

# "My So-Called Enemy" in Cleveland, L.A., Sonoma County, Newport Coast -- and many more cities!



With Cliff Froehlich (ED of the St. Louis Int'l FF), Steve James (Director, "The Interrupters") and Anthony Baxter (Director, "You've Been Trumped")

Dear Friends,

Happy New Year! I hope you had a joy-filled holiday.

2012 is off to an exciting start, with eleven screenings in the next two months at high schools and universities, mosques and synagogues, film festivals and dialogue series. This edition of our newsletter includes listings for our January and February screenings, recent press excerpts and information on how you can bring "My So-Called Enemy" to your community.

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## January /February Screenings

Please join us and tell your friends about our upcoming screenings in Cleveland, OH, Santa Rosa, CA, Sisters, OR, Newport Coast, CA, Los Angeles, CA, Jacksonville, FL, New Brunswick, NJ, Minneapolis, MN, and Needham, MA! I'm looking forward to visiting classrooms at Case Western Reserve University, Malone University (thank you Sarah Hanssen) and Rutgers University/Douglass College. I will also be doing a morning assembly for the 500 students and faculty at the Studio at Sage Hill.

### Chagrin Falls High School & Performing Arts Theatre (OH)

Tuesday, Jan. 17th at 7:30pm

400 E. Washington St.

I will do a Q&A after the screening.

[Click here](#) for tickets (free for students) and more information.

With special thanks to organizers Cathy Watterson and Paul Libby ([Federated Church](#)) and Steven Ast (Principal, Chagrin Falls H.S.).

### Case Western Reserve University (Cleveland, OH)

#### As part of CWRU's Martin Luther King Jr. Celebration

Thursday, Jan. 19th at 7:00pm

Strosacker Auditorium -- 2125 Adelbert Rd. (Best parking: Veale Center Garage.)

I will do a Q&A after the screening.

This event is free and open to the public. [Click here](#) for more information.

Supported by The Office of the Provost, SAGES (Seminar Approach to General Education and Scholarship), Student Affairs, Cleveland Hillel, and the Flora Stone Mather Center for Women.

With special thanks to organizers Mayo Bulloch and Lynn Singer.

### Congregation Shomrei Torah (Santa Rosa, CA)

#### "Social Action Goes to the Movies" Film Series

Saturday, Jan. 21st at 7:15pm -- 2600 Bennett Valley Road

Anna Simson, formerly with [Building Bridges for Peace](#), will do a Q&A after the screening.

The screening free and open to the public.

[Click here](#) for more information.

### An Encore Presentation of "MSCE," an Official Selection of BendFilm 2011 (Sisters, OR)

Sisters Movie House

Sunday, Jan. 29th at 1:00pm

720 Desperado Ct.

I will do a Q&A via Skype after the screening.

Tickets will be available at the door and on the [BendFilm](#) website.

### Cinema Sage Hill (Newport Coast, CA)

Friday, Feb. 10th at 7:00pm

The Studio at Sage Hill -- 20402 Newport Coast Drive

I will be doing a Q&A after the screening.

This event is free and open to the public.

[Click here](#) in the weeks ahead for more information.

With special thanks to Cinema Sage Hill Co-Creators, Curator Leslie Feibleman ([Newport Beach Film Festival](#)) and Chris Marshall ([The Studio at Sage Hill](#)).

### NewGround: A Muslim-Jewish Partnership for Change sponsored screening

#### The Iranian Muslim Association of North America (Los Angeles, CA)

Sunday, Feb. 12th at 7:00pm -- [IMAN](#) 3376 Motor Avenue

[NewGround](#) Executive Director Sarah Bassin will moderate a post-screening discussion with me and NewGround alumni.

[Tickets](#) go on sale on Jan. 13th.

### 2012 Jacksonville Jewish Film Festival (FL)

#### Presented by the Jewish Community Alliance (JCA)

Sunday, Feb. 19th at 4:00pm

At the JCA -- 8505 San Jose Blvd.

[Tickets](#) will go on sale on Feb. 1.

### Rutgers University (New Brunswick, NJ)

Monday, Feb. 20th at 7:30pm -- Douglass Campus Center

At the corner of George Street and Nichol Avenue.

I will do a Q&A after the screening.

This event is free and open to the public.

[Click here](#) in the weeks ahead for more information.

Co-Sponsored by Douglass Residential College and the Office of the Vice President of Academic Engagement.

With special thanks to Dean Rebecca Reynolds for organizing my visit.

### IZUN/MIZAN: A Film and Dialogue Series (Twin Cities, MN)

#### "MSCE" is kicking off this Twin Cities initiative with two screenings.

University of Minnesota (Minneapolis)

Thursday, Feb. 23rd from 5:30 - 8:00pm

Nicholson Hall, Room #135 --216 Pillsbury Dr SE, Minn.

Hosted by the Center for Jewish Studies at the University of Minnesota

Islamic Center of Minnesota (Fridley)

Saturday, Feb. 25th from 7:00pm -- 9:30 pm

1401 Gardenia Ave. NE

Hosted by the Islamic Center of Minnesota, Mount Zion Temple, St. Paul Interfaith Network (SPIN), Gloria Dei Church.

Izun/Mizan Director Miryam Kabakov will moderate post-film conversations with sponsoring agency leaders and facilitators.

[Click here](#) for more information about the series.

### Temple Beth Shalom (Needham, MA)

Sunday, Feb 26th at 2:00pm

670 Highland Avenue

I will be joined by Rabbi Jay Perlan ([Temple Beth Shalom](#)), Dr. Mohamed Lazzouni ([Islamic Center of Boston](#)) and Rector Skip Windsor ([Christ Episcopal Church](#)) for a post-screening discussion about the film and its implications for building peace, harmony and mutual respect in our local communities.

There will be a dessert reception after the panel discussion.

[Click here](#) for tickets and more information.

## Recent Press

### The Philadelphia Inquirer

On Movies

By Steven Rea (November 13, 2011)

Three exceptionally strong films are featured in the 10th-anniversary First Person Festival of Memoir and Documentary Art, going on around town as we speak. On Thursday, look for "My So-Called Enemy", Lisa Gossels' hopeful doc about a group of Palestinian and Israeli teenage girls who first meet over a summer leadership program in New Jersey. Metaphorical bridge-building ensues.

### Philadelphia City Paper

Peace, Love and Understanding

Young women from Israel and Palestine use empathy to bridge a colossal gap.

By Shaun Brady (November 17, 2011)

"Weird life, isn't it?" asks Rezan of her best friend, Gal, in the opening moments of My So-Called Enemy. The IM exchange, run through with a streak of fatalistic understatement, joins two young women on either side of the world's most intractable conflict. Palestinian Rezan and Israeli Gal were brought together under the auspices of [Building Bridges for Peace](#), a women's leadership program founded in 1993 by social worker Melodye Feldman.

"Rezan and Gal are still friends," Feldman says, "but the continuation of the conflict has really strained their relationship. I think the film is a very accurate portrait of how hard it is to maintain friendships ... when both sides are still living in a violent conflict."

"My So-Called Enemy" traces the way in which such ingrained prejudices quickly erode once both sides are allowed to see each other as human..."

### Princeton Packet

SPOTLIGHT: 'My So-Called Enemy'

By Michele Alperin (November 23, 2011)

Ms. Gossels' new film My So-Called Enemy is a powerful exploration of both the pain and growth that real listening brings in a situation of conflict...

### Bringing "My So-Called Enemy" to your community

My greatest joy is teaching and using "My So-Called Enemy" as a tool for dialogue and fostering mutual understanding. Please let me know if you are interested in hosting a screening and/or inviting me to present "My So-Called Enemy" at your academic or religious institution, peace/multi-faith organization or youth/after-school program. Because our model is coalition-building, we encourage screenings to be co-hosted by diverse groups when possible.

Please also get in touch if you have ideas about how our film can have the greatest impact in your community: not only for dialogue around Middle East peace, but for celebrating diversity, building bridges of understanding, and empowering girls/women/our youth to be agents for social change.

Thank you for your friendship and ongoing support of "My So-Called Enemy." Wishing you a 2012 full of happiness and health, fulfillment and abundance, wonderment and transformation, security and peace.

With gratitude and love,

Lisa

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"MY SO-CALLED ENEMY" a good egg production  
director/producer **Lisa Gossels** producer **Eden Wurmfeld**  
director of photography **Justin Schein** edited by **Lisa Gossels**  
**David Mehiman Toby Shimin** music by **Nathan Larson**

**2010 Hamptons International Film Festival**

Winner, Jury Prize for Best Conflict & Resolution Film

**2010 Starz Denver Film Festival**

Winner, Special Jury Prize in Filmmaking

**2010 Boston Jewish Film Festival**

Winner, Audience Award, Best Feature Documentary Film

**2011 Newport Beach Film Festival**

Winner, Jury Award, Best Feature Documentary Film

Winner, MacGillivray Freeman Films Award for Excellence in Documentary Filmmaking (feature)

**2011 CINE Golden Eagle**

Winner, CINE Golden Eagle, Documentary Feature