

M I A M I 2 0 2 6

XXII CINEMA ITALY



APRIL 2ND TO 5TH
O CINEMA SOUTH BEACH
www.cinemaitaly.com



MIAMIBEACH



Consolato Generale d'Italia
Miami

Director's Letter

DEAR PATRON OF THE ARTS,

WHEN WE STARTED THIS IN FEBRUARY OF 2003, I HAD JUST LEFT BEHIND MY 30 YEARS OF WORKING IN TELEVISION AND FILM AND WAS READY FOR A CHANGE OF PACE. AN ENVIRONMENT WHERE THE BOTTOM LINE DIDN'T MATTER, SOMETHING THAT WOULD BRING TOGETHER PASSIONATE PEOPLE WITH THE COMMON GOAL OF BRINGING OUR

CINEMATOGRAPHIC CULTURE TO MIAMI AND BEYOND. I HAD ASKED MYSELF WHY THE COUNTRY THAT HAS GARNERED MORE OSCARS THAN ANY OTHER OUTSIDE OF HOLLYWOOD WAS NOT PRESENT IN OUR CINEMAS AND HOW WE COULD CHANGE THAT. AND SO WE STARTED LAYING THE FOUNDATIONS, INCORPORATED A NON FOR PROFIT ORGANIZATION, OBTAINED A TAX EXEMPT 501(C)(3) STATUS, GOT A WEBSITE, REGISTERED THE NAME AND LOGO AND ON AND ON AND BY OCTOBER OF THAT YEAR WE WERE FINALLY READY TO OPEN THE VERY FIRST ITALIAN FILM FESTIVAL IN MIAMI.

IN THE YEARS SINCE WE HAVE GARNERED MANY HONORS AND ADDED FESTIVALS AND EVENTS IN MANY PLACES, ATLANTA, GEORGIA; ACAPULCO, MEXICO; SAN JUAN, PORTO RICO; AUBURN, ALABAMA; PELHAM, NEW YORK TO NAME A FEW. ALWAYS WITH THE GOAL OF BRINGING THE BEST CONTEMPORARY FILMS IN AN ELEGANT ENVIRONMENT WITH STAR GUESTS AND BEAUTIFUL PARTIES BUT NEVER LOSING SIGHT OF OUR MISSION OR WHO WE WERE DOING IT FOR.

WE WENT THROUGH RECESSIONS AND HURRICANES AND EVEN A GLOBAL PANDEMIC ONLY MADE US MISS ONE YEAR, A TESTAMENT TO THE PASSION OF THE MANY VOLUNTEERS WHO THROUGHOUT THE YEARS DEDICATED THEIR TIME AND EFFORTS WITH THE ONLY COMPENSATION OF RECEIVING YOUR APPLAUSE AND APPRECIATION. I AM PROUD OF THE PEOPLE WHO DROVE ME TO CONTINUE WHEN I WAS IN DOUBT BY SHOWING HEART, COMMITMENT, PROFESSIONALISM AND A COMMON DRIVE TO EXCELLENCE.

AFTER THE PANDEMIC THE ROLE OF FILMS ON THE BIG SCREEN CHANGED AGAIN, AUDIENCES BECAME MORE SELECTIVE ON WHAT TO WATCH IN A THEATRE AND WHAT TO WATCH AT HOME, CORPORATE AND PRIVATE SPONSOR REORIENTED THEIR INVESTMENT TO SOCIAL MEDIA AND OTHER AVENUES BUT WE DIDN'T GIVE UP. WE HAD TO CUT BACK A BIT ON PARTIES AND AFTER-PARTIES, FIND A NEW VENUE THAT WOULD PROMOTE A MORE INTIMATE EXPERIENCE BUT NEVER COMPROMISED ON THE QUALITY OF OUR FILMS. WE OWED IT TO YOU, OUR AUDIENCE TO STAY TRUE TO OUR ORIGINAL INTENT AND WE WILL CONTINUE WITH OUR MISSION AS LONG AS WE CAN.

THANK YOU FOR THE LAST TWENTY THREE YEARS AND LOOKING FORWARD TO CONTINUING THIS JOURNEY TOGETHER.


Claudio Di Persia
President, Artistic Director



AT A GLANCE

SCREENING VENUE

O CINEMA

1130 WASHINGTON AVENUE
MIAMI BEACH, FL, 33139

TICKETS & PASSES

\$14 PER FILM, AT THE BOX OFFICE

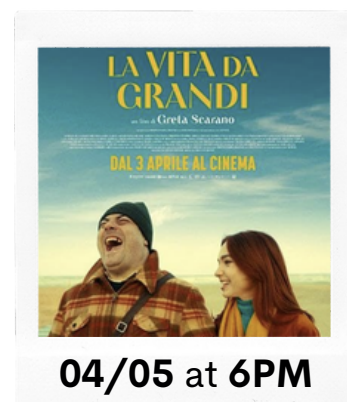
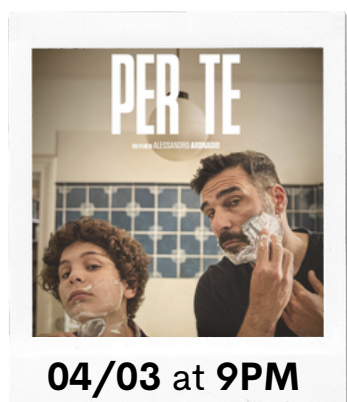
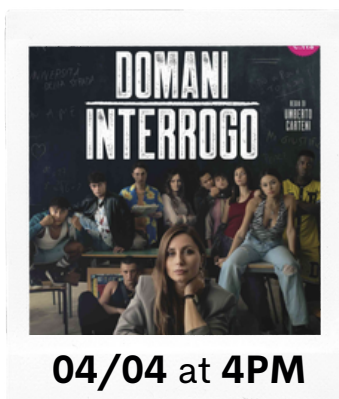
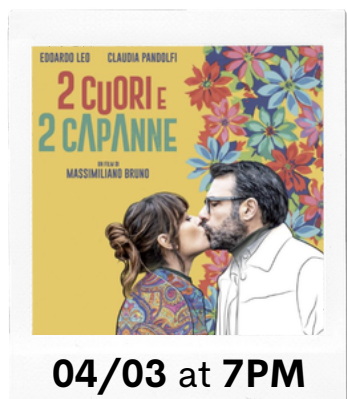
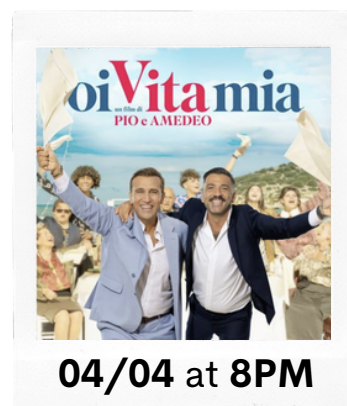
\$60 MOVIE PASS FOR ALL EIGHT FILMS

WWW.CINEMAITALY.COM/GET-PASSES

FILM PROGRAM - APRIL 2 - 5, 2026



CINEMAITALY.COM/FILMS



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**XXII CINEMA
ITALY**

APRIL 2 - 5, 2026

O CINEMA MIAMI BEACH

GIOIA MIA

MY SWEETHEART

THURSDAY, APRIL 2 AT 7PM

GENRE: FAMILY DRAMA

DIRECTOR: MARGHERITA SPAMPINATO

CAST: AURORA QUATTROCCHI, MARCO FIORE,
CAMILLE DUGAY, MARTINA ZIAMI, CLARA SALVO

PHOTOGRAPHY: CLAUDIO COFRANCESCO

PRODUCER: BENDETTA SCAGNELLI, ALESSIO PASQUA

MUSIC: ALICE ZECCHINELLI

YEAR: 2025

DURATION: 1:30



IN ITALIAN WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES

SYNOPSIS

14 International Film Festivals; Winner Locarno 2025 Best Director, Special Jury Prize.

Nico, a lively, stubborn, and cheeky boy raised in a secular family in a modern, technological, and hyper-connected world, is forced to spend the summer in Sicily, staying with his grumpy and devoutly religious elderly aunt. She lives alone in an ancient mansion filled with legends and superstitions, without Wi-Fi, appliances, or any form of modern technology a place completely frozen in time. The aunt receives him with annoyance and tries to forcefully pull him into her world, inhabited by angels and spirits and dominated by a mystical sense of religion. The clash between modernity and the past, reason and faith, speed and slowness marks the beginning of their stormy relationship. Yet, little by little, a deep bond grows, one that neither of them knew they needed. Inspired by director Margherita Spampinato's own childhood, "Gioia mia" celebrates the small miracles of everyday life, the magic hidden in rituals, and the universal need for connection across generations.

FESTIVALS & AWARDS

- Cinema Made in Italy - London 2026
- Journées du Cinéma Italien - Nice 2026
- Locarno Film Festival 2025: Cineasti del Presente - Special Jury Prize CINÉ+
- Festival do Cinema Italiano no Brasil 2025
- Mostra de Cinema Italià de Barcelona 2025
- Villerupt Italian Film Festival 2025
- *and eight more festivals to date*

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XXII CINEMA
ITALY

APRIL 2 - 5, 2026

O CINEMA MIAMI BEACH

2 CUORI E 2 CAPANNE

LOVE IN SEPARATE BEDS

FRIDAY, APRIL 3 AT 7PM

GENRE: ROMANTIC COMEDY

DIRECTOR: MASSIMILIANO BRUNO

CAST: EDOARDO LEO, CLAUDIA PANDOLFI,
GIANMARCO TOGNAZZI, GIORGIO COLANGELI

PHOTOGRAPHY: MARCO BASSANO

EDITOR: LUCIANA PANDOLFELLI

MUSIC: ROBERTO PROCACCINI

YEAR: 2025

DURATION: 1:48



IN ITALIAN WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES

SYNOPSIS

He is an ex physical education professor promoted to the position of school director and a total chauvinist, she teaches in the same school and is a staunch feminist. After a passionate night results in a baby on the way, these irreconcilable opposites are forced to coexist or at least try to. Working together in the same school certainly won't help.

FESTIVALS & AWARDS

- CinemaitaliaOggi – Poland 2026
- Rome Film Fest 2025: Alice nella Città – Panorama Italia – Audience Award

APRIL 2 - 5, 2026

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**XXII CINEMA
ITALY**

O CINEMA MIAMI BEACH

PER TE FOR YOU

FRIDAY, APRIL 3 AT 9PM

GENRE: DRAMA

DIRECTOR: ALESSANDRO ARONADIO

CAST: EDOARDO LEO, TERESA SAPONANGELO,
JAVIER FRANCESCO LEONI, GIORGIO MONTANINI

PHOTOGRAPHY: ANDREA REITANO

PRODUCER: ANDREA CALBUCCI, MAURIZIO PIAZZA

EDITOR: ROBERTO DI TANNA

MUSIC: SANTI PULVIRENTI

YEAR: 2025

DURATION: 1:40



IN ITALIAN WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES

SYNOPSIS

Eleven-year-old Mattia daily experiences the illness of his father, who, in his early forties, is slowly beginning to lose pieces of his memory. But just as the world begins to fade, he chooses to stay close to what truly matters, strengthened also by the love of his wife Michela. Together with his son, they embark on a journey of shared daily life, sudden laughter, and silences that speak. A story that celebrates the power of love beyond time and memory. Based on a true story: In 2021, the protagonist of this story, a boy named Mattia Piccoli, was named Standard-bearer of the Republic by President Sergio Mattarella for "the love and care with which he daily follows his father's illness."

FESTIVALS & AWARDS

- Festival International du Film de Mons 2026: Prix du public
- Italian Film Festival USA 2026
- Rome Film Fest 2025: Grand Public – in collaboration with Alice nella città

DOMANI INTERROGO

CLASSMATES

SATURDAY, APRIL 4 AT 4PM

GENRE: DRAMA

DIRECTOR: UMBERTO CARTENI

CAST: ANNA FERZETTI, FABIO BIZZARRO, ZOE MASSENTI, SARA SILVESTRO

PHOTOGRAPHY: VLADAN RADOVIC

PRODUCER: INES VASILJEVIC, STEFANO SARDO, DANIJEL PEK, PILAR SAAVEDRA PERROTTA

EDITOR: LORENZO CAMPERA

MUSIC: DIEGO BUONGIORNO

YEAR: 2025

DURATION: 1:36

SYNOPSIS

An English teacher, a little terrified of her students but convinced of the school's fundamental educational value and totally devoted to it, is assigned to a senior class at a Roman high school in Rebibbia. That Roman suburb, one of the worst in the city, provides the backdrop to the teenagers' lives, between weed and broken families, dealing and first loves, tales of sex and resignation. The kids drift amid joints, phones and preconceptions, convinced that life beyond school is nothing but hostile and off-limits to them. The teacher has three options: run away like her predecessors, turn a blind eye, or step into that lions' den unarmed.

FESTIVALS & AWARDS

- Rome Film Fest 2025: Alice nella Città – Panorama Italia



IN ITALIAN WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES

UN BEL GIORNO

UN BEL GIORNO

SATURDAY, APRIL 4 AT 6PM

GENRE: ROMANTIC COMEDY

DIRECTOR: FABIO DE LUIGI

CAST: FABIO DE LUIGI, VIRGINIA RAFFAELE,
MARIA GIFUNI, ALMA GIARDINA

PHOTOGRAPHY: SIMONE MOGLIÈ

PRODUCER: RAFFAELLA LEONE, ANDREA LEONE

EDITOR: CONSUELO CATUCCI

MUSIC: MICHELE BRAGA

YEAR: 2026

DURATION: 1:33



IN ITALIAN WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES

SYNOPSIS

Tommaso raised four daughters on his own, transforming his life into a chaotic but solid family routine and becoming a full-time father and a man with no time for himself. When the girls decide it's time for their father to get back in the game, Tommaso meets Lara, a brilliant and charming woman. An unexpected encounter that could change everything... except that both of them are hiding secrets that could definitely change everything.

FESTIVALS & AWARDS

- Los Angeles - Italia 2026: Italian Cinema Today

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OI VITA MIA

FOREVER FRIENDS

SATURDAY, APRIL 4 AT 8PM

GENRE: COMEDY

DIRECTOR: PIO D'ANTINI AKA PIO, AMEDEO GRIECO

CAST: PIO D'ANTINI AKA PIO, AMEDEO GRIECO AKA AMEDEO, LINO BANFI, ESTER PANTANO

PHOTOGRAPHY: EMANUELE PASQUET

PRODUCER: MASSIMILIANO ORFEI, LUISA BORELLA, DAVIDE NOVELLI, VALENTINA AVENIA, LORENZO MIELI, MARIO GIANANI

MUSIC: ANTONIO FRESA

YEAR: 2025

DURATION: 1:53

SYNOPSIS

Pio runs a rehabilitation center for young people, Amedeo a retirement home. One is in a troubled relationship, the other has a restless teenage daughter. Forced by circumstances to live under the same roof among forgetful elderly people and troublesome young people at war with each other, the two men end up exchanging unsolicited advice, getting into absurd situations, and, between overdue bills and padel games, finally finding the courage to put their lives in order and discover a new way of being together.



IN ITALIAN WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES

FESTIVALS & AWARDS

- Los Angeles – Italia 2026: Italian Cinema Today

COME TI MUOVI, SBAGLI

DAMNED IF YOU DO, DAMNED IF YOU DON'T

SUNDAY, APRIL 5 AT 4PM

GENRE: ROMANTIC COMEDY

DIRECTOR: GIANNI DI GREGORIO

CAST: GIANNI DI GREGORIO, GRETA SCARANO, TOM WLASCHIH, ANNA LOSANO

PHOTOGRAPHY: MAURIZIO CALVESI

PRODUCER: ANGELO BARBAGALLO

EDITOR: SARA PETRACCA

MUSIC: STEFANO RACHEV, MATTIA CARRATELLO

YEAR: 2025

DURATION: 1:37



SYNOPSIS

A seventy-year-old teacher who finally seems to have found peace. He has a beautiful home, a good pension and a few loyal friends with whom to share a regular glass of white wine at the local bar. His fragile world is shaken, however, when his daughter returns, having fled Heidelberg following a crisis in her marriage to a university lecturer who cheated on her. She's accompanied by her two children, a cumbersome pair who end up upending the protagonist's day-to-day life. Thus begins a story incorporating additional worries and anxieties, as well as unexpected emotions.

FESTIVALS & AWARDS

- Palm Springs International Film Festival 2026
- Chennai International Film Festival 2025
- Monte-Carlo Film Festival de la Comédie 2025
- Cinema Italian Style - Seattle 2025
- La Biennale di Venezia 2025
- Madrid Italian Film Festival 2025
- MittelCinemaFest 2025
- Italian Film Festival Berlin 2025

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LA VITA DA GRANDI

SIBLINGS

SUNDAY, APRIL 5 AT 6PM

GENRE: COMEDY DRAMA

DIRECTOR: GRETA SCARANO

CAST: MATILDA DE ANGELIS, YURI TUCI, MARIA AMELIA MONTI, PAOLO HENDEL

PHOTOGRAPHY: VALERIO AZZALI

PRODUCER: MATTEO ROVERE

EDITOR: VALERIA SAPIENZA

MUSIC: GIUSEPPE TRANQUILLINO MINERVA

YEAR: 2025

DURATION: 1:36



IN ITALIAN WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES

SYNOPSIS

Inspired by a true story. Irene lives her life in Rome when her mother asks her to return for a few days to Rimini, the city where she was born and from which she fled, to take care of her older brother, Omar who is autistic. Once together, Irene discovers that Omar has very "clear" ideas about his future: he has no intention of living with her when their parents are no longer around and he is ready to do anything to make his dreams come true: he wants to get married, he wants to have three children because three is the perfect number, and he wants to become a famous rap singer. But for all these things to happen, Omar must first of all become independent. Thus begins an intensive "life crash course" with Irene, aimed at helping him become an adult. In their home full of memories, Irene and Omar face fears and hopes together, discovering that sometimes growing up takes two.

FESTIVALS & AWARDS

- EFA - European Film Awards 2026
- Los Angeles - Italia 2026
- Sofia International Film Festival 2026
- Bari International Film& Festival 2025
- Ajaccio Italian Film Festival 2025
- Cairo International Film Festival 2025
- Cinema Italian Style - Seattle 2025
- Festival do Cinema Italiano no Brasil 2025
- IFF Italian Film Festival Australia 2025
- *and 5 more festivals to date*

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THANK YOU

XXII CINEMA ITALY MIAMI 2026

THE ITALIAN FILM FESTIVAL GRATEFULLY ACKNOWLEDGES THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF ITS SPONSORS, WHOSE GENEROUS SUPPORT HAS MADE THIS EDITION POSSIBLE.

THANK YOU, TO OUR PLATINUM SPONSORS:

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Miami

CITY OF MIAMI BEACH CULTURAL AFFAIR PROGRAM, CULTURAL ARTS COUNCIL
MIAMI DADE COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF CULTURAL AFFAIRS
ISTITUTO ITALIANO DI CULTURA MIAMI
THE CONSULATE GENERAL OF ITALY IN MIAMI

WE WOULD ALSO LIKE TO THANK:



AND THE FOLLOWING INDIVIDUALS AND ORGANIZATIONS:

MS. ELENA MEIER; ALL THE FESTIVAL VOLUNTEERS;
EMOTIONS MARKETINGSERVICES LLC; RED CAT STUDIOS;
NUCCIO NOBEL; FINLEY & BOLOGNA ESQ; SOCIETA DANTE ALIGHIERI;
PROF. GRIZELLE DE LOS REYES, FIU & MIAMI AD SCHOOL
LENA DEININGER, DESIGNER OF THE 2026 FESTIVAL IMAGE
O CINEMA SOUTH BEACH

AND ALL THE OTHER ORGANIZATIONS & INDIVIDUALS WHO MAKE IT POSSIBLE YEAR AFTER YEAR.

ALSO, A HEARTFELT THANK YOU TO ALL OUR FESTIVAL GUESTS - BOTH RETURNING AND NEW - WHO MAKE CINEMA ITALY MIAMI SO SPECIAL EACH YEAR.

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