

**Thursday, July 9: “Blessed is the Match: The Life and Death of Hannah Senesh”**

*Individual Tickets: \$7, Colonial Members \$5*

This is the first documentary film about Hannah Senesh’s life as a World War II-era poet and diarist who became a paratrooper, resistance fighter and modern-day Joan of Arc. Safe in Palestine in 1944, Hannah joined a mission to rescue Jews in her native Hungary. When Hannah parachuted behind enemy lines, she was captured, tortured and executed by the Nazis. Her mother, Catherine, witnessed the entire ordeal – first as a prisoner with Hannah and later as her advocate, braving the bombed-out streets of Budapest in desperate attempts to save her daughter.

With unprecedented access to the Senesh family archive, and through interviews, eyewitness accounts and the writings of Hannah and Catherine Senesh, the film chronicles the only military rescue mission for Jews during the Holocaust. In the film one also learns about British-controlled Palestine and explores how the Kibbutz Movement drew Hannah and other idealistic Jews there to build a Jewish state. Israeli President Shimon Peres, who knew Hannah as a young pioneer in the ‘40s, appears in the film.

Through Hannah’s diary, poetry and correspondence viewers have a full look into the life of a unique and complex young woman coming of age in a world descending into madness. In her Budapest prison cell in 1944 she wrote her last poem:

“One-two-three ...  
eight feet long,  
Two strides across, the rest is dark ...  
Life hangs over me like a question mark.

One-two-three ...  
Maybe another week,  
Or next month may still find me here,  
But death, I feel, is very near.

I could have been  
twenty-three next July;  
I gambled on what mattered most,  
The dice were cast. I lost.”

*Budapest, 1944*

*[Translated from the Hungarian by Peter Hay]*

For more details visit [www.blessedisthematch.com](http://www.blessedisthematch.com)

**Thursday, July 23: “The Year My Parents Went on Vacation”**

*Individual Tickets: \$7, Colonial Members \$5*

This Brazilian film is set during the excitement of the 1970 World Cup. While the country focuses on the soccer tournament, Mauro is separated from his parents amidst political turmoil as they are forced to escape the country without their son. Meanwhile the young boy must leave his home to stay in the care of his Jewish grandfather’s neighbor in Sao Paulo and to learn his way around the new world of a Jewish neighborhood. Mauro makes friends, develops a crush on a waitress in a local bar where he joins the soccer fans who gather to watch Pelé in the 1970 Soccer World Cup championship. This film was Brazil’s submission to the 2007 Oscars.

**Saturday, August 8: LIVE! Alloy Orchestra plays “Underworld”**

*Individual Tickets: \$15, Colonial Members \$12*

\* 7 p.m.: A pre-concert talk by Edwin Seroussi, Emanuel Alexandre Professor of Musicology and Director of the Jewish Music Research Centre of the Hebrew University of Jerusalem, will discuss the complexities of Jewish musical life in Vienna during the stormy 19<sup>th</sup> century fin-de-siècle.

\* 8 p.m.: **“Underworld”** - The 1927 film accompanied by **Alloy Orchestra LIVE**

**“Underworld,”** a silent classic won the Oscar in 1927 and is considered the first gangster movie. The Alloy Orchestra, a three-man musical ensemble well-known for writing and performing live accompaniment to classic silent films, will perform. The orchestra works with an unusual combination of ‘found’ percussion and state-of-the-art electronics which give the orchestra the ability to create any sound imaginable. Using their famous “rack of junk” with electronic synthesizers, the group generates beautiful music in a broad variety of styles, from a French symphony to a simple German bar band of the ‘20s. Musical effects make the audience think it is being attacked by tigers, contacted by radio signals from Mars or swept up in the Russian Revolution. In performances at prestigious film festivals and cultural centers in the US and abroad (Telluride Film Festival, Louvre, Lincoln Center, Academy of Motion Pictures, National Gallery of Art and others), Alloy has helped to revive some of the great masterpieces of the silent film era.

\* **Following the Film:** You are cordially invited to meet the members of the Alloy Orchestra and enjoy a Viennese Café sponsored by BHC.

**Sachertorte! Linzertorte! Schlagsahne! Marmorgugelhupf!  
Trüffeltorte!**

**Vanillekipfel! Tascherln! Kaffee und Tee! Gemütlichkeit!**

**Thursday, August 13: “Waltz With Bashir”**

*Individual Tickets: \$7, Colonial Members \$5*

Utilizing vivid black-and-white animation in this Golden Globe winner for Best Foreign Language Film, director Ari Folman documents his quest to explore the memory gaps in his life during his service for the Israeli Army in the Lebanese War of the early 1980s. Recounting several story vignettes based on recorded interviews with colleagues and friends, Folman explores the horrors of war and the curious coping mechanisms that mankind uses to survive and function under brutal circumstances.

**Wednesday, August 19: LIVE! At the Colonial – Andy Statman Trio - 8 p.m.**

*Individual Tickets: \$30, Colonial Members \$25 –*

*Reserved front & center seating \$35 – Call 603-869-5603 or reserve online at [www.bethlehemcolonial.org](http://www.bethlehemcolonial.org)*

“There are those who know Andy Statman as the virtuoso klezmer clarinetist – violinist Itzhak Perlman, for instance – who chose Statman to lead his klezmer album. There are those who know Andy Statman as the down-home mandolin player with a stack of straight-up bluegrass albums to his credit. In Statman’s versatile hands is a music that’s full of surprises, sophisticated and completely accessible at once.” NY Daily News

Inspired by Bill Monroe and Jesse McReynolds during his early teens, Statman began a lifelong obsession with the mandolin. Applying a New York sensibility to an Appalachian aesthetic, by age 21, Statman was among the most inventive creators of a fresh approach to American roots music. He played sessions with Bob Dylan and the Grateful Dead. His first mandolin teacher, David Grisman, soon became a musical partner for recordings and concerts.

Statman is deservedly known as an innovative interpreter of Jewish instrumental music, specifically the devotional and celebratory music of Chassidic Judaism on the clarinet. He had the chance to learn directly from the great European klezmerim of the late 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> centuries. Inspired by Statman, violinist Itzhak Perlman asked Statman to join him for a critically acclaimed series of albums, videos and concerts entitled, “In the Fiddler’s House.”

Bassist Jim Whitney, a New Hampshire native and Brooklyn transplant, brings to the trio his New England Conservatory training and a diverse background in jazz, Brazilian and American folk styles. Percussionist Larry Eagle’s experiments in cross-cultural pollination include country-western music in Finland, ‘50s vintage R-and-B in Malaysia, Zydeco in Barbados, underground jazz in the former Soviet Union, Irish rock-and-roll near Prague, and Chicago blues on an Athenian hilltop. Eagle’s recent projects include Grammy-nominated recordings with Odetta and Bruce Springsteen.

### **Thursday, August 27: “Live and Become”**

*Individual Tickets: \$7, Colonial Members \$5*

Based on the exodus of Ethiopian Jews to Israel, this film is a harrowing and poignant look at struggles of cultural and personal identity. In 1985, Operation Moses was launched to airlift thousands of persecuted Ethiopian Jews (Falashas) from Sudan to Israel.

When a Falasha widow’s son dies, she smuggles a Christian boy with her to ensure his survival. Guilt-ridden at leaving his real mother behind, the boy (renamed Schlomo) is soon orphaned when his Jewish guardian dies. Schlomo, a smart but rebellious student, finds a stable home with an adoptive French-Israeli couple. The secular couple encourages his Jewish faith while defending him against the prejudices of their neighbors and the Israeli state.

Schlomo’s deception only deepens when he falls for Sarah, a white Jew, and must contend with her racist father. When he and Sarah marry years later, Schlomo must come clean about his identity if he is to find his place in the world and fulfill his mother’s wish: “Go. Live and become.” Director Radu Mihaileanu, a Romanian Jew who fled oppression in his own country, brings compassionate focus to a story of inner turmoil amidst turbulent times.

“Live and Become” is a timely and thought-provoking look at how hope can overcome any prejudice, and how being true to oneself is the surest path home.