The Holocaust in Israeli Cinema
A Guest Lecture by Prof. Yaron Shemer
(University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill)

The Holocaust in Israeli Cinema will address the reasons for the early meager treatment of the Holocaust, provide various explanations for the change, and will delineate the main features in the portrayal of the Holocaust in Israeli films. Under the Domim Tree (by Eli Cohen, 1995) will be employed as a case study, but references to other Israeli films, as well as to American and European ones, will provide the broader context for the discussion.

The talk will be followed by a Q&A. For information contact Susanne Lenné Jones (jonessu@ecu.edu or 737-2390)

For the first four decades following the creation of the State of Israel only few Israeli films tackled the story of the Holocaust. This trend has been reversed since the early 1990s and, presently, Israeli documentaries and feature films that delve into the issue of the Holocaust and its impact on first- and second-generation survivors are regularly released.

Yaron Shemer is Assistant Professor of Israel Cultural Studies at The University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill. He earned his Ph.D. in Radio-Television-Film from the University of Texas at Austin in 2005. His published articles focus on contemporary Mizrahi films and on terrorism in Middle Eastern cinema. Yaron Shemer has produced and directed films in Israel, Poland, and the United States, including Pilgrimage of Remembrance: The Jews of Poland (1991) and The Road to Peace: Israelis and Palestinians (1995). He is currently completing his book manuscript “Identity, Place, and Subversion in Contemporary Mizrahi Cinema.”

Dec. 1, 2010, 6:30 p.m. in the Speight Auditorium*:
Screening of Under the Domim Tree

Dec. 2, 2010 6:30 p.m. in the Speight Auditorium*:
Lecture “Holocaust in Israeli Cinema”

* The Speight Auditorium is room 1220 in the Jenkins Fine Arts Center, just off 5th Street. For a campus map click http://www.ecu.edu/campusmaps/.

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