



**ROME FILM FEST**  
**16 | 27 October 2024**

**The programme of encounters for the nineteenth edition**

**The Masterclasses with the audience will feature the recipient of the Lifetime Achievement Award Viggo Mortensen, author Dennis Lehane and actress Chiara Mastroianni**

**The Paso Doble is back at the Fest: the dialogues will involve Gaël Garcia Bernal and Diego Luna, Jerry Harrison and James Mockoski, Fabio and Damiano D'Innocenzo**

**In the Absolute Beginners section, Saverio Costanzo will review his film debut with *Private*, winner of the Golden Leopard at Locarno**

The Rome Film Fest presents the programme of encounters of the nineteenth edition, to be held from October 16<sup>th</sup> to 27<sup>th</sup> at the Auditorium Parco della Musica Ennio Morricone.

**MASTERCLASS**

The recipient of the Lifetime Achievement Award Viggo Mortensen will be the protagonist of a masterclass with the audience on the occasion of the preview screening of his new film *The Dead Don't Hurt*, which he wrote, directed and starred in. During the Masterclass, Viggo Mortensen will talk about his second experience behind the camera (after *Falling*) and will illustrate his remarkable artistic career, forty years of great performances that reveal his deep versatility and his ability to immerse himself in complex, often ambiguous characters, expressing their violent nature and the fragility of their identities. A long journey that began in the mid-1980s, with his debut in *Witness* by Peter Weir, *Carlito's Way* by Brian De Palma and *Portrait of a Lady* by Jane Campion, continued into the 2000s, bringing him international renown for his role in the *Lord of the Rings* trilogy by Peter Jackson, and has reached more recent years now, with titles that won him nominations for the Oscar® as Best Actor: in 2008 for *Eastern Promises* by David Cronenberg, in 2017 for *Captain Fantastic* by Matt Ross and in 2019 for *Green Book* by Peter Farrelly.

The programme of Masterclasses continues with Dennis Lehane, one of the most beloved writers at the international level, the author of best-sellers that have been made into box office hits: they include *Mystic River*, brought to the big screen by Clint Eastwood; *Shutter Island*, translated for cinema by Martin Scorsese; *Gone, Baby, Gone* and *Live by Night*, both adapted by Ben Affleck.

The protagonist of the third Masterclass will be Chiara Mastroianni, a guest of the Fest on the occasion of the one-hundredth anniversary of the birth of her father, Marcello Mastroianni. After making her debut at a very young age in the film *A noi due* by Claude Lelouch, beside her mother Catherine Deneuve, the actress then won a nomination to the César Awards for her performance in *Ma saison préférée* by André Téchiné, and won the award for Best Actress in a Leading role at the Cannes Film Festival for *Chambre 212* by Christophe Honoré. Her lengthy collaboration with the French director extends to 2024 with *Marcello mio*, also presented at Cannes, in which the actress chose to bring her father back to life through her own self, with uncommon talent, incredible courage and irresistible irony.

## **PASO DOBLE**

Paso Doble is the section that the Fest dedicates to a dialogue between two authors.

The first meeting will involve two remarkable personalities of Mexican cinema, Gael Garcia Bernal and Diego Luna. After sharing the prize for Best Emergent Actors at the Venice Film Festival for the film *Y tu mamá también* by Alfonso Cuarón, founding the production and distribution companies Canana Films and La Corriente del Golfo, and instituting the Festival Ambulante Gira de documentales, the childhood friends Gaël Garcia Bernal and Diego Luna are the protagonists of the series *La Maquina*, which will be presented at the 2024 Fest in the Freestyle section.

The second Paso Doble will take place on the occasion of the screening of *Stop Making Sense – 40th Anniversary*, the historic Talking Heads film concert by Oscar®-winning director Jonathan Demme. The Rome Film Fest will host the new edition of the film in 4K: here to talk about it will be James Mockoski of American Zoetrope, who supervised the restoration, and Jerry Harrison, the guitarist of the Talking Heads, who curated the remastering of the soundtrack.

The Paso Doble programme will close with an encounter featuring Fabio and Damiano D'Innocenzo, the award-winning authors of works such as *La terra dell'abbastanza*, *Favolacce*, *America Latina*, all presented at the major international festivals, and the television mini-series *Dostoevskij*, which premiered at the last Berlinale.

## **ABSOLUTE BEGINNERS**

In 2024, the section in which an established auteur tells the story of his own debut in film will host an encounter with Saverio Costanzo. The Roman director and screenwriter, one of the most important and original filmmakers in contemporary Italian cinema, will bring his film *Private* (2004) to the Fest. Inspired by a true story, the film delves into the military occupation of Palestine from the intimate and private perspective of a family forced to share their home with the Israeli soldiers who have occupied the second floor. A work that does not schematise, but displays the rare capacity to convey universal meaning, winner of the Golden Leopard at the Locarno Film Festival.