

**Mark Your Calendars...The Jewish Film Festival is Coming
Thursday Nights at the Movies
February 19 and 26 March 5 and 12 at the
Penn State Altoona Devoris Downtown Center**

February 19, 2009



The Counterfeiters - 99 minutes, German with subtitles (made in Austria) 2007. Academy Award winner as best foreign film. Salomon Sorowitsch is the king of counterfeiters. He lives a mischievous life of cards, booze and women in Berlin during the Nazi-era. He is arrested and thrown into the Mauthausen concentration camp where he exhibits exceptional skills and is transferred to the upgraded camp of Sachsenhausen. Salomon and a group of professionals are forced to produce fake foreign currency under the program Operation Bernhard. Faced with a moral dilemma, Salomon must decide whether his actions, which could prolong the war and risk the lives of fellow prisoners, are ultimately the right ones.

Out of Faith - 82 minutes, English, documentary (made in U.S.A.) 2006. This is the story of how marriage outside of the faith places stress on three generations of a Chicago area Jewish family. It gradually becomes a portrait of the Welbel family's iron willed matriarch Leah, whose survival of Auschwitz and Birkenau makes her strong, but defines her for the rest of her life. When one of her grandchildren marries a Christian girl, Leah turns her back on him, creating a rift in the family. When a granddaughter does the same, she disapproves but keeps the lines of communication open, hoping for a conversion. "Out of Faith" allows us to see why Leah feels the way she does - personal memories arising from a return to Auschwitz and Berkenau are devastating and to understand how for her - there can be no other way.

February 26, 2009



March 5, 2009



Refusenik - 120 minutes, English and Russian with subtitles, documentary (Made in Russia and U.S.A) 2007. What began as a fledgling gathering of students and housewives forty years ago grew into a human rights movement that eventually freed one and a half million Soviet Jews and cracked the seemingly impenetrable wall of Soviet Communism. One of the proudest chapters in Jewish history, the story of the Refuseniks is the story of the importance of Jewish solidarity and the State of Israel, and a reminder of the great responsibilities that come with living in a free society.

A Mighty Heart - 108 minutes, English (made in U.S.A.) 2007. This is an adaptation of Mariane Pearl's memoir and is a detailed account of the search for kidnapped Wall Street Journal reporter Daniel Pearl in 2002. Pearl was kidnapped in Karachi, Pakistan by supporters of Islamic radical cleric Omar Sheikh. The movie also covers efforts by Department of Justice and the U.S. Department of State's Diplomatic Security Service (DSS) to track the kidnapers and bring them to justice. Angelina Jolie stars as Mariane and gives her finest artistic achievement to date.

March 12, 2009



Join us for a great dinner next door at the Heritage Discovery Center prior to the films. We'll have wine and appetizers, with dinner catered by Paula Binus and good fellowship. It's the best bargain in town with dinner at only \$12/person and films at \$3 for Federation members \$5 for non-members and free for students. Reserve your space by calling the Federation office at 515-1182 or email us at alffed@atlanticbb.net.