

The 11th Annual MSU Israeli Film Festival

Hosted by the MSU Jewish Studies Program

Sunday and Monday, October 18–19, 2015

Wells Hall B-122

All movies are free and open to the public

Sunday, October 18

1:00 pm

***Gett: The Trial of Vivian Amsalem* (2014)**

Director: **Shlomi and Ronit Elkabetz**

Runtime: 115 minutes



An Israeli woman seeking to finalize a divorce (*gett*) from her estranged husband finds herself effectively put on trial by her country's religious marriage laws in this powerhouse courtroom drama. Academy Awards 2015—Official Foreign Language Submission from Israel; 2015 Academy Awards—Best Foreign Language Film Nominee; 2015 Golden Globe Awards nominee; Official Selection Cannes Film Festival 2014—Directors' Fortnight Feature Competition; Winner, 2014 Israeli Film Academy Ophir Award—Best Film.

3:30 pm

***Paris on the Water* (2014)**

Director: **Hadas Ayalon**

Runtime: 29 minutes



The story of a passionate woman, Batya, who is trapped in a sick body and is forced to confront her age, her husband, and the reality of her life. Batya is a former film star who feels that her life is finally about to change. After years of frustration she is offered a part in a movie, but something happens the morning of the audition that forces her to reexamine her priorities in life. Winner, Student Academy Award for Best Foreign Film; Best Short Film, Israeli Academy Awards; Best Up-and-Coming Director, San Marino Festival.

4:30 pm

***Next to Her* (2014)**

Director: **Asaf Korman**

Runtime: 90 minutes



Twenty-seven year-old Chelli is raising her mentally disabled sister Gabby all by herself. When the social worker finds out she leaves her sister alone in the house while at work, Chelli is forced to place Gabby in a day-care center, and the void left by her sister's absence makes room for a man in her life. That man, Zohar, tears another crack in the symbiotic relationship of the two sisters.

6:00–7:00 pm

Dinner Break

Catered by Woody's Oasis Mediterranean Deli.
Free to moviegoers.



7:00 pm

***African Exodus* (2014)**

Director: **Brad Rothschild**

Runtime: 71 minutes



Seeking safety and asylum, some 60,000 Africans have fled to Israel over the past decade. The country, founded as a haven for persecuted Jews in the aftermath of the Holocaust, has no policy, infrastructure, or political will to handle this wave of migrants. The film explores the African refugee issue from the context of how Israel, a tiny country established as a haven for Jews from around the world, is handling an influx of non-Jewish refugees. The documentary talks with immigration experts and UN officials, as well as Israeli NGOs, to understand the different approaches being taken to handle this new and unexpected wave of migration. The film also offers suggested solutions to prevent this issue from becoming a full-fledged humanitarian crisis. **Director Brad Rothschild will introduce his film and lead a discussion about the documentary afterward.**

A filmmaker, Brad served as the **Speechwriter and Director of Communications for the Mission of Israel to the United Nations from 1995–1997. He wrote and produced the independent film *Homeland*, and produced the award-winning documentary *Kinderblock 66: Return to Buchenwald*.**

Monday, March 23

8:00 pm

***A Borrowed Identity* (2014)**

Director: **Fran Riklis**

Runtime: 104 minutes



Eyad, a gifted Palestinian Israeli village teen, is given the chance to go to a prestigious Jewish boarding school in Jerusalem. As he desperately tries to fit in with his Jewish schoolmates and within Israeli society, Eyad develops a friendship with another outsider, Jonathan, a boy suffering from MS, and falls in love with Naomi. Eyad faces a choice that will change his life forever. Based on the novel by Sayed Kashua, who also wrote the screenplay. Israeli Academy Award Nominations: Best Actor, Best Supporting Actor, Best Art Direction, Best Sound.

2015 Israeli Film Festival Coordinator: Marc Bernstein

Film Festival Committee: Yael Aronoff, Yuval Benziman, Yore Kedem, Ronen Steinberg

Jewish Studies Program would like to thank our co-sponsors for their generous support:
Residential College in the Arts and Humanities, the University Activities Board, and
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Questions? Contact MSU Jewish Studies at
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