

6TH ANNUAL ITALIAN FILM FESTIVAL

OF MINNEAPOLIS AND ST. PAUL

SEAT RESERVED



6TH ANNUAL ITALIAN FILM FESTIVAL

OF MINNEAPOLIS AND ST. PAUL

MARCH

6TH
-THRU-
9TH

2014

PRESENTED BY

 Italian Cultural Center
MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL

VENUES

MARCH 6TH - MINNEAPOLIS INSTITUTE OF ARTS
2400 THIRD AVENUE SOUTH, MINNEAPOLIS, MN 55404

MARCH 7TH THRU 9TH - ST. ANTHONY MAIN THEATRE
115 MAIN STREET SE, MINNEAPOLIS, MN 55414

Dear Friends:

Benvenuti, welcome to the 6th Annual Italian Film Festival of Minneapolis/St. Paul. I am thrilled to have you join us as we celebrate the best recent cinematic works from Italy. A half century ago, cinephiles discovered Italian cinema during the Italian Neo-realism movement's heyday. Italian film is once again alive and vital. The Italian cinematic tradition of focusing on ordinary people, social issues and all of life's passions engages our hearts and minds and illuminates eternal themes of the human condition.

For the sixth year, our film line-up encompasses a wonderful array of new works that feature the landscapes, people and stories of Italy. Each of the films will be presented to a Twin Cities audience for the first time. Through the lens of dramas, comedies and documentaries, these films offer a view of Italy rarely seen by American audiences. Many unforgettable moments await you in this spectacular cultural journey throughout Italy...from shimmering Venice and cosmopolitan Rome to rural Parma and the coast of Genoa.

Our festival is supported by the Consulate General of Italy in Chicago and the generous contributions of all our sponsors and donors; it is made possible through the extraordinary hospitality of the Minneapolis Institute of Arts, the support of the Film Society and the tireless efforts of our volunteers. However, more than anything, we want to thank you for joining us in celebrating Italian culture and language.

Grazie e buona visione!

Anna Bonavita
Artistic Director and Co-founder of the Italian Cultural Center

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

All films are in Italian with English subtitles.

THURSDAY MARCH 6TH - PREVIEW NIGHT

- 5:45 PM LIVE CLASSICAL MUSIC
- 6:15 PM INTRODUCTIONS
- 6:30 PM FILM: CUORE SACRO (SACRED HEART)
120 min. Drama
- 8:30 PM DISCUSSION

FRIDAY MARCH 7TH - OPENING NIGHT

- 6:30 PM OPENING NIGHT PARTY (Appetizers, Drinks, Live Music)
- 7:15 PM LIVE AUCTION
- 8:30 PM INTRODUCTIONS
- 8:45 PM FILM: VIVA LA LIBERTÀ (LONG LIVE FREEDOM)
94 min. Drama/Comedy
- 10:15 PM DISCUSSION

SATURDAY MARCH 8TH

- 2:30 PM FILM: IL RESTAURO DEI LUOGHI VERDIANI (RESTORING VERDI'S PLACES)
18 min. Documentary
- 3:30 PM FILM: TEOREMA VENEZIA (THE VENICE SYNDROME)
80 min. Documentary
- 5:45 PM FILM: IL ROSSO E IL BLU (THE RED AND THE BLUE)
98 min. Comedy
- 7:30 PM WINE TASTING
- 8:30 PM FILM: COSIMO E NICOLE (COSIMO AND NICOLE)
101 min. Drama

SUNDAY MARCH 9TH

- 2:00 PM FILM: IL RESTAURO DEI LUOGHI VERDIANI (RESTORING VERDI'S PLACES)
18 min. Documentary
- 3:00 PM FILM: TUTTI I SANTI GIORNI (EVERY BLESSED DAY)
102 min. Comedy
- 5:30 PM FILM: GLI EQUILIBRISTI (BALANCING ACT)
100 min. Drama
- 8:00 PM FILM: CHE STRANO CHIAMARSI FEDERICO (HOW STRANGE TO BE NAMED FEDERICO)
93 min. Drama

Please note that movies and schedule are subject to change.
The ICC holds no responsibility for discrepancies in the information provided.

ABOUT THE ITALIAN CULTURAL CENTER

The Italian Cultural Center (ICC) is a nonprofit organization dedicated to promoting the best of Italian life and culture to all people in Minnesota. Located in the historic Hennepin Center for the Arts in downtown Minneapolis, the ICC offers Italian language classes for adults and children of all levels of proficiency. The Center also sponsors cultural events and film screenings throughout the year.

ICC Services

Language classes | Resource center for Italian media | Cooking classes
Wine and food tastings | Book club | Educational travel | Cultural events

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For more information, please visit: theitalianculturalcenter.org

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Bachman Printing
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THURSDAY MARCH 6TH

6:30 PM

DRAMA

CUORE SACRO (SACRED HEART)

2005, 120 min.

DIRECTOR: Ferzan Özpetek

MODERATOR: Colin Covert, *Star Tribune Film Critic*



PREMIERE

This drama tells the captivating story of a workaholic's spiritual transformation. Irene is a shrewd, driven businesswoman set on selling family property that includes her mother's apartment. The suicide deaths of two close friends push Irene to an emotional crossroads and force her to reexamine her priorities. Irene's search for the sacred in her life is depicted with elegant images and dialogues and extraordinary from Barbora Bobulova. This unforgettable film has won multiple awards.

CAST:

*Barbora Bobulova, Andrea Di Stefano,
Lisa Gastoni, Massimo Poggio, Erika Blanc*

FILM LOCATION: Rome

AWARDS:

2005 David di Donatello: Best Actress (Barbora Bobulova) and Best Production Design (Andrea Crisanti)

2005 Flaiano Film Festival: Audience Award for Best Actress (Barbora Bobulova), Best Cinematography (Gianfilippo Corticelli), and Best Supporting Actress (Erika Blanc)

Venue: Minneapolis Institute of Arts

Music (5:45pm):

Cello player, Nora Doyle will perform Domenico Gabrielli's Ricercar, Kodaly Solo Sonata (Op. 8), Bach Suite no. 3 in c major.

SPONSORS: NANCY SCHAEFER • DIASORIN, INC.

DRAMA/COMEDY

VIVA LA LIBERTÀ (LONG LIVE FREEDOM)

2013, 94 min.

DIRECTOR: Roberto Andò**MODERATOR:** Massimo Bonavita, co-founder of the Italian Cultural Center and former senator of the Italian republic**PREMIERE**

Politician Enrico Olivieri's party is projected to be a loser in the next election. As election day draws near, Enrico leaves without a trace to Paris with his ex-lover. His absence prompts his wife Anna and a coworker to concoct an unorthodox solution to the problem: they enlist Enrico's twin brother, Giovanni Ernani, to take his brother's place in the political arena. Giovanni, a bipolar philosophy professor who has just been released from a psychiatric clinic, does not share his twin's nature and temperament. Giovanni provokes unexpected reactions among the media and public. Inspired by Andò's novel "Il trono vuoto" ("The empty throne"), this film is an elegant and poetic exploration of the themes of power, life and love.

CAST:

Toni Servillo, Valerio Mastandrea, Valeria Bruni Tedeschi, Michela Cescon, Anna Bonaiuto

FILM LOCATION: Rome**AWARDS:**

2013 David di Donatello: Best Screenplay (Roberto Andò, Angelo Pasquini), Best Supporting Actor (Valerio Mastandrea)

2013 Nastri d'argento: Best Screenplay (Roberto Andò, Angelo Pasquini)

Venue: St. Anthony Main Theatre

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**6:30 PM****OUR OPENING NIGHT PARTY**

Includes delicious appetizers, Italian wines, live music and a live auction.

Location: Aster Café's River Room, right next door to the St. Anthony Main Theatre

7:15 PM**LIVE AUCTION**

A wonderful collection of items will be auctioned by our guest Frank Vascellaro, WCCO TV co-anchor

6:30 - 8:30 PM**LIVE MUSIC**

Guitarist and multilingual vocalist Robert Everest and his band will entertain the crowd

*All proceeds benefit the Italian Cultural Center*

MARCH 8TH 2:30 PM AND MARCH 9TH 2:00 PM

SHORT DOCUMENTARY

IL RESTAURO DEI LUOGHI VERDIANI-DA RONCOLE A SANT'AGATA PASSANDO PER BUSSETO (RESTORING VERDI'S PLACES - FROM RONCOLE TO SANT'AGATA VIA BUSSETO)

2001 (Re-edited in 2013), 18 min.

DIRECTOR: *Andrea Casadeo*

MODERATOR: *Robert Ferguson, Ph.D., Adjunct Faculty, University of St. Thomas,
and Commissioner, St. Paul Heritage Preservation Commission*



PREMIERE

Celebrate Giuseppe Verdi's life with a journey to the most important places of his life: From his small childhood home to the wonderful gardens of his "Villa Verdi" in Sant'Agata, you'll be transported to beautiful settings while learning about the life of this Maestro of the opera. This captivating documentary was first made in 2001 in honor of 100 years since Verdi's death. We now bring you this short film to celebrate the bicentennial of his birth.

FILM LOCATION: *Emilia-Romagna region*



Venue: St. Anthony Main Theatre

SPONSORS: NANCY AZZAM • KARLA MILLER

SATURDAY MARCH 8TH

3:30 PM

DOCUMENTARY

TEOREMA VENEZIA/DAS VENEDIG PRINZIP (THE VENICE SYNDROME)

2012, 80 min.

DIRECTOR: *Andreas Pichler*

MODERATOR: *Prof. Arthur Chen, Ph.D, M.Arch. B.Arch.*



Venice is perhaps the most peculiar city on Earth. Its ethereal beauty attracts thousands of tourists daily. But while more and more tourists are coming to visit this unique city, the Venetians are starting to leave. The film is marked by images of an empty, hauntingly still city that exists after the tourists leave.

The world's most beautiful city turns into a ghost town at nightfall. Entire quarters, long since abandoned by their inhabitants, stand empty, their structures seem to provide only a façade to serve tourism interests.

The film shows what remains of Venetian life: a subculture of tourist-service industries, a port for monstrous cruisers and an intimate look at a handful of residents who still make Venice their home.

CAST:

Pietro Codato, Tudy Sammartini, Giorgio Gross, Federica Chiuch, Flavio Scaggiante

We are honored to have Director Andreas Pichler join us via satellite

Venue: St. Anthony Main Theatre

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SATURDAY MARCH 8TH

5:45 PM

COMEDY

IL ROSSO E IL BLU (THE RED AND THE BLUE)

2012, 98 min.

DIRECTOR: Giuseppe Piccioni

MODERATORS: Anna Olivero and Sofia Pedrana.

Anna is an Italian Cultural Center Board Member and language instructor.

Sofia is an Italian Fulbright Scholar at the University of St. Thomas.



PREMIERE

The Red and the Blue gives a fresh, comedic look at life in public high school in suburban Rome. The lives and education methods of the three central characters are indelibly altered with an influx of new students. Giuliana is a strict, by-the-books principal, Mr. Fiorito is an aging professor who has lost his passion and Mr. Prezioso is a new substitute full of hope and good intentions. Director Giuseppe Piccioni's imagined high school becomes a setting in which multiple generations can relate to one another. The Red and the Blue offers a hopeful view on the Italian education system and 21st century humanity in general.

CAST:

Margherita Buy, Riccardo Scamarcio, Roberto Herlitzka

FILM LOCATION: Rome

AWARDS:

2013 Ciak d'Oro: Premio Alice Giovani (Giuseppe Piccioni)

Venue: St. Anthony Main Theatre

SPONSOR: CHRISTINE IMBRA

SATURDAY MARCH 8TH

8:30 PM

DRAMA

COSIMO E NICOLE (COSIMO AND NICOLE)

2012, 101 min.

DIRECTOR: Francesco Amato

MODERATOR: Steve Appelhans, local film maker and activist



PREMIERE

Following the aftermath of the 2001 G8 Summit in Genoa, a young man helps a young French woman who is wounded in the protests. Cosimo and Nicole are unconventional spirits who quickly fall in love with each other. After finding a job working for Paolo, who is a concert organizer, the lovers' lives are transformed when a young African immigrant falls from a makeshift scaffolding. Following the accident, the central love story of this provocative film is punctuated with social and political commentary and a frank look at the complexity of contemporary life. This film touches a sensitive nerve with its exploration of the plight of underprivileged immigrants to Italy. It also serves as a tribute to the Italian music scene, with contributions of celebrated Italian rock bands including Verdena, Marlene Kuntz and Afterhours.

CAST:

Riccardo Scamarcio, Clara Ponsot, Paolo Sassanelli, Souleymane Sow

FILM LOCATION: Genoa

AWARDS:

2012 Festival del Cinema di Roma: Premio Prospettive (Best full-length movie)

Venue: St. Anthony Main Theatre

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SUNDAY MARCH 9TH

3:00 PM

COMEDY

TUTTI I SANTI GIORNI (EVERY BLESSED DAY)

2012, 102 min.

DIRECTOR: Paolo Virzi

MODERATOR: James (Giacomo) D'Aurora, Ph.D. in Counseling Psychology and student of Italian



PREMIERE

Guido and Antonia are a young couple living in the suburbs of Rome. The couple's differences draw them together: Antonia is an extroverted aspiring singer from Sicily; Guido is a shy and cultured concierge from Tuscany. Their mutual wish for a baby is a strong tie in their relationship. This funny, charming film follows the couple as they journey through infertility woes that subject them to the conflicting advice of a progressive gynecologist and a strict catholic doctor as well as neighbors, family and friends. Every Blessed Day is a sweet, funny adventure that will leave you smiling.

CAST:

Luca Marinelli, Thony, Micol Azzurro, Frank Crudele

FILM LOCATION: Rome

AWARDS:

2013 David di Donatello: Best Song ("Tutti i santi giorni")

Venue: St. Anthony Main Theatre

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SUNDAY MARCH 9TH

5:30 PM

DRAMA

GLI EQUILIBRISTI (BALANCING ACT)

2012, 100 min.

DIRECTOR: Ivano De Matteo

MODERATOR: Lorella Angelini, civil engineer consultant and native Italian



PREMIERE

This film tells the sometimes comic, sometimes tragic story of Giulio, whose life is upended after he cheats on his wife. After the two separate, Giulio—who earns little money—struggles to provide for his estranged wife and their two children. Giulio's situation becomes increasingly untenable. This highly acclaimed film captures the emotional and financial struggles Giulio faces as he tries to preserve his dignity.

CAST:

Valerio Mastandrea, Barbora Bobulova, Maurizio Casagrande, Rosabell Laurenti Sellers

FILM LOCATION: Rome

AWARDS:

2013 David di Donatello: Best Actor (Valerio Mastandrea)

2013 Nastri d'Argento: Premio Guglielmo Biraghi (Rosabell Laurenti Sellers)

2013 Festival di Venezia: Premio Palisetti (Valerio Mastandrea)

Venue: St. Anthony Main Theatre

SPONSORS: VITTORIO AND ANDREA RAIMONDI

SUNDAY MARCH 9TH

8:00 PM

DRAMA

CHE STRANO CHIAMARSI FEDERICO (HOW STRANGE TO BE NAMED FEDERICO)

2013, 93 min.

DIRECTOR: *Ettore Scola*

MODERATOR: *Lorenzo Fabbri, Professor of Italian, University of Minnesota,
focusing on contemporary Italian cinema and culture*

SCOLA RACCONTA FELLINI



PREMIERE

This smart, fresh, fascinating film humorously captures director Ettore Scola's friendship with celebrated filmmaker Federico Fellini over the course of two decades. The story begins in 1939, as 9-year-old Scola reads Fellini's magazine cartoons to his blind grandfather. The film defies genres by mixing archival footage with the masterful re-creation of defining moments in the lives of the two filmmakers. Among the most memorable highlights are the nocturnal drives in Rome that the insomniac Fellini enjoyed with Scola. The film is warm, fast-paced and graced by Andrea Guerra's charming musical score. You are sure to agree with the critics and find yourself mesmerized by this film.

FILM LOCATION: *Rome*

CAST:

Tommaso Lazotti, Vittorio Viviani, Sergio Pierattini, Antonella Attili, Sergio Rubini, Vittorio Marsiglia, Giacomo Lazotti, Emiliano De Martino, Maurizio De Santis

AWARDS:

2013 Venice Film Festival: Jaeger-LeCoultre Glory to the Filmmaker award.

Venue: *St. Anthony Main Theatre*

As an independently funded, nonprofit organization, ICC and its cultural programming initiatives, including this film festival, are dependent on the support of our member base. Please consider supporting the Italian Film Festival by becoming a member today!

PLEASE NOTE

Seating is limited and we encourage you to buy your tickets online. All tickets purchased online can be picked up at the theater. If available, tickets can be purchased directly at the theater. Prices are as follows:

\$10.00 for General Public

\$7.00 for ICC Members & Students (with valid membership card and Student ID)

Individual membership holders are allowed to purchase up to 2 tickets at the discounted price. Family membership holders can purchase up to 4 tickets at the discounted price.

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By becoming a member of the ICC you are supporting the cultivation of Italian culture and language in the Twin Cities as well as enjoying a wide range of unique benefits.

MEMBER BENEFITS:

- 5% discount on ICC language classes
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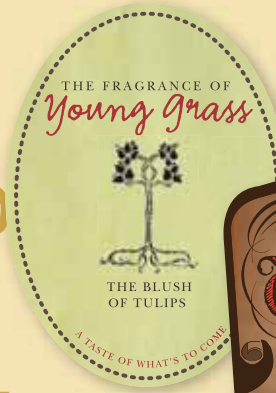
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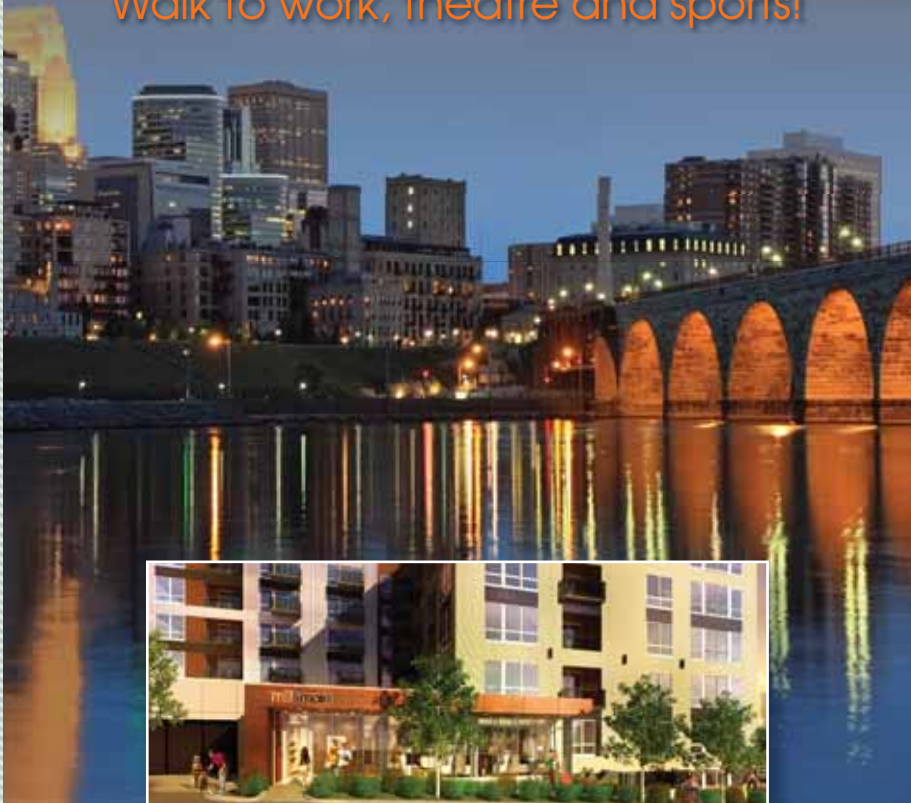
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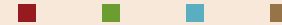
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