

# LOS ANGELES, ITALIA<sup>®</sup>

Film, Fashion and Art Fest



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# 2026

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# INTESA SANPAOLO

## FOR THE LOS ANGELES, ITALIA FESTIVAL

8 - 14 MARCH 2026

For the ninth consecutive year, Intesa Sanpaolo – the reference bank for Italian cinema and a promoter of Made in Italy, as well as of Italy’s image and culture abroad – renews its support for the **Los Angeles Italia Film Festival**, now in its twenty-first edition. The Festival is organised by the Istituto Capri nel Mondo with the support of the Italian Ministry of Culture (MiC), under the patronage of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation (MAECI) and the Ministry of Enterprises and Made in Italy (MIMIT), and with the participation of the Consulate General of Italy in Los Angeles, the Italian Trade Agency (ICE) and the Italian Cultural Institute of Los Angeles.

The most eagerly awaited Italian film event worldwide, held in the run-up to the Oscars ceremony, features an extensive programme including the “Honouring Italian Masters by Intesa Sanpaolo” section.

Actress and director Monica Guerritore and producers Andrea Scrosati and Iginio Straffi are the **Italian Masters** honoured at the 2026 edition of the **Los Angeles Italia Festival**.

Intesa Sanpaolo has supported many of the productions and films presented, including: “**Buen camino**”, “**Napoli New York**”, “**5 secondi**”, “**La vita va così**”, “**Amata**”, “**40 secondi**”, “**La vita da grandi**”, “**Uccellini**”, “**Oi vita mia**”, “**Rosso volante**” and “**Franco Battiato. Il lungo viaggio**”.

Through its Banca dei Territori Division, headed by Stefano Barrese, Intesa Sanpaolo operates a specialised **Media & Culture Desk** and is a leader in the domestic audiovisual market, having provided approximately €3.7 billion to the sector since 2009. It has financially supported the production of over 750 works, including national and international films and TV series, as well as 220 commercials, factual programmes and TV formats. As Italy’s leading banking group, it represents a key partner for domestic and international operators. Its specialised support is crucial both during the project structuring phase, through advisory services covering the various financial aspects, and during the production phase, through dedicated financial backing.

Intesa Sanpaolo aims to foster the consolidation of a strong Italian audiovisual industry, supporting the sector’s international development, promoting and enhancing film projects, and contributing to the economic growth of the direct and indirect supply chains connected to the entire audiovisual industry.

Through established relationships with major international operators (major studios, independent studios, OTT platforms), Intesa Sanpaolo also facilitates foreign executive productions carried out in Italy. This significant inbound activity generates positive local economic, employment and social impacts locally, while further strengthening the professional growth of the sector. Numerous foreign executive productions have been supported in recent years (“**Fast & Furious 10**”, “**Indiana Jones**”, “**The Equalizer 3**”, “**Gossip Girl**”, “**007**”, “**The White Lotus**”, “**Ferrari**” by Michael Mann, “**Those About To Die**”, “**Ripley**”, “**Decameron**”, “**The Hand of Dante**”, “**Stolen Girl**”), with more recent titles including **Emily in Paris**, **The Decameron**, **The Resurrection of the Christ**, **Eternity** and **Solo Mio**. These productions have been supported through the various financial solutions offered by the Bank, including co-funding arrangements, syndicated loans with US banks and tax credit monetisation.

# WELCOME TO LOS ANGELES

LOS ANGELES, ITALIA

PASCAL VICEDOMINI

Founder and Producer of Los Angeles, Italia

Twenty years ago, an idea was born: to build an ideal tower connecting Italian cinematic and musical culture to California — a bridge between two worlds that have long admired and inspired one another.

I found fertile ground thanks to my Italian identity. I still remember when I presented the idea of an Italian festival in Los Angeles to Shaul Kuba, Avi Shemesh, and Richard Ressler — the Principals of CIM Group, owners of the Chinese Theatre and the former Kodak Theatre, now the Dolby Theatre. Their answer was an immediate yes, because of what Italy represents in the world, and especially in America.

Twenty years later, in a profoundly transformed world, and with many great figures no longer with us — beginning with two of my principal muses, director Lina Wertmüller and producer Marina Cicogna — Los Angeles, Italia – Film, Fashion and Art Festival remains a cornerstone in the calendar of events leading up to the Oscars.

The prestigious Italian and international participation from every field of show business, together with an extraordinary program of events, has strengthened the festival’s reputation and strategic importance year after year.

Being the event that opens Oscar week is an ever-growing responsibility. The expectations within the industry are firmly established, and we embrace this commitment with sincere dedication, aware that we represent a country loved around the world — a country that has always promoted art, culture, solidarity, and peace.

The historical moment we are living through is complex and painful. Ongoing conflicts disturb the serenity of innocent people and challenge the creative freedom of many artists. Even those physically distant from war feel its emotional weight through the daily narratives of the media.

Cinema and entertainment are meant to inspire, to provide escape, to help us dream. Yet in times like these, even dreaming requires courage. The fragmentation of attention and the prolife-



Pascal Vicedomini with Marco Pontecorvo, Andrea Griminelli, Andrea Morricone and Marco Leonardi

ration of communication channels make it increasingly difficult to identify talents and stories capable of enriching us with joy and new ideas.

Our commitment at Los Angeles, Italia is to represent the finest artistic and cultural expression of Italy — projected toward the future, yet rooted in a powerful legacy built by great artists who left their mark not only on Hollywood, but across the world.

May this edition also bring moments of serenity and lightness to the Los Ange-

les audience, deeply affected by events beyond our collective control.

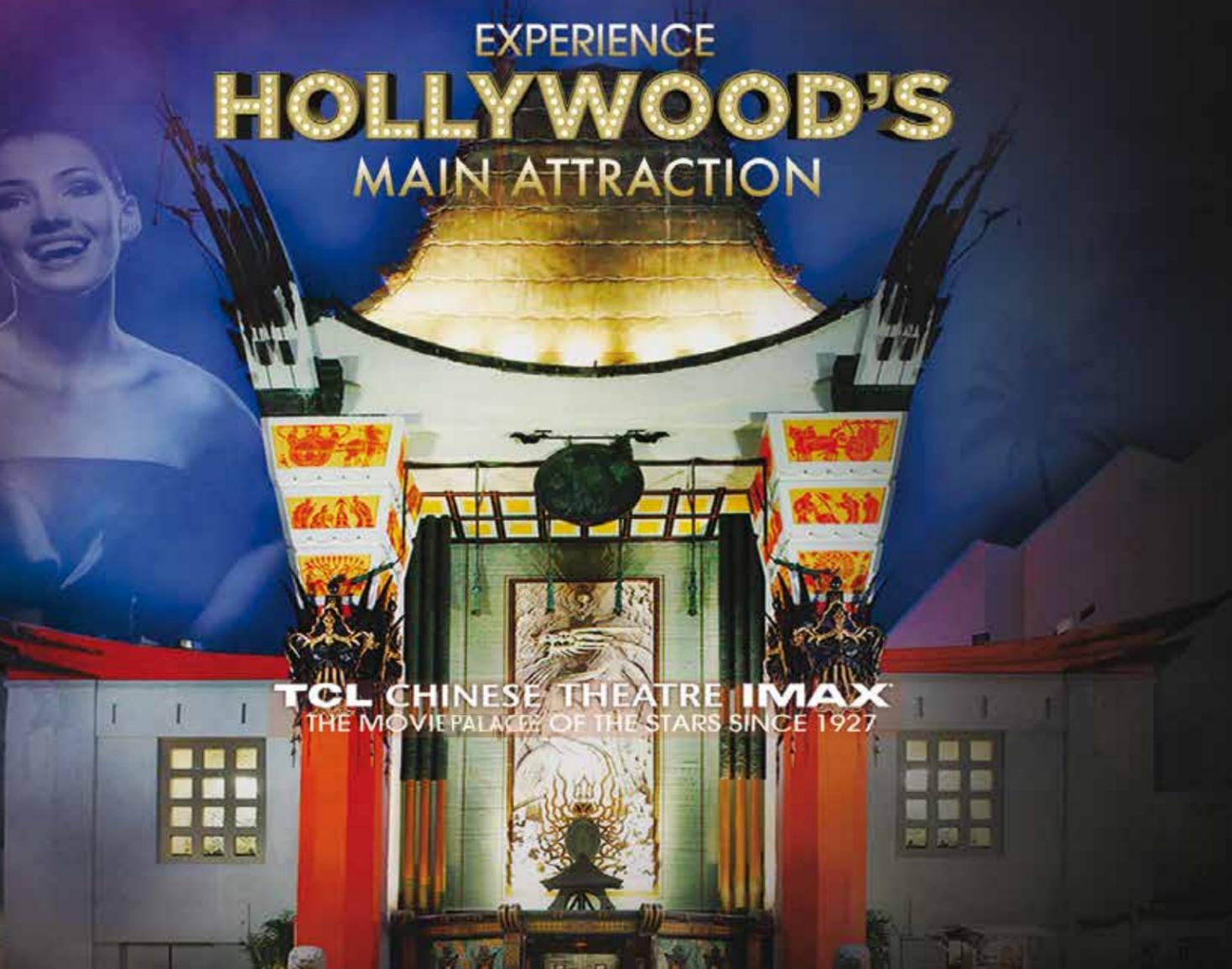
Faith and hope teach us to look forward with confidence. Each of us must strive to contribute — with respect for others, for intelligence, and for diversity — so that they may converge into a shared path of mutual understanding.

Enjoy the festival, and the very best of today’s Italian and international artistic production — inspired by Italy and by the great Italians who helped build the enduring myth of our country.



Elodie, Matilda De Angelis, Mario Martone and Valeria Golino

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# RAFFAELLA DE LAURENTIIS

*for Chairperson 2026*

Raffaella De Laurentiis is an Italian producer and the daughter of two legends of the film industry: Dino De Laurentiis and actress Silvana Mangano. After initially studying architecture, she started at a very young age to work as property master and set designer on her father's productions. Her first important job came in 1973 as an assistant costume designer in Luchino Visconti's "Ludwig." Raffaella, however, realized that her talent would be best expressed in helping the production and organization of a movie. She worked as a production assistant on "Hurricane" before taking on the role of producer at Dino De Laurentiis Productions. One of her first major successes was "Conan the Barbarian," a film adaptation of the hero created in the 1930s by pulp writer Robert E. Howard. The film blended fantasy with adventure cinema, retrieved the Myths of Antiquity by projecting them into a futuristic universe, but above all it launched Arnold Schwarzenegger's career as an actor and an icon of 1980s action movies. More ill-fated was the box-office outcome of "Dune," directed by David Lynch, with whom Dino and Raffaella De Laurentiis brought to the screen the novel that Frank Herbert published in 1965 and which is still regarded as one of the milestones of literary science fiction and beyond. After leaving her father's production company, Raffaella set out on her own, handling numerous projects: "Prancer", a Christmas story about a little girl, sad and withdrawn because of her mother's death, who finds a hurt reindeer in the woods and nurtures it; "Dragonheart," a fantasy film series set in the Middle Ages that follows the adventures of several dragons willing to share their hearts with a human being; "Kull the Conqueror," about the vicissitudes of a barbarian warrior who, thanks to his skill and courage, becomes a king, fighting against evil; "Backdraft," an action-thriller with dramatic elements set in the world of firefighters and directed by Ron Howard; and "The Forbidden Kingdom," an exciting mix of adventure, irony and a coming-of-age story that for the first time brings two Asian film stars together on the big screen: Jackie Chan and Jet Li.



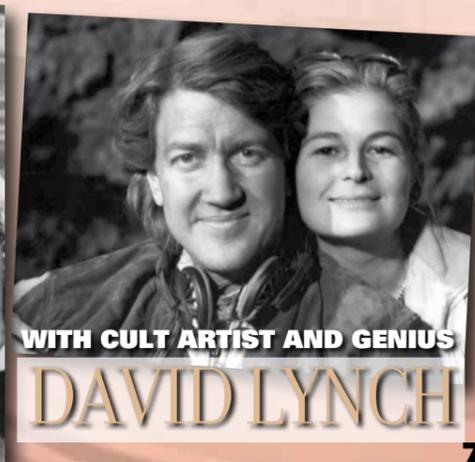
Fred Buzz Feitshans and Raffaella De Laurentiis



WITH HER NIECE AND CELEBRITY CHEF **GIADA**



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DECEMBER 14 - 23, 2025

Giacomo Puccini

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Pëtr Il'ič Čajkovskij

**IL LAGO DEI CIGNI**

FEBRUARY 20 - 24, 2026

Henry Purcell

**DIDO AND AENEAS**

MARCH 11 - 18, 2026

Gioachino Rossini

**SEMIRAMIDE**

MARCH 29 - APRIL 4, 2026

Ludwig Minkus

**DON QUICHOTTE**

APRIL 26 - MAY 3, 2026

Gaetano Donizetti

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ED INCONVENIENZE**

**TEATRALI**

MAY 22 - 31, 2026

Giuseppe Verdi

**AIDA**

JUNE 20 - 26, 2026

**CARAVAGGIO**

SEPTEMBER 12 - 20, 2026

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**CAVALLERIA RUSTICANA**

OCTOBER 3 - 9, 2026

Pëtr Il'ič Čajkovskij

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OCTOBER 23 - 31, 2026

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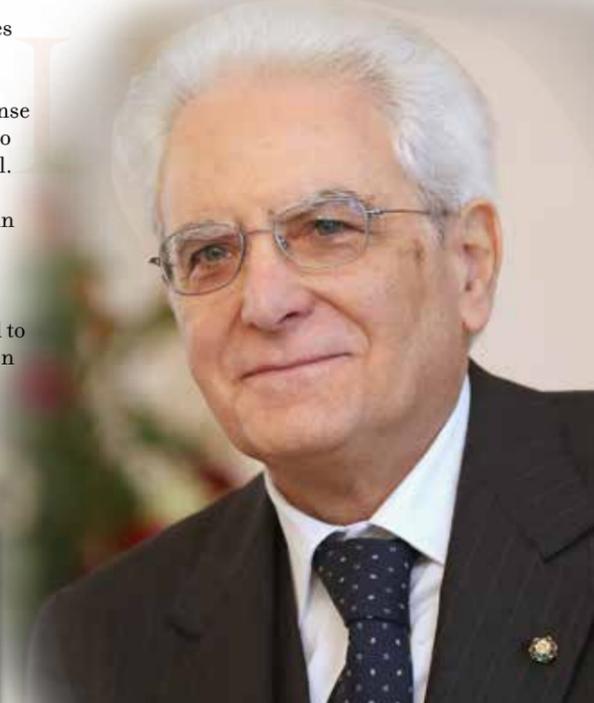


# SERGIO MATTARELLA

## "CINEMA: AN ESSENTIAL PART OF OUR CULTURE"

«Cinema is an essential and irreplaceable part of Italian culture; it expresses its genius to the world and conveys and strengthens beauty, hope, and values. The contribution of cinema is particularly precious at this moment in the life of the world, which often shows a need to rediscover cultural solidity and a sense of human solidarity.» These are the words of the President of the Republic, Sergio Mattarella, written on the occasion of the 82nd edition of the Venice Film Festival. This attention from the Head of State has never been lacking, especially during difficult times for a sector experiencing serious hardship. «Cinema is a vital organ of our communities», Mattarella had previously recalled. «In its many genres, it has helped to tell our history, to write it, and to interpret it. Through emotions and images, through truth and imagination, through faces that are etched in our memory. Cinema has contributed to shaping the identity of Italians; it has helped to develop a common language, to foster civic awareness, and therefore to strengthen the foundations of our freedom and our democracy.»

Mattarella then addressed the critical issues affecting our industry. «Movie theaters are suffering a dangerous erosion that is removing them from cities and neighborhoods. Objective circumstances penalize theater operators, but we cannot resign ourselves to commercial and market-driven logics that fail to adequately take cinema into account, also understood as a social value, as an opportunity for meeting, gathering, and sharing. Institutions—both national and local—have the responsibility to govern these processes. It is necessary to relaunch productions, and to do so in a way that restores dynamism and fairness to the system. This is an issue that concerns the entire field of art, culture, and entertainment.»



### THE SPECIAL DAVID AWARD TO THE HEAD OF STATE

The Italian Cinema Academy has awarded a special honor to the President of the Republic, Sergio Mattarella. «I accepted it only when I learned that it had been bestowed upon all of my most immediate predecessors - President Mattarella commented - interpreting it not as an award to the person, but to the institution of the Presidency of the Republic. An institution that understands the civic and cultural value of cinema, and how it also represents a precious and substantial asset, not only for the economy and employment, but also for shaping and promoting Italian identity in our country and around the world».



President Mattarella receives the David Speciale 70

GIORGIA MELONI



ITALIAN PRIME MINISTER

URSULA VON DER LEYEN



PRESIDENT OF THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION

MARCO PERONACI



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LOS ANGELES, ITALIA

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Danny Huston  
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Gianni Nunnari  
Darina Pavlova  
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Dolph Lundgren  
Frank Mancuso  
Joe Manganiello  
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Alice Rohrwacher  
Gianfranco Rosi  
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Mickey Rourke  
Gabriele Salvatores  
Giuliano Sangiorgi  
Ted Sarandos  
Dante Spinotti  
Pietro Scalia  
Riccardo Scamarcio  
Paolo Sorrentino  
Mira Sorvino  
Sting  
Mike Stoller  
Trudie Styler  
Sylvester Stallone  
Fisher Stevens  
Quentin Tarantino  
Jeremy Thomas  
Sofia Vergara  
Giovanni Veronesi  
Patrick Wachsberger  
Christoph Waltz  
Diane Warren  
Jason Weinberg  
Forest Whitaker  
Zucchero

# THE STRENGTH OF CONTINUITY

LOS ANGELES, ITALIA

Special thanks go to the Minister of Culture **Alessandro Giuli** and the leaders of Italian cinema

Los Angeles, Italia's 21st edition – like its predecessors – is supported by the Italian Ministry of Culture, thus guaranteeing both high quality and an interesting schedule, as well as the participation of international personalities who contribute to the success of this well-established and renowned event. Los Angeles, Italia attracted the attention and support of the Ministry's Cinema Directors General, whose positive approach has helped promote Italian cinema and its talents in the heart of the global film industry. Since its premiere edition, the festival has been growing exponentially, earning the appreciation of many Los Angeles based institutions and cultural associations. This goal has been reached thanks to the participation of numerous members of the entertainment community who believe in Italian cinema and appreciate its resonance around the world. These friends of the festival acknowledge the fundamental role played by our country in global entertainment.



Minister Alessandro Giuli and wife Valeria Falcioni

## L'AQUILA INAUGURATES THE YEAR AS THE ITALIAN CAPITAL OF CULTURE 2026

Saturday January 17, L'Aquila officially opened its year as Italian Capital of Culture 2026 with a solemn ceremony at the Guardia di Finanza Auditorium, in the presence of the President of the Republic Sergio Mattarella. An event that marks not only an achievement but the beginning of a new season for a city that has made memory and rebirth its identity hallmark. In his inaugural speech, the Head of State Sergio Mattarella emphasized the collective value of the title: "The role of Capital of Culture does not concern only the institutions, but the entire community. It is an opportunity for growth in knowledge and encounter." A message addressed particularly to the young people of L'Aquila, called to transform cultural stimuli and values into resources for the future of their communities. Celebrated under the theme Città Multiverso – Multiverse City, L'Aquila is set to become a hub where art, heritage, creativity, nature, and innovation converge. The programme promises to showcase the city's resilient spirit through exhibitions, festivals, live performances, and immersive creative projects designed not just to display L'Aquila, but to inspire dialogue, new ideas, and lasting connections benchmarking L'Aquila's extraordinary resilience into inspiration for the future.



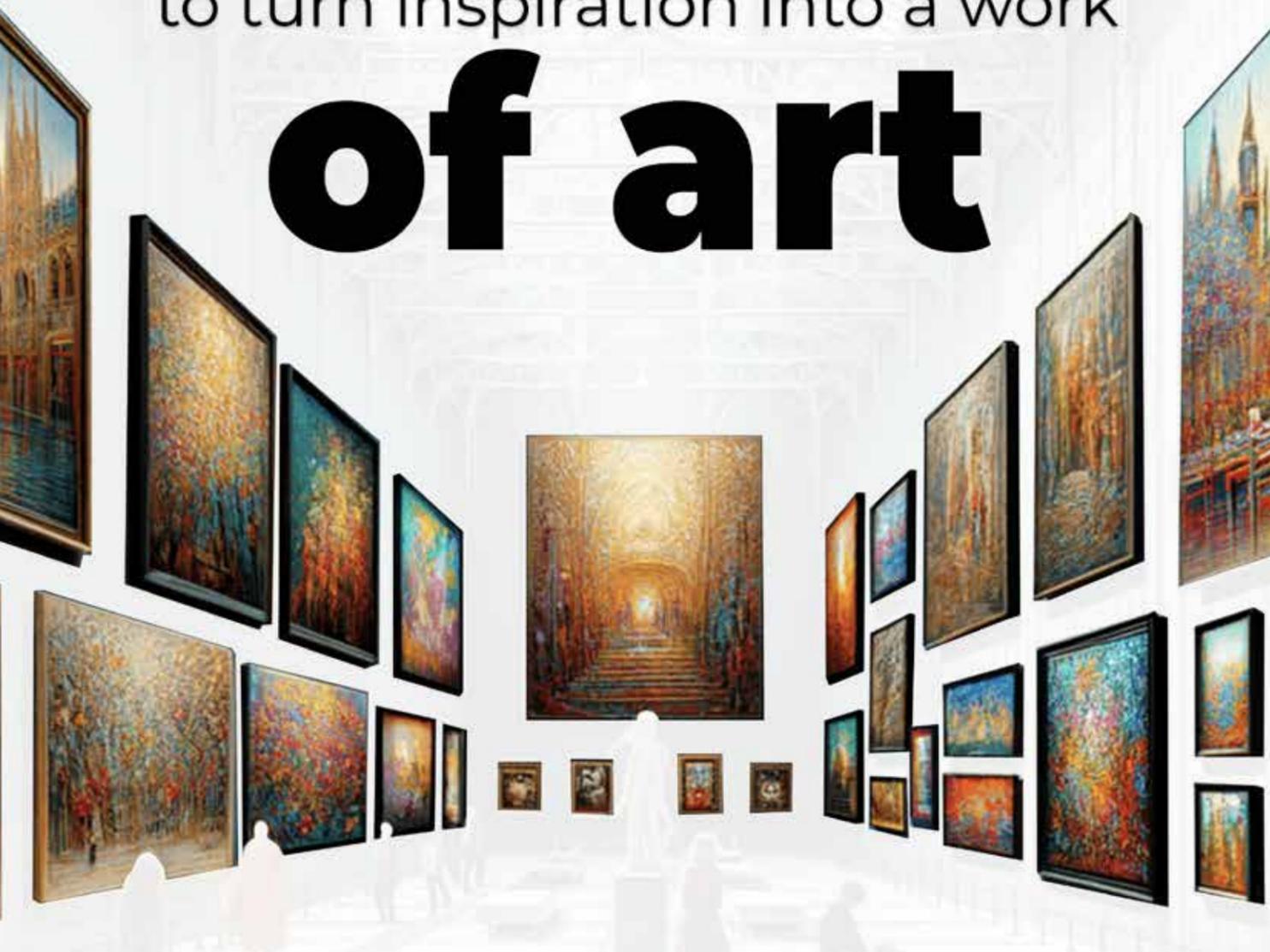
Giorgio Carlo Brugnoli, MIC's Director of Cinema and Audiovisual  
Federico Mollicone, president VII Commissione Cultura della Camera dei deputati



Manuela Cacciamani  
Antonio Saccone

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# LUCIA BORGONZONI

Los Angeles ITALIA

**The Undersecretary at the forefront with ideas, projects, and resources to relaunch the industry and promote the internationalization of our cinema**



«We want people to truly experience watching a film on the big screen. Especially families, and particularly larger ones, who often, faced with the total cost at the box office, are forced to choose which of the parents should accompany the children to the cinema or even to give up altogether on the unique emotion that only these magical places can offer». This is how Undersecretary of Culture Lucia Borgonzoni presented the initiative promoted by the Ministry of Culture entitled "Happy Cinefamily. Fun starts with family," which kicked off on September 26 and will run until December 31, 2025. «Reversing this trend is possible, and to do so we have devised a campaign of ticket price reductions for Italian and European films to be applied to families. In this way, in addition to providing them with tangible support, we will strengthen the bond between audiences and our cinema, which is too often penalized in comparison with major international productions. Cinema belongs to everyone, and together we can help it thrive even more.»

Meanwhile, with the completion of the final steps, the distribution decree and the decree for cinema exhibition, two sectors that have long been in crisis, have also been signed. "Now let's move forward with the next phases," Borgonzoni stated. Funds totaling €35 million will be unlocked for distribution, €25 million for investments in exhibition, and €110 million for the operation of theaters.



## "A TOUCH OF ITALY ALSO COMPETING FOR THE 2026 OSCARS"

«I would like to extend my personal best wishes to everyone competing for the prestigious statuettes. It is a competition that Italy has always followed with particular attention. It is regrettable that this year there is no Italian title in contention, but the 98th edition also speaks a little about us, as demonstrated by the nomination of Sweet Dreams of Joy in the category of Best Original Song from the documentary Viva Verdi!, or by the presence of Bologna-born Valentina Merli on the team vying for Best Live Action Short Film with Two People Exchanging Saliva, as well as by the film F1—which is in the running for Best Picture—which features scenes shot in Italy. We are proud to take part in a competition of such a high international profile.»



Lucia Borgonzoni with Francis Ford Coppola and Matteo Garrone

# ITALIA

OPEN TO MERAVIGLIA



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MINISTERO  
DEL TURISMO



# SHOWCASING THE COUNTRY'S ICONS

# A HISTORIC PAST A VERY BRIGHT FUTURE



**RAFFAELLA VALENTINI**  
Consul General of Italy in Los Angeles

Los Angeles is the global capital of cinema and creativity — a hub where stories travel beyond borders and cultural exchange comes alive every day. In this context, Italian cinema represents far more than artistic promotion: it is a living expression of our commitment to cultural diplomacy, connecting Sistema Italia to Hollywood and the world. Italian cinema has always played a unique role: linking generations and sharing our perspectives and values. Behind the scenes, Italian talent — from directors to set designers, costume makers to screenwriters — continues to craft images, narratives, and styles that captivate audiences worldwide. This historic legacy evolves with the times while retaining its ability to inspire and surprise. Events like the Los Angeles, Italia – Film, Fashion and Art Festival bring this mission to life, giving Italian artists the chance to engage with American audiences and ensuring that their creativity is recognized and celebrated globally. The Consulate General of Italy in Los Angeles is proud to support these efforts, strengthening the cultural bridge between Italy and the United States, and affirming that our cinema, artistry, and creative genius continue to leave an indelible mark on the world.



Matteo Zoppas,  
president ICE

**ITA** - Italian Trade Agency is the Governmental agency that supports the business development of our companies abroad and promotes the attraction of foreign investment in Italy. With a motivated and modern organization and a widespread network of overseas offices, ITA provides information, assistance, consulting, promotion and training to Italian small and medium-sized businesses. Using the most modern multi-channel promotion and communication tools, it acts to assert the excellence of Made in Italy in the world. It operates through a worldwide network of 69 offices and 18 Satellite offices in 74 countries. ITA offices are the ideal gateway for enterprises willing to establish business relationship with Italian partners, from sourcing Italian products, to investment opportunities in Italy.



Giosafat Riganò

## ICE/ITA ITALIAN SPORT INDUSTRY & BUSINESS CONNECTION

A silent parade of over thirty Italian sports and mountain brands, symbolising the leadership of Made in Italy in the sector, concluded the "Italian Sport Industry & Business Connections" meeting held on the afternoon of 8 February in Cortina. In the setting of the Olympic Games, the first Business Forum organised by Agenzia ITA-ICE, in conjunction with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, in collaboration with Assosport and with the support of the Cortina Foundation, allowed, among other things, the thirty Italian companies to meet 25 international operators from 13 countries. «The Italian sports industry represents a strategic sector of Made in Italy and with today's Business Forum ICE wanted to concretely valorise the international role of the sector, seizing the opportunity of the context of the Olympic Games,» said Ice-Ita President Matteo Zoppas.



Lorenzo Galanti

The **Italian Cultural Institute in Los Angeles**, is once again pleased to partner with the Los Angeles, Italia – Film, Fashion and Art Festival. Now in its 21st edition, the festival ensures Italy's presence during awards season in Los Angeles, strengthening the bond between Italian and American cinema while showcasing both emerging and established Italian filmmakers and actors. This year I am particularly proud of our collaboration with Los Angeles, Italia to present a special screening of Anna -The untold story, a film celebrating Anna Magnani's legacy, on the 70th anniversary of her Academy Award for Best Actress, for her role in The Rose Tattoo by Daniel Mann (1956). The movie is written, directed, and performed by Monica Guerritore, who will join us after the screening at the Institute for a conversation with Producer and Festival's Chair, Raffaella De Laurentiis. Anna is a powerful and contemporary tribute to a woman who defied convention and became one of the most powerful and beloved actresses in cinema history. It is especially fitting to host this feature during Women's History Month. I would like to thank Pascal Vicedomini and the Istituto Capri nel Mondo for their commitment to bringing this Festival to Los Angeles each year. Their dedication guarantees a space to celebrate the Italian cinema industry and its professionals in LA, while also providing great entertainment. Complimenti!

**EMANUELE AMENDOLA**

Director of the Italian Cultural Institute in Los Angeles



Raffaella Valentini, Alice Rohrwacher  
and Emanuele Amendola



Paolo Sorrentino and Emanuele Amendola

# THE 97<sup>TH</sup> ACADEMY AWARDS<sup>®</sup>, A BEAUTIFUL CELEBRATION in Hollywood

*Italian Film Festivals pave the way to the Big Night of film industry. Strategic cultural bridges between two countries and two cultures, driving forces in the promotion of Italian excellence as well as a valuable showcase for Oscar<sup>®</sup> nominated and Oscars<sup>®</sup>-winning films, directors and actors*

An increasing number of Artists and majors are eager to take part in the Los Angeles, Italia Film Fashion and Art Fest, the event that along with its other two 'sister festivals – Capri, Hollywood – The International Film Festival and the Ischia Global Fest – have been able to strengthen a metaphorical bridge between Italy and Hollywood. Alongside Italy's traditional cultural locations such as Venice and Rome, for many years the Gulf of Naples has hosted two exciting festivals attended by movie fans and award-winning celebrities. For many filmmakers and performers, our festivals have been a launching pad for The Golden Globes and the Academy Awards. This has been true for Paolo Sorrentino, Michel Hazanavicius, Geoffrey Rush, Forest Whitaker, Helen Mirren, Alicia Vikander and Melissa Leo, who first were honored in Italy and a few weeks later at the Oscars. A ritual that has also been repeated in recent film seasons. While two years ago Ischia Global focused on the disruptive force of Karla Sofia Gascón, the star of "Emilia Pérez" (the frontrunner with 13 nominations), and on the already promising, breakout-ready talent of Brady Corbet and Mona Fastvold, Capri, Hollywood has placed its bets on films. Among them: Paul Thomas Anderson's major gamble with "A Battle After Another", in which he masterfully adapts Thomas Pynchon's "Vineland" for the big screen; "Hamnet" by Chloé Zhao, which tells the story of William Shakespeare, his wife Agnes, and the death of their beloved son; the mainstream auteur vision of "Frankenstein", directed by the talented Mexican filmmaker Guillermo del Toro; the horror meditation of "Sinner"; the elegance of European cinema with "A Sentimental Value" and "A Simple Accident"; and the new film by Josh Safdie starring an extraordinary Timothée Chalamet, "Marty Supreme". It is difficult to point to a clear overall favorite. This has been a year of impressive filmmaking which has produced many daring, enthralling and groundbreaking movies. And now the great night of the Academy Awards is virtually upon us. It's the event that the whole world will be watching and where the best of the best in the motion picture industry will be acknowledged at Hollywood's Dolby Theatre. Our festivals always bet on the most emotional characters and stories of the season, and aim at discovering - with creativity, courage and devotion - a fast-evolving and multi-faceted world which is always exploring new talent, new languages and new approaches. Our events continue to be inspired by Hollywood and to be enchanted by this wonderful and timeless dream factory.



Leonardo DiCaprio

Benicio Del Toro and Sean Penn

Teyana Taylor

Paul Thomas Anderson



Chloe Zhao

Jessie Buckley



Guillermo del Toro and Jacob Elordi



Josh Safdie and Timothee Chalamet

Stellan Skarsgard and Joachim Trier



2019 Honorary Award to LINA WERTMÜLLER  
Isabella Rossellini, Lina Wertmüller and Sophia Loren

## ITALIAN PRODUCER VALENTINA MERLI GOT THE NOD FOR "TWO PEOPLE EXCHANGING SALIVA"

The final verdict for "Two People Exchanging Saliva", which is competing for the Academy Award in the Best Live-Action Short Film category, will only be announced on March 15 in Los Angeles. But for Italian producer Valentina Merli, born in Bologna and among the producers of this French short film, it is already a major victory. It was in Paris that Valentina Merli developed extensive experience across the entire film value chain, from production to international sales and theatrical distribution, before making an entrepreneurial leap with the co-founding of Misia Films. Directed by Alexandre Singh and Natalie Musteata, the short film explores contemporary themes through an innovative narrative approach. Merli's involvement in the project highlights the significant contribution of Italian professionals to international cinema.



Il cast di Sinners

## 2026 OSCAR NOMINEES



## THE ACADEMY MUSEUM CELEBRATES the genius of CARLO RAMBALDI



One hundred years after the birth of the father of E.T., Los Angeles celebrates Carlo Rambaldi. For three decades, Rambaldi, through his prodigious inventiveness, created worlds, creatures, and atmospheres shaped by pure artistry and craftsmanship—something truly unique in the history of cinema. His work was honored with no fewer than three Academy Awards: in 1977 for "King Kong" with a Special Achievement Award, in 1980 for "Alien", and in 1983 for "E.T." Steven Spielberg's masterpiece. The Academy Museum of Motion Pictures has dedicated a 13-film retrospective to Rambaldi, titled "The Man Who Made Creatures: Special Effects Wizard Carlo Rambaldi." The retrospective will later move to another American temple of visual culture: the Museum of Modern Art (MoMA) in New York.



Rose Byrne

Ethan Hawke

Emma Stone

# Celebrating ITALIAN AMERICAN NOMINEES

## KATE HUDSON

### A DREAM CALLED CINEMA

Being the child of an artist can help launch a career, but being the offspring of a star can also become an insurmountable obstacle. Only genuine talent has allowed Kate Hudson to withstand the weight of her mother Goldie Hawn's name and establish herself as one of the most brilliant actresses of her generation. With her radiant gaze, witty and mischievous personality, an avid fitness enthusiast and a fashion lover, the effervescent Kate Hudson made her debut at a very young age in several advertising commercials. Her true film debut came in 1998 with *Desert Blue*, followed by *200 Cigarettes* and *Dr. T & the Women*, directed by Robert Altman. However, it was her role in *Almost Famous* as the iconic Penny Lane that brought her major success and earned her a Golden Globe Award for Best Supporting Actress.

In the years that followed, she appeared in films such as *The Four Feathers*, alongside Heath Ledger, *The Skeleton Key*, *You, Me and Dupree*, and *Bride Wars*, opposite Anne Hathaway, establishing herself as a leading figure in screwball comedies and bittersweet romantic comedies (*Le Divorce* by James Ivory; *Raising Helen* by Gary Marshall). After the musical *Nine* (inspired by Federico Fellini's *8½*), she was directed by Mira Nair in *The Reluctant Fundamentalist* (2012), by Zach Braff in *Wish I Was Here* (2014), and by Barry Levinson in *Rock the Kasbah* (2015), films in which she proved capable of tackling more dramatic tones and roles. This was also evident in *Deepwater Horizon*, based on the true story of the April 2010 oil rig explosion and the ensuing environmental disaster, which recounts the effort and courage of a group of men striving to save as many lives as possible. In short, a gallery of unforgettable women and characters leads up to *Song Sung Blue*, perhaps her most memorable role to date. Based on the true story of Claire and Mike Sardina, the married singers who paid tribute to the music of Neil Diamond, Craig Brewer's moving film sees Hudson starring opposite Hugh Jackman as the couple is overwhelmed by tragic events. To portray Sardina, Hudson gained weight, experimented with 1980s stage hairstyles and costumes, and allowed herself to "let go" in ways her usually strict routine does not always permit. The result is a raw and emotionally powerful performance that earned the 46-year-old American actress her third Golden Globe nomination and an Academy Award nomination for Best Actress.



## LEONARDO DICAPRIO

### THE NEW KING OF HOLLYWOOD

From the 1990s to the present day, Leonardo DiCaprio has become the face of great American auteur cinema, transforming himself from a romantic idol into a mature icon capable of drawing audiences to theaters simply by the power of his name. A superstar and, at the same time, an actor of refined intelligence, he enjoys darkening the romanticism of his characters—roles he continues to choose with extreme care even after turning fifty. One such role earned him his eighth Academy Award nomination: Pat Calohun, a revolutionary activist and a fragile, unforgettable father in *One Battle After Another*. Directed by Paul Thomas Anderson, the film is already considered by critics to be one of the most important of recent years.

It is a parabolic narrative blending black comedy and political drama, featuring chases across the Californian desert, generational clashes, and a grotesque portrait of an America torn between extremism and revolutionary nostalgia. A film that seems to anticipate reality, steeped in contemporaneity, and possessing all the elements needed to captivate not only the director's own generation but especially younger audiences—even teenagers, who may elevate it to cult status. Versatile, charismatic, and remarkable for his ability to master every register of acting, DiCaprio is one of the few performers who has managed to preserve his fame over decades, constantly reinventing himself while remaining at the center of the scene. From his first Oscar nomination in 1994 for *What's Eating Gilbert Grape*, to the global phenomenon of *Titanic* in 1997, and finally to his long-awaited consecration with the statuette for *The Revenant* in 2016, his career has been marked by an extraordinary succession of triumphs.

*Romeo + Juliet*, *Catch Me If You Can*, *J. Edgar*, *Revolutionary Road*, *Gangs of New York*, *The Aviator*, *Blood Diamond*, *The Wolf of Wall Street*, *Once Upon a Time in... Hollywood*, and *Killers of the Flower Moon* are just some of the brightest chapters in an exceptional career that has seen him directed by the greatest contemporary filmmakers: Martin Scorsese, Quentin Tarantino, Steven Spielberg, Christopher Nolan, Clint Eastwood, Ridley Scott, and Alejandro González Iñárritu. Not only cinema. For twenty years, his commitment to saving the planet has never wavered. In 2028, the Leonardo DiCaprio Foundation (LDF) will celebrate its twentieth anniversary of work dedicated to environmental protection, climate change awareness, and the preservation of biodiversity. Millions of dollars have been raised worldwide to support global programs aimed at combating the planet's environmental crisis—an act of civic engagement that has made him one of the most influential and widely recognized environmentalists in the world.



Goldie Hawn and Kate Hudson



Leonardo DiCaprio and Kate Hudson



Chase Infinity, Leonardo DiCaprio and Teyana Taylor

## SONG SUNG BLUE

by Craig Brewer

Mike, a Vietnam War veteran, makes ends meet by repairing radiators and riding the wave of nostalgia, performing as faded icons of classic American music. One evening he meets Claire, hidden beneath the dark wig of Patty Cline. Blonde and passionate, Claire falls in love with Mike and marries him both in life and on stage, where they perform and pay tribute to the hits of Neil Diamond. Together they win over audiences and even open a concert for Pearl Jam. But fate is just around the corner—and strikes them with devastating force.



Kate Hudson and Hugh Jackman

## ONE BATTLE AFTER ANOTHER

by Paul Thomas Anderson

Sixteen years have passed since the daring revolutionary actions of the political group French 65. After the arrest of many of its members, Bob Ferguson lives under a false identity with his teenage daughter Willa, whom he had with his fellow activist Perfidia Beverly Hills, now vanished without a trace. When the sworn enemy of the French 65, Colonel Steven J. Lockjaw, reappears and Willa disappears, the former radical militant launches a desperate search. Father and daughter will be forced to confront together the consequences of his past.



Leonardo DiCaprio with Paul Thomas Anderson



# PROUD TO BE ITALIAN AMERICAN

## American artists of Italian heritage continue to make their mark on the film industry

Their presence has been influential in the worlds of politics, entertainment, science, sports and literature. The contribution made by Italians to the history and culture of America is invaluable. The creativity, talent and hard work that characterized the descendants of the Italian migrants who left their country to seek fortune overseas has been crucial to the evolution of American society. Italian-Americans are proud of their roots and of the prestige they have obtained in the United States. From Fiorello to La Guardia to Joe Di Maggio, from Frank Sinatra to Mario Cuomo, Don DeLillo to Franco Modigliani, Frank Zappa to Madonna, from Jay Leno to Jimmy Kimmel – generations of Italian-Americans are a precious legacy which honors the nation that has welcomed them as well as the land of their ancestors, creating a strong link between the two countries. Italian genius has specifically contributed largely to the development of American cinema. From Rodolfo Valentino's screen presence to Quentin Tarantino's incendiary talent, a great number of Italian-Americans shine brightly in the Hollywood galaxy. Frank Capra, Vincent and Liza Minnelli, Martin Scorsese, Francis Ford Coppola, Robert De Niro, Al Pacino, John Travolta, Brian De Palma, Anne Bancroft, Leonardo DiCaprio, Angelica Huston, Robert Zemeckis, Steve Carrell, Bradley Cooper, Sylvester Stallone and Joe Pesci all share old Italian roots and deserve the acclaim and respect of the film community for their full-fledged artistic nature.



Joe Buscaino



Angelica Huston



Martin Scorsese and Robert De Niro



Brian De Palma



Danny De Vito



Quentin Tarantino

### SEAN PENN EARNS NOD

Sean Penn earned an Academy Award nomination for Best Supporting Actor at the 98th Oscars for his role as Col. Steven J. Lockjaw in Paul Thomas Anderson's *One Battle After Another*. His critically acclaimed performance, described as raw and intense, contributed to the film's total of 13 nominations, including nods for Best Picture and Best Supporting Actor for Benicio del Toro. While *One Battle After Another* is only Penn and Anderson's second movie together – following 2021's *Licorice Pizza* – their friendship goes back decades. As Penn readily admits, working with Anderson helped shake off a long stretch of disillusionment with acting.



Joe Pesci and Al Pacino



Paul Giamatti



John Travolta



Giancarlo Esposito



Marisa Tomei



Marco Beltrami



Mark Ruffalo

### STANLEY TUCCI IS BACK AS NIGEL IN THE DEVIL WEARS PRADA 2

Stanley Tucci is getting to work! The 64-year-old Emmy-winning actor returned on set for *The Devil wears Prada 2*, where he reprised his iconic role as Nigel Kipling. Andy Sachs' (Anne Hathaway) mentor and Miranda Priestley's (Meryl Streep) right-hand man in the Runway fashion world. Set photos and plot descriptions suggest Nigel will continue to be a key character, offering his wisdom and dry wit. The actor also revealed that filming the first movie "was one of the best experiences ever."



Monica Barbaro



Madonna



Bruce Springsteen



Alicia Keys



Danny Huston



Susan Sarandon



Bobby Cannavale



Rodrigo Santoro



Ray Romano



Gary Catona



Bob Cavallo

LADY GAGA WINS BEST POP VOCAL ALBUM FOR 'MAYHEM'

ANTHONY IPPOLITO PLAYS SYLVESTER STALLONE IN MAKING OF 'ROCKY'



Robert E. Carlucci



Antonio Giordano



Massimo Zeri



F. Murray Abraham



Frank Stallone

### IS THIS THING ON? BRADLEY COOPER'S NEW COMEDY

Based on John Bishop's life, Bradley Cooper's new comedy-drama *Is This Thing On?* stars Will Arnett as a man who decides to take up stand-up comedy following his divorce. As well as directing, Cooper co-wrote the script along with Arnett and screenwriter Mark Chappell. He also stars in the film as Arnett's best friend and they are joined on the cast by Laura Dern and Andra Day.





# Your light brightens the world

KPMG is proud to support LA Italia Film Festival and its celebration of Italian culture. Your commitment to supporting Italian Oscar contenders and honoring legends of American and international cinema is a shining light in our communities. And in our hearts. Thank you for making a difference in all you do. Discover more at [kpmg.com](http://kpmg.com)

**KPMG. Make the Difference.**



# ITALIAN EXCELLENCE BELONGS AT THE HEART OF HOLLYWOOD

FILIPPO PUGLISI-ALIBRANDI

President, LA Italia – Film, Fashion and Art Festival | US Leader, Contract Compliance Services | Partner, KPMG LLP

**L**OS ANGELES – The journey from Ischia to Capri, from Sorrento to the Hollywood Hills, is not merely a geographic arc — it is a story of conviction. A conviction that Italian culture, Italian storytelling, and Italian artistry deserve a permanent, recognized home at the most important crossroads in global cinema: Awards Season in Los Angeles.

I am deeply honored to step forward as President of the Los Angeles Italia – Film, Fashion and Art Festival and to carry forward an event whose origins are inseparable from visionaries. This festival was conceived and launched by Lina Wertmüller — Italy’s legendary, rule-breaking filmmaker — alongside the boundless energy and international perspective of Pascal Vicedomini. That foundation is not simply a point of pride. It is a responsibility.

I would be remiss not to acknowledge the extraordinary leadership of Raffaella DeLaurentis, Chairman of the Los Angeles Italia Festival. Her stewardship represents continuity, discernment, and an unwavering commitment to excellence that has guided this institution with clarity and purpose. I hold her work in the highest regard, and am deeply honored to serve alongside her. The strength of this festival has always rested on the caliber of those who lead it, and in Raffaella, that tradition of thoughtful, principled leadership is not only preserved—it is elevated.

The festival arrives this year at a remarkable moment. As the 21st edition prepares to unfold March 8 to 14, at the iconic TCL Chinese Theatre in Hollywood, on the eve of the Academy Awards, it does so with the same core belief that has always animated this event: that the bridge between Italy and California is not a bridge built once and admired — it is one that must be walked, widened, and renewed by every generation that crosses it.

My own professional life has been defined by exactly this kind of work. As the U.S. Leader of Contract Compliance Services at KPMG and as the leader of KPMG’s U.S./Italy Corridor — a network dedicated to connecting Italian and American business — I have spent nearly two decades building institutional trust between two cultures that share far more than a love of cinema. They share a commitment to excellence, to craftsmanship, and to the idea that doing something well is never incidental. It is always intentional.

That same intentionality is what makes the Los Angeles Italia Festival unlike anything else in the awards season landscape. It is not a trade fair. It is not a marketing exercise. It is a genuine act of cultural diplomacy — a place where filmmakers, musicians, fashion designers, artists, and food and wine artisans stand alongside Hollywood’s most recognized talents and remind the world that the Italian imagination is not a relic of the past. It is alive, urgent, and commercially vital.

The work of this festival is also the work of a broader ecosystem. From Ischia Global to Capri Hollywood to the Sorrento Film and Food Festival — the route to Hollywood runs through the very heart of Southern Italy. Each stop in that journey refines and amplifies the voice of Italian creativity before it reaches California. By the time our festival opens its doors at the Chinese Theatre, Italian excellence has already been validated on home soil and sent outward with confidence.

This year’s edition arrives at a moment of extraordinary cultural and industry significance. California’s entertainment economy is navigating fierce international competition for both talent and recognition. In that context, festivals that create sustained, substantive dialogue between the American industry and European creative traditions are not peripheral events — they are strategic assets. The Los Angeles Italia Festival is, in the fullest sense, a platform where cultural ambition and economic purpose are not in tension. They reinforce one another.

I am grateful to the Capri in the World Institute, to the support of the Ministry of Culture and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, to Intesa Sanpaolo, and to Raffaella Valentini the Consul General of Italy in Los Angeles and the Italian Cultural Institute of Los Angeles — all of whom make this presence in Hollywood not just possible, but enduring.

When Lina Wertmüller and Pascal Vicedomini imagined this festival, they imagined a moment of arrival — a moment when Italian excellence would not simply be imported into Hollywood, but welcomed there as a full and permanent creative partner. Twenty-one editions later, that moment is not behind us. It is happening, March 8 through 14, at the Chinese Theatre, on the eve of the Oscars, in the city that the world watches. Hollywood is ready. Italy is ready. We are ready.

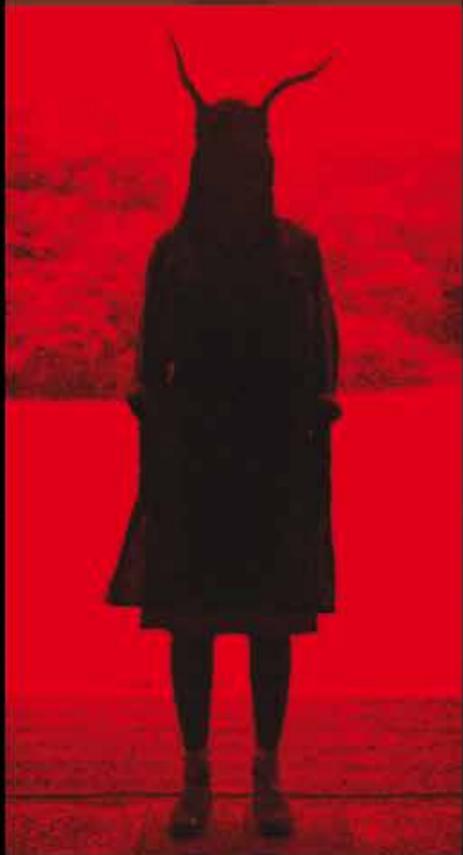


Michelle Wroan and Filippo Puglisi-Alibrandi

WE PRODUCE STORIES THAT TRAVEL FAR,  
CROSSING BORDERS  
AND CAPTURING THE GLOBAL MARKET.



THE  
TEARSMITH



A CLASSIC  
HORROR STORY



MY NAME  
IS VENDETTA

MANY EXCITING UPDATES COMING SOON...



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A RAINBOW COMPANY

# TONY RENIS

IT SEEMS  
*like yesterday...*

According to an authoritative ambassador of Italian talent in the world and one of the festival founders, Los Angeles, Italia is a precious and one-of-a-kind experience enjoyed in the world capital of cinema, on the eve of the Academy Awards®.

It is always an honor and especially a pleasure to be invited to take part in "Los Angeles – Italia," a festival that last year reached an important milestone: its 20th birthday. I have been actively and passionately involved in the festival since its very first edition, when Pascal Vicedomini shared with me an ambitious project that would have involved numerous Italian and American colleagues and friends, including some of the best filmmakers, performers and musicians of the international scene. It seems like yesterday when 21 years ago Lina Wertmuller, Franco Nero and Marina Cicogna and I set out on an incredible adventure that would bring the Italian flag to Sunset Boulevard in the week preceding Oscar Night in Hollywood. La, Italia unfolds during a week filled with film screenings, conventions, meetings and special events.

It is a celebration of Italian culture in the capital of international cinema, a wonderful city which, despite the tragic fires of the past few weeks, is still one of the most fascinating and lively metropolises in the world. I still cherish my encounters with the extraordinary Sophia Loren, Paul Mazursky, Jacqueline Bisset, Jon Voight, Norman Jewison, as well as with many talents from the Italian film industry like Cristina Comencini, Gabriella Pescucci, Carlo Carlei and Stefania Rocca: all generously committed to laying the foundations of a creative and courageous festival that was destined to grow over the years, earning a special place among the big international film events. Thanks to the many artists who have graced the festival over the years (including Sylvester Stallone, Liza Minnelli, Bono Vox, Ennio Morricone and Clint Eastwood – it's impossible to name them all) and to the interest shown by the Hollywood industry in this small yet precious festival, "Los Angeles – Italia" has earned prominence and exposure in its effort to promote Italian cinema in the US with its prolific exchange of ideas and projects between two worlds which, despite their differences, have always been drawn to each other. And I am here to celebrate these twenty-one incredible years with a special wish: I truly hope that the dreams and emotions that have always been generated by Italian films will continue to reach the widest audiences. I wish the festival well-deserved success for long time more!



Humberto Gatica, Tony Renis, David Foster,  
Laura Pausini and Andrea Bocelli



Tony Renis and Robert Davi



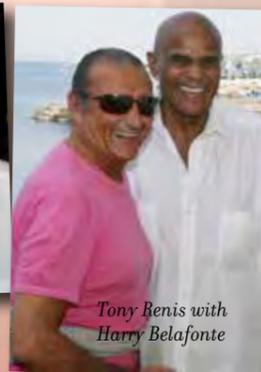
Michael Bublè and Tony Renis



Tony Renis with Quincy Jones



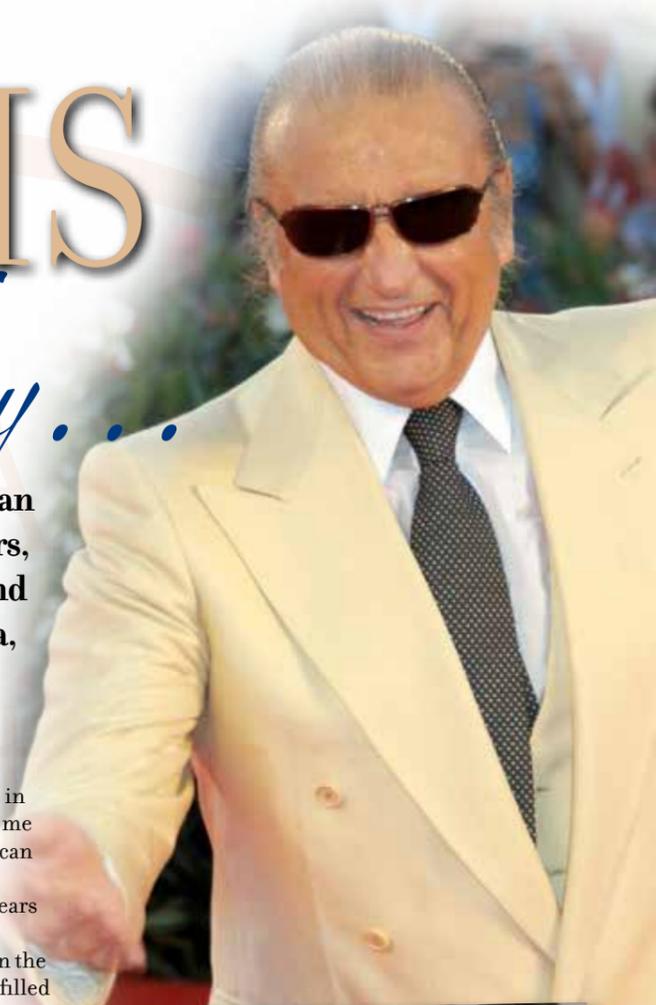
Louis Bacalov and Tony Renis



Tony Renis with  
Harry Belafonte



Franco Nero, Gianluca Isaia, Tony Renis and Toni Petrucci



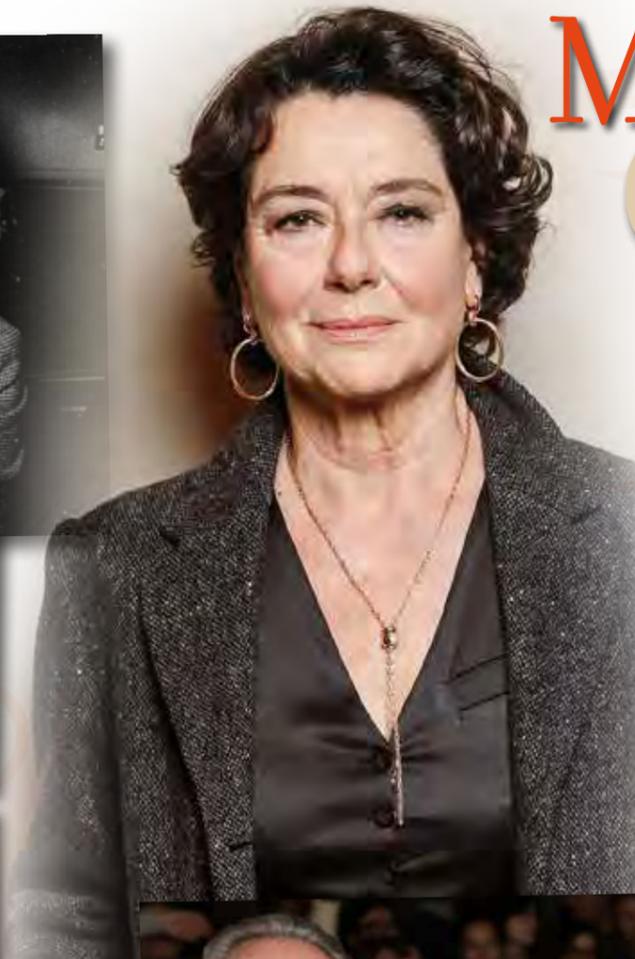
# MAGNANI

## IN THE ROSE TATTOO THE FIRST ITALIAN ACTRESS TO WIN AN OSCAR®

The text, written by Tennessee Williams, was tailor-made for her and, after some initial hesitation, Anna Magnani accepted the offer to bring it to the big screen, thus beginning her "American period," which would last until 1959. She left for the United States without knowing a single word of English, learned her lines with Williams' help during the ten-day sea crossing, and arrived on the set of "The Rose Tattoo", directed by Daniel Mann, fully equal to the challenge.

The Roman actress plays Serafina, an Italian-American widow living in the memory of her husband. When she discovers that her now-deceased spouse had been unfaithful, she incredulously visits her rival, who—like the man they both loved—has a rose tattooed on her chest. For Serafina, it is a devastating blow, but her love for Alvaro, a warm and likable Sicilian truck driver played by Burt Lancaster, reconciles her with life. Her triumph was sealed on the night of March 22, 1956, when she was awarded the Academy Award for Best Actress in a Leading Role.

Beyond awards and accolades lay another layer: Anna Magnani's influence extended far beyond Hollywood's glitz. She inspired generations of actors across Europe and America alike—not through imitation, but by encouraging them to embrace their own stories with authenticity.



# MONICA GUERRITORE

## IN THE MYTH OF ANNA MAGNANI

The festival will open with the American premiere of "Anna - The Untold Story", an intense and contemporary tribute to one of the greatest icons in the history of world cinema

Fifty years of career, extraordinary women portrayed on stage, in film and on television—Monica Guerritore is an artist of great talent who has embodied a form of acting that is at once total, visceral, and intellectual. She opens the LA, Italia Festival with a film celebrating the legendary Anna Magnani in a year marked by milestones of fundamental importance for Italian and international cinema: the 70th anniversary of Magnani's Academy Award win for Best Actress for "The Rose Tattoo", directed by Daniel Mann and adapted from Tennessee Williams' play; the 80th anniversary of "Rome, Open City" by Roberto Rossellini, an absolute masterpiece of Neorealism, premiered at the Cannes Film Festival.

Guerritore directs and stars in a film focusing on the final years of Anna Magnani's career, recounting her greatest achievements as well as her most unsatisfying periods, against the backdrop of a magical, almost dreamlike Rome a timeless place where fragments of life, heartbreaking separations, and powerful impulses resurface. While the world celebrates her, Anna faces the painful farewell to Roberto Rossellini. Their separation marks the beginning of a growing distance from cinema and a return to the theater, a more intimate and authentic space. The film is both an emotional and professional journey through which "Nannarella" returns to the screen with the face, body, and strength of the only contemporary Italian actress who could dare such a near-impossible mission. Guerritore is indomitable, proud, desperate, and astonishingly real.

Once again, an important acting performance that confirms the talent of a leading figure of Italian theatre, with a long film career that has seen her directed by filmmakers such as Mauro Bolognini, Ferzan Özpetek, Luigi Comencini, and Gabriele Lavia, and more recently for television by Carlo Verdone in Vita da Carlo and Pappi Corsicato in the highly successful series Inganno.

## ROME OPEN CITY

### THE RISE OF ITALIAN NEOREALISM

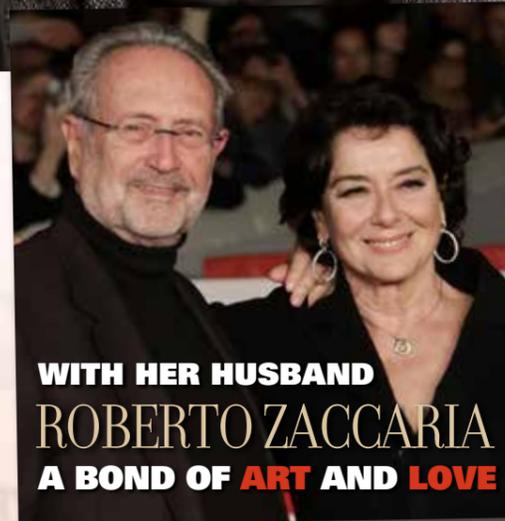
Much has been written and said about Rome, Open City, a cornerstone of cinema history presented at the Cannes Film Festival in 1946. It is the film that marked the birth of a new season of Italian cinema and a new way of making films: Neorealism.

Shot under extremely difficult conditions, Roberto Rossellini's film electrified the world, crying out the pain and courage of occupied Italy and revealing the extraordinary talent of Anna Magnani. It was also the film that tore through the screen with a death scene unlike anything audiences had ever seen before.

With the character of Sora Pina, Anna Magnani forcefully entered the cinematic firmament, never to leave it again, imposing a new model of womanhood: dark-haired, strong-willed, no longer young, with disheveled hair, deep shadows under her eyes, and an intense, unforgettable gaze. Rome, Open City consecrated her as a major international star and delivered her to history. For Magnani, it would always remain her greatest film—but also her most painful one.



Roberto Rossellini



WITH HER HUSBAND  
ROBERTO ZACCARIA  
A BOND OF ART AND LOVE

## ANNA - THE UNTOLD STORY

by Monica Guerritore (Italia, 2025) - 112'

Cast: Monica Guerritore, Tommaso Ragno, Lucia Mascino, Beatrice Grannò, Roberto De Francesco, Robert Madison - Sceneggiatura: Monica Guerritore, Andrea Purgatori - Fotografia: Gino Sgreva; montaggio: Massimo Quaglia - Prod. Roberto Zaccaria, Masi Film, RaiCinema, Lumina. Distr. Notorious Pictures

In the heart of the night on March 21, 1956, Anna Magnani cannot sleep. She has been nominated for the Academy Award for her performance in The Rose Tattoo, a role written specifically for her by Tennessee Williams himself. Overcome with anxiety, the actress wanders through the streets of her city, crosses silent alleyways and dimly lit squares, meets the people who love her, remembers those who did not love her enough, and waits for the ultimate redemption of a career perpetually suspended between greatness and the terror of oblivion.

At dawn, the award arrives—but contrary to the most hopeful expectations, what awaits Anna is anything but a definitive consecration.



Robert Madison



# LOS ANGELES ITALIA THE FESTIVAL WHICH IS POPULAR

AN INCREASING NUMBER OF ARTISTS AND MAJORS ARE EAGER TO TAKE PART IN THE "LOS ANGELES, ITALIA FILM FASHION AND ART FEST", THE EVENT ABLE TO STRENGTHEN A METAPHORICAL BRIDGE BETWEEN ITALY AND HOLLYWOOD

There is one appointment in the heart of the Californian winter that is more anticipated than any other: "Los Angeles, Italia," the celebration of Italian cinema, music, fashion, and culture in Hollywood. In the week leading up to the Academy Awards, the crème de la crème of the Italian and American entertainment industries gathers in Los Angeles for a happening that, since 2006, has aimed to promote national art and industry within the American market through high-profile meetings and promotions. It is a unique opportunity not only to showcase the season's best Italian films to the U.S. audience but also to foster connections between artists, talents, and media professionals from around the globe. This all takes place in an informal atmosphere of exquisite hospitality which, for this 21st edition, will feature a dual stage: the Chinese Theatre in Hollywood and the prestigious headquarters of the Italian Cultural Institute in Los Angeles.



Michele Morrone



Billy Zane and Madalina Ghenea



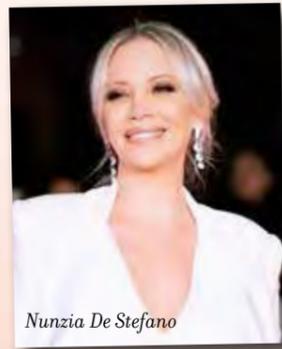
Sebastian Harrison Livia Pillman



Jack Huston



Barbara De Rossi



Nunzia De Stefano



Dean Ronalds and Emanuela Calliussi



Federica Pagliaroli



Ariel Lavi



Edoardo Costa and Sofia Milos



Livio Cori



Antonio Spinelli



Mira Sorvino



Filippo Librando



Valentina Castellani Quinn



Giorgio Clementelli



Valeria Altobelli



Giovanni B. Algieri



Tamara Pizzoli



Daniela Scattolin



Fabrizio Falco



Sabrina Impacciatore



Jonathan Elia



Emanuela Postacchini

## AMONG THE popular people VICTORIA ALETTA & DEMIÁN BICHIR

The entertainment world is full of iconic couples both artistic and romantic, who captivate audiences. Among them is the unexpected bond that began five years ago between Italian dancer Victoria Aletta and Mexican actor Demián Bichir. Prima ballerina in Spain, New York, and Los Angeles, Aletta gained widespread popularity during one of the most critical moments of the coronavirus pandemic: in May 2020, Victoria took to the streets of Barcelona to perform Swan Lake and celebrate International Dance Day. Wearing ballet slippers, tights, and a tulle skirt, she offered a glimpse of her grace and talent in the streets of the Gràcia district.

Demián Bichir is one of the most authoritative faces of contemporary Mexican cinema, able to establish himself in Hollywood thanks to an extraordinary dramatic intensity. Born into a family of artists, he achieved international acclaim with *A Better Life*, a performance that earned him a historic Academy Award nomination for Best Actor, making him one of the few Mexicans to compete in this category. Over the course of his long career he has portrayed a wide range of characters in films such as *The Hateful Eight* by Quentin Tarantino, *Good Kids* by Chris McCoy, *Lowriders* by Brian Grazer, *Che* by Steven Soderbergh, *Savages* by Oliver Stone, *Sexo, pudor y lágrimas*, a box-office hit in Mexico, *The Midnight Sky* by George Clooney, and more recently *Without Blood*, directed by Angelina Jolie. Bichir has worked extensively in theater in Mexico and is also known for his civic activism, often bringing the complexities of migrant identity to the big screen. In 2026, he remains a point of reference for the global Latino community, a symbol of acting elegance that blends theatrical roots with the power of cinema.



# WALK OF FAME HIGHLIGHTS:

# Welcome TO CALIFORNIA

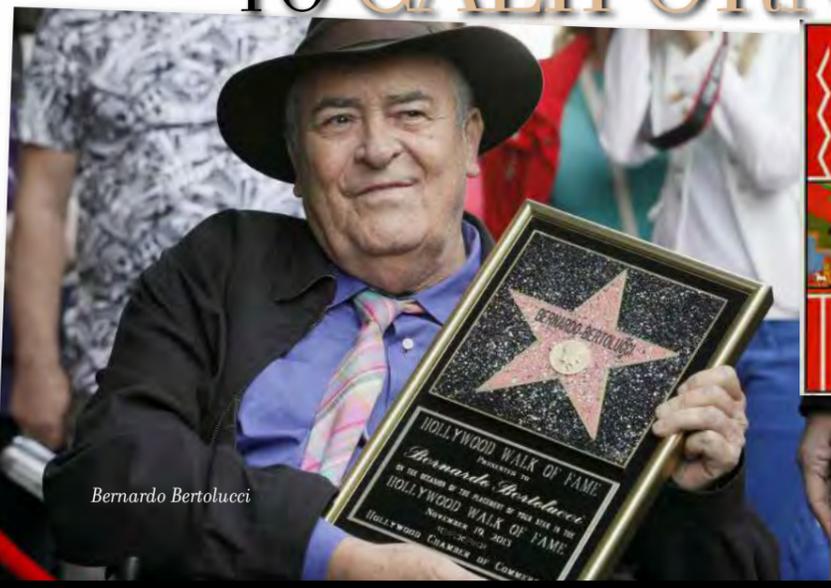


In 2026 star dedicated to the legendary Italian actor **FRANCO NERO** adding to the list of Italian artists honoured on the Hollywood Walk of Fame

Americans have always had a love affair with Italy. Whether it is Italy's wonderful cuisine, incredible landscapes, culture, history or film, people love it. In Los Angeles, everybody has a special affinity for Italy. Numerous people of Italian descent settled here, in places such as San Pedro, where they became a mainstay of the fishing community. In autumn, Hollywood is the home of the annual Feast of San Gennaro. The event, sponsored by television personality Jimmy Kimmel, attracts thousands of people to enjoy Italian food, music and culture. The contribution of Italian artists to international show business has been officially acknowledged many times on Hollywood's Walk of Fame, where the world's most prominent stars are honored in recognition of their achievements in the fields of film, radio, music, theater and television, as well as for their civic and charitable commitments. Many of these stars bear Italian names, such as the orchestra conductor Arturo Toscanini, tenor Enrico Caruso, the legendary Rodolfo Valentino, three extraordinary actresses Anna Magnani, Sophia Loren and Gina Lollobrigida, director Bernardo Bertolucci, singer Andrea Bocelli and Maestro Ennio Morricone, the most beloved music composer in the film industry. In 2023 star dedicated to the Italian actor Giancarlo Giannini adding to the list of Italian artists honoured on the Hollywood Walk of Fame. Before the glamorous night during which Morricone was presented with an Oscar for the score he composed for Quentin Tarantino's "The Hateful Eight," the legendary composer posed for photographers and TV crews as his Walk of Fame star was unveiled. Among those attending the ceremony was the "Pulp Fiction" director who has always been one of his biggest fans. In 2019 a star dedicated to the Italian filmmaker Lina Wertmüller, the first woman to receive an Oscar nomination for Best Director, adding to the list of Italian artists honoured on the Hollywood Walk of Fame.



Quentin Tarantino and Ennio Morricone



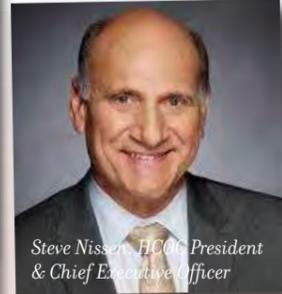
Bernardo Bertolucci



IN CELEBRATION OF 50TH BERTOLUCCI'S EPIC '1900'

## BERNARDO BERTOLUCCI: A MAGNIFICENT OBSESSION

Featuring rare and previously unpublished archive material, "Our Magnificent Obsession" by Marco Spagnoli is the intimate tale of a great and unique friendship, between a group of "boys" who won five Oscars and wrote memorable pages of great cinema as they followed a great leader, a young boy, a young director just like them: Bernardo Bertolucci. A genuine "cinematographic family" gathered around the charismatic figure of one of the greatest authors of Italian and international filmmaking, who would soon become a touchstone for international culture and cinema. All this is told through the words and charisma of Stefania Sandrelli, who worked with Bernardo Bertolucci several times, becoming the actress who participated in the greatest number of the Maestro's films: "Partner" (1968), "The Conformist" (1970), "1900" (1976), "Stealing Beauty" (1996).



Steve Nissere, HCC President & Chief Executive Officer



Ana Martinez



ACTOR FRANCO NERO GETS HIS STAR (2026)



The legendary Sophia Loren (2000)



Lina Wertmüller



Andrea Bocelli



Gina Lollobrigida



Giancarlo Giannini

## THE MAGNIFICENT ITALIANS

- Enrico Caruso
- Arturo Toscanini
- Renata Tebaldi
- Rodolfo Valentino
- Annunzio Paolo Mantovani
- Anna Magnani
- Beniamino Gigli
- Sophia Loren
- Ezio Pinza
- Luciano Pavarotti
- Andrea Bocelli
- Licia Albanese
- Bernardo Bertolucci
- Ennio Morricone
- Lina Wertmüller
- Gina Lollobrigida
- Giancarlo Giannini
- Franco Nero

# Promoting the Best of Italy

# ITALIAN CUISINE BECOMES UNESCO HERITAGE

A model of quality and biodiversity that, with this recognition, encourages even greater investment in sustainability and in safeguarding our traditions, fundamental to building the country's future.

Italian cuisine was officially recognized as an Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity by UNESCO on December 10, 2025, in New Delhi. A historic milestone that celebrates not only dishes, but also practices, social values and the transmission of culinary knowledge, making Italy the first country in the world to receive such an honor.

The recognition rewards preparation rituals, the culture of sharing, respect for biodiversity and sustainability, as well as the passing down of knowledge from grandparents to younger generations. The nomination — developed by the Italian Academy of Cuisine, the Casa Artusi Foundation and La Cucina Italiana magazine, and submitted by the Italian Government, aimed to promote principles and values typical of Italian tradition, such as combating food waste and reducing resource consumption.

The project involved the collaboration of chef ambassadors including Massimo Bottura, Carlo Cracco, Antonino Cannavacciuolo, Niko Romito, Davide Oldani and Antonia Klugmann.

With the inclusion of Italian cuisine, the number of Italian elements inscribed on the Intangible Heritage List rises to 20, within a global total of around 800 elements across 150 countries. Previous UNESCO recognitions awarded to Italy include the Mediterranean Diet (2013, transnational heritage), the Bush Vine Cultivation of Pantelleria (2014), the Art of Neapolitan Pizzaiuolo (2017) and Truffle Hunting and Extraction (2021). Considered a model of inclusivity and sustainability, Italian cuisine is valued as a daily practice capable of uniting diverse communities, protecting biodiversity and reflecting the cultural richness of local territories.

"The Italian agri-food sector is not only an economic driver, but also a cultural and social heritage. The recent recognition of Italian Cuisine as a Heritage of Humanity confirms the global value of our agri-food model, a symbol of quality, sustainability and biodiversity. The Government will continue to firmly support Italian agriculture, strengthening international promotion policies, investments in innovation and measures to enhance supply chains, because every step forward taken by our enterprises is a step forward for Italy as a whole," declared the Minister of Agriculture, Food Sovereignty and Forestry, Francesco Lollobrigida. This prestigious recognition enables the Italian system as a whole to become more competitive on international markets while also reaffirming the social role and value of a sector made up of businesses, professionals and supply chains that represent a fundamental component of the Sense of Italy and of the country's attractiveness, particularly in the tourism and cultural spheres. This achievement strengthens an economic ecosystem of enterprises, expertise and production chains that generate growth and employment.



Francesco Lollobrigida,  
Italian Minister of Agriculture, Food Sovereignty and Forestry



Chef Filippo Sinigalli with Whoopy Goldberg



Julia Roberts eats pizza in Naples



Chef Tino Vetorello with Meryl Streep



Chefs Filippo La Mantia, Domenico Iavarone and Gino Sorbillo



Chefs Peppe Aversa, Gennarino Esposito and Pasquale Palamaro

# FASTING AND THE LONGEVITY REVOLUTION

How everyday nutrition and fasting can prevent and treat many diseases while keeping people younger

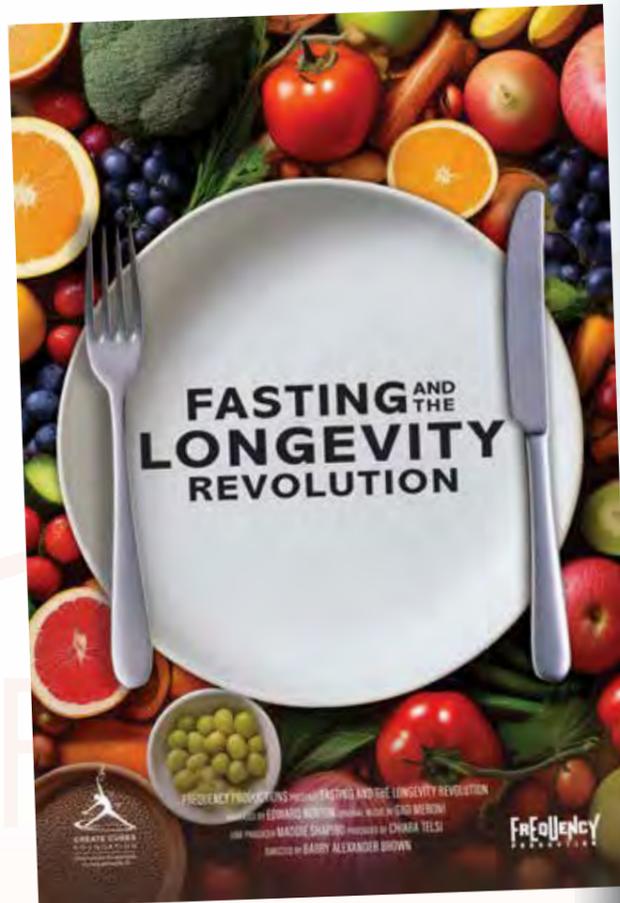
A fascinating journey that takes us from California to the Andes in Ecuador, to Sardinia, Campania, and Calabria in Southern Italy, in search of the secrets of longevity. Narrated by three-time Academy Award Edward Norton, the documentary explores how the food industry has replaced the tobacco industry, making people age faster, with overweight and obesity making them sick and dependent on expensive drugs. Through the insights of the leading experts in fasting, nutrition, and genetics, cutting-edge scientific studies, and understanding the lifestyle of people who have demonstrated extraordinary longevity, the film describes in detail the mostly plant-based daily eating habits and certain fasting practices that can help us become healthier and live long while staying away from hospitals and medication. The documentary is produced by Chiara Tilesi, based on the books "The Longevity Diet" and "Fasting Cancer" by Professor Valter Longo. Longo is the Edna M. Jones Professor of Gerontology and Biological Sciences and Director of the Longevity Institute at the University of Southern California—Leonard Davis School of Gerontology, Los Angeles, one of the leading centers for research on aging and age-related disease. He donates 100% of his consulting fees from L-Nutra and book royalties to charity. At least 95% of his L-Nutra shares will be donated to charity. The remaining 5% may be donated or invested in socially responsible companies focused on healthy longevity.



Professor Valter Longo



The producer  
**CHIARA TILESI**



## DIRECTOR BARRY ALEXANDER BROWN

Barry Alexander Brown began his career in the movie industry with a feature length documentary about the anti-Vietnam war movement titled, *The War at Home*. As producer/director of the film, Barry received an Academy Award nomination. He is best known as a film editor. Working with his long-time friend, Spike Lee, he has cut many of Spike's most successful movies including, *Do the Right Thing*, *Malcolm X*, *Summer of Sam*, *25th Hour*, *Blackkklansman* and most recently, *Highest2Lowest*. He received his second Oscar nomination as the editor of "Blackkklansman". He has also worked closely with acclaimed Indian director, Mira Nair. He cut her groundbreaking feature "Salaam Bombay", which was also nominated for a Best Foreign Language Film Oscar. He worked again with Mira on *The Laughing Club of India*, *Monsoon Wedding*, and *Queen of Katwe*. Barry directed *Fasting and The Longevity Revolution*, a documentary based on the work of world-renowned scientist, Dr. Valter Longo.



Edward Norton, Guillermo del Toro, Chivo Lubezki, Alejandro González Iñárritu and Wes Anderson



Brad Pitt, Mel Gibson, David Fincher and Edward Norton

# The talented EDWARD NORTON

The documentary's voice-over belongs to a bold and creative actor who consistently leaves an indelible mark through iconic roles and award-winning performances.

One of the most versatile actors of his generation, Edward Norton is an artist who often operates outside the boundaries of Hollywood mainstream conventions. Thanks to a filmography built with intelligence and artistic rigor, he is now frequently mentioned alongside the great names of acting. His sensational film debut came with *Primal Fear*, in which he played a complex schizophrenic character. His portrayal of a fragile and deeply troubled young man astonished audiences with the disarming naturalness with which he shifted from vulnerability to terror. The role earned him his first Academy Award nomination and, above all, confirmed the arrival of a pure talent—an actor drawn to disturbed, contradictory, and often morally uncomfortable characters, whom he is able to explore in both their lighter aspects and their darkest depths. This inclination, following *The People vs. Larry Flynt* by Milos Forman and *Everyone Says I Love You* by Woody Allen, fully explodes in *American History X*, where he portrays Derek Vinyard, a former neo-Nazi scarred by hatred and violence. Norton offers no softening: his Derek is both charismatic and repellent, a ruthless portrait of racism as a human failure even before a political one. It remains one of the most powerful performances of the 1990s and, for many, a pinnacle of his career. True consecration, however, arrived with *Fight Club* by David Fincher, thanks to a character poised between violence, madness, split identity, and contemporary nihilism. The film became a generational manifesto, and Norton once again embodied collective unease with perfection: introverted, ironic, unsettling. Behind the scenes, Edward Norton is as well known as he is on screen. Famous for his extreme perfectionism, his desire to intervene in screenplays and editing, and a level of creative control that has often made him a complex figure in his relationships with directors and studios, he spent the 2000s alternating between auteur cinema and more mainstream productions—from *25th Hour* by Spike Lee to *The Illusionist*, and *The Score*, where he starred alongside Robert De Niro and Marlon Brando. His artistic maturity emerged powerfully in *Birdman*, in which he plays a brilliant, arrogant, and unpredictable actor. It is an almost meta-cinematic role that openly plays with his public reputation. Norton clearly enjoys himself, displays surprising lightness, and earns his third Academy Award nomination. A fourth nomination would follow for his portrayal of folk icon Pete Seeger in the Bob Dylan biopic *A Complete Unknown*. Highly active in environmental and social advocacy, consistent with a worldview that extends beyond the film set, Edward Norton remains an artist who continues to seek risk—drawn to dense stories and to the often controversial truth of his characters.

## GIORGIO ARMANI GORGEOUS STYLE

There is an elegance that does not shout, that does not chase the ephemeral, but is built over time through rigor, coherence and an almost monastic devotion to cut, fabric and detail. This is the elegance of Giorgio Armani—an unmistakable aesthetic that revolutionized both men's and women's wardrobes with commitment, respect, and sensitivity. These are the values upon which he founded his empire, and from which he shaped his vision of Fashion: a symbol of understated elegance, unique style, and authentic beauty—one that is born from care for the individual and leaves its mark even after the curtain falls.

His elegant, timeless minimalism was rooted in sartorial precision, in a softness that prevailed over rigidity. He never sought to follow trends, but to create enduring style.

A craftsman of sartorial culture, he was able to convey a courageous vision: that beauty is sober, lasts over time, is born of passion, and remains in memory. Every word, every garment, every runway show carried a fragment of his ethos. The turning point came in 1980, when "American Gigolo" by Paul Schrader reached American cinemas—a film destined for global success and a true icon maker. Sex symbol Richard Gere in his timeless greige blazer, the Mercedes-Benz R107, Blondie's hit Call Me: everything would go down in history. From that moment on, the fame of the Italian designer knew no borders, as definitively consecrated by his Time magazine cover in 1982.

All of Hollywood's stars were eager to wear the creations of "King Giorgio." From then on, his name would be linked to more than 200 films, including The Untouchables by Brian De Palma, The Sheltering Sky by Bernardo Bertolucci, The Dark Knight by Christopher Nolan, Goodfellas, and The Wolf of Wall Street, both by Martin Scorsese.

Over time, Armani transformed fashion into a project that extended far beyond the runway: clothing, cosmetics, home design, restaurants, hotels. With his passing in September 2025, he leaves behind not only a brand, but a method, an ideal, a lesson in authentic elegance. A concept of fashion that was never mere vanity, but a bridge between aesthetics and practicality. The international fashion world is left orphaned of an absolute talent and a presence we believed to be eternal.



Giorgio Armani and Sophia Loren



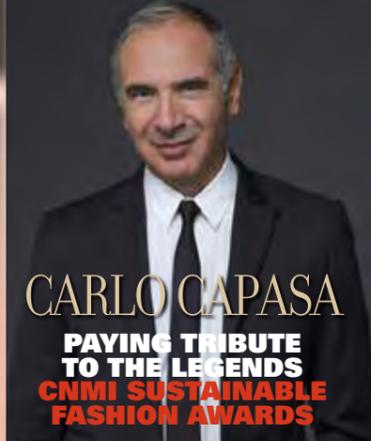
Giancarolo Giammetti, Valentino and Marina Cicogna



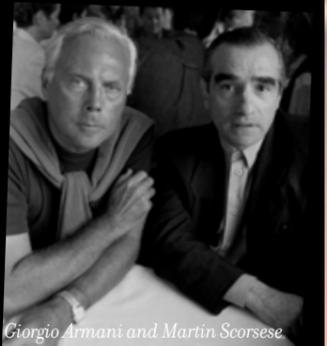
Valentino with Jackie Onassis to Capri



Gianni Versace, Valentino, Giorgio Armani and Gianfranco Ferré



CARLO CAPASA  
PAYING TRIBUTE TO THE LEGENDS  
CNMI SUSTAINABLE FASHION AWARDS



Giorgio Armani and Martin Scorsese

## VALENTINO GARAVANI REGAL DESIGNER

The red that dressed the world, elegance turned into vision, a signature that will remain forever etched in the history of fashion and culture. Valentino Garavani, who passed away on January 19, 2026, in Rome at the age of 93, was not merely a fashion designer, but the architect of an absolute elegance that defined the very concept of luxury for over half a century. Nicknamed "The Last Emperor", he transformed fashion into a form of aesthetic devotion, remaining faithful to a timeless, classical ideal of beauty.

His is the legend of an unknown young boy who, in the 1950s, arrived in Rome from the provinces armed only with extraordinary talent and an exceptional dedication to work. Within a few years, he would become the King of international haute couture. The decisive turning point came in 1960 with his chance encounter with Giancarlo Giammetti,

who became his life partner and the strategic genius behind the brand's commercial success, allowing Valentino to focus exclusively on the creation of beauty.

Valentino Garavani was not just a couturier. He was an artist who transformed fabric into language and color into unforgettable emotion. One need only think of the legendary Valentino Red, a bold and regal hue inspired by a woman he saw at the Barcelona Opera House, capable of bestowing power and grace upon anyone who wore it; or the White Collection, the runway show that consecrated the "V" logo and dressed icons such as Jacqueline Kennedy for her marriage to Aristotle Onassis, cementing the maison's bond with international aristocracy.

Every one of his choices told a story, expressed a vision of elegance that transcended fashion and became visual poetry. All the greatest Hollywood stars loved to wear Valentino's creations, especially for galas and official ceremonies.

Valentino defined elegance as a balance between proportion, emotion, and surprise. In the 1960s and 1970s, this elegance found one of its most iconic stages on the island of Capri, where Valentino made his home for 25 years at Villa Cercola.

After 45 years of career, in January 2008, he stepped away from his operational role within the company, choosing to gradually retreat into a more private life, far from the spotlight. With him, a unique vision of fashion has departed, one capable of transforming haute couture into a cultural language and leaving behind a legacy that continues to define the very idea of style.

## VALENTINO THE LAST EMPEROR

Between 2005 and 2007, director Matt Tyrnauer followed Valentino Garavani during the most delicate moment of his career: the creation of his final collections before retirement. The result is an unfiltered portrait of the "king of fashion," his perfectionism, the unbreakable bond with Giancarlo Giammetti, and the invisible work that turns a dream into haute couture



## MADE IN MILAN

Together, Martin Scorsese and Giorgio Armani created one of the most memorable cinematic wardrobes of all time. The artistic partnership between the two, which began over 40 years ago, culminated in the 1990 documentary Made in Milan, directed by Scorsese. The film portrays Armani's creative process, his bond with Milan, and his vision of fashion, highlighting the deep mutual respect between the two creative geniuses.

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# MARINA CICOGNA

## LIFE AND EVERYTHING ELSE



The respected Ambassador of Italian film and filmmaker in the world used to declare that "La, Italia festival is a precious opportunity in the quintessential Capital of Cinema"

Marina Cicogna's life is extraordinary, starting from her birth into a family where cinema was at home: her paternal grandfather, Cesare, was one of the producers of "Bicycle Thieves", while her maternal grandfather, Giuseppe Volpi di Misurata, was the founder of the Venice Film Festival. "For me it would have been easy to make a big-budget film with Fellini or Visconti, I knew them well, but I wasn't interested, I preferred discovering and nurturing lesser-known talents."

From a very young age, together with her brother Bino and the company Euro International Film, Marina committed herself to producing films that, considered at the time transgressive and challenging, would later become masterpieces of the great season of Italian auteur cinema between the 1960s and 1970s. Countless figures worked with this woman, and we encounter them again in the story she tells for this film: in addition to Elio Petri and Buñuel, among others, Lina Wertmüller, Pier Paolo Pasolini, Vittorio De Sica, Sergio Leone, Francesco Rosi, Liliana Cavani, Jean-Pierre Melville, as well as Mariangela Melato, Giancarlo Giannini, Florinda Bolkan, Gian Maria Volonté, Henry Fonda, Charles Bronson, Alain Delon, and Yves Montand. The documentary Marina Cicogna – Life and Everything Else is a long narrative that encompasses a vast archive of photographs, conversations, film clips, and memories from friends and personalities from cinema, culture, and fashion. Thanks to her intuition, talent, and passion, in 1971 Marina Cicogna won an Oscar and the Grand Jury Prize at Cannes with Elio Petri's "Investigation of a Citizen Above Suspicion"; then the Palme d'Or 1972, again with Petri for "The Working Class Goes to Heaven". Even earlier, she had won the Golden Lion in Venice with Buñuel's "Belle de Jour".



Liz Taylor, Helmut Berger, Marina Cicogna, Florinda Bolkan and Richard Burton



Marina Cicogna with Diane Von Furstenberg



Enrico Lucherini and Marina Cicogna

## ENRICO LUCHERINI

### SOME OF MY LIES ARE TRUE

Entering Enrico Lucherini's world means coming into contact with one of the great protagonists of Italian cinema history: a reluctant intellectual, a communication strategist, an amused—and amusing—observer, and above all an unconventional personality who for over half a century has delighted in telling promotional lies, building unforgettable careers, and launching films whose qualities and flaws, strengths and weaknesses he understands fully, like the finest of filmmakers. In this documentary, Italy's greatest press agent tells his own story, retracing his career from the years of La Dolce Vita to the press conference in which he announces his retirement from the profession he himself introduced to Italy, inventing a personal and inimitable style.



# ROMA FALL GALA

LOS ANGELES, ITALIA

## THE PRODUCERS' Night



Karla Sofia Gascon  
Francesco Merola and Daniele Taddei



McKenna Marshall, Nicola Claudio, Rita Rusic and Riccardo Tozzi



Raffaele Ranucci and Kersty Torres with Pascal Vicedomini

Within the prestigious setting of the Palazzo delle Esposizioni in Rome, the launch of the 30th anniversary of the International Film Festival took place. Under the banner of the Blue Island, leading figures of cinema and the industry were honored, including actress Karla Sofia Gascòn, director Matteo Garrone, and producers Riccardo Tozzi, Nicola Claudio, Rita Rusic, and McKenna Marshall



Massimo Boldi



Claudia Marchiori and Marcello Foti



Raffaella Modugno



Letizia Toni



Cinzia TH Torrini and Francesco Del Giudice



Dolcenera



Toni Petruzzi, Palo Falco, Toni Renis and Gianluigi Lembo



Moreno Conficconi and Gianluigi Lembo



Matteo Garrone, Nunzia De Stefano, Marco Leonardi, Marcello Fonte, Darko Perić



Denny Mende, Donatella Finocchiaro, Ron Moss and Vince Riotta



Alessandro Liberatore and the Spanish mezzo-soprano Sandra Pastrana



Francesca Marafioti and Samuel Santarelli



Chiara Conti, Isabella Votino and Elisabetta Pellini



Amedeo Minghi



Gianluca Ansanelli

While awaiting the celebration of the 30th anniversary of the international film industry event scheduled to take place on the Blue Island from December 27 to January 2, a special event was held in the capital of cinema on the occasion of the "Roma Fall Gala – The Producers Night," an autumn party hosted at the Palazzo delle Esposizioni in Rome in conjunction with the Rome Film Festival. Marking the milestone of a festival that has reached the halfway point of its third decade, numerous figures from the worlds of cinema, television, and entertainment gathered alongside the Mayor of Capri, Paolo Falco, festival presidents Tony Petruzzi and Tony Renis, and producer Pascal Vicedomini.

During the evening, Spanish actress Karla Sofia Gascòn, extraordinary star of Jacques Audiard's masterpiece "Emilia Perez", director Matteo Garrone, and producers Riccardo Tozzi (Cattleya), Nicola Claudio (Rai Cinema), Rita Rusic, and American producer McKenna Marshall received the Capri 30th Award. Among the guests were many musicians who, for this special occasion, welcomed to the capital Capri's "little king of Anema e Core," Gianluigi Lembo. These included Moreno Conficconi's "Paradise Orchestra," with special guests such as Dolcenera, Amedeo Minghi, Claudia Cieli, tenor Alessandro Liberatore, and mezzo-soprano Sandra Pastrana. Joining the celebrations were also actors Vince Riotta, Darko Perić, Ronn Moss, Siena Agudong, Marcello Fonte, Letizia Toni, Didi Anderson, Massimo Boldi, Donatella Finocchiaro, Marco Leonardi, Claudia Marchiori, Kaspar Capparoni, Mariana Falace, Daniel McVicar, and Elisabetta Pellini, along with producers Roberto Cipullo, Claudio Bucci, Silvio Muraglia, and Daniele Gramiccia. Also in attendance were directors Cinzia TH Torrini, Nunzia De Stefano, Fausto Brizzi, Gianluca Ansanelli, Dennis Dellai, Alessio Della Valle, Valerio Esposito, Massimo Paolucci, and Giorgio Verdelli.

Among the other guests welcomed at the Palazzo delle Esposizioni were Raffaele Ranucci (CEO of the Fondazione Musica per Roma), Federico Eichberg and Raffaele Borriello Chiefs of Staff of MIMIT and MASAF respectively, Nicola Corigliano of Intesa Sanpaolo, Daniele Taddei (President of the Studios), fashion designer Jamal Taslaq, and costume designer Andrea Sorrentino.

# THE MAGIC LIVES ON

## 2006-2025 • TWENTY SUCCESSFUL YEARS

**2006 (February 26-March 4)** The Italian cinema passed the test at the first L.A. Italia Festival with over 10,000 viewers attending thirty movie screenings. Even though our Academy Award nominees didn't win - Cristina Comencini, director of "Don't Tell"; Gabriella Pescucci, costume designer for "Charlie and the Chocolate Factory" and Dario Marinelli, music composer for "Pride & Prejudice" - the Capri in the World Institute took home the awareness that "... a solid bridge for a cultural exchange is being built - since 1995 - between the Island of Capri with its "Capri, Hollywood" festival and Los Angeles, California," as declared by Pascal Vicedomini, founder and producer of these two events. Hollywood also witnessed the debut of festival co-founders Marina Cicogna, Franco Nero, Lina Wertmüller and Tony Renis (regarded as the musical 'soul' of the group and immediately elected its "Honorary Chairman"). For starters, the 2006 L.A. Italia event, whose official poster of the festival featured a night shot of the Colosseum, enjoyed the support of Cim Group Inc (with its principal Shaul Kuba), the Lazio Region, and Rai Trade, as well as Mibac (D.G.Cinema). Among the attractions that mostly engaged the audience, we recall: 1) Lina Wertmüller's film retrospective: The well-known Italian director was treated to a Hollywood party in her honor organized by producer David Codikov, complete with a welcoming speech by Al Pacino. She was also invited to lecture a class of students attending the University Southern California; 2) A retrospective about the talented Gabriele Muccino, presenting his first all-American movie with Will Smith; 3) Valentino and Gabriella Pescucci's costume exhibitions, the first based on nine elegant party gowns created for Gwyneth Paltrow, Renée Zellweger, Cate Blanchett, Kate Beckinsale, Jennifer Garner, Kate Hudson, Sandra Bullock and Elle MacPherson; the second on nine costumes created by Sartoria Tirelli in Rome for Michelle Pfeiffer, Jessica Lange, Uma Thurman, Demi Moore, Monica Bellucci, Jacqueline Bisset, Catherine Deneuve, Robert De Niro and Johnny Depp; 4) A photo expo on cinema in the Lazio Region, attended by two masters of the Italian haute cuisine: chefs Massimo Riccioli and Anna Dente; 5) NIAF's big gala night at the Regent Beverly Wilshire led by Jack Valenti (then the long-time president of the

Motion Picture Association of America) with two exceptional guests: Oscar-winning actor Ernest Borgnine and L.A. Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa. Actors Raoul Bova, Stefania Rocca, Enrico Lo Verso and Carlo Carlei stood out among the official delegation, as did songwriter Gigi D'Alessio who was touring the West Coast at that time. Among the illustrious guests were Oscar recipients Norman Jewison and Jon Voight (who recently was the extraordinary protagonist of the Rai-Lux Vide TV movie dedicated to Pope John Paul II, a role that won him and producer Tom Sternberg the L.A. Italia Excellence Award, designed by Micucci). With them were Paul Mazursky, Jacqueline Bisset, Dolph Lundgren, Roxanna Arquette, the up-and-coming star Gerard Butler, Keith Carradine and finally, producers Larry Turman, Lawrence Bender, Steven Paul and Barry Navidi. The divine Ms. Sophia Loren made an appearance at the Silvia Damiani event.

**2007 (February 18-24)** This was the year of the big popular festival breakthrough on the West Coast: costume designer Milena Canero was awarded her third Oscar - for Sofia Coppola's "Marie Antoinette". Sadly no prize went to makeup magicians Signoretti and Sodano. The L.A. Italia event calendar presented a brilliant retrospective dedicated to legendary movie master Mario Monicelli, who was presented with a Lifetime Achievement Award by General Consul Diego Brasioli and IIC Director Francesca Valente, as well as with honors from the University of Southern California by Dean Elizabeth Dailey. This was the year of the collaboration with Shoah Foundation and Mimmo Calopresti's documentary, "Volevo solo vivere", screened on the opening day of the festival. The emotionally-charged event engaged both audiences and the media, who rushed in to listen to the speech given by Douglas Greenberg, Executive Director of USC's Shoah Foundation Institute for Visual History and Education. It was also the year of the charity gala event for the movie "Invisible Children", produced by MKFilm and Maria Grazia Cucinotta with



Gerard Butler, Pascal Vicedomini and Raoul Bova - LA Italia 2006



Helen Mirren and Taylor Hackford

UNICEF and the World Food Program. There was also a memorable tribute to maestro Ennio Morricone, who received the Academy's Lifetime Achievement Award from Clint Eastwood. Not to mention Italian rocker Vasco Rossi's surprise appearance at the special screening of Stefano Salvati's video-clip, in which he was the lead character. The 2007 edition guests included Raoul Bova with Federico Moccia, Claudia Gerini with Federico Zampaglione and, next to Valeria Golino, Hollywood first-timer Riccardo Scamarcio, who connected immediately with Jeff Goldblum. Director Giulio Base, together with Dolph Lundgren and the Cruz sisters, Penelope and Monica, introduced his new movie "L'inchiesta". Italian-American screenwriter Bobby Moresco (Academy Award for "Crash") debuted as festival chairman that year, too. At the Chinese Theatre, and at the Italian Lounge at Trastevere in Hollywood & Highland Center (where singer Agostino Penna performed beautifully), Oscar winner Pietro Scalia, Carlo Gabriel Nero, Stefano Veneruso, Martina Stella, Luca Lionello, actors Matthew Modine, John



Mel Gibson and Sylvester Stallone



Gabriele Salvatores, Samuel L. Jackson and Fabio De Luigi



Bono Vox

Liza Minnelli

Savage, Gina Gershon, film directors Harold Becker and Mick Davis, and producers Avi Lerner and Chiara Tilesi were there too. The official image of the 2007 Festival edition was Venice's Grand Canal, owing to an explicit request by the Venice Casino that supports the event together with Cinecittà Holding, the Lazio Region, the Campania Region, Sangemini and Cafe do Brazil.

**2008 (February 17-23)** The festival that year started in the best possible way: Bernardo Bertolucci got a star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame, a tribute granted by the Hollywood Chamber of Commerce upon the request of the Capri in the World Institute. The Maestro was unable to attend due to his ailing health but nevertheless his star was unveiled in front of the Chinese Theatre. The classic Italian cinema was represented by directors Carlo Lizzani and Citto Maselli, who were given the IIC Lifetime Achievement award by General Consul Nicola Faganello, and who - at the Chinese Theatre - gave an award to an exceptional guest: Italian-American actor and director Sylvester Stallone. Dante Ferretti, however, (with Francesca Lo Schiavo) was the main attraction as he received his second Oscar for his design of Tim Burton's "Sweeney Todd" sets. The same thrill was generated when composer Dario Marianelli basked in his moment

of glory, bringing home the legendary statuette for scoring Joe Wright's "Atonement". The only one left out was the third Italian candidate, Andrea Jublin, a contender in the short film category. The Italian delegation also included actor and filmmaker Michele Placido, Lina Sastri, Raoul Bova, Enrico Lo Verso and newcomers Valeria Solarino (the Festival 'godmother'), Federico Moccia, Francesco Apolloni, Louis Nero, Ilaria Borrelli, Maurizio Aiello and Antonella Ponziani. Famous Italian songwriter Ron and the Bologna-born 'soulman' Andrea Mingardi were highly appreciated for their musical contributions. Next to them, a few giants of the US industry: Oscar winners Steven Zaillian, Paul Haggis and F. Murray Abraham (who was involved with Stefano Todini and Patrizia Pellegrino in a small movie shot in Umbria). And then Steven Seagal, Keith Carradine, Treat Williams, Tomas Arana, Johan Collins, Lindsay Lohan, Sofia Vergara (still unknown to the mainstream), Romina Power with her brother Tyrone Jr. and producers Mark Canton, Jeremy Thomas, Kevin King and Humberto Gatica. The official image of the 2008 edition was the Gulf of Naples projected onto a number of Hollywood buildings. The size of the audience revealed the growth of the

event: about 13,000 people attended the Italian Art Gallery set up at the Hollywood & Highland Center. A photographic exhibition was arranged by the Experimental Centre of Cinematography about Bernardo Bertolucci with the title "Durante la rivoluzione" and "La Via del Petrolio" (in collaboration with Eni) was screened. Much admiration was generated by the costumes designed by artist Catia Dottori for Lizzani's film "Hotel Meina" and by the haute couture creations by late designer Egon Von Furstenberg (presented by his children Alex and Tatiana and by his ex-wife Diane von Furstenberg, now a fashion icon). 15,000 viewers visited the Mann Chinese 6 theatre to watch a selection of contemporary and classic movies. Among the other events, particularly appreciated was the tribute to Luciano Pavarotti (with the screening of the movie "Yes, Giorgio"), a few months after the tenor's death.

**2009 (February 15-21)** The work of legendary Vittorio de Sica was celebrated, with speeches by actor-director Dennis Hopper and Mark and James Canton at the Mann Chinese 6 Theatre, where they expressed their love for the Italian cinema "maestro." De Sica's son Christian and grandson Brando proudly waved the Oscar won by the filmmaker (for "La Ciociara"), to the audience which included film director Pupi Avati and his film-producer brother Antonio, both of whom received a warm Hollywood welcome as witnesses of the great contemporary cinema who have made their mark on the history of world entertainment. Pupi Avati was lauded with a movie retrospective, the IIC prize, and a tribute at U.S.C. arranged by young professor Alex Ago and about 500 students. 2008 was the year of "Gomorra" - the big hit movie by Matteo Garrone exposing Naples' criminal underworld. "Los Angeles, Italia" promoted a positive side of the city with movies shot in the Gulf that are part of film history and special guests from its surroundings. Chief among them was Massimo Ranieri, a legendary represen-

### UNFORGETTABLE MOMENTS



Dennis Hopper



Norman Jewison



Mario Monicelli with Francesca Valente and Diego Brasioli



Douglas Kirkland



Massimo Ranieri and Mickey Rourke

Jon Voight

Daryl Hannah



Larry King, Al Pacino and Michele Placido together at LA Italia 2013 for the Inaugural "Jack Valenti Legend Award"

tative of the Neapolitan theatre and song who, after showing his film about Pulcinella, gave the mask of Lello Esposito as a gift to Oscar favorite Mickey Rourke ("The Wrestler") who had just attended the Gala at the Kodak Theatre. With them, director Pappi Corsicato, musicians Tony Esposito and songwriter Guido Lembo who, at Jack and Leslie Kavanaugh's home, involved Michael Bublè and Tony Renis in an improvised concert. Same response for Guido at the Chinese Theatre where along with anchor-woman Simona Ventura, another star was singing: Italian-American "Easy Rider" interpreter, Peter Fonda. Stylist Rocco Barocco arranged an haute couture exhibition at the Italian Art Gallery at Hollywood & Highland Center: twenty "vintage" costumes told the story of twenty years of work within an exceptional background: the photographic exhibition "La Campania e il Cinema." One of the most emotional moments was the tribute to legendary producer Franco Cristaldi ("Cinema Paradiso") with his wife Zeudi Araya and director Massimo Spano, accompanied by Michelangelo. The guests included Marco Pontecorvo, Maria Sole Tognazzi, Adriano Giannini, Antonio Cupo. Flautist Andrea Griminelli and composer Andrea Morricone and concert performer Irene Veneziano wowed the audience. Other glittering personalities on hand were: Malin Akerman, David Boreanaz, Gina Gershon, Heather Graham, Ioan Gruffudd, John Landis, Rodrigo Santoro, Christian Slater, Lesley Ann Warren and anche Micah Alberti and Rumer Willis. Moran Atias, Darin Brooks, Clare Casey, Erika Christensen, Randi Ingerman, Katherine Kelly Lang, Alex Meneses, Brigitte Nielsen, Francisco Quinn, Jonathan Tucker, Nathalia Ramos; producers Michael Burns, Mike Nozik and Philippe Martinez;

super agents and managers of the 'biz' industry Jack Gilardi, Jason Weinberg, David Guillod, Tracy Brennan. And when everything seemed to be over, the lights suddenly came up again to shine on the greatest international diva ever to grace the Oscars' red carpet: Neapolitan Sophia Loren.

**2010 (February 28 - March 6)**

2010 Oscar winners Mauro Fiore (DP) and Michael Giacchino (music composer); makeup artists Aldo Signoretti and Vittorio Sodano, screenwriters Armando Iannucci and Alessandro Camon, composer Marco Beltrami, and sound engineer Tony Lamberti were the eight artists at the center of the promotion of Oscar Night. Next to them, Oscar-winning director Gabriele Salvatores and actor Fabio De Luigi attended the world premiere of their movie "Happy Family". The event was highlighted on US television as that two exceptional 'godfathers' were to welcome their Italian colleagues at the Mann Chinese 6 Theatre: Sylvester Stallone and Samuel L. Jackson.

2010 L.A. Italia started under the best of auspices due to the participation of director Enzo G. Castellari, underlined – on Sunday February 28th – by the arrival at the Mann Chinese 6 Theatre of celebrated Italian-American colleague Quentin Tarantino (nominated for eight Oscars for the movie "Inglourious Basterds" loosely inspired by Castellari's film "Quel

Remembering  
DINO AND MARTHA  
DE LAURENTIIS



Dino and Martha De Laurentiis



Milena Canonero



Treat Williams

Jeff Goldblum

Christian Slater

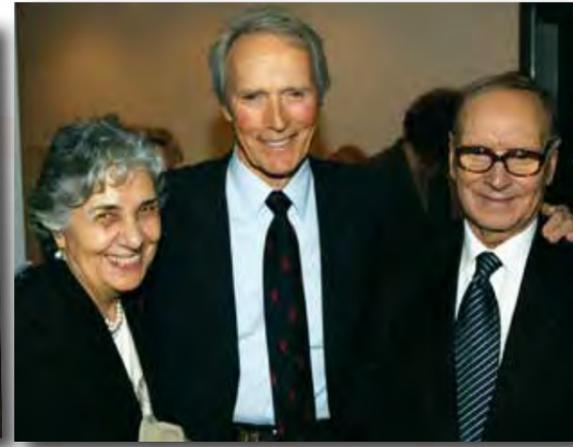
Douglal Greenberg and wife



Monica and Penelope Cruz with Giulio Base



Luca Guadagnino and Dario Argento



Clint Eastwood with Maria and Ennio Morricone

maledetto treno blindato"). And also due to the acknowledgement of tenor Andrea Bocelli by the Capri Nel Mondo Institute: a legendary star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame was to be awarded on March 2nd. The event was celebrated the evening before, with a gala presented – for the first time ever in the Italian entertainment industry – at Grauman's Chinese Theatre, where – with 1,000 people attending – Bocelli received a prize from the hand of the beautiful actress Rosario Dawson. The Tuscany-born tenor shared the celebration with his US producer David Foster, who was in turn presented with an award by Salvatores. A similar prize was given to Warner Bros. marketing chief Sue Kroll. The godmother for 2010 L.A. Italia was Sicilian actress Isabella Ragonese. She was accompanied by Christian De Sica, Massimo Ghini, young Rosabell Laurenti Sellers (for the California premiere of "Mi ricordo di Anna Frank" by Alberto Negrin), Luca Guadagnino, for the California premiere of "I Am Love", Maria Grazia Cucinotta, Marco Bonini with director Edoardo Leo,

actor Leopoldo Mastelloni, for a special tribute to Federico Fellini. And among the other celebrities we saw Oscar winner Forest Whitaker, the godfather of the opening day, Oscar winner Helen Mirren and director Taylor Hackford, to express their regard for Franco Nero. Other guests were: Gedeon Burkhard, Sofia Milos, Luis Prieto, Moran Atias, Andrea Osvart, Eugenia Chernishova, Francisco Queen, producer Harvey Weinstein, the undisputed King of Hollywood during the Award Season.

**2011 (February 20-26)**

A tribute to legendary producer Dino De Laurentiis opened the event with remarks by his wife Martha and his daughter Dina and a documentary by journalist Tonino Pinto. The audience also included Italian-American actor Joe Mantegna (awarded with L.A. Italia's Excellence Award), his colleague Tony Musante (awarded by Cinecittà Luce) and great director Marco Bellocchio who was the protagonist of all the festival events taking place at the Chi-

nese Theatre, the University of Southern California and IIC where he was awarded the Lifetime Achievement Award. Among the other festival stars: the étoile Roberto Bolle who became the symbol of this year's festival, as well as actors Kim Rossi Stuart and Luigi Lo Cascio with their film retrospectives. Jazz piano player Stefano Bollani wowed the audience with his Hollywood debut.

The all-Italian happening in Hollywood, on the eve of Oscar night, introduced costume designer Antonella Cannarozzi, nominated for the film "I Am Love" by Guadagnino, as well as Italian-US actress Melissa Leo (born in Salerno) who won a Best Actress Academy Award for "The Fighter".

The event celebrated 150 years of Italian unification with a number of movies by Pietro Germi, Florestano Vancini, the Taviani Brothers and Luigi Magni, aiming to shape and strengthen the national awareness; along with the arthouse movies, a number of Italian successful contemporary comedies were presented: from Checco Zalone's "Che bella giornata" to Luca Miniero's "Benvenuti al Sud" with the duo Bisio-Stani; from Fausto Brizzi's "Maschi contro femmine" and "Femmine contro maschi" to Luca Lucini's "La donna della mia vita".

Organized in collaboration with CIM Group, Eni, Rai, Alitalia, the patronage of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, of the Direction General Cinema of the Ministry of the Cultural Heritage and Activity, with support from the Italian Embassy in USA and in cooperation with NIAF – National Italia American Foundation, the General Consulate of Italy, the Institute for the Foreign Commerce and the Los Angeles Italian Institute of Culture, Cinecittà Studios, Cinecittà Luce, the Experimental Centre of Cinematography, the Hollywood Chamber of Commerce, Italian Independent Productions and the University of Southern California (USC). 2011 L.A. Italia was once again presided over by Bobby Moresco and paid tribute to legendary master Mario Monicelli (screening one of his masterpieces, "I soliti ignoti" ("Big



Rosanna Arquette

Lindsay Lohan

Siedah Garrett, Francesco De Gregori, Elisabetta Canalis and Steven Zaillian



Harold Becker, Barri Navidi and Bernard Hiller

Riccardo Scamarcio

Gabriella Pescucci and Sandy Powell



Mira and Paul Sorvino



Luke Evans



Giovanna Mezzogiorno



Fulvio Lucisano



Silvia, Christian and Brando De Sica



Joan Collins and Percy Gibson



Vittorio Grigolo



Denny Mendez



Guido Lembo, Tony Renis, Pupi Avati, Michael Buble and Antonio Avati

Deal on Madonna Street", a movie that inspired US filmmakers) and to set designer Dante Ferretti with Gianfranco Giagni's docu-film presented in Venice. Among the most significant moments, there was a tribute to the victims of the earthquake of L'Aquila (2009) with a special screening of a documentary entitled "Un anno dopo - Memory Hunters" made by the students of Aquila's Academy of Image Arts and Sciences and presented in Venice in 2010. The beautiful and scarred Abruzzi town was the symbol of the official poster of 2011 Los Angeles Italia, in order to raise awareness and to remember those who suffer and are unable to fulfill their artistic dreams as they are busy coping with the difficulties of their everyday lives. 2011 Los Angeles, Italia 2011 was promoted by the Capri Nel Mondo Institute. Among the most appreciated guests of the entire week were Danish filmmaker Susan Bier (later an Oscar recipient), Joel Schumacher (holding court during a lunch at Tod's on Rodeo Drive), Sofia Vergara (now a real star), Harold Becker, Luck Evans, Mark Canton, Malin Akerman, Robert Davi, Elsa Pataki, Paul Weller, Nastassja Kinski, Jacqueline Bisset, John Savage, Fisher Stevens. And many other Italians attended, such as artists residing in California: Pietro Scalia, Dante Spinotti, Gabriella Cristiani, Gisella Marengo. The event closed at Silvia Damiani and Tomas Arana's mansion.

**2012** Los Angeles, Italia's seventh edition opened with a tribute to Dario Argento's work as a master of horror cinema, premiering his "Dracula 3D", that earned him a gala in his honor at

the subsequent Cannes Film Festival. However, 2012 was also the year of the third Oscar for Dante Ferretti and Francesca Lo Schiavo, for Martin Scorsese's "Hugo"; this acknowledgement stirred intense emotion in the two artists, more so than when they accepted their two previous Academy Awards. The President of L.A. Italia 2012 was master Pupi Avati, with a delegation of young people including director Paolo Genovese, performers Carolina Crescentini, Chiara Francini, actor Dario Castiglio, and the multi-talented Elisabetta Canalis (recent host of the Sanremo Song Contest)) as festival godmother. Among the most memorable moments of the 7th Los Angeles, Italia Festival, were the performances of musicians Enzo Gragnaniello and Piero Gallo at IIC, and at home with producers Avi Lerner and Heidi Jo Markel, together with Danny Glover, Mischa Barton, Nastassja Kinski and John Savage. Unforgettable was the tribute to legendary Peppino Di Capri, which inaugurated a strong partnership with the Grammy Museum, and opening the door for a similar event on a yearly basis. The musician from Capri received a special award bestowed upon him by the great Mike Stoller, the celebrated composer for Elvis Presley. Among the most welcomed guests of the festival were directors Joel Schumacher and Kenny Ortega, as well as actors Joe Mantegna and Joan Collins.

**2013** Chairman Rick Nicita and President Martha De Laurentiis kicked off the 8th edition of LA ITALIA

which took place from February 17 to 23 2013 with a real Hollywood red carpet: Al Pacino collected the first Jack Valenti Legend Award from the hands of well-known anchorman Larry King while actor Michele Placido and producer and director Iginio Straffi were honored with the LA Italia Excellence Award. Right afterwards it was the turn of other two stars: producer Harvey Weinstein and rising star director David O. Russell who publicly revealed his Italian origins (his mother was from Calabria). Also actor Gerard Butler appeared among the many stars who flocked to support the Italian event. Two days afterwards Weinstein was again under the Hollywood spotlight for the arrival of Quentin Tarantino e Christoph Waltz who were later awarded for "Django Unchained". They were warmly welcomed by original "Django" and "Ringo", alias Franco Nero and Giuliano Gemma, both celebrated by the numerous fans of the "spaghetti western" movies. That was another memorable night. On the music front the classic event at the Grammy Museum hosted an exceptional Italian star: Zucchero Fornaciari. The Italian king of soul performed "unplugged" after the screening of a documentary by Vincenzo Mollica, with another appearance - the following day - at the Chinese Theatre. The Italian artistic delegation also included Fausto Brizzi and Paolo Genovese, joined by Valerio Zanoli and Tony Trupia as well as by actresses Claudia Zanella, Elisabetta Canalis e Madalina Ghenea (the Romanian beauty "adopted" by the Italian show



Hope Dworaczyc



Caterina D'Amico and Isabella Ragonese



Adriano Giannini and Simona Ventura



Dante Spinotti



Carlo Lizzani, Sylvester Stallone and Francesco Maselli



John and Debora Landis



Lina Sastri and Leopoldo Mastelloni

business). A legendary edition to properly celebrate the Year of the Italian Culture in America, which had just begun. **2014** Los Angeles, Italia's ninth edition opened at the Chinese Six Theatres in Hollywood with a special screening of "The Great Beauty", Paolo Sorrentino's masterpiece which a few days later triumphed at The Oscars, winning an Academy Award as Best Foreign Language Film. The festival hosted an unprecedented array of stars, all in love with Italy, a country that hangs on to its traditions but at the same time has always been open to changes. The highly energized evening was attended by Bono Vox, front-man of the rock band U2 and Oscar-nominated for his original song "Ordinary Love," that he composed for the film "Mandela: Long Walk to Freedom." Al Pacino, the unforgettable star of many milestone movies that have impacted the history of US cinema, presented the Irish artist's award. Particularly moving was the encounter between Bono and Tàta Vega, who sang and acted in Morgan Neville's documentary "20 Feet from Stardom," which was named Best Documentary Film of the Year by LA Italia and won an Oscar in the same category. Tàta's voice enchanted the theatre audience including Bono Vox and Alexandre Desplat, who composed the music for Stephen Frears' "Philomena." Another award was given to Italian-

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American film director David O. Russell, whose "American Hustle" was a contender for a number of Academy Awards. Vicedomini's festival was attended by a number of notable guests, including: Quentin Tarantino, John Travolta, Toni Servillo, Roberto Faenza, Eli Roth, Steve Coogan, Paolo Genovese, Elisabetta Canalis, Enzo d'Alò, Anita Kravos and Francesco De Gregori, the popular Italian songwriter, who delighted the audience with a special performance of his greatest hits. Los Angeles, Italia 2014 also hosted a preview of Noam Murro's anticipated movie "300: Rise of an Empire" which was produced by Gianni Nunnari and Mark Canton, and presented the Jack Valenti Legend Award to Angelica Huston, daughter of John Huston who won an Oscar for "Prizzi's Honor." Also, Somali-American actor Barkhad Abdi was honored for "Captain Philips," a film starring Tom Hanks and revolving around the hijacking of the US ship Maersk Alabama.

**2015** The big feast of Italian cinema in Hollywood celebrated its 10th Anniversary from February 15 to 21, 2015 at the TLC Chinese Theatre in Los Angeles, bringing together stars from the International show business arena and Italian filmmakers and performers - ambassadors of our industry to world - along with participants and attendees of the 2015 Academy Awards. Queen of this special edition was the legendary Liza Minnelli, a performer rich in formidable magnetism and extraordinary stage presence, who was celebrated with a standing ovation by the Chinese Theater audience, alongside her friends Mark Canton, Tony Renis and Franco Nero. During the tribute the artist spoke



Gabriele Muccino



Carolina Crescentini, Joe Mantegna and Chiara Francini



Joe Pantoliano

Tyrone jr. and Romina Power



Cristina Comencini and Gaetano Blandini Kim Rossi Stuart Jimmy Kimmel Tony Musante Hayma Washington Susan Bier, Luigi Lo Cascio and Roberto Bolle

of her Italian origins and the emotion she felt when she won an Oscar for Bob Fosse's "Cabaret" in 1973. Minnelli received the 2015 Jack Valenti Award. Young actor Ellar Coltrane, star of Richard Linklater's "Boyhood," won the 2015 LA, Italia Excellence Award. Other accolades were bestowed on Morten Tyldum, the director of "The Imitation Game" and on young screenwriter Graham Moore, who earned a Best Adapted Screenplay Oscar for the biopic dedicated to British mathematician Alan Turing. The traditional event at the Italian Institute of Culture in Los Angeles was attended by an exceptional guest: Milena Canonero, one of the brightest Italian artists whose talent is respected in Hollywood and in the rest of the world. A few days later she received her fourth Oscar as Best Costume Designer for Wes Anderson's acclaimed "Grand Budapest Hotel." The LA, Italia Excellence Award was given to Italian tenor Vittorio Grigolo, who on the opening night of the Festival paid tribute to Frank Sinatra's legend singing his ever-green songs. Sinatra, "the Voice" of the 20th century, who was so fond of his Italian background, was remembered by the Festival also for his commitment to human rights, a fact which most people ignored. In the early Fifties he was at the forefront to defend the rights of black people, fighting alongside his close friend Sammy Davis Jr.

His professional and private life has always been marked by his charitable contributions for children in need. At the Hollywood Chinese Theatre, there was a warm welcome for Rory Kennedy, the director of "Last Days in Vietnam", nominated to the Academy Award as Best Documentary, and Jimmy Kimmel, one of the most beloved American TV entertainers, whose mother's ancestors came from Ischia while his father's family originated from Germany. "Everybody knows that nothing good has ever been generated by Italian and German alliances," declared the comedian, "And I certainly validate this rule. When a strong earthquake hit Ischia, my family decided to leave their hometown and move to America. They settled in California, because they did not want to be troubled by earthquakes anymore!" Other guests of the 10th edition of Los Angeles, Italia included: The King of American Comedy John Landis, soul singer Aloe Blacc, actor Vincent Spano, Italian performers Raoul Bova, Luca Zingaretti, Marco Risi, Paolo Genovese, Marco Pontecorvo, Fabio Testi, Sebastiano Somma, teenage idol Leo Howard and the beautiful Hermoine Corfield, a star of "Mission Impossible: Rogue Nation" and "Mr. Holmes".



Vera and Giuliano Gemma

Other films directed by Scola were also screened at the festival, including his last work: "Che strano chiamarsi Federico," a documentary dedicated to his friend Federico Fellini, and "Ridendo e scherzando," a film directed by Scola's daughters Paola and Silvia, narrating the filmmaker's brilliant life and career through his interviews and comments. A number of first class guests joined us at the Chinese Theatre during the much awaited annual event: Paolo Genovese with his "Perfetti Sconosciuti" (to be soon re-made in the States), Dianne Warren, the music composer nominated for seven Oscars: charming Emily Rataikovsky, a global icon on social networks; Michael Madsen, one of Tarantino's favorites; the Italian-American actor Paul Sorvino; Enrico Iannaccone, Valeria Marini, Massimo Gaudioso, Marco Ponti and his new muse Valentina Reggiovanni; Denny Mendez, the festival 'godmother' and the comic duo Pio and Amedeo, who graced the red carpet wearing their swimsuits.

**2017** The 2017 edition of 'Los Angeles, Italia' recognized Mel Gibson's artistic renaissance! After ten years away from Hollywood, the Australian actor and director experienced a new and major professional accomplishment with the Oscar-nominated nominated "Hacksaw Ridge." It was celebrated at the opening of the annual festival that takes place in Hollywood during the week preceding the Academy Awards. Surrounded by many Italian colleagues, including Giovanni Veronesi, who was in Los Angeles for the premiere of his movie "Non è un paese per giovani." Gibson did not miss the chance to express his love for Bella Italia.



Neil Portnow and Alexandre Desplat Abel Ferrara Moran Atias and Simona Ventura Steve Coogan Eli Roth and Lorenza Izzo

"I love Italy, and I always want to go there, whenever I can" he said as he was speaking about the filming in Matera of his controversial movie "The Passion of Christ." The glamorous ceremony at the Chinese Six Theatres was attended by a vast audience comprised of filmmakers, movie stars, government officials, the media and friends of Italy. Gibson received the statuette from his longtime friend Sylvester Stallone, who in turn was presented with the Jack Valenti Award. "Sly was my advisor when I started out in Hollywood", said Gibson, visibly touched. The guests who came to acclaim Hollywood's "prodigal son" included Mira Sorvino, Sara Serraiocco, Elisabetta Gregoraci, Veronica and Eleonora Gaggero, Mirko Trovato from the Italian TV series "Braccialetti Rossi" and Justin Hurwitz, who received the LA Italia Award from Tony Renis and his fellow musicians Mike Stoller and Charles Fox; A week later he won Oscars for "City of Stars" (Best Song) and the "La La Land" score (Best Original Score). During the following days the audience flooded the Chinese Six Theatres to see the best recent Italian movies and acclaim the heroes of the Festival's 12th edition: Alessandro Bertolazzi, Academy Award-nominee for the make-up of "Suicide Squad"; Edoardo Leo; Matthew Modine; Franco Nero; the cast and producers of "Lion," the Garth Davis film starring Nicole Kidman and Dave Patel; the Neapolitan rapper Clementino; Carlo Carlei and Toni d'Angelo, who presented his movie "Falchi," with Fortunato Cerlino and Michele Riondino. Gianfranco Rosi, the director of "Fire at Sea," did not hide his emotions for the many acknowledgments the film received including an Oscar nomination. The celebrated filmmaker was accompanied by producer Donatella Palermo, Paolo Del Brocco from 01 Distribution and Pietro Bartolo, the Lampedusa doctor featured in his docufilm and now a legend all over the world. Many prestigious Italian musicians attended the festival: Giuliano Sangiorgi, the front man of Negramaro, one of the most popular bands in Italy, was honored for the score of Veronesi's movie; the American songwriter Laura Pergolizzi aka LP, who was presented with the Italia Excellence Award. Her voice, her whistle, her inseparable ukulele and the songs



Nastassja Kinski and Luca Lionello Rick Nicita and Paula Wagner Marco Risi Christoph Waltz

from her hit album "Lost on You" showed all the talent of this artist of Italian origins during one of the most exciting evenings of the festival.

**2018** Luca Guadagnino was visibly moved when, a few days before the Oscars ceremony, he was honored alongside producer and editor Marco Morabito on the stage of Hollywood's TCL Chinese Theatre. This was one of the most thrilling days of the 2018 edition of the Los Angeles, Italia Film Fashion and Art Fest which traditionally precedes the Academy Awards and whose goal is promoting the best of Italian cinema along its key players, during a week of screenings, events, meetings and galas. The festival's pièce de résistance was Guadagnino's movie "Call Me by Your Name," which was in the running for four Academy Awards (Best Movie, Best Actor, Best Adapted Screenplay and Best Song). In the weeks leading up to the ceremony, the talented Italian film director enjoyed the extraordinary reactions generated by the movie among critics and audience alike all over the world. Another honoree of the 13th edition of the Festival was Tiziano Ferro, who received the 'Italia Excellence Award' during its opening night ceremonies. Ferro sang

some of his best-known hits – "L'amore è una cosa semplice" and "Non me lo so spiegare" – as he addressed his speech to all the Italians who live and work in Hollywood. The audience, who was there to cheer on one of Italy's most beloved singers, included a number of celebrities who last year took part in a much appreciated edition of the festival: Alexander Desplat, Danny DeVito, Cheryl Boone Isaacs, Melissa Leo, Alessandra Querzola and Dennis Gassner (nominated for the set design of "2049"), producer Mark Canton, Sofia Vergara and Joe Manganiello, Marco Leonardi (starring in Ridley Scott's movie "All the Money in the World"), Maria Pia Calzone (who performed as the diabolical Angelica in the animated movie "Cinderella the Cat"), Lorenzo Richelmy and Michele Morrone.

**2019** The 14th edition of Los Angeles Italia, the film festival which takes place in Hollywood during the week preceding the Oscars, opened with Claudio Giovannesi's "La paranza dei bambini" based on a novel by Roberto Saviano and selected for competition at the Berlin Film Festival. Giovannesi's movie once again reveals stories of denied childhood in social environments dominated by criminal bosses, and on the adolescents' penchant to escape society's rules.



Sebastiano Somma Marta Gastini Morten Tyldum Luca Zingaretti



Barkhad Abdi and Gianni Nunnari

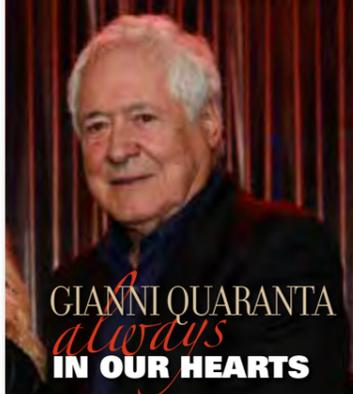


Andrea Mingardi



Elisabetta Gregoraci Eline Powell and Roberto Faenza

in Los Angeles, with screenings of his most significant works which are praised in America, for their strength of expression and sharp vision. On February 21st, the festival opened with "Una giornata particolare," Ettore Scola's masterpiece starring Sophia Loren and Marcello Mastroianni; The movie was selected to celebrate the Italian film director who passed away last year.



Dario Marianelli



Carlo Carlei



Stefania Rocca and Jacqueline Bisset



Graham Moore



Liz Solari



Giuliano Sangiorgi and Giovanni Veronesi



Michael Madsen



Paolo Del Brocco, LP and Gianfranco Rosi



Alessandro Bertolazzi

Alessandro Preziosi and twin sisters Angela and Marianna Fontana were the first Italian movie stars to accept their 2019 Italian Excellence Awards at the Chinese Theatre. Preziosi greeted the audience with a performance honoring Luigi Pirandello; the actor also presented a selection of his films including the recent "Nessuno come noi" by Volfrango de Biasi.

Marianna Fontana presented "Capri-Revolution," an exclusive chapter that belongs to a hypothetical film trilogy through which director Mario Martone aims at reflecting of time and history.

Angela Fontana is the leading character in a feature film dedicated to the Basilicata region. The screening of 'Lucania' paid a tribute to the city of Matera, the 2019 European Capital of Culture, and to the iconic filmmaker Francis Ford Coppola (whose family comes from that area), on his 80th birthday, to honor his strong ties to his Italian roots.

The 2019 edition of the festival, chaired by Iginio Straffi, a leader in the Italian animation industry, was attended by actress Maria Grazia Cucinotta, Hayma Washington, former president and CEO of the Academy of Television Arts & Sciences, screenwriter Nick Vallelonga (who later went on to win two Academy Awards for "The Green Book"), Andy Garcia, the American actor of Cuban descent, the young Italian talent Matteo Rovere (who presented "Il primo re," an original film on Rome's founding entirely spoken in proto-italic language) and the legendary Franco Nero, one of the most charismatic personalities of the Italian cinema, beloved by such film luminaries as Huston, Petri, Bellocchio, Chabrol and an inspiration for Quentin Tarantino who filmed "Django Unchained" as a successor of Sergio Corbucci's 1966 movie "Django." The festival's closing ceremony was attended by many contenders for the Academy's 'golden statuette'.

Included were Vallelonga, Adam McKay, director of "Vice," one of the nominees in the 'Best Film' category, Nicholas Britell and Terence Blanchard the composers of "If the Street Could Talk" from the "BlacKkKlansman, Marc Shaiman and Scott Wittman, writers of "The Place Where Lost Things Go," a new song from "Mary Poppins Returns," and Anthony Rossomando, one of the writers of "Shallow," which was performed by Lady Gaga and Bradley Cooper in the acclaimed "A Star is Born."

**2020** In the year of the big Oscar confrontation between Tarantino's "Once Upon A Time in Hollywood" and Scorsese's "The Irishman," with the unexpected victory of the south-korean movie "Parasite," Los Angeles, Italia paid a tribute to the memory of Kobe Bryant, the basketball star who tragically passed away a few days before the festival opening. Bryant had lived and studied in Italy and he had established a profound and privileged relationship with our country.

In the inaugural evening of the festival, Diane Warren and Danny Huston received the La Italia Person of the Year award while musician Frank Stallone earned the Lifetime Achievement Award. Diane Warren, nominated for the 11th time to the Academy Awards for the original song "I'm Standing With You" sung by Chrissy Metz, is also a recipient of an Emmy Award, a Grammy Award and a Golden Globe as well as a place of honor in the Songwriters Hall of Fame. To celebrate the 100th anniversary of Federico Fellini's birth, the festival opened with the maestro's "Casanova" (1976) and ended with "Ginger & Fred" (1986). Highlights of the "Italian Masters" section include: a tribute to Lina Wertmüller, who a few months before had received the coveted Lifetime Achievement Academy



Alessandra Querczola, Dennis Gassner and Antonio Verde

Award; a homage to Francesco Rosi with the screening of "Citizen Rosi" (a poignant documentary directed by Rosi's daughter Carolina and Didi Gnocchi, on the life of the extraordinary filmmaker); and a souvenir of the unforgotten photographer Carlo di Palma with the documentary "Water & Sugar: Carlo Di Palma The Colours of Life" directed by Fariborz Kamkari and produced by Di Palma's wife Adriana Chiesa Di Palma.

The big playwright Eduardo de Filippo was honored with the screening of the movie "The Mayor of Rione Sanità," a modern adaptation of Di Filippo's theatre piece of the same name which narrates a crime story set against the backdrop of Naples. The film was directed by Mario Martone and premiered in US and Italy by its leading male character: Francesco di Leva.

The 'LA Italia - Global Fashion Icon Award' was assigned to Chiara Ferragni, the internationally famed influencer and digital entrepreneur with 18.3 million followers on Instagram. Her story is narrated in the docufilm directed by Elisa Amoroso "Chiara Ferragni unposted."

Other guests of the 2020 edition included: Oscar winners Steven Zaillian, Bobby Moresco, Nick Vallelonga, Gabriele Salvatores;



Marco Bellocchio, Joel Schumacher and Bobby Moresco

Franco Nero and Francesca Archibugi; producer Shannon McIntosh and costume designer Arianne Phillips; Remo Girone and Italian rapper Clementino; Alba Rohrwacher and Ginevra Elkann who presented the US premiere of "Magari". And also: Ron Moss, Madalina Ghenea, Enzo Sisti, Danny Huston, Victoria Zinny and Ezio Greggio.

**2021** 2021 was a year defined by fear and pain. However, in the midst of the devastating effects of the COVID-19 pandemic, the Capri in the World Institute led the way in safely reopening US theatres to Italian film. From April 18th-24th of last year, Hollywood's renowned Chinese Theater welcomed the 16th edition of the Los Angeles, Italia festival. Hosted by "Green Book" Oscar winner Nick Vallelonga and Italian-Canadian producer Andrew Iervolino, the event proudly featured the most exciting movies of a season tormented by lockdowns, closed theaters, and isolation. Once again, the staging of Los Angeles, Italia heralded the international film industry's most anticipated event of the year: The Academy Awards. In advance of Hollywood's "Big Night," the festival featured a wealth of filmmakers and artists who presented their work to the audience

at one of the world's premier venues. COVID restrictions meant the absence of the usual crowds and packed red carpet. However, for those honored guests in attendance, the festival showcased some of the industry's most exciting new works, including Edoardo Ponti's "The Life Ahead," a project that not only won a Best Song Oscar nod for Diane Warren and Laura Pausini's "Seen," but also marked the comeback of the legendary Sophia Loren.

Though the festival missed many friends who were unable to travel, those who could not attend in person were given the opportunity to follow Los Angeles, Italia '21 on social media and take part through the festival's official online platforms. The vast array of prestigious guests who participated virtually included screenwriter and director Aaron Sorkin, nominated for "The Trial of the Chicago 7"; Dante Ferretti and Francesca Lo Schiavo; directors Bille August, Terry Gilliam, Bobby Moresco, Giorgio Diritti and Marco Pontecorvo; as well as actors Kabir Bedi, Joseph Fiennes, Jack Huston, Gina Gershon, Joe Mantegna, Rocio Munoz Morales, Luca Barbareschi, Pietro Chiambretti, Francesco Baccini, Paolo Buonvino, Remo Girone and Valeria Altobelli.

**2022** The 17th edition of the Los Angeles, Italia festival fell during a peculiar time in the history of international relationships, at the onset of a cruel and merciless conflict between Russia and Ukraine that has been generating feelings of preoccupation and disconcert throughout the world. Despite the alarming international situation, Italy was able to celebrate its three Academy Award nominees who were acclaimed far and wide by global audiences and film markets; three talents who embody the ultimate example of how art encourages



David O. Russell



Tiziano Ferro

interaction, and who once again have become symbols of how Italy is constantly able to deliver genius-like performances and conquer the international scene.

Paolo Sorrentino, an Oscar recipient for "The Great Beauty," ran again last year for "Best International Film" with the most intimate and personal work of his career, "The Hand of God."

Another Italian creation with typical Italian settings and quotes was an animated feature nominated at the 2022 Academy Awards: Pixar-produced "Luca," a nostalgic look at the childhood places and times of its author Enrico Casarosa, the first Italian to ever direct for the celebrated and beloved Disney-owned animation studio. And last but not least, costume designer Massimo Cantini Parrini - also known as the "fashion archeologist," - obtained his second Oscar nomination for "Cyrano," a film adaptation based on Emile Zola's comedy and inspired by Erica Schmidt's musical, for director Joe Wright.

The world movie capital city paid tribute to Vittorio Gassman on the centenary of his birth as well as to Dante Spinotti, undisputed legend of big screen photography. It also hosted some of the most interesting Italian movies recently made and starring both accomplished and up-and-coming Italian performers



Remo Girone e Victoria Zinny



John Savage



Sofia Vergara and Joe Manganiello



Caterina Shulha



Vasco Rossi and Stefano Salvati



Justin Hurvitz



Fabio Testi



The Tenors



Ellar Coltraine



Stefano Bollani



Mike Stoller and Corky Hale Alessandro Preziosi Maria Grazia Cucinotta Chiara Ferragni, Nick Vallelonga and Fedez Andy Garcia



Ginevra Elkann, Chiara Barzini, Alba Rohrwacher e Lorenzo Mieli



Bobby Moresco and Frank Grillo



Ralph Fiennes, Edward Berger and Sergio Castellitto



Francesco Di Leva Francesca Archibugi



Enrico Casarosa



Benedetta Porcaroli

like Riccardo Scamarcio and Benedetta Porcaroli, Alessandro Pondi and Michele Ragno, Gabriella Pession and Clementino. International guests included multi-nominated composer Diane Warren and Oscar winners George Chakiris and Nick Vallelonga.

**2023** At the 18th edition of the Los Angeles Italia – Film, Fashion, and Art Festival, women were especially celebrated as producer Andrea Iervolino and his colleague Chiara Tilesi welcomed a group of female artists to take part in a panel discussion on women in filmmaking after a special screening of "Tell It Like A Woman." Produced by Ilbe and Wdit, its original song, written by Diane Warren and performed by Sofia Carson, was an Oscar nominee.

Among the personalities invited by Pascal Vicedomini, a particular mention goes to Sabrina Impacciatore, Violante Placido, Madalina Ghenea, Caterina Milicchio and director Maria Sole Tognazzi, as well as Indian filmmaker Leena Yadav and the Sinhalese star Jacqueline Fernandez. Spectators at the Chinese Theatre were thrilled by Pupi Avati's movie "Dante," starring Sergio Castellitto in the role of Italian Middle Ages poet Giovanni Boccaccio. Avati's work, distributed in the US by Minerva Pictures and screened in Hollywood in the presence of costume designer Andrea Sorrentino, was enjoyed by one particularly prominent viewer, Italian American actor

Joe Mantegna who, after watching the movie, expressed his regret at not being able to accept Avati's offer to cast him in it. Over the course of the weeks preceding the Academy Awards ceremony, a number of guests joined the Los Angeles Italia 2023 festival, including screenwriter and director Mike White (presenting the TV series "The White Lotus,") and film director Ferzan Ozpetek, whose movies were honored with a retrospective; Pippo Mezzapesa with his "Burning Hearts;" Carlo Carlei; Paolo Genovese; Italian Oscar nominees Alice Rohrwacher (with her short movies "Le pupille") and Aldo Signoretta (make-up artist for "Elvis"). Both Rohrwacher and Signoretta received recognition by the Italian Cultural Institute Los Angeles.

**2024** The 19th edition of Hollywood's big celebration of Italian filmmaking was bound to open with an Italian movie listed among the five Oscar nominees: "I Captain," a powerful and moving tale of contemporary history penned by one of the most talented Italian film directors, Matteo Garrone, who graced the TCL Chinese Theater alongside the movie's stars, Seydou Sarr and Moustapha Fall. Chaired by film producer Raffaella De Laurentiis and director Michelle Danner, the festival was dedicated to two true legends of Italian culture and entertainment: the late Marcello Mastroianni, who was celebrated on the centennial of his birth; and play-

wright Eduardo De Filippo, on the 40th anniversary of his passing. The 2024 edition of Los Angeles, Italia offered 112 screenings (65 of which took place via the online platform eventive.org). It enjoyed the patronage of the Ministry of the Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, the Ministry of Italian Enterprises and Made in Italy, as well as the participation of the Consulate General of Italy and the ICE Agency of the Italian Institute of Culture.

Guests of the festival included Edoardo De Angelis, who presented his latest effort to US audiences: "Commander," set during World War II; and Lina Sastri, one of Italy's most accomplished stars of the screen and stage, who brought to the festival "Ninetta's Story," a movie she directed and played in, and which marked her debut behind the camera. Presented by Italian cinematic legend Franco Nero, one of LA-Italia's co-founders, along with art director Riccardo Monti and actress Antonella Salvucci, the festival welcomed Oscar winners Nick Vallelonga ("Green Book"), Barry Morrow ("Rain Man"), Bobby Moresco ("Crash") and Mira Sorvino ("Mighty Aphrodite"); directors Luca Barbareschi, Dennis Dellai, Ilaria Borrelli, Brando De Sica and Selma Dell'Olio; performers Francesco Mandelli, Sofia Milos, Edoardo Costa, Billy Zane, Katherine Kally Lang, Ashely Jones, Madalina Ghenea and Oliver Trevena.



Mark White, Ferzan Ozpetek and Sabrina Impacciatore



Keith Corradine and Louis Nero

**2025** For such an important anniversary, the 20th edition of the Los Angeles, Italia – Film, Fashion and Art Festival saw the Istituto Capri nel mondo present a program of the highest caliber, featuring highly successful Italian works alongside the latest films by an increasingly young and creative generation of directors. These were accompanied on this special occasion by outstanding Italian actors who have distinguished themselves on major international sets.

Acting as hosts for the most recent edition were Raffaella Valentini, Italian Consul General in Los Angeles; Emanuele Amendola, Director of the Italian Cultural Institute; producer Raffaella De Laurentiis; Academy Award-winning screenwriter Nick Vallelonga; and Italian actress Antonella Salvucci. They enthusiastically welcomed, first and foremost, the Academy Award nominees, as well as American composer Diane Warren and British actor Ralph Fiennes, star of Conclave. Joining him were director Edward Berger and co-star Sergio Castellitto, to whom the festival dedicated a retrospective of his most significant films. Many friends took part in meetings and screenings held at the TCL Chinese Theatre or at the Italian Cultural Institute. Among them were Neil Portnow, Pupi Avati and Antonio Avati, Franco Nero, Mira Sorvino, Jack Huston, Julian Schnabel, Francesco Merola, Marianna Mercurio, Michelle Danner, Graziano Scarabicchi, and Gabriella Carlucci.

In an international geopolitical climate that is increasingly uncertain and troubling, the awareness of being Italian and therefore of belonging to a people loved all over the world, will drive us forward with even greater determination and enthusiasm to promote culture, tourism, and the arts as a whole, renewing an extraordinary heritage that has been passed down to us through the centuries.



Julian Schnabel and Franco Nero



Luca Barbareschi



Michelle Danner



Selma Dell'Olio and Francesca Verdini



Edoardo De Angelis



Oliver Trevena



Alice Rohrwacher



Giorgio Colangeli e Giovanni Basso



Richard Flood and Gabriella Pession



Michele Ragno and Alessandro Pondi



Patrizia Pellegrino and F. Murray Abraham



Michael Imperioli



Maria Bello



Nick Vivarelli



George Gallo and wife



Pietro Coccia



Edoardo Costa and Sofia Milos



Massimo Cantini Parrini



Vincent Spano

# ALESSANDRO PREZIOSI

The captivating Neapolitan actor portrays Yanez de Gomera, the Portuguese corsair and companion of the Tiger of Malaysia, in the event series **"Sandokan - The Pirate Prince"**

He was the perfect adventure companion to the Tiger of Malaysia in the reboot of a TV series that, 50 years after the unforgettable version starring Kabir Bedi and Philippe Leroy, has once again captivated a new generation of viewers. In the return of Sandokan, produced by Lux Vide in collaboration with Rai Fiction, Alessandro Preziosi embodied the cunning Yanez de Gomera, already described by Emilio Salgari as more astute than his captain. He was the mind (and spirit) of the crew, while Sandokan, played by Turkish actor Can Yaman, represented its most passionate heart. A series awarded by Capri Hollywood for its high production quality, adventurous scope, and themes of freedom, inclusion, and the fight against oppression.

Born in 1973 and of Neapolitan origin, Alessandro Preziosi is one of the most acclaimed actors in film, television, and theatre, a field for which he developed a deep passion from childhood. After earning a degree in Law, he attended the Accademia dei Filodrammatici in Milan, and in 1999 came his breakthrough: the role of Laertes in Hamlet alongside Kim Rossi Stuart, directed by Antonio Calenda. He would also return to the stage with three productions drawn from Aeschylus' tragedies: "Agamennone", "Coefore", and "Eumenidi".

Thanks to his charm and a magnetism that commands the screen, he was soon called to work in television, where one of the roles that would mark his life, not only professionally, arrived: Count Fabrizio Ristori in the hugely successful series Elisa di Rivombrosa. These were also intense years on the cinematic front: he appeared in The Lark Farm by Paolo and Vittorio Taviani, I Vicerè by Roberto Faenza, Loose Cannons by Ferzan Özpetek, Men vs. Women by Fausto Brizzi, and Nessuno come noi, directed by Volfrango De Biasi. Films that represent significant milestones in the actor's artistic career; working with great masters of cinema and in such demanding roles helped consecrate his talent, moving him beyond the limiting image of a sex symbol. Theatre would complete the journey: he performed alongside veteran Roberto Herlitzka in King Lear; in Cyrano de Bergerac by Edmond Rostand; and as a wounded, shriveled, hallucinatory Van Gogh in the play L'odore assordante del bianco (The Deafening Smell of White). In 2024 he directed and starred in a new version of King Lear, in which the characters of Shakespeare's masterpiece move within scenographies composed entirely of works by the great Biella-born artist Michelangelo Pistoletto.



ON THE SET OF PATIERNO'S **IL TUO CUORE, LA MIA STELLA**



PROSECUTING JUDGE IN BELLOCCHIO'S **PORTOBELLO**, ANATOMY OF AN ITALIAN SCANDAL

# SANDOKAN RETURNS

An epic tale of adventure that brings back on screen the iconic character by Emilio Salgari's novels, the hero of the most-watched series in Italian television history (**Sandokan - The Series, 1976**)

With the revival of 'Sandokan', Rai brings back one of the most iconic intellectual properties in the history of Italian television through a new event series developed for both domestic and international audiences. Originally launched in 1976 - with Kabir Bedi in the title role and directed by Sergio Sollima - and based on the novels by Emilio Salgari, Sandokan has long represented a cornerstone of Italy's audiovisual heritage. This new adaptation reflects Rai's strategic commitment to high-quality scripted content with strong global appeal, reinforcing the role of public service broadcasting in supporting the international positioning of Italian storytelling and production. Sandokan premiered on December 1 on Rai 1 as an eight episode prime time event series. The Sandokan myth still holds strong appeal for audiences, reaffirming itself as a family appointment. Rai's Entertainment Division has defined Sandokan as a "living" and strategic project. The project is produced by Lux Vide (a Fremantle company) in collaboration with Rai Fiction and was conceived from the outset for international circulation.



Designed as a large-scale premium event series, the project follows a co-production model aligned with contemporary international drama standards in terms of budget, production value and narrative scope. The series is directed by Jan Maria Michelini and Nicola Abbatangelo and features a multinational cast, led by Can Yaman in the title role, alongside Alanah Bloor, Alessandro Preziosi, Ed Westwick, Madeleine Price and John Hannah.



MARIA PIA AMMIRATI  
HEAD OF RAI FICTION



Maufide Bernabei

Set in Borneo in the first half of the 19th century, the story unfolds against a backdrop of colonial expansion, resistance and power struggles, preserving the epic and adventurous spirit of Salgari's original novels while speaking to themes that remain highly relevant for today's global audiences. At the same time, the production highlights Italy's growing role as a competitive and versatile international production hub. Filming took place across Lazio, Tuscany and Calabria, with Italian locations successfully doubling for Southeast Asian landscapes. Nearly fifty years after the original Rai series transformed Sandokan into a cultural phenomenon, the character now returns not only as a television icon, but as a strategic audiovisual asset for the global drama market, reaffirming the international potential of Italy's literary and television heritage.



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# She is BEATRICE GRANNÒ

She is one of the most compelling Italian actresses of the new generation, capable of combining artistic sensitivity, versatility, and a strong screen presence that has also won over international audiences.

Born in Rome, Beatrice Grannò has built a solid career over the years across theatre, television, and music, her other great passion, cultivated through singing and the study of musical instruments such as the piano, drums and the ukulele.

At a very young age, she trained in London in street theatre, clowning, and at a musical theatre academy. She played an overweight teenager in Francesco Fei's road movie *I Wonder When You'll Miss Me*, a tormented and suspended figure in *The Time of Indifference* by Leonardo Guerra Seràgnoli, an adaptation of the novel by Alberto Moravia and the uninhibited Alice in *Tornare* by Francesca Comencini, where she embodies a sort of Lolita who loves to be desired without ever giving herself away.

In these early performances, her naturalness stood out: on screen she appears spontaneous, intense, yet never artificial. Her characters are often complex young women, ambitious, vulnerable, and determined at the same time. This ability to embody fragility and strength together makes her particularly believable and relatable to audiences. Her rise in popularity, however, came through television, thanks to the role of Carolina Fanti in the Rai series *DOC - Nelle tue mani*. In the drama she plays a young, brilliant medical resident, showing strong emotional depth and an impressive character evolution over the seasons.

Her international breakthrough came with the second season of *The White Lotus*, the HBO series set in Sicily. Here she plays Mia, an aspiring singer dreaming of making it in the music world. The role allowed her to merge acting and musical talent, winning over both audiences and critics worldwide. Following this international exposure, Grannò's prospects expanded significantly. Her cosmopolitan profile, combined with fluency in English and her musical training, makes her an appealing figure for international productions as well. She appears in *Daniela Forever*, a dystopian comedy by Spanish director Nacho Vigalondo, in *Euphony* by Sean Seth, and lends her voice to the animated series *Jurassic World: Chaos Theory*.

In Italy, she returned to cinema with the comedy *Cattiva coscienza*, directed by Davide Minnella, and more recently in *Anna* by Monica Guerritore, in which she portrays Carol Levi, the young agent of the extraordinary Italian actress Anna Magnani.



# Meet GILLES ROGGA

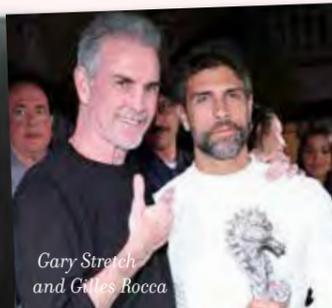
His name is a tribute to Gilles Villeneuve, the Ferrari Formula 1 champion, but since he was young, Gilles Rogga's dream was to become a footballer. However, a serious injury cut his soccer career short, pushing him toward the world of entertainment.

Rocca's artistic career began with small roles in highly popular TV dramas such as *Carabinieri*, *Don Matteo*, *Distretto di Polizia*, *I Cesaroni*, and *Le tre rose di Eva*. On the big screen, he acted in Marco Risi's *Three Touches* among other titles.

True popularity, won through determination, hard work, and undoubted personal charisma, arrived with his participation in reality shows such as *Survivor (L'isola dei famosi)* and *Dancing with the Stars*. Although he did not start as the favorite, together with dancer Lucrezia Lando he became the protagonist of a steady rise that led him all the way to final victory, where he defeated actor Paolo Conticini. He has also proven himself a talented and committed director of short films, docufilm, and documentaries. In 2014, addressing the theme of femicide, he created *Metamorfosi*. With the short film *Casting Die - Rector*, directed in 2016, Gilles won the Massimo Troisi Award. In 2018 he made *Duchenne*, a docufilm tackling the subject of muscular dystrophy, for which he was awarded the Tulipani di Seta Nera Prize, one of Italy's most important recognitions dedicated to short-film directors.

In *The Final Match*, directed by Antonio Silvestre, Rocca plays a footballer at the end of his career and the longtime captain of his team. For him, the match is about more than just sports: the player finds himself facing organized crime

attempting to fix match results, testing his moral integrity in the final stages of his competitive life. It is a film that uses football as a metaphor for life, exploring themes such as athletic loyalty, broken dreams, the fight against corruption, and the passing of the torch to the next generation.



METAMORFOSI

Gary Stretch and Gilles Rogga

## U.S. PREMIER

# THE LAST MATCH

Massimo De Core is one of those footballers who dedicated his entire career to the same club, becoming more than an idol to its supporters, while accepting the price of never winning a major trophy or championship. This is also the case for the Captain, who may now change his destiny as he stands just days away from the League Cup Final which will also be his last match as a professional player.



Antonio Silvestre



# THE LOS ANGELES, ITALIA GENERATION

At Hollywood's TCL, many new talents find an opportunity to be noticed and become successful

**ANTONELLA COCCO**  
Artistic Director LA Italia

One of the most heartfelt and interesting goals of Festival LA, Italia is its effort to amplify the fame of Italian artists on the international scene, thus continuing to promote and renew the great tradition of our cinema. Since 2006, the year the festival debuted, a long list of young film professionals have enjoyed the opportunity to make themselves known in Hollywood during the 'awards season,' a time of the year when the whole world eagerly looks to Hollywood, cinema's global capital. Some of these actors are: Raoul Bova, Carlo Carlei, Claudia Gerini, Enrico Lo Verso, Marco Pontecorvo, Riccardo Scamarcio, Maria Sole Tognazzi, Kim Rossi Stuart, Carolina Crescentini, Isabella Ragonese, Adriano Giannini, Pappi Corsicato and Fabio De Luigi. Over the years many young budding talents - not just Italian - have visited the festival and become its aficionados, including Bradley Cooper, whose Italian origins have encouraged him to explore the people and stories of contemporary Italy. In past editions of La Italia, three emerging Italian performers, Lorenzo Richelmy, Michele Ragno and Benedetta Porcaroli, have attracted the attention of the international media with their presence at Grauman's Chinese Theatre. Richelmy has become one of the most sought-after actors worldwide after his success in the role of Marco Polo in the Netflix-produced series of the same name; Michele Ragno has proven his talent in "School of Mafia" by Alessandro Pondi; Benedetta Porcaroli, after debuting in Paolo Genovese's "Perfect Strangers," has won over audiences thanks to dramatic roles that continue to highlight her maturity as an actress like "The Shadow of the Day" which was hailed three years ago at the 17th edition of LA, Italia.



Emily Raitaikovskij Simone Sisinna Naomie Harris



Nathalie Emmanuel

## Rising star LUIGI ZENO

Talent, determination, interpretive sensitivity, and an inexhaustible passion for acting. Luigi Zeno is very young (born in 2007), yet he seems to have all the credentials to become one of the new faces of Italian and, by his own admission, international cinema. His dream is to work with Martin Scorsese, but in the meantime he is honing his craft in film, television, and theatre. He recently performed in the theatrical suite "Naples Rolls! - 2,500 Years of Cinema, History and Passion," staged as part of the Napoli Fringe Festival and directed by Antonella Stefanucci. Zeno's presence enriches a production entirely devoted to the great cinematic and acting tradition of the Neapolitan capital. The Neapolitan actor had already drawn attention with the short film "The Thin Line" in which he played the role of a bully, Francesco, leader of a gang of boys, showing surprising expressive maturity in portraying the contradictions of a character both tough and fragile at the same time. Zeno then moved to the set of "The School," a new Netflix production directed by Ivan Silvestrini and set in the 1990s inside Naples' historic Nunziatella Military School. He has also recently completed filming, for Rai Cinema Fiction, "La promessa di Patrizio," a story of social redemption, heart, and talent set in a Naples that struggles, suffers, and dreams - the backdrop to the life of a young man, Patrizio Oliva - who, defying poverty and destiny, carved his name into the firmament of boxing.




Mirko Trovato



Federica Luna Vincenti



Marco Ponti and Valentina Reggιο Alessio Lapice and Matteo Rovere



Marianna and Angela Fontana



Graziano Scarabichi



Andrea Aru

## DANIELE BARBIERO

### BREAKOUT DIRECTOR

Daniele Barbiero was born in Rome on April 16, 1989. After graduating in Political Science and Communication with a thesis on "Cinema 2.0: New Ways of Making and Selling Cinema in the 2010s," he attended the Luiss Writing School for Cinema and Television Master's program. In 2013 he began a six-month collaboration with Mario Gianani and Lorenzo Mieli's Wildside and participated in the film Fratelli Unici by Alessio Maria Federici as assistant director, before directing the short film Mirror (winner of more than 30 awards at national and international short film festivals) and the pilot of the web series F\*ck The Zombies! He directed the second unit of the film "Gli Uomini D'oro" by Vincenzo Alfieri, wrote and directed the Super Vampire commercial. Sharks marks the directorial debut of Daniele Barbiero, with a screenplay by Mauro Graiani. The film is loosely based on the novel "Gli squalo" by Giacomo Mazzariol (Einaudi), and brings to the big screen a powerful and profoundly timely tale about the transition to adulthood, identity, and the disorientation of the younger generations.




Roberta Mattei



Andrea Pallaoro



Rosabell Laurenti Sellers



Toby Sebastian



Giulio Berruti



Ksenia Rappoport



Marianna Di Martino



Caterina De Angelis



Francesco Ghoghi



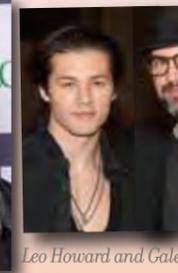
Pilar Fogliati



Camila Morrone



Luca Tartaglia



Leo Howard and Gale Harold



Matilda De Angelis



Shaen Barletta



Lorenzo Sisti



Michele Ragno



Ximo Solano



Giuseppe Supino



Giorgio Ghiotto



Chiara Baschetti



Veronica and Eleonora Gaggero



Walter Nido



Marcello Fonte



Rocío Muñoz Morales



Francesco Albanese



Lorenzo Richelmy



Moran Atlas



Edoardo Leo



Diana Del Bufalo



Andrea Sannino



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Ariel Vromen

# ITALIAN TELEVISION

is conquering the global market

In the past 20 years, television productions, films and TV series, have experienced a real boom. Incandescent laboratories of creativity and talent, powerful and innovative stories, and a battleground for top directors, screenwriters, and Hollywood stars who have chosen to move closer to the small screen, bringing its quality and style to such a high level that it now equals and sometimes surpasses cinema. In recent years, Italian TV drama has become increasingly successful in international markets because it has rediscovered what once made our cinema great: universal genres and stories. Strong "local" identities still work (just think of Naples in "Gomorra" and "Un posto al sole", Rome in "Suburra", or Sicily in "Inspector Montalbano"), but we must not forget that TV fiction must be understandable everywhere. Characters may even speak in dialect, but feelings and emotions must be universal. This is the case with "My Brilliant Friend", the television adaptation of the novel cycle written by Elena Ferrante, which has achieved enormous worldwide success.

The reason for this growth also lies in greater investment in the audiovisual sector, as well as in a new generation of screenwriters, directors, and producers ready to conquer the global market with competitive and compelling productions that have profoundly changed the landscape of Italian TV series.

Premieres of television productions are receiving growing attention at festivals and showcases; Italian actors and directors are making their way abroad; even the American market, usually highly protectionist has opened up to stories and narratives deeply rooted in Italian reality but with a strong international scope. The industry itself has recognized the new phenomenon:

leading television entertainment are no longer only the major broadcasters (BBC, HBO, ABC, NBC, RAI), but also new and highly competitive companies such as Netflix, Amazon, Hulu, Apple, TimVision, and Sky.

Digital platforms that have fueled the boom of the binge-watching phenomenon, bypassing traditional scheduling and pushing producers themselves to reshape production structures to meet new viewing habits.



IMMA TATARANNI



UN POSTO AL SOLE



L'INVISIBILE



NORD, SUD, OVEST EST



MARE FUORI 6

## BATTIATO THE LONG JOURNEY

The evolution of Franco Battiato, one of the greatest composers of contemporary Italian music, from the radical experimentation of his early beginnings to his evenings with Giorgio Gaber and Om-bretta Colli, all the way to pop success, placing at the center his true journey: the search for the self.

Franco Battiato. The Long Journey, produced by Rai Fiction and Casta Diva Pictures, follows the artist's path, portrayed by an outstanding Dario Aita, from Sicily to his arrival in Milan in the 1970s, exploring the crucial moments of his road to success and accompanying him through to his return to his beloved homeland. An intimate and visionary story in which music becomes the language of a constant tension toward the transcendent, beyond every form of celebrity.



Renato De Maria

U.S. PREMIERE

## GIORGIO PASOTTI IS "ROSSO VOLANTE – THE RISE OF A CHAMPION"

A story of sport, love, friendship, and courage. Giorgio Pasotti portrays Eugenio Monti, skier and bobsledder. In 1964 he is 36 years old. He has won almost everything, but the Olympic Gold is still missing, "Rosso Volante" ("The Flying Red"), as Gianni Brera nicknamed him for his boldness and red hair, is determined to win Gold at the Winter Olympic Games in Innsbruck. He achieves an exceptional time, but during the race he realizes that his rival Tony Nash has lost a bolt and, without a moment's hesitation, gives him his own. An extraordinary act of sportsmanship that allows the British team to win Gold, while Italy must settle for Bronze. But this great gesture of sporting generosity is only the starting point that, four years later, will lead the athlete to win the long-awaited Gold medal at the Grenoble Olympics in 1968. Four years of tenacity, setbacks, and hope in the life of a champion of great talent who always challenged life itself.



U.S. PREMIERE

## ALESSANDRO GASSMANN IN THE CASES OF LAWYER GUERRIERI

The saga of lawyer Guido Guerrieri, created by Gianrico Carofiglio, comes to television thanks to Alessandro Gassmann, who in this series portrays a brilliant, ironic, and deeply fragile criminal defense attorney, passionate about boxing and forced to navigate daily between legal codes, moral doubts, and compromises. Guerrieri, nostalgic for the lost love of his wife Sara, from whom he is separating, faces with sharp insight, sensitivity, and eloquence the cases at the center of his theatrical courtroom defenses: a client who resurfaces like a ghost from his past, the mysterious disappearance of a young woman named Manuela, the murder of a biological researcher, and above all the case of an old friend, Judge Larocca, a respected magistrate accused of corruption. Supporting him in these challenges is a team of iconic characters: his loyal ally Tancredi, a skilled police inspector; Annapaola, a former crime reporter now turned bold private investigator; Consuelo, the efficient trainee at Guerrieri's law firm; and the new intern Tony, pathologically distracted yet unpredictable and brilliant. The six-episode series adapts three novels and promises a legal drama from the lawyer's perspective, with the pace of a thriller while remaining attentive to the everyday challenges of the Italian justice system.



## MORBO K HE WHO SAVES ONE LIFE SAVES THE WORLD ENTIRE



On the eve of the 1943 roundup of Rome's Jewish ghetto, the director of the Fatebenefratelli Hospital, Professor Prati, saves several Jewish families by inventing a contagious virus, Morbo K, to keep the Nazis away. While Kappler betrays his promise of salvation and begins the deportations, the destinies of the characters intertwine during the most dramatic hours before the trains depart.

## A WINDOW WITH A LAKE VIEW

Director Marco Pontecorvo takes us back to the 1930s. Young Marshal Ernesto Maccadò arrives on Lake Como with his wife Maristella for his first assignment as commander, facing prejudice and difficulties of integration. Amid realistic and surreal stories, he meets little Vinicio and the Sicilian brigadier Letterio Misfatti, discovering a community that is closed yet rich in humanity.



## ROBERTA VALENTE NOTARY IN SORRENTO



Roberta, a young perfectionist notary, returns to Sorrento, her hometown, for work and to prepare her wedding to Stefano. Her encounter with Leda, a sunny waitress, and Vito, a fisherman connected to her past, shakes her certainties. Amid complex notarial cases and deeply human twists, Roberta must confront a reality far more unpredictable than she expected. Starring Maria Vera Ratti and Alessio Lapice.

## ICONIC ITALIANS IN RAI DOCU

VOLONTÈ. A MAN WITH THOUSAND FACES



CENTO E OLTRE, PUCCINI E NOI



MY NAME IS RICCARDO COCCIANTE



LUIGI DEL PLAVIGNANO  
Director Rai Documentari

# LOS ANGELES, ITALY

# A PRODUCTIVE GET-TOGETHER

**KEY ENTERTAINMENT POWERHOUSES JOIN TOGETHER TO DISCUSS NEW AUDIOVISUAL CHALLENGES**

Planning, creativity, synergies, and all the new challenges shaping the horizons of the international audiovisual landscape. In Los Angeles, at the Italia Festival, film and television producers discuss the most urgent issues in communication, entertainment, and the new including distribution, languages that will define the future of both the small and the big screen. Between an ever-growing demand for content, increasingly exacting in terms of quality from global buyers, and an increasingly worrying crisis of movie theaters, the conferences organized during the week preceding the Academy Awards aim to update knowledge and assess the transformations underway in cinema as a creative and production system. The film industry is inevitably influenced by social, economic, and technological changes in production and exhibition models; therefore, it is essential to involve all stakeholders in order to face together the challenges of the present and the future. With the advent of AI, how will it be possible to balance automation with human authenticity, keeping cinema a "human" art? What tools will ensure increasingly sustainable productions? What advanced technologies will enable a fully immersive experience for audiences? What developments await us from the coexistence of streaming and the theatrical big screen? These are the questions that industry leaders as well as newcomers entering the world of production and distribution for the first time will address, in a period of profound transformation across the global film landscape.

**BETWEEN** *producers and distributors*



**ANDREA SCROSATI**

## IGINIO STRAFFI'S RAINBOW ACQUIRES "GERONIMO STILTON" IP

He is the man who conquered the world with the Winx fairies, the first in a long series of successes in the field of animation, followed by achievements in film and multimedia production as well. Iginio Straffi, Founder and CEO of the Rainbow Group, thanks to a perfect blend of creative and entrepreneurial genius, has become a role model, first and foremost for his native Marche region, the land he chose to remain in. In December 2025, Iginio Straffi's Rainbow Group acquired the intellectual property rights to the globally popular Geronimo Stilton children's book franchise. This strategic acquisition aims to expand the beloved mouse journalist's universe across new multimedia platforms, leveraging Rainbow's expertise in animation and content production.



Edward Watson Lawrence Bender Sophie Watts Patrick Wachsberger and Paolo Del Brocco



Marco Belardi Raffaella and Andrea Leone Mark and Dorothy Canton Avi Lerner

## ALESSANDRO USAI

**ANICA PRESIDENT**



Gianluca Curti David Greenbaum Fabio Conversi Michele Lo Foco Bruno Della Ragione Jeremy Thomas Riccardo Tozzi Nicholas Chartier Pierpaolo Verga



Marco Cohen Benedetto Habib Fabrizio Donvito

## WITH INTESA SANPAOLO ON THE FRONT LINE

Nicola Corigliano, Mediocredito Italiano - Intesa Sanpaolo Group



Paola and Federica Lucisano Luca Bernabei



Carlo Degli Esposti Jillian Apfelbaum Giampaolo Letta Mario Gianani Marco Morabito Francesco Melzi D'Eril Elda Ferri Carolina Terzi Luciano Stella



Lorenzo Mieli Silvia Turaglia Agostino and Maria Grazia Saccà

## CHIARA SBARIGIA

**PRESIDENT OF APT, THE ITALIAN ASSOCIATION OF TV PRODUCERS**



Heidi Jo Markel Paola Pomini Bisson Carlo Salem Simone Gattoni Daniele Gramiccia Nicola Giuliano Daniel Frigo Alison Owen



Andrea and Alessandro Cannavale

## AN UNFORGETTABLE STORY

In the 1950s and 1960s, the "cinematograph" in Italy was one of the driving industries of the postwar economy, with its logistical base and launch platform in Rome. Not only Cinecittà, but also the De Paolis Studios on Via Tiburtina and Dinocittà on the Pontina contributed to creating the myth of "Hollywood on the Tiber," attracting international productions to Rome and providing the most suitable spaces for the creativity of our great auteurs.

The De Paolis Film Studios were founded in 1938 and, over nearly 50 years of activity, hosted the most important names in Italian and international cinema: great masters, renowned actors, and filmmakers who shaped the golden age of Italian genre cinema. On its soundstages, Federico Fellini shot *The White Sheik*; Luchino Visconti the dramatic *Conversation Piece*; Pier Paolo Pasolini found the right settings for *Accattone*, *Mamma Roma*, *The Hawks and the Sparrows*, and *The Gospel According to St. Matthew*; Mauro Bolognini for *Bell'Antonio* and *The Lovemakers*; Michelangelo Antonioni with *Red Desert* and *Identification of a Woman*; and Dario Argento with cult classics such as *Deep Red* and *Suspiria*. Fundamental sets for the best of Italian cinema: from Totò and Peppino De Filippo to Alberto Sordi and Vittorio Gassman, from Gina Lollobrigida to Silvana Mangano, from Bud Spencer to Terence Hill.



Vittorio De Sica Luchino Visconti Michelangelo Antonioni

## A MAGNIFICENT PRESENT

The former De Paolis Studios, today simply "Studios" renovated and adapted to new production needs, have become a point of reference both for television activities of the major national broadcasters (Rai, Mediaset, La7) and for Italian and international films and TV series, also thanks to the strong production momentum of recent years. From the Studios are broadcast talk shows such as "Propaganda Live", Di Martedì, "Non è L'Arena"; and, among the most recent scripted productions, "Call My Agent", "Miss Fallaci", "Uonderbois", an original Disney+ series set in the underground of Naples, as well as the latest four films of "Me contro Te", a major box-office success produced by Colorado Film.



# Kudos to DANIELE TADDEI

The Sole Administrator of the Studios on Via Tiburtina, formerly known as the De Paolis Film Studios, has been unanimously elected President of ANICA's Technical Companies Union

There are places in Rome where time and the immortal art of cinema have lived through a compelling epic: from hubs of creativity for popular films and auteur cinema, to sites of abandonment and decay, only to rise again more vibrant and stronger than before, meeting the challenges of contemporary times without ever betraying their soul.

We are speaking of the De Paolis Studios, which, after being the preferred set of directors such as Vittorio De Sica, Federico Fellini, Michelangelo Antonioni, and Pier Paolo Pasolini, suffered the crisis of the Italian film industry in the 1980s, eventually closing down and surrendering to the end of the great dreams of the cinematic imagination. That was until a young and enlightened entrepreneur decided to rewrite the ending as in the best screenplays, Daniele Taddei. Young and visionary, he found himself before a place devastated by time and neglect; yet he saw beyond and brought the De Paolis Studios since renamed simply "Studios", back to their original vocation, transforming them into a reference point for cinema and television not only in Italy but internationally. Today Daniele Taddei, Sole Administrator of the Studios on Via Tiburtina, formerly the De Paolis Film Studios, has been unanimously elected as the new President of the Technical Companies Union of ANICA — the National Association of Cinematographic, Audiovisual and Digital Industries. "I am honored and delighted by this appointment, which I consider an important milestone after 29 years serving as a board member representing ANICA's technical companies," Taddei explained. "My intention is to increase the number of members and to enhance and better protect the professionals of the film and audiovisual industry, who are the true driving force of our sector. We represent an extraordinary field, an excellence recognized worldwide for its expertise and it is no coincidence that international productions continue to want to work here in Italy."



Daniele Taddei and Edward Watson

Daniele Taddei and wife Manuela

Daniele Taddei and Anthony Hopkins

# JACK VALENTI AWARD TO RICK NICITA

**Producer and consultant to the entertainment industry, he is named as one of the most influential people in Hollywood**

**R**ick Nicita is a veteran American entertainment executive, former top-tier talent agent, and motion pictures/ tv producer who has spent over five decades at the center of the film industry.

Before turning exclusively to production and consultation in 2017, Nicita spent five decades as a professional talent agent and manager starting May 1968 with the William Morris Agency (WMA), in New York City, and later transferring to WMA's Beverly Hills offices in 1976. At WMA, Nicita started in the mailroom and earned his full agenting position over time, a traditional rite of initiation.

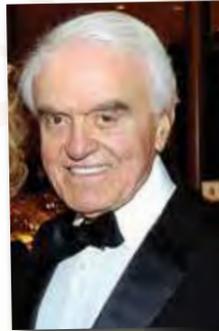
He left the William Morris Agency in 1980 to join then four year-old Creative Artists Agency (CAA), where he served as co-chairman and managing partner. During his tenure, he represented an elite roster of talent, including Francis Ford Coppola Tom Cruise, Al Pacino, Nicole Kidman, Anthony Hopkins, Mick Jagger, David Lynch, Bette Middler, Sally Field and Kurt Russell.

He has been married to producer Paula Wagner since 1984. Together, they have been instrumental in the careers of many modern film stars and have frequently appeared as industry commentators, most recently on podcasts like the Apple Podcast: Paula Wagner and Rick Nicita in late 2024 to discuss the evolution of stardom.

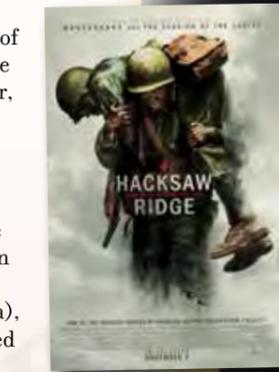
He later formed his own shingle, RPMedia (Rick and Paula Media), to focus on talent management and production. In 2017, he retired from management to focus exclusively on producing.

He was an Executive Producer of Mel Gibson's Academy Award-winning movie Hacksaw Ridge and recently was an Executive Producer on the HBO movie Paterno starring Al Pacino.

Nicita remains highly active in the film community. Most recently, he led the American Cinematheque into a major partnership with the Village Directors Circle (led by Jason Reitman) to restore and reopen the historic Westwood Village Theater by 2027. In January 2026, he was a key figure at the organization's 5th Annual Tribute to the Crafts at the Egyptian Theatre.



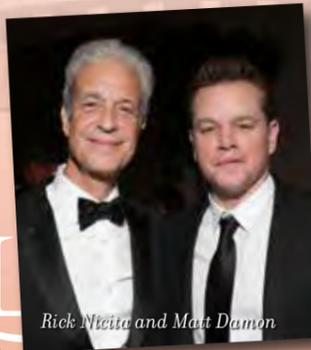
Jack Valenti



Rick Nicita and wife Paula Wagner



Rick Nicita and Al Pacino



Rick Nicita and Matt Damon



Rick Nicita, Robert Downey jr and Mel Gibson



**FILM DIRECTOR AND FORMER PRESIDENT OF THE 'DIRECTORS GUILD OF AMERICA'**

TAYLOR HACKFORD

# Focus LUCA CORDERO DI MONTEZEMOLO STYLE AND VISION

**A documentary portrays the figure of a man who has crossed the landscape of Italian industrial and cultural history, skillfully combining tradition and innovation, Italian style and global vision**

**T**here are personalities who move through Italy's industrial and cultural history leaving a recognizable mark made not only of achievements but of style. Luca Cordero di Montezemolo is one of them.

A manager, sports executive, institutional economic leader, and symbol of a distinctly Italian way of being at the top, Montezemolo has embodied for decades the idea of elegant, cultured, deeply identity-driven leadership. His name is inseparably linked to Ferrari, a company that symbolizes not only Italian industrial excellence but also a global imagination shaped by speed, beauty, and competition. Montezemolo arrived in Maranello at a crucial moment and helped transform Ferrari into a winning machine, on and off the track, restoring it to glory with the world titles won by Niki Lauda and Michael Schumacher.

Under his leadership, the Scuderia became an organizational model even before a sporting one: rigor, strategic vision, and talent development. Ferrari in those years was not just a team that won, it was a coherent narrative capable of speaking to the world in an unmistakable language. The documentary "Luca: Seeing Red", narrated by Chris Harris, retraces the journey of a young law student passionate about motors who earned the trust of Enzo Ferrari and went on to become president of the Prancing Horse and a leading figure within Italy's business establishment.

Yet reducing Montezemolo to his Ferrari experience alone would be limiting. His career moves naturally across industry, finance, culture, and institutional representation. At the helm of major industrial groups and trade associations, he has positioned himself as an advocate of "responsible" capitalism, convinced that business is not only an economic engine but also a social and cultural actor. In an era of profound transformation, Montezemolo has insisted on the importance of reputation, long-term thinking, and brand value as a synthesis of quality, ethics, and vision. He has also shown strong attention to the narrative of Made in Italy. Not as a slogan, but as a complex system bringing together manufacturing, creativity, territory, and culture. Automobiles, fashion, design, food: for Montezemolo, Italian excellence is born from the meeting of tradition and innovation, artisanal craftsmanship and managerial capability. It is an idea of modernity that does not deny the past but uses it as leverage to compete globally.



Enzo Ferrari, Niki Lauda and Luca Cordero di Montezemolo



Luca Cordero di Montezemolo and Gianni Agnelli



CHRIS HARRIS LUCA MONTEZEMOLO

**US PREMIERE**

## LUCA: SEEING RED

A documentary recounting the extraordinary life of Luca Cordero di Montezemolo, the man who transformed Ferrari into a global symbol. Directed by Manish Pandey, already a BAFTA winner for "Senna," the film traces the career of one of the most influential Italian managers of the new millennium. The documentary explores the soul of the Prancing Horse: a brand that, under Montezemolo's leadership, became synonymous with excellence and passion. With a deep and human perspective, "Luca: Seeing Red" investigates the relationship between success, values, and modernity, offering audiences an intimate portrait of a man who successfully combined tradition and innovation, Italian style and global vision.



Manish Pandey



LUCA SEEING RED

# DOCUS TAKE A *powerful* LOOK INTO REALITY

## MY FATHER AND QADDAFI

When Jihan was six years old, her father flew to Cairo and never returned. Mansur Rashid Kikhia was the Foreign Minister of Libya, ambassador to the United Nations, and a human rights lawyer. After serving in Qaddafi's increasingly brutal regime, he defected from the government and became a peaceful opposition leader. Kikhia was obsessively loyal to his country but ultimately, his determination to reason with Qaddafi led to his disappearance from a hotel in Egypt in 1993. Jihan's mother Baha Omary, a strong-willed Syrian-American artist, began searching for him, launching the family into an international political maze. Her mission to find justice brought her to the Libyan desert in the middle of the night, face to face with Qaddafi to negotiate her husband's release. Yet it wasn't until after the regime's fall, 19 years later, that his body was found in a freezer near Qaddafi's palace. My Father and Qaddafi takes the audience on a raw and reflective journey as Jihan pieces together a father she barely remembers, while discovering the troubled history and politics of Libya. Her journey starts from fading personal memories, leading to encounters with family members, her father's peers, and historical archive footage.



## NEVERGREEN

CELEBRATING FRANCESCO DE GREGORI

November 2024: Francesco De Gregori chooses a small Milan theatre, the Out-Off, to embark on a residency of twenty concerts over the course of a month. Each evening, he will perform a set list selected from around seventy songs he considers his lesser-known works to an audience of around 200. The programme features many friends selected from among the greatest talents in Italian music, each invited to share his stage for a concert: Jovanotti, Zucchero, Ligabue, Malika Ayane, Elisa. Nevergreen chronicles this unique experience, filmed up close, including during rehearsals, in the dressing rooms, and by spying on the encounters between these giants of Italian music. It's set against the backdrop of a Milan that warmly welcomes the great singer-songwriter from Rome, finally putting on the map many little-known masterpieces from his splendid songbook. According to director Stefano Pistolini «This time, Francesco raised the bar: like many musicians, he insisted that only the music do the talking, a repertoire of his lesser-known pieces, performed for a month in a small Milan theatre. But the songs alone struggle to stand out on screen: the challenge, then, was to revisit an intimate De Gregori within the confines of the "music only" dictum. We operated by osmosis, and we're convinced that it was a success.»



### TRANSUMANZA

The documentary tells the story of an ancestral practice — the seasonal migration of shepherds and their herds — turning it into a symbolic journey between past and future. It's not nostalgia, but awareness: an attempt to restore meaning and dignity to gestures forgotten by modernity, and to share a living heritage that belongs not to the past, but to the present we aim to build. Transumanza is written and produced by Luigi Diotaiuti, an international chef, restaurateur, sommelier, and Founder of "Basilicata: Way of Living".

### MATRIARCA

The cult of the Madonna dell'Arco has its origins in 1400, when a young believer, after losing a game of pall mall, threw a ball out of anger at a portrait of the Madonna under a Roman arch. The Madonna began to bleed. The crowd wanted to punish the boy in every way for his wicked action. The Count of Sarno decided to have him hanged from a tree. A few hours later that tree dried up. This is the myth that has always accompanied the oldest Marian cult in Campania.

### ROAD OF DREAMS

A journey to the land of dreams, the land of professional boxing, where Angelo, Filippo, Emanuele, Vincenzo, Francesco, Riccardo, and their coach Salvatore will lay the foundations for a journey of athletic and, above all, personal growth. Friendships, joys, traumas. The lives of each boy, told by the protagonists and their coach, in the breathtaking context of America. Through their stories, the movie offers a glimpse into the most authentic corners of the island, off the beaten tourist track, in a tale told with passion and originality through the eyes of a new generation.

### IN NERO

#### BLACK GIRLS IN ROME

It is one thing to visit Rome. It is quite another to curate a life in the eternal city. Over the years, many Black women from varied backgrounds and countries have chosen to do just that. When given the opportunity to narrate their experiences of living in one of the most famous cities in the world, a select group of women share their personal accounts related to topics such as dating, giving birth, marriage, work, racism, and more, while offering insights into dynamics, nuances, and structures that the average tourist experience could never provide.



### DUM. A SEA STORY

In front of the sea, more than fifty years of commitment behind. In the 1970s, when disability often meant isolation, a group of volunteers in Lignano Sabbiadoro built an accessible village: a place where a vacation became possible for everyone, without barriers, experienced together and not separately. Thus, DUM was born - Dinsi Une Man, "let's give each other a hand" in Friulian - a community where everyone participates according to their abilities, in an atmosphere of sharing and mutual respect. Season after season, thousands of people from Italy and Europe have lived this unique experience, which continues today thanks to new generations, often children and grandchildren of the first volunteers.



# Napoli RENAISSANCE

A city rich with stories, creativity and talents has become an ideal set for movies, commercials, television series and international sport competitions

Since the birth of the "Seventh Art," Naples has never failed to provide inspiration for cinema. Costume, folklore, comedy, realism, satire and social commentary are just some of the lenses through which the universe of Naples has been portrayed, some capable of blending all the elements that compose a city of countless faces, others able to grasp only a few. Films, TV series, documentaries, commercials: shooting takes place in alleyways, on streets, inside historic Neapolitan palaces, among views now world-famous thanks to international tourism, or still partly unexplored locations that reveal a more secret and mysterious side of the city. Never before have the spotlights been so intensely focused on this "city-world," which is proving to be an ideal set, expanding its range of production services, developing professional training pathways for local crews, and creating new educational and career opportunities for younger generations. Thanks in part to the work of the Campania Film Commission (chaired by Titta Fiore and directed by Maurizio Gemma), the capital of Southern Italy is positioning itself as the new Cinecittà of the country. Marco Bellocchio, Gianfranco Rosi, Antonio Capuano, Massimiliano Gallo, Vincenzo Marra, Fortunato Cerlino, Marco D'Amore and in more recent years Paolo Sorrentino, Gabriele Salvatores, Cristina Comencini and Claudio Giovannesi are just some of the Italian filmmakers who have chosen Naples as a privileged location for their stories, exploring the countless layers of one of the world's most ancient, contradictory and fascinating cities. Filming is currently wrapping on Mario's new movie "Scherzetto," based on the novel of the same name by Domenico Starnone. Actor Toni Servillo plays a seventy-year-old illustrator, ironic and disenchanted, forced to leave Milan and return to Naples to look after his young grandson Mario for a few days while his daughter is away. Grandfather and grandson must confront a forced cohabitation and a generational clash filled with silences and misunderstandings. Television productions confirmed in Naples include the series "Il Commissario Ricciardi," "Mina Settembre," the new season of "Mare Fuori," "Noi del Rione Sanità," and the highly anticipated "Portobello" about the Tortora case. For cinema, upcoming productions include "Je so pazzo" a biopic on Pino Daniele; "La Salita"; "Avemmaria" and "Solo se canti tu" a biopic on Nino D'Angelo starring Matteo Paolillo.



COMING SOON

## LA SALITA

THEATRE AS SALVATION

Naples, 1983. Due to structural damage caused by bradyseism, the women's prison of Pozzuoli is closed and inmates are temporarily transferred to other penitentiary facilities across the region. Some are provisionally housed at the Nisida Juvenile Detention Center. Meanwhile, Eduardo De Filippo, newly appointed Senator for Life, visits Nisida several times. He contributes to the restoration of the prison theatre and establishes both a stagecraft school and an acting workshop, sending actors from his company to stage the first theatrical production ever performed inside an Italian juvenile detention institute. With his directorial debut film "La Salita," Massimiliano Gallo brings to the screen a little-known chapter in Eduardo De Filippo's life. His is a different Nisida, far removed from the imagery popularized by "The Sea Beyond," yet equally relevant in its gaze upon prison life and the women behind bars.

## WAITING FOR AMERICA'S CUP 2027 SAILING IN THE MOST BEAUTIFUL GULF

It is a first time for the America's Cup in Italy, and the chosen host city is Naples. Between spring and summer 2027, the oldest sporting trophy in the world, whose history began in 1851, an event steeped in epic tradition, made of boats, champions, and iconic locations, will have as its racecourse the most beautiful gulf in the world, stretching from Capo Posillipo to Castel dell'Ovo. With Vesuvius as a dramatic backdrop and the islands of Capri and Ischia framing the horizon, the setting is as iconic as it is challenging. The close-to-shore racecourse will give fans a rare chance to witness the AC75s at full speed just metres from the waterfront. Local conditions promise steady sea breezes funnelled through the bay, combined with tactical shifts and occasional thermal winds, ensuring a dynamic race environment that will test crews to the limit while delivering unforgettable action for spectators. The logistical base for the teams and the boats will be Bagnoli. "We will speed up the redevelopment works", announced Sports Minister Abodi. And there will also be a legacy: the infrastructure built will remain in Bagnoli and for the city. An extraordinary opportunity not only for the Neapolitan capital but for the entire country.



**THE TALENTED VANESSA SCALERA IN EDOARDO DE ANGELIS' NEXT MOVIE**



## JE SO PAZZO THE BIRTH OF A MYTH

From one of the most authentic and intense storytellers of his city to an explorer of the sounds of the world. Je so pazzo directed by Nicola Prosatore, recounts the rise of a great Italian musician, Pino Daniele from the difficult years of a childhood marked by abandonment to the legendary 1981 concert before 200,000 people in Piazza Plebiscito. Massimiliano Caiazza portrays a young Pino who, amid family conflicts, personal fragilities, and deep loves, finds in music a language to express what he cannot put into words.



## DOCUFILM NAPLES 2500 +10

A narrative that attempts an ambitious and rare undertaking: to reconstruct 2,500 years of urban history of the city of Naples while, at the same time, projecting its gaze ten years ahead, where the future begins to take concrete shape. The docufilm, directed by Carlo Puca, narrated by Giorgia Cardinaletti and produced by ACEN -Association of Building Contractors of Naples, was premiered in a symbolic venue of the city: the Teatro San Carlo, the oldest opera house in Europe and among the most prestigious in the world. The underlying idea is both simple and radical: urban planning as the true driving force of the history of cities. Not events, not dates, but the transformations of inhabited space. Streets, ports, walls, districts, and major infrastructures tell the living flesh of places more than any chronicle ever could.



# NINO D'ANGELO

## THE MAN AND THE ARTIST

A portrait of Neapolitan singer-actor superstar Nino D'Angelo by his son Toni that turns into a paean to ordinary people, their dreams and hopes, and the popular arts like music and cinema from which these yearnings for better lives and kinder loves grow

Italian singer and actor Nino D'Angelo (born Gaetano D'Angelo) is arguably the foremost pop icon to come from Naples since the '80s. Born to a poor family from the Naples periphery, D'Angelo quit school and started taking jobs at an early age, including ice cream vendor and wedding singer. He was soon acclaimed in local circles for his beautiful voice, and his family raised the money to finance his first single, "A Storia Mia," in 1976. The success of the record, initially sold door to door by D'Angelo and his friends, surpassed all expectations. It was soon turned into a sceneggiata, a form of Neapolitan popular theater, thus launching D'Angelo's acting and singing career simultaneously. His records and plays made him a popular phenomenon with Southern Italian audiences almost overnight.

Nino. 18 giorni follows Nino D'Angelo as he prepares for the concert that will mark his return to the stage. Through rehearsals, memories and family gatherings, his son Toni's camera constructs an intimate diary where public and private merge, painting a portrait of a wildly popular artist and, at the same time, of a man grappling with time, memory and his connection to his roots.

«My father is my greatest mystery: very close and yet very distant at the same time» claims his son, the director Toni D'Angelo. «I speak Roman dialect and grew up in affluence; he speaks Neapolitan and was born into poverty. His enormous success in the 1980s dug a gulf between us that has always driven me to seek out who he was before becoming "Nino". With a traditional video camera, I would have invaded his privacy; with my smartphone, I found the right distance, as if taking notes in pencil. Nino. 18 giorni thus becomes the excuse to tell who Gaetano was before becoming Nino, who Nino was before becoming my father, and where we've come together. What emerges is the story of a man who gave voice to millions of Italians, the popular and poetic soul of a country full of contradictions».



Toni and Nino D'Angelo



## GIANMARCO MAZZI

### FROM ENTERTAINMENT TO INSTITUTIONS

Gianmarco Mazzi represents one of the most significant connecting figures between the world of the Italian creative industry and the political governance of culture. He currently serves as Undersecretary of State at the Ministry of Culture in the Italian Government, where he has transformed his decades-long experience in the music and television sectors into an institutional commitment focused on the promotion and enhancement of live entertainment."



## THE GREATEST VOICES OF NEAPOLITAN SONG



Enrico Caruso

Elvira Donnaamma

Renato Carosone

Roberto Murolo

Sergio Bruni

Giacomo Rondinella

Massimo Ranieri

Pino Daniele

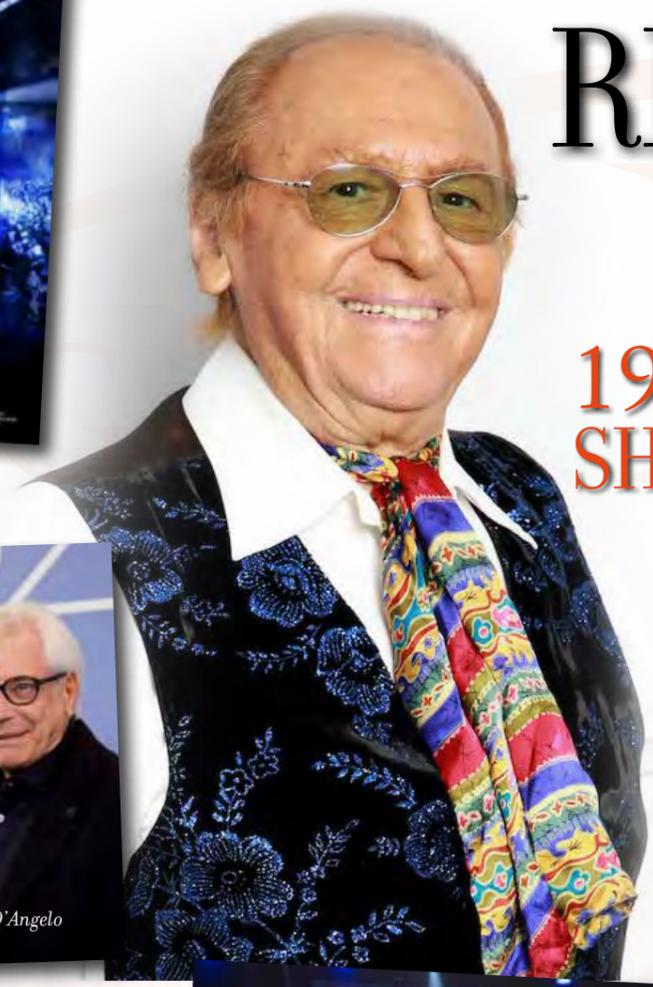
Gigi D'Alessio

Gigi Finizio

Maria Nazionale

# RENZO ARBORE'S

## 1993 NEW YORK CONCERT SHINES IN HOLLYWOOD



The screening of the event that relaunched the Neapolitan song all over the world is scheduled for March 12 at the TCL Chinese Theatre

Music, radio and television entertainment. Renzo Arbore is one of the most eclectic, charismatic personality in the world of Italian show business. Writer, presenter and director of television/radio programs, showman, film director, musician, song writer and composer, music critic and journalist, he invented new genres, he discovered many new talents, just to name one: Roberto Benigni. After a different kind of television, radio and cinema, Arbore has dedicated the last 18 years of his career to the Neapolitan song; putting together the Italian Orchestra, a group of 16 members who started off from a classical model and with great class carry out their mission to relaunch the Neapolitan song all over the world. Along



with his orchestra Arbore has performed in some of the greatest theaters in the world, from New York to Moscow, from London to Sydney, from Buenos Aires to Paris, from Tokyo to Beijing, achieving extraordinary success and winning over an international audience. The film about the memorable 1993 concert by Renzo Arbore and his Orchestra Italiana at New York's Radio City Music Hall will be featured in the rich program of the 21st edition of L.A., Italia - Film, Fashion and Art Festival, bringing to Hollywood the excitement of an evening that made history, thanks also to the extraordinary managerial work of Adriano Aragozzini, who was instrumental in building and developing the international musical project.

A concert-event that marked the beginning of Arbore and the Orchestra Italiana's successful series of U.S. tours. That very New York stop was the first chapter of a journey that would bring Neapolitan music and Italian tradition to the

most prestigious theaters in the United States, except for those on the West Coast, where the popular showman and his musicians have never performed, despite the area always hosting a large Italian-American community, particularly of Campanian origin.

An absence that Arbore himself comments on with regret: "We were always traveling around the USA and the rest of the world, so it never happened to do a concert in those parts. In hindsight, I regret it," said Arbore, reached by phone as the book written for him by Andrea Scarpa, 'Make Yourself Comfortable. Life, Adventures, and Everything Else,' continues to be a bestseller. Thus, the Hollywood screening of the concert at New York's Radio City Music Hall takes on a symbolic value: it represents an ideal landing on the West Coast of a musical journey that began over thirty years ago, helping to celebrate a historic chapter of Italian music in the world.

*All you need is...*

# CAMPANIA

**ART, HISTORY AND CULTURE ARE THE WINNING INGREDIENTS FOR THE DEVELOPMENT AND PROMOTION OF THE TERRITORY**

**TONY PETRUZZI**  
*President, Capri in the World Institute*

The enchanting landscapes, the sweet and jagged coasts plummeting into the sea, the fertile lands surrounded by hills and mountains – the Campania region does not only offer breathtaking views but also warm hospitality to millions of visitors from all over the world. Campania expresses its timeless charm not just in the summer but also in winter, a season that can reveal its beauty in an extraordinary way by offering heavenly routes and activities to those who love the open air, art, cultural events and long-standing traditions. The region possesses an extraordinary artistic and natural heritage. It is filled with natural landscapes, ancient ruins, thermal baths, exhilarating music, excellent food and enthralling stories, thus offering an ideal location for Italian and international movie productions that are inspired by the region's evocative atmosphere. 'Capri, Hollywood – the International Film Festival' and the 'Ischia Global Film and Music Festival' are two well established events which have long been part of Campania's cultural offerings. Their success proves that the south of Italy can meet all the requirements of a demanding market.



*Onofrio 'Ninni' Cutaita,  
Councillor for Culture  
Campania Region*



*Vincenzo Maraiò,  
Councillor for Tourism  
Campania Region*

The numerous international film and audiovisual productions show that Campania and the southern region of Italy have all the qualities to promote the social, economic and cultural development required by the increasing competition of worldwide markets.



*Roberto Fico, president Campania Region*

## TOM FORD TO ADAPT ANNE RICE "CRY TO HEAVEN"

The city of Caserta, with its magnificent Royal Palace, will be among the locations chosen by director Tom Ford for his return to cinema. The film will be titled "Cry to Heaven," and the decision to set the story in 18th-century Italy by adapting an Anne Rice novel is no coincidence. The world of the castrati—bodies sacrificed, identities shattered, and beauty achieved through violence seems tailor-made for Ford's filmmaking. It is a universe where desire is born from mutilation, where art is inseparable from loss, and where aesthetics are never innocent. These are themes that run through his entire filmography, even as contexts and genres shift. The film will feature Nicholas Hoult, Aaron Taylor-Johnson, singer Adele, Ciarán Hinds, George MacKay, Mark Strong, Colin Firth, and Paul Bettany.



# THE REGION TO BE ENJOYED throughout the year

## ISLAND OF ISCHIA AND AMALFITAN COAST

### MICHAEL B. JORDAN'S FILMING LOCATIONS IN ITALY

Michael B. Jordan visited the island of Ischia, Gulf of Naples, and Amalfitan coast to scout locations and film his new project, a film titled *Matador*. The production, where he acts and directs, included filming at the Aragonese Castle and other locations on the island in October 2025, contributing to Ischia's cinematic revival. The film marks the third remake of the classic *The Thomas Crown Affair* first brought to the screen in 1968 by Norman Jewison with Steve McQueen and Faye Dunaway, and then in 1999 by John McTiernan with Pierce Brosnan and Rene Russo. Michael B. Jordan, fresh from the success of *Creed III*, returns both behind and in front of the camera to play Thomas Crown, a charming and daring billionaire who challenges the law, and desire, in a game of seduction and deception with an insurance detective.



## WHOOPY GOLDBERG STARRING IN ITALIAN TV SHOW

The EGOT winner Whoopy Goldberg has taken her talents overseas. To Italy, specifically. She joined the cast of the Italian soap opera *A Place in the Sun in English*. Produced by Fremantle and broadcast on Rai 3, *A Place in the Sun* has been running continuously for 30 years, having premiered in 1996. «I learned a lot because I'd never done a soap opera.» Goldberg said of filming in Naples. She reported having "the best time" and found the experience to be a welcome escape, calling acting in Naples a "kind of vacation" from politics.





# The pass you need to visit Naples and Campania

Visit Pompeii, the museum in Naples, Paestum and many more sites with **campania > artecard**



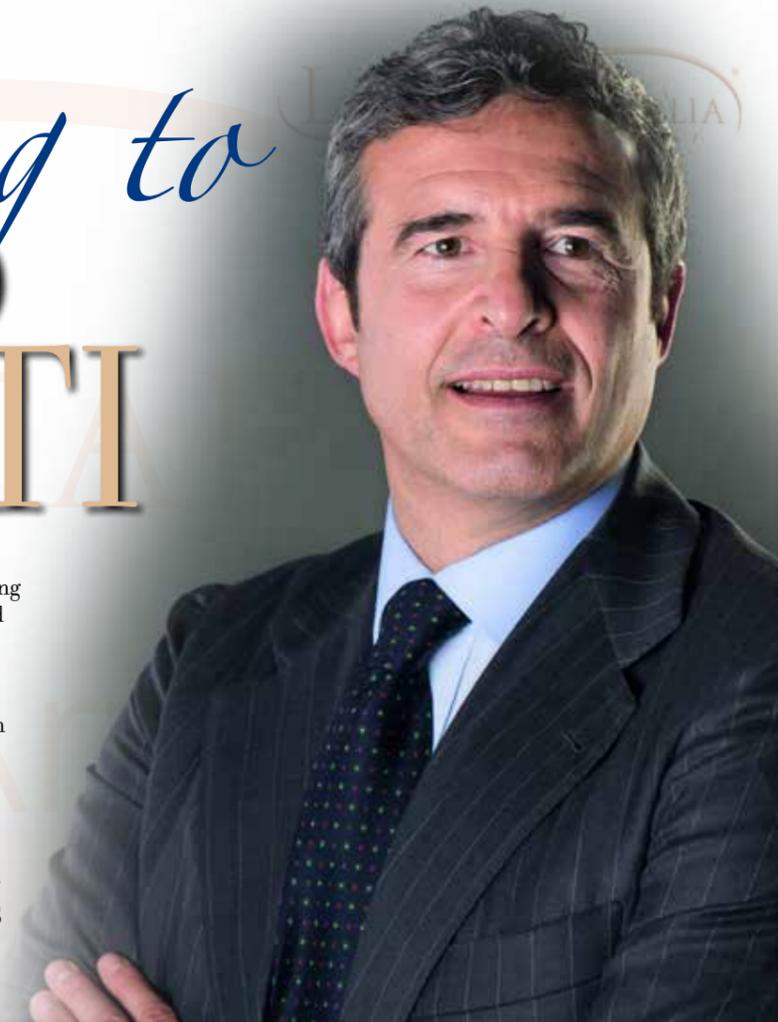
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Public transport included



# According to RICCARDO ELMONTI



**T**he For 21 years now, Los Angeles, Italia has been an unmissable appointment. Italian cinema has a vast following in the US, and this initiative continues to fuel this deep-seated passion.

Oscar Week represents the "peak season" of world cinema; being in Hollywood during these days provides our industry professionals with a privileged vantage point. The synergy with institutions, the Consulate, ICE (Italian Trade Agency), and the Italian Cultural Institute, is incredibly strong, making our national cultural system a unique model on the international stage.

Meanwhile, "Made in Italy" is successfully weathering the challenges of currency fluctuations and tariffs: the Americans' love for Italy and its products is stronger than any obstacle! US tourism also continues to grow despite the weakening of the dollar, remaining a massive development opportunity for the South, particularly for the Campania and Sicily regions.

In the world of film, Italy and the USA continue to collaborate closely, and Cinecittà remains a magnet for major productions featuring Hollywood superstars. Following the 50th-anniversary celebrations of the NIAF (National Italian American Foundation) in 2025, this year marks the 250th anniversary of the founding of the United States, with many celebratory initiatives on the horizon.

In short, the outlook for Italy-USA relations is bright. Being in Los Angeles during these incredible days is both a unique opportunity and a joy. That is why we say, once again: Thank you, Los Angeles, Italia!



Edoardo De Angelis and Riccardo Monti



Carolina Rosi, Damiano and Fabio D'Innocenzo with Riccardo Monti



Noa, Pascal Vicedomini, Kerry Kennedy, Riccardo Monti, Anna Safronic and Tony Renis

# AN EXCITING RENDEZVOUS OF INTERNATIONAL Stars IN THE WINTER SEASON

[www.caprihollywood.com](http://www.caprihollywood.com)

*The special 29th birthday of Capri Hollywood was celebrated last December during the festival, which met with remarkable success*

The international winter festival Capri Hollywood took place, like every year, at the turn of the year, from December 26, 2024 to January 2, 2025. The much-anticipated international film event created by Antonio Lorusso Petruzzi and Pascal Vicedomini in 1995 has recently celebrated its 29th year, more than a quarter of a century marked by extraordinary opportunities of exchange between celebrities and the breathtaking location of Capri, Italy. Over the past 29 years the festival has never failed to be at the center of attention of international showbusiness and to meet the latest challenges of the world entertainment industry. The online edition of Capri, Hollywood 2022 was enjoyed by over one hundred artists and hundreds of thousands of supporters and fans who followed the festival from their homes around the globe. Despite the international crisis, the festival was a huge success from all points of views: from the record number of views of the Capri contest (with participants from all over the world) to the heartfelt contributions by many audience favorites like Terry Gilliams, Liliana Cavani and Michele Placido. Capri, Hollywood 2024 represented a moment of relief during a complicated winter marked by international crisis. Above all, it was a happy get-together which provided new impulse and a feeling of hope for a better future, for Italy and its treasures and all forms of artistic expression, including movies, music and fashion.



Michele Placido

Sophia Loren



Claudia Gerini



Massimo Ghini



Peppe Lanzetta and Massimo Boldi



Bobby Moresco, Jim Sheridan, Matteo Garrone, Trudie Styler and Mamadou Kouassi



Mariah Carey



Leonardo Cecchi, Helen Mirren and Taylor Hackford



Arabella and Tony Lorusso Petruzzi



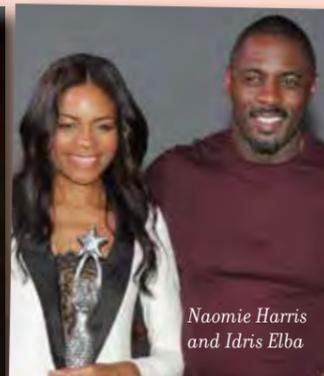
Francesco Merola and Marianna Mercurio



Vince Riotta



Toni Servillo



Naomie Harris and Idris Elba



Elsa Zylberstein



Antoine Fuqua



Alessandro Siani and Paul Feig



Pawel Pawlikowski



Til Schweiger and Nick Nolte



Bille August and Cristian Mungiu



Stephen Frears



Ed Westwick



Jim Sheridan and Mena Suvari



Nikita Mikhailkov



Forest Whitaker



Phil and Numa Palmer



Nolan Funk



Ken Loach and Matthew Modine



Joseph Fiennes



Amos Gitai and Noa



Bradley Fischer, Eli Roth, Terry Gilliam and Jonathan Pryce



Sumi Jo



Matthias Schoenaerts and Jennifer Jason Leigh



Michael Fassbender and Lee Daniels



Shekhar Kapur



Cary Fukunaga



Lashana Lynch



Sandy Powell



Andrej Konchalovsky



Hayden Panettiere



Richard Dreyfuss



Gerard Depardieu



Cristian Sallis



David O. Russell



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in a lovely corner of nature.



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# LET'S MEET IN *Paradise*

The Green Island is getting ready for the most exciting entertainment event of summer: The 24th edition of the Ischia Global Film & Music Festival will run from July 12-19, 2026



Giancarlo Carriero and Uma Thurman

Ischia Global Film & Music Festival has always been a dream event for those who love culture and movies, and the success of its latest editions showed that Campania is still alive, ready and willing to work safely, hosting attractive events in its territory. We are therefore very proud that, despite this difficult moment, we continue to be in the forefront, sending out an important signal of hope. The 23th year of life of Ischia Global was a true milestone. It encouraged us to do our very best, knowing that our festival is set in a breathtaking location where talents from around the world meet to express their creativity. More than ever, our region is capable of attracting tourists, nurturing artistic projects and meeting the challenge of our time. Francis Ford Coppola, Baz Luhrmann, Sting, Oliver Stone, Quincy Jones, Helen Mirren, Alfonso Cuaron, Jeremy Irons, Antonio Banderas, Jessica Chastain, Selena Gomez, Andrea Bocelli, Andrew Garfield, Joe Wright, Dionne Warwick, Vivienne Westwood, Michael Fassbender, Channing Tatum, Alicia Vikander, Nicholas Cage, Burt Bacharach, Michael Fassbender, Alejandro G. Inarritu, Vanessa Redgrave, Hilary Swank, Monica Bellucci, Abel Ferrara, Brady Corbet and Terry Gilliam are only some of the most affectionate friends who love visiting us and spending their time on an amazing island in a pleasant and relaxing environment. Thanks to its contents and location, the Festival has become Campania's flagship event and a model for others. We wish to thank the island's residents and all the festival's guests who have always stood by our side and who encourage us to fly high in the name of legendary producer Angelo Rizzoli. Their enthusiasm and affection continue to inspire us in promoting Italian culture, a legacy that has always been appreciated and acknowledged all over the world.



Antonio Banderas Lily Collins and Quincy Jones



Karla Sofia Gascón Andrew Garfield and Matteo Vicedomini



Emir Kusturica Charles Finch



Gianna Nannini



Trudie Styler e Sting



Rob Marshall Brendan Fraser Antoine Fuqua



Alfonso Cuaron Zucchero and Dionne Warwick



Alejandro Inarritu



Jessica Chastain and Chiwetel Ejiofor



Selena Gomez



Francis Ford Coppola



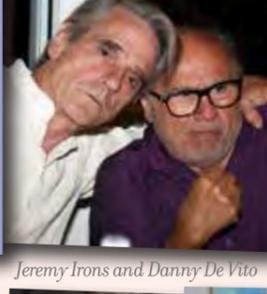
Brady Corbet and Kyle Stroud



Sofia Carson



Alicia Vikander and Nathalie Emmanuel



Jeremy Irons and Danny De Vito



Toni Colette



Laura Dem



Gigi D'Alessio



Vittorio Taviani, Monica Bellucci and Roberto De Simone



Jean Paul Gaultier



Hilary Swank



Roby Facchinetti Terrence Howard and Angela Bassett



Veronica Berti and Andrea Bocelli



Michael Bolton



Rosario Dawson



Diane Kruger



Jeremy Renner



Oliver Stone



Tim Robbins



Marco Bellocchio



Jerzy Skolimowski



Zoey Dutch and Alex Wolf



Marcella Bella



Bob Geldolf



Renato Zero



Channing Tatum



Baz Luhrman and Vanessa Hudgens



Hero Fiennes Tiffin



Christoph Waltz and Ettore Scola



Dominic Cooper



Andy Serkis Tom Hooper



Naomi Watts and Liev Schreiber



Armand Assante



Joe Wright and Haley Bennett



Julio Iglesias



Valeria Bruni Tedeschi



Tommy Hilfiger



Claire Danes and Matt Dillon



Bennet Miller, Bille August, Gina Gershon and Fisher Stevens

# Welcome to



# SORRENTO FILM & FOOD FESTIVAL

**From January 2 to 6**, at the Teatro Tasso, the fourth edition of the remarkable event took place, bringing together cinematic culture and outstanding food and wine excellence in one of the world's most beloved tourist destinations

A town of sun, sea, stunning landscapes, and ancient cultural and gastronomic traditions, which already in the 18th century made it an essential stop on the Grand Tour. Sorrento is one of the most sought-after destinations for international tourists visiting Italy. Its fame has been passed down for centuries thanks to a strong spirit of hospitality, care for the territory, and the ability to invest in sustainable tourism development, capable of offering increasingly structured areas and spaces for top-quality hospitality. From January 2 to 6, 2026, the Sorrentine Peninsula hosted the fourth edition of the Sorrento Film & Food Festival, an event that combined cinematic culture with gastronomic excellence—a winning combination to showcase to the world the history and traditions of our country, where the heritage of affection, taste, conviviality, traditions, and natural treasures found expression in images and cinematic stories that have always captivated international audiences.

The program was rich with works by masters of the seventh art, alongside projects by emerging young authors, all screened for free at the Teatro Tasso in Sorrento. It was a concrete opportunity to give space to talents, themes, and stories deserving of visibility to a wide audience. Among the various events, a special focus on Campanian cuisine was also confirmed, under the supervision of Don Alfonso Iaccarino, one of the most internationally acclaimed culinary masters, involving enthusiastic ambassadors from the entertainment and media worlds. The Sorrento Film & Food Festival 2026 offered a program of meetings, previews, debates, and free screenings, accompanied by a media and social network communication campaign that involved numerous artists beloved by the public, strengthening the foundations for an international event destined to be held annually in one of the most beautiful and evocative locations in the world.



Jerry Calà



Mimmo Calopresti and Gary Stretch



Francesca Bergesio



Chefs Ernesto Iaccarino, Nino di Costanzo and Domenico Candela



Mike Markoff and wife



Peter Webber with Chef Fabrizio Mellino



Chefs Peppe Guida e Maicol Izzo with Franco Nero



Chef Claudio Conti, Antonino Montefusco and Stefano Merzetti



Iaccarino's family



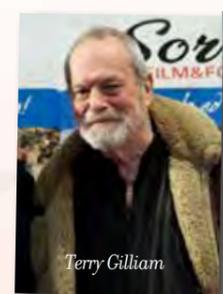
Chefs Paquale di Meglio, Pasquale Palamaro e Peppe Aversa with Pascal Vicedomini and actors Susy Del Giudice, Francesca Tizzano, Daniel McVicar and Giovanni Esposito



Costanzo Iaccarino president Federalberghi Campania



Alfonso Iaccarino and Enrico Vanzina



Terry Gilliam



Lina Sastri, Sebastiano Somma



Elisabetta Pellini



Jean Michel Byron



Daniel McVicar and Susy Del Giudice



Noa



Chefs Ernesto Iaccarino, Nino di Costanzo and Domenico Candela



Chef Antonio Cafiero, Graziano Scarabicchi, Francesca Bergesio and Vince Riotta

ISAIA  
NAPOLI  




# GIANLUCA ISAIA

## COMES *neapolital style* TO THE WORLD

The elegant creations of the Neapolitan brand Isaia&Isaia – one of the most iconic Italian maisons – are especially admired for their tasteful blending of tradition and innovation as well as for their touch of Neapolitan humor. After a long tailoring career, the company was founded in 1957 by Enrico Isaia, who was able to reinvent men’s fashion, restyling the look of the contemporary gentleman and turning him into a world citizen with a Mediterranean soul. Today the brand’s philosophy is represented by Gianluca Isaia, a third-generation heir of the maison responsible for creations of undisputed quality as well as for new stylish designs that can meet the increasing trends of the global market. Isaia has built a solid relationship of trust and reliability with his clients, taking the “red coral” brand to a leading place in the worldwide industry. The company’s taste for globality is expressed by Helmut Newton’s sophisticated commercial campaigns. Its enchanting garments created at the Casalnuovo di Napoli’s skillful traditional workshops are increasingly sought after by celebrities who wish to wear them under the spotlights of the awards season.

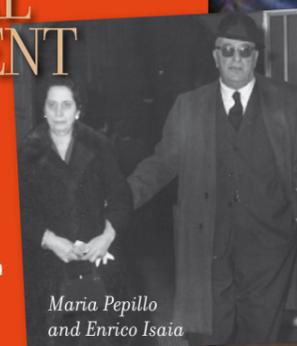


### BETWEEN CULTURE AND SOCIAL COMMITMENT

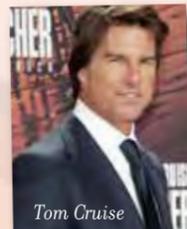
In October 2018, the Foundation Enrico Isaia and Maria Pepillo was created, with a mandate to promote Neapolitan fashion and culture.

“The Foundation will launch a number of enthralling projects,” according to Gianluca Isaia, CEO of the company and President of the Foundation. “Its dual purpose is to involve young people whilst providing a prestigious showcase for the art of clothes making.”

The foundation will help preserve and pass on handicrafts and traditions, also fostering important medical projects, to highlight the Neapolitan culture and its beauty, rich with passion and generosity.



Maria Pepillo and Enrico Isaia



Tom Cruise



Victor Cruz



Paul Feig



Will Smith



Chris Pratt



Al Pacino



Vince Vaughn

# HALLELUJAH FILM FESTIVAL



## POPE LEONE XIV:

### CINEMA A WORKSHOP OF HOPE

Pope Leo XIV met with the world of cinema in an audience at the Vatican on November 15, 2025, describing cinema as a "language of peace," "a home for those seeking meaning," and "a workshop of hope." The meeting emphasized the importance of the cinematic arts as a tool to explore the human condition and promote values of hope and beauty. Cinema was described as an art of the "Spirit," quoting David W. Griffith, and of "the wind that moves the trees," inviting people not to be afraid to engage with the complexity of human existence. From the Pope came a strong call to hope: the pontiff urged filmmakers to be "craftsmen of hope" and to use their work to explore beauty even in pain and tragedy. The event was attended by approximately 300 film professionals, including directors such as Spike Lee, Gus Van Sant, Giuseppe Tornatore, and Marco Bellocchio, as well as actors like Sergio Castellitto, Cate Blanchett, Viggo Mortensen, Stefania Sandrelli, and Monica Bellucci.



Papa Leone and Robert De Niro



Pope Leo meets the world of cinema



Suor Alessandra Sbarelli, Liliana Cavani and Lucia Borgonzoni



Mayor Alberto De Angelis, Amedeo Minghi, and Cardinal Fabio Baggio



Paolo Gasperini, Tony Renis, Noa, Father Tadeusz Rozmus



Marco Leonardi, Pascal Vicedomini, Marco Pontecorvo and Mimmo Calopresti

## GREAT CINEMA FOR PEACE

**A week of cinema, memory, and spirituality: a new event has been launched in Castel Gandolfo dedicated to dialogue and brotherhood among peoples, featuring tributes to masters and international guests**

The first edition of the Hallelujah Film Festival, the new international event dedicated to cinema as a tool for dialogue, reflection, and the building of peace, took place from December 6 to 13, 2025, in Castel Gandolfo. The festival, founded by Pascal Vicedomini and promoted by the non-profit association The Artist Club Italia, offered a week of screenings, meetings, and testimonies in the symbolic locations of the region: the Mariapoli Center, the Borgo Laudato Si', the "Paolo VI School," and several sacred sites in the Castelli Romani area.

In challenging times like those we live in, peace is a horizon achievable only if it is constantly built through languages capable of overcoming cultural, political, and religious barriers. The 1st Hallelujah Film Festival – International Symposium on Peace aims to unite art, cinema, and the spoken word in an international event designed to inspire awareness, dialogue, and concrete commitment to solidarity among peoples. It serves as a global cultural platform, aimed at citizens, students, institutions, artists, and thinkers, to promote the universal value of peace as well as a sense of hope and spirituality.

The opening took place in the immense spirit of Ennio Morricone's music with the screening of Roland Joffé's "Mission", a Cannes Palme d'Or-winning, timeless masterpiece that made the Maestro's musical poetics iconic. On this occasion, two special honors were awarded: to the composer's son, Andrea Morricone, and to flutist Andrea Griminelli, among the main ambassadors of Morricone's music worldwide. Among the most anticipated moments was the screening of Roberto Benigni's Life is Beautiful, a work that symbolizes the saving power of love and imagination even in the darkest times. A special award was also presented to singer Noa, who brings to the world—through the famous "Beautiful That Way"—the music of another great Italian composer, Nicola Piovani. The program continued with works that bravely and sensitively tackle the major humanitarian issues of our time.

Notable among these is Matteo Garrone's Io Capitano, a powerful story that invites reflection on the tragedy of migration from Africa; the documentary "Volevo Solo Vivere" by Mimmo Calopresti, which collects firsthand testimonies of survivors of Nazi persecution; and two works by Gianfranco Rosi, "Fuocoammare" and "The Travels of Pope Francis", which profoundly explore the relationship between humanity, faith, and global fragility. The schedule also included an interreligious meeting at the Cathedral of San Pancrazio in Albano Laziale to reaffirm the universal value of dialogue among different faiths and traditions.

Thus, the first edition of the Hallelujah Film Festival established itself as a new cultural hub dedicated to celebrating cinema as a universal language capable of uniting peoples, generations, and worldviews under the banner of peace.



Andrea Griminelli and Andrea Morricone



Dario D'Ambrosi and the young of the Teatro Patologico



Cristiana Capotondi, Lina Sastri, Mons. Vincenzo Viva and Adriano Pennino



Valter D'Errico, Luigi Zeno, Massimiliano Galea

empowering people and communities



“È per fede nell’amore e nella giustizia che siamo chiamati a costruire un mondo migliore di quello che abbiamo trovato, chiamati a restituire al mondo ciò che di buono abbiamo avuto, affinché anche le persone più sfortunate o più deboli abbiano la possibilità di una vita piena di opportunità e di bellezza, e affinché chi merita possa trovare energia e occasioni vere per dare il meglio di sé.” ANDREA BOCELLI

“Our faith in love and justice calls upon us to build a better world than the one we have found. It calls upon us to give back to the world all the good things we have received, so the less fortunate or most vulnerable members of our society get a chance to achieve a life full of opportunity and beauty. So those who take up the challenge will find concrete opportunities and the energy required to thrive in their own lives.” ANDREA BOCELLI



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# DIANE WARREN

## EXTENDS OSCAR® RECORD WITH 17<sup>TH</sup> NOMINATION FOR 'DEAR ME'

**Boasting 17 Academy Award® nods along with Grammy, Emmy and Golden Globe Awards, the songwriter has etched her name on the Hollywood Walk of Fame and the Songwriters Hall of Fame and is responsible for some of the most iconic songs of our time**

With a record-breaking number of nominations for a female singer, US composer Diane Warren, a long-time friend of the 'Los Angeles, Italia festival', has garnered a 17th Oscar nomination for her original song "Dear Me" from her 2024 documentary, "Diane Warren: Relentless."

As for what the superstar was feeling going into nomination day, she confessed: «Nervousness. You never know what's going to happen. And this is the first time I wrote a song for a movie about me. It's my documentary 'Relentless.' To write a song, 'Like, what kind of song do I write?' And I feel like I really wrote a great song.» The prestigious statuette has often crossed paths with the career of the amazing Warren, including with "Seen", the English version of Laura Pausini's "Io Sì". Diane Warren is considered to be among the most prolific and successful contemporary songwriters of our time. A quick glance at her list of Top Ten hits reveals a range of musical genres and styles so diverse it's difficult to believe the songs could have come from the same person.

Songwriter, musician and record producer, Warren rose to prominence in 1983, and has since written for and co-written songs with multiple singers, as well as for several feature films. She has written nine number one songs and 32 Top 10 songs on the Billboard Hot 100 chart. Additionally, two of the top 13 hits in the Hot 100's 57-year history were composed by her. Warren has won a Grammy, an Emmy, two Golden Globes, three consecutive Billboard Music Awards for Songwriter of the Year, and has been nominated for thirteen Academy Awards. She has written some of the most memorable songs of our time, including Leanne Rimes' "How Do I Live," Cher's "If I Could Turn Back Time" and Aerosmith's "I Don't Want to Miss a Thing." Diane Warren has written songs for such legends as Elton John, Tina Turner, Barbra Streisand, Aretha Franklin, Roberta Flack and Roy Orbison. Artists such as Lady Gaga, Cher, Patti LaBelle, 'N Sync, Gloria Estefan, Britney Spears, Christina Aguilera, Reba McEntire, Beyonce, Whitney Houston, Enrique Iglesias, Aerosmith, Ricky Martin, Faith Hill, Celine Dion, Mary J. Blige and LeAnn Rimes have also graced the charts with her songs.

Warren's massive success as a songwriter has offered her the opportunity to support a number of charitable causes. She is a Buddy for Life at AIDS Project Los Angeles and an honorary committee member of PETA. She has been a key donor to the Simon Wiesenthal Center Museum of Tolerance and founded the David S. Warren Weekly Entertainment Series at the Jewish Home for the Aging, a program she established in memory of her father.



Clive Davis, Diane Warren, Sophia Carson and Tony Renis



Diane Warren and Laura Pausini



Fondazione  
ARENA DI VERONA

12<sup>th</sup> June  
12<sup>th</sup> September 2026

OPERA

**La Traviata**  
Giuseppe Verdi  
New production

12, 13, 20, 27 June  
5, 9, 16, 31 July  
6, 22, 29 August  
5, 12 September

**Aida**  
Giuseppe Verdi  
Direction Stefano Poda

19, 25 June  
2, 10, 19, 24 July

**Nabucco**  
Giuseppe Verdi  
Direction Stefano Poda

26 June  
4, 12, 18, 23 July  
1, 8, 20, 28 August  
9 September

**La Bohème**  
Giacomo Puccini  
Direction Alfonso Signorini

3, 11, 17, 25 July

**Aida**  
Giuseppe Verdi  
Direction Franco Zeffirelli

30 July  
9, 15, 23, 30 August  
4, 10 September

**Turandot**  
Giacomo Puccini  
Direction Franco Zeffirelli

7, 14, 21, 27 August  
3, 11 September

GALA

**Roberto Bolle  
and Friends**

a co-production with ARTEDANZA srl  
21 July

**Carmina Burana**  
Carl Orff

13 August

**Paganini Paradise**  
Superlative Immersive Concert  
a co-production with Balich Wonder Studio

18 August

**Viva Vivaldi**

The Four Seasons Immersive Concert  
a co-production with Balich Wonder Studio  
19 August

BALLET AT TEATRO ROMANO

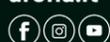
**Zorba il greco**

25, 26 August

# 103<sup>rd</sup> Arena di Verona Opera Festival 2026

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Media Partner



# VIVA VERDI! SONG NOMINATED FOR THE OSCAR®

“Sweet Dreams of Joy” written by composer  
Nicholas Pike and performed by Puerto Rican  
soprano, Ana María Martínez, received a  
nomination at the 98th Academy Awards

The song “Sweet Dreams Of Joy” from the documentary “Viva Verdi!” has been nominated for the Oscar for Best Original Song. The song composed by Nicholas Pike is performed by operatic soprano Ana Maria Martinez and will compete against four other songs for the 98th Academy Awards. A contemporary music aria with an operatic breath accompanies the story of the retirement home for musicians envisioned by the great Italian Maestro Giuseppe Verdi in Milan, at the very heart of the Lombard capital. “Viva Verdi!” is an intimate glimpse into the lives of the celebrated opera singers and musicians currently living out their ‘third act’ while mentoring international music students who live among them at Milan’s unique retirement home, Casa Verdi, built by Giuseppe Verdi in 1896. With the proceeds from his works, the composer of La Traviata and Rigoletto purchased a neo-Gothic villa in Piazzale Buonarroti and transformed it into a residence for professional musicians who had fallen on hard times after leaving the stage. Since then, Casa Verdi has welcomed more than 1,500 artists and today hosts around 65 residents: singers, pianists, dancers, and conductors who, among frescoed rooms and antique furnishings, continue to perform and to teach new generations. The feature documentary follows the lives of these distinguished masters, shining a spotlight on Verdi’s legacy.

The inspiration for the piece came to Pike precisely from listening to these elderly artists. “Their careers are not over,” the American composer stated. “They continue, they mentor young people, music stays with them to the very end. That energy, that spirit, is intoxicating. I wanted to write a piece that reflected exactly this: the vitality, the joy, the strength that comes from continuing to create.”

“Casa Verdi is a magical and somewhat mysterious place,” said director Yvonne Russo. “Many Italians don’t even know it exists. I discovered it in 2010 while working for National Geographic with photographer David Yoder. We were mapping authentic, non-touristy places in Milan. The moment I stepped inside, I knew that one day I would want to tell its story: music can build a community and make old age dignified, complete, and light.”

“When Yvonne proposed the project to me, I immediately said yes. Working on Verdi in Italy was a dream for me,” added producer Christine La Monte, a member of the Opera League. Both women have Italian roots.

Viva Verdi! also speaks Italian in its editing, entrusted to Federico Conforti, a Livorno native living in Los Angeles and a David di Donatello winner for They Call Me Jeeg.



Christine La Monte Yvonne Russo and Nicholas Pike



Ana Maria Martinez

Federico Conforti





Teatro del  
Maggio Musicale  
Fiorentino

# Stagione di Opera 2026



Dall'11 al 18 gennaio

**Giacomo Puccini**  
**Tosca**

Maestro concertatore e direttore  
**Michele Gamba**

Regia **Massimo Popolizio**

**Orchestra e Coro**  
**del Maggio Musicale Fiorentino**  
Maestro del Coro **Lorenzo Fratini**

**Coro di voci bianche**  
**dell'Accademia del Maggio**  
**Musicale Fiorentino**  
Maestra del Coro di voci bianche  
**Sara Matteucci**

Dal 22 febbraio al 3 marzo

**Ruggero Leoncavallo**  
**Pagliacci**

**Pietro Mascagni**  
**Cavalleria**  
**rusticana**

Maestro concertatore e direttore  
**Riccardo Frizza**

Regia **Robert Carsen**

**Orchestra e Coro**  
**del Maggio Musicale Fiorentino**  
Maestro del Coro **Lorenzo Fratini**

**Coro di voci bianche**  
**dell'Accademia del Maggio**  
**Musicale Fiorentino**  
Maestra del Coro di voci bianche  
**Sara Matteucci**

Allestimento della Dutch National  
Opera di Amsterdam

7 marzo

**Giovanni Battista Lulli**  
**Le Carnaval,**  
**Mascarade**  
**Royale**

in forma di concerto  
Edizione critica a cura  
di **Bernardo Ticci - BTE2025**

Direttore  
**Federico Maria Sardelli**

**Orchestra Modo Antiquo**

**Coro de I Musici**  
**del Gran Principe**  
Assistente direttore  
e Maestro del coro  
**Samuele Lastrucci**

Dal 14 al 22 marzo

**Béla Bartók**  
**Il castello**  
**di Barababù**

Maestro concertatore e direttore  
**Martin Rajna**

Regia **Claus Guth**

**Orchestra del Maggio**  
**Musicale Fiorentino**  
Maestro del Coro **Lorenzo Fratini**

Nuovo allestimento  
in coproduzione  
con **Tiroler Festspiele Erl**

**88° Festival del Maggio Fiorentino**  
Dal 19 al 26 aprile

**John Adams**  
**The Death**  
**of Klinghoffer**

Maestro concertatore e direttore  
**Lawrence Renes**

Regia **Luca Guadagnino**

**Orchestra e Coro**  
**del Maggio Musicale Fiorentino**  
Maestro del Coro **Lorenzo Fratini**

Nuovo allestimento

**88° Festival del Maggio Fiorentino**  
Dal 12 al 24 maggio

**Giuseppe Verdi**  
**Un ballo**  
**in maschera**

Maestro concertatore e direttore  
**Emmanuel Tjeknavorian**

Regia **Valentina Carrasco**

**Orchestra e Coro**  
**del Maggio Musicale Fiorentino**  
Maestro del Coro **Lorenzo Fratini**

Nuovo allestimento

**88° Festival del Maggio Fiorentino**  
Dal 14 al 25 giugno

**Georg Friedrich Händel**  
**Giulio Cesare**

Maestro concertatore e direttore  
**Gianluca Capuano**

Regia **Davide Livermore**

**Orchestra del Maggio**  
**Musicale Fiorentino**

Allestimento dell'Opéra  
di **Monte-Carlo**

**Stagione estiva**  
**alla Cavea del Teatro del Maggio**  
dall'11 al 18 luglio

**Gioachino Rossini**  
**Il barbiere**  
**di Siviglia**

Maestro concertatore e direttore  
**Riccardo Bisatti**

Regia **Damiano Michieletto**

**Orchestra e Coro**  
**del Maggio Musicale Fiorentino**  
Maestro del Coro **Lorenzo Fratini**

Allestimento  
del **Maggio Musicale Fiorentino**

Dal 27 settembre al 3 ottobre

**Alban Berg**  
**Wozzeck**

Maestro concertatore e direttore  
**Thomas Guggeis**

Regia **Deborah Warner**

**Orchestra e Coro**  
**del Maggio Musicale Fiorentino**  
Maestro del Coro **Lorenzo Fratini**

Allestimento della Royal Opera  
House, **Covent Garden**

Dal 23 al 31 ottobre

**Nicola Piovani**  
**Romanzo**  
**criminale**

Nuova commissione  
del **Maggio Musicale Fiorentino**  
e di "Musica per Roma"

Maestro concertatore e direttore  
**Nicola Piovani**

Regia **Massimo Popolizio**  
Libretto **Giancarlo De Cataldo**

**Orchestra e Coro**  
**del Maggio Musicale Fiorentino**  
Maestro del Coro **Lorenzo Fratini**

Nuovo allestimento

Dal 15 al 24 novembre

**Giuseppe Verdi**  
**Simon**  
**Boccanegra**

Maestro concertatore e direttore  
**James Conlon**

Regia **Alex Ollé (La Fura dels Baus)**

**Orchestra e Coro**  
**del Maggio Musicale Fiorentino**  
Maestro del Coro **Lorenzo Fratini**

Nuovo allestimento

Dal 20 dicembre al 2 gennaio 2027

**Jacques Offenbach**  
**Les contes**  
**d'Hoffmann**

Maestro concertatore e direttore  
**Kent Nagano**

Regia **Laurent Pelly**

**Orchestra e Coro**  
**del Maggio Musicale Fiorentino**  
Maestro del Coro **Lorenzo Fratini**

Allestimento  
della **Deutsche Oper Berlin**

Etrom Festa, HuangDesign - Illustrazione di Grantugi Boccaforondo



Scopri la Stagione Lirica e Sinfonica 2026

# THE FESTIVAL'S unforgettable MUSIC NIGHTS

Many are the artists who in twenty years  
have thrilled US audiences  
with outstanding live performances  
rich with emotion and surprises

If the Italian cinema and its key figures represent the beating heart of Los Angeles Italia, a special place has always been reserved for music, since the very first editions of the festival. Most prominent Italian and international artists have graced the stages of the Los Angeles Chinese Theatre and the Grammy Museum.

For centuries, Italy has been celebrated as a singing nation, from operas to bel canto to traditional songs, with the big hits of the Fifties and Sixties sung by such legends as Domenico Modugno, whose "Volare" has achieved cult status around the world. Today, Italian music still enjoys appreciation everywhere on the planet, and our festival holds several surprises as it unveils the talent of Italian musical artists who blend traditional melodies with new influences from US and other parts of the world.

Many have been the Italian artists who left their mark on Los Angeles, Italia: Vasco Rossi, the ultimate Italian rocker, whose intimate songs and true generational anthems are rich with energy and passion; Francesco De Gregori, one of the most prominent Italian songwriters, who delivered a splendid acoustic performance a few years ago at the festival; Zucchero "Sugar" Fornaciari, acclaimed musician both in Italy and abroad; flautist Andrea Griminelli, appreciated by critics and audiences alike for his sensitive performances and innovative technique; Stefano Bollani, an eclectic musician who enriches his compositions with lively improvisation; Clementino, the "freestyle prince," a regular at the festival who involves Hollywood stars, the audience and the staff in his performances; Giuliano Sangiorgi, the founder and frontman of the pop band Negramaro. And more: Andrea Bocelli, Peppino Di Capri, Tiziano Ferro, Vittorio Grigolo, Dario Marianelli – renowned performers who each time turn their show into a real artistic happening.



Clive Davis and Jimmy Iovine



Vincenzo Mollica, Maddalena Ghenea and Zucchero



Tiziano Ferro



Rossana and Andrea Griminelli



Andrea Bocelli and David Foster



Peppino Di Capri



Giuliano Sangiorgi



Ron



Neole Slake Jones



Clementino



Enzo Gragnaniello



Stefano Bollani

# LOS ANGELES, ITALIA

# ITALIAN KINGS OF COMEDY

## PIO & AMEDEO THE ODD COUPLE

**In their directorial debut, the comedy duo surprises with "Oi vita mia," a film that overturns and stigmatizes prejudice**

It is a time of great personal satisfaction for Pio D'Antini and Amedeo Grieco, known professionally as Pio & Amedeo. The comedy duo, formed in the early 2000s and established after a long apprenticeship across TV, radio, stage, and cinema, is enjoying the success of the film "Oi vita mia", which also marks their debut as directors, behind the camera. Their first appearance on the big screen actually dates back to 2014, in the road movie "Amici come noi", produced by Taodue. In the same year they starred alongside Vincenzo Salemme, Gigi Proietti, and many others in "E tu di che segno sei?" produced by Vanzina and directed by Neri Parenti. In 2016 they landed on Italia Uno with "Emigrati", now in its third season, where Pio & Amedeo are the absolute protagonists together with the celebrities they target. It became a major popular success that shows no sign of fading and led them, over the following two years, to perform on stages throughout Italy. In 2018 they received the "Carlo Vanzina - Prince of Comedy Award" during the 16th edition of the Ischia Global Fest—an honor awarded to young artists who distinguished themselves during the season and proved capable of portraying Italian society, customs, vices, and virtues with lightness and intelligence. On February 6, 2019, they were guests on the second night of the 69th Sanremo Music Festival; the evening's ratings peak was reached during their sketch. In 2021 they made their prime-time TV debut with their show "Felicissima sera", while on the big screen they topped the box office with "Belli Ciao", directed by Gennaro Nunziante. In a period of major change, their move into directing was inevitable, accompanied by writing and an increasingly personal worldview, where the goal remains to make audiences laugh and smile, but also to spark reflection on important themes such as mental health and religion.



## CHECCO ZALONE BREAKS ITALIAN BOX OFFICE RECORD

**The on the road comedy 'Buen Camino' directed by Gennaro Nunziante and distributed by Medusa Film surpasses even 'Avatar' with over 70 million**

The return of Checco Zalone to the big screen with the comedy "Buen Camino" is one that marks the history of Italian cinema. With box office takings of over 70 million earned in less than a month of theatrical release, the film broke the long-standing record held by "Avatar" by James Cameron and established itself as the highest-grossing film of all time in Italy. A result that rewards the road-movie comedy directed by Gennaro Nunziante and testifies to the strong bond between audiences and the Apulian actor, writer, and musician Luca Medici. His comic style, irreverent yet at the same time reflective, manages to capture the anxieties and hopes of an entire country, with a unique ability to read contemporary Italian society through the filter of laughter. Zalone has in fact made his ability to address highly relevant social issues in a light, entertaining way a true stylistic trademark. Zalone knows all the most fundamental mechanisms of comedy, combines them with a wild, eccentric cheerfulness, and ultimately uses them to create an identity-based relationship between himself and his audience. Within this distorting mirror, viewers see themselves reflected and have fun. Because Zalone tells us who we are our contradictions and our emptiness, our hypocrisy and our cunning and he does so while avoiding the worst trap: that of positioning himself on the "right side." Only by remaining balanced between criticism and indulgence does he manage to wear the mask he wants to show us. Over the years, he has made his way into the hearts of Italians with films such as Cado dalle Nubi, What a Beautiful Day, Sole a Catinelle, and Quo Vado? In "Buen Camino", Checco plays the spoiled, ultra-wealthy son of a sofa manufacturer, forced to chase after his teenage daughter, Cristal, who has run away to undertake the Camino de Santiago. The pilgrimage, through hostels, unexpected events, hospital stays and rebirths—will lead him to discover a world far removed from superficiality and luxury, forcing him to confront his daughter and change his perspective on reality. A timely theme handled with irony, stimulating public debate and confirming his undeniable ability to connect with mainstream audiences. "Buen Camino" is produced by Marco Cohen, Benedetto Habib, Fabrizio Donvito and Daniel Campos Pavoncelli. The film is an Indiana Production film with Medusa Film, in collaboration with Mzl and in collaboration with Netflix, produced by Indiana Production, a Vuelta company.



### US PREMIERE OI VITA MIA

Two lifelong friends: one runs a support and rehabilitation center for troubled teenagers with difficult pasts, the other manages a nursing home for the elderly. Due to a series of fortunate coincidences, however, the facilities run by the two friends end up having to share the same building, initially creating enormous confusion.



### US PREMIERE



### BUEN CAMINO

Checco is a wealthy, vain, and superficial heir, engaged to the Mexican model Martina. He owes his wealth to his father's 60 years of work; his father is currently ill. A few days before his 50th birthday, his daughter Cristal disappears. He discovers that the girl has left to take part in the Camino de Santiago, using a fake document because she is underage. Checco reaches her, but Cristal wants nothing to do with him.

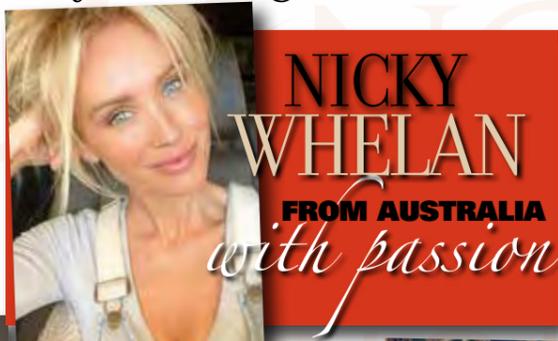


Letizia Arò, Gennaro Nunziante and Beatriz Arjona

# NO LA, ITALIA, NO PARTY!

Screenings, performances, conferences and much more: glitterati people to attend the seven day extravaganza

During the Awards Season, Los Angeles is home to some of the most coveted events in the world of cinema: top Hollywood stars attend the most glamorous parties, among which Vanity Fair's historical gathering stands out for its elegance and flair. However, almost every studio, glossy magazine and charitable foundation eagerly hosts a party designed to welcome the glitzy world of stardom. High-profile personalities gather at the astounding mansions of actors and producers, including agents, studio executives, and music celebrities, the latter giving life to unforgettable jam sessions and incredible improvised duets. Italian-American producer Raffaella De Laurentiis and the actor Robert Davi, who is the honorary chair of Los Angeles, Italia 2026 will welcome the Italian delegates at the TCL Chinese Theater and will celebrate Italian best movies in Hollywood.



- Elisabetta Canalis
- Catherine Hardwicke
- Gina Gershon
- Carolina Guerra
- Ivana Canovic
- Nicole Kempel and Antonio Banderas
- Niki Murphy
- Silvia Damiani and Tomas Arana
- Aaron Diaz and Lola Ponce
- Ciera Foster
- Danny Glover
- Fisher Stevens
- Kristos Andrew
- Gisella Marengo and Lucila Sola
- Elisabetta Marra
- Daniele Venturilli
- Sergio Rubini and Darina Pavlova
- Jamie Marshall
- Meadow Williams
- Melissa Odabash
- David Codikov
- Veronica Maffei
- Amanda Eliasch
- Nina Senicar
- Larry Russo
- Aida Yespica
- Kiersten Dolbec
- Eva Dolezalova
- Kelly Brook and Evan Heiney
- Yvonne Scio
- Valeria Marini
- Dito Montiel with wife Michelle
- Malin Akerman
- Valentina Castellani Quimn
- Frazier
- Stefno Reali
- Giuliana De Donno
- Nia Vardalos
- Ray Costa
- Lilla Soria
- Meher Tatna
- Paula Thomas
- Francesca Harrison
- Richard Harrison
- Lindsay Lohan
- Alex Meneses
- Paolo Fidemi
- Federica Artiano
- Ria Antoniou
- Francesco Santoro
- Jade Weber
- Fulvio De Piscopo and Tony Esposito
- Hofit Golan
- Cindy Marina
- Oretta Corbelli
- Massimo Paolucci
- Gianni Chiffi
- Claudia Gerini
- Kimberly Hines
- Aurelio Amato
- Gianluigi Lembo
- Sergio Fabi
- Riccardo Tinnirello
- Lady Victoria Hervey
- Ashley Jones
- Karolina Kurkova and Archie Drury
- Mattia Dessi and Brigitte Nielsen

# LOS ANGELES, ITALIA

join us on



## FRIENDS club

Since 2006, Los Angeles Italia has continued to bring numerous Italian artists to Hollywood. Every year, Los Angeles Italia celebrates the art, fashion and cuisine of our country. The festival is an irresistible lure for those who love the genius like creativity of the Italians. For its twenty-first edition, we are proud to present a selection of images to celebrate the friends who helped us grow and make this event highly successful. Friends of Los Angeles Italia include those who join us on the web and through social networks, including our Facebook and Twitter followers as well as those who long on to our official website: [www.losangelesitalia.com](http://www.losangelesitalia.com). We are grateful for their warm support and are pleased to welcome them to join our festival's 20th edition.



Sue Kroll



Edmondo Cirielli



Collen Camp



Paolo Barletta



Giorgio Bergesio



Simona Agnes



Pietrangelo Buttafuoco



Gennaro Sangiuliano



Jason Weinberg



Daniela Santanché



Piero De Luca



Cheryl Boone Isaacs



Gaetano Manfredi



Salvo Nastasi



Fulvio Firrito



Alberto Barbera



Donald Kushner



Daniel Ezralow



Gennaro Sangiuliano



Roberto Alessi



Flavio Natalia



Danielle Robinson



Camilla Cormanni



Titta Fiore



Gloria Satta



Leslie and Jack Kavanaugh



Stefano Coletta



Nicola Faganello



Carlo Rossella



Francesca De Sapio



Giampiero Massolo



Riccardo Sessa



George Pennacchio



Giuseppe Perrone



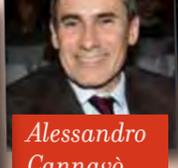
Eleonora Daniele



Federico Monga



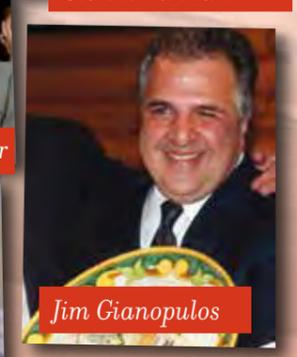
Luigi Contu



Alessandro Cannavò



Alan Siegel and David Meister



Jim Gianopoulos



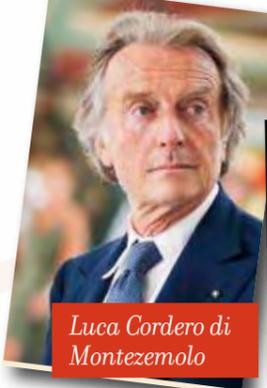
Alessandra Magliaro



Sam Jason



Raffaele Di Martino



Luca Cordero di Montezemolo



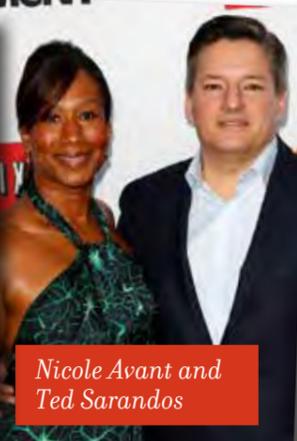
Stefano Lucchini



Stefano Barrese



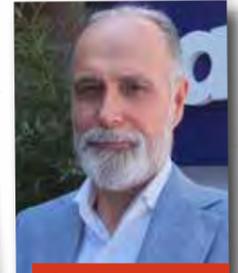
Kerry and Rory Kennedy



Nicole Avant and Ted Sarandos



Diego Della Valle and Richard Gere



Giampaolo Rossi



Antonio Marano



Danilo Iervolino



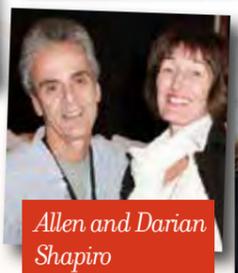
Giovanni Minoli



Alessandro Morelli



Luigi e Aurelio De Laurentiis



Allen and Darian Shapiro



Fabia Bettini e Gianluca Giannelli



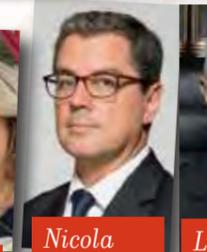
Alessandro Salem



Emir Uyar



Claire Siney e Lisa Tabak



Nicola Claudio



Luciano Fontana



Courtenay and John Valenti



Angelo Mellone



Vincenzo Di Vincenzo



Mauro Crippa



Piera Detassis



Scott Feinberg



Roberto Napoletano



Jessica Chastain and Munawar Hosein



Gianluca Guzzo



Clemente Mimun



Laura Delli Colli



Humberto Gatica and David Foster



Vanessa Hessler and Gianni Nunnari

# LA ITALIA FESTIVAL CONTEST 2026

## RUKELI

DIR. Alessandro Rak - 6'

Johann Wilhelm Trollmann becomes middleweight champion in Nazi Germany. He is the first Sinto, Gypsy, in world boxing to win this title. He is famous for his fighting style, which resembles a dance. With the enactment of the racial laws, he is stripped of his title, separated from his wife and daughter, subjected to chemical castration, and imprisoned in the Wittenberge and Neuen-gamme concentration camps.



## RIVER'S END

DIR. Maddalena Crespi - 15'

Alessandra and Elisa are fifteen, bound by an intense connection that shifts between closeness, desire, and subtle jealousy. Elisa is about to move abroad, and the looming distance charges every gesture with new weight. Over the course of a long afternoon, following the path of a river, they drift along the edges of their world: boys who bully, men who blur boundaries, glimpses of an adult world they observe without fully understanding.



## THE LEAP WATERFALL

DIR. Flavio Stano - 20'

During their last summer together, Marcello and Gioele embark on an excursion to find the mythical "leap's waterfall", a journey that will prove revealing.



## LUNA

DIR. Aurora Ovan - 15'

In a dystopian 2045, the world is divided into two great Countries constantly in war: Nature and City. Luna, a young and rebellious shaman-to-be, wants to prove to Nature Custodians that Citizens can still change, illegally entering The City in order to find a proof. Luna is a sci-fantasy adventure about the difference that anyone can make for the future of our Planet.



## TRANSUMANZA

DIR. Giovanni Bertola - 15'

Carla's life is turned upside down by the news that her father, at home, is about to die. Waiting for her is her sister Anna, who cannot accept the imminent death and drowns the loneliness in alcohol. An inescapable tragedy leads the two sisters to rebuild a relationship lost years before, when Carla left Friuli to pursue her dreams away from home.



## COLOMBIA

DIR. Alessandro Rajola - 12'

Due to the extreme poverty in Venezuela, young Carlos is forced to travel across the border to Colombia, his only chance for a better future. However, the border is extremely dangerous and inhabited by armed groups. Miraculously surviving, he reaches a mountain town where he finds work as a delivery boy in a pastry shop. Carlos can finally start a new life in Colombia, but the memories of the family and friends he left behind haunt him.



## SIRENS

DIR. Valter D'Errico

The tragedy of a migrant boat that sank in 2013 between Lampedusa and Malta brings to light the stories of men, women and children fleeing war and persecution, giving a human face to one of the Mediterranean's most devastating disasters.



## THE FIRST TIMES

DIR. Giulia Cosentino, Perla Sardella - 16'

Emilia and Caterina write letters to each other revisiting their adolescent memories and earliest experiences at a boarding school in the 1950s. Did they choose the lives they truly wanted, or only those that they dared to imagine?



## WE'LL LET YOU KNOW

DIR. Peppe Tufarulo - 11'

An apparently normal job interview reveals the disillusionment and irony of the contemporary professional world.



## JACO

DIR. Alessandro Penta - 15'

On a scorching summer day in 1990, in the darkness of a barn, Jaco, Anna, and Leo come together carnally, fulfilling their sexual desire. From a distant window, hidden in the shadows of the room, Jaco's father watches the three friends share intimacy on the grounds of his countryside estate. During lunch, the table is shrouded in a deathly silence. When the tension reaches its peak, the friends, visibly uncomfortable, decide to leave.



## DRON AMOR

DIR. Jonathan Elia - 15'

Young Nicholas, from upper class northern Rome, is consumed by guilt after causing Flaminia's miscarriage in a car accident. On the verge of suicide, the arrival of his manipulative friend Leonardo brings a shocking revelation.



## THE VEIL

DIR. Christian Patané - 6'

During Lea's wedding, her old friend Carla, now a novice nun, sits among the guests, as within her rises the desire to declare her love before the eyes of all, especially God.



## KILL TIME

DIR. Niccolò Forcella - 7'

The buried collections of a child and two adults overlapping each other in a vast field of suburbs. The mystery of a common game, of two seemingly irreconcil-



## THE CHAMPION'S MURAL

DIR. Massimiliano Pacifico - 12'

Naples, 2025. A film production company is preparing a movie about the murals dedicated to Diego Armando Maradona. The crew begins holding auditions to find one of the young men who will star in the film. This event becomes an opportunity for redemption for many of them, a chance to escape a reality often marked by crime.



## CANDIDO

DIR. Giorgio Clementelli - 14'

2049. Candido is 84 years old and has been married to Serena, the love of his life, for 50 years. Although he feels like an "analog" man, Candido no longer has the strength to fight against new technological tools and reluctantly adapts to them.



## MANDILLA

DIR. Lorenzo Rapetti - 19'

Somewhere, sometime, in an unnamed city, Mandillà (he/him), a 25-year-old man, shares his space with Violetta (20) (they/she), whom he is madly in love with. They share their lives—but not everything. Violetta is unaware of Mandillà's work. He collects debts for an unspecified criminal organization. These two timelines collide when Mandillà is forced to collect money from someone very close to Violetta...



# SHOWCASING SOME OF THE SEASON'S MOST ACCLAIMED MOVIES

## FIVE SECONDS

DIR. Paolo Virzi - 105'

In an isolated Tuscany valley, Adriano, a 50-year-old man haunted by a troubled past, lives alone in the renovated stables of a crumbling villa. Suddenly, a group of young idealists, led by Matilde, take over the empty villa, hoping to restore its long-abandoned vineyards.



## SHARKS

DIR. Daniele Barbiero - 96'

Nineteen-year-old Max, ready to leave for Spain after finishing school, is drawn into the competitive world of a start-up when an entrepreneur shows interest in the university-guidance app he created, forcing him to confront his fears and the uncertainty of choosing his future in a rapidly changing landscape.



## EVA

DIR. Emanuela Rossi - 98'

Eva, a mysterious woman who sets fire to a sunflower field, claims she acted to protect supposedly sick children, as her arrest becomes entwined with a series of local disappearances in which the youngsters appear to follow her willingly, while in China a mother faces her own daughter's illness.



## NAPOLI - NEW YORK

DIR. Gabriele Salvatores - 124'

In post-war Naples, amid poverty and ruins, Carmine and Celestina secretly board a ship to New York in search of a better future and Celestina's emigra-

ted sister, joining the wave of Italians chasing a new life and, through misadventures in an unfamiliar metropolis, slowly learning to call it home.



## ZOE

DIR. Emanuela Galliussi and Dean Ronalds - 101'

Zoe, an Italian woman who appears to have everything yet feels unfulfilled, is granted three chances on Mardi Gras by a mysterious boy disguised as a wizard to experience the life she has always desired, living over three days in Ibiza, London and Paris among new identities and lovers, knowing that if she cannot choose she will remain bound to him forever.



## UNICORNS

DIR. Michela Andreozzi - 105'

Lucio, a radio host proud of his progressive views, is thrown into crisis when his nine-year-old son Blue says he no longer wants to be a boy, exposing the fragility of Lucio's supposed open-mindedness and placing him at odds with his more accepting wife, as he embarks on a diffi-

cult journey to confront his own limits and become a better father.



## ELISA

DIR. Leonardo Di Costanzo - 108'

Elisa has spent over a decade in prison for murdering her sister and burning the body, a crime she claims barely to remember, but when she agrees to meet criminologist Alaoui and join his research, buried memories resurface and facing her guilt becomes the first fragile step toward redemption.



## 40 SECONDS

DIR. Vincenzo Alfieri - 121'

A simple misunderstanding escalates into the brutal murder of Willy Monteiro Duarte, killed in just forty seconds, as the film retraces the 24 hours preceding the tragedy and explores the chain of tensions and rivalries that reveal the banality of evil.



## THE LAST SLAP

DIR. Matteo Oleotto - 97'

Giulia, young and rebellious, lives her adolescence carefree. Suddenly, however something is interrupted: a silent void, a violence without escape will tie her unknowingly to a mysterious feminicide, which snow has been able to conceal in time.



## LAGHAT - AN IMPOSSIBLE DREAM

DIR. Michael Zampino - 105'

Andrea, 21, dreams of returning to racing after reconnecting with his former trainer. His only chance is Laghat, a gifted but visually impaired thoroughbred—an opportunity that becomes both a sporting and personal test.



## GIACOMO IN LOVE

dir. Federica Biondi - 93'

David, a superficial young American actor, is forced to star in an Italian film about Giacomo Leopardi directed by the legendary Ruggero Mitri; arriving unprepared in Recanati, he clashes with Silvia, the coach tasked with guiding him into Leopardi's world, and their initial hostility gradually turns into an unexpected love shaped by poetry and culture.



## STRIKE

dir. Gabriele Berti - 106'

At a rehab center, 3 unlikely friends, an awkward psychology student on placement, a misbehaving student, and a reformed troublemaker – bond over hilarious misadventures and heartfelt advice, facing life's challenges together.



## THE DARKNESS

dir. Giuseppe William Lombardo - 107'

A young man's odyssey to erase his pain and nightmares leads him to question his schizophrenia diagnosis. He seeks answers in Sicily, where spirits and curses still evoke fear among locals.



## THE THIRD TIME

dir. Gianni Aureli - 107'

During World War II, after the armistice, German troops occupied southern Italy. A mysterious woman on the run is entrusted to Nichi, an expert guide and resistance fighter, who must lead her through the woods to safety. The woman carries a secret diary she hopes to trade for her freedom — and on its first page appears a single name: Edda Ciano.



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Vittoria Fenati

## DAILY PROGRAM • SCREENINGS AND EVENTS

### TCL CHINESE THEATRE

#### SUNDAY, MARCH 8

10:00am **HONORING THE ITALIAN MASTERS** by Intesa Sanpaolo • 1900 (247') dir. Bernardo Bertolucci

2:30pm **ITALIAN CINEMA TODAY** – Special Screening • **BUEN CAMINO** (90') – Dir. Gennaro Nunziante

4:30pm **ENJOY THE ITALIAN TV SERIES** - U.S. Premiere • **SANDOKAN: THE PIRATE PRINCE** (Episodes 1 and 2 – 100') – Dir. Jan Maria Michelini e Nicola Abbatangelo

Followed by **OPENING CEREMONY**

7:00pm **ITALIAN CINEMA TODAY** – U.S. Premiere • **ANNA – THE UNTOLD STORY** (98') – Dir. Monica Guerritore

9:00pm **SHORT CUT IS BEAUTIFUL** - U.S. Premiere • **SIRENS** (18') – Dir. Valter D'Errico

To Follow **DOCU IS WORTH** - U.S. Premiere • **LUNTANO** (42') – Dir. Cosimo Mainardi

10:30pm **ENJOY THE ITALIAN TV SERIES** - U.S. Premiere • **THE CASES OF LAWYER GUERRIERI** (Episodes 1 and 2 – 90') – Dir. Gianluca Maria Tavarelli

#### MONDAY, MARCH 9

10:00am **HONORING THE ITALIAN MASTERS** by Intesa Sanpaolo • **VOLONTÉ: A MAN WITH A THOUSAND FACES** (97') - Dir. Francesco Zippel

12:00pm **ITALIAN CINEMA TODAY** - U.S. Premiere • **UNICORNS** (100') – Dir. Michela Andreozzi

2:00pm **ITALIAN CINEMA TODAY** - U.S. Premiere • **A GOOD DAY** (93') – Dir. Fabio De Luigi

4:00pm **ITALIAN CINEMA TODAY** - U.S. Premiere • **OI VITA MIA** (99') – Dir. Pio D'Antini and Amedeo Grieco

6:00pm **HONORING THE ITALIAN MASTERS** by Intesa Sanpaolo • **FIVE SECONDS** (98') – Dir. Paolo Virzì

8:00pm **ITALIAN CINEMA TODAY** - U.S. Premiere • **ROSSO VOLANTE - THE RISE OF A CHAMPION** (98') - Dir. Alessandro Angelini

10:00pm **ITALIAN CINEMA TODAY** - U.S. Premiere • **THE DARKNESS** (107') – Dir. Giuseppe William Lombardo

#### TUESDAY, MARCH 10

10:00am **DOCU IS WORTH** - U.S. Premiere • **CENTO E OLTRE. PUCCINI E NOI** (94') – Dir. Angelo Bozzolini

12:00pm **ITALIAN CINEMA TODAY** - LA Premiere • **SIBLINGS** (101') – Dir. Greta Scarano

2:00pm **ITALIAN CINEMA TODAY** – U.S. Premiere • **LA CAMERA DI CONSIGLIO** (100') – Dir. Fiorella Infascelli

4:00pm **HONORING THE ITALIAN MASTERS** by Intesa Sanpaolo • **LIFE IS LIFE** (103') – Dir. Riccardo Milani

6:00pm **ITALIAN CINEMA TODAY** - U.S. Premiere • **THE LAST MATCH** (99') – Dir. Antonio Silvestre

8:00pm **DOCU IS WORTH** – Special Screening • **MY FATHER AND QADDAFI** (88') – Dir. Jihan K

10:00pm **HONORING THE ITALIAN MASTERS** by Intesa Sanpaolo • **FUORI** (115') – Dir. Mario Martone

#### WEDNESDAY, MARCH 11

10:00am **ITALIAN CINEMA TODAY** - U.S. Premiere • **FRANCO BATTIATO - IL LUNGO VIAGGIO** (100') – Dir. Renato De Maria

12:00pm **ITALIAN CINEMA TODAY** - U.S. Premiere • **EVA** (98') - Dir. Emanuela Rossi

2:00pm **HONORING THE ITALIAN MASTERS** by Intesa Sanpaolo • **BELOVED** (96') – Dir. Elisa Amoruso

4:00pm **SHORT CUT IS BEAUTIFUL** - U.S. Premiere • **DRON AMOR – ROMA NORD** (15') – Dir. Jonathan Elia

To Follow **WHY HER** (8') – Dir. Jonathan Elia, Tommaso Furgione

To Follow **LAST DAY OF HAPPINESS** (13') – Dir. Giovanni B. Algieri

5:00pm **DOCU IS WORTH** - U.S. Premiere • **LUCA: SEEING RED** (98') – Dir. Manish Pandey

7:00pm **DOCU IS WORTH** - U.S. Premiere • **FASTING AND THE LONGEVITY REVOLUTION** (100') – Dir. Barry Alexander Brown

Awards Presentation: **Edward Norton And Barry Alexander Brown**

9:00pm **ITALIAN CINEMA TODAY** - U.S. Premiere • **THE CRIMINOLOGIST** (95') – Dir. Antonio Rojch

11:00pm **DOCU IS WORTH** - U.S. Premiere • **BERNARDO BERTOLUCCI: A MAGNIFICENT OBSESSION** (80') – Dir. Marco Spagnoli

#### THURSDAY, MARCH 12

10:00am **DOCU IS WORTH** - U.S. Premiere • **MY NAME IS RICCARDO COCCIANTE** (94') - Dir. Stefano Salvati

12:00pm **ITALIAN CINEMA TODAY** - U.S. Premiere • **40 SECONDS** (111') – Dir. Vincenzo Alfieri

2:15pm **ITALIAN CINEMA TODAY** - U.S. Premiere • **THE THIRD TIME** (101') – Dir. Gianni Aureli

4:15pm **ITALIAN CINEMA TODAY** - U.S. Premiere • **SHARKS** (107') – Dir. Daniele Barbiero

6:15pm **DOCU IS WORTH** - U.S. Premiere • **HONORING MR QUANDO QUANDO QUANDO** - TONY RENIS (75')

8:00pm **DOCU IS WORTH** - U.S. Premiere • **DIANE WARREN: RELENTLESS** (91') – Dir. Bess Kargman

10:00pm **DOCU IS WORTH** - U.S.

Premiere • **WOMEN AID** (41') – Dir. Daniele Biggiero

11:00pm **DOCU IS WORTH** - U.S. Premiere • **MATRIARCA** (52') – Dir. Gaetano Mattia Cosentino

#### FRIDAY, MARCH 13

10:00am **DOCU IS WORTH** - U.S. Premiere • **RINO GAETANO - SEMPRE PIÙ BLU** (90') – Dir. Giorgio Verdelli

12:00pm **ITALIAN CINEMA TODAY** - U.S. Premiere • **THE LAST SLAP** (100') – Dir. Matteo Oleotto

2:00pm **ITALIAN CINEMA TODAY** - U.S. Premiere • **ZOE** (98') – Dir. Emanuela Galliussi, Dean Ronalds

4:00pm **DOCU IS WORTH** - U.S. Premiere • **RENZO ARBORE & THE ORCHESTRA ITALIANA: Live at Radio City Music Hall -1993** (84') - Dir. Andrea Montemurro

6:00pm **SHORT CUT IS BEAUTIFUL** - U.S. Premiere • **ASTRONAUTA** (13') – Dir. Giorgio Giampa

To Follow **ITALIAN CINEMA TODAY** - U.S. Premiere • **GIACOMO IN LOVE** (93') – Dir. Federica Biondi

8:00pm **HONORING THE ITALIAN MASTERS** by Intesa Sanpaolo • **ELISA** (101') – Dir. Leonardo di Costanzo

10:00pm **ITALIAN CINEMA TODAY** – U.S. Premiere • **LAGHAT - AN IMPOSSIBLE DREAM** (105') – Dir. Michael Zampino

#### SATURDAY, MARCH 14

10:00am **DOCU IS WORTH** - U.S. Premiere • **FRANCESCO DE GREGORI NEVERGREEN** (89') – Dir. Stefano Pistorini

12:00pm **ITALIAN CINEMA TODAY** – U.S. Premiere • **STRIKE** (99') – Dir. Gabriele Berti, Giovanni Nasta, Diego Tricarico

2:00pm **IN NERO: BLACK GIRLS IN ROME - A DECENNIAL REVIEW** (64') – Dir. Tamara Pizzoli

3:30pm **SHORT CUT IS BEAUTIFUL** - U.S. Premiere • **LUNA** (15') – Dir. Aurora Ovan

To Follow **SHORT CUT IS BEAUTIFUL** - U.S. Premiere • **CANDIDO** (14') – Dir. Giorgio Clementelli

To Follow **HONORING THE ITALIAN MASTERS** by Intesa Sanpaolo • **NAPOLI NEW YORK** (114') - Dir. Gabriele Salvatores

6.15pm **DOCU IS WORTH** – Special Screening • **TWO BILLION HEARTS - FIFA WORLD CUP USA 1994** (106') – Dir. Murilo Salles

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 Please check the daily program on the web-site

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# EXCITING MOMENTS

## ITALIAN MOVIES THAT WILL LEAVE THEIR MARK ON THE GLOBAL FILM SCENE

### MARCO BELLOCCHIO TELLS THE STORY OF SERGIO MARCHIONNE



While awaiting the release of Portobello (regarding the Tortora case), Marco Bellocchio is preparing a film about Sergio Marchionne titled "Falcon". The movie will recount the life and career of the manager, focusing on his epic challenge against American giants (GM and Chrysler) to save Fiat, portraying him as a "tragic winner". Filming is scheduled for 2026 and will take place across Italy, the United States, and Canada.

### CARLO VERDONE RETURNS TO THE CINEMA



In an era where falling in love, betrayal, and breakups can happen through Artificial Intelligence, six characters bound by insecurity and emotional fragility turn to a "love coach" to interpret and guide their lives. Following his television success with "Vita da Carlo", the Roman director returns to the set for a big-screen project: it will be titled "School of Seduction" and is set for release in 2026.

### FAVINO & ORLANDO ON SET FOR VERONESI



The plot remains top secret, but Giovanni Veronesi's latest film, "God Laughs", is expected to be a historical piece set between the 16th and 17th centuries. The movie was filmed last autumn in the most picturesque Renaissance villages of Central Italy and features a mysterious monk as the protagonist. This period project explores themes of that era and the proverb "Man plans, and God laughs." The cast features three heavyweights of Italian cinema: Pierfrancesco Favino, Silvio Orlando and Maurizio Lombardi.

### 'IT WILL HAPPEN TONIGHT' THE NEW FILM BY MORETTI



"It Will Happen Tonight" is the upcoming film by Nanni Moretti. Based on the short story collection Legami by Eshkol Nevo (author of "Three Floors"), it stars Louis Garrel and Jasmine Trinca in a narrative that weaves together various stories of contemporary fears and hopes. The film will be released in Italy in the spring of 2026 and will almost certainly be in Competition at the next Cannes Film Festival.

### ALICE ROHRWACHER FINDS HER 'THREE INCESTUOUS SISTERS'



After a long, arduous search, Italian filmmaker Alice Rohrwacher has found her three incestuous sisters. Rohrwacher will direct Dakota Johnson, Saoirse Ronan, Jessie Buckley, and Josh O'Connor in "The Three Incestuous Sisters", based on the bestselling novel by Audrey Niffenegger. Rohrwacher wrote the script with "Eileen" author Ottessa Moshfegh.

### GIANNI AMELIO FILMS WITH VALERIA GOLINO



Gianni Amelio's new cinematic work promises intensity and rigor. Titled "No Pain", the film stars Valeria Golino in the female lead, alongside Alessandro Borghi and Valerio Mastandrea. Produced by Kavac Film and Rai Cinema, it will be distributed in the second half of 2026 by 01 Distribution.

### PUPI AVATI TORNA CON 'NEL TEPORE DEL BALLO'



The human and romantic journey of a successful television host overwhelmed by a legal scandal that forces him to re-evaluate his entire existence. A story of fall and rebirth, where a return to his roots and a reunion with a past love intertwine with self-discovery. "In the warmth of the dance" stars Massimo Ghini, supported by an ensemble cast including Giuliana De Sio, Lina Sastri and Isabella Ferrari.

### PAOLO GENOVESE WRAPS 'THE SOUND OF NEW THINGS'



Filming has just concluded for Paolo Genovese's new film, "The Sound of New Things", based on the director's 2023 novel of the same name. The cast features Claudia Pandolfi, Stefano Accorsi, Emanuela Fanelli, Edoardo Gero, Vittoria Puccini and Lino Musella. It is another ensemble cast for a story that follows the intertwined destinies of three families.



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