

Films on Jewish experience abound with festival opening

Movie-goers interested in the Jewish experience have more than a few choices this weekend.

Nowhere in Africa, which unfolds the true story of a family that fled Nazi Germany in 1938 for a remote farm in Kenya, runs Friday-Sunday, April 25-27, at Detroit Film Theatre.

The German film is based on an award-winning autobiographical novel and has garnered many prestigious prizes, including an Academy Award for best foreign language film.

In addition, the annual Lenore Marwil Jewish Film Festival opens Sunday, April 27 with four films at United Artists Theatres in Commerce Township. Sunday's lineup includes a screening of *The Sky is Falling* with Isabella Rossellini.

This year's festival features 32 films and runs through May 8 with screenings at four venues. For a screening schedule or brochure, call (248) 432-5577 or visit www.jfedet.org.

OSCAR-WINNING FILM

What: *Nowhere in Africa*, the true story of a family who fled Nazi Germany for a remote farm in Kenya.

When: 7 p.m. and 9:45 p.m. Friday-Saturday, April 25-26, 4 p.m. and 7 p.m. Sunday, April 27.

Where: Detroit Film Theatre, Detroit Institute of Arts, 5200 Woodward Ave., Detroit.

Tickets: Adults, \$6.50, seniors, students and DIA members, \$5.50, call (313) 833-3237 or visit www.dia.org/dftl.



Lea Kurka, (left), as Regina and Sidede Oywo as Osowar in the film 'Nowhere in Africa,' running this weekend at Detroit Film Theatre.



Actor Dustin Hoffman is back on the big screen in 'Confidence,' a stylish, quick-turning movie about the world and ways of con artists.

'Confidence' packed with plot twists and style

Jake's crew members are played by Paul Giamatti, Brian Van Holt, Donald Logue, Luis Guzman and Rachel Weisz.

Andy Garcia plays FBI agent Gunther Butan. Although the con is a complex one that revolves around a corporate bank loan, computer money transfers, off-shore bank accounts and U.S. Customs, it's how grifters observe and use human behavior that makes the film interesting.

The best scene in *Confidence*, which was directed by James Foley (*Glengarry Glen Ross*), captures how Jake and crew gain the confidence of a bank vice president over dinner and drinks.

The plot ending isn't sheer surprise, and the film's characters, aside from Hoffman's, are average. Put it this way: *Confidence* is no *Pulp Fiction*, and *Catch Me If You Can* does a better job of capturing the con artist's absurd self-assurance.

Confidence, a Lion's Gate production, is rated R.

FILM BEAT

Film beat lists alternative film theaters, special movie events and local flicks. Listings and movie information can be submitted to Nicole Stafford, Observer & Eccentric Newspapers, 801 East Maple, Birmingham, Mich. 48009 or e-mail instafford@ec.homecomm.net.

Detroit Film Theatre, Detroit, (313) 833-3237.

www.dia.org/dftl, Adult admission, \$6.50, senior citizens, full-time students with valid identification and DIA members, \$5.50. Discount tickets available in book for five for \$25. Films screened Friday, Saturday, Sunday and Monday. All Monday shows are in the evening.

REDFOOT THEATRE, 17360 Lahser in Detroit, call (313) 537-2560. Regular admission, \$3.

BREW AND VIEW AT THE MAGIC BAR, 22720 Woodward, Ferndale, (248) 544-3030. www.magicbar.com, movie nights on Wednesdays and Thursdays in small theater setting with full bar, must be at least 21, doors open at 8 p.m., films start at 9:30 p.m., box office hours are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. \$2.

MAJAN ART THEATRE, 118 North Main at 11 Mile in downtown Royal Oak, (248) 542-0180. Adult evening admission is \$8.50. Matinees before 6 p.m. and admission for seniors and children is always \$6.

MAPLE ART THEATRE, 4135 West Maple in Bloomfield Township, (248) 542-0180. Adult evening admission is \$8.50. Matinees before 6 p.m. and admission for seniors and children is always \$6.

MICRON THEATRE, 603 East Liberty, Ann Arbor, (734) 668-9453, www.microntheatre.com, Adult admission, \$8, students and senior citizens, \$6.25, Michigan Theater members, \$5.50. Films are shown daily.

STATE THEATRE, 233 State St., Ann Arbor, (734) 761-6661 or www.microntheatre.com, Adult admission, \$8, students and senior citizens, \$6.25.

UPTOWN BIRMINGHAM 8, 211 South Old Woodward Ave. in downtown Birmingham, (248) 444-3456. Adult admission is \$8.50 in the evening and \$6 for matinee showings before 6 p.m. Admission for seniors age 65 and older is \$5.50 all the time. Admission for children age 12 and under is \$2.75 all the time.

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For those last minute ads that just had to get in!

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OBSERVER & ECCENTRIC GUIDE TO THE MOVIES

National Amusements Showcase Cinemas

Shepherd's Bookends 11
 11600 W. Grand
 313-361-3449
 Regan McArdle Daily 11:30am
 Late Show Fri. & Sat.

Madison's Best Friends 13
 200 Broadway Mall
 11
 Regan McArdle Daily 11:30am
 Late Show Fri. & Sat.

Cherrywood Pavilion 2615
 2615 Telegraph Rd. Lot side of Telegraph
 248-354-6777
 Regan McArdle Daily 11:30am
 Late Show Fri. & Sat.

MP AMERICAN MANAGEMENT PC13
 MP WHAT A GUY WANTS PG
 MP HEAD OF STATE PG13
 MP BASK R
 MP BRINGING DOWN THE HOUSE PG13

Showcase

Westfield 14
 6400 Westfield
 One W. S. of Warren Rd.
 734-779-1050
 Regan McArdle Daily 11:30am
 Late Show Fri. & Sat.

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Star Theatres

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Star Street Lakes Crossing
 Great Lakes Crossing Center
 248-454-1566
 Listings from Observer & Eccentric

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 MP HEAD OF STATE PG13
 MP BASK R
 MP BRINGING DOWN THE HOUSE PG13

United Artists

Connecticut Township 14

Starline 8
 32299 John R. Road
 248-285-2070
 No one under 18-admitted to PG-13

MP AMERICAN MANAGEMENT PC13
 MP WHAT A GUY WANTS PG
 MP HEAD OF STATE PG13
 MP BASK R
 MP BRINGING DOWN THE HOUSE PG13

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