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***Hiding in Plain Sight: Pre- and Post-War French Cinema Film Series***  
**Enriches *Woman of Letters: Irène Némirovsky and Suite Française* Exhibition**  
*at the Museum of Jewish Heritage—A Living Memorial to the Holocaust*

New York, NY—*Woman of Letters: Irène Némirovsky and Suite Française*, the compelling exhibition at the Museum of Jewish Heritage—A Living Memorial to the Holocaust, examines the life, work, and legacy of this enthralling, often controversial, literary figure. To complement this one-of-a-kind exhibition, the Museum will host *Hiding in Plain Sight: Pre- and Post-War French Cinema* in tandem with the *Woman of Letters* exhibition. Curated by Professor Dudley Andrew, Yale University, the series will begin on Sunday, January 18, beginning at 1 p.m. with a screening of *David Golder* followed by *Les Jeux Interdits* at 3:30 p.m. *Lacombe Lucien* will be shown on Wednesday, January 21 at 7 p.m. and the series will conclude on Sunday, January 25 with *Stavisky* at 1 p.m. followed by *Monsieur Klein* at 3:30 p.m.

*Hiding in Plain Sight* examines how the Nazi occupation of France influenced French cinema long after the war had ended, and how filmmakers took on the task of exploring complex and often controversial topics about this period of French history. The series also marks the first screening of *David Golder* since its premiere in 1930. Director Julien Divivier's first talking picture, *Golder* examines themes of money, corruption, and greed present in Némirovsky's original work.

Tickets are \$10 adults, \$7 students/seniors, and \$5 Members; separate admission required for each film. Series passes are available for \$36 adults, \$25 students/seniors, and \$20 members. All tickets are available online at [www.mjhnyc.org](http://www.mjhnyc.org) or by calling the Museum box office at 646.437.4202.

*Hiding in Plain Sight* is presented in conjunction with the exhibition *Woman of Letters: Irène Némirovsky and Suite Française*, on view through March 22, 2009.

Series curator Professor Dudley Andrew is the R. Selden Rose Professor of Film and Comparative Literature at Yale and serves as Director of Graduate Studies in the Film Studies Program. He has published *The Major Film Theories*, *Concepts of Film Theory*, and *Andre Bazin*, all with Oxford University Press. His most ambitious works deal with France in the 1930s: *Mists of Regret: Culture and Sensibility in Classic French Film* (Princeton 1995) and *Popular Front Paris and the Poetics of Culture*, co-authored with Steven Ungar (Harvard, 2005). He has programmed films for The Guggenheim Museum, and served as a film festival judge. He is the recipient of the Guggenheim and several NEH fellowships and was named *Chevalier*—later *Officier*—*de l'ordre des arts et des lettres* by the French Ministry of Culture and Communication. In 2006 he was inducted into the American Academy of Arts and Sciences.

## About the Films

**Sunday, January 18**

***David Golder*, 1 P.M.**

**(France, 1930, 35mm, French with English subtitles)**

**Directed by Julien Duvivier**

Opening remarks and Q&A with Maurice Samuels, Professor of French at Yale University

*David Golder*, based on the novel by Irène Némirovsky that established her fame, explores the life of a man whose greedy wife and distant daughter slowly overwhelm his health and happiness, negating the wealth and power he has won in the business world.

**Maurice Samuels** specializes in French literature. His writing on the subject includes the book *The Spectacular Past: Popular History and the Novel in Nineteenth-Century France* (Cornell University Press). He was recently at the Museum of Jewish Heritage as a panelist for *Irène Némirovsky and the Jewish Question*.

***Les Jeux Interdits*, 3:30 P.M.**

**(France, 1952, 16mm, French with English subtitles)**

**Directed by René Clément**

Opening remarks and Q&A with Dudley Andrew, Professor at Yale University

A timeless evocation of a childhood corrupted, René Clément's *Les Jeux Interdits* tells the story of a young girl orphaned by war and the farm boy she joins in a fantastical world of macabre play. Mythical and heartbreakingly real, this unique film features astonishing performances by its child stars and was honored with a special foreign language film Academy Award in 1952.

**Wednesday, January 21, 7 P.M.**

***Lacombe Lucien***

**(France, 1974, 35mm, French with English subtitles)**

**Directed by Louis Malle**

Opening remarks and Q&A with Dudley Andrew, Professor at Yale University

*Lacombe Lucien* traces a young peasant's journey from potential Resistance member to Gestapo recruit. At once the story of a nation and one troubled boy, the film is a disquieting portrait of lost innocence and guilt.

**Sunday, January 25**

***Stavisky*, 1 P.M.**

**(France, 1974, DVD, French with English subtitles)**

**Directed by Alain Resnais**

Opening remarks and Q&A with Dudley Andrew, Professor at Yale University

A small-time swindler, Serge Alexander, otherwise known as Stavisky, is running a great con during the early 30s involving millions of francs. He uses his charm and talent to become friends with influential French industrialists and the political elite.

***Monsieur Klein*, 3:30 P.M.**

**(France, 1974, 35mm, French with English subtitles)**

**Directed by Joseph Losey**

Opening remarks and Q&A with Alice Kaplan, Professor of Romance Studies, Literature, and History, Duke University

Art trader Robert Klein is living a comfortable life in Paris with his mistress in 1942. As Jews are forced to sell their valuable works of art, his business grows ever-more prosperous. But when he is mistaken for a Jewish man also named Robert Klein, his comfortable world is turned upside down.

**Alice Kaplan's** research interests include memory and history in post-World War II France, autobiography, and the cultural history of translation. Her books include *Reproductions of Banality: Fascism, Literature, and French Intellectual Life* (1986); *French Lessons* (1993) and *The Collaborator: The Trial and Execution of Robert Brasillach* (2000), which won the *Los Angeles Times* Book Prize in History.

#### **About the exhibition *Woman of Letters***

*Woman of Letters* tells the remarkable story of a writer driven to create, of a mother and her daughters, of memory and identity, of legacy and loss. A Russian-born Jewish author, Irène Némirovsky quickly rose to literary celebrity in her adopted France. But her fame and accomplishment, and even her conversion to Catholicism, were not enough to save her when war came; she was deported to Auschwitz in 1942. Among the few items that she left behind was a valise that contained a leather notebook. Haunted by painful memories, her daughters avoided opening it until Denise read it more than fifty years after their mother's death. She discovered not a diary, but a major literary work: the first two parts of an unfinished five-part novel, *Suite Française*. The exhibition illustrates Némirovsky's life and her extraordinary literary gift to the world with stunning and heartbreaking artifacts, including the original manuscript and the valise, never before exhibited.

Co-produced with Institut Mémoires de l'Édition Contemporaine (IMEC). Please visit [www.imec-archives.com](http://www.imec-archives.com) for more information about IMEC and [www.mjhnyc.org/irene](http://www.mjhnyc.org/irene) for more information about the exhibition.

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