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Silicon Valley Jewish Film Festival: more movies, special events

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With 24 diverse films from around the world, plus an opening night featuring Chaim Topol of "Fiddler on the Roof" fame and a closing night with veteran actor Elliott Gould, the Silicon Valley Jewish Film Festival promises more events than ever.

The 22nd annual festival runs from Oct. 19 to Nov. 17, with special events at the Oshman Family JCC in Palo Alto. Most of the films will show at the Camera 7 in Campbell or the Century 24 in San Jose.

Films include "A.K.A. Doc Pomus," a documentary about the legendary American songwriter; "Hannah Arendt," a drama about the German Jewish philosopher and journalist; "Zaytoun," about an Israeli pilot shot down in 1982 Beirut who forges a friendship with a Palestinian boy as they head for home; the lighthearted "Paris-Manhattan," a French film about a young woman infatuated with Woody Allen movies; and "Putzel," a quirky American film about a 30-something guy who works in his uncle's lox store on Manhattan's Upper West Side.

In the mix are several Israeli films, in Hebrew with English subtitles.

The festival closes Nov. 17 at the Oshman Family JCC with a showing of the romantic comedy "Dorfman in Love," followed by a reception with actor Gould, director Bradley Leong and screenwriter Wendy Kout.

For a full list of films and ticket information, go to <http://www.svjff.org> or call (800) 838-3006.