

Sabes Jewish Community Center  
Jay and Rose Phillips Building  
Barry Family Campus  
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[www.sabesjcc.org](http://www.sabesjcc.org)



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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

**Minneapolis Jewish Film Festival kicks off March 5, 2009 and screens feature,  
documentary and short films from around the world**

Minneapolis, Minn...The Sabes Foundation Minneapolis Jewish Film Festival takes place March 5–15, 2009, and presents the best feature films, documentaries and shorts from around the world on themes of Jewish culture and identity. This year, films hail from countries including Israel, France, Canada, the United Kingdom and the United States and cover topics ranging from bar mitzvahs and living on a kibbutz to historical freedom movements and current Muslim-Jewish relations. Most films will take place at the Sabes Jewish Community Center, 4330 S. Cedar Lake Road, Minneapolis, MN 55416. For a full list of films, venues and times, visit [www.mplsjff.org](http://www.mplsjff.org).

The film festival kick-off event will take place Thursday, March 5 at 7 p.m. at the Willow Creek Theatre (9900 Shelard Parkway, Plymouth, MN 55441) and will feature the film *Sixty-Six*, which tells the story of young Bernie Reubens, whose Bar Mitzvah will take place July 30, 1966. He realizes that this day corresponds with the final match of the soccer World Cup, which if England were to reach, would mean no one would come to his Bar Mitzvah. Bernie therefore roots passionately for all sides opposing the English in the World Cup Pool. Meanwhile, as his adolescent nightmare slowly unfolds, his parents—played by Helena Bonham Carter and Eddie Marsan—face their own troubles as their family grocery store is being driven out of business by the new local supermarket. After the film screening, there will be raffles, prizes and more.

The closing event features a screening of *Noodle* and a reception at the Walker Art Center (1750 Hennepin Ave, Minneapolis, MN 55403) on Sunday, March 15 at 5 p.m. *Noodle* is a charming and moving comic-drama about a young Israeli woman and a Chinese boy whose lives converge in the most surprising manner. At 37, El Al flight attendant Miri (Mili Avital) has been twice-widowed by

war. One day her Chinese housekeeper asks if Miri can mind her six-year-old son for an hour and walks out, never to return. The boy cannot speak English or Hebrew and neither Miri nor her sister Gila (Anat Waxman), with whom she lives, can speak Mandarin. As Miri and Gila attempt to search for the mother of the boy, nicknamed Noodle, Miri's well-regulated but emotionally empty existence is turned upside down.

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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 a full list of films and more information, visit [www.mplsjff.org](http://www.mplsjff.org).

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