

EVENTS

Gaza audiences enjoy movies for first time in 20 years

BY NIDAL AL-MUGHRABI
REUTERS

GAZA — Palestinians in the Gaza Strip are enjoying their first night out at the movies since political tensions led to the torching of cinemas in the enclave 20 years ago.

Hollywood blockbusters have yet to return and Hamas Islamists, who now rule Gaza, are looking out for anything they consider immodest. Nevertheless, the projectors are rolling again, in a newly-opened cinema whose shows have been limited so far to films about the Palestinian struggle for statehood.

About 150 people took their seats last week in the Red Crescent Society hall, usually a venue for celebrations or traditional performances, to watch “Oversized Coat.” The 2013 film by Jordan-based Palestinian director Nawras Abu Saleh examines Palestinian life between 1987 and 2011, a period of failed peace efforts and two anti-Israeli uprisings.

Tickets cost 10 shekels (\$2.50) each.

In the audience, Alaa Abu Qassem, a Gaza student who had never been to the movies before, reveled in the new experience.

“I am very happy,” said Qassem, just a toddler when the last of Gaza’s cinemas were burned to the ground during fighting between rival Palestinian factions. “But where is the pop corn?”

Cinema once flourished in Gaza. Back in the 1950s, when Egypt ran the enclave, residents used to frequent movie houses to watch Arab, Western and Asian films. Those cinemas were set on fire in 1987 when the first Palestinian uprising erupted. All were repaired, but were torched again during internal violence in 1996.

Faded movie posters, some in Hebrew and dating back two decades when Gaza was under Israeli occupation, still hang on the charred walls of what had been one of the territory’s biggest cinemas.

Its windows were smashed long ago and graffiti either glorifying the fight against Israel or advertising local businesses have been scrawled on the building.

The picture was dramatically different at last Thursday’s screening in the Red Crescent Society hall.

Families came for a night out and once the lights dimmed, some in the audience used their cellphone



MOHAMMED SALEM | REUTERS

Palestinian spectators watch a movie at the Red Crescent Society hall in Gaza City recently. Palestinians in the Gaza Strip are enjoying their first night out at the movies since political tensions led to the torching of cinemas in the enclave 20 years ago.

cameras to make a movie of their own of the event.

“Gaza is hungry for a cinema ... depriving people of cinemas and theaters in Gaza is a violation of their humanity,” said Basel Al-Attawna, a Gaza theater director who had in the past watched movies at the old movie houses.

With Israel and Egypt tightly controlling Gaza’s bor-

ders, most of its 1.9 million inhabitants cannot travel outside the enclave, where Islamist mores have taken root. Movies are watched in private, at home, on television or DVDs.

Hussam Salem, of the Ain Media company that sponsored the screening last week, said the initiative began two months ago when an overflow

crowd of about 250 people came to the Red Crescent Society hall to watch the first movie.

The company had originally planned to hold a weekly screening on Saturdays, but added a second show during the week in response to requests on its social media page.

At Thursday’s event, audi-

ence members said that while movies highlighting the Palestinian struggle were fine, they also wanted to watch Egyptian films and Western features with action stars like Tom Cruise or Sylvester Stallone.

Salem said movies’ contents had to be approved by Gaza’s Hamas-run Interior Ministry before they could be shown. That could mean, he said, editing on his part that would expunge scenes that could be deemed immodest — even a kiss.

Salem said he had yet to encounter such a scenario since the films he has selected so far have “suited the traditions and values we were brought up on.”

Locked in conflict with Israel and vying against secular Palestinian rivals in the occupied West Bank, Hamas has long invested in television- and Internet-based news, educational shows and even animated clips that advance its political views.

But independent artists say authorities have been quick to veto content that does not conform to Islamic edicts in the conservative enclave. Hamas has described its intervention in film and television productions as minimal.

Things to Do

BANGOR — Celebrate Dr. Seuss’ birthday, 10 a.m. Wednesday, March 2, The Briar Patch, 27 Central St. Celebrity readers all day reading Dr. Seuss books, including Betsy Webb, Ben Sprague, Terry Stackhouse, Kristina Rex, Craig Colson, Don Cookson, Sarah Walker Caron and Anthony Ronzio of the Bangor Daily News, Sean Faircloth, Bev Uhlenhake, Ben Layman, Amy Roeder, Stacey Coventry and Katelyn Murphy of the Bangor Humane Society, and the Duck of Justice. 941-0255.

BANGOR — Preview event for 2016 Maine Science Festival: Author Nate Silver discussing his book “The Signal and the Noise,” 6:30 p.m. Wednesday, March 2, Bangor Public Library. Discussion led by Mitchell Center Senior Fellow Linda Silka and Bangor City Councilor Ben Sprague. Free. Copies of the book available at the library.

BANGOR — “The Winter Landscape,” pastel and oil works by Barbara Adams, 10 a.m.-6 p.m. through March 3, The Sohns Gallery, The Rock & Art Shop, 36 Central St. 947-2205 or therock-andartshop@gmail.com.

BANGOR — “A New National Park and Recreation Area for Maine?” with Lucas St. Clair, 6:30-8:30 p.m. Tuesday, March 2, Unitarian Universalist Church, 120 Park St. education@amcmaine.org or amcmaine.org.

BLUE HILL — “The Art of the Book” exhibit, during library hours through March, Howard Room glass cases, Blue Hill Public Library, 5 Parker Point Road. 374-5515.

BLUE HILL — Rainbow Warriors writing group for ages 12-18, 4-5 p.m. Tuesdays, starting March 1, Blue Hill Public Library. Open to artists, gamers, readers, movie enthusiasts, bakers, crafters, social justice

warriors and more. Discussion, writing prompts, games. Libby, 374-5515.

BLUE HILL — “Up Close and Personal: A View of the Syrian Refugee Crisis from a Small Greek island and What We Here in Maine Can Do to Help,” with Kel House of Harborside, 7 p.m. Thursday, March 3, Blue Hill Public Library. Free and open to all. 374-5515.

CAMDEN — Camden native Eliza Squibb discussing story cloths created to encourage vaccination and health education in Mali, 7 p.m. Tuesday, March 1, Camden Public Library. 236-3440.

LINCOLN — Save-A-Life Task Force free talk and workshop, “Day to Day Living with Children with Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder,” given by Bette Hoxie, executive director of Adoptive and Foster Families of Maine Inc. and Kinship Program of Orono, 6-8 p.m. Tuesday, March 8, Gillmor’s Restaurant. S-A-L@river-coalition.org.

OLD TOWN — Wednesday trivia nights, 7-9 p.m. March 2-April 6, Old Town American Legion Post 75, 20 Water St. \$1. Teams will be set up. Food, drinks and a 50/50. Open to public. 827-4378.

PORTLAND — Maine College of Art inaugural queer art show, “It Was All Very Queer,” 10 a.m.-3 p.m. through March 4. Closing reception during the First Friday Art Walk, March 4. 775-3052 or info@meca.edu.

PORTLAND — Registration for Maine Academy of Modern Music’s MAMM SLAM — Maine’s High School Rock Off — open until March 4. Preliminary round, April 9, Bay-side Bowl; finals, May 14, Portland House of Music & Events. Open to solo performers and full bands. Prizes. maineto-day.com/mammslam.

PORTLAND — Oratorio Chorale winter 2016 concert, “Dvorak Mass in D,” featuring organist Ray Cornils, 7:30 p.m.

Saturday, March 5, Woodfords Congregational Church. Advance tickets \$20; \$10 students; free to under age 12, but tickets required. Tickets at the door, \$25; \$12.50 students; free to under age 12. Advance tickets available through Brown Paper Tickets, brownpapertickets.com/profile/1143574, or 800-838-3006. oratoriocho-rale.org.

PORTLAND — Women United Around the World’s seventh annual International Fashion Show and Gala in celebration of International Women’s Day, 6-10 p.m. Saturday, March 12, Italian Heritage Center, 40 Westland Ave. Theme is Pledge for Parity. New Mainers will model traditional outfits inspired by their homelands. International cultural performances, silent auction, sneak peek at local designers Adele Ngoy’s and Janet Andoh’s 2016 collections.

PROSPECT HARBOR — St. Patrick’s Day dinner, 4-6 p.m. Saturday, March 5, Prospect Harbor United Methodist Church. Includes corned beef and cabbage, and wide assortment of desserts. \$8; \$4 age 5 through 12; free to under age 5.

ROCKLAND — Snow Day Camp available to children ages 5-10 on days school is canceled because of snow, 8 a.m.-5 p.m., First Universalist Church, 345 Broadway. Breakfast, lunch and two snacks. Organized activities. Deposit of \$15 per child to reserve space and \$15 per child per snow day. If there are no snow days, the deposit will be returned. Limited to 30. 370-7887 or uursnow-daycamp@uurockland.org.

SOUTHWEST HARBOR — “Walking the Highlands” with Suzanne and Pete Madeira, 5:30 p.m. Tuesday, March 1, Southwest Harbor Public Library. Open to all. 244-7065.

UNION — Union Historical Society will hold its first

meeting of the year, 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, March 2, People’s United Methodist Church, 21 Depot St. Incoming President Dan Day will conduct a short business session. Guest speaker Leon Cranmer of Jefferson will give an illustrated presentation on “17th Century Trading Posts on the Kennebec River.” Free and open to all. 785-5444.

WISCASSET — Small engine repair class, 6-8 p.m. Wednesday, March 2, through Wednesday, April 20, Morris Farm, 156 Gardiner Road. \$75. 882-4080 or info@morrisfarm.org.

For a complete listing of calendar items or to submit your event, visit www.bangordailynews.com.

Tuesday prime time

MOVIES

	7 PM	7:30	8 PM	8:30	9 PM	9:30	10 PM	10:30	11 PM
BROADCAST	2 NBC 207 Inside Ed.	The Voice The blind auditions continue. (N) (HD) [PG]	Super Tuesday (N)	News					
	4 CBC Rick Mercer 22 Minutes	Creek Mr. D (N)	CBC Coronation	Rick Mercer					
	5 CBS Big Bang Broke Girl	NCIS (N) (HD) [TV14]	NCIS: New Orleans (N) [TV14]	Campaign 2016	News				
	52 CW Family Guy	The World Dog Awards (HD) [PG]	News Seinfeld [PG]	Cougar					
	6 NBC 207 Inside Ed.	The Voice The blind auditions continue. (N) (HD) [PG]	Super Tuesday (N)	News					
	7 ABC Wheel Jeopardy! [PG]	The Muppets (N) (HD) [PG]	Super Tuesday	News					
	9 WAGM FOX The Insider	New Girl [TV14] Grand	News Big Bang	Big Bang					
	8 ABC Wheel Jeopardy! [PG]	The Muppets (N) (HD) [PG]	Super Tuesday	News					
	MPBN PBS PBS NewsHour (N) (HD)	Finding Your Roots (N) [PG]	American Experience [PG]	Frontline (HD) [PG]	Tuesday				
	9 IND CSI: Cyber (HD) [PG]	Big Bang Big Bang	Marvel's Agent Carter [PG]	News-Lisa CTV News	Daily Show				
KIDS	13 CBS Ent. Tonight The Insider	NCIS (N) (HD) [TV14]	NCIS: New Orleans (N) [TV14]	Campaign 2016	News				
	22 FOX Mod Fam Mod Fam	New Girl [TV14] Grand	Marvel's Agent Carter [PG]	FOX 22 News at 10 (N)	Walk:Dead				
	33 IND M*A*S*H [TV14]	M*A*S*H [TV14]	Andy Griffith Happy Days	Hogan Hero Hogan Hero	C. Burnett				
	38 IND Big Bang Big Bang	WBZ News Special Coverage: Super Tuesday	WBZ News (N) (HD)	Seinfeld [PG]					
SPORTS	NICK Paradise Henry	Henry SpongeBob	Full House [PG] Full House [PG]	Full House [PG] Full House [PG]	Friends [PG]				
	DISN Liv-Mad. K.C. Under.	Lemonade Mouth (2011, Musical) Bridgit Mender. (NR)	Austin Bunk'd [PG]	K.C. Under.					
	FREE Pretty Little Liars [TV14]	Pretty Little Liars (N) [TV14]	Shadowhunters (N) [TV14]	700 Club					
LEARN	HIST Cnt. Cars Cnt. Cars	Cnt. Cars Cnt. Cars	Cnt. Cars Cnt. Cars	Cnt. Cars Cnt. Cars	(:03) Forged in Fire (N) [TV14]	Forged-Fire			
	DISC Moonshiners [PG]	Moonshiners: Outlaw Cuts	Moonshiners (N) [TV14]	Venom Hunters [PG]	Coolidge				
	TLC The Little Couple [PG]	The Little Couple (N) [PG]	The Little Couple (N) [PG]	(:01) Rattled (N) [PG]	Moonshine				
	A&E Married at First Sight [TV14]	Married at First Sight [TV14]	Married at First Sight (N) [TV14]	(:01) Fit to Fat to Fit (N) [TV14]	Married				
NEWS	ANPL North Woods Law [PG]	North Woods Law: Hunt	(:01) North Woods Law [TV14]	(:02) North Woods Law [TV14]	North Wds				
	CSNE SportsNet Early	More Than Gold	Ski Journal Notre Dame	Sports SportsNet	Sports				
	ESPN College Basketball Kentucky at Florida. (N) (L)	College Basketball Indiana at Iowa. (N) (L)	College Basketball Indiana at Iowa. (N) (L)	SportCtr					
	ESPN2 NFL Live (N)	College Basketball Baylor at Oklahoma. (N) (L)	The Fab Five [PG]						
VARIETY	NBCSP NHL Live (N) NHL Hockey Pittsburgh Penguins at Washington Capitals. (N) (L)	(:15) NHL Overtime (N)	NHL Rivals						
	NESN NHL Hockey Calgary Flames at Boston Bruins. (N) (L)	Bruins	Sports Sports						
	CNBC The Filthy The Filthy	Shark Tank [PG]	The Filthy The Filthy	Shark Tank					
	CNN Super Tuesday 1	Super Tuesday 1	Super Tuesday 1	Super Tue					
PREMIUM	FNC (6:00) America's Election HQ Super Tuesday state races and results. (N)								
	MSNBC (6:00) The Place for Politics 2016 Analysis of Super Tuesday. (N)								
	AMC (5:30) 3:10 to Yuma (2007)	*** The Bourne Supremacy (2004) (ESP) Matt Damon. (PG-13)	*** The Fugitive						
	BRV Real Housewives/Beverly	Real Housewives/Beverly	Real Housewives/Beverly	Tour Group (N) [TV14]	Happens				
STARZ	CMT Last Man Last Man	Last Man Last Man	*** Dirty Dancing (1987, Romance) Jennifer Grey. (PG-13)						
	COM Tosh.0 [TV14] (:24) Tosh.0	Tosh.0 [TV14] (:27) Tosh.0	Tosh.0 [TV14] (:29) Tosh.0	Tosh.0 (N) [TV14] Not Safe	Daily Show				
	E! E! News (N) [PG]	Total Divas [PG]	Total Divas (N) [PG]	Just Jillian (N) [TV14]	E! News [PG]				
	FOOD Chopped [PG]	Chopped [PG]	Chopped (N) [TV14]	Chopped (N) [TV14]	Chopped [PG]				
SHOW	FX *** The Avengers (2012, Action) Robert Downey Jr., Chris Evans. (PG-13)			The People v.	People				
	GAC Log Cabin Log Cabin	Log Cabin Log Cabin	Log Cabin Log Cabin	Big Sky Big Sky	Big Sky				
	HALL Last Man Last Man	Last Man Last Man	The Middle The Middle	The Middle The Middle	Golden Girls				
	HGTV Fixer Upper [PG]	Fixer Upper [PG]	Fixer Upper (N) [TV14]	Hunters Hunters Int'l	Fixer Upper				
ENC	LIFE Dance Moms [PG]	Dance Moms (N) [PG]	Dance Moms (N) [PG]	Mother/Daughter Exp.	Experiment				
	MTV Ridiculous. Ridiculous.	Ridiculous. Ridiculous.	Teen Wolf (N) [TV14]	The Shannara Chronicles	Ridiculous.				
	OXY Prancing Elites	Prancing Elites	Prancing Elites	Preachers of Atlanta [PG]	Prancing				
	SPIKE Ink Master [PG] Ink Master [PG]	Ink Master (N) [TV14]	Ink Master (N)	Ink Master (N) [TV14]	Ink Master [PG]				
HBO	SYFY (6:30) *** The Conjuring (2013) Vera Farmiga. (R)	** The Possession (2012) Jeffrey Dean Morgan.	Colony [PG]						
	TBN Supernat. Potters	Trinity Everyday	Prince Cornelius	Praise the Lord					
	TBS Seinfeld [PG]	Seinfeld [PG]	Big Bang Big Bang	Big Bang Big Bang	Conan (N) [TV14]				
	TCM (6:15) *** Torpedo Run	*** Sense and Sensibility (1995) Emma Thompson. (PG)	The Remains of the Day						
STARZ	TMF (6:30) *** Wrecked (R)	*** Grosse Pointe Blank (1997) John Cusack. (R)	Last Knights (2015) Clive Owen. (R)						
	TNT Castle [PG]	Rizzoli & Isles [PG]	Rizzoli & Isles (N) [TV14]	Rizzoli & Isles [PG]	Castle [PG]				
	TRAVEL Bizarre Foods America [PG]	Bizarre Foods America [PG]	Delicious Destinations	Booze Traveler [PG]	Bizarre				
	TRU Imp. Jokers Imp. Jokers	Imp. Jokers Imp. Jokers	Imp. Jokers Imp. Jokers	10 Things Imp. Jokers	Imp. Jokers				
STARZ	TVL Andy Griffith Andy Griffith	Everybody Raymond	Raymond Raymond	Raymond Raymond	King				
	USA Mod Fam Mod Fam	Mod Fam Mod Fam	Mod Fam Mod Fam	Mod Fam Mod Fam	Mod Fam				
	VH1 K. Michelle K. Michelle	Love & Hip Hop [PG]	Love & Hip Hop [PG]	** Romeo Must Die (2000) Jet Li. (R)					
	WGN-A (6:00) *** Backdraft (1991, Action) Kurt Russell. (R)	Outsiders (N)	Outsiders	Outsiders	Outsiders				
STARZ	ENC (5:50) *** Thelma & Louise (1991) (ESP) (R)	*** Big Hero 6 (2014, Comedy) (ESP) Voices of Ryan Potter. (PG)	(:45) *** Into the Woods (2014) Meryl Streep. A child-less couple seek to end a witch's curse. (PG)						
	HBO *** Remember the Titans (2000, Drama) (ESP) Denzel Washington, Will Patton. (PG)	Vinyl Richie is embarrassed at a banquet. [TV14]	Gonzaga: The March *** Knocked Up (2007) (Drama) (ESP) Seth Rogen. (R)						
	MAX I Now Pro-nounce You (4:45) Zodiac (2007)	(:40) *** Get On Up (2014) Chadwick Boseman. Singer James Brown rises from poverty to become the Godfather of Soul. (PG-13)	*** The Bucket List (2007, Comedy-Drama) (ESP) Jack Nicholson. (PG-13)	Shameless Carl struggles with Nick's absence. [TV14]	60 Minutes (10:55) Momentum (NR)				
	SHOW (4:45) Zodiac (2007)	Becoming Bulletproof (2014, Document) (NR)	60 Minutes Sports (N) [TV14]						
STARZ	(5:35) ** Tomorrowland (2015) George Clooney.	(7:50) ** Sabrina (1995) Harrison Ford. A chauffeur's daughter awakens love in a rich workaholic. (PG)							

Def Leppard will return to Darlings Waterfront Pavilion this summer

BY EMILY BURNHAM
BDN STAFF

Def Leppard will return to the Darling’s Waterfront Pavilion this summer for a triple bill of classic rock, with the iconic 1980s band headlining a show that will also feature bands REO Speedwagon and Tesla.

The show is set for Friday, June 24, and tickets will go on sale at 10 a.m. on Friday, March 4, via Ticketmaster, by calling 1-800-745-3000 or in person at Mark’s Music in Brewer.

Def Leppard last performed in Bangor in 2012, on a bill that also included Poison and Lita Ford.

They are best known for their massive hit album “Pyromania” and for their songs like “Pour Some Sugar On Me” and “Animal.” REO Speedwagon also performed in 2012 in Bangor.

For more information, visit waterfrontconcerts.com.