

Yiddish Culture Festival 2010

In Memoriam Seth Brody

This free, informal gathering meets periodically to enjoy film, music and speakers encompassing all things Yiddish. It is not necessary to speak or understand Yiddish to fully enjoy these events. Meetings are held **Wednesdays at 7:30pm (promptly!)** in Chase Hall Auditorium (****EXCEPT FOR 11/17 WHICH IS IN STOKES AUDITORIUM****). For more information or directions, see our website <http://www.haverford.edu/ycf/> or contact Jeff Tecosky-Feldman (jtecosky@haverford.edu, 610-896-1199). All are welcome! **Organizers:** Professors Dan Gillis, Mel Santer, Jeff Tecosky-Feldman.

NOTE: These programs will be held during inclement weather UNLESS the campus is closed, which happens only rarely. You can call campus security (610-896-1111) to check.

Wednesday, September 15: Glimpses of Yiddish Czernowitz (2010). This documentary, by Boris Sandler and Chana Pollack, uses contemporary interviews and archival footage to explore the history and flavor of a city known as ‘Jerusalem of Bukovina,’ site of the first world’s first Jewish language conference. In Yiddish, with English subtitles (60 minutes).

Wednesday, October 6: The Dybbuk (1937). Based on a play by S. Ansky, and directed by M. Waszynski in Poland, this film represents Ansky’s ethnographic research of shtetl religious and cultural mores in the years preceding WWI. Considered one of the finest films in Yiddish, the picture is noted among film historians for the striking scene of Leah's wedding, which is shot in the style of German Expressionism. In Yiddish, with English subtitles (123 minutes).

Wednesday, October 27: Mothers of Today (1939). Directed by Henry Lynn and shot in the USA, this film exemplifies the *shund* genre, designed to appeal to working-class Jewish-American immigrant audiences. A melodrama that combines cantorial songs, gunshots, and mother-love with a sharply drawn moral: assimilation leads to crime and degradation. In Yiddish, with English subtitles (85 minutes).

Wednesday, November 17 (NOTE: CONCERT HELD IN STOKES AUDITORIUM, RIGHT BEHIND THE USUAL BUILDING**):** A concert of choral music in Yiddish and Hebrew will be presented by Jan Hamer and her community choir, Makhelat Micha'el: the thirty-voice Mishkan Shalom Community Choir. Works will include some by David Botwinik, whose choral and solo music has just been published by his son Alexander (Sender), who will perform a few of his father's solo pieces, accompanying his daughter Dina Malka.

Wednesday, December 8: The Bielski Brothers (History Channel, 2006). This documentary gives the true story behind the film ‘Defiance’, with interviews with Bielski family members and partisans involved in their amazing resistance effort in Belorussian forests during WWII. In English (50 minutes).

Directions: If arriving by car, enter the campus by the College Avenue entrance, and park in any spot marked FACULTY/STAFF on the right of the driveway. To find Chase Hall, continue on the driveway until you reach the end of the building on your left (Stokes Hall). Turn left and follow the path up a gentle slope to a stone building with a few steps outside its double-door entrance— this is Chase Hall. We’re in the first floor in the back of the building. There is an entrance without steps around the right hand side.

Support the Festival: If you would like to make a tax-deductible contribution to support this ongoing celebration of Yiddish culture, please send a check made out to **Haverford College**, with **Yiddish Culture Festival** written on the check or on an accompanying note to: **Catherine Toia, YCF Donations, Haverford College, 370 Lancaster Ave, Haverford PA 19041**. Be sure to include your name and address so that you can be mailed a receipt for tax purposes. We appreciate donations large and small, which we’ll use to pay screening fees, enlarge our library of videotapes and continue to bring interesting speakers and performers for your enjoyment.