



Photos provided by DADI SPIELBERGER

Left: A scene from *West Bank Story*. Above: *All I've Got*. Right: *Strange Fruit*.

BATON ROUGE JEWISH FILM FESTIVAL

SATURDAY, JAN. 27

Manship Theatre

(Shaw Center)

7:30 p.m.: *All I've Got* and *West Bank Story*

SUNDAY, JAN. 28

Manship Theatre

(Shaw Center)

3 p.m.: *Strange Fruit* and *The House I Live In*

7 p.m.: *Strange Fruit* and *The House I Live In*

Film fest explores Jewish themes

The Baton Rouge Jewish Film Festival takes place at the Manship Theatre this weekend with four films remaining. Reserved seats are \$8.50 per film. To order, call (225) 344-0334. Tickets will also be offered at the door on a space available basis and go on sale one hour before each screening.

ALL I'VE GOT

When 72-year-old Tamara passes on, she finds herself on a ship, heading across river to the afterlife. There she meets Uri, her first love, who died at age 23, and is offered a momentous choice. She can begin her life again with him, as a 22-year-old, but will have to give up all memories of her subsequent existence. Or she can stay as she is, at age 72, with the memories of her life with her husband and children intact. *All I've Got* is a moving drama about the road

not taken and what might have been.

Israel, 2002, DVD, Color, Hebrew with English, 68 min.

STRANGE FRUIT

Filmmaker Joel Katz delves into the history and legacy of the song "Strange Fruit," which was written by Bronx Jewish schoolteacher Abel Meeropol in the 1930's and best known in a Billie Holiday rendition using it as a vehicle to explore the intricacies of Black/Jewish relations.

USA, 2001, DVD, 57 min.

THE HOUSE I LIVE IN

In this Academy Award-winning short film, Frank Sinatra encounters a group of young boys beating up on another because he is Jewish. Frank straightens them out on American equality with a war tale, then, sings "The House I Live

In." This message of wartime pluralism reflected America's growing acceptance of ethnic diversity during World War II.

USA, 1945, 10 min., DVD, black & white.

WEST BANK STORY

West Bank Story is a musical comedy about David, an Israeli soldier, and Fatima, a Palestinian fast food cashier—an unlikely couple who fall in love amidst the animosity of their families; dueling falafel stands in the West Bank. Tensions mount when the Koshers King's new pastry machine juts onto Hummus Hut property. The Palestinians ruin the machine and the Israelis respond by building a wall between the two eating establishments. The couple professes their love for each other, triggering a chain of events that destroys both restaurants and forces all to find common ground in an effort to rebuild, planting a seed of hope.

USA, 2005, 22 min., DVD, Color, English