

# OTHER ISRAEL FILM FESTIVAL

## FIELD GUIDE

הקרן החדשה לישראל  
New Israel Fund  
الصندوق الجديد لإسرائيل

FIELD GUIDE

OTHER  
ISRAEL  
FILM FESTIVAL

For 40 years, 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 curtain falls, and we return home? Now in its fourth 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.

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*Comrade Dov*  
Fri, Nov. 15, 11:00am @ JCC Manhattan  
Sun, Nov. 17, 3:30pm @ NYU  
Sun, Nov. 17, 7:00pm @ JCC Manhattan

Photo Credit: Yossi Zamir

GRANTEES

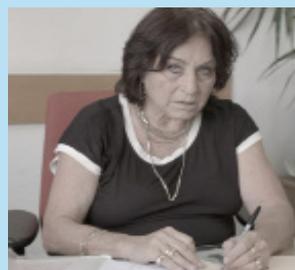
Omdim Beyachad  
& Koach LaOvdim



What does it take to stand up for equity and justice in a society moving increasingly to the right? *Comrade Dov* tells the story of Dov Khenin, the human rights lawyer and progressive member of Knesset whose life's work has been to create a more just and equal society. If you feel inspired by Khenin and want to support organizations that work for many of the same causes, consider learning more about **Omdim Beyachad (Standing Together)** and **Koach LaOvdim (Power to the Workers)**. Omdim Beyachad is building a grassroots movement that brings together Jews and Arabs around a new vision for Israeli society, one grounded in the principles of peace, equality, and social justice. Koach LaOvdim, Israel's third-largest labor union, fights for worker's rights, feminism, and racial and economic justice.

[standing-together.org/english](http://standing-together.org/english)  
[workers.org.il](http://workers.org.il)

*Advocate*  
Thu, Nov. 14, 7:00pm  
@ JCC Manhattan



GRANTEES

HaMoked, B'Tselem & PCATI

The award-winning documentary *Advocate* explores the life and work of Lea Tsemel, the Jewish Israeli lawyer who for more than 50 years has defended Palestinian political prisoners in court. With Tsemel as its trailblazer, the human rights community in Israel today comprises a network of organizations working to defend the rights of those living under Israel's control. **HaMoked: Center for the Defense of the Individual** provides legal assistance to Palestinians in the occupied territories, and **B'Tselem** raises awareness in Israeli society and abroad about the harsh realities of the occupation. **The Public Committee Against Torture in Israel** monitors detention centers and files legal complaints to prevent ill treatment by state security authorities; it also works for systemic change through legislative and public awareness work.

[btselem.org](http://btselem.org)  
[hamoked.org](http://hamoked.org)  
[stoptorture.org.il](http://stoptorture.org.il)

*Muna*  
Sat, Nov. 16, 4:00pm  
@ JCC Manhattan  
Sun, Nov. 17, 6:30pm  
@ Silvana Cafe-Bar-Restaurant

GRANTEES

Kayan & Sikkuy



Set in Tel Aviv in the summer of 2014, the hit TV series *Muna* follows the title character, an emerging photographer, as she explores her identity as a Palestinian Israeli feminist in a time of war. The film festival will feature a screening of *Muna's* first two episodes and a discussion with the show's creator, renowned singer and NIF International Council Member Mira Awad.

Off-screen, NIF grantee **Kayan** promotes equal rights and opportunities for Palestinian Israeli women through their legal work and community organizing. Meanwhile, organizations like **Sikkuy**, a shared project of Palestinian and Jewish citizens of Israel, work on local and national levels to promote governmental policies that ensure full equality for all of Israel's citizens.

[kayanfeminist.wordpress.com](http://kayanfeminist.wordpress.com)  
[sikkuy.org.il/en](http://sikkuy.org.il/en)

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The story of NIF is the story of Israel. For the last 40 years, we have been present in every progressive movement and won significant victories for social change. And we're committed for the next 40 years and beyond. These photographs come from NIF's own archive, and document moments in time from the past 40 years. They give expression to a wide range of identities and put a human face on the hard-fought struggles to change policy and realize rights and justice for all.

Join NIF's email list to receive urgent updates, smart analysis, and opportunities to get involved: [nif.org/join](http://nif.org/join)

*Asylum City*  
Tue, Nov. 19, 6:30pm  
@ JCC Manhattan

GRANTEES

**Achoti, ASSAF & Hotline for Refugees and Migrants**



The murder mystery TV series *Asylum City* takes place in south Tel Aviv, with the experiences of Israel's more than 30,000 asylum seekers at its center. In 2018, the Israeli government planned to forcibly deport asylum seekers, which several NIF grantees and large swaths of Israeli society successfully fought against. The Mizrahi feminist organization **Achoti** was instrumental in organizing in south Tel Aviv—where thousands of asylum seekers live—against the deportations.

A number of organizations provide ongoing aid and support to the vulnerable refugee population. **ASSAF - Aid Organization for Refugees and Asylum-Seekers in Israel** provides psychosocial and material support, like trauma counseling and food, to asylum seekers, and the **Hotline for Refugees and Migrants** provides crucial legal aid to those held in detention. Both organizations also engage in advocacy work.

[achoti.com](http://achoti.com)  
[assaf.org.il/en](http://assaf.org.il/en)  
[hotline.org.il/en/main](http://hotline.org.il/en/main)

*Border of Pain*  
Wed, Nov. 20, 6:15pm  
@ JCC Manhattan

GRANTEES

**Gisha & PHRI**



*Border of Pain* traces the journey of Palestinian residents of Gaza and the West Bank who are seeking medical treatment in Israel. In its telling of their stories, the film sheds light on the complex bureaucracy they must navigate in order to receive treatment.

**Gisha** advocates for the freedom of movement of Palestinian residents, especially of Gaza, and **Physicians for Human Rights-Israel (PHRI)** and its mobile clinics provide direct medical aid to Palestinians living in the occupied territories. Both organizations advocate for an end to the movement restrictions that prevent Palestinians from seeking medical care.

[phr.org.il/en](http://phr.org.il/en)  
[gisha.org](http://gisha.org)

For opportunities to engage with NIF...

**Shabbat Shabang + Other Israel**

Friday, November 15 at 7:00 pm @ JCC Manhattan

Co-sponsored by NIF New Generations

This shabbat evening is inspired by and presented with the Other Israel Film Festival. Our dinners include conversations, films, panels, and music featuring aspects of Israeli and Palestinian society and underrepresented populations in Israel. Our dinners take the spiritual practice of breaking bread together and use our shared time to explore human stories, engage our community, and challenge our perspectives.

Purchase tickets at [otherisrael.org/events](http://otherisrael.org/events)

**Panel Discussion: What Is Left?**

Saturday, November 16 at 6:00 pm @ JCC Manhattan (Auditorium)

What is the future for the left in Israel? Join us for a conversation moderated by NIF VP for Public Engagement Libby Lenkinski, featuring member of Knesset Dov Khenin, human rights attorney Lea Tsemel, singer and NIF International Council Member Mira Awad, and filmmaker Barak Heymann.

Register for this free event at [otherisrael.org/events](http://otherisrael.org/events)