

## USHPIZIN

Press Release

Available to buy on DVD April 4, 2006

Director: Gidi Dar

Starring: Shuli Rand, Mechal Bat Sheva Rand, Shaul Mizrahi, Ilan Ganani

MPAA Rating: PG-13 for mild thematic elements

Total Running Time: 90 Minutes

DVD Order Date: February 28, 2006

“ Groundbreaking....a joyful affirmation of unshakable faith.”

–Stephen Holden, The New York Times

CRITICALLY ACCLAIMED DRAMEDY USHPIZIN OFFERS THE ULTIMATE TEST OF FAITH

WITH AN APRIL 4 DVD RELEASE FROM  
NEW LINE HOME ENTERTAINMENT

USHPIZIN Marks a Cinematic Milestone as the First Movie Ever to Join Members of the Ultra-Orthodox Jewish Community with Secular Filmmakers to Create a Major Motion Picture  
LOS ANGELES, CA (January 9, 2005) – One family’s ultimate test of faith is the backdrop for Ushpizin (translated to mean “The Guests”), a heartwarming and humorous dramedy set in the customarily private world of the Orthodox Jewish community. Arriving on DVD from New Line Home Entertainment on April 4, 2006, Ushpizin marks the first film made by members of the Israeli ultra-Orthodox community in collaboration with secular filmmakers and provides a touching and unique look at the daily lives of ultra-Orthodox Jews as they question and explore their faith. Breaking the barriers between cultures, the film holds a universal and human appeal that transcends any religion or belief. Writer and star Shuli Rand (“Moshe”), winner of the Israeli Film Critics Association Award for Best Actor and the Best Actor Award from the Israeli Film Academy, stars with his real-life wife, Mechal Bat Sheva Rand (“Malli”), as husband and wife whose love is tested and faith is challenged when a secret from the past reveals itself during the Jewish holiday of Succoth. Ushpizin will be available at a \$27.95 SRP with an order due date of February 28, 2006.

### SYNOPSIS

As the festive Jewish holiday of Succoth approaches, big-hearted Moshe Bellanga, (Rand) a devoutly religious man, and his wife, Malli (Mechal Bat Sheva Rand), find themselves

childless, broke and unable to purchase the necessary religious objects to appropriately observe the holiday. When Moshe and Malli receive an anonymous gift of \$1,000 from a local charity, they interpret it as a blessing and use it purchase the holy items and build the Succah (holiday dwelling) for their rituals. Meanwhile, just as the holiday begins, a dark secret from Moshe's past is revealed as two of his former associates escape from prison and come to Moshe's home – as they know it is considered a blessing to host guests during the holiday of Succoth and will not be turned away. The two outlaws begin to take advantage of Moshe's hospitality – drinking, smoking and playing loud music in his home, and they begin to question his new found faith and allude to his violent past. After fabricating a story to rid themselves of their unruly houseguests, Moshe and Malli eventually come to see the treatment of their less-than-holy Ushpizin as a test of love and faith.

#### DVD SPECIAL FEATURES\*

- Theatrical trailer
- 16x9 FF (1.85:1) version of the film
- English 2.0 Stereo Surround
- English and Spanish subtitles
- Closed captions

\*DVD special features subject to change.

Title	Format	SRP	Cat. #	ISBN #	UPC #
Ushpizin	DVD	Keepsake	\$27.95	N10235	0-7806-5477-3
			794043102356		

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distribution company to release independent films. A pioneer in franchise filmmaking, New Line's Oscar-winning The Lord of the Rings trilogy is one of the most successful film franchises in history. New Line is a division of Time Warner, Inc. For DVD screeners or artwork, please email your request to Andrew Conn at [connandrew@aol.com](mailto:connandrew@aol.com) or fax your request to (212) 249-1849.

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