

OTHER ISRAEL FILM FESTIVAL

FIELD GUIDE

BROUGHT TO YOU BY:

הקרן החדשה לישראל
New Israel Fund
الصندوق الجديد لإسرائيل

Since 1979, the New Israel Fund has protected and strengthened democracy, equality, justice, pluralism, and human rights in Israel.

The films presented at the Marlene Meyerson JCC Manhattan's Other Israel Film Festival, founded by visionary NIF International Board Member Carole Zabar, provide a window into the lives of everyday Israelis and Palestinians.

But what happens when the curtains fall, and we return home? Now in its third year of publication, the NIF Field Guide to the Other Israel Film Festival gives audiences access to the people and organizations that continue to address the challenges raised by the festival's films.

In this field guide, you will find information about NIF grantees whose work is illuminated by films in this year's festival.

Death of a Poetess

Mon, Nov 5th, 8:15pm

@Alamo Drafthouse Cinema (Dwtn BK)

Wed, Nov 7th, 6:15pm @JCC Manhattan

GRANTEE

Adalah & Kayan



When a chance encounter between a gay Palestinian woman and an Israeli writer ends in tragedy, Yasmin finds herself under increasingly hostile interrogation by Israeli authorities as we watch the doomed nature of her conversation with an Israeli investigator. **Adalah—The Legal Center for Arab Minority Rights in Israel** and **Kayan—Feminist Organization** strive to defend the social, economic, and civil rights of Arab women throughout Israel, many of whom, like Yasmin, have found themselves struggling against a corrupt justice system and restrictive gender-norms.

The Ancestral Sin
Tues, Nov 6th, 6:15pm @JCC Manhattan
Sun, Nov 4th, 3:00pm @NYU



GRANTEE

Achoti & The Mizrahi Democratic Rainbow

The Ancestral Sin offers chilling revelations about the forced settlement of Mizrahi immigrants in Israel's development towns during the first decades after the state's founding as well as the roots of discrimination against Mizrahi Israelis today. Several NIF grantees work to bring to light these systematic injustices. **Achoti (Sister)—for Women in Israel** strengthens the voices of women from marginalized communities, while **The Mizrahi Democratic Rainbow—New Discourse** works to highlight these injustices and end discrimination against Mizrahi Israelis.

achoti.org.il
ha-keshet.org.il/en

In Her Footsteps
Sat, Nov 3rd 8:00pm
@JCC Harlem
Wed, Nov 7th, 8:30pm
@JCC Manhattan

Confronted with her dying mother's wish—to be buried as a Muslim in her town's Jewish cemetery—Bedouin filmmaker Rana Abu Fraiha begins to ask some of the most important questions about identity, family, religion, and community in Israel today. **AJEEC—NISPED** and **Shatil** (NIF's capacity-building arm) in Beersheva are working to build a joint future for all of Israel's inhabitants. As a team of Jews and Arabs, **AJEEC—NISPED** promotes socio-economic development and peace-building among Negev communities in transition, supporting families that, like Abu Fraiha's, find themselves torn between multiple identities and traditions.

GRANTEE

AJEEC-NISPED & Shatil



en.ajec-nisped.org.il
english.shatil.org.il

Unsettling

Tues, Nov 6th, 6:30pm

@Alamo Drafthouse Cinema (Dwtn BK)
Thurs, Nov 8th, 7:00pm @JCC Manhattan

GRANTEE

B'Tselem & Yesh Din



Unsettling provides a fascinating look into the lives and motivations of Israelis living beyond the Green Line and their attitudes toward their Palestinian neighbors. For close to three decades, **B'Tselem: The Israeli Information Center for Human Rights in the Occupied Territories** has shined a light on the harsh reality for Palestinians whose daily lives are controlled by the occupation, while NIF grantee **Yesh Din—Volunteers for Human Rights** has successfully litigated major cases against settlements and outposts which were built on Palestinian land.

btselem.org
yesh-din.org/en

The Optimists
Sun, Nov 4, 2:00pm
@ JCC Manhattan

GRANTEE

**The Abraham Fund
& Omdim Beyachad**



Directed by Eliezer Yaari, the former director of NIF in Israel, *The Optimists* explores what happens when a Palestinian chemist decides to move from his village to a Jewish kibbutz in southern Israel. What does true partnership between Palestinian and Jewish Israelis look like? Organizations like **The Abraham Fund Initiatives (TAFI)** and **Omdim Beyachad (Standing Together)** model for us what a shared society—one that is committed to peace, justice, and equality for all Israelis—can look like. Both organizations mobilized protests this past summer against the Nation-State Law, including the world's largest-ever Arabic lesson in the heart of Tel Aviv.

abrahamfund.org
standing-together.org/standingtogether

An intimate portrayal of sexual harassment in the workplace, *Working Woman* is a timely reflection on the challenges women continue to face not only in Israel, but across the world.

Projects like the **Dafna Fund** and organizations like **Israel Women's Network (IWN)** are part of a global movement to protect the rights of women and prioritize their voices. For 15 years, as a feminist movement-building "hub," the Dafna Fund has invested \$2.5 million in feminist projects. Meanwhile, in addition to passing anti-sexual harassment legislation, **IWN** works to promote female representation in public companies and in the IDF, and ensure effective implementation of equal pay and labor laws.

iwn.org.il
dafnafund.org.il/en

Working Woman

Sat, Nov 3, 7:00pm
@ JCC Manhattan

GRANTEE

Dafna Fund & Israel Women's Network (IWN)



For opportunities to engage with NIF...

New Generations Shabbat Dinner

Friday, November 2 at 6:30pm

Cosponsored by NIF, JCC Manhattan 20s & 30s, and Hand in Hand: Center for Jewish-Arab Education in Israel

Purchase tickets at otherisrael.org/events

NIF Day at the Other Israel Film Festival

Sunday, November 4

2pm: *The Optimists*

4pm: Jewish & Democratic:
The Nation-State Law & American Jews Panel
featuring Rabbi Ayelet S. Cohen,
Senior Director, NIF NY/Tri-State

For more info, contact 212-613-4400 or ny@nif.org

ART EXHIBIT

Protest in Pictures: Standing Together Against the Nation-State Law

On display Nov 1-8 at the Laurie M. Tisch Gallery
in the Marlene Meyerson JCC Manhattan



Tens of thousands of Israelis of all stripes took to the streets this summer to rally against the Nation-State Law, which strongly favors Jews over others living in Israel, in contrast to the guarantees of equality articulated in Israel's Declaration of Independence. With unprecedented criticism of this law across the political spectrum in Israel – and from all over the world, including much of the American Jewish community – people were ready to channel their energies toward action. Their signs said, "Equality Now!" and "Equal rights for all." Their message was that this is a struggle for a shared future for all Israelis. Many of the New Israel Fund's grantees rallied their fellow citizens into the streets to actualize a different vision for Israel – one that will always stand for equality that extends to all citizens, regardless of race, religion, and background.