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PHOTOS AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST:

MEDIA ALERT:

FLICKERS PARTNERS WITH ROGER WILLIAMS UNIVERSITY TO PRESENT THE ANNUAL RABBI MARC JAGOLINZER JEWISH EXPERIENCE SERIES

VIRTUAL PROGRAM SPONSORED BY THE HELENE AND BERTRAM BERNHARDT FOUNDATION

WHAT: The Annual **Rabbi Marc Jagolinzer Jewish Experience Series** at the 16th Annual Roving Eye International Film Festival

WHEN: December 13, 15 & 19, 2021

WHERE: A Virtual Program, <https://prog.tsharp.xyz/en/riiff/11> or www.rifilmfest.org

WHO: Flickers' Rhode Island International Film Festival (RIIFF) and Roger Williams University (RWU)

HOW MUCH: This is a Free Online Virtual Event

WHY: To Celebrate The Jewish Experience Through The Art of International Filmmaking.

Roger Williams University (RWU) has partnered with the **Flickers' Rhode Island International Film Festival (RIIFF)** to present its Fall-edition of the bi-annual **Roving Eye International Film Festival**. The popular and acclaimed Festival celebrating global cinema and artists, announces its 2021 Fall sidebar program, the **Rabbi Marc Jagolinzer Jewish Experience Series** through short films, documentary, media and guest speakers. This year's Jewish Experience theme is "**ARTS AND CULTURE: Shaping The Future, Reflecting, The Past,**" and is presented by a grant from the **Helene And Bertram Bernhardt Foundation**.

The event takes place virtually **December 13, 15 & 19th**. This year's programming explores representations of the Jewish experience in Israel, across the globe and the Holocaust through **13 premiere films**. George T. Marshall, Adjunct Professor of Communications and Film Studies at Roger Williams University and Shawn Quirk, Program Director at Flickers organized the series. The program will include conversations with **Andrew Lund**, director of the Integrated Media Arts - MFA Program at Hunter College; and **Rachel Goldberg**, filmmaker/screenwriter, the **Rev. Nancy Soukup**, and **Amir Tadmor**, Cultural Attaché, Consulate General of Israel to New England. *The virtual series is free and open to the public!*

The programming for the **Fall 2021 Rabbi Marc Jagolinzer Jewish Experience Series** can be found at this URL: <https://prog.tsharp.xyz/en/riiff/11>

"In showcasing these dynamic films, this series tells the stories of the Jewish experience globally, creating a space for dialogue and discussion about the plethora of perspectives and identities that define

Jewish culture,” said George T. Marshall.

The **Fall 2021 Jewish Experience** sidebar of the Roving Eye International Film Festival is presented in partnership with Flickers' Rhode Island International Film Festival, the Helene and Bertram Bernhardt Foundation, the Consulate General of Israel to New England, the RWU School of Humanities, Arts and Education, Dean Jeffrey L. Meriwether, RWU Department of Communication, Graphic Design and Web Development, Dr. Paola Prado, Department Chair, and RWU Hillel.

THIS YEAR'S SCHEDULE INCLUDES:

Monday, December 13, 2021

6:00 p.m.

BEHIND THE CAMERA LENS: A CONVERSATION WITH...

Virtual Conversation/Facebook Live

Rachel Goldberg, Director “Welcome to Camelot,” “American Horror Story”

ABOUT OUR GUEST SPEAKER:

Rachel Goldberg is an award-winning director whose credits include AMERICAN HORROR STORY: CULT, MAYANS M.C., RAISING DION, CLOAK & DAGGER and the VERONICA MARS reboot. Her film, MUTED, about media discrepancy when a child of color goes missing, sold to HBO and stars Chandra Wilson (GREY'S ANATOMY) and Malcolm-Jamal Warner (SNEAKY PETE). Rachel has been supported by Ryan Murphy's HALF Foundation, HBO, AFI's Directing Workshop for Women, the Sony Pictures Diverse Directors Program, Fox Studio Bridge Program, Fox Global Directors Initiative, Film Independent and the Sundance/Women in Film Financing Initiative. As a writer, her work has been recognized by the Academy's Nicholl Fellowship, Cinestory Foundation, PAGE International and more. She has directed over 40 productions for film and theater, screened at over 80 festivals world wide and won close to 20 awards for her work. You can learn more about her at RachelGoldbergDirector.com

7:00 p.m.

HOW WE SEE OURSELVES...

Documentary and Narrative Film Screenings

WHILE WE STAYED HOME | Directed by: Gil Vesely | 5 min. Israel, 2020

It's night time during the Corona virus quarantine. While we stayed home, a young man met a young woman in the empty streets of Tel- Aviv. Flirting became difficult, for each hid a secret under his mask.

SHREDDERED | Directed by: Noam Stolerman | 16 min. Israel, 2020

An aging bodybuilder is on the path to becoming a champion. Moments before emerging as a finalist, he might face a heartache.

PIGUA (TERROR) | Directed by: Yonaton Shehoah | 16 min. Israel, 2018.

A man who suffers from PTSD after being wounded in a terrorist attack, finds himself thrown together with his Arab co-workers when multiple terror attacks hit Jerusalem again.

100/100 THE ITINERANT PORTRAITIST | Directed by: Brenda Zlamany, Laure Sullivan | 20 min. United States, 2019

In 2017 the iconic Hebrew Home at Riverdale, NY turned 100. Over the course of that year, portrait painter Brenda Zlamany painted 100 of the residents. 100 surprising, unique and inspiring stories emerged...

39 | Directed by: Anat Schwartz | 14 min. Israel, 2020

Keren is a social worker in the welfare department in Haifa. The corridor is packed with struggling mothers, abused woman and children at risk and everyone is suffering. But today it's Keren's 40th birthday and she is the one who needs comforting. She is waiting for a phone call from the man she loves, but he doesn't call her, and everything falls apart.

BENEATH | Directed by: Joanna Satanowska | 39 min. Poland, 2019

Hiding from pogroms, a group of Jews creates the closest thing to a home they can. The War seems to be passing them by from afar. But even the best hideout can one day be discovered.

GRATEFUL: THE JENNI BEREBITSKY STORY | Directed by: Paul W. Nethercott | 11 min. United States, 2018
A courageous young woman with ALS shows us how to live an engaging, productive, and meaningful life.

Wednesday, December 15, 2021

2:15 P.M.

BEHIND THE CAMERA LENS: A CONVERSATION WITH...

Virtual Conversation/Facebook Live

Andrew Lund, Professor Film Studies, Hunter College

ABOUT OUR GUEST SPEAKER:

A narrative filmmaker and entertainment lawyer, Andrew Lund recently produced and co-edited the feature film *Brief Reunion*, which was distributed internationally on television, VOD, and digital outlets following theatrical exhibition in New York and LA, and a successful festival run, including the award for best narrative film from the University Film and Video Association (UFVA) and the audience award for best film at the Gotham International Film Festival. *My Last Day Without You*, on which Andrew served as a producer, was also recently released theatrically after winning top producing honors at the Brooklyn International Film Festival. Andrew is the Executive Producer of nine feature films that tackle social and political issues, including *The Hungry Ghosts*, written and directed by Michael Imperioli; *Vanaja*, named by Roger Ebert as one of the top five foreign films of 2007, and *Arranged*, an international hit that Variety called “a pure pleasure to watch.” Andrew is currently producing and writing the screenplay for *Mocking Justice*, a narrative feature based on Vermont’s 1970’s culture wars.

Andrew also remains committed to the short film as a fundamental form of cinematic expression. Andrew has written and directed five award-winning shorts, the last two of which were honored as top narrative films at the UFVA annual conference. In addition to worldwide festival screenings and television broadcasts, his shorts are included in film textbooks, DVD compilations, and distributed theatrically and non-theatrically. In 2016, Andrew produced and edited the shorts *Quintown* (audience award New England Film Festival) and *Fire* (prize winner at the New Hampshire International Film Festival). *Double or Nothing*, Andrew’s latest short as writer/director has garnered multiple grants and is slated for production in late 2016.

Since 2014, Andrew has been a judge in the narrative short film category at the Rhode Island International Film Festival (an Academy Award and BAFTA qualifying festival). He also created and curates the Short Film Repository, which houses educational extras that support the study and production of shorts. Andrew’s writing on film includes an essay, “What’s a Short Film, Really?” in “Swimming Upstream: A Lifesaving Guide to Short Film Distribution” by Sharon Badal, and two upcoming books for Peter Lang Publishers that examine the short film as its own art form and explore the relationship between a film’s running time and its form and content.

Since 2011, Andrew has been Director of the IMA MFA Program. In this role, he has focused on how narrative strategies and storytelling techniques can contribute to a wide range of media projects. A Faculty Associate at the Roosevelt House Public Policy Institute, Andrew served on the College’s Committee on Interdisciplinary Programs, the Presidential steering committee for the formation of an Arts Administration Program, and the advisory board for the Mellon Foundation funded Arts Across the Curriculum initiative. Andrew also founded CinemaTalks, an independent film screening and discussion series. Since 2007, Andrew has been a frequent panelist at the Rhode Island Film Forum and the ScriptBiz symposium, which he produced in 2016. Andrew serves on the Advisory Board of the Rhode Island International Film Festival and the Vision Committee for the Gamm Theatre in Pawtucket, Rhode Island.

An Associate Professor in Hunter’s Film & Media Department, Andrew has an honorary advisory appointment to the Film Studies Department at the University of North Carolina Wilmington and has taught in the Graduate Film Division of Columbia University, where he received J.D., M.F.A. and B.A. degrees.

6:00 p.m.

MEMORIES NEVER DIE

Documentary and Narrative Film Screenings with Director's Discussion
Virtual Conversation/Facebook Live
Shawn Quirk, RIIFF Program Director

HELLO JEMIMA | Directed by: Peter Baynton | 3 min. United States, 2018

The latest in the multi-award winning partnership between American songwriter Benjamin Scheuer and British animator Peter Baynton. Ben posts himself from New York to London to visit the girl he loves. Unfortunately he gets lost on the way.

YAEL'S ROOM | Directed by: Shir Cohen | 23 min. Israel, 2019.

Yael returns from India to the Kibbutz, where she lives with her mother, with her leg in a cast. She yearns for a room of her own, outside her mother's house. Will Yael be willing to pay the price for her own space?

AROUND | Directed by: Dominika Blackapfl & Michal Sloboda | 44 min. United States, 2019

Around (2019) is a documentary about being in the moment. It is about people from the San Francisco Bay Area, who bake Challah to connect with others. Challah is the bread Jews share on Shabbat. Shabbat is the Jewish day-of-rest. The film is an intimate view into the tradition that continues to connect people around the table today. It captures fifteen Challah bakers in their homes. They are individuals of different cultures, self-identities and stages of life. Their personal stories are interwoven with reflections on today's meaning of Shabbat by Rabbi Yeshua Charles Familant, former director of Stanford Hillel.

THE BOOK OF SABETH (Das Buch Sabeth) | Directed by: Florian Kogler | 30 min. Austria, 2018.

We encounter Elisabeth "Netzkowa" Mnatsakanjan, a writer, musician, painter, and scholar, who could not go on living in the Soviet Union and emigrated to Vienna in the 1970s. Her stories, her poems, her music and an encounter with an old friend depict a life dedicated to the arts and language.

Sunday, December 19, 2021

1:30 p.m.

THE STORIES WE TELL. THE STORIES WE SHARE

Documentary and Narrative Film Screenings with Director's Discussion

Virtual Conversation/Facebook Live

George T. Marshall, RWU Film Studies with special guest, Rev. Nancy Soukup

THE MASTERSINGERS OF NUREMBERG | Directed by: Selcuk Zvi Cara | 112 min. Germany, 2020

In 1935, Richard Wagner's opera "The Mastersingers of Nuremberg" was performed at the gala opening of the seventh Nazi Party rally in Nuremberg. On 15 September 1935, the antisemitic and racist Nuremberg Laws were passed unanimously in the Reichstag in Nuremberg, with devastating consequences for millions. On 10 August 1938, the NS Gauleiter of Franconia, Julius Streicher, used the phrase "Begin!" from "The Mastersingers of Nuremberg" to order the demolition of the Nuremberg synagogue on the square Hans-Sachs-Platz. 85 years after the enactment of the Nuremberg Laws, this film deals with the crimes against humanity. 85 years after the enactment of the Nuremberg Laws, a powerful new adaption of "The Mastersingers of Nuremberg" is staged on the former Nazi party rally grounds, both as a reminder and a wake-up call. In Selcuk Cara's extract of Wagner's "The Mastersingers of Nuremberg" the Middle Ages, Nazi era, present and future are brought together in one room. Martin Luther and Adolf Hitler argue about who was the greater Jew hater and in-between actual quotes from today's right-wing populists are woven in, so that the past and present become blurred.

4:00 p.m.

THE STORIES WE TELL. THE STORIES WE SHARE – PART II

Virtual Conversation/Facebook Live

Amir Tadmor, Cultural Attaché, Consulate General of Israel to New England

THE LIVING WITNESSES (LES TEMOINS VIVANTS)

Directed by Karoline Markiewicz and Pascal Piron | 89 min. Luxembourg, 2021

"Auschwitz ist nicht vom Himmel gefallen!" (Alexander Van der Bellen, Austrian Federal President) Three teenagers, Marie, Christina and Dean meet Claude and Marian, two survivors of the Holocaust, and go on a journey to get to know more about each others worlds. Starting with the deportation of Luxembourgish Jews to the death camps, they soon discover that History doesn't belong to the past but is more present than ever. Their road trip confronts them with numerous people, from Auschwitz survivors to neo-fascists,

from activists fighting for their rights to a new Jewish generation fighting for their identity. With their individual backgrounds, motivations and goals, they develop a deep friendship that not only shines a light on the past but tells us a story about our future.

To see a full listing of this year's programming and to learn more about the **Roving Eye International Film Festival**, go to: http://www.film-festival.org/RovingEye_JewishExperienceFALL2021.php

ABOUT ROGER WILLIAMS UNIVERSITY:

Roger Williams University located in Bristol, R.I. is a leading independent, coeducational university with programs in the liberal arts and the professions, where students become community- and globally-minded citizens. With 42 academic majors, an array of co-curricular activities and study abroad opportunities on six continents, RWU is an open community dedicated to the success of students, commitment to a set of core values and providing a world-class education above all else. In the last decade, the University has achieved unprecedented successes including recognition as one of the best colleges in the nation by *Forbes*, a College of Distinction by Student Horizons, Inc. and as both a best college in the Northeast and one of the nation's greenest universities by *The Princeton Review*. For more information, go to: www.rwu.edu.

ABOUT FLICKERS' RHODE ISLAND INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL:

The **Flickers' Rhode Island International Film Festival** (RIIFF) has secured its place in the global community as the portal for the best in international independent cinema, earning the respect of domestic and foreign filmmakers, filmgoers and trend watchers. Ranked as one of the top 10 Festivals in the United States, RIIFF is a qualifying festival for the Live Action, Documentary and Animation Short Academy Awards through its affiliation with the Academy of Motion Picture Arts & Sciences, the Canadian Screen Awards and the British Academy of Film and Television Arts (BAFTA). There are only 10 film festivals worldwide that share this distinction and RIIFF is the only festival in New England. The Festival takes place every August. For more information, go to: www.rifilmfest.org

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