

The Serling Institute Presents:

This year's festival is virtual! You will have access to watch these films at the comfort of your own home in the week leading up to the live and virtual discussions.

15th ANNUAL MSU ISRAELI FILM FESTIVAL

Available to view Feb. 28 - March 7



Ma'abarot (2019)
Documentary
Director: Dina Zvi Riklis

Israel. Language: Hebrew (English subtitles)
Ma'abarot is the first documentary project to tell the story of the Israeli transit camps. The transit camps were a controversial enterprise, housing hundreds of thousands of Jewish refugees from different parts of the world and transitioning them into becoming part of Israeli society - a process with mixed, and sometimes traumatic, results that continue to shape Israeli culture and politics today. The film features rare archival materials and testimonies of former residents.

Winner Best Documentary Series, Israel Academy for Television Awards 2020.

Live virtual discussion and Q&A with Director Dina Zvi Riklis and Producer Arik Bernstein on Sunday, March 7th 11 am-12:30pm EST

Available to view Feb. 28 - March 7



Live virtual discussion and Q&A with Director Sameh Zoabi on Sunday, March 7th 1:30-3:00pm EST

Tel Aviv On Fire (2019)
Comedy/Drama/Romance
Director: Sameh Zoabi

Israel. Languages: Arabic, Hebrew (English subtitles)
Salam, a young Palestinian man, becomes a writer for a popular soap opera after a chance meeting with an Israeli check point commander. His creative career is on the rise - until the soldier and the show's financial backers disagree about how the show should end. Salam is caught in the middle.

A sharp, insightful story about the power of storytelling itself, in the context of competing narratives of conflict and peace.

Venice Film Festival, Best Actor: Kais Nashif; Ophir Award (Israeli Academy Awards) Best Original Screenplay.

Join us for a virtual performance by Yemenite Israeli singer-songwriter Tair Haim, of the sister band A-WA, on March 7th 3:30-4:30. She will be singing in Arabic and in Hebrew, and discussing the songs and what shaped them; she will also take questions from the audience.

Available to view March 7 - 14



The Albanian Code (2019)
Documentary by Yael Katzir

Albania. Languages: Albanian, Hebrew, English (English subtitles)
The Albanian Code is a documentary feature about the little-known saga of the thousands of Jewish refugees saved in Albania during WWII, due to the courage and humanity of the Albanian people--mostly Muslims. Most of the rescuers are no longer living; therefore it is urgent to document for posterity both saviors and saved and to leave a legacy for future generations. Premiered in Albania in the presence of the President. Screened in Paris at the Memorial de la Shoah and in Manhattan at the JCC.

Winner Kosice International Film Festival 2020.

Live virtual discussion and Q&A with Director Yael Katzir, on Sunday, March 14th 11 am-12:30pm EST

Join us for a **taste of Israel** with a virtual cooking demo of a Moroccan Israeli dish with the engaging gourmet **Chef Hunny Khodorkovsky, March 14th at 12:45 pm.** Chef Hunny Khodorkovsky was born in Israel to parents of Moroccan descent. She grew up in Montreal, lived in Los Angeles and Puerto Rico after getting married, and moved to Detroit in 2012, with her husband and 4 children. Currently, together with her business partner Stephanie Friedman, she started HUNNY, a professional chef service, offering cooking classes, demonstrations, events and vacation chef services abroad. Hunny and Stephanie value fresh, seasonal ingredients and innovative, healthy cuisine, especially when cooking for their families. Following this demo, we will hear from the **award-winning chef and narrator of In Search of Israeli Cuisine, Chef Michael Solomonov at 2 pm.**



In Search of Israeli Cuisine (2016)
featuring Chef Michael Solomonov
Documentary

Director: Roger Sherman

Israel. Language: English. In Search of Israeli Cuisine is a portrait of the Israeli people told through food. It puts a literal face on the culture of Israel. The film profiles chefs, home cooks, vintners, and cheese-makers drawn from the more than 100 cultures that make up Israel today- Jewish, Arab, Muslim, Christian, Druze. A rich and human story of the people emerges from their food.

Winner Audience Award from the Cherry Hill and Palm Beach Jewish Film Festivals in 2016.

Live virtual discussion and Q&A with film narrator Chef Michael Solomonov on Sunday, March 14th 2-3:00pm EST

Available to view March 7 - 14

