



For Immediate Release

## Celebrate the 20th Hong Kong Jewish Film Festival

### With a Diverse Lineup of Films in November

#### *Box Office Opens Now Online*



*Bye Bye Germany*

(Hong Kong – 3 October 2019) The **Hong Kong Jewish Film Festival** returns for its 20<sup>th</sup> edition with an impressive lineup of films from 2 - 10 November 2019 at the Asia Society Hong Kong Center. The Festival offers an incredibly diverse program with over 20 feature films, comedies, documentaries and shorts from different countries, including Israel, the United States, Canada, Russia, Germany and Ethiopia. Film lovers may explore a wide range of topics from heartwarming family stories to an innovative way of revealing Old Cairo. This is an exciting opportunity to discover Jewish culture, politics, customs, as well as its ancient and modern history. [Tickets are on sale now.](#)

The 20<sup>th</sup> edition of the Festival kicks off with ***Tel Aviv on Fire***, an award-winning film about a young Palestinian TV show writer, who is sandwiched between different political views that affect his creativity on how the series should end. Using humor to tackle serious issues, this lighthearted film is not to be missed.



The Festival features titles illustrating different kinds of relationships. ***Redemption*** is a moving story about unconditional parental love, friendship and morality. Menachem is a devout man who finds his daughter diagnosed with cancer. He decides to re-form his rock band with his friends to raise money for her expensive treatments. The movie won accolades in various film festivals, including Best Actor Award and Audience Award.





Another appealing film is ***Back to Maracana***, a road movie about three estranged family members on a wild journey from Israel to Brazil for the World Cup. The film describes contemporary Jewish family relationships and the charisma of soccer as a universal language.



For period drama lovers, ***Bye Bye Germany*** is a rarely seen post-war dramedy. David and his friends, a group of Nazi-era survivors, unite to sell high-end linens for money to leave Germany for America. Meanwhile they have to work through their trauma and move on to start their new lives. This untypical Holocaust-inspired story portrays post-war Germany in an entertaining way. It has won multiple awards on the international festival circuit and achieved 90% on Rotten Tomatoes.

The Festival also offers a variety of documentaries for audiences. ***93Queen*** follows the first all-female volunteer ambulance corps in New York City. It shows how Hasidic women make their mark by breaking through old-fashioned barriers in order to change their community into a better place.



Would you be willing to protect the truth at all costs, even with your life? ***Who Will Write Our History*** is a documentary that tells the stories of Jews who fought against the Nazi threat with paper and pen in the 1940s. A secret group of professionals risked their lives to record what they witnessed and protected their writings against all odds from Nazi lies and propaganda.. This vital Holocaust documentary unveils how the truth can survive in the darkest of times.



***From Cairo to the Cloud*** is directed by Michelle Paymar, an award-winning documentary filmmaker. Paymar requested for filming permission and approval from different Egyptian Government departments for nearly seven years. She finally became the first filmmaker in decades to be allowed to film inside the Ben Ezra Synagogue, which houses the Cairo Geniza, a mysterious treasure trove that unveils over a thousand years of Jewish history.





For full program details, please visit the official website: <https://www.hkiff.org/2019-films-a-to-z/>

Hi-res images of all film stills and trailers are available [here](#).

### **Hong Kong Jewish Film Festival**

Date: 2-10 November 2019

Venue: Asia Society Hong Kong Center - 9 Justice Drive, Admiralty

Ticket price:

<b>Individual tickets</b>	Adults: \$100; students and seniors: \$80
<b>Opening night tickets</b> (Include post-screening party)	Adults: \$380; students and seniors: \$350
<b>Macher passes</b> (Access to all screenings)	\$1,800

Tickets are now available through [Asia Society Hong Kong Center's Website](#). All non-English language films have English subtitles unless otherwise noted.

### **Event's Designated Hashtags**

**#HKJFF #HKJFF20 #HKJFF2019 #hkjewishff #hongkongjewishfilmfestival**

### **About the Hong Kong Jewish Film Festival**

Founded in 1999, the Festival has screened hundreds of features, documentaries and short films from over 30 countries, hosting directors, producers, critics and curators. The Festival runs for 8 days showcasing a wide range of feature films, documentaries and shorts, which reflect and offer interesting and unique views into the diversity of Jewish and Israeli life and culture.

The Festival is fortunate to receive local support from foreign consulates, cultural offices and chambers of commerce in Hong Kong as well as a wide range of film lovers who come to the festival. The mission is to celebrate, educate, enlighten and entertain through movies and bring Jewish culture to this corner of Asia.

### **Media Contacts**

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