



## Israeli Mosaic Film Series Starts Next Week, Upcoming Programs, Summer Appeal, Shul Tours and More – August 27, 2024

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### SUMMER APPEAL

Our Summer Appeal is now underway. Donations can be made online or through the mail. Your support enables us to expand our program offerings and address increased security, maintenance, insurance and utilities costs for our American Jewish landmark. Thank you for your continued support!

**More information and Online Donations** - <https://walnutstreetsynagogue.com/summer-2024-appeal/>

### ISRAELI MOSAIC FILM SERIES

Our Israeli Mosaic Film Series begins in September. This series features three films which depict three very different elements of Israeli society and portray its rich diversity. Each film will be available for screening on your own online followed by a live discussion with the filmmaker in Israel.

**Complete details of the series** - <https://walnutstreetsynagogue.com/israel-film-series/>



#### **Children of the Sun**

Discussion - Thursday, September 5, 11:30 am EDT (online)

Children of the first kibbutzim in Israel were born in the early 20th century to youthful parents who were full of hope. They have been called “Children of the Sun,” because they considered them children of the “Sun of Nations” Revolution in Israel. They were born into a utopia and were destined to become the “New Man.” They were educated in an ideological society that aspired to replace the traditional family with the collective one, to subjugate the will of the individual in favor of the common good and a life of equality. *Children of the Sun* tells the story of the journey in search of a society’s memory and the concepts that have passed from the world. The film is a collage of over eighty amateur films that include rare footage that was shot at the kibbutzim between 1930 and 1970, including conversations with family and friends. The tapestry of rare materials from which the film is compiled creates both a very personal and very public story - a form of super story about one of the most fascinating myths of the Zionist movement in the Land of Israel.

Director **Ran Tal**, born in 1963, graduated from the Tel Aviv University Department of Film in 1994. Tal is an independent director whose documentaries focus on Israeli reality through an historic social perspective. Tal’s main focus is on documentary films, in addition to which he directs diverse television projects and is editor of artistic social endeavors. Tal is the recipient of the Ophir Prize, the Jerusalem Film Festival Volgin Award, the DocAviv Film Festival Award, the Forum for the Preservation of Audio Visual award and the Documentary Forum award. Tal also won the Ministry of Culture Cinema Art prize and the Mifal Hapayis Landau Award for Stage Art. Tal teaches cinema at the Film Departments at Sapir

College and Tel Aviv University. He is the founder and editor of *Takriv* (Close Up) online magazine for discussion and critique of documentary film (together with Anat Even) and one of the founders of Keshet Broadcasting. His other films include – *The Museum*, *The Garden of Eden*, *Jewish Time* and *My Dream House*.

Register for film and discussion - <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/israeli-mosaic-film-series-children-of-the-sun-tickets-991227136047?aff=oddtcreator>

## CSP

We are pleased to be a partner congregation of the Orange County Jewish **Community Scholar Program (CSP)**. Please join us at an upcoming program!



### **Essential Kabbalah – The Heart of Jewish Mysticism**

**Part 3** - Thursday, August 29, 3:30 pm EDT (online)

Join us as we explore teachings from Kabbalah on several themes: The Purpose of Life, the Nature of God, the Feminine Dimension of God (Shekhinah), Mystical Experience, the Essence of Torah, Finding God in the Material World. Recommended Text: *The Essential Kabbalah*, by Daniel Matt.

**Daniel C. Matt** is a teacher of Jewish spirituality and a leading authority on Kabbalah and the Zohar, featured in *Time*, *Newsweek*, National Public Radio, and the History Channel. He has authored over a dozen books, including *Becoming Elijah: Prophet of Transformation*, *The Essential Kabbalah*, *Zohar: Annotated and Explained* and *God and the Big Bang: Discovering Harmony between Science and Spirituality*. Prof. Matt completed an 18-year project translating the Zohar, earning him a National Jewish Book Award and a Koret Jewish Book Award; he currently teaches Zohar online.

[https://us06web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZMpdO2qqDlrHtCUdgp\\_Hb2pviPodtj3SOMq#/registration](https://us06web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZMpdO2qqDlrHtCUdgp_Hb2pviPodtj3SOMq#/registration)

### **A Changing Israel in a Changing World**

**Part 1 - Changing Israel and A Changing West** - Tuesday, September 3, 1:00 pm EDT (online)

**Part 2 - Changing Israel and the Great Power Competition** - Tuesday, September 10, 1:00 pm EDT (online)

**Part 3 - Changing Israel in A Changing Middle East** -Tuesday, September 17, 1:00 pm EDT (online)

Join us for the insightful three-part series exploring the evolving dynamics of Israel's relationships amid global and regional shifts. The series examines the impact of domestic polarization in Western states on responses to the Israel-Hamas war, Israel's place in the context of great power competition, and the implications of the war for Israeli-Palestinian relations and broader regional politics. Each session provides a comprehensive analysis of how these factors influence Israel's standing in the world and its internal divisions.

**Part 1 - Changing Israel and A Changing West** - The responses within Western states, including the United States, to the war that began on October 7, are shaped by growing domestic polarization about their values, identities and role in the world. They are also influenced by the changing nature of Israeli politics and society. This session will ask: how are these longer term trends reshaping Israel's relationship and standing in both the U.S. and Europe, and what will be the legacy of the Israel-Hamas war? It will assess the anti-Zionism of the radical left; why far right political parties that used to be antisemitic now claim to support Israel; and why in the U.S., support for Israel is no longer bipartisan.

**Part 2 - Changing Israel and the Great Power Competition** - We live in a world where the relative power of the U.S. is declining and we see rising great power competition. This is not just a struggle over material power, but also over the values, ideas and identities that influence our world. States are pulled between universal values of liberal democracy, and demands to preserve local, regional and even civilizational values and identities. This session looks at how deep identity divides within Israel lead to diverging views about Israel's place in the world, and how that affects policy responses to events like the



throughout the state rely on Yad Chessed to provide for their essentials, and even at times, a Jewish burial for a loved one. Members of our community, as well as others in the Jewish community, who need assistance may contact Yad Chessed by phone at 781-487-2693 or by Email at [intake@yadchessed.org](mailto:intake@yadchessed.org) for a confidential conversation. Questions can be directed to [info@yadchessed.org](mailto:info@yadchessed.org).

**Support Yad Chessed** - <https://givebutter.com/yadchessed>

## OUR COMMUNITY NEWS

Do you have milestones such as marriages, births, Bar and Bat Mitzvahs, special birthdays, graduations, etc. to share with our community? If so, please submit details to [central.walnutstreetshul@gmail.com](mailto:central.walnutstreetshul@gmail.com) to be included in our weekly announcements. Photos are welcome!

## GIVING

Please visit our Giving page to send tributes, recognize yahrzeits and make other general donations to support the Walnut Street Synagogue. Donations can be made online or through the mail.

<https://walnutstreetsynagogue.com/giving/>

## VISIT US ONLINE

Website

<https://walnutstreetsynagogue.com/>

Facebook Page - Walnut Street Synagogue

<https://www.facebook.com/WalnutStreetSynagogue>

Facebook Group - Jews of Chelsea, MA Then and Now

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/ChelseaJews>

*The Walnut Street Synagogue is the center for Jewish history, education and culture serving Chelsea, Greater Boston and beyond and is the historic home of Congregation Agudas Sholom. (added to National Register of Historic Places in 1993)*



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