



To mark the release of new Holocaust film *Good* – starring Viggo Mortensen and Jason Isaacs – we are giving away a package of Israeli and Jewish films. Three lucky winners will receive DVD copies of *Paperclips*, *Ushpizin*, *Walk On Water* and *Hebrew Hammer* in our competition at [www.jewishtelegraph.com](http://www.jewishtelegraph.com)

ONLY ONLINE

PICTURE: ERIK HEINILA



ON THE RUN: Anna Paquin and Rebecca Windheim in *The Courageous Heart of Irena Sendler*

# Film Paquin hard punch

OSCAR winning actress Anna Paquin was open-mouthed as she read the hard-hitting screenplay of *The Courageous Heart of Irena Sendler*.

Paquin read it on her agent's iPhone after being offered the lead role of the woman who saved 2,500 Jewish children during the Holocaust.

"I couldn't quite believe she was actually a real person," Paquin told the *Los Angeles Jewish Journal*. "I was just absolutely fascinated and in awe at how someone so young could be so strong in such a terrifying period of time. And I said, 'OK, where do I sign up?'"

She also read a rough translation of Anna Mieszkowska's *Mother of the Children of the Holocaust: The Story of Irena Sendler* and watched countless films on the Holocaust.

"What I found most powerful and helpful was a book titled *Words to Outlive Us: Eyewitness Accounts From the Warsaw Ghetto*, which is composed of journal and diary entries," she said.

"I read about how guards would torture prisoners in front of others to scare them – really horrendous things like tying people up and letting dogs half-eat them; or the sort of ease with which people would

be randomly shot.

"Those eyewitness accounts were as close as I could get to Irena's world – and what came through strongly was just how absolutely terrified and out of control people felt."

In 1942, Sendler began her operation to save children from the Warsaw Ghetto under the auspices of Zegota, a code name for the Council for Aid to Jews, a programme of the Polish government in exile.

Because Sendler hoped to reunite the children with their parents after the war, she wrote each one's name and location on paper placed in jars which she buried under an apple tree in Warsaw.

Sendler, who died last year aged 98, was arrested by the Gestapo and tortured for three months. Just before her execution an officer was bribed into putting her name on a list of prisoners already executed.

After her escape, she continued to help save Jewish children.

After the war she became the one of the first Righteous Gentiles to be honoured by Yad Vashem.

John Kent Harrison, the film's writer and director, had arranged to meet Sendler in Warsaw but she was taken ill and died.

He attended the funeral at the Powazki cemetery where a rabbi recited kaddish.



HEROINE: Irena Sendler

# The sky is the limit as Marc records Charles' songs

BY ROBERT CLAYTON

MUSICAL performer Marc Joseph continues his comeback year with the release of his debut album, comprised of previously unrecorded Charles Miller songs.

Liverpool-born Marc, a survivor of the 1999 Paddington train crash, is continuing to make a name for himself in the musical theatre scene and has received praise for his album, *Clear Blue Sky – The Music of Charles Miller*.

He said: "Originally, I wanted to make an album of songs from my favourite musicals.

"But so many people have done that before so I wanted to do something different.

"Charles is an old friend and prolific composer and his songs just make me melt – his melodies are so beautiful."

He continued: "I had never seen any of the shows that the songs came from so didn't know their proper context.

"But I went with my gut-feeling and tried to express my own interpretation of his work.

"None of the songs had ever been recorded before and I loved being the first – it's a lot of kudos."

Marc, who was educated at



PICTURE: STEVEN EMBERTON

CLEAR TALENT: Marc Joseph

Liverpool King David schools, studied chemistry at Sheffield Polytechnic, but decided his future lay in music and began a career that has seen him performing in *Les Miserables*, *Little Shop of Horrors* and *Annie*, to name a few.

Speaking of *Clear Blue Sky*, he added: "There are a few upbeat songs and a lot of lyrical and melodic tunes.

"It's contemporary music,

# Watcha Clan all mixed up after making new friends



MIXED UP: Watcha Clan, led by Sista K

WORLD music group Watcha Clan are releasing an "audio diary" of their encounters over the past year.

Just 12 months ago, Watcha Clan released third album *Diaspora Hi-Fi – A Mediterranean Caravan* before setting off on a never-ending world tour.

The Marseille-based global beat outfit have met many talented DJs and fellow musical travellers on the tour.

And from the friendships made comes *Diaspora Remixed*, featuring remixes of tracks on last year's album.

Among those who have lent their talents are pioneering London

collective Transglobal Underground, Balkan breakbeat maestro and kazoo virtuosi Shazalakazoo and EarthRise SoundSystem.

The group's French lead singer, Sista K –

real name Karine Hallakoun – was born in Marseille to an Ashkenazi Lithuanian mother and a Sephardi Algerian father.

"My parents met when they lived together on a kibbutz

in Israel," Sista K said. "They only came to France to see their family, but ended up staying a lot longer.

"Back then in the northern quarters of Marseille, no-one cared who was Jewish."

Her dream was to fuse Yiddish music with techno.

The group's first two albums, *Nomades A.K.A* and *Bastion*, sold around 20,000 copies in France and throughout Europe.

*Diaspora Hi-Fi* topped the World Music Europe chart.

*Diaspora Remixed* is available from download websites but will be released on vinyl later in the year.

■ [www.watchaclan.com](http://www.watchaclan.com)

## SHABBATSCRABBLE

There's no need to write down the answers in our Shabbat-friendly crossword. Just spell out the answers with tiles on your Scrabble board.

The clues are for the new version of Scrabble which shows the grid reference numbers across the top and bottom. If you have an older board with the references reversed then just find time to stick over your board with the new orientation for numbers/letters. If you don't want to do this, then just treat the across clues as down clues and vice versa. Helpful hint: Before starting sort the tiles alphabetically. If you complete the puzzle, you will have used all 98 tiles – do not use the blanks

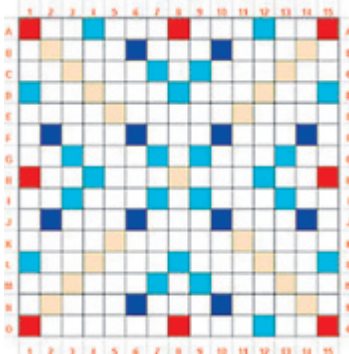
### ACROSS

- 1D A place or a road. (6)
- 2B Colour in the numberless pictures. (5)
- 2J This Australian likes to drink a kola. (5)
- 3L Astor prepared the turkey. (5)
- 3O An award for Anthony. (4)
- 4G Listen to the story of the appendage. (4)
- 6C Doing what I want with this colour. (6)
- 6N An imposing period of the year. (6)
- 7F He and ten others tried to spell it. (3)
- 7H Herb is in prime condition. (4)
- 8J Chilly when looking in the wrong place. (4)
- 10E Catch up with some of it. (4)
- 11K Travel over and around it. (4)
- 13C Umpire says good-bye to his limb. (3)
- 13I Study for young Denis. (3)

### DOWN

- 2A Shake the arrows. (6)
- 3I Concern for the beads. (5)
- 4B Heard the outlaw did not allow it. (6)
- 5G Plant some plaza leaves. (6)
- 6A Short encounter with a QC. (5)
- 6L Different ways to oscillate. (4)
- 7F He and his millions were found at the border. (3)
- 8C Gamble with two cubes. (4)
- 9H So one can hang around. (5)
- 11B He told a whale of a story. (5)
- 11J Gathers hundreds of arguments. (6)
- 13A Test the navigator. (5)
- 13I Submerge in a dump. (4)

Answers next week



- ACROSS: 1L Banana; 2A Jive; 2D Taxes; 2J Flew; 3G Hold; 6I Deck; 6M Steam; 7A Ernie; 7F Trump; 8C Fish; 9K Root; 11D Audit; 12I Doge; 13A Rig.
- DOWN: 2A Junta; 2J Flay; 3G Hill; 4J Ebay; 5C Venal; 6G Dud; 6K Wasp; 8A Rife; 9E Quack; 9M Ain; 10J Zoom; 11C Harp; 12H Edit; 13A Rood; 14I Gorge; 15D Test.

Devised and compiled by Derek Wine. SCRABBLE is a registered trademark of JW Spear & Sons Ltd, Maidenhead SL6 4UB, England, under licence from Mattel Europa BV, a subsidiary of Mattel Inc. © Mattel 2006

## TV JEWS

ACTOR and writer Stephen Fry returns to television screens on Thursday (9pm) in Sky One's hit series *Bones*.

Fry reprises his role as eccentric psychiatrist Dr Gordon Wyatt, who is drawn into a case involving the mysterious disappearance of a musician.

William Goldman, the writer of some of cinema's greatest films, including *Butch Cassidy and the Sundance Kid*, *Marathon Man* and *All the President's Men*, is profiled in *The South Bank Show* on Sunday (10.15pm) on ITV1.

There are a number of Jewish nominees at the Bafta Television Awards on Sunday (8pm) on BBC1.

Jason Isaacs is up for best actor for his role in *The Curse of Steptoe*, as is Sir Alan Sugar's *The Apprentice* for best feature series and the audience award. *House of Saddam*, which starred Israeli Igal Naor as the evil tyrant, is nominated for best drama serial.

■ ISRAELI actor Nathan Cogan died last week, aged 95. His coffin was displayed at the Cameri Theatre in Tel Aviv before he was buried at the Yarkon Cemetery.