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The JCC of Central New Jersey hosts its Fifth Annual Jewish Film Festival

Beginning October 14 and running five Wednesday evenings through November 11, the JCC of Central New Jersey is hosting the Fifth Annual Jewish Film Festival of Central New Jersey. This year, the Jewish Film Festival includes award-winning films all of which begin at 7:30 p.m. In order to accommodate our growing audiences, the venue has been changed to the AMC Loews Theatre in Mountainside, NJ.

Opening night, Wednesday, October 14, features *The Little Traitor* directed by Lynn Roth in Hebrew and English with English subtitles. It is based on the novel, *Panther in the Basement*, by world-renowned Israeli author, Amos Oz and tells the tale of an unlikely friendship between a 12-year-old boy and a British sergeant who is part of the force occupying the boy's Palestinian homeland before Israel became a state.

On Wednesday, October 21, the featured film is *A Secret*, directed by Claude Miller, in French with English subtitles. *A Secret* is adapted from Philippe Grimbert's autobiographical novel, *Memory*, and is the saga of a Jewish boy and his family in post-World War II Paris. The boy's world is shattered as family secrets about the Holocaust unfold.

The Debt, directed by Assaf Bernstein, will be shown on Wednesday, October 28. In Hebrew, German and Russian with English subtitles, *The Debt* is a psychological thriller which tells the story of three young Israeli Mossad agents and their decades-long search for a notorious Nazi war criminal. *The Debt* is slated for an English-language movie remake next year.

Moving into November, *For My Father*, is the featured film on Wednesday, November 4. The film, directed by Dror Zahavi in Hebrew and Arabic with English subtitles, is a gripping political drama which takes a humanistic look at Palestinian/Israeli relations through a young Palestinian suicide bomber and a beautiful young Israeli girl who was brought up Orthodox. Dr. Dennis Klein, Director of the Jewish Studies Program and History Professor and at Kean University will be a guest speaker that evening.

On closing night, Wednesday, November 11, *Yoo-Hoo, Mrs. Goldberg* will be shown. Directed by Aviva Kempner in English, *Mrs. Goldberg* is a documentary about Gertrude Berg (a.k.a. Molly

Goldberg), one of the country's most important female television pioneers, who weathered the most difficult years for Jews in the entertainment industry. Adam Berg, grandson of Gertrude Berg, will recount delightful family memories, provide unique insights and answer questions that night.

Tickets are \$12 in advance for JCC members, seniors age 65+ and students; \$14 for the community. At the door, tickets are \$15. Tickets for the entire series (1 ticket/film), are \$55 for JCC members, seniors age 65+ and students; \$65 for the community. Advance ticket purchase is strongly recommended as screenings often sell out. Tickets can be purchased online at www.jccnj.org, by mail or in person at the JCC in Scotch Plains .

For full information on the Fifth Annual Jewish Film Festival of Central New Jersey and ticket purchase, go to www.jccnj.org or call ext. 208.

The JCC of Central New Jersey is located at 1391 Martine Avenue in Scotch Plains . The JCC of Central New Jersey is a constituent agency of the Jewish Federation of Central New Jersey, United Way and the United Fund of Westfield. Financial assistance is available for membership and various programs.

Editorial Note: Interviews with Adam Berg can be arranged by contacting Michele Dreiblatt at (908) 889-8800 ext. 205 or mdreiblatt@jccnj.org.

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