



22nd Annual Greater Phoenix Jewish Film Festival Returns February 11 - 25 to Three Valley Cities

Biggest & Most Diverse Film Slate In Fest's History !

January 5, 2018 -- (Scottsdale, ARIZONA) -- The 22nd annual Greater Phoenix Jewish Film Festival, running February 11-25, 2018, across the Valley, knocks it out of the ballpark with its largest slate of independent films in history, including the Arizona premiere of a film following the ragtag team of professional Jewish American athletes playing in the 2017 World Baseball Classic.

Coinciding nicely with Cactus League Spring Training, ***Heading Home: The Tale of Team Israel*** documents Team Israel's surprising run during the international baseball tournament held in South Korea. In a David-versus-Goliath ballpark story, the team, comprised of current and former Jewish Major League Baseball players representing a small country with only one professional baseball field, bested powerhouse teams from South Korea, Chinese Taipei, the Netherlands and Cuba, before bowing out of the tournament.

Bonus MVPs of the film festival include fascinating documentary subjects, including Hollywood classic film star and secret scientist Hedy Lamarr (***Bombshell: The Hedy Lamarr Story***); Rat Pack member and surprise Jewish convert Sammy Davis Jr. (***Sammy Davis Jr.: I've Gotta Be Me***); and violin virtuoso Itzhak Perlman (***Itzhak***).

Twenty-one feature-length films and five short films hailing from 11 different countries make this year's festival the biggest and most diverse one in its history. The film festival features a rich assortment of independent Jewish cinema that travels from the baseball stadiums of South Korea to the sound stages of Hollywood; from a conservative Israeli town to orchestra pits across the world; from the segregated towns in South Africa to the Coney Island boardwalk, the GPJFF takes filmgoers all around the world without ever leaving their seats. Films screen valley wide at three Harkins Theatres in Scottsdale, Tempe and Peoria.

"The scope and quality of our film slate keeps growing bigger and better," said GPJFF Co-Executive Director Jerry Mittelman. "I'm excited we can continue presenting films reflective of the rich and diverse Jewish people, culture, and faith to an even greater number of people than prior years. The Greater Phoenix Jewish Film Festival stands as a point of pride for the Jewish Community and as a point of understanding, awareness and acceptance for the community at large."

Guest speakers conduct questions and answer sessions with audiences following many screenings. Among the confirmed guest speakers this year are:

- Dr. Nurit Jugend, composer, lecturer and Professor of Music at Stanford Continuing Education Program at Stanford University, and director of **THEY PLAYED FOR THEIR LIVES**
- Judy Laufer, author

- Dr. Murray Henner, Professor of International Law and Intelligence at Embry Riddle University
- Rabbi Michael Beyo, CEO/Executive Director of East Valley Jewish Community Center
- Janice Friebaum, member the Governing Board of the World Federation of Jewish Survivors of the Holocaust and Descendant

For more information on films or to purchase tickets, call 602-753-9366 or visit the Festival's website at www.gpjff.org

WHAT: The 22nd Annual Greater Phoenix Jewish Film Festival

WHEN: Sunday, February 11th -- Sunday, February 25th

WHERE: Harkins Shea 14, 7354 E. Shea Blvd., Scottsdale
Harkins Tempe Marketplace 16, 2000 E. Rio Salado Parkway, Tempe
Harkins Park West 16, 9804 W. Northern Ave., Peoria

TICKET PRICES: \$11 for adults (\$13 at the door) / \$7 for active military (ID required) and students (ID required, 25 yrs & under); \$150 Festival Pass



GREAT FILMS

With a little Jewish flavor

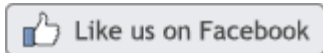


21 FILMS // 2 WEEKS
FEBRUARY 11-25, 2018

TICKETS AT:
WWW.GPJFF.ORG

SCOTTSDALE SHEA 14 • **HARKINS TEMPE** MARKETPLACE 16
PEORIA HARKINS PARK WEST 14

Entering its 22nd year of existence, the Greater Phoenix Jewish Film Festival brings an exciting and entertaining line up of cultural films to the Valley. From February 11 to 25, 2018, the GPJFF will showcase dramas, documentaries, comedies, and docudramas at three Harkins venues in the Valley: Scottsdale Shea 14, Peoria Park West 14 and Tempe Town Marketplace 16. Speakers and discussions will follow many of the films. For more information, please go to www.gpjff.org or:



Greater Phoenix Jewish Film Festival, 6501 East Greenway Parkway, Suite 103 -
PMB 234, Scottsdale, AZ 85254