

# REDEDICATION



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REIMAGINE • REDISCOVER • REAFFIRM • RECONNECT**

**Watch a Documentary Film with a Jewish Theme**

## PEOPLEHOOD

**“Jews of Iran,”** dir Ramin Farahani (2005)

Examines the lives of Persian Jews who choose to remain in their homeland despite facing discrimination in Iran’s predominately Islamic society.

**“One of Us,”** dir Heidi Ewing and Rachel Grady (2017)

Follows the experiences of 3 Jews who left their Hasidic community in Brooklyn.

**“Refusenik,”** dir Laura Bialis (2007)

Chronicles the struggle of Jewish to emigrate from the Soviet Union in the 1960s and '70s.

**“Trembling Before G-d,”** dir Sandi Simcha Dubowski (2001)

Follows gay and lesbian Orthodox Jews who are trying to reconcile their sexuality with their faith.

**“Praying with Lior,”** dir Ilana Trachtman

A teen with Down Syndrome brings great spirituality to preparing for his bar mitzvah and to the day itself.

## MEMORY

**“The Number on Great-Grandpa’s Arm,”** produced by Amy Schatz (2018)

This short HBO film introduces the subject of the Holocaust to elementary-age children through a conversation between a 10-year-old boy and his 90-year-old grandfather, a survivor of Auschwitz. Their exchange is interwoven with historical footage and animation.

**“The Partisans of Vilna,”** dir. Joshua Waletzky (1986)

Tells the story of the men and women who formed the Jewish partisan movement in Vilna, Lithuania during World War II.

**“Shoah,”** dir. Claude Lanzmann (1985)

Over 9 hours long, this groundbreaking film presents Lanzmann’s interviews with survivors, witnesses, and perpetrators.

## ISRAEL/ZIONISM

**“For You Were Once Strangers,”** dir. Ruth Berdah-Canet (2015)

The proposed deportation from Israel of Sudanese refugees fractures Israeli society, as Israel faces its legacy as a welcoming shelter for refugees.

**“Holy Land Hardball,”** dir Erik Kesten & Brett Rapkin (2012)

Follows an unlikely group of players and executives as they attempt to create the first-ever professional baseball league in the Middle East.

**“On the Map,”** dir Dani Menkin (2016)

Tells the against-all-odds story of Maccabi Tel Aviv’s 1977 European Championship.

**“The Prime Ministers: The Pioneers,”** dir Richard Trank (2013)

**“The Prime Ministers: Soldiers and Peacemakers,”** dir Richard Trank (2014)

Two films based on the best-selling book by Yehuda Avner, who served as a chief aide, English language note-taker, and speech writer to several Israeli PMs.

**“The Spy Behind Home Plate,”** dir Aviva Kempner (2019)

Tells the story of Moe Berg, the enigmatic Jewish catcher who played on five major league teams during baseball’s Gold Age and who joined the Office of Strategic Services (OSS) to spy for the US on the Nazis’ atomic bomb program.

## MUSIC, ART, AND CULTURE

**“A Cantor’s Tale,”** dir Erik Greenberg Anjou (2005)

A film about *hazzanut* past, present, and future, told through the lens of Cantor Jack Mendelson’s career. With appearances by Alan M. Dershowitz, Jackie Mason, Alberto Mizrahi, and others.

**“DeliMan,”** dir Erik Greenberg Anjou (2014)

A guide to the deli with Ziggy Gruber, a 3rd-generation “deli man” and Yiddish-speaking French-trained chef, owner and maven of one of the country’s top delis, Kenny and Ziggy’s in Houston.

**“Divine Food: 100 Years in the Kosher Delicatessen Trade,”** dir Bill Chayes (1998)

Tells the behind-the-scenes story of Best Foods, the family-owned kosher food and meat production company founded by immigrant Isaac Oscherwitz 125 years ago and eventually sold to Sara Lee.

**“Hollywoodism: Jews, Movies and the American Dream,”** dir Simcha Jacobovici (1998)

Based on the book *An Empire of Their Own: How the Jews Invented Hollywood* by Neal Gabler, the film looks at mainstream American cinema from the perspective of outsiders looking to become insiders.

**“Klezomatics – On Holy Ground,”** dir Erik Greenberg Anjou (2010)

Following the Grammy Award-winning klezmer band through appearances on TV and radio, including on Great Performances with Itzhak Perlman, the film is part backstage doc, part concert, and part an examination of a remixing of Jewish culture.

**“The Life and Times of Hank Greenberg,”** dir. Aviva Kempner

Tells the story of Greenberg’s remarkable career and explains how Greenberg, by succeeding at the national pastime, became a hero and a beacon of hope to Jews during a time of virulent antisemitism.

**“Joseph Pulitzer: Voice of the People,”** dir Oren Rudavsky (2019)

How Pulitzer, who arrived in the US during the Civil War as a penniless immigrant, created two best-selling newspapers, built a fortune, and shaped the American press.

**“RBG,”** dir Betsy West and Julie Cohen (2018)

Tells about the exceptional life and career of Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg, equally famous for her legal legacy and for having become an unexpected pop culture icon.

**“Rosenwald: A Remarkable Story of A Jewish Partnership with African American Communities,”** dir Aviva Kempner (2015)

An account of the life and philanthropy of Julius Rosenwald. After building Sears-Roebuck into the world’s largest retailer, Rosenwald developed a friendship with Booker T. Washington. As a philanthropist, he funded rural schools for African American children in the South, established YMCA-YWCAs for African Americans, founded the Museum of Science and Industry in Chicago, and supported black artists and writers.

**“Yoo-hoo, Mrs. Goldberg: The Most Famous Woman in America You’ve Never Heard Of,”** dir. Aviva Kempner (2009)

Tells the story of Gertrude Berg, a first-generation American hailed in the 1930s as “the first woman of radio.”