**Israel Documentary Film Series at PCS**

*The PCS Israel Action and Adult Education committees invite you to learn
about Israel’s history, culture, and politics through an informal viewing
of five fascinating and thought-provoking documentary films:*

**Wednesday, Feb. 19, 7:30 pm:** **Amos Oz, *The Nature of Dreams* (2009)** The birth and coming of age of Amos Oz, one of Israel’s greatest writers, parallels those of his country. “This is a journey in the footsteps of Amos Oz, his literary writing and political doctrine. The journey takes us through his memoir, ‘A Tale of Love and Darkness,’ through his meetings with readers in Israel and all over the world; his notions about the long and complex relationship between Europe and Jews; and follows him over a period of two years in his efforts to promote the two-state solution for the Israeli-Palestinian conflict.” Discussion following the film moderated by PCS member David Felder.

**Thursday, March 20, 7:45 pm:** ***Life in Stills* (2011)** The work of photographer Rudi Weissenstein, the “official” photographer in 1948 for the Declaration of the State of Israel, is the backdrop for this tender “love story” between Rudi’s 96-year-old widow and their grandson, Ben. When the photo shop she has managed for decades in Tel Aviv is scheduled for demolition, Miriam Weissenstein joins her grandson on a journey to save the shop and Rudi’s life work. This uplifting story, both touching and humorous, is bound to please.

**Wednesday, April 23, 7:30 pm:** ***Orchestra of Exiles* (2012)** This gripping documentary, shown in honor of Yom HaShoah on April 27, is about the formation of the Israel Philharmonic Orchestra. When Hitler began firing Jewish musicians in the early 1930s, violinist Bronislow Huberman moved these great artists
to Palestine. “With courage, resourcefulness, and an entourage of allies including Arturo Toscanini and Albert Einstein, Huberman saved nearly 1,000 Jews – and guaranteed the survival of Europe’s musical heritage… A timeless tale of a brilliant young man coming of age, and the suspenseful story of how his efforts impacted
cultural history.”

**Thursday, May 1, 7:45 pm:** ***Inventing our Lives, the Kibbutz Experiment* (2011)** The Kibbutz Movement was a central force in the formation of the state of Israel, and May 1 - “International Worker’s Day” – was for many years celebrated with great pomp in Israel’s Kibbutzim. “With their desire to create a Jewish homeland and build a more just society, the first settlers helped place kibbutzim in the vanguard of Israeli history. In doing so, they became a magnet for all those who shared one thing in common – a powerful urge to invent their own lives.” Will the kibbutz movement and its socialist idealism survive a new capitalist reality? You are invited to wear red to this viewing for International Workers’ Day or blue-and-white in honor of Israel Independence Day, May 6. Discussion following the film moderated by PCS member Ofri Felder.

**Wednesday, May 21, 7:30 pm:** ***The Gatekeepers* (2012)** Nominated for the Academy Awards in the Best Documentary category and winner of numerous international awards, this film is a must-see for anyone interested in the future of the state of Israel both as an independent Jewish state and as a viable democracy. It includes amazingly candid interviews with six of Israel’s heads of the Shin-Bet, Israel’s secret service, as they grapple with their successes and failures and reconsider their positions regarding the Palestinian conflict. At once disturbing and affirming, the film raises questions about current Israeli politics. Discussion following the film moderated by PCS member David Felder.

***For more information, please e-mail Israel Action Committee co-chair Ofri Felder at***[***ofelder@optonline.net***](ofelder%40optonline.net%20) ***or call the PCS office at 769-2672. Advanced registration recommended.***

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