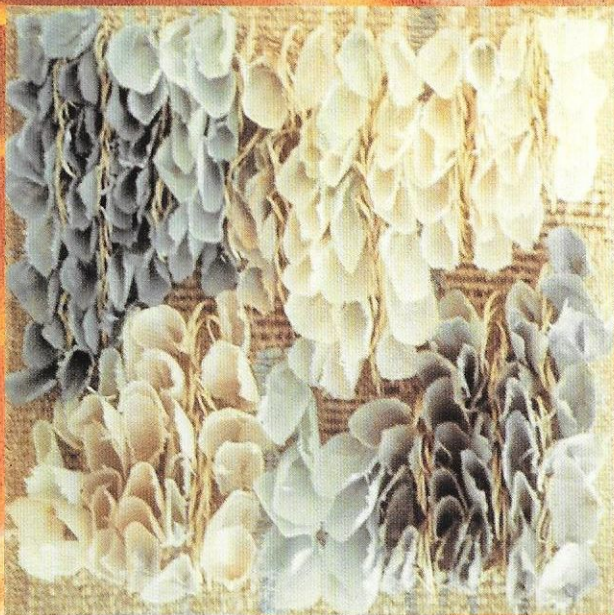


# ISRAEL STATE OF THE ART

CONTEMPORARY CRAFTS FROM ISRAEL



BARBICAN CENTRE

10 OCTOBER - 29 NOVEMBER 1990

## EXHIBITING ARTISTS ARE:

**Textiles and wall hangings**

Shula Litan, Yael Geless, Nurit Rosen, Varda Ben Tal, Rina Arbel, Yeshyau Gabai, Irit Nevo, Perla Sorgan, Raviva Regev, Tali Blumenau, Sippi Dagan, Yael Shilo and Achsa.

**Ceramics and ceramic sculpture**

Dani Davies, Maud Friedland, Talia Tukatly, Israel Bankir, Raia Stern, Meira Ona, Leah Sheves, Yael Atzmoni, Dany Azulai, Rina Kimchi, Raia Redlich, David Morris, Magdalena, Jean Mair and Lidia Zabatsky.

**Silversmithing and enamel**

Aryeh Ofir, Uri Reshef, Israel Dahn, Dumar, Emil Shainfeld, Sari Srulovitz and Amit Shor.

**Blacksmithing**

Uri Hofi

**Jewellery**

Shula Shek, Eitan Harel, Hana Bechar, Nurit Rosen, Miriam Solomon, Amit Shor, Orna Boteach, Nava Segev, Noa Goran, Shai Lachover, Dina Dotan and Malka Kochavi.

This exhibition has been curated by Rivi Packer, a major figure in the promotion of contemporary Israeli crafts in her own country and abroad, and formerly the Director of Tel Aviv's prestigious Alef Gallery. She selected the show " ... to emphasise the thin line between Israeli art and craft", but in doing so has surely indicated the vibrant atmosphere in the country's craft scene. An awareness of idiom and medium is apparent, which can only contribute to a wider appreciation of the decorative object, worldwide.

**Sponsored by**

**Mr and Mrs Robert Lewin  
in association with the Rich  
Foundation.**



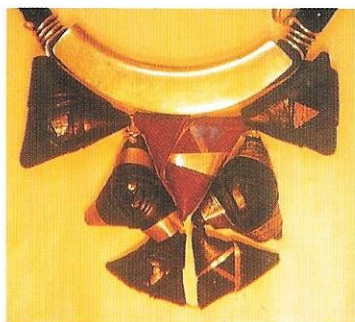
The Barbican Centre is owned,  
funded and managed by the  
Corporation of London.

Managing Director:  
Detta O'Cathian OBE  
Barbican Centre, Silk Street,  
London EC2Y 8DS.

## CONTEMPORARY CRAFTS FROM ISRAEL

Nineteenth century European travellers whose tales fuelled the Western mystique of the middle eastern Bazaar or 'souk' would be astonished at the diversity of the crafts in modern Israel. There, the encouragement given to these art forms has resulted in a level of public appreciation uncommonly strong by British standards at least. Jerusalem's Bezalel Academy has long been one of the main centres of influence, and continues to present an extraordinary breadth of vision and output, frequently of international status: some of this can be seen in the present exhibition. Nor has Israel's many-sided cultural history been ignored in favour of newer, western trends in art and design. Ideas and attitudes from the past and present co-exist, together with 'folk' items, whose creation has resulted from the powerful stimulus offered by the land itself.

As one might expect in the land of the Bible, a recognisable, religious element is evident in Israeli craft. By forbidding representations of God in all art forms, the Second Commandment significantly inhibited Jewish sculptors and craftsmen over the ages. A flexible grammar of semi-abstract designs therefore evolved wherever Jews were, and established a superb tradition in religious and secular metalwork of all kinds, especially in ecclesiastical silversmithry. This 'Judaica' is the more remarkable given its limited application: wine cups and candlesticks for the Sabbath and Festivals; ceremonial bells and breastplates for the Torah (the Scrolls of the Law) in synagogue; covers for Mezzuzot (found on every Jewish doorpost), and the Chanukiah or Menorah, the remodelled, domestic version of the Temple candelabrum. That so few items can continue to inspire such creative diversity is amply shown here by *Amit Shor, Uri Reshef, Dany Azulai, Meira Ona* and others. Their styles range across a wide spectrum, but the objects themselves contain an intangible element which declares their uniquely Israeli origin.



Hana Bechar

Front cover: Shula Litan

Box  
Leah  
Sheves



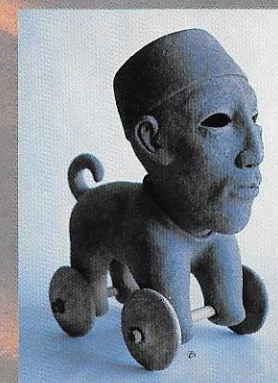
Talia Tukatly



Tali Blumenau



David Morris



Yael Geless



This idea of a 'sense of place' - an abstract geographical factor or sensation which provides stimuli for the artist - is as applicable to the arts in Israel as it is to Britain, where the phrase was coined. History and archaeology both play natural parts in this. We might for example see echoes of Biblical civilization in *David Morris's* totemic ceramic sculptures, and in *Talia Tukatly's* metamorphic 'altars'; an equal sense of rediscovery exists in ceramics by *Raia Redlich*, in *Dumar's* filigree work, and in the oxidised brasswork of *Nava Segev*. A more recent epoch is suggested by *Uri Hofi's* blacksmithry, whose bold themes prompt images of modern Israel's pioneer farmers, and also serve as a reminder of the endless struggle to cultivate the desert. Similar ideas appear in smaller items of jewellery by *Shula Shek*, *Eitan Harel* and *Noa Goren*, in which past and present subtly and beautifully combine.

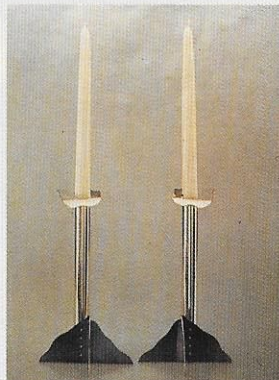
One of the strongest links between modern Israel's culture and its eventful past is to be found in textiles, wall hangings and appliqué work. This collection fuses colours, themes

and techniques ranging from traditional Bedouin and Yemenite methods to others which are utterly contemporary. The importance of wall hangings in the Middle East is mirrored elsewhere in the world, but it is rare to discover a country where these items provide such elegance and power. *Yael Geless* - one of Israel's most important figures in this field - depicts the desert and the Israeli landscape in high relief weaving and woollen constructions. *Shula Litan* uses Bedouin forms of embroidery for innovative, contemporary subjects, while *Nurit Rosen* and *Minam Solomon* have combined regional 'style' and modernity. Such variations continue, from the purity of hangings by *Vara Ben Tal*, through the lively topographical embroideries of *Sippi Dagan*, to the experimental and formal works in compressed paper by *Perla Sorgan* and *Yeshyau Gabai* respectively.

Orna Boteach



Aryeh Ofir



Uri Hofi



Irit Nevo



**ISRAEL:  
STATE OF THE ART**

Wednesday 10 October-  
Thursday 29 November



**BARBICAN CENTRE**  
Silk Street  
London EC2 8DS

Telephone Booking:  
071-638 8891  
9am-8pm every day

An abstract artwork featuring wavy, horizontal lines in shades of orange, yellow, and brown, creating a sense of movement and depth. In the upper right corner, there is a white rectangular area containing Hebrew text and the English title 'ISRAEL STATE OF THE ART'.

**ISRAEL  
STATE OF THE ART**

**BARBICAN CENTRE**

**10 OCTOBER - 29 NOVEMBER 1990**

## ISRAEL: STATE OF THE ART

Wednesday 10 October -  
Thursday 29 November 1990

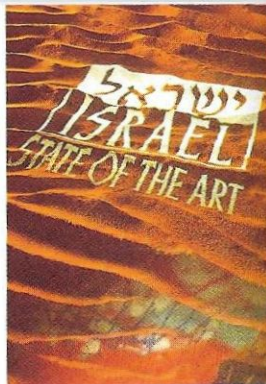
Patrons: The Right Honourable  
**Margaret Thatcher FRS MP**  
President of the State of Israel  
**Chaim Herzog**

Artistic Director: **Zubin Mehta**  
Artistic Consultant: **Hans Landesmann**

Israel: State of the Art is the biggest single event devoted to the culture of Israel ever mounted in Britain; it ranges from painting to music and includes craft, cinema, literature, archaeology and the sciences, as well as a visit from the Yiddish Theatre of Israel who will perform at the Bloomsbury Theatre.

The young state of Israel, born in 1948 in a land so rich in history, has striven to achieve recognition by the bringing together of widely differing peoples, whose belief in their cause has driven them to remarkable achievements.

It is particularly interesting to note how the land has affected some of the artists whose work is on show at the Barbican Centre. The light and colour in the paintings



make one instantly aware that they could only have come from a land of sunshine and in many cases the craft clearly shows the ethnic background of its creator. Similarly, some of the artists included, in particular the filmmakers and writers, reflect the complex stresses of the region's instability.

Zubin Mehta, who will conduct all five Israel Philharmonic concerts, has also enthusiastically undertaken the role of Artistic Director. Maestro Mehta, Indian by birth, is an honorary citizen of Tel Aviv. He is the Music Director of the Israel Philharmonic Orchestra and a major force in Israeli artistic circles. He sums up the Season like this: "Israel is a troubled country with an extraordinary rich tapestry of creative life". We hope visitors to the Centre will enjoy being part of this tapestry.

The Barbican Centre is enormously grateful to Dr Hans Landesmann for developing the concept of the Centre's Israel Season, and to the Corporation of London, the Government of Israel, its London Embassy and the Ambassador, Department of Cultural Affairs and Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and many companies, foundations and individuals for their generous support of the venture as well as many people who have worked hard to bring the project to fruition.

## CONTENTS

|                        | Page |
|------------------------|------|
| Concerts               | 3    |
| Exhibitions            | 3    |
| Literary Event         | 5    |
| Theatre                | 6    |
| Films                  | 7    |
| Foyer Music            | 10   |
| Scientific Seminars    | 11   |
| Archaeological Seminar | 11   |
| Other Events           | 12   |
| General Information    | 12   |
| Booking                | 12   |

The Barbican Centre gratefully acknowledges the generous support of the following:

The Lord Ashdown  
Charitable Settlement  
S J Berwin & Co  
Blair Foundation  
Mr Victor Blank  
British Land Company  
British Israel Arts Foundation  
Mr Raymond Burton  
Sir Trevor and Lady Chinn  
Clore Foundation  
Mr and Mrs Dennis Cohen  
John S Cohen Foundation  
Mr and Mrs Stanley Cohen  
Mr and Mrs Sidney Corob  
EL AL

Mr Ronald Fuhrer  
Garfield Weston Trust  
Global Asset Management  
Mr and Mrs W Griesmann  
Paul Hamlyn Foundation  
Mr Maurice Hatter  
Jacobson Townsley and Co  
Mr and Mrs Henry Kormind  
Ladbroke Group plc  
Landau Foundation  
Mr and Mr Arnold Lee  
Bank Leumi (UK) plc  
Mr and Mrs Daniel Levy  
Mr and Mrs Michael Levy  
Mr and Mrs Robert Lewin  
Lex Service  
Marks and Spencer  
Mr and Mrs Geoffrey Ognall  
Mr and Mrs Michael Phillips

Sir Leslie and Councillor  
Lady Porter D.L.  
Mr Gerald Ratner  
Rayne Foundation  
Mrs Pauline Recanati  
Rich Foundation  
Ronson Foundation  
Mr and Mrs M Rothman  
Sir Evelyn de Rothschild  
Dr and Mrs Davide Sala  
Lord and Lady Sieff  
Mr and Mrs Cyril Stein  
Sir Sigmund Sternberg  
Charitable Foundation  
Mr Monty Sumray  
Visiting Arts  
Mrs Bella Wingate  
Mr and Mrs F Worms



*Druze women communicating to relatives across Israeli-Syrian boarder fence. Golan Heights, 1973.  
Micha Bar Am*

## ISRAEL - THE STORMY YEARS

10 October - 29 November  
12 noon - 7.30pm daily

The Concourse Gallery

Admission free

'Being there' is a fundamental principle of the best news photography, and this exhibition proves it repeatedly, in work by the legendary Hungarian photographer Robert Capa (1913-1954), and by the prominent Israeli Micha Bar Am (born 1930). Israel's transition from British rule to full independence provided Capa with perhaps the greatest stimulus of his career. On his several visits to the country from 1948 to 1950, he produced superb photographs, whose unadorned dignity and clarity arguably surpass those taken for Life magazine during World War II. Those in this selection feature Capa's warm human touch and concentrate on European immigrants to Israel, during the late 1940s.

Micha Bar Am's work first attracted attention in 1954, but received truly international recognition following the 1967 Six Day War, and his subsequent association with the Magnum agency. He is now Curator of Photography at the Tel Aviv Museum of Art.

Bar Am has followed Capa's "no frills" approach in painstakingly recording the

triumphs and vicissitudes of modern Israel, at the same time evolving a personal style which one commentator described as "wrapping the event into a comprehensive aesthetic package", and another as "a vivid sense of reportage, with balanced artistry". Each is true - not only of Bar Am, but of Capa also - in this important exhibition.

*Sponsored by Jacobson Townsley & Co*  
**JACOBSON TOWNSLEY & CO**

MEMBERS OF THE INTERNATIONAL PHOTO EXCHANGE  
MEMBERS OF THE SECURITY SERVICES ASSOCIATION

The next three exhibitions are open  
9.00am - 11.00pm Mon-Sat,  
12noon - 11.00pm Sun.

Admission free

## CONTEMPORARY PAINTINGS BY LEA NIKEL

10 October - 29 November

Level 5 West

For the last thirty years Lea Nikel has not only been a central figure in Israeli painting, but has established a reputation as a restless talent: constantly inventive, never static. Born in Russia in 1918, and brought to Palestine aged 2, Nikel received her training in Tel Aviv. An eleven year spell in Paris from 1950-61 confirmed her personal belief in her own brand of abstract art, and her promise as an artist, and on her return to Israel Nikel's work immediately received favourable attention. The paintings to be shown at the Barbican Centre



*Lea Nikel*  
1988

could only come from Israel. In their combination of abstract shapes and glorious colours they span the visual bridge between European painting and that of the Middle East, offering "local colour" of a most unusual kind, and a true "joie de vivre" only visible in the art of the greatest talents.

Lea Nikel has held solo exhibitions annually in Israel and the USA since 1965, and has contributed to group shows frequently during the same period, throughout the world.

*Supported by a generous donation from  
Lord and Lady Sieff*

## CRAFT AND DESIGN

10 October - 29 November

Level 5 Craftspace

Curated by Rivi Packer, who ran Tel Aviv's prestigious Alef Gallery, and a pioneering spirit in the encouragement of Israeli crafts, these displays cover a wealth of exciting work. The work of 45 artists and craftsmen has been selected "...to emphasise the thin line between art and craft by exhibiting sculptures, ceramics, and blacksmithing side by side with decorative objects, jewellery and wall-hangings, to represent the better elements in today's Israel's craft and Judaica". The items have been chosen especially for the Barbican Centre and are all for sale.

Exhibiting artists are:

### Textiles and wall hangings

Shula Litan, Geless Glass, Nurit Rosen, Varda Ben Tal, Rina Arbel, Yeshyau Gabai, Irit Nevo, Perla Sorgan, Raviva Regev, Tali Blumenau, Zippi Dagan and Achsa.

### Ceramics and ceramic sculpture

Maud Friedland, Talia Tukaty, Israel Bankir, Raia Stern, Meira Ona, Leah Sheves, Yael Atzmoni, Dany Azulai, Rina Kimchi, Rai Redlich, David Morris, Magdalena, Jean Mair and Lidia Zabatsky.



*Shula Litan*



PHOTO PRISMA

**Silversmithing and enamel**

Aryeh Ofir, Uri Reshef, Israel Dahn,  
Dan Givon, Dumar, Emil Shainfeld,  
Sari Srulevitz and Amit Shor.

**Blacksmithing**

Uri Hofi

**Jewellery**

Shula Shek, Eitan Harel, Hana Bechar,  
Estee Knobel, Nurit Rosen, Miriam Solomon,  
Amit Shor, Rona Boteach, Nava Segev,  
Noa Goren, Shai Lachover, Dina Dotan and  
Malka Kochavi.

*Sponsored by Mr and Mrs Robert Lewin in  
association with the Rich Foundation*

**THIS IS ISRAEL**

10 October - 29 November

**Level 4**

This exhibition attempts to explain something of this fascinating country. Looking at a map can tell one much of the geography and relationship of towns and cities but this display goes one step further, and in words and photographs tells the viewer something about its history and some of the achievements in the arts, science and technology as well as the people and language.

*Supported by a generous donation from  
Elizabeth and Sidney Corob.*

**WORDS AND VISIONS**

10 October - 27 November

Open 9.30 am - 5.30 pm Mon,  
Wed-Fri; 9.30 am - 7.30 pm  
Tue; 9.30 am - 12.30 pm Sat

**Barbican Library, Level 7**

Hebrew, the language of the prophets and the Old Testament, ceased to exist as a vehicle for everyday communication during the exile and, despite the revival of modern Hebrew in the years since 1881, there are no more than three million active readers throughout the world. This limitation notwithstanding, Israel publishes more books per head of population

than any other nation, the biennial Jerusalem International Book Fair has become one of the world's most important literary marketplaces, and many Israeli writers reach international audiences through translations of their work.

Arranged in conjunction with the Israel Museum, Words and Visions showcases a range of English language Israeli publishing (some with parallel Hebrew-English texts) including titles drawn from the fields of art, archaeology, Judaica and Jewish ethnography, and photography. Illustrating and expanding on some of these themes are posters, including work by Moshe Gershuni, Jacob Pins, Yehezkel Streichman, Anna Ticho and Yosef Zaritsky.

*Supported by a generous donation from  
Gilda and Michael Levy*

**LITERARY EVENT**

Sunday 11 November 3.00 pm

**Cinema I**

An opportunity for writers to talk about and read from their works and discuss with Hermione Lee how they see their work in relation to consciousness, politics and society. Can they be described as, or how do they feel about being, Israeli writers as opposed to being Diasporan Jews, and what do they feel about writing in Hebrew and then having their works translated into other languages?

**Participants will include:****David Grossman**

One of the youngest and most influential writers in Israel today, David Grossman studied philosophy and theatre at the Hebrew University. In addition to his writing he has worked in Israel Radio as a programme editor, narrator and actor and is a playwright and narrator for Israel Television.

**Yehuda Amichai**

Yehuda Amichai is Israel's leading poet and has written some of the most moving poetry in the Hebrew language. Amichai has described himself as a "political

demonstration" covering all his political views in his work. Yehuda Amichai has now retired from teaching and lives and writes in Jerusalem.

**Shulamith Hareven**

Shulamith Hareven has written twelve books, short stories and poetry and has been translated in nine languages. She was for twelve years the only woman member of the Academy of Hebrew Language. She also translated Dylan Thomas's *Under Milk Wood* into Hebrew.

**Hermione Lee**

Hermione Lee is a well known critic, broadcaster and academic. Her publications include books on Virginia Woolf, Elizabeth Bowen and Philip Roth. She presented Channel Four's first book programme, *Book Four*, when her work included interviews with Amos Oz and Yehuda Amichai. Hermione Lee also makes regular appearances on Radio Three's *Third Ear* and reviews for *The Independent* on Sunday. She is a senior lecturer at the University of York and lives in Yorkshire. Hermione Lee will act as the moderator for this event.

Tickets: £3.50

*This event takes place with the generous support  
of the Paul Hamlyn Foundation.*

## FILM

ISRAEL THROUGH THE EYES OF  
ISRAELI FILM MAKERS

From some of the earliest sound films made in Palestine in the 1930s, through to four new feature films here receiving their British premières, the cinema season looks at the diverse ways in which film-makers over the years have portrayed the country by presenting a major retrospective of the most significant, challenging and entertaining Israeli films.

## Cinema 1

THE APPOINTED (Hameuad)  
(British Première)

Sunday 14 October 2.00pm

Set in the mountains of northern Galilee, Daniel Wachsmann's latest film tells the mystical story of Shemaya, a travelling magician, who is also the son of a famous rabbi. One night he meets a beguiling young woman called Oshra, and together they discover a power which transforms the stage show. But with the death of his father, hidden forces are at work which direct Shemaya to his appointed role.

Dir. Daniel Wachsmann. 1990 95 mins.

Sunday 14 October 4.00 pm

Discussion on the history and future prospects for film making in Israel.

As a small country approximately the size of Wales, with a population of just 4.5 million, the market for Israeli films has always been quite limited. There are also language barriers, and films made in Hebrew for home consumption have to be dubbed or sub-titled to reach wider audiences. In the light of such difficulties, together with the problems thrown up by its turbulent political history, what is the future for film making in Israel? With guest speakers Menahem Golan, Marek Rozenbaum, Uri Barbash, and Ella Shohat.

Admission free. Tickets available from box-office.

CROSSFIRE (Esh Tzolevet)  
(British Première)

Sunday 14 October 6.00 pm

Israel in 1947, and the British Mandate is coming to an end. A beautiful Jewish girl from Tel Aviv and a sophisticated Arab from Jaffa meet, totally by chance,

and fall in love. Their families are mortified; the Jewish underground interferes; their lives are in danger. Based on a famous true story, Gideon Ganani's engrossing film manages to be both entertaining thriller and historical eye-opener, as the star-crossed lovers are drawn, against their will, into the hysteria and destruction which engulfs the country on the eve of independence.

Dir. Gideon Ganani. 1989 91 mins.

## Cinema 2

## LAND OF PROMISE (Lechaim Chadashim)

Thursday 18 October 6.00pm

One of the earliest Palestinian sound films, a romantic documentary concerning the struggles and triumphs of inter-war settlers. The building of new towns, the greening of the desert and the setting up of new industries are portrayed with total optimism.

Dir. Juda Leman. 1935 57 mins.



This is the Land

## And THIS IS THE LAND (Zot Hi Ha 'Aretz)

This alternative eulogy to the pioneering spirit depicts the history of Jewish settlement in Palestine. The problems and despair of early settlers (the barren desert, the prevalence of malaria, the lack of water) are compounded by the feeling of betrayal by one who wants to leave.

Dir. Baruch Agadati. 1935 67 mins.

## HILL 24 DOESN'T ANSWER

(Giva Eshrim VeArba Aina Onah)

Thursday 18 October 8.30 pm

The first major feature film entirely produced and processed in Israel. An intelligent, gripping thriller set in 1948 at the end of the British mandate, exploring the issues surrounding the war of independence, and focussing on the battle between British intelligence services and the Jewish underground for a hill outside Jerusalem.

Dir. Thorold Dickinson. 1955 100 mins.

## HOLE IN THE MOON (Chor BaLevana)

Saturday 20 October 6.00 pm

A wild and zany satire which undermines all the sacred cows of modern Israeli society. Uri Zohar stars as a new immigrant who goes to the Negev desert and opens a kiosk. The lack of customers does not prevent a rival opening another kiosk on the opposite side of the road. When the two decide to go into the film business, the viewer is swamped by a series of witty attacks on the pioneering spirit, exhibitionism, cinema, and more. Now a little dated in its 1960s filmic style, but a landmark in Israeli cinema.

Dir. Uri Zohar. 1964 75 mins.

## LATE SUMMER BLUES

(Blues Lachofesh Hagadol)

Saturday 20 October 8.30 pm

The last days of high school for a group of teenagers who are about to be drafted into the Israeli army. Their fears and ambivalence about the army are revealed when one of the group is killed in training after three weeks. It is an 'all or nothing' time, as the teenagers attempt to fulfil their ambitions before it is too late.

Dir. Renen Shorr. 1987 101 mins.

## MRS VS MISTRESS (Irit, Irit)

Sunday 21 October 2.00 pm

The story of two contrasting Israeli women: a housewife who devotes her time and energy to raising children and caring for her surgeon husband, and an unmarried lawyer who is confident, liberated and passionate about her profession. When the lawyer moves in next door their worlds collide. A comedy which raises numerous questions about the role of women at work and in the home.

Dir. Naftali Alter. 1985 88 mins.

## THE THIN LINE (Al Hevel Dak)

Sunday 21 October 4.00 pm

Capturing the details and atmosphere of Israeli life, the 'thin line' refers to the tension between normality and mental breakdown. This award-winning drama is about a mother's plight, as she tries to cope with a husband who does not understand and two demanding daughters. A delicate, sensitive mother-and-daughter story seen through the eyes of the 11-year-old girl.

Dir. Michal Bat Adam. 1980 90 mins.

## I LOVE YOU ROSA (Ani Ohev Otach Rosa)

Sunday 21 October 6.00 pm

Jewish life and customs around the turn of the century are depicted in this drama set in Jerusalem,

as a young boy follows the strict religious tradition of marrying his brother's widow. *I Love You Rosa* sensitively reveals the problems of a relationship between a grown woman and a young boy, and its changing nature as the boy grows up. Produced by Menahem Golan.

**Dir. Moshe Mizrahi. 1972 90 mins.**

### AVODAH (Toil)

**Thursday 25 October 6.00 pm**

The struggle for water is again the central theme of Herman Lerski's celebration of the heroic, nationalist spirit of the 1930s. Jewish youths engaged in tiring labour are portrayed as working not merely for wages but in the service of an idea. With a style borrowed heavily from early Soviet cinema, *Avodah* is a key example of the pre-1948 films, depicting zealous, utopian pioneers eager to establish a national identity, in the face of the British jurisdiction of the region.

**Dir. Herman Lerski. 1935 49 mins.**

### And SABRA

European Jews arrive in Palestine, having bought a plot of land from an Arab sheik. The settlers sympathetically attempt to understand the Arab culture, but problems arise around the sharing of a well. When water suddenly spurts from the well, harmony between the two groups prevails. With its message of peace through co-operation, *Sabra* is fired with optimism regarding Arab-Jewish relations.

**Dir. Alexander Ford. 1934 54 mins.**

### THEY WERE 10 (Hem Hayu Asara)

**Thursday 25 October 8.30 pm**

The last of the old-style Israeli features, which inadvertently spurred new directions in Israeli film-making. Nine men and one woman come to Palestine at the end of the nineteenth century, fleeing from the pogroms in Eastern Europe. The film's message of peace between Jews and Arabs is symbolised in the new life and hope of a baby being

*They Were 10*

born, and the sudden appearance of rain. A prophetic film in view of historical developments, since it argues that only after Jews stand up and fight can peace be achieved. A less optimistic approach than *Sabra*.

**Dir. Baruch Dienar. 1961 105 mins.**

### SIEGE (Matzor)

**Saturday 27 October 6.00 pm**

The story of Tamar, a young woman teacher whose husband has died during the Six Day War. She is surrounded by sympathetic friends who put pressure on her to play the role of a widow. *Siege* is a compelling psychological drama in which Tamar gradually breaks the circle which imprisons her. Starring Gila Almagor.

**Dir. Gilberto Tofano. 1969 95 mins.**

### MARRIAGE OF CONVENIENCE

(Nisuim Fiktiveem)

**Saturday 27 October 8.30 pm**

A poignant comedy about an Israeli school teacher on a trip to New York who misses his flight. He telephones his wife, pretending to be in the US, and starts to lead a double life in Tel Aviv - working on a building site with Arab workers by day, and pretending to be an American tourist at night. A cleverly paced satire that raises numerous issues concerning Israeli society today.

**Dir. Haim Bouzaglo. 1988 90 mins.**

### THE POLICEMAN (U)

(Hashoter Azulay)

**Sunday 28 October 2.00 pm**

Directed by Israel's leading humorist and playwright, Ephraim Kishon. Shay K Ophir stars as a failed Jaffa policeman about to retire after 20 years who becomes attached to a young woman he has arrested. A curious, sweet and sour relationship develops between the two, in which he risks his 20 years' service to help her out. A touching, human comedy.

**Dir. Ephraim Kishon. 1971 87 mins.**

### THE BIG DIG (Te'alat Bloumilch)

**Sunday 28 October 4.00 pm**

A crazy comedy classic about a man who tunnels out of an asylum, finds a pneumatic drill and starts digging up the centre of Tel Aviv. The ensuing chaos becomes all the more absurd when he later becomes a national hero, digs through the sea wall and turns Tel Aviv into the 'Venice of the Middle East'. A hilarious reflection of Israeli society in the '60s.

**Dir. Ephraim Kishon. 1969 93 mins.**

### SALLAH SHABBATI (U)

**Sunday 28 October 6.00 pm**

A box office number one film in Israel and winner of numerous awards. Topol stars as a Sephardic Jew from North Africa arriving in Israel with his extended family. A comedy satire portraying the problems of inadequate housing, discrimination, and the settlers' attitudes to the kibbutz.

**Dir. Ephraim Kishon. 1964 110 mins.**

### BEYOND THE WALLS (18)

Me'achorey Hasoragim)

**Thursday 1 November 6.00 pm**

Sharing a cell block in an Israeli prison are Jews and Arabs. Friendship gradually develops between the rival camps and within this harsh, dehumanising environment a ray of hope shines through. *Beyond the Walls* was nominated for an Oscar in 1984, and won the International Critics Prize at the Venice Film Festival.

**Dir. Uri Bar Barbash 1984 103 mins.**

### HAMSIN (18)

**Thursday 1 November 8.30 pm**

In a farming village in Galilee in 1982, suspicions arise that central government intends to expropriate Arab lands. The consequent bitterness destroys old Arab-Jewish friendships and loyalties, including a love affair between an Arab boy and Israeli girl. An award-winning film examining Israeli-Arab relationships.

**Dir. Daniel Wachsmann. 1982 88 mins.**

### PEEPING TOMS (Metzitzim)

**Saturday 3 November 6.00 pm**

Two ageing young men spend their time on a Tel Aviv beach, mimicking Californian lifestyles, and really going nowhere. A film about the sixties 'lost generation' of Israeli youth, which had the impassioned idealism of the parents. It is also the story of men who do not want to take responsibility or grow up. Starring two of Israel's leading performers, Uri Zohar and Arik Einstein.

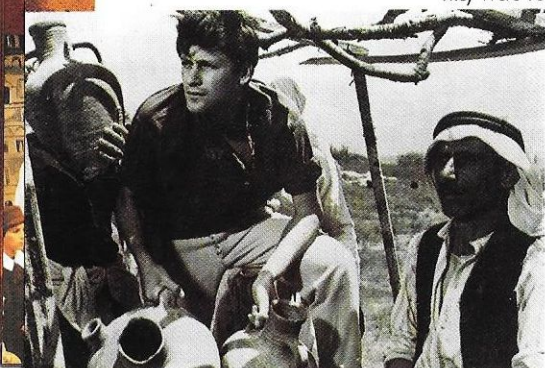
**Dir. Uri Zohar. 1972 90 mins.**

### STALIN'S DISCIPLES (Yaldei Stalin)

**Saturday 3 November 8.30 pm**

In the 1950s, three cobblers attempt to organise their kibbutz on Communist lines. This was when an attraction to capitalist America was viewed with suspicion by many Israelis. With the death of Stalin and his later denunciation, things begin to change. A fascinating and funny film about complex personal and political issues.

**Dir. Nadav Levitan. 1987 90 mins.**





Atalia

## ATALIA

**Sunday 4 November 2.00 pm**

The touching romance between a woman of 40 and a young man of 19 in a kibbutz. Atalia is a beauty who has been a provocative figure on the kibbutz, ignoring moral codes and going her own independent way. When she falls in love with a man who has been discharged from the army, the lovers pay the price of nonconformity. A crisis ensues with the outbreak of the Yom Kippur war.

**Dir. Akiva Tevet. 1984 90 mins.**

## NOA AT SEVENTEEN (Noa Bat Shva-Esreh)

**Sunday 4 November 4.00 pm**

It is 1951 and the kibbutz movement is torn apart by ideological differences. Seventeen-year-old Noa, growing up in a left-wing Tel Aviv family, becomes increasingly frustrated by the back-biting around her, and fights for the right to question authority. *Noa at Seventeen* was one of the first films to challenge the ethos of the kibbutz, and presents a fascinating insight into one of the central dilemmas of Israeli society in the immediate post-independence years.

**Dir. Itzhak Zepel Yeshurun. 1982 86 mins.**

## THE SUMMER OF AVIYA (PG)

(Hakayitz shel Aviya)

**Sunday 4 November 6.00 pm**

The summer of 1951, and nine-year-old Aviya is collected from boarding school by her mother, a Holocaust survivor. However, there is a resistance by native Israelis to post-Holocaust immigrants. Eli Cohen's moving second feature is based on the autobiography of leading Israeli actress Gila Almagor, who plays the part of the mother. With a wonderful performance by Kaipo Cohen as Aviya.

**Dir. Eli Cohen. 1988 95 mins.**

## BECAUSE OF THAT WAR

(Biglal Hamilchama Ha' Hi)

**Thursday 8 November 6.00 pm**

A film about the effects of the Holocaust upon the lives of the next generation. Ya'acov Gilad and

Yahuda Poliker of the rock band Benzin interview their parents about their experiences as survivors of the concentration camps, and talk about their personal feelings as the children of Holocaust survivors.

**Dir. Orna Ben-Dor Niv. 1988 93 mins.**

## BURNING MEMORY (Resisim)

**Thursday 8 November 8.30 pm**

A war may be over but the battles scar the souls of those who fight them. Gary, a 30-year-old combat veteran of the Lebanese war, suffers from severe shell-shock, and is admitted to a rehabilitation centre. As his three-week therapy programme draws to a close, he is forced into re-living his trauma. A radical, challenging statement about the personal effects of political decisions.

**Dir. Yossi Somer. 1988 93 mins.**

## HIDE AND SEEK (Machboem)

**Saturday 10 November 6.00 pm**

A depiction of Arab-Jewish relations set in Jerusalem in 1946, as the British Mandate is approaching its end. Twelve-year-old Uri develops a close friendship with his teacher. When the teacher is suspected of collaborating with the British, Uri and his pals follow him and discover his secret. A delicate tale of forbidden love.

**Dir. Dan Wolman 1980 90 mins.**

## TEL AVIV - BERLIN

**Saturday 10 November 8.30 pm**

In 1943 a German Jew who has escaped from Nazi Germany, falls in love with a nurse at the Tel Aviv hospital where he is recovering. But he retains memories of the elegant streets of Berlin, and affection for German music, literature and art. A chilling, contentious and insightful film from an accomplished woman director of the Israeli film industry.

**Dir. Tzipi Trope. 1987 90 mins.**

## ONE OF US (British première)

(Echad Mi'Shelanu)

**Sunday 11 November 2.00 pm**

Controversial and provocative, *One of Us* raises issues about justice and morality in the Israeli army and the nature of current Israeli attitudes to Arab prisoners. Rapha is a military investigator assigned to look into the death of an Arab suspect. Arriving at the army base he discovers a cover-up and is faced with the dilemma of loyalty to his army comrades, or revealing the results of his enquiries. An emotive film which questions whether revenge, or 'an eye for an eye', is a morally acceptable standpoint, and a film which appears all the more relevant in the light of recent

legal cases in Israel.

**Dir. Uri Barbash. 1990 110 mins.**

## AVANTI POPOLO

**Sunday 11 November 4.00 pm**

Two Egyptian soldiers (an actor and a peasant in civilian life) are stuck on the wrong side of the Suez canal at the end of the Six Day War. Attempting to make their own way back across the desert, they have a string of crazy encounters - with an English television crew looking for war footage, a dead Swedish soldier in a United Nations jeep, and a group of confused Israeli soldiers. A biting satire on the absurdity of war.

**Dir. Rafi Buhaee. 1986 84 mins.**

## THE LAST LOVE OF LAURA ADLER

(A'havata Ha' achrona Shel Laura Adler)

(British Premiere)

**Sunday 11 November 6.00 pm**

Laura is the star of a small Yiddish theatre troupe, loved and worshipped by her diminishing audience. As Laura lives out the melodrama of her stage plays in real life, the ageing members of the theatre company become increasingly dependent on the woman they idolize. A tragic love story of a dying culture.

**Dir. Avram Heffner. 1990 96 mins**

With thanks to: Israel Film Archive, Steven Spielberg Jewish Film Archive, Debbie Ben David, Alan Reich, National Centre for Jewish Film, National Film Archive, 21st Century Film Corporation, Globus Group, Ephraim Kishon, Contemporary Films.

*This film season is sponsored by*

*Global Asset Management.*

**GLOBAL ASSET MANAGEMENT**

All films not in English are subtitled.

All titles are awaiting certificates except those specified. All performances are in Cinema 2 (except Sunday 14 October).

**Tickets: £3.50 (£2.50 concessions).**

**Tickets for Sunday 14 October in Cinema 1 are £4.50 (£3.00 concessions). The discussion at 4.00pm is free. Tickets available in advance from the Box Office.**

All performances are separate.

Special Offer: Buy tickets for three films in Cinema 2 for just £9 (save £1.50 on the full price). (Cannot be combined with other discounts and concessions.)

**Booking now open.**

## FOYER MUSIC

### Level 5 Foyer, Barbican Centre

**Monday 8 October 5.30 pm - 7.20 pm**

This curtain-raiser to Israel: State of the Art will feature Cantor Stephen Robins, currently the cantor of the Edgware United Synagogue, the largest in Europe and Spice of Life, a five-piece band performing Israeli and Jewish music ranging from that of 19th century Eastern European weddings to the songs of modern Israel.

### DANCE DAY

**Sunday 14 October 12.30 pm - 5.00 pm**

The Dance Day will include Hora Ashkelon Group from Israel and Oranim, a dance group from England. The Zemel Choir will perform interludes of Israeli folk song arrangements.



*Hora Ashkelon*

### Hora Ashkelon Group

Hora Ashkelon was established in 1981. It incorporates some 150 dancers ranging in age from 16 - 25. Their repertoire covers biblical, Israeli, folklore, modern and international dances. Hora Ashkelon has participated in many national and international folk dance festivals including those in Scotland, France and Greece.

### Oranim

Oranim, the première Israeli dance performing troupe in the UK, offers a vibrant performance of colourful dance and music reflecting the different influences which make up the Israeli cultural mosaic - Chassidic dance from Eastern Europe, oriental dances from the Yemen and from the Arab, Druze and Armenian cultures; dances of the Pioneers, and others reflecting modern Israeli themes, the beauty of the land and the joy of youth.

### Zemel Choir

Conductor Malcolm Singer, the choir was established in 1955 and has developed into one of London's leading choirs with an international reputation.

### CHILDREN'S DAY

**Sunday 21 October 12.30 - 5.00 pm**

A day of music and dance performed by children of all ages. Performers will include Alyth Gardens Youth Singers, Hasmonaon Primary School and Mathilda Marks Kennedy School.

**Saturday 17 November**

**6.00 pm - 7.15 pm**

### Liz Magnes

Solo piano performances with unique jazz interpretations of music from around the world. Her specialities are based on popular music from Israel and the United States, and prayer music from Morocco and Yemen.

*Liz Magnes*



### JAZZ DAY

**Sunday 18 November**

**12.30 pm - 2.30 pm and**

**6.00 - 7.00 pm**

The Jazz Day will feature the Israeli East-West Ensemble. The East-West Ensemble is a unique musical experience, blending the diverse musical themes of Eastern and Western cultures.

Their vision is to combine the themes and sounds of Israeli, Arab, Far-East, jazz and classical influences, into a musical language of its own.

The musical structure includes classical Western form and the special forms found in more intuitive Eastern music. The Ensemble uses Western instruments: saxophone, flute, cello, bass and drums - alongside Middle Eastern ones: dulcimer, jar drums, oud (lute) and kanoon (zither).

The result is a marvellous mix of sound: classical Arabic music and Jewish cantorial feeling, Western techniques and African rhythms.

**Tuesday 20 November 6.00 pm**

Pre-concert chamber music given by leading members of the Israel Philharmonic orchestra.

**Saturday 24 November 6.00 pm**

Pre-concert chamber music given by leading members of the Israel Philharmonic Orchestra.

### CHORAL DAY

**Sunday 25 November**

**12.30 pm - 3.30 pm and**

**6.00 pm - 7.15 pm**

**4.00 pm at St. Giles' Church**

Come and hear four different choirs from Israel, in a day full of good tunes and excellent arrangements.

### 'Vocal Singers'

'Vocal Singers' was formed in 1986 and consists of eight musicians seeking new challenges in a cappella singing. The repertoire of the group includes pieces by Israeli composers, some especially written for the ensemble, as well as arrangements of early vocal music, jazz, pop and folk songs and vocal arrangements of instrumental music.

*Vocal Singers*



### The Irises

This choir from Kibbutz Beit Alfa is celebrating its thirteenth year. Under their conductor, Rafi Pesachson, they have performed on most of Israel's major stages as well as the United States and Canada.

The Reverend Simon Hass, cantor of the Central Synagogue, will also be singing.

### Aylth Choral Society

Formed in 1983 by a nucleus of singers who had taken part in a performance of Elijah in 1982. Their enthusiasm to continue led to the formation of a choral society at the North Western Reform Synagogue at Aylth Gardens.

### Ankor Children's Choir

Will be performing at 4.00 pm in St Giles' Church, Cripplegate. The choir consists of thirty members from the Jerusalem area, aged

6-14, who rehearse six times a week. The repertoire of the choir ranges from the Renaissance period to contemporary works and some leading Israeli composers have composed works for the choir.

### Monday 26 November

6.00 pm - 7.20 pm

Pre-concert chamber music given by leading members of the Israel Philharmonic orchestra.

### Wednesday 28 and Thursday 29 November 12.30 pm

### Kibbutz Contemporary Dance Company

Special lunchtime performances from this extraordinary company based at Kibbutz Ga'aton, in the far north of Israel. The founder, and artistic director, is Yehudit Arnon.

*Tour sponsored by the Rich Foundation.*

*The foyer music programme is supported by a generous donation from the Clore Foundation.*

## SCIENTIFIC SEMINARS

### Sunday 28 October

#### Cinema 1, Level 1

The scientific seminar presents talks on some of the fields in which Israel has led the world. These talks will be followed by audience discussion.

#### 3.00pm

Professor Alexander Levitzki is the Head of the Institute of Life Sciences at The Hebrew University and has just received the Israel Prize for 1990, which is the highest prize given by the State of Israel, for his major contribution in biochemistry. Professor Levitzki will be lecturing on 'New Approaches in Chemotherapy to Cancer and other Proliferative Diseases'.

#### 4.30pm

Professor Renata Reisfeld from the Institute of Chemistry at The Hebrew University will lecture on research into the use of solar energy. The experimental work being carried out in Israel on the development of alternative energy resources is amongst the most significant in the world.



Professor Renata Reisfeld

#### 6.00pm

Professor Ora Kedem presents a lecture on the de-salination of water in Israel. Professor Kedem is from the Weizmann Institute of Science and gives a brief historical survey, starting with water sources in ancient

Jerusalem, followed by a discussion of the development of water resources in Israel today, in particular the principles of the two major technologies for sea water desalination: multi-stage distillation and membrane filtration (reverse osmosis), and how they illustrate the competition between an established, highly developed technology and an emerging one with intrinsic advantages.

Professor Heinz Wolff, from Brunel University, chairs the scientific seminars.

Tickets: £1.50 per seminar or £3.00 for all three. Bookable in advance.

*Supported by a generous donation from the Ronson Foundation.*

## ARCHAEOLOGICAL SEMINAR

### Sunday 14 October 3.00 pm

#### Cinema 2, Level 9

Professor Yoram Tsafir is the head of the Institute of Archaeology at The Hebrew University. He has had numerous publications in the fields of archaeology



Professor Yoram Tsafir

and history and will be lecturing about the new excavations of the City of Beit She'an. Beit She'an (Roman-Byzantine Scythopolis) is the greatest excavation now being carried out in Israel and its monuments, architecture, statues and inscriptions are some of the most impressive yet discovered.

Dr John Schofield is acting Head of the Archaeological Unit in the City of London, the Department of Urban Archaeology in the Museum of London. He has directed excavations in several British cities including Edinburgh and has worked in the City of

London since 1964. His specialisms include medieval London and the practice of urban archaeology. He has published several books including 'The Building of London from the Conquest to the Great Fire', 1984. Dr. Schofield will chair the seminar.

Tickets: £2.50 bookable in advance.

*Supported by a generous donation from Irene and Davide Sala.*