

SIC@SIC

ShortItalianCinema@SettimanaInternazionale della Critica



33. Venice
International Film
Critics' Week

with the contribution of



Venice, 29 August – 8 September 2018

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We start over at three. The third year of SIC@SIC and of the partnership with Istituto Luce-Cinecittà. The laboratory of the Venice Film Critics' Week dedicated to the Italian filmmakers of tomorrow is more alive than ever, and attracts the work of some of those who will hopefully become the most interesting directors of the near future. In spite of those pressing voices that bring us data about the crisis, including those regarding the industry itself, when observed from the shores of SIC@SIC, Italian cinema is in great health. But not only. It demonstrates an enviable ability to observe reality, what happens in Italy – and consequently, in the world. A cinema that is alive and able to ask the right questions, that nourishes a lively and not dogmatic curiosity through the camera. In a *rossellinean* way, we like to imagine SIC@SIC as the “Year One” of Italian cinema. The place where our country equips itself to recount the challenges of tomorrow, which, as we already know, will be many, complex and difficult. The trust we have in our little platoon of young Italian filmmakers is very high. And with them, the future looks less dark.

Giona A. Nazzaro

General Delegate | 33rd Venice International Film Critics' Week

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The squaring of the circle

Istituto Luce-Cinecittà and the Venice International Film Critics' Week: we like to think that in these three years of collaboration we launched twenty-one young filmmakers, short film directors who have not yet landed a feature. Presenting their latest short film at the Venice Critics' Week, we hope will give them a push and facilitate the inevitably complex path towards their debut full-length film. Despite the fact that in Italy fund raising through public and private institutions moves in slow motion, in two years, two short film directors landed their first feature film. Last year, we had Valentina Pedicini, this year it is Letizia Lamartire's turn to come back to Venice after presenting her short film at last year's Critics' Week. Her debut film, *Saremo giovani e bellissimi (We'll Be Young and Beautiful)*, joins the selection of the 33rd Venice International Film Critics' Week. Furthermore, this small gender coincidence seems to naturally answer the strong need of a women's cinema. Summing all these factors, we reach the impossible: the squaring of the circle. And we did it twice.

Carla Cattani

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

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

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

The short films programme is part of the **33rd Venice International Film Critics' Week**, an independent and parallel section organized during the **75th Venice International Film Festival** (29th August – 8th September, 2018), and 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.

THE AWARDS

The seven short films in competition are eligible for the following prizes to be bestowed by a jury composed of the members of the **Woche der Kritik (Berlin Film Critics' Week)**, headed by Michael Hack:

- **Award for Best Short Film**
sponsored by Frame by Frame and consisting of post-production services for the next short film by the winning director.
- **Award for Best Director Award**
sponsored by Stadion Video and consisting of the English subtitling for the next short film by the winning director.
- **Award for Best Technical Contribution Award**
sponsored by Fondazione Fare Cinema and consisting of an invitation to the 2019 edition of the Advanced Training Course in Film Directing "Fare Cinema".

AFTER VENICE

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 2018. 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 2018 they will attend the **TSMF – Torino Short Film Market**, organized by the Italian Short Film Center.

After screening at the second edition of SIC@SIC, the seven short films selected in 2017 have been travelling the world. In less than nine months, they have already attended almost seventy festivals and cinematic events - including **Karlovy Vary, New York, IDFA, Bilbao, Linz**, to name a few – and have won nearly twenty awards, such as the **Nastro d'Argento Prize**, the award for **Best Short Film** at the **Arcipelago Film Festival** and the prize for **Best Female Director** at the **London Independent Film Awards**. Some directors of the "class" of 2017 are working on their first feature film, or have already finished it.

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SIC@SIC 2018 - THE LINEUP

COMPETITION

CRONACHE DAL CREPUSCOLO | CHRONICLES FROM DUSK by Luca Capponi
EPICENTRO | EPICENTRUM by Leandro Picarella
FINO ALLA FINE | UNTIL THE END by Giovanni Dota
FRONTIERA by Alessandro Di Gregorio
GAGARIN, MI MANCHERAI | GAGARIN, I WILL MISS YOU by Domenico De Orsi
MALO TEMPO by Tommaso Perfetti
QUELLE BRUTTE COSE | THOSE BAD THINGS by Loris Giuseppe Nese

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SPECIAL EVENTS

Opening short film

NESSUNO È INNOCENTE | NOBODY'S INNOCENT
by Toni D'Angelo

Closing short film

**SI SOSPETTA IL MOVENTE PASSIONALE CON
L'AGGRAVANTE DEI FUTILI MOTIVI** | UNDER
SUSPICION FOR A CRIME OF PASSION AGGRAVATED
BY TRIVIALITY by Cosimo Alemà

Special event

SUGAR LOVE
by Laura Luchetti

COMPETITION SIC@SIC

CRONACHE DAL CREPUSCOLO | CHRONICLES FROM DUSK

by Luca Capponi. Italy, 2018. Col., 18'

Screenplay, Cinematography and Editing: Luca Capponi. **Sound:** Paolo Capponi. **Cast:** Davide Orgonauta, Beatrix Alende, Giuseppe Ragusa. **Production:** CSC – Centro Sperimentale di Cinematografia

Synopsis

A dense and foggy voyage throughout the shadow and light spaces of human existence. A descent to the dark side, paranoid and hostile, which affects the life of a limited group of people. A drifting world in which the presence of the US military base is the main cause of feelings of anxiety in the characters, triggering reactions that influence their lifestyle. The camera moves from a technologically advanced humanity to the intimacy of their homes, marked by existential questions.

Luca Capponi (1988) founds a production company of independent cinema and shoots his first short films (*Un matrimonio in bianco*, *Dilthy Maddening Race*, *Looking for Odisseo*, *Searching for Ou(r)zman*) during his college years. After graduating from Cinema, Television and Multimedia Production in Bologna, he collaborates with the Human Rights Nights Festival as member of the selection committee. He continues his studies at the Centro Sperimentale di Cinematografia in Palermo (Sicily).

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EPICENTRO | EPICENTRUM

by Leandro Picarella. Italy, 2018. Col., 20'

Screenplay: Leandro Picarella, Roberto Mandracchia. **Cinematography:** Andrea José Di Pasquale. **Editing:** Gianandrea Caruso. **Music:** Gianluca Cangemi. **Sound:** Gianluca Donati. **Costume Design:** Mela Dell'Erba. **Cast:** Roberto Latini, Filippo Luna, Alessio Piazza, Paolo La Bruna, Bruno Di Chiara, Nunzia Lo Presti, Federico Savonitto. **Production:** Andrea Zulini, Chiara Scardamaglia – Playmaker.

Synopsis

A town devastated by an earthquake is the set chosen by a troupe to shoot a film about Greek statesman Pericles and his "Epitaph"; a manifesto about the concept of democracy. However, a bureaucratic fate decides otherwise and the town square must be defended. A story about uncivil coexistence, about the primacy of the image and about a bunch of ruins that, by becoming a symbol, remain ruins.

Leandro Picarella (1984) graduated from the Centro Sperimentale di Cinematografia in Palermo and continued his education between Palermo and Florence, specializing in Italian cinema and theatre. Between 2010 and 2014 he wrote and directed his first short films and documentaries. In 2015, he directed *Triokala*, awarded in several film festivals in Italy and abroad. In recent times, he started combining his directing with teaching, working as a tutor and external collaborator in several schools and at the Centro Sperimentale di Cinematografia. He is cofounder of Qoomoon, a production company born in Sicily in 2017.

FINO ALLA FINE | UNTIL THE END

by Giovanni Dota. Italy, 2018. Col., 15'

Screenplay: Giovanni Dota, Giulia Martinez. **Cinematography:** Andrea Manenti. **Editing:** Giorgia Currà. **Music:** Federico Ciompi. **Sound:** Chiara Santella. **Sound Editing:** Matteo Eusepi. **Art Director:** Emanuela Bavaro. **Costume Design:** Rosa Pischedda. **Mix:** Riccardo Gruppuso. **Cast:** Lino Musella, Nello Mascia, Vincenzo Nemolato, Riccardo Maria Manera. **Line Producer:** Monica Caterino, Francesca Floris, Pietro Jellinek. **Production:** CSC – Centro Sperimentale di Cinematografia.

Synopsis

A gunshot breaks the silence of the night. Four men run from the crime scene. Umberto "Yes & No", the infallible killer of the Caputo clan, just murdered the wrong man. Now he has to deal with the boss. Unfortunately, the victim is the nephew of Tonino "The Infamous", the most feared boss of the whole town. However, this is not the biggest problem, as Umberto "Yes & No" is hiding a dreadful secret.

Giovanni Dota (1989) grew up in Ponticelli, in the outskirts of Naples. He has a Master's Degree from the Cinema, Television and Cinematography school of Naples, Pigrecoemme, where he graduated with the short film *Interno 18*. After working as a runner and assistant director for several short films, he started working for the TV series "Gomorrhah", first as an assistant production supervisor and then, as an assistant director. In 2015, he directs the short film *Tutto quello che non ci siamo detti*, awarded with several prizes in Italy. He studies film direction at the Centro Sperimentale di Cinematografia.

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FRONTIERA

by Alessandro Di Gregorio. Italy, 2018. Col., 14'

Screenplay: Ezio Abbate. **Cinematography:** Clasissa Cappellani. **Editing:** Renata Salvatore. **Sound:** Danilo Romancino. **Costumes:** Martina Franci. **Cast:** Bruno Orlando, Fiorenzo Madonna. **Production:** Simone Gattoni – Kavac Film srl.

Synopsis

On a ferry travelling towards Lampedusa, we find a teenager on his first day of work as a gravedigger and a boy on his first mission as a diver. They do not know each other, but when they will set foot on the island, both their lives will change forever: one has to retrieve the bodies of drowned shipwreck victims, the other one has to bury them. A sort of dance between life and death, innocence and its loss.

Alessandro Di Gregorio (1974) is an Italian screenwriter and documentary filmmaker. After his first experiences in writing for the TV series "Stiamo bene insieme", he becomes assistant director. He then collaborates with Filmmaster by directing TV ads and other audio-visual products. His first documentary, *8744* wins several prizes and is acquired by History Channel. Since 2006, he collaborates with different production companies and directs programs and documentaries for leading Italian TV networks.

GAGARIN, MI MANCHERAI | GAGARIN, I WILL MISS YOU

by Domenico De Orsi. Italy, 2018. Col., 20'

Screenplay and Editing: Domenico De Orsi. **Cinematography:** Sergio Grillo. **Music:** Clelia Patrono. **Sound:** Corrado Riccomini. **Costume Design:** Margherita Carletti. **Special Effects:** Efisio Antonio Scanu. **Cast:** Nicola De Paola, Marina Savino. **Production:** Domenico De Orsi, Efisio Scanu – Purple Neon Lights. **Co-production:** Sergio Grillo – FOG.

Synopsis

An astronaut falls, maybe to Earth. The exploration of this mysterious place uncovers the nature of the voyage as well as the identity of the traveller. Creativity is the most unexplored landscape.

Domenico De Orsi (1978) debuts in the audio-visual field in 2001, co-directing with Giuseppe Sansonna his first short film *La Quietè* - presented out of competition at the Torino Film Festival and awarded a special mention at the DAMS Award in Bologna. After graduating in Film Criticism and Semiology, he starts serving as editor for directors Angelo Amoroso d'Aragone (*Io e la mia sedia*) and Giuseppe Sansonna (*Due o tre cose che so su di lui*, *The Cuban Hablet – Storia di Tomas Milian*). In 2012, he directs his second short film, *Inassenza*, presented at several national and international film festivals. Since 2013, he directs the TV show "Fuori Quadro", by art critic Achille Bonito Oliva (RAI3). In 2017, he founds the production and post-production company Purple Neon Lights, that produces his following short films *Sete rimane sete* and *Gagarin, mi mancherai* (*Gagarin, I will miss you*).

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MALO TEMPO

by Tommaso Perfetti. Italy, 2018. Col., 19'

Screenplay and Cinematography: Tommaso Perfetti. **Editing:** Tommaso Perfetti, Chiara Tognoli, Guglielmo Turpia. **Sound:** Giulia La Marca. **Cast:** Luciano La Montagna. **Production:** Giulia La Marca - ENECE Film.

Synopsis

Luciano is serving time under house arrest. He lives between narrow walls and days feel always the same. Time goes by slowly, marked by actions repeated over and over again. He is sentenced to the void, the anxiety of a life spent waiting for something that does not come. Luciano fills his time singing melodramatic songs full of passion that perhaps nobody understands. His parents take care of him, but they are also his jailers. With the face and the body of a criminal, Luciano gets ready to start over again.

Tommaso Perfetti (1979) studied cinematography and documentary filmmaking and works in audiovisual production and documentary research. He co-directed with Pietro de Tilla and Elvio Manuzzi *Il turno* and *Unità di Produzione Musicale* and the short film *2036* with Giulia La Marca. He produced and co-wrote the animated short film by Giulia Landi *Limites*. His first short film *Yvonne* (2017) won the Jury Prize for most innovative medium-length film at Swiss festival Visions du Réel.

QUELLE BRUTTE COSE | THOSE BAD THINGS

by Loris Giuseppe Nese. Italy, 2018. Col., 11'

Screenplay and Cinematography: Loris Giuseppe Nese. **Original Story:** Chiara Marotta, Loris Giuseppe Nese. **Editing:** Chiara Marotta. **Music:** Raffaele Caputo. **Sound:** Carlo Manzo, Francesco Romano. **Sound Design:** Davide Maresca. **Art Design:** Chiara Marotta, Loris Giuseppe Nese. **Costume Design:** Chiara Marotta. **Cast:** Rossella De Martino, Gerardo Trezza, Margherita Rago. **Production:** Loris Giuseppe Nese - Lapazio Film. **Executive Production:** Chiara Marotta - Lapazio Film.

Synopsis

You cannot choose your parents or the place where you are born. These are the thoughts of a daughter who cannot rebel. As a little girl, she spent a lot of time with her mother, a fervent Catholic woman. She would have rather spent time with her father, but he was busy hiding an extra-marital affair everyone knew but kept quiet about. Today, time goes by slowly inside and outside their home. Family problems are silenced, the Campania region suburbs lie on the background.

Loris Giuseppe Nese (1991) graduated from DAMS in Bologna and studied documentary direction and production at the FilmaP Atelier di Cinema del Reale in Naples. He served as an assistant director to Leonardo Di Costanzo for *L'Intrusa* and collaborated serving in different roles for video-clips, short films, fiction and non-fiction feature films. He is one of the finalists at the 2018 Premio Solinas – Documentario with a full-length film project.

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OUT OF COMPETITION SIC@SIC

SPECIAL EVENT – OPENING SHORT FILM

NESSUNO È INNOCENTE | | **NOBODY'S INNOCENT**

by Toni D'Angelo. Italy, 2018. Col., 15'

Screenplay: Giorgio Caruso, Toni D'Angelo. **Cinematography:** Rocco Marra. **Editing:** Marco Spoletini. **Sound:** Giorgio Durantino. **Costume Design:** Teresa Papa. **Cast:** Salvatore Esposito. **Production:** Gaetano Di Vaio, Giovanna Crispino - Bronx Film srl; Gianluca Curti - Minerva Pictures Group srl.; Ferdinando Mormone - Tunnel Produzioni.

Synopsis

Ermanno lives surrounded by commonplaces about Naples and Scampia: harassed by crime news that describe these cities as a *dantesque* inferno of shootings, murders, drug dealers. Nevertheless, ordinary good people who do not get into the news live in Scampia. When he finally gets to Naples to sign a deal as a contractor for a project that will boost his career, he has to face reality: the meeting is in a warehouse in Scampia.

Toni D'Angelo (1979) directed three feature films: *Una Notte*, Best First-Time Director nominee at the David di Donatello; *L'innocenza di Clara*, in competition at the World Film Fest in Montreal and at the Courmayeur Noir Film Festival; and the crime drama *Falchi* featuring Michele Riondino and Fortunato Cerlino. In 2010, his documentary *Poeti* was presented in the Controcampo Italiano section at the 66th Venice International Film Festival. The Rome Film Festival selected his first short film *Ore 12* in 2014 and *Filmstudio, mon amour* in 2015.

SPECIAL EVENT – CLOGINS SHORT FILM

SI SOSPETTA IL MOVENTE PASSIONALE CON L'AGGRAVANTE DEI FUTILI MOTIVI | **UNDER SUSPICION FOR A CRIME OF PASSION AGGRAVATED BY TRIVIALITY**

by Cosimo Alemà. Italy, 2018. Col., 15'

Screenplay: Armando Maria Trotta, Cosimo Alemà, Matteo Branciamore. **Cinematography:** Emanuele Zarlenga. **Editing:** Alessio Borgonuovo. **Music:** Colombre. **Sound:** Marco de Carolis. **Art Direction:** Ivan Portelli. **Costume Design:** Cristiana Agostinelli, Camilla Giuliani. **Cast:** Irene Ferri, Anna Ferraioli, Pilar Dogliati, Nina Fotaras, Marco Giuliani. **Production:** Cosimo Alemà – 9.99 Films; Maddalena Mayneri – Reef Comunicazione; Francesco Cimpanelli, Francesco Bruschetti – Kahuna Film. **Co-production:** Andrea Biscaro, Matteo Stefani, Armando Maria Trotta – Bmovie Italia srl.

Synopsis

Giulia is getting ready to spend the weekend with Lucio. However, she does not find him waiting for her at the villa where they were supposed to meet. She finds three women instead, they are Lucio's lovers, who two days before received the same message from him. No one can find him and the women have the same question: why did he get them all together there? The four enemies have to become friends to survive the situation.

Cosimo Alemà (1970) is known for his musical video-clips: in the past fifteen years, he directed over six hundred (working with Italian and international artists such as Ligabue, Skin, Tiziano Ferro, Subsonica, Nelly Furtado, Mina), in addition to several commercials, collecting many awards. After directing three feature films (*At the end of the day*, *La Santa*, *Zeta*) he worked at the TV series "A un passo dal cielo 5".

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SPECIAL EVENT

SUGAR LOVE

by Laura Luchetti. Italy, 2018. Col., 7'

Screenplay: Laura Luchetti. **Animation:** Lulù Cancrini, Marco Varriale – Moonchausen. **Editing:** Paola Freddi. **Music:** Francesco Cerasi. **Voice Cast:** Pierfrancesco Favino, Anna Ferzetti, Fabio Canino, Eleonora Russo, Andrea Bosca, Claudia Potenza, Fabrizia Sacchi. **Production:** Giovanni Pompili – Kino produzioni srl. **Co-production:** Laura Luchetti – Donkadillo.

Synopsis

Gemma and Marcello are about to get married. They have looked forward to for this moment for so long. The ceremony is about to begin and they are overwhelmed with emotions, fears and expectations. As every couple, they support each other and imagine their future together, promising eternal love. But they are not like every other couple about to get married: Gemma and Marcello are two sugar paste wedding cake toppers.

Laura Luchetti (1979), after getting a BA and an MA, worked as a production assistant and coordinator for important North American productions in Italy and the UK. In 1997, she shot in London her short-film *In Great Shape*, awarded at several Italian festivals. She is a script reader for the European Script Fund and Miramax. For three years she was the assistant of Russel Crowe –she will serve as line producer for *Texas*, a documentary he directed in 2002. In 2003, she directed and produced a documentary about director Anthony Minghella and directed *Cold Mountain's* "Making-Of". She then wrote, directed and produced the short films *La Tartaruga* (2006) and *The Sea* (2007). She wrote and directed the episodes "Indian Dream" and "Finchè morte non ci separi" for the film *Feisbum* (2009) and the feature film *Febbre da Fieno* (2011).

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33rd Venice International Film Critics' Week (SIC - Settimana Internazionale della Critica)

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