

BIJ'S Film Series "Coming Reel Soon" Presents: Stalags: Holocaust and Pornography in Israel, Saturday March 13 at 7 p.m. in the BIJ Social Hall. Havdallah at 6:45 p.m.

In the early 1960's Israelis were exposed for the first time to the shocking testimonies of Holocaust survivors at the trial of Adolph Eichmann. Simultaneously a series of pornographic books, *Stalags*, written by Israelis, became best sellers throughout Israel. These books were subsequently banned in 1962 by the Israeli courts as being anti-semitic pornography. The books went out of print and circulated underground in specialty second-hand bookstores, however after decades of being off the shelf these books are re-emerging in the public eye.

This film examines this notorious literary phenomenon, exposing the creators of this genre for the first time. Film Director, Ari Libsker suggests that this short-lived literary craze shaped the image of the Holocaust for a whole generation of Israelis. Libsker further suggests that the combination of pornography and the Holocaust also appears in canonic Holocaust literature and continues to be a widespread part of the representation of the Holocaust in Israel today.

Ofer Ashkenazi, PhD, post doctoral fellow who is a visiting scholar from the Hebrew University in Jerusalem and currently teaching at UC Berkeley will lead a discussion and answer questions following the film.

Admission \$5. Refreshments will be served. **Please join us!**