Israel's singing sensation David Broza to appear at SVJFF opening night

At its enters its 24th year, the Silicon Valley Jewish Film Festival (www.svff.org) is moving to a new centrally-located theater in the Bay Area, announced Executive Director Taya Sheffer. "The Festival is very excited to be offering movies and events for two weeks at the AMC Saratoga 14 in the El Cerrito de Saratoga Shopping Center," she said. The AMC Saratoga 14 offers comfortable seating, easy parking and access to numerous close-by restaurants. The Festival will also continue to offer films and events for two weeks at the Qsanian Family JCC (OFJCC) in Palo Alto, including exciting Opening and Closing Night events.

At the AMC Theater, movies will be shown on Saturday evenings, Sunday afternoons and evenings, as well as screenings Monday-Thursdays through October 12-29. It is still possible to become a Patron Donor of the Festival, and your benefits will include early seating and may include tickets to special events, including Opening Night and Closing night tickets at some Patron levels. Visit www.svff.org/secure/donation/ or call (650) 498-0940 for more information.

The excitement of the 24th Annual Festival begins Opening Night, Saturday, October 10, at the OFJCC with a special appearance by David Broza, one of the most well-known Israeli superstar recording artists. Broza, who appears in the Opening Night film, "East Jerusalem West Jerusalem," will perform and speak about the movie. His charismatic and energetic performances have brought to worldwide audiences a fusion of music from three different countries: Israel, Spain, and England. He has entertained at concert halls around the world with guitar playing that ranges from flamenco-flavored rhythmic and percussive techniques, to whistled finger picking, to a signature rock-n-roll sound.

The Centerpiece Event will be held Sunday, October 25 at 3 p.m. at the AMC Saratoga 14 with the screening of "Above and Beyond." In 1948, a group of World War II pilots, mostly from America, volunteered to fight for Israel in the War of Independence. This ragtag band of brothers turned the tide of the war and laid the groundwork for the Israeli Air Force. Roberts Greenman, the film's director, will be present to speak about the making of the film and this amazing group of men.

The Festival concludes November 8 at the OFJCC with the movie, "The outrageous Sophie Tucker!" Six-time Emmy award-winning comedy writer Bruce Vilanch, along with the film's producers, will provide insights into this provocative film.

The 24th Annual Festival includes more than 35 film screenings, from documentaries that inform to features that both entertain and inspire. Tickets are now on-sale and can be purchased from www.svff.org. Here is a preview of just some of the many highly-rated films of Jewish interest from the United States, Israel, and other countries. For a complete list of the Festival films, visit www.svff.org.

Farewell Party

In a Jerusalem retirement home is faced with a pair of devastating challenges that threaten to divide them after decades of marriage.


Dough

Jonathan Pryce stars as an old Jewish baker whose faltering business is inadvertently saved by his young Muslim apprentice.

The Farewell Party

A devoted elderly couple living in a Jerusalem retirement home is faced with a pair of devastating challenges that threaten to divide them after decades of marriage.

The Farewell Party

An elderly Greek man and his Hasidic rapper son embark on a journey with absurd encounters, which leads to a final confrontation.

Anywhere Else

An Israeli graduate student in Berlin strives to reinvent herself but finds something has been lost in translation in this family drama.

Felix and Meira

This is a poignant tale of self-discovery between two lost souls and a fascinating glimpse into the Hasidic community.

Belie and Sebastian

Agnostic children's book writer takes a journey to Berlin when the new Holocaust exhibit is been opened.

Theodor Bikel in the Shoes of Sholom Aleichem

Portraits of two beloved icons—Sholom Aleichem and the late Theodore Bikel— are woven together in this enchanting new documentary.

Orange People

Traditions clash with modernity for three generations of Moroccan Israeli women in this earthy directorial debut.

Serializer (Bad) Weddings

A Catholic family is spirited by a succession of multicultural marriages in this politically incorrect romantic comedy that bodes fun at the melting pot of modern day France.

To Life

Three women who are Auschwitz survivors but who haven't seen each other since the war, get together for a reunion, filled with laughter, arguments, and friendship.

The Art Dealer

The Jewish wife of an art dealer begins a quest to research the history of her grandfather's paintings and their possible misappropriation by the Nazis.

Zemene

A young Ethiopian girl struggles with poverty and life-threatening illness while the photographer with Dr Rick Hoyt sets in motion a series of events that will change Zemene's life forever.

Encirclement

Aharon, the only child of parents who are unable to conceive again, is determined to win the honor of carrying the Torah torch on Simchat Torah.

The Outrageous Sophie Tucker

The rags to riches story of Sophie Tucker, an iconic superstar who ruled the worlds of vaudeville, Broadway, radio, television, and Hollywood.

Visit www.svff.org or call (408) 498-0940 to learn more about the Silicon Valley Jewish Film Festival.

Film Festival (continued from page 20)

The Last Mentsch

Having spent a lifetime concealing his heritage, an aging German Holocaust survivor finally tries to come to terms with his past.

Apples from the Desert

The rebellious teenage daughter of ultra Orthodox Jewish parents journeys into the secular world in this adaptation of the award-winning Israeli play that poignantly explores themes of love and reconciliation.

Deli Man

At last, the deli documentary you've been waiting for! Erik Greensberg Anjou's film explores Jewish cultural as it reflects the heat of a vital ethnic history.

L'chaim

For the first time on its roll on the aging cabaret singer Ruth and the young but terminally ill Jonas. Yet despite their age difference they seem a bond and give each other a reason to live.

Frank vs. G-D

David Frank thinks he's lost everything. After losing his wife, house, and dog, this former lawyer decides to serve G-D...with a lawsuit.

Are you going to be there? To find out, visit www.svff.org.