla), Cabaret Changó's fiery star dancer in the passionate Afro-Caribbean tradition brings the house down nightly. When Violeta rescues the newborn abandoned by another dancer, the pimp who fathered the child swears vengeance.

VICTIMS OF SIN was fully restored in 4K from the original 35mm nitrate camera negative by Peter Conheim (Cinema Preservation Alliance/USA) and Viviana Garcia-Besné (Permanencia Voluntaria/Mexico), with further assistance from IMCINE and the Academy Film Archive. In Spanish with English subtitles.

"Cuban-born star Ninón Sevilla blows everyone else off the screen...when Sevilla takes to the floor to dance, it's one of the most electrifying sights any musical has to offer."
-**Farran Smith Nehme, Village Voice**



West Palm Beach Premiere
Drama, Jewish, French

THE GOLDMAN CASE
(LE PRÒCES GOLDMAN)

Director: Cédric Kahn
France, 2023, 115 minutes
With ArieH Worthalter, Arthur Harari

A 1975 trial that galvanized France comes to life in all its contradictions, prejudices and mounting tensions. Dynamic performances are forefront in this measured yet incendiary procedural in which Pierre Goldman, a French Jewish left-wing activist, is charged with robbery and a double murder. The defendant strips away every attempt to support his plea of innocence while demanding justice on his word alone. Director Kahn keeps a laser-like focus on the trial's emerging factors of racism, antisemitism and police corruption. Actor ArieH Worthalter gives a tour-de-force performance as Goldman, alternately silently contemptuous or fiery, blatantly playing to the observers gallery. In French with English subtitles. Critics Fortnight opening night film, 2023 Cannes International Film Festival. (BS)

"Electrifying...builds to a gripping, grandstanding climax." -**Guy Lodge, Variety**



West Palm Beach Premiere
Documentary, Jewish Activism

RABBI ON THE BLOCK

Director: Brad Rothschild
USA, 2023, 88 minutes
Rabbi Tamar Manasseh and director Brad Rothschild in person!

"If the Jewish community ever wanted to have a relationship with the Black community, I am the bridge that they would want to cross to get there," says Chicago's Rabbi Tamar Manasseh, a Black Jew, and the first woman ordained under the auspices of the International Israelite Board of Rabbis. Dynamic engagement with a community in need is the heart of her faith for Rabbi Tamar, as this street-level film documents her activism against gun violence and her non-stop initiatives to offer social services on the streets of Chicago's South and West sides. Seen in the course of welcoming all to events at her makeshift headquarters on a vacant lot, questions about the authenticity of her Jewish identity posed by traditionalists become null in the face of the good works of Judaism in action. Winner, Audience Award for Best Documentary, 2023 San Francisco Jewish Film Festival.

Rabbi Tamar Manasseh and director Brad Rothschild will be present for audience discussion.



The Rinker Playhouse at the Kravis Center
Saturday, March 2, 2024 | 4:00 PM

The Rinker Playhouse at the Kravis Center
Saturday, March 2, 2024 | 7:00 PM

The Rinker Playhouse at the Kravis Center
Sunday, March 3, 2024 | 1:00 PM



Palm Beach County Premiere

Documentary

LIV ULLMANN: A ROAD LESS TRAVELED

Director: Dheeraj Akolkar
Norway, 2023, 135 minutes

International star, writer, director and human rights activist Liv Ullmann looks back on the stages of her life in this profile rich in evocative clips from her many films, starting with early triumphs PERSONA and THE PASSION OF ANNA. From her 2022 honorary Oscar and her recent work as a UNICEF ambassador, the film explores the many facets of Ullmann's career in three sections: "The Actor;" "The Storyteller;" and "The Traveler." She is humorous, self-deprecating and intensely honest in assessing her professional and personal relationships, including, most notably, with Swedish director Ingmar Bergman. Ullmann makes it abundantly clear that she is no one's mere muse, but an artist of many and extraordinary talents. Commentary by colleagues includes Cate Blanchett, Jessica Chastain, Jeremy Irons, and more. World premiere, 2023 Cannes International Film Festival; nominated for the Golden Eye Award.

"Packs an emotional punch as we grow to comprehend the full extent of what Ullmann has achieved, and her importance as a champion of women in what she has too often found to be a male-dominated world."
-Allan Hunter, Screen Daily



FESTIVAL DE CANNES
OFFICIAL SELECTION

The Rinker Playhouse at the Kravis Center
Sunday, March 3, 2024 | 4:00 PM



Palm Beach County Premiere

Documentary, Current Issues

GOD & COUNTRY

Director: Dan Partland
USA, 2024, 95 minutes

Oscar-nominated producer Rob Reiner and Emmy-nominated director Dan Partland team up to address one of the critical questions of our time: What happens when a faith built on love, sacrifice, and forgiveness grows political tentacles, conflating power, money, and belief into hyper-nationalism?" In a wide-ranging look at the historical roots and dangers of merging religion and politics in regimes including Nazi Germany, this relevant and eye-opening documentary features commentary by a score of experts including Christianity Today editor-in-chief Russell Moore; U.S. Presidential Medal of Honor winner Sister Simone Campbell; Evangelical pastor and activist Doug Pagitt; sociologist and journalist Andrew Whitehead; and journalist and attorney Andrew Seidel.

The Rinker Playhouse at the Kravis Center
Sunday, March 3, 2024 | 7:00 PM



Palm Beach County Premiere

Documentary, Seniors, Jewish

I LIKE IT HERE

Director: Ralph Arlyck
USA, 2022, 88 minutes

Award-winning documentary filmmaker Ralph Arlyck rambles the New England country roads near his farm, asking life's big questions of his friends and neighbors. Like him, most are of an age when considering what comes next may be a sobering prospect. If ever there was a joyous film about aging, about looking back and looking ahead, I LIKE IT HERE is it. Arlyck dives in with elan, and whether he's celebrating the complexities of family, exploring his Jewish heritage, or revisiting the disputed story of the time he lost his virginity with a long-ago girlfriend, the seasons of life and the sumptuous seasons of nature merge with ample humor, thankfulness, and a heaping helping of wisdom.

"Warm, witty, loose, discursive...a beautiful meditation on mortality."
-John Fink, The Film Stage

"If showcasing the essence of humanity is the goal, then Arlyck's documentary fits the criteria...flourishingly bittersweet and existential."
-Alisyn Amant, Tone

The Rinker Playhouse at the Kravis Center
Monday, March 4, 2024 | 4:00 PM



Palm Beach County Premiere

Drama, Jewish, Italian

KIDNAPPED: THE ABDUCTION OF EDGARDO MORTARA (RAPITO)

Director: Marco Bellocchio
Italy, 2023, 134 minutes
With Fausto Rossi Alesi, Paolo Pierobon, Enea Sala

In 1858 Italy, Pope Pius IX orders the seizure of Edgardo Mortara, the six-year-old son of a middle class Jewish family after a maid claimed to have secretly baptized him as an infant. The incident and the ensuing power struggle resonated around the world at a time when Antisemitism was on the rise and the political power of the Catholic Church in Italy was teetering. In his 26th feature, acclaimed director Bellocchio pulls out all the stops in recreating the story with sumptuous period settings and trademark melodramatic flair. Raised by Vatican minions as the pope's pet and protégé while his desperate parents fight to reclaim him, little Edgardo becomes both a pawn and a symbol of Europe's fomenting religious and political turmoil. World premiere, 2023 Cannes International Film Festival. In Italian, Hebrew, and Latin with English subtitles.

"A moving story of faith, loss and family set against the backdrop of a significant moment in Italian history." -**Alexandra Heller-Nicholas, Alliance of Women Film Journalists**

"Bellocchio treats the tale as an unabashed melodrama, one kept at a stress-inducing simmer with occasional surges of operatic emotion." -**Keith Uhlich, Slant Magazine**



The Rinker Playhouse at the Kravis Center
Monday, March 4, 2024 | 7:00 PM



USA Premiere

Documentary, Ballet, Woman Directed

BECOMING GIULIA

Director: Laura Kaehr
Switzerland, 2022, 100 minutes

The return of a young mother to work four months following the birth of her child is an entirely different scenario when the woman in question is Giulia Tonelli, the prima ballerina at the Zurich Opera. Director Kaehr, a dancer herself, takes us into the backstage world of professional ballet, where Giulia balances the physical and mental rigors of her art with the demands of motherhood. Key to her desire to move on from ingénue roles is her new collaboration with British choreographer Cathy Marston, renowned for her creation of strong female roles. Revealing rehearsal sequences plus on-stage performances of ballets including The Nutcracker and Romeo and Juliet, plus a glimpse of adventurous new works by Marston will delight any dance aficionado. Winner of the Audience Award, Zurich Film Festival. In German, English, French and Italian with English subtitles.

"Showcases with formal elegance and empathy the ups and downs of an artist trying to give a meaning to a life of daily sacrifice, a life lived at a hundred miles per hour..." -**Cineuropa**

"Offers a sensitive portrait of an artist at the top of her craft, moving from rehearsals to opening nights to everyday life in the home." -**Christopher Vourlias, Variety**



The Rinker Playhouse at the Kravis Center
Tuesday, March 5, 2024 | 4:00 PM



West Palm Beach Premiere

Comedy/Drama, Jewish

LESS THAN KOSHER

Director: David Am Rosenberg
Canada, 2023, 65 minutes
With Shaina Silver-Baird, David Reale

A wild child of a would-be rock singer, 30 years old and down on her luck, unexpectedly discovers that the road to stardom begins, in of all places, her family's synagogue. A rollicking music-filled comedy with a heart and one heck of a powerhouse voice, this winner of the Audience Award at the 2023 Toronto Jewish Film Festival has Viv (Silver-Baird) blundering back in into her previously overlooked Jewish identity when lack of cash causes her to reluctantly accept a job as a synagogue cantor. From failed chanteuse to Judeo-pop princess in the blink of an eye, she is a sensation, and the rabbi's married son isn't the only one noticing. The lure of a new career opportunity and the thrills of illicit love play havoc with her promise to sing at her sister's Bat Mitzvah, and Viv goes in search of her missing conscience.

"A fresh and authentic portrayal of Jewish life and culture...funny and beautiful and heartwarming." -**Shaked Karabelnicoff, Unpacked**

Shaina Silver-Baird, writer/producer/actor will be present for audience discussion.



CENTERPIECE NIGHT



The Rinker Playhouse at the Kravis Center
Tuesday, March 5, 2024 | 7:00 PM



West Palm Beach Premiere

Drama, Jewish, WWII, Italian

THE SHADOW OF THE DAY
(L'OMBRA DEL GIORNO)

Director: Giuseppe Piccioni
Italy, 2022, 125 minutes
With Riccardo Scamarcio, Benedetta Porcaroli

A lonely middle-aged restaurateur in a provincial Italian town begins to fall for the hungry, ragged young woman he hires out of pity to wait tables. The year is 1938, and Luciano (Scamarcio of JOHN WICK and A HAUNTING IN VENICE), a limping veteran of WWI and an indifferent fascist, runs a popular place and keeps his head down when it comes to politics. Little does he know that the fomenting conflict and the war on Jews has unavoidably come to him in the person of hard-working, indispensable Anna, who is not exactly who she seems, and who he now believes to be the woman of his dreams. Superb performances and the director's subtle touches of surrealism evoke the period with feeling. In Italian with English subtitles.

"An old-fashioned romantic drama with the story-telling ardor and the melodramatic flourishes of page-turning commercial fiction."
-Peter Bradshaw, *Guardian*



EVO Entertainment Delray Marketplace
(Formally Paragon Theaters)
Friday, March 8, 2024 | 4:00 PM



Palm Beach County Premiere

Documentary, Movie Nostalgia

MY NAME IS ALFRED HITCHCOCK

Director: Mark Cousins
UK, 2022, 120 minutes

What if Alfred Hitchcock, cinema's enduring master of suspense, were able to guide us through a personal and brilliantly witty behind-the-scenes commentary on his films from beyond the grave, forty-three years after his death? That is the premise of this highly entertaining documentary, a Hitchcock fan's dream packed with tasty clips from virtually every one of his masterworks. Through the magic of the movies and the art of actor-impersonator Alistair McGowan, the great director is resurrected in all his sardonic humor and tongue-in-cheek compositivity. This spot-on "Hitchcock" views a larger-than-life monument to himself in a London courtyard with some mixed feelings, then embarks on an incisive and revealing tour through his films, with cheeky observations on preoccupations including escape, desire, loneliness, and much more.

"Feels like a time-travel machine...Hitch feels brought to life again." -Christian Zilko, *IndieWire*

"As a primer on the master's ingenious methods, MY NAME IS ALFRED HITCHCOCK is a treat."
-Graham Fuller, *The Arts Desk*

EVO Entertainment Delray Marketplace
(Formally Paragon Theaters)
Friday, March 8, 2024 | 7:00 PM



Palm Beach County Premiere

Drama, Family, Women's Rights

INSHALLAH A BOY
(INSHALLAH WALLAD)

Director: Amjad Al Rasheed
Jordan/France, 2023, 113 minutes
With Mouna Hawa, Rula Nasser

Ancient laws and harsh patriarchal customs rule the life of newly widowed Nawal, whose grief at her young husband's untimely death is compounded by the discovery that her home, possessions, and even custody of her little daughter are now the domain of her sly, greedy brother-in-law because she lacks a male child. Director Al Rasheed creates a tale of tenacious resistance based on a real life situation taken from his own family. While working as a lowly caregiver for a wealthy client, Nawal formulates a perilous plan to forestall the inevitable by faking a pregnancy. World premiere, Cannes International Film Festival; Toronto International Film Festival. In Arabic with English subtitles.

"With its gorgeous cinematography and incredible performance from Mouna Hawa, INSHALLAH A BOY proves that freedom is in the fight."
-Stephanie Archer, *Film Inquiry*

"Moves like a sleek thriller, but is full of unsolved mysteries and dangling question marks of real life."
-Jessica Kiang, *Variety*



EVO Entertainment Delray Marketplace
(Formally Paragon Theaters)
Saturday, March 9, 2024 | 1:00 PM



Florida Premiere

Documentary, Woman Directed

SMOKE SAUNA SISTERHOOD
(SAVVUSANNA SOSORAD)

Director: Anna Hints
Estonia, 2023, 89 minutes

Deep in the snowy woods of rural Estonia is a wooden shack housing a sauna that sustains an ancient folk tradition and stands as a temple to female solidarity. The smoke sauna is a place where women gather naked and unafraid to joke about men and their private parts, to tell stories, confess traumas, and to bond with a candor and trust that is possible nowhere else. Director Hints entered this dimly-lit inner sanctum with her camera, intimately documenting the beauty of the female body in close quarters--generous, wrinkled, careworn or plump as the case may be. Relaxing amid the smoky shadows, the women recount tales of friendship, family, and motherhood, and share pains and experiences unique to the lives of women. Best Director, World Cinema Documentary, 2023 Sundance Film Festival; Best Documentary Feature, 2023 San Francisco Film Festival; Estonia's official submission for Oscar consideration. In Estonian with English subtitles.

"The small, smoky, steamy miracle of this film is how it creates something so intangible, so lyrical, from the absolutely elemental: fire, wood, water and lots of naked female flesh."
-Jessica Kiang, Variety



ACADEMY AWARDS® OFFICIAL SELECTION - ESTONIA
BEST INTERNATIONAL FILM

EVO Entertainment Delray Marketplace
(Formerly Paragon Theaters)
Saturday, March 9, 2024 | 4:00 PM



Palm Beach County Premiere

Comedy

HUNDREDS OF BEAVERS

Director: Mike Cheslick
USA, 2022, 108 minutes
With Ryland Brickson Cole Tews, Olivia Graves

Wildly wacky comedies don't come any more hilariously looney than HUNDREDS OF BEAVERS, an extravagant homage to Looney Tunes cartoons and silent film comedy, but sporting a crazed spirit of wickedness all its own. And, yes, there are hundreds of beavers, along with bunnies, raccoons, and a host of other furry things, all portrayed by humans in adorable yet disturbingly sinister animal suits. In the depths of a snowy Wisconsin winter the applejack distillery of frontier adventurer Jean Kayak is ravaged by beavers. While turning his hand to hunting the wily creatures, Jean falls in love with the fur-trader's winsome daughter. The price of her hand in marriage is one hundred pelts of...you guessed it. Jean's assault on the massive beaver empire features outrageous slapstick, plus pratfalls and stunts that would make Wile E. Coyote weep with joy. Musical numbers too!

"This kind of lowbrow genius comes along all too rarely, and HUNDREDS OF BEAVERS is a zany magnum opus that needs to be seen to be believed." -Ruben Rosario, MiamiArtZine

"This will undoubtedly be the most gut-busting time you have at the movies this year."
-Kurt Halfyard, ScreenAnarchy



EVO Entertainment Delray Marketplace
(Formerly Paragon Theaters)
Saturday, March 9, 2024 | 7:00 PM

Film Festival Office: 561-220-6735 • SASIFF.org



Palm Beach County Premiere

Comedy, Seniors, Woman Directed

GOLDEN YEARS
(DIE GOLDENEN JAHRE)

Director: Barbara Kulcsar
Switzerland, 2022, 92 minutes
With Esther Gemsch, Stefan Kurt

According to director Kulcsar, coming-of-age can happen at any age. Her delightful comedy GOLDEN YEARS, Switzerland's biggest box office hit in many years, is ample proof. The glitzy party launched retirement with a bang for Alice and Peter, but then what? His fanatical new embrace of a health-nut lifestyle plus the sudden death of her best friend, who had imparted a shocking secret with her last breath, casts a pall over their dream cruise. Looking for more out of life than her husband appears to desire, Alice jumps ship in Marseille, embarking on a footloose journey through Provence that brings new friends, offbeat adventure and some magic mushrooms. Back home, Peter discovers domestic harmony when his widowed friend Heinz moves in. Unexpectedly glorious lifestyle changes are in the offing when Alice returns. In Swiss German with English subtitles.

EVO Entertainment Delray Marketplace
(Formerly Paragon Theaters)
Sunday, March 10, 2024 | 1:00 PM



Palm Beach County Premiere

Documentary

THE FANTASTIC MACHINE
(aka AND THE KING SAID, WHAT A FANTASTIC MACHINE)

Director: Axel Danielson and Maximilien Van Aertryck
Denmark/Sweden, 2023, 88 minutes

The internationally ubiquitous phenomenon of the selfie underlines the fact that an estimated 45 billion cameras now dot the planet. The co-directors of this absorbing documentary sift through history for a witty look at what the photographic image reveals about the person at the operating end of the camera. From the earliest moving images of the concrete world, circa 1839, to the manipulative fascist propaganda of Leni Riefenstahl and the crazy homegrown diversity of YouTube, the moving image as used and abused over a vast array of cultures is dissected and celebrated. Winner of the Special Jury Award for Creative Vision, 2023 Sundance Film Festival; and winner of the Cinema Vision Award, 2023 Berlin International Film Festival. In Swedish, English, French, German and Arabic with English subtitles.

"A wild, kinetic dive into the history of motion pictures."

-Jason Gorman, Point of View Magazine

"Explores the complex history of humanity's fascination with watching itself."

-Laurence Boyce, Cineuropa



EVO Entertainment Delray Marketplace
(Formally Paragon Theaters)
Sunday, March 10, 2024 | 4:00 PM



West Palm Beach Premiere

Comedy/Drama, Romance, Italian

NEVER TOO LATE FOR LOVE
(ASTOLFO)

Director: Gianni Di Gregorio
Italy/France, 2022, 97 minutes
With Gianni Di Gregorio, Stefania Sandrelli

Director/actor Di Gregorio, known for gently comic arthouse hits including THE SALT OF LIFE and MID-AUGUST LUNCH, serves up sun-drenched provincial Italy as the backdrop to late-life romance. After being kicked out of his retirement pad in Rome, a dapper aging professor heads for the village he had long ago abandoned along with his inheritance, the ancestral castle. He discovers the crumbling place now the prized turf of a clutch of squatters, including an elderly chef, an unemployed handyman, and even the local priest. Settling in and achieving détente with his new housemates, the professor gets a jolt to the libido when he is introduced to a radiant and curvaceous local lady of a certain age (Italian cinema icon Stefania Sandrelli, acclaimed for films including Bernardo Bertolucci's THE CONFORMIST and comedies DIVORCE ITALIAN STYLE and SEDUCED AND ABANDONED). In Italian with English subtitles.

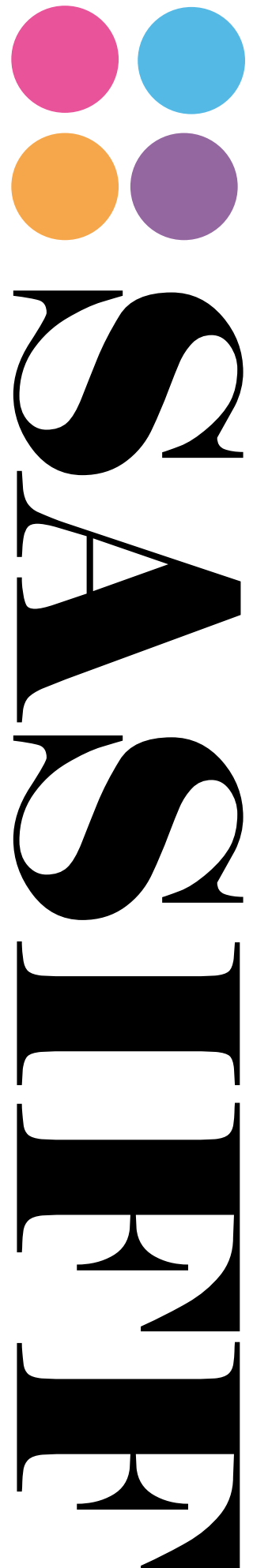
"A brilliant comedy with no shortage of hilarious scenes." **-Davide Abbatescianni, Cineuropa**

CLOSING NIGHT



EVO Entertainment Delray Marketplace
(Formally Paragon Theaters)
Monday, March 11, 2024 | 7:00 PM

Film Festival Office: 561-220-6735 • SASIFF.org



Executive Team

David S. Mack
Chairman, MorseLife Health System

Keith A. Myers
President & CEO, MorseLife Health System

Donald M. Ephraim
Festival Founder & Consulting Principal

Terri C. Striberg
Associate Founder & Consulting Principal

Management Team

Trisha Hewes
General Counsel, SVP Marketing & Public Affairs

Joan Bever
SVP of Events

Festival Team

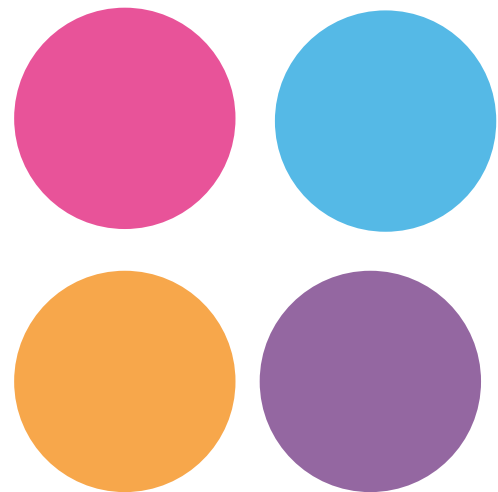
Barbara Scharres
Artistic Director

Nathalie Glaze
Film Festival Manager

Audrey Votaw
Development Officer

Samuel Wu
Creative Director

2022 Film Festival



Opening Night with **Director Amei Wallach** and **Dr. Philip Rylands**



TAKING VENICE
7:30 PM, Tuesday,
February 27, 2024
For complete film
information please
see page 13.

Amei Wallach is a filmmaker, art critic, journalist, and author. Her documentaries profiling artists include: *LOUISE BOURGEOIS: THE SPIDER, THE MISTRESS AND THE TANGERINE* (2008), *ILYA AND EMILIA KABAKOV: ENTER HERE* (2013), and *TAKING VENICE*. Her writings have appeared in the *New York Times*, *Smithsonian*, *Vanity Fair*, and *Art in America*, and other publications. From 2000 to 2005, Wallach served as president of the U.S. Section of the International Association of Art Critics (AICA/USA).

In person!

Q&A With Audience

TUE
FEB.
27



Dr. Philip Rylands is an art historian and author with a Ph.D from Cambridge University. He was the founding director of the Peggy Guggenheim Collection in Venice, Italy, a branch of the Solomon R. Guggenheim Foundation, which has owned the US Pavilion of the Venice Biennale since 1986. He is currently the President and CEO of The Society of the Four Arts in Palm Beach, Florida.

**Photo by: David Heald, Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum*



Special Guest Renowned Author

Laurence Leamer

Laurence Leamer is a New York Times bestselling author of 20 books. His recent work includes Hitchcock's *Blondes: The Unforgettable Women Behind the Legendary Director's Dark Obsession* (2023). His book *Capote's Women* was made into an eight-part series starring Naomi Watts, Diane Lane, Cristina Flockhart and Molly Ringwald, to be aired on FX and Hulu. Leamer is currently writing a book about Warhol's Muses.

MY NAME IS ALFRED HITCHCOCK

1:00 PM, Friday, March 1, 2024

For complete film information please see page 14.



Rabbi Tamar Manasseh and Director Brad Rothschild

Q&A With Audience

Tamar Manasseh is a charismatic rabbi and community activist from the South Side of Chicago, whose goal is to create closer bonds between African Americans and Jews. With one foot firmly in each of these two communities, she strives to overcome decades of fear, misunderstanding, and lack of communication. Her life and work are the subject of two award-winning documentaries, *THEY AIN'T READY FOR ME* and *RABBI ON THE BLOCK*.



SUN
MAR.
03



Brad Rothschild is a writer, director and producer based in New York City. His focus is telling compelling stories about the human condition. He is known for films including *TREE MAN* (2015); *THEY AIN'T READY FOR ME* (2020), winner of the Audience Award for Best Documentary Feature, Virginia Film Festival; and *RABBI ON THE BLOCK* (2023), winner of the Audience Award for Best Documentary, San Francisco Jewish Film Festival. documentaries, *THEY AIN'T READY FOR ME* and *RABBI ON THE BLOCK*.

RABBI ON THE BLOCK
1:00 PM, Sunday, March 3, 2024
For complete film information
please see page 16.



Centerpiece Night

TUE MAR. 05



Shaina Silver-Baird



LESS THAN KOSHER

7:00 PM, Tuesday,
March 5, 2024

For complete film
information please
see page 18.

Shaina Silver-Baird is an actor, musician, producer, writer and songwriter based in Toronto. She is the co-creator/writer, executive producer and star of LESS THAN KOSHER, winner of Best Film at the Toronto Jewish Film Festival. She is the lead singer/songwriter for electro-pop band Ghost Caravan. Her single "Damn You" was Song of the Week on CBC Radio 1, and three of her songs were featured in season 3 of the series KIM'S CONVENIENCE (CBC, Netflix). She has also sung regularly as a wedding cantor with Habonim Synagogue in Toronto.

In person! Q&A with Audience



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Film Festival



MORE Personal

Enjoy festival selections that are personally relevant to you.

MORE Illuminating

Our curated selection of films tells stories that can open our eyes to events in the world's most remote corners.

MORE Worldly

International selections explore universal themes through a global lens.

MORE Diverse

Unique stories on film offer insight into cultures different from our own.

MORE Original

Independent filmmakers lead the way by taking risks and challenging the status quo.

MORE Social

Like-minded film buffs enjoy screenings, festival events, and related gatherings.

MORE Success

Our audience and film professionals come together to hear about what's new and exciting.

MORE Life

The film festival supports MorseLife's mission to enrich lives and touch the hearts and minds of its community.



SASIFE