

# Israeli Cinema

## A collective image as a search for identity - historical introduction

**Professor Aner Preminger**

### Syllabus

#### **Time and Location**

Wednesday 21 September 17.30–20.45

Thursday 22 September 12.30–15.45

Thursday 29 September 12.30–15.45

Wednesday 5 October 17.30–20.45

Thursday 6 October 12.30–15.45

Wednesday 12 October 17.30–20.45

Thursday 13 October 12.30–15.45

Wednesday 19 October 17.30–20.45

Thursday 20 October 12.30–15.45

Wednesday 26 October 17.30–20.45

Thursday 27 October 12.30–15.45

**Total: 11 3.25 hours sessions**

#### **Course description**

The course will examine the evolution of Israeli cinema in the context of international cinema history and the Israeli culture. In the international context, Israeli cinema will be examined as part of the development of film language in the history of the medium: the nature of the interaction between the utterance of Israeli cinema and the cinematic utterance developed worldwide during hundred and twenty years of cinema history. The effect of the tension between American and European cinema on the development of Israeli cinema will be discussed as well as the Israeli cinema as a response to the developments in international cinema.

In the national culture and local context, Israeli cinema will be examined as a mirror to the society development as well as its influence on Israeli society and culture. The course will suggest an analysis of the relationship between Israeli cinema and Israeli television and between both media and other cultural expressions such as visual arts and Hebrew literature. A special attention will be drawn to the relationship between images, sounds and voices of the Israeli films and the environment where they were created: the landscape, weather, light, the Israeli temperament, themes and modes of representation of characters. All these will be related to historical, social, cultural and political processes.

The issues described above will be reviewed and explored while watching film clips from features and short films, documentaries and fiction. Except for films screened in class, students will be required to watch more films as part of their homework.

## **Learning outcomes of the course**

At the end of the course students should be able to read any film in the context of the international cinematic utterance and history as well as in its own cultural, social and political context. More specifically, in the Israeli context, the students will be able to read Israeli films as a rich complex text in a dialectical relationship and dialogue with the controversial Israeli political discourse and as part of its growing and developing culture.

## **Method**

Each session will start with a theoretical introduction around a central theme. Theoretical lecture will be accompanied by a screening of excerpts from films related to the subject of the lesson. Every session there will include a screening of one full length film. If possible, sometimes students will be asked to see an additional film which will be an important part of the course.

## **Course requirements - Grade and attendance policy**

Attendance to all classes and screenings is obligatory. To pass the course students have to attend at least 8 screenings and classes. Students have to submit at least 8 papers as well, to “ODEVZDÁVÁRNÝ” in to the iS.

### Grade policy:

Attendance to the lecture: 1 point

Submitting the paper: 1 point

Submitting an extraordinary paper: 2 points

33 - 31 A

30 - 28 B

27 - 25 C

24 - 22 D

21 - 18 E

Less than 18 - F

## Course schedule

### WEEK 1

Wednesday 21 September 17.30–20.45

Thursday 22 September 12.30–15.45

#### Class 1 – 21.9.16 17.30–20.45

Introduction to Israeli cinema - from the beginning of the twentieth century until the mid-sixties of the twentieth century: Soviet influence - socialist realism; Montage.

Influences of German Expressionism. Influences of Hollywood:

The turning point during the 60<sup>th</sup>, 3 factors: 1967; The world spirit of the 60<sup>th</sup> and the army troupes; two men: Uri Zohar and David Perlov.

**Screening 1** – *Every Bastard a King*-1968 – Zohar's 3<sup>rd</sup> feature

#### Class 2 – 22.9.16 12.30–15.45

*Hole in the Moon*/Uri Zohar - 1965; *Hallelujah The Hills*/Adolphas Mekas (1963)

David Perlov; Uri Zohar. Screening of excerpts from early sixties' films: *Sallah* (Sallah Shabbati)/Ephraim Kishon - 1964;

**Screening 2** – *Time of the Cherries (The Cherry Season)*/Chaim Buzaglo 1991

### WEEK 2

Thursday 29 September 12.30–15.45

#### Class 3 – 29.9.16 12.30–15.45

Talking on the previous week films: Godard's definition of the relationship between fiction & reportage; Zohar's opening scene – “The Israeli paradox”

Israeli Wars; American Wars; Metaphor. Realism-Surrealism; Fantastic Realism.

**Screening 3** - *Big Eyes*: 1974 – context;

### WEEK 3

Wednesday 5 October 17.30–20.45

Thursday 6 October 12.30–15.45

#### Class 4 – 5.10.16 17.30–20.45

Talking about *Big Eyes*: Peeping Tom; Uri Zohar, Arik Einstein; The French New Wave and Italian Neo-realism; Greece tragedy and the chorus.

**Screening 4** - *Paratroopers*: 1977 (84 minutes) – Introduction

#### Class 5 – 6.10.16 12.30–15.45

Talking about *Paratroopers*: 1977 (84 minutes) – Introduction: 1977, new wave, new sensitivity, neo-realism, Holywood. Two films, two protagonists. Death question. Yair and Weisman parallel plots.

**Screening 5** – *Fellow Travelers* (Magash Hakesef)/Judd Ne'eman – 1983

Introduction: 1983- Lebanon war. Palestinian-Israelies; West bank Palestinians.

### WEEK 4

Wednesday 12 October 17.30–20.45

Thursday 13 October 12.30–15.45

**Class 6** – 12.10.16 17.30–20.45

Wietzman paraphrase, Alterman's poem (1947). Summing up *Fellow Travelers*.  
The evolution from *Paratroopers* to *FellowTravelers*.

**Screening 6** - *Beyond the walls* (MeAchorei Hasorragim)/Uri Barabash – 1984

**Class 7** – 13.10.16 12.30–15.45

Talking about *Beyond the Walls*; the ending; Rashid Mashrawi.

The Arab Other in Israeli Cinema and Discourse – the evolution of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict's representation.

Film excerpts from: *They were Ten* (Hem Hayu Asara)/Baruch Dienar – 1960, *Hole in the Moon* (Hor Balevana)/Uri Zohar – 1965, *My Michael* (Michael Shely)/Dan Wolman – 1975.

**Screening 7** - *The smile of the Lamb* (Chiuch Ha' Gdi)/Shimon Dotan – 1986

**WEEK 5**

Wednesday 19 October 17.30–20.45

Thursday 20 October 12.30–15.45

**Class 8** – 19.10.16 17.30–20.45

Talking about *Smile of the Lamb*; The film versus the book;

Film excerpts from: *Khirbet Hiza'a*/Ram Loevy – 1978 – The opening; The deportation.

**Screening 8** – *Avanti Popolo*/Raffi Bukae – 1986

**Class 9** – 20.10.16 12.30–15.45

Talking about *Avanti Popolo*

**Screening 9** - *Fictitious marriage* (Marriage of convenience)/Chaim Buzaglo – 1988

**WEEK 6**

Wednesday 26 October 17.30–20.45

Thursday 27 October 12.30–15.45

**Class 10** – 26.10.16 17.30–20.45

Talking about *Fictitious marriage*: Shlomo Bar-Aba, Eli Yazpan; The title's term in Israeli discourse; a political comedy.

Film excerpts from:

*Hamsin* (Eastern Wind)/Dan Wachsmann – 1982

**Screening 10** – *The Band's Visit*/Eran Kolirin – 2007

**Class 11** – 27.10.16 12.30–15.45

Talking about *The Band's Visit*.

Conclusion

**Screening 11** - *The Ballad of the Weeping Spring* (Balada le'aviv ha'bohe)/Benny Toraty - 2012

## Screened Filmography

1. Every Bastard a King (Kol Mamzer Melech)/Uri Zoohar – 1968
2. Time of the Cherries (The Cherry Season)/ Chaim Buzaglo – 1991
3. Big Eyes (Einaim Gdolot)/Uri Zohar - 1974
4. Paratroopers (Masa Alunkot)/Judd Ne'eman – 1977
5. Fellow Travelers (Magash Hakesef)/Judd Ne'eman – 1983
6. Beyond the walls (MeAchorei Hasorragim)/Uri Barabash – 1984
7. The smile of the Lamb (Chiuch Ha' Gdi)/Shimon Dotan – 1986
8. Avanti Popolo/Raffi Bukae – 1986
9. Fictitious marriage (Marriage of convenience)/Chaim Buzaglo – 1988
10. The Band's Visit/Eran Kolirin – 2007
11. The Ballad of the Weeping Spring (Balada le'aviv ha'bohe)/Benny Toraty - 2012
  
12. Restoration (Good Morning Mr. Fiedelman)/Yossi Madmoni – 2011
13. No Names on the Doors (Ein Shemot Al Hadlatot)/Nadav Levitan – 1997
14. My Australia/Ami Drozed – 2011
15. Three Days and a Child (Shlosa Yamim Veyeled)/Uri Zohar – 1967
16. Sing Your Heart Out (The Troupe/Halahaka)/Avi Neshet - 1978
17. Khirbet Hiza'a/Ram Loevy – 1978
18. Hamsin (Eastern Wind)/Dan Wachsmann – 1982
19. Final Cup/Eran Riklis – 1991
20. Blind Man's Bluff/Aner Preminger – 1993
21. Last Resort/Aner Preminger – 1999
22. Broken Wings/Nir Bergman – 2000
23. Walking on Water/Eithan Fuchs - 2004
24. My Father, My Lord (Chufshat Keitz)/David Wallach – 2007
25. Strangers/Erez Tadmor&Guy Nativ - 2008
26. Waltz with Bashir/ Ari Folman – 2008
27. Lebanon/Shmulik Maoz - 2009
28. God's Son/Eez Tadmor&Guy Nativ - 2014

## Available Filmography

1. They were Ten (Hem Hayu Asara)/Baruch Dienar – 1960
2. Sallah (Sallah Shabbati)/Ephraim Kishon – 1964
3. Hole in the Moon (Chor BaLevana)/Uri Zohar – 1965
4. Three Days and a Child (Shlosa Yamim Veyeled)/Uri Zohar – 1967
5. Every Bastard a King (Kol Mamzer Melech)/Uri Zohar – 1968
6. Peeping Toms (Metzeitzim)/Uri Zohar – 1972
7. Big Eyes (Einaim Gdolot)/Uri Zohar - 1974
8. The Paratroopers (Masa Alunkot)/Judd Ne'eman – 1977
9. Fellow Travelers (Magash Hakesef)/Judd Ne'eman – 1983
10. Streets of yesterday(Rechovot Ha'Etmol)/Judd Ne'eman - 1989
11. Khirbet Hiza'a/Ram Loevy – 1978
12. Bread/Ram Loevy - 1986
13. Hamsin (Eastern Wind)/Dan Wachsmann – 1982
14. Beyond the walls (MeAchorei Hasorragim)/Uri Barabash – 1984
15. The smile of the Lamb (Chiuch Ha' Gdi)/Shimon Dotan – 1986
16. Fictitious marriage (Marriage of convenience)/Chaim Buzaglo – 1988
17. Time of the Cherries (The Cherry Season)/ Chaim Buzaglo – 1991
18. Diary 1973-1983/David Perlov - 1983
19. Sing Your Heart Out (The Troupe/Halahaka)/Avi Nesher - 1978
20. Final Cup/Eran Riklis – 1991
21. Blind Man's Bluff/Aner Preminger – 1993
22. Last Resort/Aner Preminger – 1999
23. Present Continuous/Aner Preminger - 2012
24. No Names on the Doors (Ein Shemot Al Hadlatot)/Nadav Levitan – 1997
25. Broken Wings/Nir Bergman – 2000
26. Walking on Water/Eithan Fuchs - 2004
27. My Father, My Lord (Chufshat Keitz)/David Wallach – 2007
28. The Band's Visit/Eran Kolirin – 2007
29. Strangers/Erez Tadmor&Guy Nativ - 2008
30. Waltz with Bashir/ Ari Folman – 2008
31. Lebanon/Shmulik Maoz - 2009
32. My Australia/Ami Drozed – 2011
33. Restoration (Good Morning Mr. Fiedelman)/Yossi Madmoni – 2011
34. The Ballad of the Weeping Spring (Balada le'aviv ha'bohe)/Benny Toraty - 2012
35. Present Continuous (Ha'Chaim Beinataim)/Aner Preminger – 2012
36. God's Son/Eez Tadmor&Guy Nativ - 2014
37. To Take a Wife/Shlomi&Ronit Elkabetz – 2009
38. Gett/Shlomi&Ronit Elkabetz – 2014
39. Paradise Now/Hany Abu-Assad - 2005
40. On my Way to Father's Land/Aner Preminger – 1995
41. One Eye Wide Open/Aner Preminger - 2010
42. Out for Love...Be Back Shortly/Dan Katzir – 1997
43. The 17th Victim/David Ofek – 2003
44. Children of the Sun/Ran Tal - 2007

## Full Filmography

1. They were Ten (Hem Hayu Asara)/Baruch Dienar – 1960
2. Sallah (Sallah Shabbati)/Ephraim Kishon – 1964
3. Hole in the Moon (Chor BaLevana)/Uri Zohar – 1965
4. The boy across the street/Joseph Shlachin - 1966
5. Every Bastard a King (Kol Mamzer Melech)/Uri Zoohar – 1968
6. Three Days and a Child (Shlosa Yamim Veyeled)/Uri Zohar – 1967
7. Peeping Toms (Metzeitzim)/Uri Zohar – 1972
8. Big Eyes (Einaim Gdolot)/Uri Zohar - 1974
9. The Paratroopers (Masa Alunkot)/Judd Ne'eman – 1977
10. Fellow Travelers (Magash Hakesef)/Judd Ne'eman – 1983
11. Streets of Yesterday (Rehovot Ha'Etmol)/Judd Ne'eman - 1989
12. A Married Couple/Zeppel (Yitzhak) Yeshurun – 1983
13. But Where Is Daniel Wax?/Avraham Heffner – 1972
14. My Michael (Michael Shely)/Dan Wolman – 1975
15. Khirbet Hiza'a/Ram Loevy – 1978
16. Bread/Ram Loevy – 1986
17. Hamsin (Eastern Wind)/Dan Wachsmann – 1982
18. Beyond the walls (MeAchorei Hasorragim)/Uri Barabash – 1984
19. The smile of the Lamb (Chiuch Ha' Gdi)/Shimon Dotan – 1986
20. Avanti Popolo/Raffi Bukae – 1986
21. Fictitious marriage (Marriage of convenience)/Chaim Buzaglo – 1988
22. Time of the Cherries (The Cherry Season)/ Chaim Buzaglo – 1991
23. Diary 1973-1983/David Perlov - 1983
24. Updated Diary 1990-1999/David Perlov - 2000
25. The house on Chelouche Street/Moshe Mizrachi – 1973
26. Light out of Nowhere ( Or Min Hahefker)/Nissim Dayan – 1973
27. The End of Milton Levy/Nissim Dayan - 1981
28. Lemon Popsicle/Boaz Davidson – 1978
29. Intimate Story/Nadav Levitan – 1981
30. Noa At 17/Zeppel (Yitzhak) Yeshurun – 1981
31. Sing Your Heart Out (The Troupe/Halahaka)/Avi Neshet - 1978
32. On the Fringe (Bouba)/Ze'ev Revach – 1987
33. Shuroo/Savi Gabizon – 1990
34. Final Cup/Eran Riklis – 1991
35. American Citizen/Eitan Green – 1992
36. Life According to Agfa/Assi Dayan – 1992
37. Blind Man's Bluff/Aner Preminger – 1993
38. Last Resort/Aner Preminger - 1999
45. Present Continuous/Aner Preminger - 2012
39. No Names on the Doors (Ein Shemot Al Hadlatot)/Nadav Levitan – 1997
40. Mr. Baum/Assi Dayan – 1997
41. Broken Wings/Nir Bergman - 2000
42. Late Marriage/Dover Koshashvili – 2001
43. Giraffes/Tzahi Grad – 2001
44. Walking on Water/Eithan Fuchs - 2004
45. My Father, My Lord (Chufshat Keitz)/David Wallach – 2007
46. The Band's Visit/Eran Kolirin – 2007
47. Vasermil/Mushon Salmuna – 2007

48. Strangers/Erez Tadmor&Guy Nativ - 2008
49. Weekend in Tel Aviv/Oded Zehavi – 2008
50. Waltz with Bashir/Ari Folman – 2008
51. Lebanon/Shmulik Maoz - 2009
52. My Australia/Ami Drozed – 2011
53. Restoration (Good Morning Mr. Fiedelman)/Yossi Madmoni – 2011
54. The Ballad of the Weeping Spring (Balada le'aviv ha'bohe)/Benny Toraty - 2012
55. Present Continuous (Ha'Chaim Beinataim)/Aner Preminger -2012
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62. Out for Love...Be Back Shortly/Dan Katzir - 1997
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64. Children of the Sun/Ran Tal - 2007

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