

## Fa-La-Fel - Festival of Israeli LGBTQI movies

**Fa-La-Fel** (Festival of Israeli LGBTQI movies) is a joint project of NGOs *Haver Srbija* and *Cultural - educational center - KEC* in partnership with the Israeli Embassy in Belgrade.

*Haver Srbija* is an educational organization whose aims are to introduce Jewish culture and tradition to general society as a step forward in confronting prejudice, discrimination, anti-Semitism and xenophobia.

*Cultural - educational center – KEC* is a new initiative that works on improvement of the human rights of LGBTI people in Serbia.

*Organizational committee: Merlinka Film Festival and XY Spectrum*

### **Aims of the project are to:**

- introduce Serbian public to LGBTQI movies made in Israel
- introduce Serbian public to Israeli culture and society, with a focus on LGBTQI community
- raise awareness and knowledge of LGBTI situation and rights in Israel
- “open” local Jewish community and general society towards LGBTI population
- bridge the work of *Haver Srbija* and *Cultural-educational center - KEC*

### **Short description of the project**

The two-day film festival is scheduled for May 16 and 17 in Belgrade, on the occasion of the International Day against Homophobia and Transphobia. The festival combines LGBTQI and Israeli culture. Program consists of the film projections (short, feature and documentary films), discussions and workshops, with the aim of raising public awareness, especially of young people, about the situation of marginalized social groups. The program actualizes various social issues, in the context of the fight against prejudice, discrimination, anti-Semitism, homophobia and xenophobia, but also encourages the audience to develop critical thinking on the issue of these topics.

### **Activities**

#### **Two-day festival:**

- Opening of the festival
- Film program
- Panel discussion
- Photo exhibition
- Cook off - taste of Israel
- Closing ceremony of the festival

**Film program will be derived from the following movies:**

**Deep Red (2009)**

19min | Short, Drama, Romance |

Gur and Yuval will stop at nothing to make enough money for a fresh start in Berlin. As they approach their goal, the tension is growing between them until an unexpected event causes Gur to question both their plan and their relationship.

**Water Wells (2010)**

14min | Short, Drama |

A forbidden love story between a student and a teacher, Inka and Lea, during the 1940's in Israel. The two pass days and nights at Lea's house, sinking slowly into their inner world. As time goes by, Inka yearns to push all boundaries while Lea's fears from being revealed begin to float.

**Hyacinthus Lullaby (2009)**

23min | Short, Drama |

The relationship between Iris and her mother, Amalya, is cold and defined. When Amalya dies prematurely, Iris realizes that she missed the opportunity for reconciliation. She tries – a daughter's last effort – to win a hug from her Mom.

**Snails in the Rain (2013)**

1h 22min | Drama, Romance |

Tel Aviv, Summer 1989. Boaz, a beautiful and alluring linguistics student, receives anonymous, male-written, love letters that undermines his sexual identity and interfere with his peaceful life with his beloved girlfriend.

**Fuck You Jessica Blair (2017)**

1h 21min | Comedy, Drama |

Karni feels detached - detached from the world, detached from her country, detached from her language and even her own body. That is, until she meets Jessica, who happens to be on a much needed break from her dreamlike American life.

**Barash (2015)**

1h 21min | Comedy, Drama, Romance

17 year old Naama Barash enjoys alcohol, drugs and hanging out with like-minded friends. Her activities are an escape from a home where her parents always fight, and a rebellious, army-enrolled sister, who, one day, disappears. As a new girl shows up at school, Barash falls deep in love for the first time, and the intensity of the experience at once confuses her and gives her life new meaning.

**Yossi & Jagger (2002)**

1h 5min | Drama, Romance

Romance blooms between two soldiers (Knoller, Levi) stationed in an Israeli outpost on the Lebanese border.

**Walk on Water (2004)**

1h 43min | Drama, Mystery, Thriller

Following the suicide of his wife, an Israeli intelligence agent is assigned to befriend the grandchildren of a Nazi war criminal.

**Operation Sunflower (2014)**

1h 45min | Drama, History

Through the eyes of the scientist in charge of the operation, we see the events leading to Israel developing her nuclear option in the 1960's.

**Bitter Sweet (2007)**

1h 41min | Drama

Ran directs a successful international investment company. He is married to Dana and they have two children. Keren, a musician, is married to Leon, an attorney. David is a successful gynecologist, who lives with his boyfriend Gal. No one knows his true sexual identity, so Ran sets him up with Daniella, his secretary. A quiet evening together is interrupted by the unexpected arrival of a fortune teller.

**Melting Away (2011)**

1h 26min | Drama

Shlomo who discovers in his son's Assaf room, women's clothing and accessories, decides to 'teach the boy a lesson'.

**Kicking Out Shoshana (2014)**

1h 40min | Comedy

In the conservative city of Jerusalem, Ami Shoshan, an Israeli football player, is forced by a mafia boss to pose as a homosexual, a punishment for flirting with the criminal's girlfriend.

\*for all listed movies author rights for the screening have been secured

**Panel discussion**

Panel discussion will gather the LGBTI and Jewish activist from the region, Europe and Israel to participate and to open the theme of religion and LGBTQI identities, Pride parades, multicultural identities, diversification of the LGBTQI community and movement.

**Photo exhibition**

The idea is to present multicultural identities (LGBTQI-Jew) and to open new spaces in both cultures for the future dialog.

## **Cook-off – Taste of Israel**

Participants will be exposed to Israeli cuisine and through the food will be able to learn about traditional Jewish food and about different nationalities in Israel and their traditional dishes. Food will be prepared by professional cooks and amateur with a potential to offer a cooking class for participants of the event.

## **Program schedule (flexible to changes)**

### **Wednesday, 16th of May**

- 18:00-18:30    Opening of the Festival and Exhibition
  
- 18:30-20:00    Movie screening I  
                    Panel discussion I  
                    Option 1: LGBTQI activism- Tel Aviv, Budapest, Belgrade, Berlin  
                    Option 2: LGBTQI activism in Jewish communities
- 20:00-21:00    Movie screening II - short movies
- 21:00            Cook off - Taste of Israel

### **Thursday, 17th of May**

- 17:30-19:00    Movie screening III
- 19:00-20:30    Movie screening IV  
                    Panel discussion II  
                    Religion and LGBTQI rights/community
- 20:30-22:00    Movie screening V
- 22:30            Party