

# The Judaic Turn: Reinventing the Israeli Screen



**March 26,  
Paterson 303  
7 p.m.**

Israeli cinema of the 20th century has been marked by an almost complete disavowal of Jewish religious lifestyle and practices. Recently, however, Israeli films have grown more and more interested in these facets of Israel's everyday reality, attempting to situate them within an evolving multicultural identity. This talk will focus on Israeli Cinema's Judaic turn and the scholarship developing around it. As such, it will seek to assert the importance of this shift to Israeli film history, and account for its significant implications.

## **The Ultraorthodox Body in Stasis, Motion, and Interaction:**

**Avishai Sivan's *The Wanderer* (2010)**

**Wednesday, Loeb B243, 1:00-2:30**

Israeli cinema of recent years has taken an interest in Israeli Ultraorthodoxy, often positioning it as a site of oppression and repression. This talk will focus on one such critical text, Avishai Sivan's *The Wanderer*, and elucidate its message in relation to Ultraorthodox corporeal regimes. Religious bodies, in this context, emerge as sites of regulation, enforced by ritual and custom, and resulting in pathology and violence. As such, they bind Israeli Judaism to a path of self-destruction, from which there is no return.



## **Dan Chyutin**

Dan Chyutin's research focuses on the cultural and theoretical intersections of religion and film, and in particular on contemporary Israeli cinema's relationship with Judaism and Judaic identity.

Chyutin is also an accomplished filmmaker, whose short narrative fiction and experimental films have been screened in various festivals worldwide.

Co-Sponsored by the School for Studies in Arts and Culture, Film Studies and the World Cinema Forum.