

Sabes Jewish Community Center  
Jay and Rose Phillips Building  
Barry Family Campus  
4330 S. Cedar Lake Rd.  
Minneapolis, MN 55416



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**For Immediate Release:**

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## **Minneapolis Jewish Film Festival Celebrates Sukkot with Israeli Film *Ushpizin***

Minneapolis, Minn...The Sabes Foundation Minneapolis Jewish Film Festival presents a Sukkot holiday-themed movie, *Ushpizin* ("The Holy Guests") at 7 p.m., October 16, in the theatre of the Sabes Jewish Community Center, 4330 S. Cedar Lake Road, Minneapolis. The screening is free and open to the public with refreshments following. This is also an opportunity to meet the new film festival director, Miryam Kabakov, and learn more about how to get involved in the Minneapolis Jewish Film Festival to be held March 5 to 15, 2009. Volunteers can sign up at the event.

*Ushpizin* is a heartwarming and humorous Israeli drama set in the customarily closed world of ultra-Orthodox Jews. Married couple Moshe and Malli, who are suffering through a financial crisis, pray for help. Instead of a miracle, two suspicious strangers with criminal pasts appear on their doorstep just before Sukkot. During Sukkot it is considered a blessing to host guests in a Sukkah. The couple believes the guests were sent to them as a test of faith by G-d. The film is reportedly the first made by members of the Israeli ultra-Orthodox community.

["Ushpizin"] does what the best movies can do: take viewers to what might be unfamiliar places, into a culture with unique customs and traditions, and show, through drama and comedy, how the fundamental truths of the human experience need no translation." *Steven Rea, Philadelphia Inquirer*

For additional information about the Minneapolis Jewish Film Festival, including sponsorship and volunteer opportunities, please contact Miryam Kabakov at [mkabakov@sabesjcc.org](mailto:mkabakov@sabesjcc.org) or 952.381.3472, or visit [www.mplsiff.org](http://www.mplsiff.org)

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The Sabes Foundation Minneapolis Jewish Film Festival on March 5-15, 2009, presents the best feature films, documentaries and shorts from around the world on themes of Jewish culture and identity. The film festival is an opportunity to heighten awareness of this diversity to audiences of all backgrounds. Through its eclectic programming of films in different languages, the festival strives to break down stereotypes and racial barriers. It hosts filmmakers from all over the globe, and presents panels, workshops, and a variety of programs as part of the festival's annual programming. For more information, contact Miryam Kabakov at [mkabakov@sabesjcc.org](mailto:mkabakov@sabesjcc.org) or 952.381.3472 or visit [www.mplsiff.org](http://www.mplsiff.org).

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