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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**ENZIAN PRESENTS THE 18<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL CENTRAL FLORIDA JEWISH FILM FESTIVAL**

**Orlando, FL** – (October 19, 2016) – The 18<sup>th</sup> Annual Central Florida Jewish Film Festival, taking place November 12<sup>th</sup> – 14<sup>th</sup>, is a cinematic celebration of Jewish life, culture, and history. Using the power of film to inform, educate, and most of all entertain, the festival challenges conventional perspectives on issues facing all of us. This program is part of Enzian's cultural festival circuit and is co-presented with The Roth Family Jewish Community Center of Greater Orlando and sponsored by Orlando Weekly.

A special menu will also be offered throughout the festival, including: Spinach & Cheese Knishes, Latkes, Holishkes, Hebrew National Hot Dogs, and Beef, Carrot, & Sweet Potato Tzimmes.

**WHAT:**

**[FANNY'S JOURNEY](#)**

**Saturday, November 12<sup>th</sup> at 7:30PM at the Orlando Science Center**

***Southeast Premiere!***

Based on a true story, FANNY'S JOURNEY is an incredible tale of bravery, strength, daring, and survival. In 1943, 13-year-old Fanny and her younger sisters were sent from their home in France to an Italian foster home for Jewish children. When the Nazis arrive in Italy, their caretakers desperately organize the departure of the children to Switzerland. Suddenly left on their own, these 11 children will do the impossible to reach the Swiss border in order to survive.

The third feature of Lola Doillon, daughter of the great French director Jacques Doillon (*Ponette*), FANNY'S JOURNEY is adapted from the autobiographical novel by Fanny Ben Ami. It brings together a remarkable group of young actors to vividly depict this amazing, dangerous adventure and truly inspiring story.

France, 2016, 94 min, Directed by Lola Doillon, Not Rated, In French with English subtitles

**[IN SEARCH OF ISRAELI CUISINE](#)**

**Sunday, November 13<sup>th</sup> at 11AM at Enzian Theater**

A portrait of the Israeli people told through food, IN SEARCH OF ISRAELI CUISINE puts a literal face on the *culture* of Israel. Profiling chefs, home cooks, farmers, vintners, and cheese makers drawn from the more than 100 cultures that make up Israel today—Jewish, Arab, Muslim, Christian, Druze—a rich, complex and human story emerges. Our guide is Michael Solomonov, the James Beard award-winning chef/owner of Zahav in Philadelphia. Born in Israel and raised in the States, he's smart, funny, self-deprecating, and very knowledgeable about the traditions and foods of Israel, and the perfect host

for this compelling, informative, eye-opening, and highly entertaining film that won the Audience Award at the 2016 Palm Beach Jewish Film Festival.

USA/Israel, 2016, 97 min, Directed by Roger Sherman, Not Rated, In English

### **Preceded by BAGELS IN THE BLOOD**

Nestled between shops in a residential neighborhood in French Montreal lies a quiet brownstone building—an old converted house with a wood fired oven in the back. Irwin Shlafman, third-generation owner of famous bagel shop Fairmount Bagel, shows us how it all started.

USA/Canada, 2016, 5 min, Directed by Jonathan Keijser & Daniel Beresh, Not Rated, In English

### **MOOS**

**Sunday, November 13<sup>th</sup> at 1:45PM at Enzian Theater**

***Southeast Premiere!***

It is Hanukkah evening and everything is the way it has always been for Moos Troostwijk, with one exception: her long time childhood friend, Sam, has arrived as a surprise guest from Israel. With Sam back, Moos realizes her life has been on hold taking care of her widowed father and she needs to follow her own dreams. To everyone's surprise, she auditions for the academy of performing arts. Despite the encouragement from her handsome singing teacher, Moos quickly learns that not everybody is as receptive to her talents and she might need an option B. Meanwhile, Sam starts to realize his feelings for Moos may not have faded over the years. A movie about love, laughter, and friendship, MOOS is a charming and original Dutch romantic comedy with a kosher twist.

Netherlands, 2016, 91 min, Directed by Job Gosschalk, Not Rated, In Dutch with English subtitles

### **AIDA'S SECRETS**

**Monday, November 14<sup>th</sup> at 4:30PM at Enzian Theater**

Family secrets, lies, high drama and generations of contemporary history unspool in this spellbinding international story that begins with World War II and concludes with an emotional 21st-century family reunion. Izak was born inside the Bergen-Belsen displaced persons camp in 1945 and sent for adoption in Israel. Secret details of his birth mother, an unknown brother in Canada and his father's true identity slowly emerge in this extremely personal investigative film. Timely questions of identity, resilience, compassion and the plight of displaced persons are brought to life as Izak and Shep, the almost 70-year-old brothers, finally meet in Canada, then head to a nursing home in Quebec to introduce Shep to his elderly mother, Aida, for the first time.

Canada/Germany/USA/Israel, 2016, 90 min, Directed by Alon Schwarz & Shaul Schwarz, Not Rated, In English and Hebrew with English subtitles

### **THE WOMEN'S BALCONY**

**Monday, November 14<sup>th</sup> at 7PM at Enzian Theater**

***U.S. Premiere!***

When the women's balcony in an Orthodox Jerusalem synagogue collapses during a bar mitzvah celebration, the congregation goes into crisis. The young and charismatic Rabbi David appears to be a savior after the accident, but slowly starts pushing his fundamentalist ways and tries to take control. This severely tests the women's friendships and creates an almost Lysistrata-type rift between the community's women

and men. Featuring some of Israel's top women comics, this rousing, good-natured tale is a warm, humorous, and poignant portrait of a modern Orthodox community whose unity is imperiled by an arrogant interloper. Emil Ben Shimon's feature debut is a comical feminist narrative, at once rebellious and respectful in spirit, about finding the right path to happiness and the subjectivity of righteousness.

Israel, 2016, 96 min, Directed by Emil Ben Shimon, Not Rated, In Hebrew with English subtitles

**TICKETS:** Mensch Pass - [\\$75](#) (All 5 films, First Priority Seating, Doors open 30 minutes early)  
Series Pass - [\\$50](#) (All 5 films, Discounted Admission, 2nd Priority Seating after Mensch Passes)  
Individual Tickets - \$11 (3rd Seating)  
Group Rates (20 or more) - \$1 discount on individual ticket  
Table Reservations are not available for this event.

**WHERE:** **Enzian Theater**, 1300 South Orlando Avenue, Maitland, FL 32751  
**Orlando Science Center**, 777 E. Princeton St, Orlando, FL 32803 (FANNY'S JOURNEY screening only)

**INFO:** Enzian is Central Florida's only full-time, not-for-profit cinema for first-run independent and international film, classic revivals, documentary features, and select family entertainment. Enzian, a member-supported organization serving the community for more than 31 years, is home to the Florida Film Festival and Eden Bar. For additional information, visit [Enzian.org](http://Enzian.org) or call general information at (407) 629-1088.

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