



Announcing the Official Release of *Faces of Israel* A New and Exciting Jewish Educational Film

Faces of Israel: A Discussion About Marriage, State and Religion in the Jewish Homeland was released to the public this past week in a sold out debut event in NYC. *Faces of Israel* poses a series of questions about hot topics in Israel, such as:

- Who is a Jew and what determines Jewish identity?
- What does it really mean to be a Jewish and democratic state?
- What is the role of the Israeli Chief Rabbinate and what should it be?
- What is the place of Reform, Conservative and Modern Orthodox Judaism in Israel today?
- And more!

Faces of Israel is an exciting, educational and interactive documentary intended for a wide audience, from synagogue-goers to high school and university students to unaffiliated members of the Jewish community.

The documentary was filmed, edited, and produced by Amy Beth Oppenheimer, a recent graduate of Johns Hopkins University with a strong interest in questions surrounding religion and state in Israel. Amy began filming *Faces of Israel* in early 2007, capturing interviews with Israelis ranging from openly gay secular university students to leaders in the Masorti movement to Ultra-Orthodox Jews, including Israel's Ashkenazi Chief Rabbi. While Amy had no formal training in film, through perseverance and many sleepless nights, she produced a feature-length documentary that has been called "**powerful... mature... honest... sophisticated,**" and "**a must see.**"

The film consists of ten themed chapters that can be viewed consecutively as a 75-minute documentary or as stand-alone five to ten minute discussion pieces. Institutional copies of the film include extensive educational materials and can be easily tailored into any curriculum or informal education program. Single-screening institutional copies are available for the highly-discounted price of \$250. Permanent or multi-use copies are available to educational institutions for \$400. Director speaking fee can be arranged separately.

Faces of Israel has been endorsed by a wide spectrum of Jewish leaders such as Rabbi Basil Herring (RCA), Rabbi Gordon Tucker (Conservative movement), Rabbi Judith Hauptman (JTS), Rabbi David Ellenson (HUC), Rabbi Avi Weiss (HIR / YCT), Blu Greenberg (JOFA) and Rabbi Erin Hirsh (JRF).

**For more information and to view the film trailer,
visit www.facesthemovie.com**