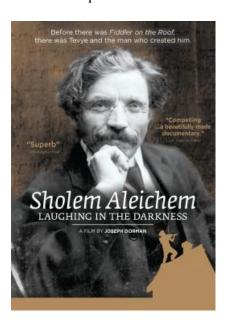




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"SHOLEM ALEICHEM: LAUGHING IN THE DARKNESS" RELEASES MARCH 12 ON DIGITAL & DVD

A Feature-Length Documentary About "Jewish Mark Twain" behind Fiddler on the Roof

"Wonderfully rich...Dorman's touch is sure, his pacing fleet and his chorus of voices marvelous." – *The Chicago Tribune*

"An invigorating and fascinating biographical documentary that should be required viewing for anyone with a love for the written world." – Film Threat

March 7, 2013 – *New York, New York* – A riveting portrait of the world's greatest Yiddish writer whose stories became the basis of the Broadway musical *Fiddler on the Roof, SHOLEM ALEICHEM: LAUGHING IN THE DARKNESS* explores the life of the rebellious genius who created an entirely new literature. Plumbing the depths of a Jewish world locked in crisis and on the cusp of profound change, Sholem Aleichem captured that world

with brilliant humor. He was not just a witness to the creation of a new modern Jewish identity, but one of the very men who forged it.

Releasing on March 12 from Docurama Films, a label of Cinedigm (NASDAQ: CIDM), *LAUGHING IN THE DARKNESS* brings to life Sholem Aleichem's world and his timeless stories through rarely seen photographs, archive footage, voice talent, including Peter Riegert (*The Sopranos*), Rachel Dratch (*Saturday Night Live*) and Jason Kravits (*The Adjustment Bureau*). Also featured in the film are interviews with leading experts such as Dan Miron, Professor of Hebrew and Comparative Literature at Columbia University; Ruth Wisse, Professor of Yiddish Literature and Comparative Literature at Harvard University; David Roskies of the Jewish Theological Seminary; author and Yiddish translator Hillel Halkin; Aaron Lansky, the founder of the National Yiddish Book Center; Sheldon Harnick, lyricist of *Fiddler on the Roof* and Bel Kauffmann, Sholem Aleichem's own granddaughter.

The film explores the history of Jewish culture in Eastern Europe through Sholem Aleichem's works. Excerpts of his stories profiled in the film include: *If I Were a Rothschild, Glossary of Stepmother's Curses, The Town of the Little People, The Adventures of Menakhem Mendl, Eternal Life, Letter to America, Tevye the Dairyman, Tales of a Thousand and One Nights,* and *Motl, The Cantor's Son.*

Directed by Joseph Dorman, **SHOLEM ALEICHEM: LAUGHING IN THE DARKNESS** was released in theaters in July 2011 to rave reviews and was a *New York Times* and *Washington Post* Critics' Pick. The film received support from the Righteous Persons' Foundation, the Foundation for Jewish Culture's Lynn and Jules Kroll Fund for Documentary Film, the Herman G. Kaiser Foundation and Daniel and Joanna S. Rose. Its currently 100% fresh on Rotten Tomatoes.

"I wanted to use Sholem Aleichem to explore an entire world and felt I could because he managed to embody that world in his work and his life. In fact for many, the very phrase 'the world of Sholem Aleichem' has become shorthand for the nineteenth century world of the shtetl," said Dorman.

SHOLEM ALEICHEM: LAUGHING IN THE DARKNESS is written, produced and directed by Joseph Dorman; edited by Aaron Kuhn, Kenneth Levis and Amanda Zinoman. Bonus features include: making the film; On Sholem Aleichem.

Pricing: \$29.95 US/\$34.95 CA Runtime: 93 mins. + extras

Rating: NR

Catalog #: NNVG284351 Language: English and Color: Color

Audio Format: Dolby Digital 2.0 Stereo

Genre: Documentary

About Docurama Films

In 1999, Docurama Films® launched with the first feature documentary available on DVD: D.A. Pennebaker's iconic film on Bob Dylan, "Don't Look Back." Twelve years and 300 award-winning, highly-acclaimed documentary titles later, Docurama continues to discover and release the greatest non-fiction films of our time while spreading the word about filmmakers who are taking the form to new heights. Docurama's catalog features an array of topics including the performing and visual arts, history, politics, the environment, ethnic and gender interests, and all-time favorites including "The Wild Parrots of Telegraph Hill," "Andy Goldsworthy: Rivers and Tides" and "King Corn." Recent titles include the Oscar®-nominated films "Gasland," "Hell and Back Again" and "Paradise Lost 3: Purgatory." www.docuramafilms.com

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http://www.newvideo.com/docurama/sholem-aleichem-laughing-in-the-darkness/