

REFUSENIK

THURSDAY, MARCH 12
12 NOON, SABES JCC
REFUSENIK TICKET: \$6



sabes jcc



Director: Laura Bialis | United States, 2007 | 112 minutes
English, Russian and Hebrew with English subtitles

Refusenik is the first retrospective documentary to chronicle the thirty-year movement to free Soviet Jews. It shows how a small grassroots effort bold enough to take on a Cold War superpower blossomed into an international human rights campaign that engaged the disempowered and world leaders alike. Told through the eyes of activists on both sides of the Iron Curtain—many of whom survived punishment in Soviet Gulag labor camps—the film is a tapestry of first-person accounts of heroism, sacrifice, and ultimately, liberation. Much of the material used in *Refusenik* is unique and exclusive to this film. Interviews with key leaders in the movement are some of the first ever to be recorded. Many of the photographs and covert film footage—some of it smuggled out

of the Soviet Union—have never been seen before by a large audience, and help make *Refusenik* a unique portrait of this amazing story.

Film introduced by Pat Kaplan, a native of St Paul, full-time realtor and full-time volunteer fundraiser, wife, mother and bubbe, and past Soviet Jewry activist. Vladimir Posse, journalist and former Professor of History, will discuss the movement from the perspective of a former citizen of the FSU.

This film is dedicated to the memory of Stephen Feinstein, Founder of the Center for Holocaust and Genocide Studies at the University of Minnesota and an activist in the Refusenik movement.

march 5-15, 2009 www.mplsajff.org

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