



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

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**16 |27 October 2024**

**THE PROGRAMME FOR SATURDAY 26 OCTOBER**

**Johnny Depp to receive the Lifetime Achievement Award and present his second film as a director, *Modi – Three Days on the Wing of Madness***

**Coming up *Conclave* by Edward Berger, a disturbing and disorienting thriller adapted from the bestseller by Robert Harris**

**Geppi Cucciari returns to the stage of the Fest: for the third consecutive year the author and host will be the godmother for the closing ceremony**

**Thirty years after its release in theatres, the History of Cinema section will present *Lamerica* by Gianni Amelio in its restored version**

**The Association of Film Music Composers presents “Cinema in Concerto” at the Teatro Olimpico, a musical event dedicated to film scores**

Johnny Depp will receive the Lifetime Achievement Award of the nineteenth Rome Film Fest: the acknowledgment will be awarded tomorrow, Saturday October 26<sup>th</sup> at 9:30 pm in Sala Sinopoli at the Auditorium Parco della Musica, on the occasion of the presentation of *Modi – Three Days on the Wing of Madness*, his second film as a director following his debut film *The Brave*. The new film brings to the big screen seventy-two hours in the life of Amedeo Modigliani, Modi for the French. In 1916 in Paris, the painter was fleeing from the police: he wanted to abandon the city he had long lived in, while his friends Utrillo and Soutine and his muse Beatrice Hastings try to convince him to stay and keep painting. Over the course of a night of hallucinations and encounters, with his friend the art merchant and an American collector, his story changes. The project, based on the play “Modigliani” by Dennis McIntyre, originated ten years ago. It was proposed to Al Pacino, delayed, suspended, forgotten and revived today with Johnny Depp as the director, Pacino as one of the producers and in the role of the collector, Mary and Jerzy Kromolowski as the screenwriters and Riccardo Scamarcio in the leading role.

In the same theatre at 6:30 pm, there will be a screening of *Conclave* by Edward Berger, a disturbing and disorienting thriller adapted from the bestseller written in 2016 by Robert Harris, whose screenplay was written by the author himself with Peter Straughan (*Tinker Tailor Soldier Spy*, *The Goldfinch*). One night, a much-loved Pope suddenly dies; Cardinal Lawrence must organise and preside the conclave that will elect the new Pope, and the one-hundred eighteen most powerful Cardinals of the Catholic Church gather and lock themselves up in the Vatican to vote. Lawrence, played by Ralph Fiennes, must field power plays, intrigues and alliances, and is forced himself to choose between an enlightened or traditionalist church, as a secret slowly emerges from the Pope’s final actions.

At 5 pm, the closing ceremony for the nineteenth Rome Film Fest will be held in Sala Petrassi: for the third consecutive year, the author and host Geppi Cucciari will be the godmother of the event.

During the ceremony, a jury chaired by director, screenwriter and producer Pablo Trapero, assisted by the film editor Francesca Calvelli, French actress Laetitia Casta, producer Gail Egan and author and screenwriter Dennis Lehane, will assign the following awards to the films in the Progressive Cinema Competition: Best Film, Grand Jury Prize, Best Director, Best Screenplay, “Monica Vitti” Award for Best Actress, “Vittorio Gassman” award for Best Actor and a Special Jury Prize, to be selected among the categories of cinematography, editing and original musical score.

Special attention will be focused on young authors with the Best First Feature Award: a jury chaired by the Italian director and screenwriter Francesca Comencini assisted by the Italian producer, composer and screenwriter Kaili Peng and by the actor Antoine Reinartz, will award the acknowledgment to a fiction feature film in the lineups of the Progressive Cinema Competition, Freestyle and Grand Public sections.

Furthermore, the winner of the FS Audience Award, sponsored by the Italian railway group and Official Sponsor of the Fest, will be announced, chosen by the viewers among the films in the Progressive Cinema Competition.

At 8:30 pm in Sala Petrassi, there will be a screening of *Storia di una notte* by Paolo Costella. Based on the novel *Nelle migliori famiglie* by Angelo Mellone, the director creates a delicate weave of emotions which becomes a meditation on grief and the imperative to somehow pick oneself up and go on, enriched by the performances of a cast composed of, among others, Giuseppe Battiston, Anna Foglietta, Luigi Diberti and Stefania Casini.

At 8 pm, Teatro Studio Gianni Borgna will be the venue for the screening of *Les femmes au balcon*, presented in the midnight section of the Cannes Film Festival: a highly feminist, free and brazen horror comedy, the second film directed by actress Noémie Merlant, the protagonist of *Portrait of a Lady on Fire* by Céline Sciamma, who is a co-author of this film.

There will be three preview film screenings at the MAXXI.

At 4 pm, the screening will feature *Persone* by Carlo Augusto Bachschmidt, who addresses the stigma of diversity in the face of “institutional violence”, on the one-hundredth anniversary of the birth of Franco Basaglia: set in the former mental institution of S. Maria della Pietà in Rome, some of the protagonists of “Progetto Giuseppina” (a rehabilitation plan that in 1995 encouraged the de-institutionalisation process, managing the transition of the last remaining patients into the outside world) talk about the “revolution within the revolution”, through the memories of the patients who stayed behind.

At 6:30 pm the public is invited to watch *Piena di grazia* by Andree Lucini. In her directorial debut, the filmmaker (who is also the scriptwriter along with Désirée Manetti) tells the story of an ancient world that survives in the present day through the eyes of girls approaching adolescence, addressing universal and relevant themes: their concern with how they look, their need to appear, the fear of not being enough.

At 8:30 pm the featured film will be *Ultimo biglietto per l'arca di Noè* by Viviana Di Russo and Riccardo Di Russo who take the spectator into zones inaccessible to visitors of a modern zoo – such as the Bioparco di Roma – to discover the mechanisms of a semi-unfamiliar reality that has inherited “the spirit of Noah”.

At 9 pm, Casa del Cinema will hold the screening of *Lamerica* by Gianni Amelio, thirty years after its release in theatres, in the version restored by the Fondazione Cineteca di Bologna in collaboration with RTI-Mediaset and Infinity+ and with the support of the Ministry of Culture, at the L'Immagine Ritrovata laboratories.

There will be two other screenings at Casa del Cinema, with free admission, from the “Drops of cinema” retrospective organised by Fondazione Cinema per Roma in collaboration with Acea: the programme will include *Lightning over Water* by Wim Wenders and Nicholas Ray (at 4:30 pm) and *Nostalgia* by Andrei Tarkovsky (at 6:30 pm).

Tomorrow, Saturday October 26th at 5:30 pm, in Teatro Studio Borgna at the Auditorium Parco della Musica, Save the Children will present the documentary *Fuori dai margini*, about the lives of boys, girls and adolescents in the disadvantaged areas of Italy, which lack all services. But the documentary first and foremost highlights their will to build a better future. Elodie, Ambassador of the Organisation, will be the godmother of the initiative and the protagonist on the Red Carpet, together with the young people who took part in the documentary and with Claudio Tesauro, President of the Organisation. *Fuori dai margini* has been produced by the Organisation for the celebration of the tenth anniversary of the start of Punti Luce, spaces with a high educational density, where girls, boys and adolescents can find free educational opportunities and training. Opportunities to learn, to experiment and to allow their abilities and talents to blossom freely and give them the chance, day after day, to “rewrite” their future.

The Office of the European Parliament in Europe and the European Commission Representative Office in Italy renew their institutional partnership with the Rome Film Fest. At 10 am in Teatro Studio Gianni Borgna, there will be a presentation of the call for the RIFF Pitch Lab 2025, an innovative format, born out of the Riviera International Film Festival, and conceived to offer young documentary filmmakers under 35 the opportunity to present and develop their projects, working in close contact with Master Tutors at the highest level, both national and international. New this year, in collaboration with the European Parliament and the European Commission, are the opening of the call to young authors from all the member States of the European Union, and a special prize that will be awarded by the Commission to the winning project. The partnership with CNA is confirmed again for this year.

At the Teatro Olimpico at 9 pm, the ACMF (Association of film music composers) presents “Cinema in Concert”, a musical event dedicated to film scores. Conducted by Maestro Alessandro Molinari and with many of the authors in attendance, there will be a performance of music by Braga & Bossi, Buonvino, Caputo, Capogrosso, Catalano, Farri, Fornaci, Fresa, Guastella, Guerra, Mainetti, Marianelli, Marchitelli, Mechelli, Molinari, Morricone, Nair, Nervi, Nunzi, Piccioni, Pivio & Aldo De Scalzi, Piotta, Reali, Roberto, Sakamoto. The event will be held with the support of Nuovo Imaie, Digital Records and the labels Alabianca, Bixio, Cam Sugar, Curci, Emergency, Flipper, FM Records.

Tomorrow, Saturday October 26th, the programme of repeat performances at the MAXXI continues with *Pietre e mattoni* by Saeid Shahparnia (at 2 pm). At 12 noon, Teatro Olimpico will feature the film *Supereroi* by Stefano Chiantini, while at Nuovo Cinema Aquila, there will be a screening of *Come se non ci fosse un domani* by Riccardo Cremona and Matteo Keffer (at 9 pm). The last screening at Cinema Andromeda will be *Supereroi* by Stefano Chiantini (at 7:15 pm).

At Cinema Giulio Cesare, the programme of repeat screenings will feature a number of films: in Sala 1 at 4 pm, audiences are invited to see *Ciao bambino* by Edgardo Pistone, at 6:30 pm *Nottefonda* by Giuseppe Miale di Mauro and at 8:30 pm the first two episodes of *L'amica geniale – Storia della bambina perduta* by Laura Bispuri. There will be three repeat screenings in Sala 3: at 4:30 pm, *La casa degli sguardi* by Luca Zingaretti, at 7 pm *Hey Joe* by Claudio Giovannesi and at 9:30 pm *Small Things Like These* by Tim Mielants. Sala 7 will host four screenings for the public of the Rome Film Fest: *Dike – Vita da magistrato* by Filippo Cellini and Caterina Crescini (at 3:30 pm), *Ernest Cole: Lost and Found* by Raoul

Peck (at 5 pm), *Sugarcane* by Julian Brave NoiseCat and Emily Kassie (at 7 pm) and, finally, *Les Femmes au balcon* by Noémie Merlant (at 9 pm).