

*Just Peace for  
Israel/Palestine  
& co-sponsors  
present:*

# Stories of Struggle, Conscience and Spirit: A Film Festival on Israel/Palestine

*Six evenings of films and discussion, March 2 to May 18*

**March 2 7:00 PM** Lenoir Rhyne University (Asheville Chamber of Commerce Building, 36 Montford Ave.)

**Two short films on Jerusalem and opening reception with conversations and photo exhibit**

***Jerusalem in Exile*** explores the visual images of Jerusalem in the nostalgic minds of Palestinians globally.

Photographer Steve Sabella and poet Najwan Darwish contend that Jerusalem exists as a city in “exile.”

***My Neighborhood*** chronicles the story of Mohammed El Kurd, a Palestinian teenager forced to give up half of his home in East Jerusalem to Israeli settlers, and in the midst of unrelenting attention finds Israeli allies in his backyard. Directed by Julia Bacha and Rebekah Wingert-Jabi.

**March 9 7:00 PM** Lenoir Rhyne University (Asheville Chamber of Commerce Building, 36 Montford Ave.)

***Jerusalem: The East Side Story*** portrays Palestinian residents’ everyday life under the Israeli Defense Force’s occupation in East Jerusalem. It discloses Israeli government practices designed to create a Jewish majority in the city. Directed by Mohammed Alatar.

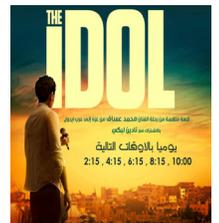


**March 16 7:00 PM** St. Mary’s Episcopal Church (337 Charlotte St.)

***Rana’s Wedding*** In this suspenseful yet comic drama, director Hani Abu-Assad tracks the quest of Rana, a 17-year-old living in East Jerusalem, to marry for love before being forced to return to Egypt with her father.

**March 30 7:00 PM** St. Mary’s Episcopal Church (337 Charlotte St.)

***The Idol*** is a drama depicting the life of Mohammed Assaf, a Palestinian pop singer living in Gaza, as he sets a seemingly impossible goal: to compete on the *Arab Idol* program. Directed by three-time Oscar nominee Hani Abu-Asad.



**May 11 7:00 PM** OLLI’s Reuter Center at UNC Asheville (1 Campus View Rd.)



***Disturbing the Peace*** Directors Stephen Apkon and Andrew Young’s documentary illustrates the universality of suffering by juxtaposing the stories of former combatants on both sides of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict.

**Co-sponsors: UNC Asheville Political Science Department  
and the Palestinian and Jewish Egalitarian Team**

**May 18 7:00 PM** OLLI’s Reuter Center at UNC Asheville (1 Campus View Rd.)

***The Occupation of the American Mind*** Directors Loretta Alper and Jeremy Earp’s documentary examines how public relations efforts in the U.S. have shaped media coverage and public attitudes about the Israeli-Palestinian conflict.



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# From Reviews of the Films

## Jerusalem in Exile

*... searches for the visual images of Jerusalem in the nostalgic minds of Palestinians globally.*

Vimeo

## My Neighborhood

*... one of the best documentaries I've seen about the Israeli-Palestinian conflict.*

Nabil A. Nashar, Doha, Qatar

## Jerusalem: The East Side Story

*... a documentary that squeezes nearly 100 years of history into an hour or so of cinema.*

Sam Bahour, Middle East Now

## The Idol

*An appreciation of music as a way of bridging boundaries through a unifying appeal to beauty.*

Nicolas Rapold, *The New York Times*

## Rana's Wedding

*... a meditation on the frustrating experience of living under a state of siege.*

Stephen Holden, *The New York Times*

## Disturbing the Peace

*... An uplifting film that deservedly earned a rapturous ovation when it screened at Ebertfest.*

Matt Fagerholm, Ebert Publishing

## The Occupation of the American Mind

*I wish every American would watch this powerful documentary.*

Gideon Levy, Israeli journalist and *Haaretz* columnist

**PAJET (Palestinian and Jewish Egalitarian Team) and JPIP (Just Peace for Israel/Palestine)** are collaborating on this film series because of the importance of bringing these little-known narratives to Asheville. Both groups are committed to human rights for all people, focusing on the struggle for a just, and therefore sustainable, peace in Israel and Palestine.

Our participants live in the questions surrounding that commitment. JPIP takes specific stands on issues related to Israeli and U.S. policies enabling the Occupation. PAJET formed as a dialogue group between Jewish and Palestinian residents of Asheville, and explores how to advocate together for peace and justice. Both groups invite the public to view these films and join the dialogue.

**The film festival is free; donations are welcome.**

For JPIP's mission statement,  
see [www.mepeacewnc.com](http://www.mepeacewnc.com).

For PAJET's statement of purpose  
and principles, see [www.pajetnc.org](http://www.pajetnc.org).