

SNCCI
sindacato nazionale
critici cinematografici italiani

MIBACT
Direzione
Generale
CINEMA

la Biennale di Venezia
**74. Mostra
Internazionale
d'Arte
Cinematografica**
Settimana Internazionale
della Critica



**32. Venice
International Film
Critics' Week**

with the contribution of



present

SIC@SIC

ShortItalianCinema@SettimanaInternazionale della Critica

Venice, 30 August – 9 September 2017

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After last year's experience SIC@SIC is not just an exciting bet (that we won on all fronts), it has become a hotbed, a laboratory of and for young talents that works at full speed. The purpose of this project, born in collaboration with the Istituto Luce-Cinecittà is to test the waters (and the territory): that is, to point out today the Italian filmmakers of tomorrow. We are confident that our cinema has plenty of reserves of talent, still unexplored and in constant process of regeneration and we wanted to investigate what is happening beyond the visible and the circumstantial. This search became exciting. The Italian filmmakers of tomorrow, all very young and digitally natives, are determined and have a vision, and they showed they can, not only challenge the present and the constant diversification of the demand, but also – and mostly - have an absolutely non-nostalgic relationship with the moving images, focused on “the doing”. These are the directors of SIC@SIC: they are the best and most effective antidote to the never-ending crisis of our cinema and to the self-referential discourses made to avert it.

The collaboration with Istituto Luce-Cinecittà is founded on a relationship of shared passion and trust, and it proves that it is possible to work on the promotion of tomorrow's cinema without stranding, but rather opening up to the new, representing very young filmmakers, eager to face Cinema and to portray their own country as they see it today. Deep inside, this is the most beautiful news: directors of today, that make cinema in the present tense, who have the task of bringing forth an open, honest and sometimes rightly polemic dialogue with a contradictory country, which is seldom generous with them. The feeling that deep inside everything is still possible is the ground on which this synergy between Istituto Luce-Cinecittà and the Venice International Film Critics' Week was born. In other words, Italian Cinema must be made today, or not at all.

Giona A. Nazzaro

General Delegate | *32nd Venice International Film Critics' Week*

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For the second year, the Istituto Luce-Cinecittà joins the Venice International Film Critics' Week in a partnership that snatches seven young Italian filmmakers from the study of a new project or a trip, to launch them in the independent sidebar at the 74th Venice International Film Festival.

The paths of both institutions forecasted a fruitful collision: the Venice Film Critics' Week only selects debut films and the Istituto Luce-Cinecittà can only distribute first and second feature films. This junction produced SIC@SIC: a selection of seven Italian short films by directors who have not yet worked on a feature film, shortlisted by Giona A. Nazzaro with the members of the selection committee.

Throughout the years, we have seen how much difference it makes for a young filmmaker working on his first feature, to be able to add in his résumé he has been selected at Venice. This might seem a bit naïve, although exactly in the Lido short filmmakers often start their international career: here they make themselves known and show the prototype of what their cinema is bound to be to other festival programmers and industry professionals - including producers. In fact, out of the seven directors presented last year in SIC@SIC, two are already working on their first feature film.

For the Istituto Luce-Cinecittà it is paramount to support and promote the new generations, to invest in the emerging talents even if in a short format. Because, although short films do not have the perfection of a square root, they do represent the hypothesis of a new cinema, both personal and unique, just like fingerprints.

Carla Cattani

International Promotion of Contemporary Cinema | *Istituto Luce-Cinecittà*

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SIC@SIC - Short Italian Cinema @ Settimana Internazionale della Critica

The second edition of SIC@SIC (Short Italian Cinema @ Settimana Internazionale della Critica) once again puts forth a selection of **seven short films** by Italian directors who have not yet embarked on a full-length film, and **two special events**, all screened in **world premiere**.

The short films programme is part of the **32nd Venice International Film Critics' Week**, an independent and parallel section organized by the **National Union of Italian Film Critics' (SNCCI)** during the **74th Venice International Film Festival** (August 30 – September 9, 2017). The selection is curated by the **General Delegate Giona A. Nazzaro** with the members of the **selection committee Luigi Abiusi, Alberto Anile, Beatrice Fiorentino** and **Massimo Tria**. The programme was born thanks to the synergy between the **National Union of Italian Film Critics' (SNCCI)** and the **Istituto Luce-Cinecittà** as one of the initiatives supporting the development of the new Italian cinema and promoting young filmmakers.

After premiering in Venice, the short films presented at SIC@SIC will be promoted at an international level by the Department for International Promotion of Contemporary Cinema of the Istituto Luce-Cinecittà through a series of initiatives and festivals, such as, the Mostra de Cinema Italià de Barcelona (Short Films Competition section) programmed in Spain in December 2017. Furthermore, the short films will be made available for industry professionals through the online platforms Festival Scope Pro and Italian Short Film Video Library – a tool for the promotion of Italian short films realized by the Centro Nazionale del Cortometraggio (Italian Short Film Center) in collaboration with Istituto Luce-Cinecittà. Last but not least, at the end of November 2017 they will attend the TSFM – Torino Short Film Market, organized by the Italian Short Film Center.

After screening at the first edition of SIC@SIC, the seven short films selected in 2016 have been travelling the world. In less than nine months, they have already attended almost fifty festivals and cinematic events, including, Film Festival Rotterdam, DocLisboa, BFI Flare, London LGBT Film Festival, Lima Independiente – Festival Internacional de Cine, Lovers Film Festival – Torino LGBTQI Visions and Mostra Internazionale del Nuovo Cinema di Pesaro. Some of the directors of the “class” of 2016 are now working on their first feature film.

SIC@SIC 2017 - THE LINEUP

Adavede by Alain Parroni

Due (Two) by Riccardo Giacconi

Les fantômes de la veille (Ghosts of Yesterday) by Manuel Billi

Il legionario (The Legionnaire) by Hleb Papou

MalaMènti (MeanMinds) by Francesco Di Leva

Piccole italiane (Little Italian Girls) by Letizia Lamartire

Le visite (Visiting Day) by Elio Di Pace

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Special event – Opening short film

Nausicaa - L'altra Odissea (Nausicaa – The Other Odyssey) by Bepi Vigna

Special event – Closing short film

L'ultimo miracolo (The Last Miracle) by Enrico Pau

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THE SHORT FILMS

ADAVEDE

by Alain Parroni. Italy, 2017, col., 20'

Screenplay: Alain Parroni. **Cinematography:** Girolamo Capuano. **Editing:** Filippo Montemurro. **Music:** Dr. Peacock, Optimist Apocalypse. **Sound:** Denny de Angelis. **Production Design:** Francesco Filosa. **Costume Design:** Chiara Vigo, Alain Parroni. **Cast:** Valeria Belardelli, Lorenzo Costa, Michela Hickcox. **Production:** Alain Parroni - Threab. **Executive Production:** Elisabetta Ariemma.

Synopsis

Walking in the forest, Clara, a disenchanted girl from the Roman suburbs, bumps into a deer. Hoping to catch that magical moment, the young girl points her phone camera towards the animal, but the phone turns off, leaving her only with a doubt and a beautiful memory. This event starts a one-day journey marked by encounters with different characters, a path that becomes a search into a corrupted memory.

Alain Parroni (1992) graduated in Photographic and Graphic Art at the Istituto d'Arte di Pomezia. He debuts in 2012 as co-director of the animation film *Aeterna*. The encounter with graphic designer Stefan Sagmeister helps him to improve his knowledge of visual arts. In 2014, together with the collective Threab, he directs the short film *Drudo*, for which he receives the Best Director Award at the 48 Hours Film Project Filmapalooza 2015 in Atlanta. With his following short film, *Il Miracolo*, Parroni earns a Special Mention at the Nastri d'Argento of 2016.

DUE (TWO)

by Riccardo Giacconi. France-Italy, 2017, col., 17'

Original story: Antonella Anedda. **Cinematography:** Léo Lefèvre. **Editing:** Riccardo Giacconi. **Sound:** Pierre George, Arno Ledoux. **Production Design:** Carolina Valencia. **Cast:** Silvia Costa. **Production:** Riccardo Giacconi, Estelle Benazet, Marta Bianchi.

Synopsis

Milano 2, a residential neighbourhood on the outskirts of Milan. Built between 1970 and 1979 as a utopic city, it was Silvio Berlusconi's first ambitious urban project. An area that today, at first glance could look like an anonymous suburb was once the laboratory for the imposition of a new lifestyle, which in the decades of "Berlusconism" spread at a national level and radically transformed the Italian culture.

Riccardo Giacconi (1985) studied visual arts at the IUAV Venice, the UWE in Bristol and the New York University. In 2016 he won the video production prize ArteVisione awarded by Sky Arte and Careof. He presented his works in several festivals, including New York, Rotterdam, Rome, Torino, FID Marseille (Grand Prix in the 2015 international competition) and Milan Filmmaker Festival (2015 "Prospettive" Award).

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LES FANTÔMES DE LA VEILLE (GHOSTS OF YESTERDAY)

by Manuel Billi. France-Italy, 2017, col., 19'

Screenplay: Manuel Billi. **Cinematography:** Benjamin Bodi, Olivier Pagny. **Editing:** Benjamin Bodi. **Music:** Jérémie Lapeyre. **Sound:** Cyrille Carbone, Benoît Héry. **Production Design:** Emilie Pajak. **Costume Design:** Arnaud Lazérat. **Cast:** Olivia Csiky Trnka, Matthieu Favette, Simon Guélat, Vincent Dieutre, Amdi Mansour, Olivier Douaud. **Production:** Orok Films - Salam Jawad. **Co-production:** Nokto Productions - Manuel Billi, José Salazar.

Synopsis

A shadow in the woods, a sunny summer afternoon. Antoine and Philippe part without saying goodbye. That same day, a blond girl writes their names on a window of her house. Her mission is to heal other people's wounds, help lost lovers to forget or disappear.

Manuel Billi (1979) lives and works in Paris. Film critic, producer and director, he has authored several essays on contemporary cinema. Since the year 2000 he has been collaborating with different Italian and French film magazines. In 2014 he directs his first experimental short film, *Battre, enlever*. *Les fantômes de la veille* is his first fiction short film.

IL LEGIONARIO (THE LEGIONNAIRE)

by Hleb Papou. Italy, 2017, col., 13'

Screenplay: Giuseppe Brigante, Emanuele Mochi, Hleb Papou. **Cinematography:** Félix Burnier. **Editing:** Fabrizio Paterniti Martello. **Music:** Boris R. D'Agostino, Letizia Lamartire. **Sound:** Giandomenico Petillo. **Production Design:** Vieri Ceccone, Marco Pittacci. **Costume Design:** Fiordiligi Focardi. **Cast:** Germano Gentile, Federico Lima Roque, Francesco Acquaroli. **Production:** CSC Production - Elisabetta Bruscolini.

Synopsis

Daniel is the son of African parents born in Rome. He is a police officer of the State Police Department. One day he finds out that his unit will have to clear a building where his mother and brother live. Torn between the love for his family and the loyalty to the police, Daniel will have to choose between the two and go with it until the end.

Hleb Papou (1991) was born in Belarus and lives in Italy since 2003. In 2012, his first short film *The Red Forest* was presented at the Short Film Corner in Cannes and awarded at the Festival Nazionale Roma FilmCorto. He graduated from the DAMS (Arts, Music and Entertainment studies) in 2014 and two years later from the Centro Sperimentale di Cinematografia (National Film School) in Rome. *Il legionario* is his graduation short film.

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MALAMÈNTI (MEANMINDS)

by Francesco Di Leva. Italy, 2017, col., 13'

Screenplay: Francesco Di Leva, Ciro Petrone. **Cinematography:** Carmine Luino. **Editing:** Gianluca Paoletti. **Music:** Francesco Forni. **Sound:** Stefano Grosso. **Production Design:** Carmine Guarino. **Costume Design:** Giovanna Napolitano. **Cast:** Francesco Di Leva, Ciro Petrone, Sergio Rubini, Nicola Di Pinto. **Production:** Terranera S.A.S. - Francesco Di Leva, Adriano Pantaleo. **Associate Producer:** Parallelo 41 Produzioni Coop. - Antonella Di Nocera.

Synopsis

Ciccio, so called "O' Pazz" (the Mad Man) and Ciruzzo, so called "Pesce Bello" (Beautiful Fish) are two bloody murderers that smear violence onto the weak. In an atmosphere of supremacy between the miserable, new enemies, apparently inoffensive, seem to start gaining space. Pushed by the alienation of the place, the two criminals start to develop a paranoia even towards two helpless animals: Severino the donkey and Piero the boar. The final showdown is near.

Francesco Di Leva (1978) was born Naples. He graduated in dramatic arts and worked in theatre with Luca De Filippo, Mario Martone and Francesco Rosi, amongst others. He acted in several TV series. On the big screen, he has worked with Italian directors Vincenzo Marra (*Vento di terra*), Francesco Patierno (*Pater familias*) and Claudio Cupellini (*Una vita tranquilla* – nominated for the David di Donatello in 2010 as Best Supporting Actor). *MalaMènti* is his debut film as a director.

PICCOLE ITALIANE (LITTLE ITALIAN GIRLS)

by Letizia Lamartire. Italy, 2017, col., 18'

Screenplay: Giuseppe Brigante, Anna Zagaglia. **Cinematography:** Giuseppe Chessa. **Editing:** Fabrizio Franzini. **Sound:** Valerio Tedone, Giandomenico Petillo. **Production Design:** Marco Pittacci. **Costumes:** Viviana Crosato. **Cast:** Piergiorgio Bellocchio, Victoria Silvestro, Maria Stella Cassano, Paola Lavini. **Production:** CSC Production - Elisabetta Bruscolini.

Synopsis

In 1943 the fascist regime forbids the production and selling of toys. Italia, a little girl educated according with the principles of the regime, decides to rebel and makes a big fuss. Her mother, afraid of repercussions, drags her to Rome to apologize to Minister Rizzi, who promulgated the law. It is the 25th of July and their small story will intertwine with history and with the end of fascism.

Letizia Lamartire (1987) graduated from the Conservatory in music and graduated in acting at the Accademia dello Spettacolo UNIKA in Bari. She then went on studying directing at the Centro Sperimentale di Cinematografia (National Film School). *Piccole Italiane* is her graduation short film. She is now writing her first feature film.

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LE VISITE (VISITING DAY)

by Elio Di Pace, Italy, 2016, col., 15'

Screenplay: Elio Di Pace. **Cinematography:** Andrea Manenti. **Editing:** Riccardo Giannetti. **Sound:** Rebecca Nicotra. **Production Design:** Francesco Grossi. **Costume Design:** Rosa Eleonora Pischedda **Cast:** Enza Lambiase, Francesca Bove, Noemi Guglietta. **Production:** CSC - Centro Sperimentale di Cinematografia.

Synopsis

Nunzia's son is in jail. With her sister-in-law, the woman makes sure that he has everything he needs. The two women never miss the weekly visit with detainees, every Monday morning. Gaetano, Nunzia's husband, cannot tolerate having a son in jail, so he starts to cooperate with the justice department, causing his wife's distress.

Elio Di Pace (1988) is a journalist and studied with Ruggero Cappuccio at the training course of performing arts and collaborating with him in the 2014 edition of the "Segreti d'Autore" Festival. He graduated from DAMS (Arts, Music and Entertainment studies) and has a master degree in Performing Arts and Multimedia Production from the University of Salerno. He is currently studying directing at the Centro Sperimentale di Cinematografia (National Film School) in Rome. *Le visite* is his first short film.

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SPECIAL EVENT – OPENING SHORT FILM

NAUSICAA - L'ALTRA ODISSEA (NAUSICAA – THE OTHER ODYSSEY)

by Giuseppe (called Bepi) Vigna. Italy, 2017, col., 20'

Screenplay: Bepi Vigna. **Editing:** Lorenzo Visi. **Music:** Matteo Martis. **Sound:** Romeo Scaccia. **Drawings:** Andrea Serio. **Animation and graphic effects:** Patrizia Principi, Lorenzo Visi. **Voice cast:** Mariano Rigillo, Federico Paino, Silvia Siravo. **Production:** Zena Film Soc. Coop. - Massimo Casula.

Synopsis

Nausicaa, a young princess eager to explore the world, meets Ulysses and is fascinated by his stories. After seducing her, the man abandons her. Nausicaa decides to go and look for him retracing the steps of his journey and begins to find out the truth, often petty, hidden in his incredible stories. Her voyage will then become a growth path through which she will turn into a woman.

Bepi Vigna (1957) graduated in Law but soon abandoned the profession to become a writer of comic books and graphic novels. He is one of the creators of *Nathan Never* and *Legs Weaver* (Sergio Bonelli Publishing House). He worked as a writer in radio and television, as well as authoring theatre plays, novels and scripts. He directed commercials for advertising, documentaries and short films. He is the artistic director of the Nues Festival – Fumetti & Cartoni nel Mediterraneo.

SPECIAL EVENT – CLOSING SHORT FILM

L'ULTIMO MIRACOLO (THE LAST MIRACLE)

by Enrico Pau. Italy, 2017, col., 20'

Screenplay: Giovanni Marceddu, Enrico Pau, Simona Loddo, Michele Carta, Andrea Perra, Gianluca Caboni. **Cinematography:** Francesco Piras. **Editing:** Andrea Lotta. **Music:** Alessio Medda, Luca Spanu. **Sound:** Piero Fancellu. **Production Design:** Francesca Melis, Pietro Rais. **Costume Design:** Stefania Grilli. **Cast:** Tino Petilli, Mario Faticoni, Francesco Origo, Alessio Medda, Luca Spanu, Riccardo Cau, Barbara Usai, Massimiliano Medda. **Production:** CELCAM – Università di Cagliari - Antioco Floris. **Associate Production:** Francesco Piras Studio.

Synopsis

After his resurrection, Christ stayed on the Earth with Peter and now he is an old man. In the streets of Cagliari he finds a young whistler who lost intonation. He would like to help him but he does not remember how to make miracles anymore, so, he seeks the help of a costly charlatan. The last miracle will happen in front of the sea: the whistle will come back in tune but nothing will ever be the same.

Enrico Pau (1956) lives and works in Cagliari (Sardinia). After several short films, he shoots his first feature length film *Pesi leggeri* in 2001, followed by *Jimmy della collina* in 2006, awarded with the Cicae Award at the Locarno Festival. In 2015, he directs *L'accabadora* with Donatella Finocchiaro. His films have been screened at many festivals: Karlovy Vary, Giffoni, Shanghai, Palm Springs and Annecy, to name a few.

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**32nd Venice International Film Critics' Week
(SIC - Settimana Internazionale della Critica)**

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