

DECEMBER 4TH – 10TH 2023



FILM & TV SERIES FEST

8TH EDITION 2023



Welcome to the **eighth edition of Italy on Screen Today – New York Film & TV Series Fest**: a week-long celebration featuring live events in Manhattan and online on Mymovies.it. Directed by Loredana Commonara, the festival is set to showcase the pinnacle of contemporary Italian cinema and TV series, made possible through **the generous contribution of the Ministry of Culture and Tourism – General Administration of Cinema, with the support of Italian General Consulate of Italy in New York, the Italian Cultural Institute in New York, Casa Italiana Zerilli – Marimò Auditorium/New York University, and Rai Cinema, in collaboration with Italy for Movies and, starting from this year, New York Film Academy.**

The inaugural event holds significant importance as it marks **the unveiling and promotion of the Italian film *Io capitano* by Matteo Garrone, contending for the honor of representing Italy in the International Feature Film Award category at the 2024 Oscars.** Festivities will commence on December 4th with an afternoon **press conference at the Consulate General of Italy in New York, featuring director Matteo Garrone, lead actors Seydou Sarr and Moustapha Fall, and screenplay advisor Mamadou Kouassi.** Later that evening, at the esteemed Robin Williams Theater, an exclusive venue from SAG-AFTRA foundation in the heart of Manhattan, the film ***Io capitano* will be screened.** Following the screening, a Q&A session moderated by journalist Silvia Bizio with the esteemed guests is anticipated, drawing the presence of a **special delegation from the Academy Motion Picture Arts and Sciences (AMPAS), Golden Globe Voters, Critics Choice Awards voters.**

The festival will unfold at the prestigious Casa Italiana Zerilli – Marimò Auditorium at New York University, featuring unmissable events. In the Corti d'autore section, director Peter Marcias will introduce his film *The External Gaze*, while actress Lucia Sardo will delve into her featured work, *Due mondi separati*. The program will also feature **the latest masterpiece from maestro Bellocchio, *Kidnapped***, previously showcased in competition at the Cannes Film Festival. A highly anticipated event is **the celebration of the 20th anniversary of *La meglio gioventù*, Marco Tullio Giordana's seminal coming-of-age film** that marked a milestone in Italian cinema of the new millennium. **The protagonists, Sonia Bergamasco and Fabrizio Gifuni**, will engage in a special conversation during which they will be honored with the **Italy on Screen Excellence Award**.

From December 4th to December 10th, an **exclusive program will be available on Mymovies.it throughout the United States**. This program will encompass a diverse array of offerings, including works from both established and emerging auteurs, documentaries, and TV series, all available for streaming. New this year is a display featuring **the top creations by students from Centro Sperimentale di Cinematografia**: ten short films currently earning awards and acclaim at major festivals around the world. The festival's rich lineup includes **American and New York premieres**, ensuring a captivating experience for cinephiles of all tastes and preferences.

*This year again, Italy On Screen Today New York is partnering with **Italy for Movies** (www.italyformovies.com), the portal for Italian locations and funding incentives managed by **Cinecittà**, in collaboration with **Italian Film Commissions**, and coordinated by **Direzione Generale Cinema e Audiovisivo (Ministry of Culture)**. The portal, available as an app from digital stores, provides a range of useful information on locations and funding opportunities available for productions wanting to shoot in Italy, in addition to industry news, interesting information and itinerary suggestions for cinema lovers who want to visit the locations featured on screen.*

LIVE **DECEMBER 4TH**

IO CAPITANO
MATTEO GARRONE

LIVE **DECEMBER 6TH**

THE EXTERNAL GAZE
PETER MARCIAS

KIDNAPPED
MARCO BELLOCCHIO

LIVE **DECEMBER 8TH**

UNFITTING
GIOVANNA MEZZOGIORNO

MIXED BY ERRY
SYDNEY SIBILIA

DUE MONDI SEPARATI
MARIANNA SCIVERES

THE BEST OF YOUTH
MARCO TULLIO GIORDANA

ON MYMOVIES.IT

DRY
PAOLO VIRZÌ

ORLANDO
DANIELE VICARI

BRADO
KIM ROSSI STUART

IL CERCHIO
SOPHIE CHIARELLO

STRANGENESS
ROBERTO ANDÒ

PROPHETS
ALESSIO CREMONINI

CASANOVA'S RETURN
GABRIELE SALVATORES

THE HUMMINGBIRD
FRANCESCA ARCHIBUGI

THE LORD OF THE ANTS
GIANNI AMELIO

COMANDANTE - MAKING OF
BASILIO PUGLIA

THINK CAREFULLY
PETER MARCIAS

LA TERRA DEGLI STREGHI
STEFANO COSIMINI, SIMONE GONNELLI, FRANCESCO TOMEI AND THE STUDENTS FROM IV D LICEO LINGUISTICO ISI BARGA

WELCOME TO PARADISE!
LEONARDO DI COSTANZO

LA FORNACE
DANIELE CIPRÌ

BLANCA
WALTER CROCE

NEVER AGAIN
MONICA VULLO

UNTIL THE LAST HEARTBEAT
CINZIA TH TORRINI

UN'ESTATE FA
DAVIDE MARENGO

A CONSPIRACY MAN
VALERIO FERRARA

THE DEPENDENT VARIABLES
LORENZO TARDELLA

REGINETTA
FEDERICO RUSSOTTO

CUT FROM THE SAME COW
GIULIA REGINI

REMAIN
FEDERICO FADIGA

CHILDREN LOVE TO HIDE
ANGELA NORELLI

FATHERS LAND
FRANCESCO DI GIOIA

FEVER
EMANUELA MUZZUPAPPA

THE TEXAS SHARPSHOOTER FALLACY
MARGHERITA FERRARI

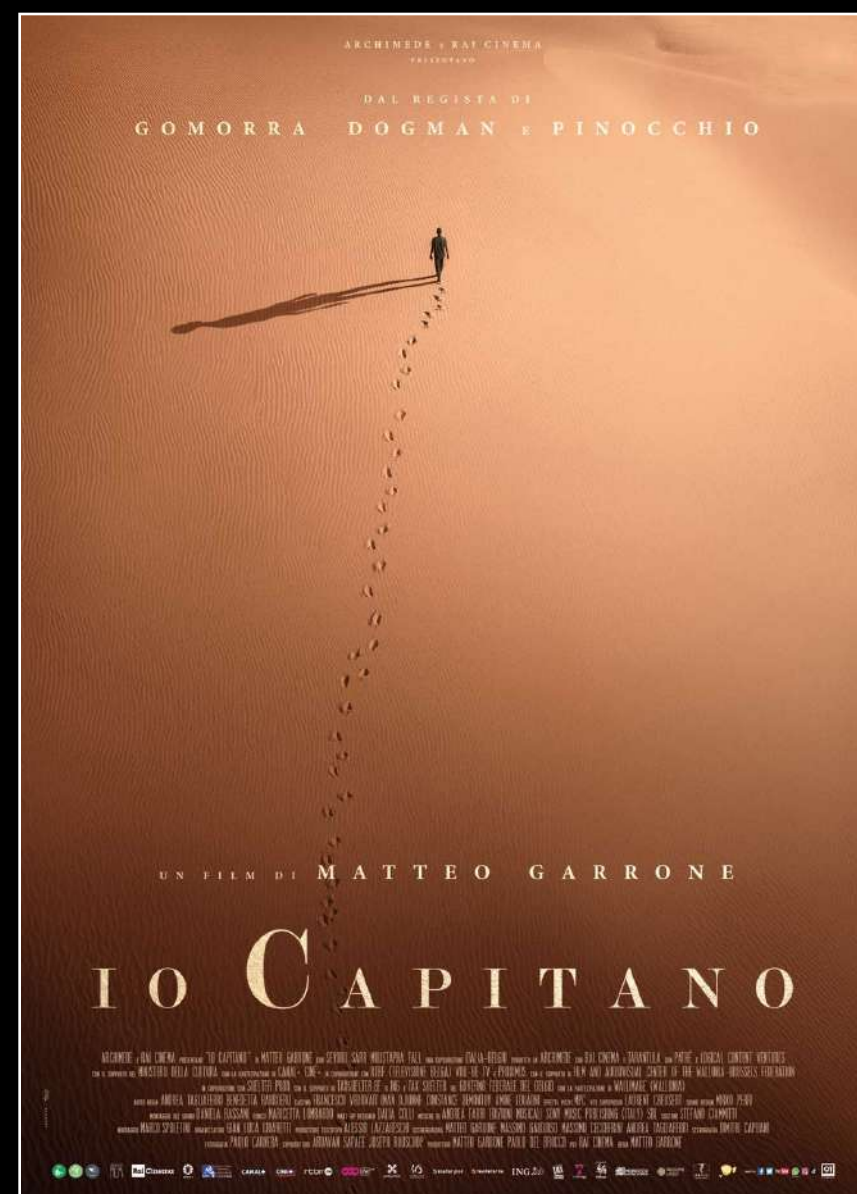
PIZZA PANIC
LEONARDO MALAGUTI

LIVE

DECEMBER
7.00 PM

4TH

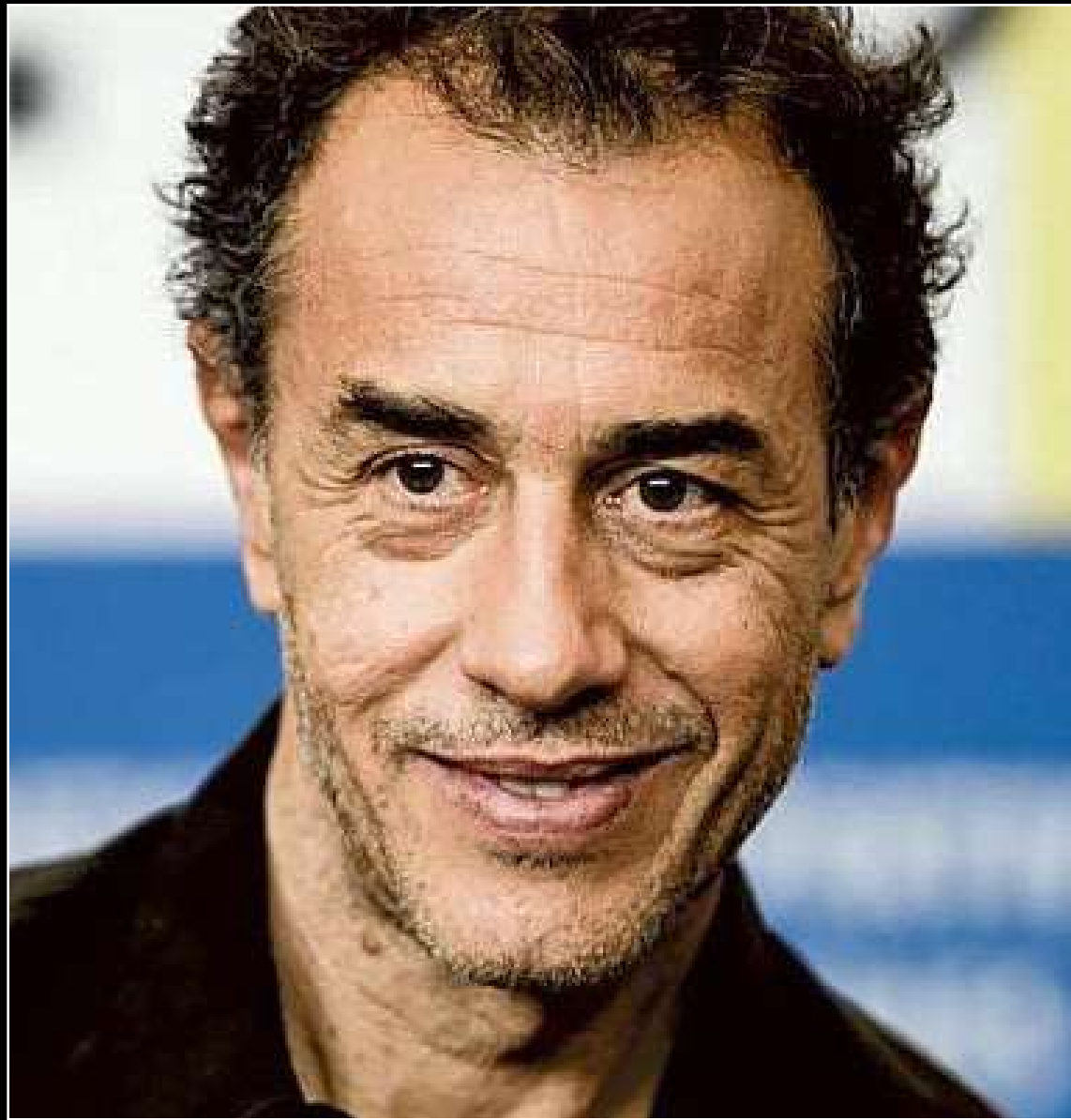
ROBIN WILLIAMS THEATER
SAG-AFTRA FOUNDATION



IO CAPITANO, by Matteo Garrone. Cast: Seydou Sarr, Moustapha Fall, Issaka Sawagodo. ITA, BEL, 2023 - 121 mi. Prod: Archimede with Rai Cinema and Tarantula with Pathé, Logical Content Ventures with the support of the Ministry of Culture, with the participation of Canal +, Cine +, in co-production with Rtbf (Belgian Television), Voo-Be TV and Proximus. Distrib: Pathé International.

Io Capitano tells the story of the adventurous journey of Seydou and Moussa, two young men who leave Dakar to make their way to Europe. A contemporary Odyssey through the dangers of the desert, the horrors of the detention centers in Libya and the perils of the sea.

Following by Q&A with special guests director Matteo Garrone, the lead actors Seydou Sarr, Moustapha Fall and the screenplay advisor Mamadou Kouassi with the journalist Silvia Bizio.



Matteo Garrone was born in Roma in 1968. After graduating he took interest in painting and then decided to enter the world of audio visuals. In 1997 he shot a documentary in New York with Carlo Cresto-Dina called *Bienvenuto Spirito Santo*. With Cresto-Dina, 1998, he worked on the documentary *Oreste Pipolo, fotografo di matrimoni* and in the same year he also made his second feature, *Ospiti*, which received a special mention at the Mostra Internazionale d'Arte Cinematografica di Venezia. In 2000 he approached the comedy genre in *Estate romana*; in 2002 he won the critics appraisal thanks to the *L'imbalsamatore*, with which he won the David di Donatello Award for best screenplay. In 2008 he directed the adaptation of Roberto Saviano's bestseller *Gomorra* which won him the Grand Prix at the Cannes Festival and several David di Donatello awards. Four years later he was back in Cannes with *Reality*, which was awarded the Jury's Grand Prix as well as two Nastri d'Argento and three David di Donatello awards. In 2015 he made the *Tale of Tales - Il racconto dei racconti*: the flick won seven David di Donatello awards, including Best Director. Both *Tale of Tales* and *Dogman* (2018) were selected to compete for the Palme d'Or at Cannes Film Festival and the Nastro d'Argento awarded Garrone both Best Producer and Best Director with *Dogman*, then he received the latter again for *Pinocchio*. In 2023 with *Io capitano*, he won the Leone d'Argento as Best Director at the Mostra Internazionale d'Arte Cinematografica di Venezia.



Seydou Sarr is 21 years old, and in 2023, he won the Marcello Mastroianni Award, which is awarded to the best emerging actor or actress at the Venice International Film Festival. He played his role alongside **Moustapha Fall**, 23 years old, both Senegalese and making their debut in the film industry.

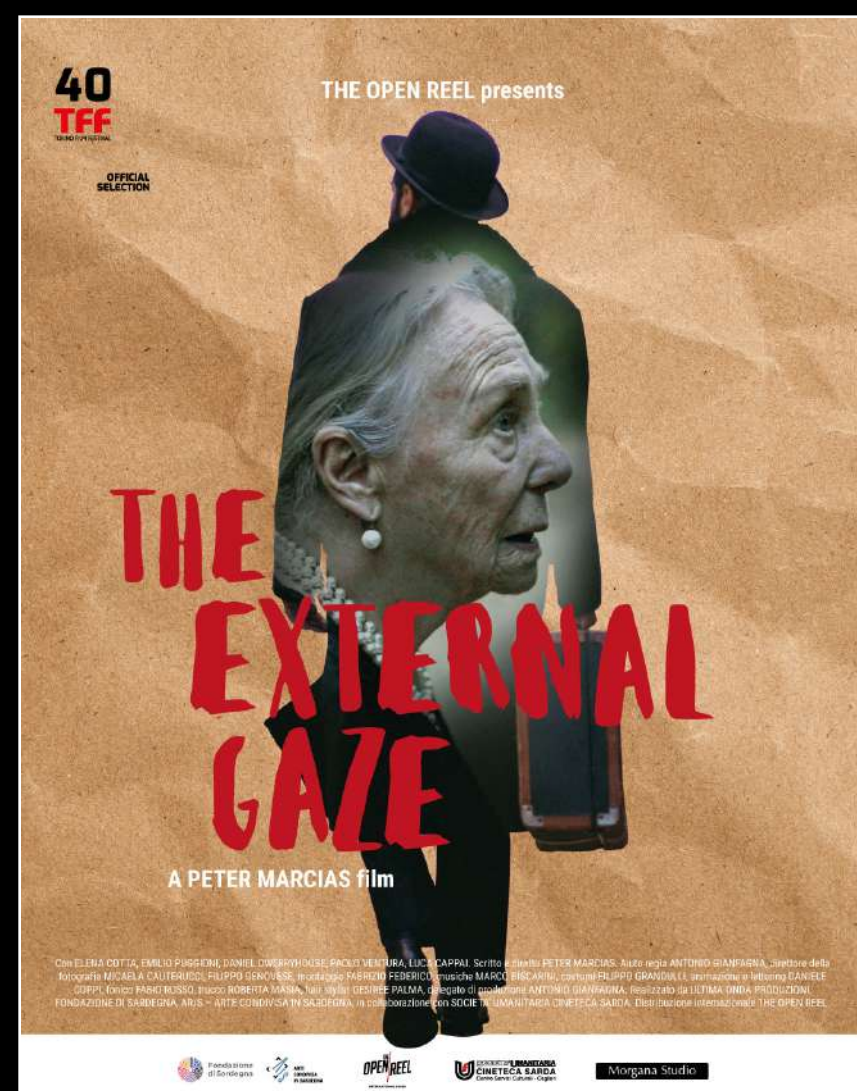


Mamadou Kouassi Pli Adama was born in 1983 in Ivory Coast. In 2001, while pursuing language studies at university, he was forced to flee to Ghana with his family due to the civil war. It took him three years to cross the desert and reach Italy, overcoming prison camps. For a long period, he was a victim of exploitation, from Calabria to Puglia, Piedmont, and Val di Susa. Today, he works as a cultural mediator and is a reference point at the Csa in the former Canapificio in Caserta. His story served as inspiration for the director Matteo Garrone.

DECEMBER
6.00 PM

6TH

CASA ITALIANA ZERILLI – MARIMÒ AUDITORIUM,
NEW YORK UNIVERSITY



The director Peter Marcias will introduce

**THE EXTERNAL GAZE, by Peter Marcias. Cast: Elena Cotta, Emilio Pug-
gioni, Daniel Dwerryhouse. ITA, 2022 - 22 min. Prod: Ultima onda pro-
duzioni. Distrib: The open reel. US PREMIERE.**

Internal and visual notes of an elderly director about to shoot her latest documentary. An intimate monologue suspended between past and present: thoughts, images, moods, primordial landscapes, the gazes of three traveling artists (Vittorio Alinari, Gaston Vuillier, Paolo Ventura) become suggestions and an author's search for elusive inspiration.



Peter Marcias was born in Oristano in 1977. Director and screenwriter, in 2008 he made his debut with *Suspended* followed by *The children of his life*, *My destiny*, *Our quarantine*. His works, presented in the most prestigious international festivals, testify to a strong interest in a cinema linked to artistic, social and political themes. His 2010 documentary film *Liliana Cavani* was nominated for the 2011 Nastro D'Argento; in 2014 *About Piera*, on the figure of the great actress Piera Degli Esposti, received the special Nastro D'Argento and was broadcast with great success on Sky Arte. In 2020 *Nilde Iotti, Women's Turn* was screened as a world premiere at the Giornate degli Autori of the 77th Venice Film Festival, as in 2023 *Marching People* at the Rome Film Festival.

DECEMBER
6.30 PM

6TH

CASA ITALIANA ZERILLI – MARIMÒ AUDITORIUM,
NEW YORK UNIVERSITY



KIDNAPPED, by Marco Bellocchio. Cast: Paolo Pierobon, Fausto Russo Alesi, Barbara Ronchi, Filippo Timi, Fabrizio Gifuni. ITA, 2023 - 125 min. Prod: IBC Movie, Kavac, Ad Vitam, Match Factory Productions, Rai Cinema, Arte. Distrib: Cohen Media Group.

In 1858, in the Jewish quarter of Bologna, the Pope's soldiers burst into the home of the Mortara family. By order of the cardinal, they have come to take Edgardo, their seven-year-old son. The child had been secretly baptized by his nurse as a baby and the papal law is unquestionable: he must receive a Catholic education. Edgardo's parents, distraught, will do anything to get their son back. Supported by public opinion and the international Jewish community, the Mortaras' struggle quickly took a political dimension. But the Church and the Pope will not agree to return the child, to consolidate an increasingly wavering power.

DECEMBER
5.00 PM

8TH

CASA ITALIANA ZERILLI – MARIMÒ AUDITORIUM,
NEW YORK UNIVERSITY



UNFITTING, by Giovanna Mezzogiorno. Cast: Giovanna Mezzogiorno, Carolina Crescentini, Ambra Angiolini. ITA, 2023 – 9 min. Prod: One more pictures. US PREMIERE

Giovanna, the main character in this story, puts up with constant harassment from the director, producer, and press rep of the film she is making. The cruelty is just business as usual, and only one person rises to her defense: a young actor.

DECEMBER
5.15 PM

8TH

CASA ITALIANA ZERILLI – MARIMÒ AUDITORIUM,
NEW YORK UNIVERSITY



MIXED BY ERRY, by Sydney Sibilia. Cast: Luigi D’Oriano, Emanuele Palumbo, Giuseppe Arena, Fabrizio Gifuni, Francesco Di Leva. ITA, 2023 – 110 min. Prod: Groenlandia, Rai Cinema. Distrib: Netflix.

The rise and fall of the empire of a DJ from Naples and his “Mixed by Erry” pirated compilation cassettes that marked the young people of the nineties. It is based on real life events surrounding three Neapolitan brothers who established a successful piracy record label between late 1970s and mid-1990s.

DECEMBER
7.10 PM

8TH

CASA ITALIANA ZERILLI – MARIMÒ AUDITORIUM,
NEW YORK UNIVERSITY



The special guest actress Lucia Sardo will introduce

DUE MONDI SEPARATI, by Marianna Sciveres. Cast: Lucia Sardo, Pasquale Greco. ITA, 2023 - 14 min.

Maria, a 70-year-old writer, after years spent in northern Italy, returns to her native land in Calabria: her lifestyle is frowned upon by the townspeople and she is determined not to give up her freedom. The woman is in a relationship with Antonio, a mechanic thirty years younger, and he is conditioned by the prejudices of the people of the town and above all of his father, who does not accept his son's relationship with an older woman.



Lucia Sardo was born in Francofonte in 1952. She studied at the drama school of the Teatro di Ventura under Ferruccio Merisi and she had a brilliant stage career for fifteen years. She made her film debut in the 1992 Aurelio Grimaldi drama *La discesa di Aclà a Floristella*, and two years later she got her first major role in Grimaldi's *La ribelle e Le buttane*. Her breakout came in 2001, with the role of Felicia, Giuseppe Impastato's mother, in Marco Tullio Giordana's *I cento passi*: for her performance she was nominated for Nastro d'Argento in the "supporting actress" category. In 2021 she had the major role in *From scratch*, a Netflix series by Attica and Tembi Locke.

DECEMBER
7.40 PM

8TH

CASA ITALIANA ZERILLI – MARIMÒ AUDITORIUM,
NEW YORK UNIVERSITY



THE TWENTIETH ANNIVERSARY OF LA MEGLIO GIOVENTÙ, BY MARCO TULLIO GIORDANA.

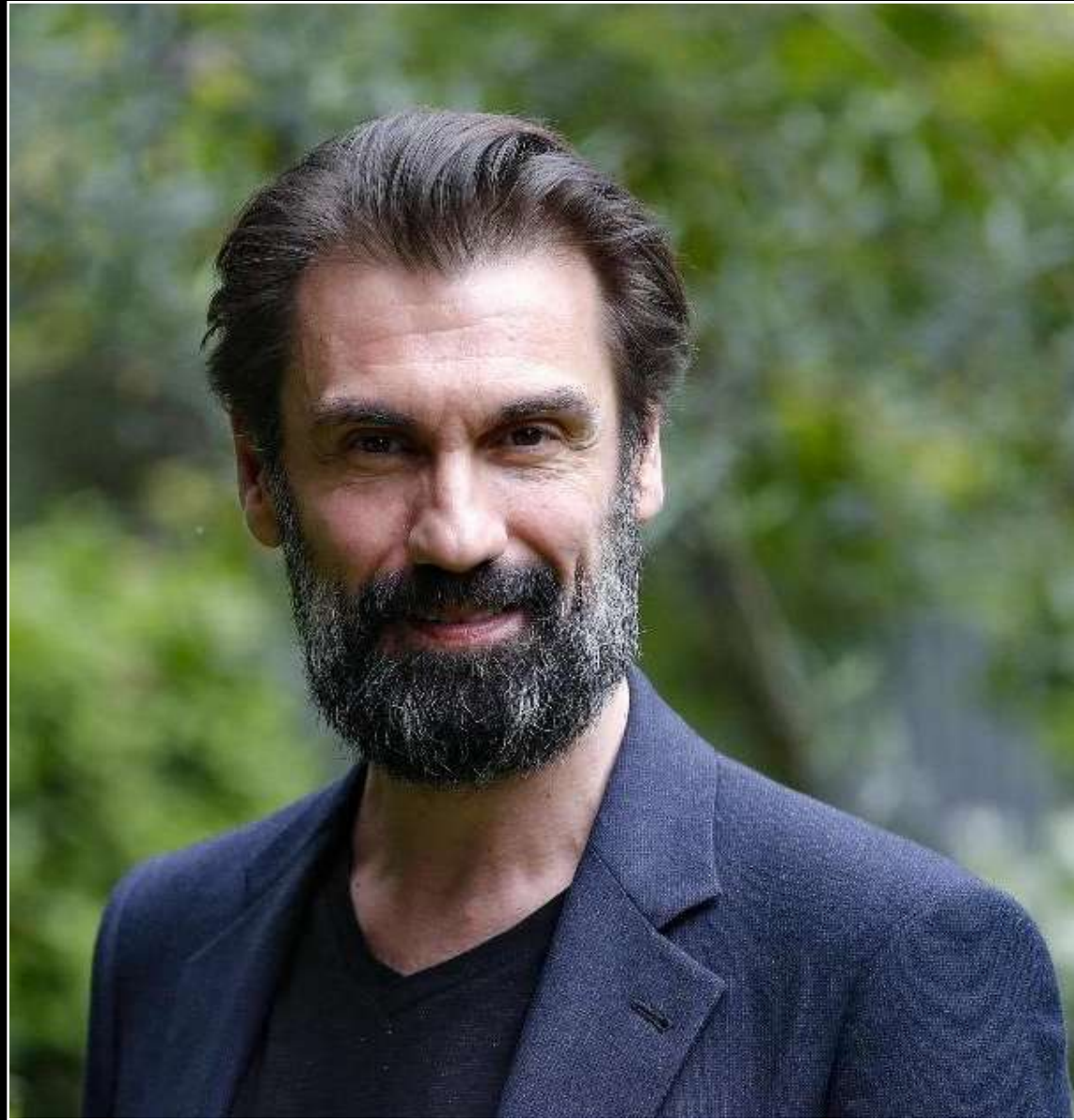
LA MEGLIO GIOVENTÙ, by Marco Tullio Giordana. Cast: Luigi Lo Cascio, Alessio Boni, Jasmine Trinca, Sonia Bergamasco, Fabrizio Gifuni, Maya Sansa. ITA, 2003 – 366 min. Prod: Bibi Film. Distrib: Miramax.

A family saga set in Italy from 1966 through 2003, it chronicles the life of the middle-class Carati family, focusing primarily on brothers Nicola and Matteo as their life paths separate during youth, encompassing major political and social events in post-World War II Italian history. At first they shared the same dreams, the same hopes, the same books and friendships. Meeting Giorgia, a girl with mental disorders, will be determinant for the future of the two brothers: Nicola decides to become a psychiatrist, Matteo abandons his studies and joins the police.

Conversation with lead actors Sonia Bergamasco and Fabrizio Gifuni with the journalist Silvia Bizio, followed by Italy On Screen Excellence Award Ceremony



Sonia Bergamasco was born in Milano in 1966. Bergamasco graduated in piano at the Giuseppe Verdi Conservatory and then enrolled the drama school of the Piccolo Teatro, graduating in 1990 and she made her stage debut with Giorgio Strehler and she had a brilliant stage international career directed by Bene, Latella, Fabre, Terzopoulos. She made her film debut in 1994, in the film *Miracoli, storie per corti*, in the segment *Antonio Mastronunzio pittore sannita* directed by Mario Martone. In 2001 she had her breakout role as Sofia, the main character in Giuseppe Bertolucci's *L'amore probabilmente*. In 2004 thanks to her performance in *La meglio gioventù* by Marco Tullio Giordana, she won the Nastro d'Argento for Best Actress along with the rest of the female cast. She has also worked with directors Bernardo Bertolucci, Giuseppe Piccioni, Roberta Torre and Franco Battiato. She received the Premio Flaiano for best actress for her role in Liliana Cavani's film *De Gasperi* and has enjoyed continued success in the TV series *Tutti pazzi per amore* e *Una grande famiglia*, by Riccardo Milani. She actually plays Livia on the long-running TV show *Il commissario Montalbano*.



Fabrizio Gifuni was born in Roma in 1966. He is one of the most successful actors on the Italian film and theatre scene. After completing his studies with Orazio Costa at the Accademia Nazionale d'Arte Drammatica Silvio d'Amico in 1992, Gifuni had a brilliant international career as stage actor, directed by Castri, Ronconi, Terzopoulos, Tiezzi.

He made his film debut in 1996, in *La bruttina stagionata*. Two years later he had his breakout role as Pelaia in Gianni Amelio's *Così ridevano*, then in 1999 he received a nomination for Best Actor at the David di Donatello for his performance in *Un amore*. In 2002 Gifuni was appointed EFP Shooting Star at the Berlin International Film

Festival for his performance in Giuseppe Bertolucci's *L'amore probabilmente*. In 2003 thanks to his performance in *La meglio gioventù* by Marco Tullio Giordana he received his second nomination for David di Donatello and won the Nastro d'Argento for Best Actor along with the rest of the male cast. He received a third nomination for David di Donatello in 2012, for Giordana's *Romanzo di una strage*. In 2014 he won the David di Donatello for Best Supporting Actor and the Nastro d'Argento for Best Actor for his role in *Il capitale umano*, by Paolo Virzì. In 2023 he won the David di Donatello for Best Actor for his role of Aldo Moro in Marco Bellocchio's *Esterno notte*.

IN STREAMING ON MYMOVIES.IT
DECEMBER 4TH - 10TH



DRY, by Paolo Virzì. Cast: Silvio Orlando, Valerio Mastandrea, Elena Lietti, Tommaso Ragno, Claudia Pandolfi. ITA, 2022 - 124 min. Prod: Wildside, Vision. Distrib: Vision.

Rome, Italy. The drought has been parching the city for three years now, and the lack of water has changed everybody's life. While strict rules add to people's misery, odd characters roam the streets of the capital. Outcasts, achievers, victims, and wrongdoers are all part of the same tragic picture, and they are all after the same thing: redemption.



ORLANDO, by Daniele Vicari. Cast: Michele Placido, Christelle Cornil, Anis Gharbi. ITA, 2022 - 122 min. Prod: Rosamont, Tarantula, Rai Cinema. Distrib: Vision. NY PREMIERE

Orlando is an aged musician from a small town in Central Italy who lost his wife years ago and now lives alone, playing the accordion at weddings and working the land.

Valerio, his only child, left for Brussels soon after his mother's death, which led Orlando to cut all ties with him. However, when he reaches out to his father to ask for help, Orlando feels he must oblige. For the first time in his life, he leaves the town and travels to Brussels to see Valerio, only to arrive when it is too late. His son is dead, leaving behind a twelve-year-old daughter, Lyse.



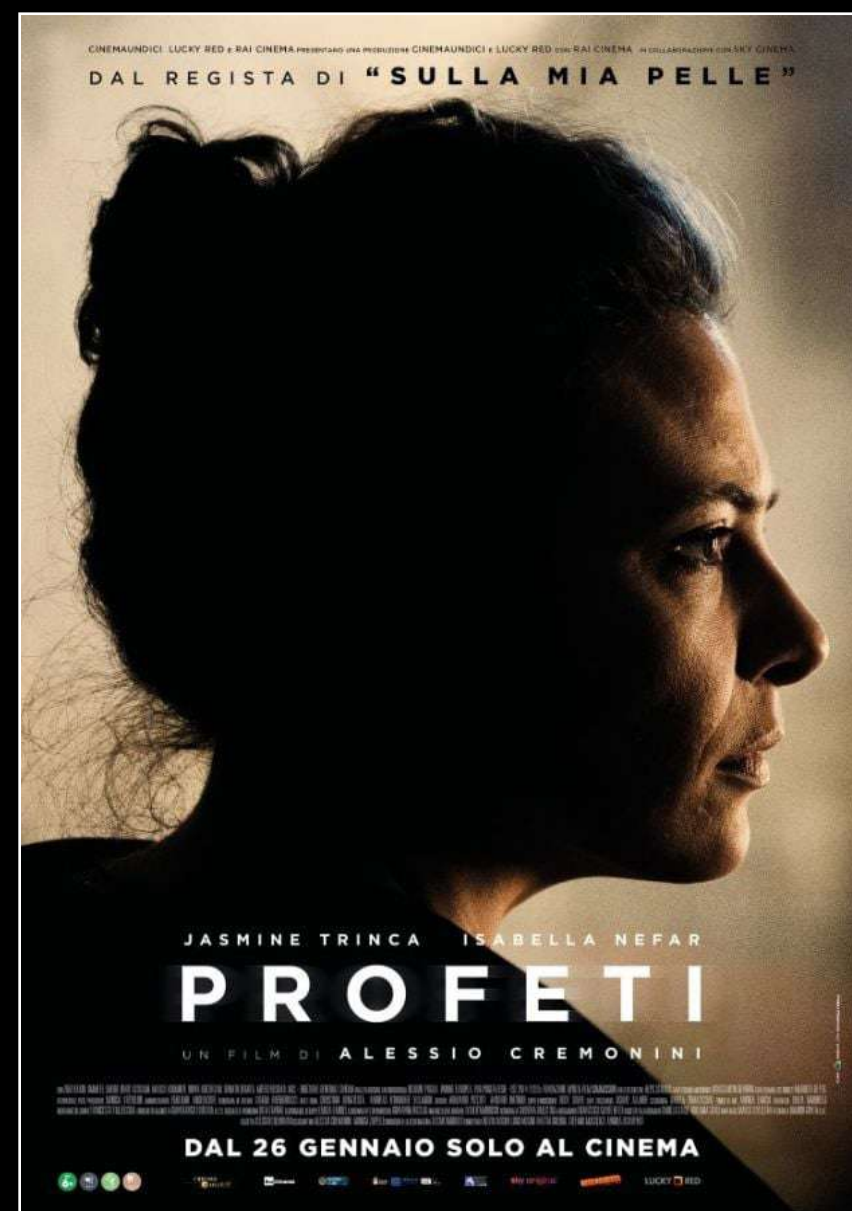
BRADO, by Kim Rossi Stuart. Cast: Saul Nanni, Kim Rossi Stuart, Viola Sofia Betti. ITA, 2022 - 117 min. Prod: Palomar con Vision, Sky e Amazon Prime. Distrib: Vision. US PREMIERE

On a ranch surrounded by nature, a man broken by life spends his days taming wild horses, the only creatures he could ever relate to. When he hears that his dad is embarking on yet another dangerous endeavor, his son Tommaso comes back home to try and dissuade him. It is a chance for them to bond again and to face the resentment that has long been keeping them apart. Day by day, father and son will learn to face each other to heal from their pain and walk together on the steep path to forgiveness.



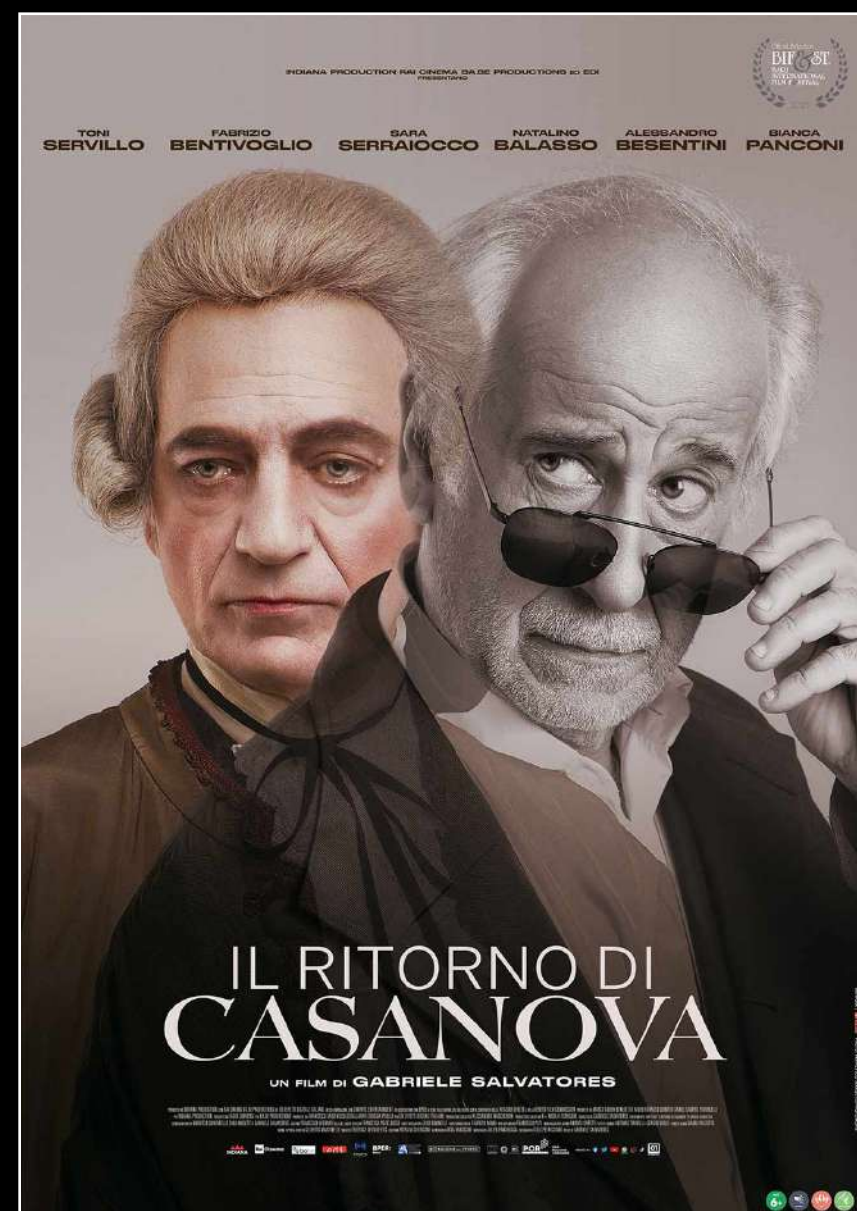
STRANGENESS, by Roberto Andò. Cast: Toni Servillo, Salvo Ficarra, Valentino Picone. ITA, 2022 - 103 min. Prod: Tramp Limited, Bibi Film, Medusa, Rai Cinema. Distrib: True Colours.

1921, future Literature Nobel Prize Winner Luigi Pirandello returned to Sicily for the birthday of his mentor, famous novelist Giovanni Verga. Upon his arrival, feral and unexpected news catapulted him into a human universe populated by incredible personalities, ghostly visions, distant memories and melancholy apparitions. This irrational and compelling journey will allow him to confront a nostalgic past, propelling him toward the creation of his masterpiece, “Six Characters in Search of an Author” an eternal work of art which will mark a worldwide revolution in twentieth-century theater.



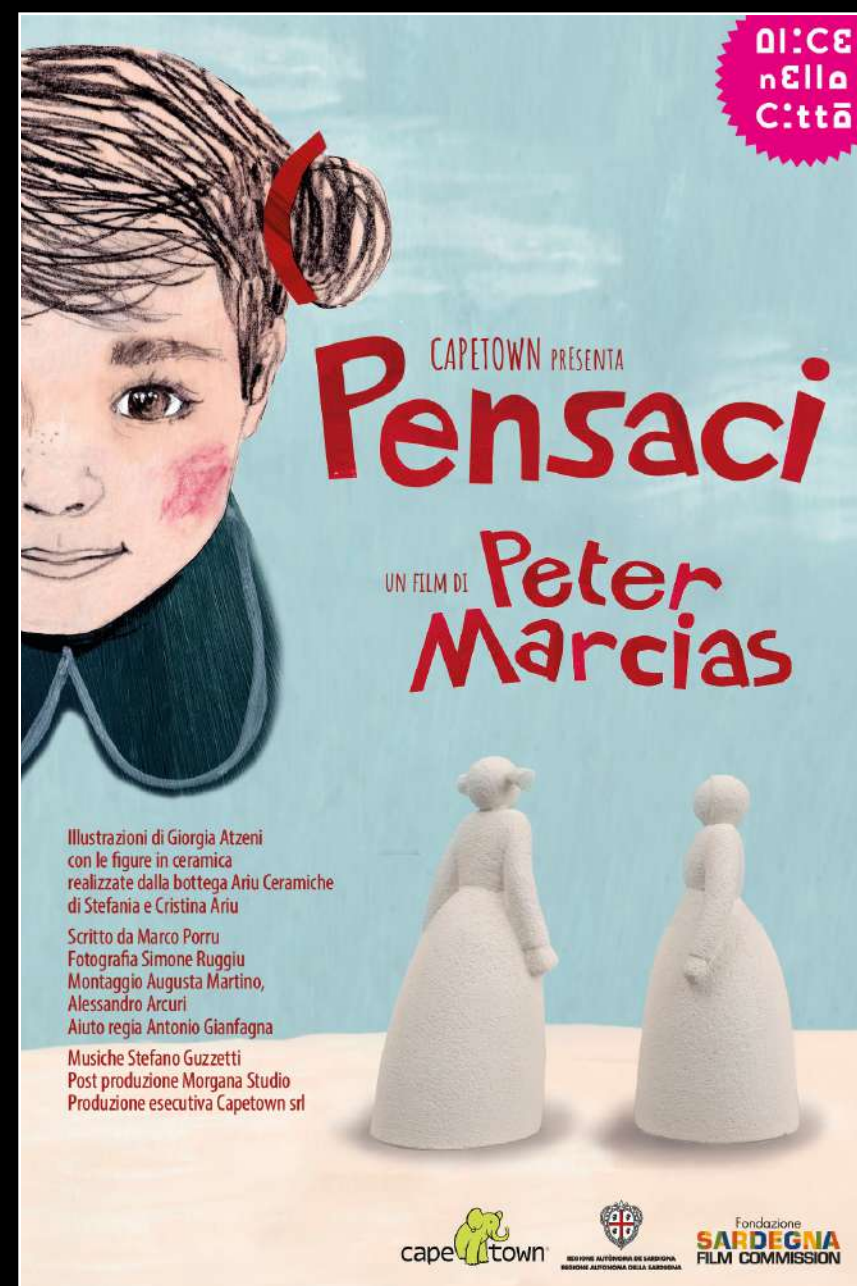
PROPHETS, by Alessio Cremonini. Cast: Jasmine Trinca, Isabella Nefar, Ziad Bakri, Omar El Saeed, Mehdi Meskar. ITA, 2023 - 109 min. Prod: Cinemaundici. Distrib: True Colours. US PREMIERE

The story of an encounter and a confrontation between Sara, an independent Italian journalist who was kidnapped in Syria by ISIS while she was working on a war news report in 2015, and Nur, the young foreign fighter, wife to a soldier of the Caliphate who holds Sara in custody in a building located in the middle of a training camp. Nur's strong will to proselytize, together with the strict orders of the leader of the camp, will unfold into an attempt to convert Sara and make her join Islamic extremism.



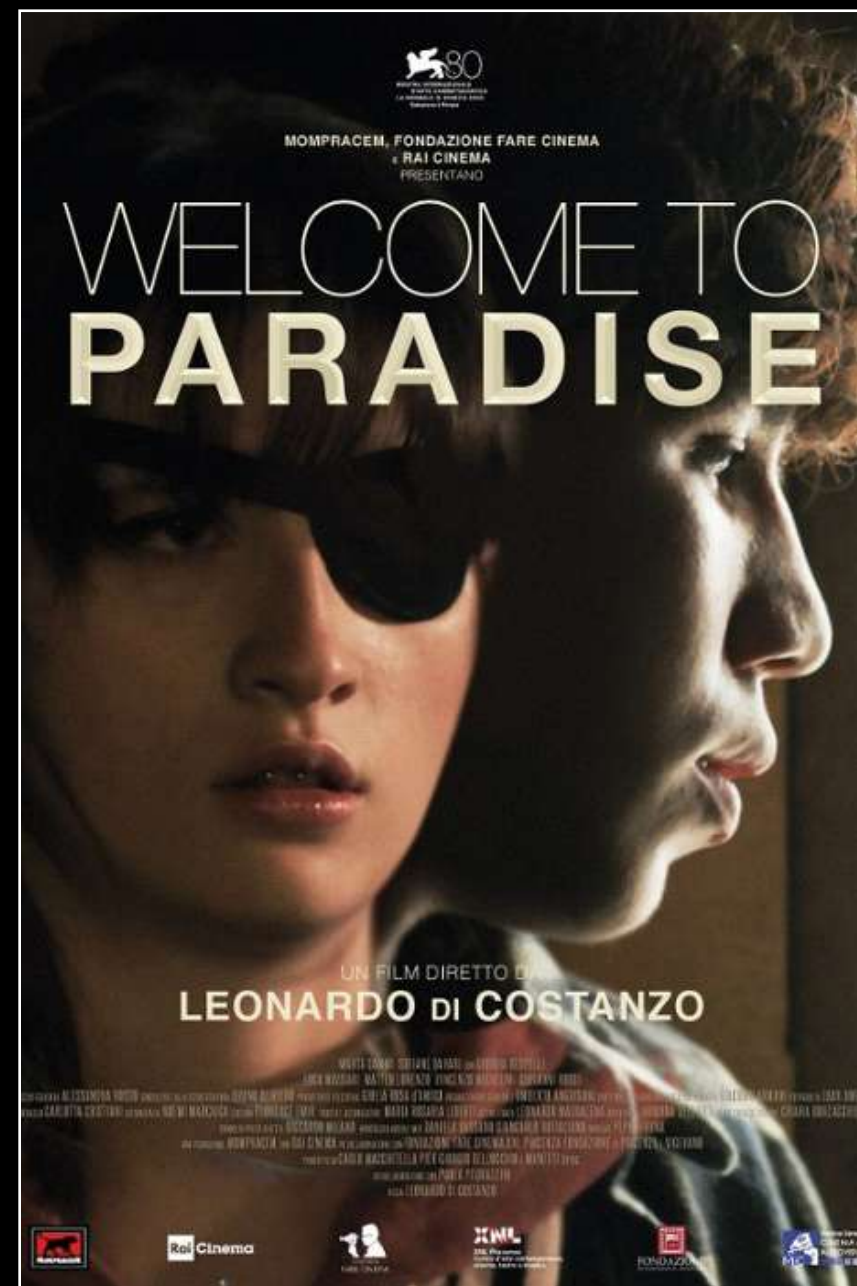
CASANOVA'S RETURN, by Gabriele Salvatores. Cast: Toni Servillo, Fabrizio Bentivoglio, Sara Serraiocco. ITA, 2023 - 95 min. Prod: Indiana Production, Rai Cinema, Eri. Distrib: RAI COM. US PREMIERE.

Leo Bernardi is a successful Italian director. He's approaching the end of his career but he cannot accept his slow decline. He has just finished shooting his last movie which is inspired by Schnitzler's novel, Casanova.



THINK CAREFULLY, by Peter Marcias. ITA, 2022 - 10 min. Prod: Cape-town. US PREMIERE

Giulia is a carefree little girl who often goes to a pristine beach in Sardinia, where she happens to come across wild boars, deer and the Sardinian donkey. Her light-heartedness is protected by her mother who always accompanies her with dedication. One morning the mother witnesses a quarrel between Giulia and some arrogant children who exclude her from a game. Giulia does not know how to rebel and she also gets angry with her mother who instead scolds the arrogant child and her mother.



WELCOME TO PARADISE, by Leonardo Di Costanzo. Cast: Marta Cammi, Sofiane Bahari, Giorgia Respelli. ITA, 2023 - 24 min. Prod: Mompracem. US PREMIERE.

Nadia, a solitary and wary girl, wears a patch over one eye. On the bank of the river, in search of adventures in the company of some stray kittens, she sees a young man ill-treated by boys from the village and shut up in an abandoned shack. Nadia goes away. But then, curious, she goes back and tries to set the “prisoner” free. The wall that separates them opens up for Nadia the possibility of playing at being someone else and experiencing, in this fascination, a sudden desire to grow.



LA FORNACE, by Daniele Cipri. Cast: Giorgio Portannese, Marco Cannilla, Mauro Spitaleri, Salvo Piparo ITA, 2022 - 19 min. Prod: Eikona Film. US PREMIERE.

In the bowels of a city of the dead, in a world that has been ravaged and is now unrecognizable, Marcello lives surrounded by Sicilian puppets. Time and captivity have twisted him; in order to survive in a hostile, incomprehensible environment, he goes ahead with a diabolical plan to obtain a weapon that will protect him and give him power. Things will work out somewhat differently.



THE LORD OF THE ANTS, by Gianni Amelio. Cast: Luigi Lo Cascio, Elio Germano, Sara Serraiocco. ITA, 2022 - 130 min. Prod: Kavac, IBC Movie, Tenderstories, Rai Cinema. Distrib: The Match Factory.

At the end of the sixties, a trial was held in Rome that caused a sensation. Playwright and poet Aldo Braibanti was sentenced to nine years' prison, found guilty of plagio. That is, of having submitted another person, physically and psychologically, to his own will. In this case, a student and friend who was barely of age. The youth's family had him committed to a psychiatric hospital and subjected to a string of devastating electroshock treatments to "cure" him of that "diabolical" influence. Some years later, the crime of plagio was removed from the Italian penal code.



THE HUMMINGBIRD, by Francesca Archibugi. Cast: Pierfrancesco Favino, Kasia Smutniak, Laura Morante. ITA, 2022 - 125 min. Prod: Fandango. Distrib: Fandango.

This is the tale of the life of Marco Carrera, known as Colibrì, the hummingbird: a life of fateful coincidences, loss, and stories of absolute love. The strength of recollections allows us to leap from one period to another, from one era to another, in a fluid time ranging from the early 1970s to a near future. Il Colibrì is the story of the ancestral force of life, of the arduous struggle we all make to withstand what at times appears intolerable – also by wielding the powerful weapons of illusion, happiness, and good cheer.



IL CERCHIO, by Sophie Chiarello. ITA, 2022 - 108 min. Prod: Indigo Film con Rai Cinema. Distrib: True Colours. US PREMIERE

Who are today's children? What do they think and how do they manage to grasp the adult world? To answer these questions, the director Sophie Chiarello decides to follow the pupils of a primary class in a school immersed in a multi-ethnic neighborhood. For five years with her camera, she lowers her gaze to child height to capture their point of view of the world. The Circle is not a documentary about children, but with children. Disarming and genuine as only they know how to be.



LA TERRA DEGLI STREGHI, by Stefano Cosimini, Simone Gonnelli, Francesco Tomei and the students from IV D Liceo Linguistico ISI Barga. ITA, 2023 - 28 min. Prod: Ass. Artistic Soul. US PREMIERE

Garfagnana and the Middle Serchio Valley are borderlands shrouded in the mystery of ancient legends and superstitions that for millennia have been ingrained in the behavior and customs of its inhabitants. This remote area located in Tuscany has an intangible heritage of oral tradition that has been fading in recent decades.

What survives today of these ancient beliefs in the behaviors and lifestyles of new generations of native inhabitants?



COMANDANTE - MAKING OF, by Basilio Puglia. ITA, 2023 - 52 min. Prod: 'o groove. Distrib: Indigo Film. US PREMIERE

A documentary inside the making of Comandante, opening event of 80° Mostra del Cinema di Venezia, by Edoardo De Angelis with Pierfrancesco Favino. The film is the true story of a World War II submarine commander, necessitating the need to feature ships and subs at sea and, of course, the ocean. Doing that for real, or with traditional VFX techniques, can be expensive. So producer Pierpaolo Verga set out to adopt some different approaches by bringing visual effects designer Kevin Tod Haug on board. Haug soon brought together his own collaborators in virtual production, lensing and VFX.



NEVER AGAIN, by Monica Vullo. **Cast:** Francesco Arca, Laura Adriani, Antonio Milo, Maria Pia Calzone. **ITA, 2023 - 60 min. Prod:** Rai Fiction. **Distrib:** RAI COM. **US PREMIERE.**

Season 1 episodes 1.

Life smiles at Alessandro Scudieri, a brilliant Deputy Commissioner of the Naples Police Force: he has a wife that he loves, his first child on the way, a growing career, an insidious gang he finally managed to track down... all is going great, but sometimes a man should understand he mustn't exceed certain limits. His life changes forever when he is involved in a shooting along with his wife Paola, a Judge at the Juvenile Court.



UNTIL THE LAST HEARTBEAT, by Cinzia TH Torrini. Cast: Marco Bocci, Bianca Guaccero, Violante Placido. ITA, 2022 - 60 min. Prod: Rai Fiction. Distrib: RAI COM. US PREMIERE.

Season 1 episodes 1.

We might believe that the line between Good and Evil is a sharp one, like the one that separates black from white. But what happens when a doctor breaks the code of ethics, as he finds himself in the position of a father who must save his own son's life? What's black and what's white? When is it right to do the right thing?



BLANCA, by Jan Maria Micheli. Cast: Maria Chiara Giannetta, Giuseppe Zeno, Pierpaolo Spollon. ITA, 2022 - 50 min. Prod: Lux Vide. Distrib: Lux Vide. US PREMIERE.

Season 1 episodes 1 - 2.

Blanca is a blind suspect profiler. The loss of her sense of sight has helped to make her the greatest expert in decoding – the analysis of wire tapings, interrogations, and filed depositions. Now returned to her hometown of Genoa, and involved in a complicated case of kidnapping and murder, she will have to face a terrible threat that re-emerges from her past. Blanca is the first television series filmed in holophony: a sound recording technique that comes very close to how it is actually perceived by the human ear and allows for an immersive hearing experience.



UN'ESTATE FA, by Davide Marengo. Cast: Lino Guanciale, Filippo Scotti, Claudia Pandolfi. ITA, 2023 - 53 min. Prod: Sky Studio, Fabula Pictures. Distrib: Federation. US PREMIERE.

Season 1 episodes 1.

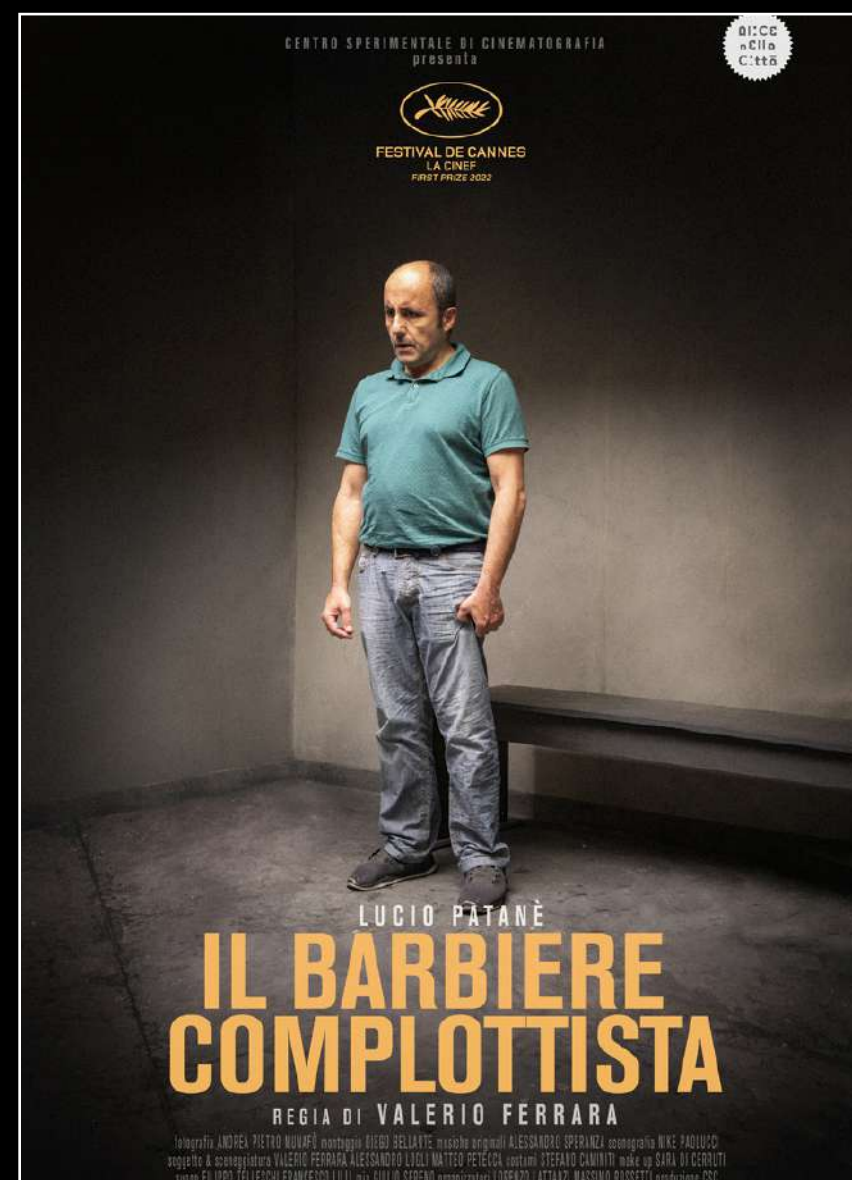
During 1990's summer, an accident causing the disappearance of Arianna and Elio's amnesia broke bonds between a group of friends. Today, Elio lives an apparently perfect life but when Arianna's body is found the Police launches an investigation for murder and everything begins to shake in his existence. This is the chance for Elio to recover his memory, which might not be lost forever.



UN'ESTATE FA, by Davide Marengo. Cast: Lino Guanciale, Filippo Scotti, Claudia Pandolfi. ITA, 2023 - 45 min. Prod: Sky Studio, Fabula Pictures. Distrib: Federation. US PREMIERE.

Season 1 episodes 2.

Having overcome the amazement and bewilderment for the “journey” in the summer of 1990, Elio throws himself into the investigation. He spies on Filippo, Arianna’s boyfriend, thinking he could be a possible suspect. Today, Detective Zancan considers Elio the major suspect in Arianna’s death, while Elio gets hold of a VHS that shows a hidden aspect of the girl.



A CONSPIRACY MAN, by Valerio Ferrara. Cast: Lucio Patanè, Maria Pia Timo, Ilir Jacellari. ITA, 2022 - 19 min. Prod: Centro Sperimentale di Cinematografia. NY PREMIERE.

In a lower class neighborhood in Rome there is a barber who believes in conspiracy theories. He is the laughing stock for his family and at work. Nobody takes him seriously until he gets arrested by the police. A family story about a man seeking attention and love from his family, who ends up contaminating the whole neighborhood with the virus of conspiracy theories.



THE DEPENDENT VARIABLES, by Lorenzo Tardella. Cast: Simone Evangelista, Mattia Rega. ITA, 2022 - 15 min. Prod: Centro Sperimentale di Cinematografia. NY PREMIERE.

In a dark, velvety theater there is a first kiss between Pietro and Tommaso. When the lights come back on, however, the two students have different expectations of what might follow. The chaos of awakening desire in its complexity and sensuality is told and made almost physically tangible through looks and gestures, approach and retreat, hope and fear.



REGINETTA, by Federico Russotto. Cast: Chiara Ferrara, Caterina Valente, Amedeo Gullà, Mario Pirrello. ITA, 2022 - 19 min. Prod: Centro Sperimentale di Cinematografia. NY PREMIERE.

Ciociaria, early 1950s. A young peasant girl is chosen to participate in the Miss Italy selections, but her body measurements are not those required by the contest. Undergoing a terrible process of physical transformation seems to be the price to pay to be elected Queen.



CUT FROM THE SAME COW, by Giulia Regini. Cast: Enrico Borello, Gabriele Di Stadio, Luciano Teodol. ITA, 2022 - 17 min. Prod: Centro Sperimentale di Cinematografia.US PREMIERE.

Sergio works in the family butcher's shop and is a faithful boy, unlike his brother Flavio who has been away from home for a long time because of his conflictual relationship with his father and the business. When Flavio returns to the village, Sergio pushes for his reintegration. His father's intrusive presence makes it impossible for them to live together.



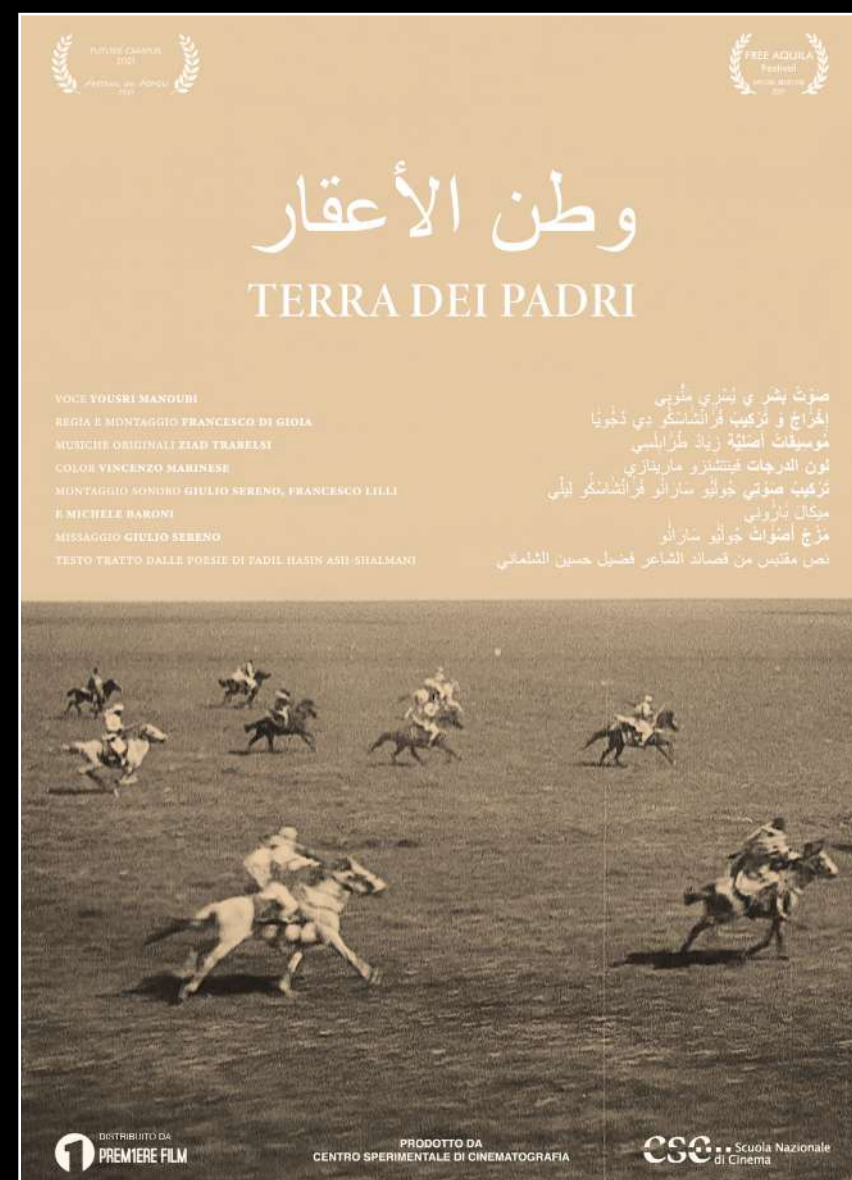
REMAIN, by Federico Fadiga. Cast: Gabriele Monti, Giulia Battistini, Niccolò Ferrero, ITA, 2022 - 13 min. Prod: Centro Sperimentale di Cinematografia. NY PREMIERE.

A group of friends on the edge of adulthood travel to a party. Stuck in traffic, they make a stop, but the abandoned place in which they enter awakens in Mattia an ancient feeling that will plunge him into his inner turmoil.



CHILDREN LOVE TO HIDE, by Angela Norelli. ITA, 2021 - 15 min. Prod: Centro Sperimentale di Cinematografia. US PREMIERE.

Children are ancient tribal creatures, mysteriously extinct in a few years. Now, only images remain - pictures and videos from all over the world where they are engrossed to celebrate odd rituals. A scientist inherits the diary of a colleague who left for Amazonia, believing that the last surviving children tribe was hidden in the jungle.



FATHERS LAND, by Francesco Di Gioia. ITA, 2022 - 11 min. Prod: Centro Sperimentale di Cinematografia. US PREMIERE.

Early 1900s. We follow the deportation to Italy of the Libyan poet Fadil Hasin Ash-Shalmani, through poems in dialect and archive footage. In doing so, we rediscover one of the least documented phases of Italian colonialism.



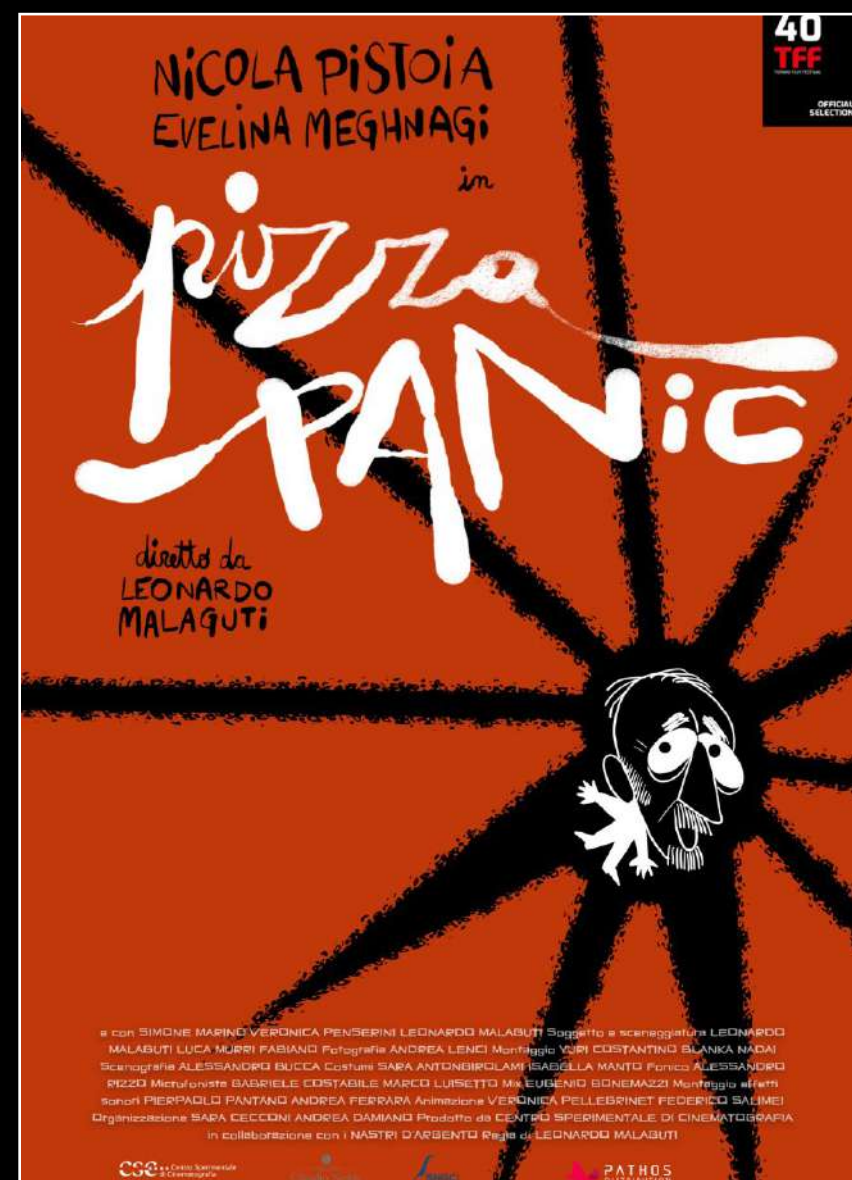
FEVER, by Emanuela Muzzupappa. Cast: Claudio Botosso, Alexia Justine Murray, Beatrice Spata. ITA, 2022 - 19 min. Prod: Centro Sperimentale di Cinematografia. US PREMIERE.

Livia is a mother that experiences her daughter Rita moving away from the house where she grew up, but the day before the move Rita gets a fever, which gets worse and worse. Livia is going to do her best to heal Rita, although she knows that Rita is going to leave when she gets better. In case the fever persists, it could be the chance to spend some time together.



THE TEXAS SHARPSHOOTER FALLACY, by Margherita Ferrani. Cast: Giovanni Crozza Signoris, Bruno De Stephanis, Adele Dezi. ITA, 2022 - 14 min. Prod: Centro Sperimentale di Cinematografia. US PREMIERE.

Samuele is 20 years old and is about to realize his great project: leaving with a van, filming every moment of the journey in his vlogs. Franco is many years older and his dream of arriving in Matala, the legendary destination of hippies and musicians in the 70s, has never been realized. Two stories that, after their eventful encounter, turn out to be dangerously similar.



PIZZA PANIC, by Leonardo Malaguti. Cast: Nicola Pistoia, Evelina Meghnagi. ITA, 2022 - 19 min. Prod: Centro Sperimentale di Cinematografia. US PREMIERE.

For ten years Guido has received pizzas every day that he has never ordered. Exhausted, he hunts for the person responsible: what seems to be a simple investigation becomes an obsession that may drive him to madness.

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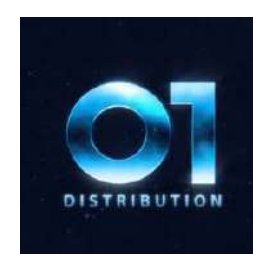
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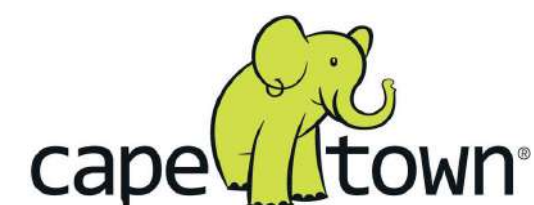


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