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LIVE MUSIC AND CONVERSATION WITH DAVID BROZA FEATURED AT OPENING NIGHT OF RUTGERS JEWISH FILM FESTIVAL ON OCTOBER 28

NEW BRUNSWICK, N.J. – The New Jersey premiere of the Israeli film *East Jerusalem West Jerusalem* opens the sixteenth annual Rutgers Jewish Film Festival on October 28 at the Nicholas Music Center at Rutgers. The film screening will be followed by Q&A and live music by world-renowned Israeli musician David Broza.

The film documents Broza, who, in 2013, brought together a group of Israeli, Palestinian, and American musicians to record music under the direction of Grammy Award-winning performer Steve Earle. For eight days and nights, the musicians – including Issa Freij, Mira Awad, and the rap duo GTown – participated in a marathon recording session held in East Jerusalem. Pausing only to indulge in each other's local cuisines, the group discovered the universal power of music, even within a longtime war zone, and Broza realized a dream of Palestinians and Israelis creating a dialogue through music. For a sampling of music from the film, visit <u>http://www.davidbroza.net/en/music/East-Jerusalem-West-Jerusalem/</u>

Opening night festivities begin at 7:30 p.m. at Rutgers' Nicholas Music Center, 85 George Street, New Brunswick. Tickets for opening night range from \$6 - \$20. Free parking is available. A matinee screening of the film is scheduled for November 1 at the Regal Cinema Commerce Center, North Brunswick. For information, or to purchase tickets online, visit the website **BildnerCenter.rutgers.edu**. To contact festival staff, email <u>rujff@rci.rutgers.edu</u>, or call **848-932-4166**. Advance ticket purchase is strongly recommended as screenings often sell out prior to the festival.

The festival is sponsored by Rutgers' Allen and Joan Bildner Center for the Study of Jewish Life and made possible through a grant from the Karma Foundation. Opening night is cosponsored by Mason Gross School of the Arts and Rutgers' GAIA Centers 2015-2017 Biennial Theme: Global Urbanism

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