



CONGREGATION ANSHEI ISRAEL

presents

# SUMMER FILM SERIES 2012



SUNDAYS AT 7:00PM

JULY 1, 15, 22, AUGUST 5 & 12

Enjoy popcorn and lemonade as we share the pleasure of spending a few, cool moments in the shadow of each others' presence. Stay after each showing for a casual discussion of the film.



## JULY 1 • A Matter of Size (90 mins.)

Four overweight friends from the Israeli city of Ramle are fed up with dieting and the dieting club to which they belong. When Herzl loses his job as a cook and starts working as a dishwasher in a Japanese restaurant in Ramle, he discovers the world of Sumo, where large people such as himself (342 pounds) are honored and appreciated. Through the restaurant owner, Kitano, a former Sumo coach in Japan (who is supposedly hiding from the Yakuza in Israel), Herzl falls in love with a sport involving "two fatsos in diapers and girly hairdos." Herzl wants Kitano to be their coach but Kitano is reluctant — they first have to earn their spurs.



## JULY 15 • Time of Favor (101 mins.)

Rabbi Meltzer is a respected Orthodox rabbi and leader of a yeshiva in a remote section of the Judean hills. One of the Rabbi's favorite causes is returning Jerusalem's Dome of the Rock to the control of Israel — a holy shrine in the ancient city that Moslems use as a mosque and Jews call Temple Mount. With this goal in mind, the Rabbi organizes a military unit comprised of his students, with military officer Menachem serving as an advisor. Issues of love, loyalty, and faith are set on a collision course in this drama that won wide acclaim in Israel, earning six Israeli Academy awards, including Best Picture.



## JULY 22 • Inside Hana's Suitcase (90 mins.)

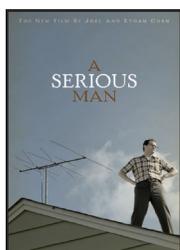
The delivery of a battered suitcase to Fumiko Ishioka at the Tokyo Holocaust Museum begins this true-life mystery. The suitcase came from the Auschwitz Museum and had Hana Brady's name painted on it. The film follows Fumiko's search to discover the details of Hana's life, which leads to the discovery of her brother George in Toronto. As small children they had been sent to Theresienstadt for being Jewish after the Nazis invaded Czechoslovakia in 1939. A superb musical score, coupled with dramatic reenactments stunningly shot, catches us by the heart to invoke the tragedy of the times. The voices of children from Japan, Canada, and the Czech Republic telling Hana's story are woven around the drama, along with George's memories and Fumiko's quest, to create a film of astonishing power and hope.



## AUGUST 5 • Nora's Will (92 mins.)

When his ex-wife Nora dies right before Passover, José is forced to stay with her body until she can be properly put to rest. He soon realizes he is part of Nora's plan to bring her family back together for one last Passover feast, leading José to reexamine their relationship and rediscover their undying love for each other. Nora's Will is a comedy like nothing you've seen before, a truly unique tale of lost faith and eternal love from one of Mexico's most talented filmmakers, writer/director Mariana Chenillo. Nora's Will was named Mexico's Best Picture of the Year, taking home seven Ariel Awards.

Chenillo is the first female director ever to win Mexico's Best Picture award.



## AUGUST 12 • A Serious Man (106 mins.)

It is 1967, and Larry Gopnik, a physics professor at a quiet Midwestern university, has just been informed by his wife Judith that she is leaving him. She has fallen in love with one of his more pompous acquaintances, Sy Ableman, who seems to her a more substantial person than the feckless Larry. Larry's unemployable brother Arthur is sleeping on the couch, his son Danny is a discipline problem, and his daughter Sarah is filching money from his wallet. While his wife and Sy Ableman blithely make new domestic arrangements, and his brother becomes more and more of a burden, an anonymous hostile letter-writer is trying to sabotage Larry's chances for tenure at the university. Also, a graduate student seems to be trying to bribe him for a passing grade while at the same time threatening to sue him for defamation. Plus, the beautiful woman next door torments him by sunbathing nude. Struggling for equilibrium, Larry seeks advice from three different rabbis. Can anyone help him cope with his afflictions and become a righteous person — a *mensch* — a serious man?