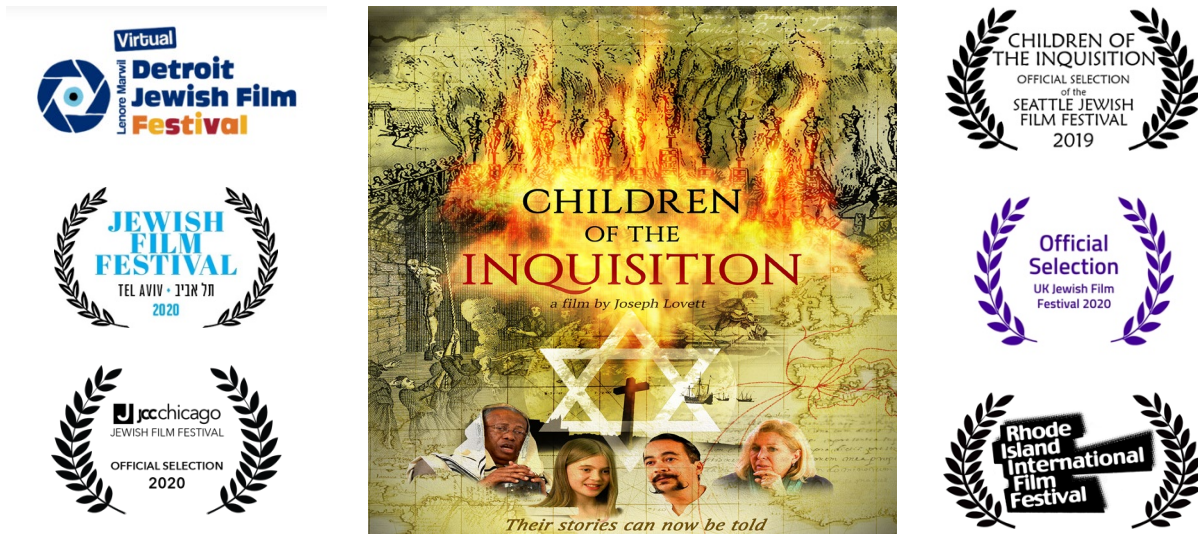


The Kurt and Tessye Simon Foundation of Temple Beth-El Presents



Children of the Inquisition: Their Stories Can Now Be Told takes us on a journey unearthing 500 years of hidden history. The film reveals what happened to Jewish families forced to convert to Catholicism or flee during the Spanish and Portuguese Inquisitions. Through the eyes of the refugees' contemporary descendants, many of whom are just discovering their Jewish roots, we learn how their ancestors shaped history and how their perilous stories shaped their identities.

You will be able to stream the film from 5:00 p.m. on Tuesday, September 28th, to 5:00 p.m. on Friday, October 1st. Then, on Sunday, October 3rd, at 10:30 a.m., the Simon Foundation will host a Zoom discussion. **We ask that you register by September 27th.** Once you register, the link and password to the film and the link to the Zoom panel discussion will be sent to you via email on the morning of September 28th.

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(or continue reading to learn more)

The panel will take place via Zoom on Sunday, October 3rd from 10:30 am- 12:00pm ET, and focus on the central questions and themes:

- Why don't we know this history?
- Intergenerational Trauma
- Feeling and Finding Identity
- Roots of anti-semitism

The panel includes **Thomas Burman, PhD** a Notre Dame historian; **Adam Brown**, a genetic researcher; **Anna Balas, MD**, a psychoanalyst; **Carlos deMedeiros** from the film, an artist and former seminarian; **Doreen Carvajal**, also from the film and a New York Times writer and author, and moderated by Joseph Lovett, director *Children of the Inquisition*.

Thomas Burman Ph.D. is the Robert M. Conway Director of the Medieval Institute of the University of Notre Dame. Professor Burman's research and teaching focus on the intellectual and cultural interactions

between Jews, Christians, and Muslims in the medieval Mediterranean world. The author of *Religious Polemic and the Intellectual History of the Mozarabs, c. 1050-1200* and *Reading the Qur'an in Latin Christendom, 1140-1560*, he is currently at work on a book titled *Ramon Martí, the Bookish Religions, and Latin Scholasticism* and, with Brian Catlos and Mark Meyerson, is completing *The Sea in the Middle: The Mediterranean World, 650-1650*.

Adam Brown, Project Administrator of the Avotaynu DNA study, a worldwide academic collaboration of scientists, historians, genealogists and community leaders that has utilized DNA to illuminate the origins and migrations of the Jewish People. Under the guidance of the Technion, the Avotaynu DNA study has over 8,000 participants representing all known Jewish communities from China to Curacao. The project has actively studied Sephardi and converso populations all over the Western Hemisphere as well.

Adam is a frequent lecturer on genealogical subjects at conferences all over the world, is Managing Editor of AvotaynuOnline.com, and was National Co-Chair of the IAJGS 2017 conference in Orlando. A strategic planner by profession, he has led numerous boards and commissions pertaining to municipal planning and finance, Jewish education, and scientific research in Israel.

Dr. Anna Balas is Associate Professor of Clinical Psychiatry at Weill Cornell Medical College and a Training & Supervising Analyst at the New York Psychoanalytic Institute. She has had a private adult and child psychiatry practice in Manhattan for over 35 years. Dr. Balas is a Distinguished Fellow of the American Psychiatric Association as of 2018. She has co-taught a class at the New York Psychoanalytic Society on Psychic Trauma for many years and in prior years has taught classes on The Transgenerational Transmission of Trauma, The Self and Narcissism, Universal Fantasies, and Latency and Preadolescence.

Brazilian-American artist **C.L. DeMedeiros** works exclusively with found objects. A former monastic scholar, Mr. DeMedeiros' work intermingles themes of religious authority, alternative sexuality, politics, subculture and popular culture, and their often fraught intersections. While largely self-taught and often associated with 'Outsider Art,' C.L. DeMedeiros' insightful and sophisticated work has been acknowledged internationally. His work has been exhibited at the New York Public Library, The Art Students League of New York (where it garnered several awards), [80 Washington Square East Galleries](#), and numerous galleries in Central and South America. Recent notable exhibits include *The Ties That Bind* for Trinity School's 300th anniversary, *Art and Activism* at Bluffton University, Ohio, and Outsider Art Fair in New York City. For the *Sing for Hope, Street Pianos Project*, Mr. DeMedeiros created twenty pianos which were displayed throughout the five boroughs of New York City. Mr. DeMedeiros' work has appeared in the Wall Street Journal. Upcoming exhibition: 5th *Homosurrealism* at Resistance Gallery in London. Upcoming collaboration 10dence Gallery, Get Out of Our Skull Art Show in Sweden, Belgium, Amsterdam and France 2021/2022.

Journalist and writer **Doreen Carvajal** was raised as a Catholic, ignorant of her Jewish background, and is now tracing her converso ancestors by examining the testimonies presented against them in their inquisition trials. Read her autobiography detailing her journey called "The Forgetting River." FORMERLY, SHE WAS A Paris-based reporter for The New York Times and a senior writer for the International Herald Tribune covering European issues. She has more than 25 years of journalism experience covering a broad range of subjects, from politics and immigration to book publishing and the media. <https://www.nytimes.com/by/doreen-carvajal>

Joseph Lovett is an award-winning filmmaker whose work has informed, engaged, and inspired people into action. Having worked for ABC, CBS, HBO and Discovery Channel, Joe has been raising awareness of critical health issues throughout his career.

After producing the first investigations on AIDS for ABC's 20/20, Joe created In A New Light (ABC) a series of annual AIDS outreach and entertainment specials. After ten years producing for 20/20 Joe founded Lovett Stories + Strategies and since then has produced or directed numerous feature documentaries and over 35 hours of primetime specials. In 2001, Joe's film Cancer: Evolution to Revolution for HBO won a Peabody Award and received an Emmy nomination.

His 2010 film, *Going Blind: Coming Out of the Dark About Vision Loss*, and its outreach campaign Going Blind and Going Forward, have ignited a global movement of individuals, grassroots organizations, and medical professionals, sponsoring screenings that raise awareness and improve access to vision enhancement services.

Completed in 2019, Joe's latest project *Children of the Inquisition* is a documentary film, immersive website, and outreach that unearths 500 years of hidden history and identities. The film premiered at the Seattle Jewish Film Festival in March 2019. The project reveals the fates of families forced to convert to Catholicism or flee during the Spanish and Portuguese Inquisitions.

Over the years, Joe has been honored with the George Foster Peabody Award, the AIDS Leadership Award, the Christopher Award, the Kitty Carlisle Hart Award, an Emmy Nomination, and numerous awards from advocacy organizations.

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