



New York Jewish

Film Festival

The Jewish Museum

Film at Lincoln Center

+

Schedule

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 15 1:00 pm Picture of His Life* 3:15 pm Leona*	3:45 pm When Hitler Stole Pink Rabbit 6:45 pm Mrs. G. preceded by Gurit Kadman* 9:15 pm The Day After I'm Gone	FRIDAY, JANUARY 24 - no screenings
THURSDAY, JANUARY 16 1:00 pm Mrs. G. preceded by Gurit Kadman* 3:30 pm An Inexpressible Woman 6:00 pm Four Winters: A Story of Jewish Partisan Resistance and Bravery in World War II* 8:30 pm Opening Night: Aulcie*	TUESDAY, JANUARY 21 1:00 pm My Polish Honeymoon* 3:30 pm I Was Not Born a Mistake preceded by Butterflies in Berlin* 6:00 pm My Polish Honeymoon* 8:30 pm I Was Not Born a Mistake preceded by Butterflies in Berlin*	SATURDAY, JANUARY 25 7:00 pm God of the Piano 9:00 pm An Impossible Love
FRIDAY, JANUARY 17 - no screenings	WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 22 1:15 pm The Birch Tree Meadow 3:30 pm God of the Piano 6:00 pm Marceline. A Woman. A Century* 8:15 pm Centerpiece: The Birch Tree Meadow*	SUNDAY, JANUARY 26 1:00 pm The Day After I'm Gone 3:15 pm The Garden of the Finzi-Continis* 5:30 pm Ma'abarot: The Israeli Transit Camps* 8:00 pm Shorts Program*
SATURDAY, JANUARY 18 7:00 pm Leona* 9:15 pm An Inexpressible Woman	THURSDAY, JANUARY 23 1:00 pm They Ain't Ready for Me* 3:30 pm Those Who Remained preceded by Life Is All There Is* 6:30 pm They Ain't Ready for Me* 9:00 pm Those Who Remained preceded by Life Is All There Is*	MONDAY, JANUARY 27 12:45 pm Dolce Fine Giornata 3:15 pm An Impossible Love 6:00 pm Dolce Fine Giornata 8:30 pm The Garden of the Finzi-Continis*
SUNDAY, JANUARY 19 12:30 pm Broken Barriers* 2:45 pm Four Winters* 5:30 pm Incitement* 8:30 pm Picture of His Life		TUESDAY, JANUARY 28 1:00 pm The State Against Mandela and the Others 3:15 pm Crescendo* 6:15 pm The State Against Mandela and the Others 8:30 pm Closing Night: Crescendo*
MONDAY, JANUARY 20 12:30 pm Incitement* 3:30 pm Master Class: Yaron Zilberman (Free Amphitheater Event)*		* Filmmaker or speaker present Note: All screenings in the Walter Reade Theater unless otherwise noted.

The Jewish Museum and Film at Lincoln Center are delighted to continue their partnership to bring you the 29th annual New York Jewish Film Festival, presenting films from around the world that explore the Jewish experience.

This year's Festival presents an engaging lineup of narratives, documentaries, and shorts, from restored classics to world premieres.

Highlights include *Aulcie*, the inspiring documentary about Aulcie Perry, the legendary athlete who put Israeli basketball on the map; *The Birch Tree Meadow*, an autobiographical film by the late, iconoclastic French New Wave documentarian Marceline Loricand-Ivens, about an Auschwitz survivor confronting her past; and *Crescendo*, a gripping drama about a conductor's efforts to create an Israeli-Palestinian youth orchestra. The 2020 Festival offers a wide range of selections that will captivate film lovers of all backgrounds.

[tickets: nyjff.org](https://tickets.nyjff.org)

TICKETS CAN BE PURCHASED:

- nyjff.org
- Film at Lincoln Center's
- Walter Reade Theater
- box office: 165 W 65 St, NYC

VENUES

Film at Lincoln Center

Walter Reade Theater:

165 W 65 St

Elinor Bunin Munroe Film Center:

144 W 65 St

TICKETS

Opening Night, Centerpiece,
Closing Night
\$25 General Public
\$20 Jewish Museum
and Film at Lincoln
Center Members

FESTIVAL SCREENINGS

\$15 General Public
\$12 Students, Seniors (62+),
Persons with Disabilities
\$10 Jewish Museum
and Film at Lincoln
Center Members

MASTER CLASS

Free; see page 12 for details.

Above: The Garden of the Finzi-Continis; Cover: The Birch Tree Meadow



Opening Night

Thursday, January 16
at 8:30 pm

Aulcie

N.Y. Premiere
DANI MENKIN
Israel, 2019, 72min.
Hebrew and English with English subtitles

In 1976, Aulcie Perry was playing basketball in Harlem when scouts from Maccabi Tel Aviv spotted and signed him. A year later, he led the team to their first European Championship, converted to Judaism, and become an Israeli citizen. His rise to fame was precipitous, and his relationship with supermodel Tami Ben Ami became the subject of relentless media

attention, solidifying his status as one of Israel's biggest stars. But behind the scenes, he had a growing drug addiction that culminated in his arrest and imprisonment, and since his release he has committed himself to uplifting those suffering from drug abuse and addiction. Dani Menkin's documentary tells the story of this legendary athlete.



Aulcie

Centerpiece

Wednesday, January 22
at 1:15 pm and 8:15 pm

The Birch Tree Meadow

MARCELINE LORIDAN-IVENS
France/Germany/Poland, 2003, 91 min.
French, Polish, and English with English subtitles, 35mm

Anouk Aimée and August Diehl star in this astounding autobiographical drama by Marceline Loridan-Ivens, a French filmmaker and memoirist who passed away in 2018. Aimée plays Myriam, a filmmaker and Holocaust survivor who has lived in New York for years. When she returns to Europe for a reunion of fellow survivors, she confronts

her past and visits Auschwitz, the scene of her "murdered adolescence." There, she meets Diehl's Oskar, a young photographer coming to grips with his grandfather's role in the S.S. This extraordinary film, which screened in the 2004 NYJFF, is a profoundly moving reflection on memory from a true iconoclast of French cinema.



The Birch Tree Meadow

Closing Night

Tuesday, January 28
at 3:15 pm and 8:30 pm

Crescendo

N.Y. Premiere
DROR ZAHAVI
Germany, 2019, 106 min.
English and German with English subtitles

When a world-famous conductor (played by *Toni Erdmann*'s Peter Simonischek) accepts a job to help establish an Israeli-Palestinian youth orchestra, he steps into a firestorm of discord and mistrust. The two factions of young musicians have grown up in a state of conflict, with fear governing their perceptions of each other. With only three weeks of rehearsal, his essential task becomes more interpersonal than musical: can the children of conflict come together in harmony? Director Dror Zahavi brings us a gripping, clear-eyed drama imbued with hope for understanding, humanity, and peace.

tickets: nyjff.org



Crescendo



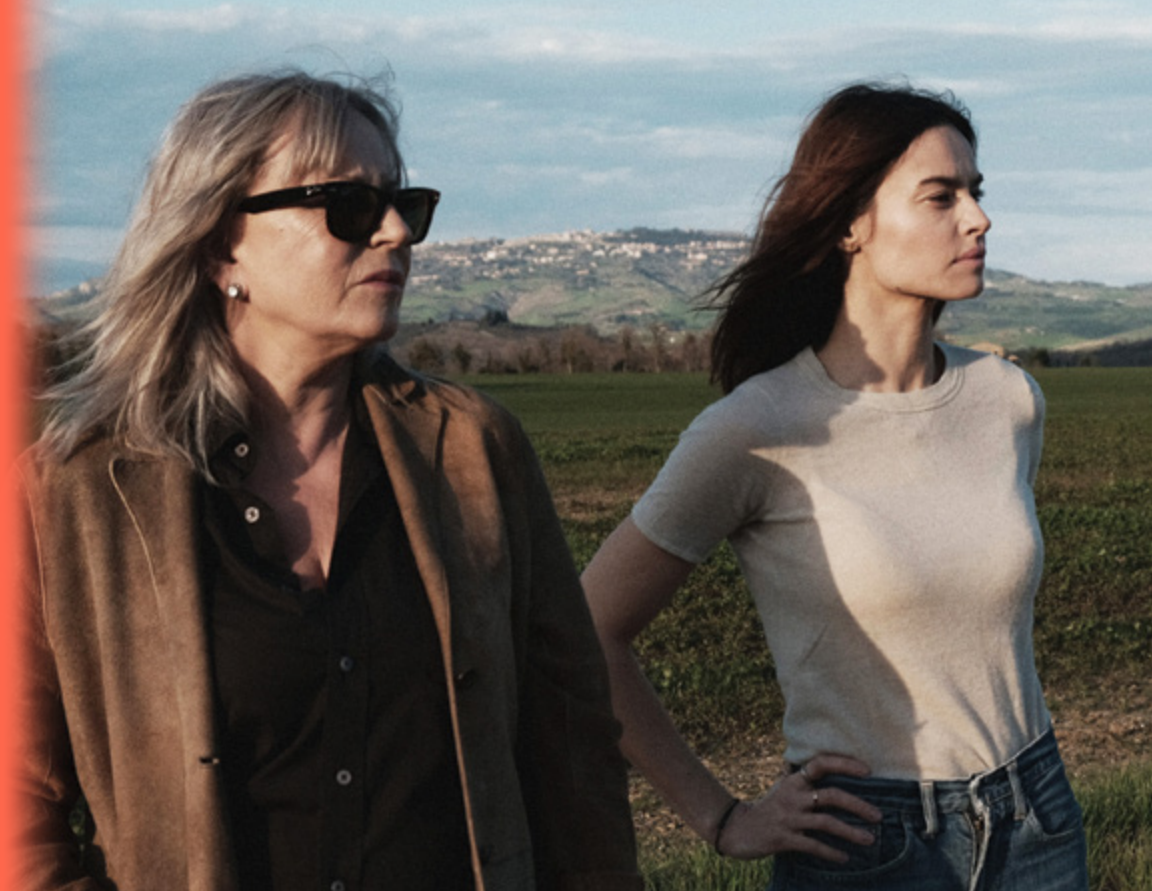
Broken Barriers

Broken Barriers

World Premiere of the Restoration
CHARLES DAVENPORT
USA, 1919, 76 min.
Silent with English intertitles

Sunday, January 19 at 12:30 pm

This long-lost 1919 silent gem, based on the same Sholem Aleichem stories as *Fiddler on the Roof*, follows Tevye the milkman's daughter Khavah, who falls in love with the gentile boy Fedka and must navigate the reverberations from this with her community and her family. Restored by the National Center for Jewish Film, with live piano accompaniment by Donald Sosin.



Dolce Fine Giornata

The Day After I'm Gone

N.Y. Premiere
NIMROD ELDAR
Israel, 2018, 95 min.
Hebrew with English subtitles

Monday, January 20 at 9:15 pm
Sunday, January 26 at 1:00 pm

When the adolescent daughter of a prominent Tel Aviv veterinarian expresses a wish to end her life, they embark on a journey of mutual discovery to visit her mother's family in this tender debut feature.

Dolce Fine Giornata

N.Y. Premiere
JACEK BORCUCH
Poland, 2018, 96 min.
Italian, Polish, and French
with English subtitles

Monday, January 27 at 12:45 pm and 6:00 pm

After a terrorist attack in Rome leads to anti-immigrant hysteria, a free-thinking Jewish Nobel Prize winner living in Tuscany boldly speaks out against the European perspective, and her comments wreak unexpected havoc.



Four Winters: A Story of Jewish Partisan Resistance and Bravery in World War II

Four Winters: A Story of Jewish Partisan Resistance and Bravery in World War II

World Premiere
JULIA MINTZ
USA, 2020, 96 min.

Thursday, January 16 at 6:00 pm
Sunday, January 19 at 2:45 pm

This essential documentary tells the stories of the Jewish partisans who took up arms against Hitler's war machine in World War II. The last surviving partisans tell their stories to director Julia Mintz who shines a spotlight on their bravery through interviews, archival footage, and historic war records. *Four Winters* is a stunning, heartfelt narrative of heroism and resilience.

The Garden of the Finzi-Continis

50th Anniversary
VITTORIO DE SICA
Italy/Germany, 1970, 94 min.
Italian with English subtitles

Sunday, January 26 at 3:15 pm
Monday, January 27 at 8:30 pm

Presented for its 50th anniversary, this classic Oscar-winning Italian drama is set amid the rise of Fascism in the 1930s. The wealthy, intellectual Finzi-Contini family's estate serves as a gathering place for the local Jewish community that tries to remain sheltered from the country's growing anti-Semitism.

[tickets: nyjff.org](https://nyjff.org)

God of the Piano

N.Y. Premiere
ITAY TAL
Israel, 2018, 79 min.
Hebrew with English subtitles

Wednesday, January 22 at 3:30 pm
Saturday, January 25 at 7:00 pm

A concert pianist from a respected musical family with the dream of raising a musical prodigy is devastated when her son is born deaf. When she doubles down on her expectations for him, her obsession threatens to crush her child.



An Impossible Love

An Impossible Love

U.S. Premiere
CATHERINE CORSINI
France/Belgium, 2018, 130 min.
French with English subtitles

Saturday, January 25 at 9:00 pm
Monday, January 27 at 3:15 pm

A young office clerk meets a charismatic man from a bourgeois family, and amid their whirlwind romance a daughter is born. Over the next 50 years, mother and daughter attempt to preserve their love, despite an absent and abusive father.



Incitement

N.Y. Premiere
YARON ZILBERMAN
Israel, 2019, 122 min.
Hebrew with English subtitles

Sunday, January 19 at 5:30 pm
Monday, January 20 at 12:30 pm

This gripping historical drama follows the radicalization of Israeli ultranationalist Yigal Amir in the year leading up to his assassination of Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin.



Incitement

Master Class: Yaron Zilberman

Monday, January 20 at 3:30 pm

Join Yaron Zilberman, writer and director of NYJFF selection *Incitement*, for a master class on screenwriting and directing. In addition to *Incitement*, Zilberman is the award-winning writer-director-producer of *A Late Quartet* and *Watermarks*. This free talk is presented by HBO.

tickets: nyjff.org

An Irrepressible Woman

N.Y. Premiere
LAURENT HEYNEMANN
France, 2019, 103 min.
French with English subtitles

Thursday, January 16 at 3:30 pm
Saturday, January 18 at 9:15 pm

The year is 1940, and the French Jewish socialist reformer Prime Minister Leon Blum has been imprisoned at Buchenwald. This touching drama tells the story of Jeanne Reichenbach, who has loved Blum since they were teenagers and risks everything to reunite with him in prison.

I Was Not Born a Mistake

U.S. Premiere
RACHEL RUSINEK & EYAL BEN MOSHE
Israel, 2019, 52 min.
Hebrew and English with English subtitles

Tuesday, January 21 at 3:30 pm and 8:30 pm

This beautiful documentary tells the story of Yiscah Smith, who was living as an ultra-orthodox married man with six children and deep ties in the Hasidic community before abruptly leaving Israel. Twenty years later, Smith returned—as a woman.

PRECEDED BY

Butterflies in Berlin: Diary of a Soul Split in Two

N.Y. Premiere
MONICA MANGANELLI
Germany/Italy, 2018, 29 min.

This sumptuous animated short tells the story of one of the world's first post-op transgender women in Weimar-era Berlin. As discrimination rises against "deviance" of all kinds, can she stay true to her identity?

Leona

N.Y.C. Premiere
ISAAC CHEREM
Mexico, 2018, 95 min.
Spanish with English subtitles

Wednesday, January 15 at 3:15 pm
Saturday, January 18 at 7:00 pm

A young Jewish woman in Mexico City struggles to do the right thing as she navigates a forbidden love in this heartfelt, dramatic, and contemporary take on a timeless love story.

Ma'abarot: The Israeli Transit Camps

U.S. Premiere
DINA ZVI RIKLIS
Israel, 2019, 84 min.
Hebrew with English subtitles

Sunday, January 26 at 5:30 pm

The Israeli transit camps of 1948-1952 were built to accommodate the surge of immigrants following World War II. This documentary explores the controversial initiative, in which over 300,000 immigrants lived in tents, tin huts, and contributed to the divide between Ashkenazi and Sephardic Jews in Israel.

Ma'abarot: The Israeli Transit Camps



Marceline. A Woman. A Century

N.Y. Premiere
CORDELIA DVORAK
France/Netherlands, 2018, 76 min.
French with English subtitles

Wednesday, January 22 at 6:00 pm

The effervescent and brilliant French director, author, producer, and actress Marceline Loridan-Ivens dazzles in this documentary portrait, which dives into her life as a radical filmmaker, Holocaust survivor, and loving partner.

Marceline. A Woman. A Century



Mrs. G.

N.Y. Premiere
DALIT KIMOR
Israel, 2019, 55 min.
Hebrew, English, and Hungarian
with English subtitles

Thursday, January 16 at 1:00 pm
Monday, January 20 at 6:45 pm

The Gottex swimwear empire was founded by legendary designer, Holocaust survivor, and larger-than-life character Lea Gottlieb. Her unyielding vision and complex relationships with her daughters are on display in this inspiring documentary.

PRECEDED BY

Gurit Kadman

World Premiere of the Restoration
NILI TAL
Israel, 1981, 34 min.
Hebrew with English subtitles

This delightful short documentary, which was shot in 1981 and has recently been restored, profiles the influential dancer and choreographer Gurit Kadman, who helped found the Dalia Folk Dance Festival in Israel.

tickets: nyjff.org



My Polish Honeymoon

My Polish Honeymoon

N.Y. Premiere
ELISE OTZENBERGER
France, 2019, 88 min.
French with English subtitles

Tuesday, January 21 at 1:00 pm and 6:00 pm

When two French newlyweds take their honeymoon in Poland, the home of their Jewish grandparents, excitement about their families' histories gives way to anxiety and culture clash in this dark romantic comedy.

Picture of His Life

N.Y. Premiere
YONATAN NIR & DANI MENKIN
USA/Israel/Canada, 2019, 71 min.
English, Hebrew, and Inuit
with English subtitles

Wednesday, January 15 at 1:00 pm
Sunday, January 19 at 8:30 pm

Yom Kippur War veteran Amos Nachoum is one of the greatest underwater photographers of all time, but he has struggled to safely photograph one beautiful predator: the polar bear. *Picture of His Life* is the breathtaking portrayal of Nachoum's search for the formidable bear and, with it, some semblance of inner peace.

tickets: nyjff.org

The State Against Mandela and the Others

N.Y. Premiere
NICOLAS CHAMPEAUX & GILLES PORTE
France, 2018, 106 min.

Tuesday, January 28 at 1:00 pm and 6:15 pm

This synthesis of archival footage, animation, and interviews chronicles the trial of Nelson Mandela and his nine other co-defendants after which they were sentenced to life imprisonment in 1964. There were no cameras in court, but this rousing documentary puts 256 hours of newly discovered audio to brilliant use.



They Ain't Ready For Me

They Ain't Ready For Me

World Premiere
BRAD ROTHSCHILD
USA, 2019, 89 min.

Thursday, January 23 at 1:00 pm and 6:30 pm

This moving and timely documentary tells the story of Tamar Manasseh, the African American rabbinical student who is combating gun violence on the South Side of Chicago with magnetic, self-assured energy through her organization MASK, or Mothers Against Senseless Killing.



Those Who Remained

Those Who Remained

N.Y. Premiere
BARNABAS TOTH
Hungary, 2019, 83 min.
Hungarian with English subtitles

PRECEDED BY

Life Is All There Is

World Premiere
RON BLAU
USA, 2019, 15 min.

[tickets: nyjff.org](https://www.nyjff.org)

When Hitler Stole Pink Rabbit

N.Y. Premiere
CAROLINE LINK
Germany/Switzerland, 110 min.
German with English subtitles

Monday, January 20 at 3:45 pm

This stunning drama, based on the best-selling novel by Judith Kerr, tells the story of a 9-year-old girl and her family's jarring dislocation, experienced by so many German Jews who fled the country before the war.



When Hitler Stole Pink Rabbit

Shorts by Women

Sunday, January 26
at 8:00 pm

These five compelling shorts directed by women offer bold, incisive, and darkly funny looks at contemporary Jewish femininity.

Maman

N.Y. Premiere
HILA COHEN
Israel, 2018, 13 min.,
Hebrew and English with English subtitles

This idiosyncratic short follows a young woman whose Shabbat ritual is put on hold when a 90-year-old neighbor interrupts with a medical emergency.

Silhouette of the Braids

U.S. Premiere
ROTEM DIMAND
Israel, 2019, 15 min.
Hebrew with English subtitles

In this poignant look at how mother-daughter relationships evolve from one generation to the next, a woman and her mother unearth the family archive of 8mm home movies of her grandmother's life in 1960s Tel Aviv.

Write Me

N.Y.C. Premiere
PEARL GLUCK
USA, 2019, 7 min.

In this moving adaptation of Deborah Kahan Kolb's poem "After Auschwitz," starring Lynn Cohen and tattoo artist Virginia Elwood, a woman reclaims the painful history tattooed on her body.

Eleanor of Illinois

U.S. Premiere
DANIELLE DURCHSLAG
USA, 2019, 6 min.

In this experimental short, Broadway star Judy Kuhn embodies Katharine Hepburn's Eleanor of Aquitaine from *The Lion in Winter*, but as a contemporary Jewish mother. The result is an exploration of the emotional, class, and power dynamics of Jewish wealth.

Marriage Material

N.Y. Premiere
ORAN ZEGMAN
USA, 2019, 25 min.

In this darkly comic musical, a young woman enrolls in a retreat designed to transform her into "marriage material" after her boyfriend rejects her marriage proposal. There, she must confront what she's willing to sacrifice for love.

[tickets: nyjff.org](https://nyjff.org)

Funders

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Film at Lincoln Center receives support from the below sponsors:



Film at Lincoln Center receives additional support for the New York Jewish Film Festival from The Jack & Pearl Resnick Foundation.

Selection Committee

This year's New York Jewish Film Festival was selected by Rachel Chanoff, Director, THE OFFICE performing arts + film; Gabriel Grossman, Coordinator, New York Jewish Film Festival/ The Jewish Museum; and Aviva Weintraub, Associate Curator, The Jewish Museum and Director, New York Jewish Film Festival; with Dennis Lim, Director of Programming, Film at Lincoln Center, as adviser.

Acknowledgments

Joan Dupont, film critic; Nicola Galliner, Jewish Film Festival Berlin & Brandenburg; Stuart Hands, Toronto Jewish Film Festival; Annette Insdorf, Columbia University; Marlene Josephs, Volunteer; Linda Lipson, Volunteer; Richard Peña, Columbia University; Sophie Rupp, intern.

The Jewish Museum is under the auspices of The Jewish Theological Seminary.

[tickets: nyjff.org](https://nyjff.org)

The Jewish Museum
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New York, NY 10128
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