



**ROME
FILM FEST**
OCTOBER 16/27 2024

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THE PROGRAMME FOR THURSDAY 17 OCTOBER

The programme of the Grand Public section opens today: coming up *U.S. Palmese*, the new romantic sports comedy by the Manetti Bros., and *La pie voleuse* by Robert Guédiguian, about the weaknesses, misconceptions and illusion of everyday life

Two films from the Progressive Cinema competition: *Paradiso in vendita* by Luca Barbareschi, a film in the finest tradition of Italian-style comedy, and *L'Art d'être heureux* by Stefan Liberski, which evokes the excesses and impostures of the contemporary art world.

Filmmaker Gianfranco Firriolo and singer-songwriter Vinicio Capossela will meet the audience before the screening of *Natale Fuori Orario*, an unusual and original hybrid between a road movie and a concert-film

On the one-hundredth anniversary of the birth of Marcello Mastroianni, the History of Cinema section will present a preview screening of *Ciao Marcello, Mastroianni l'antidivo* by Fabrizio Corallo, with screenplay by Silvia Scola

Kicking off tomorrow, Thursday October 17th, will be the Grand Public programme, the non-competitive section dedicated by the Rome Film Fest to screenings for a wider audience.

At 6:30 pm, Sala Sinopoli at the Auditorium Parco della Musica Ennio Morricone will host the preview screening of *U.S. Palmese* by Marco and Antonio Manetti. Opening with the exuberant enthusiasm of Rocco Papaleo, who scoots around in his three-wheel Ape car tossing flyers and wheedling signatures for donations, the romantic sports comedy by the Manetti Bros. is set in Palmi, with detours to Milan and Paris, where characters, sports, love, affections, flaws, acts of spite and disrespect collide and finally blend to find balance. The cast features Claudia Gerini, Massimiliano Bruno and the young actors Blaise Alfonso and Giulia Maenza.

Also from the Grand Public section, at 3:30 pm, the Teatro Studio Gianni Borgna will screen *La pie voleuse* by Robert Guédiguian: the director has made a cheerful and carnal film about unpredictable developments, in which he reflects upon the weaknesses of everyday life, the misconceptions and illusions, including those of love itself.

Two films from the Progressive Cinema competition are scheduled for screening. Tomorrow, Thursday October 17th at 9:30 pm in Sala Petrassi, there will be a preview screening of *Paradiso in vendita* by Luca Barbareschi, who sets a comedy of characters, customs and

politics in Filicudi, a story of the eternal challenge between kindred and belligerent cultures, of conquerors conquered and antagonistic townspeople, in the finest tradition of Italian-style comedy.

At 6 pm in Teatro Studio Gianni Borgna, audiences are invited to watch *L'Art d'être heureux* by Stefan Liberski. In the film, the main character Jean-Yves is a painter in full creative crisis, who leaves Brussels for Étretat, Normandy: its cliffs are the Impressionist ideal *par excellence*. There he seeks inspiration for his next masterpiece, which will finally bring him glory and eternal recognition. But he needs to come up with an idea.

Five screenings from the Freestyle section are on the day's programme. At 5 pm in Sala Petrassi, the feature will be *Marko Polo* by Elisa Fuksas which, between reality and invention, documentary and fiction, reflects ironically and painfully on faith (not just religious faith) and on the concept of failure. At 8:30 pm, Teatro Studio Gianni Borgna will be the venue for the screening of *Pierce*, Nelicia Low's directorial debut. The film is inspired by a true story that took place in Taiwan and explores the complex relationship between two brothers, united by their passion for fencing and with a dark past. Family tensions, unconfessed secrets, deceptions and subtle power games merge together in a sophisticated psychological drama with chilling consequences.

Teatro Olimpico at 9 pm will host *Natale Fuori Orario* by Gianfranco Firriolo. The filmmaker and singer-songwriter Vinicio Capossela – who will meet the audience before the screening – collaborates again in an unusual and highly original hybrid between a road movie and a concert-film, an elegy to the unifying power of music and a reflection on the passing of time.

At 6:30 pm, the MAXXI will hold a screening of *Pellizza Pittore da Volpedo* by Francesco Fei. Giuseppe Pellizza da Volpedo is the author of one of the most iconic paintings of the twentieth century, "The Fourth Estate"; he introduced divisionism into Italian painting and lived a short life that ended tragically in apparently unexplainable fashion. Fabrizio Bentivoglio becomes the voice of this tormented man, reading excerpts from his unpublished writings.

Also at the MAXXI, at 9 pm, the screening will feature *I Am Martin Parr* by Lee Shulman, dedicated to one of the greatest photographers of the past fifty years: a detached witness to an increasingly absurd world, Martin Parr is an ironic chronicler of British kitsch, a fierce critic of consumerism, but most of all a narrator of stories suspended between comedy and tragedy.

At 4 pm, the MAXXI will host the first film from the Special Screenings section: *Antidote* by James Jones, which sheds light on the extraordinary dangers faced by informers and journalists when they dare to stand up to Putin's perpetual authority and repressive machine. The award-winning British author, always sensitive to the most burning issues and places, creates a sort of high-tension spy story and a tribute to investigative journalism in which the shooting, animation and footage all come together.

The programme for the 'Best of' section, which consists of films shown at other international festivals and considered among the best of the season, will present two screenings. The first

at 9 pm in Sala Petrassi, with *En fanfare* by Emmanuel Courcol, previewed at Cannes. In the film, music plays a central role, as a bond between the destinies of the two protagonists, who are profoundly different, in a journey from classical music to jazz, from marches to a powerful execution of Ravel's Bolero. At 9:15 pm in Sala Sinopoli, the screening will feature *The Substance* by Coralie Fargeat, who builds an authentic horror film, imbued with great underlying self-irony and a real passion and respect for the genre.

Tomorrow, Thursday October 17th at 4 pm in Sala Sinopoli of the Auditorium Parco della Musica, the History of Cinema section will present a preview screening of *Ciao Marcello, Mastroianni l'antidivo* by Fabrizio Corallo, with screenplay by Silvia Scola. The docufilm conveys – through an extraordinary research effort – a rich and entertaining image of the many nuances of this remarkable actor, one hundred years after his birth.

The History of Cinema section will present three other films at Casa del Cinema. At 4:30 pm, thirty years after the death of Gian Maria Volonté, the screening will feature *La mort de Mario Ricci* by Claude Goretta, in collaboration with the Scuola d'Arte Cinematografica Gian Maria Volonté. The film, shown in competition at the 36th Cannes Film Festival, won the actor the award for Best Actor. Talking about it with the audience will be Angelica Ippolito, Felice Laudadio, Antonio Medici and Boris Sollazzo.

At 6:45 pm and 9 pm, there will be a screening of two newly restored films. The first is *Il giudizio universale (The Last Judgment)* by Vittorio de Sica which, behind its satirical tone, conceals the rare ability to reflect upon the fate of an increasingly disillusioned humanity, represented by a cross-section of unforgettable characters. The film, restored by Cinecittà, will be introduced by Brando De Sica. It will be followed by *L'Armée des ombres* by Jean-Pierre Melville, one of the finest portrayals of the Résistance ever made (*Restored by Studiocanal in 4K, with the support of CNC, at the laboratories of L'Image Retrouvée, by kind concession of Surf Film*).

The programme of repeat screenings at Cinema Giulio Cesare will open in Theatre 1 with *Marko Polo* by Elisa Fuksas (at 6 pm) and *The Substance* by Coralie Fargeat (at 9:30 pm). In Theatre 3 the screenings will feature *L'art d'être heureux* by Stefan Liberski (at 7 pm) and *Paradiso in vendita* by Luca Barbareschi (at 9:45 pm).

For its 120th anniversary, Titanus will open its headquarters in Via Sommacampagna in Rome for a series of screenings of *L'ultimo Gattopardo – Ritratto di Goffredo Lombardo*, directed by the Oscar®-winning filmmaker Giuseppe Tornatore. The film pays tribute to the producer Goffredo Lombardo, the man who made Italian cinema great with Titanus. The docufilm will be screened from October 16th to 18th and from the 21st to the 25th, every day at 4 pm (*reservation required available by writing to rsvp@titanus.it while seats last*).

Tomorrow, Thursday October 17th at 6 pm, for the centennial of Pandolfini Casa d'Aste, the auction house at Via Margutta 54 will host the exclusive event *Roma: film, dive e gioielli*, as a special event in which extraordinary jewels, unforgettable actresses and the history of cinema

intertwine in a story packed with personal anecdotes, curious facts and celebrated moments from the last storied century. The conversation will be moderated by the expert and historian of jewellery Amanda Triossi and Italian actress Valentina Cervi.