

THE DAILY TARGUM - Festival shows Jewish films

By Mike New/Associate News Editor

Published: 11/11/05

The sixth annual Rutgers New Jersey Jewish Film Festival opens today in North Brunswick and will run until Nov. 20.

Sponsored by the Allen and Joan Bildner Center for the Study of Jewish Life, the festival will be held at the Regal Cinema Commerce Center, 2399 Route 1 South, North Brunswick.

Most screenings will include commentary by each film's directors, or noted experts in other aspects of the Jewish experience.

- The festival opens with a reception tonight at 6, and a screening of "Watermarks" at 7:30.

The film looks at female swimmers from Hakoah Vienna, a Jewish sports club that was founded in 1909 in response to laws forbidding Jewish athletes from joining Austrian sports clubs.

A matinee will follow at 1:30 p.m. on Sunday. Greta Stanton, a diver with the former club and professor emeritus at Rutgers, will speak at both screenings.

- The Israeli film "Ushpizin," will make its New Jersey premiere at 8 p.m. Saturday, with a second showing at 4:45 p.m. on Sunday.

The movie focuses on a poor, childless Orthodox couple in Israel.

Chaim Waxman, a professor of sociology at Rutgers, will speak on Saturday, while Moshe Sherman, the associate dean of the Graduate School of Jewish Studies of Touro College, will speak on Sunday.

- Also making its New Jersey debut at the festival will be "Syrian Bride."

The film shows the dilemmas of the Druze community, which is torn between Syria and Israel. Mona, a Druze bride, must make a decision on her wedding day to either marry her Syrian fiancé or remain with her family across the border.

Screenings will be at 7:30 p.m. next Tuesday and at 3:45 p.m. on Sunday, Nov. 20.

- Israeli filmmaker Danae Elon is at the center of "Another Road Home," as she searches for the Palestinian man who helped raise her, traveling from New York to an Arab-American neighborhood in New Jersey and finally to the West Bank and Jerusalem.

Elon will speak following the screening at 8:15 p.m. Thursday.

A second screening will take place at 1 p.m. on Nov. 20, to be followed by a talk by Alma Abdul-hadi Jadallah, a doctoral student at the Institute for Conflict Analysis and Resolution at George Washington University.

- The festival will play host to a double feature at 1 p.m. on Tuesday, Nov. 15.

"Unzere Kinder" documents the first Jewish responses to the Holocaust on film in 1948.

"My 100 Children" is the story of Lena Kuchler, who took orphaned and abandoned children to Israel after World War II.

- Other films will include "Paper Clips" and "Sister Rose's Passion" to be shown at 4:30 p.m. Tuesday, and noon next Thursday, as well as "Rosenstrasse," planned for 7:30 p.m. this Sunday.

- The festival closes at 7:30 p.m. on Sunday, Nov. 20 with dinner and screening of "Alles Auf Zucker," the first Jewish comedy made in Germany after World War II. The film will also be shown at 6 p.m. on Thursday.

The final screening will feature Eric Jarosinski, a visiting assistant professor in the University's department of Germanic, Russian and East European Languages and Literatures.

General admission tickets are \$9, or \$6 for students and senior citizens; tickets to the opening gala and closing dinner are \$18.

For information or to purchase tickets, visit jewishstudies.rutgers.edu or call 732-932-4166.

Tickets also may be purchased at the Allen and Joan Bildner Center for the Study of Jewish Life, 12 College Ave. and at selected outlets.