A FATHER’S STORY:  
My Fight for Justice Against Iranian Terror

STEVEN FLATOW  
Monday, October 8, 1:30 p.m.

Stephen Flatow’s life changed forever on April 9, 1995, when he learned that his daughter Alisa, a twenty-year-old college student traveling in Israel, had been the victim of a terrorist bus bombing. In his new book, Flatow tells Alisa’s story and recounts how he brought his daughter’s murderers to justice through the American justice system. Flatow says that until Alisa’s tragic death he was “just another New Jersey real estate lawyer.” After he discovered the Iranian government had directly sponsored the bomber, Flatow decided to sue the terror state. Working with a superb Washington lawyer and an astute forensic researcher, Stephen Flatow went on to win a dramatic verdict against Iran.

DR. RUTH ON LIFE, LOVE, AND JOIE DE VIVRE

DR. RUTH WESTHEIMER  
Monday, October 15, 1:30 p.m.

America’s best-loved therapist, Dr. Ruth, is known for her wise counsel on all matters of the heart. In two recent books, she shares her story and insights into living life to the fullest, at any age. Everyone knows Dr. Ruth as the most famous sex therapist, but fewer people know she narrowly escaped death during the Holocaust, was raised in an orphanage in Switzerland, or that she was a sniper during Israel’s War of Independence. Through her story, Dr. Ruth sheds light on how she’s learned to live a life filled with joie de vivre and she shows others how they too can live with challenges, tragedy, and loss, all while nourishing an intellectual and emotional spark, and, above all, having fun.

AROUND THE WORLD & AROUND THE CORNER:  
An Afternoon of Short International Films

FILM SCREENING  
Monday, October 22, 1:00 p.m.

Join us for an afternoon of outstanding short films from the Queens World Film Festival, and meet the festival directors. Each of these films tells a very full story, with a hint of how much lies beneath the surface, all within the limits of the art of the short film. The award-winning films are from Kosovo, Macedonia, and the Lower East Side. The New York filmmakers will be present for the post-screening conversation.

This screening is made possible by NYC Council Member Jimmy Van Bramer.

ISAAC BABEL:  
The Great Jewish Writer Who Rode with the Cossacks

VAL VINOKUR  
Monday, October 29, 1:30 p.m.

Born in 1894 in multicultural Odessa’s thriving Jewish community, Isaac Babel is considered one of the greatest twentieth-century Jewish (and great Russian) writers. As a journalist, he rode with the Cossack horsemen of the Red Cavalry, a highly unusual choice for a Jewish intellectual. Babel had fled the old world of the Jewish past, and yet he knew that the new world would never accept him. Babel embraced the Bolshevik Revolution, while also clearly seeing the cruelty. Silenced by Stalin in the 1930s, Babel was finally executed in a secret police prison in 1940. Val Vinokur is an Associate Professor of Literary Studies and Director of Jewish Culture at The New School.

(((SEMITISM))):  
Being Jewish in America in the Age of Trump

JONATHAN WEISMAN  
Monday, November 12, 1:30 p.m.

During the 2016 presidential campaign, journalist Jonathan Weisman was suddenly subjected to a wave of anti-Semitic attacks on Twitter by neo-Nazis and anti-Semites. He was attacked as a leftist anarchist; as a rapacious Wall Street profiteer; and as a money-bags financier orchestrating war for Israel. After his initial shock, he wanted to understand better the alarming resurgence of anti-Semitism. In his new book, Weisman delves into the rise of the Alt Right, their roots in older anti-Semitic organizations, their oddly ancient grievances and aims cloaked as they are in contemporary hipsterism-to spread hate in a palatable way through a political structure that has so suddenly become tolerant of their views. Jonathan Weisman is Deputy Washington Editor of the New York Times.

A RIVER COULD BE A TREE: A Memoir

ANGELA HIMSEL  
Monday, December 3, 1:30 p.m.

Angela Himsel was raised in a fundamentalist family, one of eleven children in a ramshackle farmhouse in Indiana. The Himsels followed an evangelical branch of Christianity which espoused a doomsday philosophy. Only strict adherence to the church’s tenets and belief in the church’s leader could save them from the evils of American culture. At nineteen, she decided to study Bible in Jerusalem. It was in Israel that Himsel’s eyes were opened to the dangerous myths with which she had been raised. Even as she struggled with her painful loss of faith, she also began to open to the world around her and ultimately found a new life as a Jewish woman in New York City.
Art historian Harry Weil will lead a fall art gallery and museum tour in Queens. Afterward we’ll enjoy an optional lunch together at a local eatery.

Transportation will be available.

Our art tours sell out quickly, so please do call or email for price and details: (718) 268-5011, ext. 151 or pkurtz@cqy.org

FILM DISCUSSION GROUP WITH FILM CRITIC MATTHEW WEISS

Watch some of the greatest films of the last century and enjoy lively discussions with film critic Matthew Weiss. You’ll learn to see the kinds of things most of us miss when we watch a movie. How do great films defy our expectations of character, narrative, identification, and editing, and deepen our experience of the world? Matthew Weiss has done everything on a film set from acting and producing to directing. He has appeared in productions along with Sarah Silverman, Janeane Garofalo, and Rosie Perez and has done improv comedy in NY. Bring your lunch. We’ll provide cookies, coffee, and food for thought!

6 Tues., 12:20 - 2:50 p.m.
Oct. 16 & 23, Nov. 6 & 27, Dec. 4 & 18
$60 mem / $72 non-mem

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BOOK GROUP

Come find out why this book group has such a devoted following! Thoughtful, lively, provocative discussions focus on the best new and classic literature and non-fiction. Moderated discussions dig into the books to get the most from them, yet we also have a lot of fun. New participants are always welcome.

Third Thurs. of month, 12:15 - 2:15 p.m.
FREE, but advance registration strongly suggested.
Thurs., September 20 - Portrait of a Lady, by Henry James
Thurs., October 18 - Antigone, by Sophocles
Thurs., November 15 - The Handmaid’s Tale, by Margaret Atwood
Thurs., December 20 - The Secret Agent, by Joseph Conrad

Do you have skills to offer which could help immigrants in exchange for the personal rewards of helping people get a positive start in the U.S.? In addition to our ongoing tutoring program for women at the Women for Afghan Women Center in Fresh Meadows, volunteers are also needed to help Afghan children with homework. Space is limited! Contact Cultural Arts at (718) 268-5011 ext. 151 or pkurtz@cqy.org.

Kids Homework Help:
Mon., Tues., and Wed., beg. Sept. 21 (except Jewish holidays) 4:00 - 6:00 p.m.
Adult students:
Fri., beg. Sept. 21, 11:00 a.m. - 12:45 p.m. Van provided from CQY

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CONVERSATIONS WITH AUTHORS & FILMMAKERS

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