

**4 DECEMBER 2023**

Screening - 6:00 pm

**GIANNI VERSACE THE EMPEROR OF DREAMS**

by Mimmo Calopresti - duration 70'

in attendance: **MIMMO CALOPRESTI**  
and **THE PRODUCER MARIELLA LI SACCHI**

booking on [Eventbrite](#)

Screening - 8:30 pm

**ANNA**

by Marco Amenta - duration 119'

**5 DECEMBER 2023**

Screening - 2:30 pm

**THE ORDER OF TIME**

by Liliana Cavani - duration 112'

Screening - 6:00 pm

**KIDNAPPED**

by Marco Bellochio - duration 125'

Screening - 8:30 pm

**THE BEST DAYS**

by Massimiliano Bruno and Edoardo Leo - duration 125'

**6 DECEMBER 2023**

Screening - 2:30 pm

**LA CHIMERA**

by Alice Rohrwacher - duration 130'

Screening - 6:00 pm

**DISCO BOY**

by Giacomo Abbruzzese - duration 91'

in attendance: **GIACOMO ABBRUZZESE**

booking on [Eventbrite](#)

Screening - 8:30 pm

**THERE IS STILL TOMORROW**

by Paola Cortellesi - duration 118'

in attendance: **THE SCREENWRITERS GIULIA CALENDRA**  
and **FURIO ANDREOTTI**

booking on [Eventbrite](#)

The association of film authors Controluce, in collaboration with the Italian Ministry of Culture MIC, the Istituto Italiano di Cultura di Pretoria, the Embassy of Italy in Pretoria and the Consulate of Italy in Cape Town present the 23<sup>rd</sup> edition of

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# Italian Film

# FOCUS

23<sup>rd</sup> EDITION

4 - 6 December 2023

THE LARGEST SHOWCASE OF  
RECENT ITALIAN FILMS IN AFRICA



## CAPE TOWN

Cinema Labia, 68 Orange Street, Gardens

free entry

FIRST COME FIRST SERVED, TICKETS AVAILABLE AT  
THE CINEMA ONE HOUR BEFORE THE SHOW



## ANNA

By Marco Amenta  
Italy - France, 2023, 119'

In the secluded corner of Anna's native Sardinia, where she tends to the small farm left by her father, time appears to stand still. Anna's magnetic presence, marked by her erotic appeal and bold defiance of societal norms, emanates a force akin to a ticking bomb. The rugged terrain protects her, right up to the day she'll be the one protecting it - defending it from the mechanical monsters ready to violate it. Safeguarding beauty and keeping her freedom become one in Anna's battle cry, forcing her to make tough decisions and painful sacrifices, since self-respect and belief in one's own convictions can't be bought and sold.

**Cast:** Rose Aste, Marco Zucca, Daniele Monachella.

**Festival & awards:** La Biennale di Venezia 2023: Giornata degli Autori - Venetian Nights | Cinemed - Festival Cinema Mediterraneo Montpellier 2023: Compétition longs métrages - Prix des activités sociales de l'énergie | Festival do Rio 2023: Expectativa | Villerupt Italian Film Festival 2023: Compétition.



## DISCO BOY

By Giacomo Abbruzzese  
France - Italy - Belgium - Poland, 2023, 91'

After a long and difficult journey through Europe, Aleksei arrives in Paris to join the Foreign Legion. Looking for a new life, he is ready for anything in order to obtain the promised passport. On the Niger River Delta, Jomo fights oil multinationals that threaten life in his village. While he is at the head of an armed group, one day he kidnaps French citizens. To intervene is a command of the Foreign Legion, led by Aleksei. The meeting between the two will have unexpected implications. Aleksei and Jomo's destinies will overlap, continuing beyond borders, bodies, life and death.

**Cast:** Franz Rogowski, Morr Ndiaye, Laetitia Ky, Leon Lucev, Matteo Olivetti, Robert Wiekiewicz, Mutamba Kalonji, Michal Balicki.

**Festival & awards:** Berlinale 2023: International Competition - Silver Bear for Outstanding Artistic Contribution: Hélène Louvart, cinematography | Denver Film Festival 2023: International Feature | Festival de Cine Europeo de Sevilla 2023: Nuevas Olas | Hong Kong International Film Festival 2023: Firebird Awards.



## GIANNI VERSACE THE EMPEROR OF DREAMS

Gianni Versace, l'imperatore dei sogni  
By Mimmo Calopresti  
Italy, 2023, 70'

(WORLD PREMIERE OUT OF ITALY)

The story begins with his youth in Reggio Calabria, spent observing his seamstress mother and studying the classics, evading the judgment of his fellow townspeople about his never-hidden and proudly lived sexuality. He immersed himself in the remnants of ancient Greece in search of an ancient identity and eventually fled to Milan to unleash his genius. It will be friends and relatives who will reconstruct that world and the life of that family. The story continues in Milan with the rise of the Versace brand from the 1970s, with forays into theater, music, cinema, and television - fields in which Versace worked. We will also portray the America of the great photographers with whom Gianni - ahead of his time - had collaborated, forever changing the relationship between photography and fashion. And finally, Gianni Versace's models will be interviewed, including Carla Bruni.

**Cast:** Leonardo Maltese, Vera Dragone, Antonio Oppedisano, Clio Calopresti.

**Festival & awards:** Turin Film Festival 2023: Fuori Concorso | Ritratti e paesaggi.



## KIDNAPPED Rapito

By Marco Bellocchio  
Italy - France - Germany, 2023, 125'

In 1858, in the Jewish quarter of Bologna, the Pope's soldiers burst into the home of the Mortara family. By order of the cardinal, they have come to take Edgardo, their seven-year-old son. The child had been secretly baptized by his nurse as a baby and the papal law is unquestionable: he must receive a Catholic education. Edgardo's parents, distraught, will do anything to get their son back. Supported by public opinion and the international Jewish community, the Mortaras' struggle quickly take a political dimension. But the Church and the Pope will not agree to return the child, to consolidate an increasingly wavering power...

**Cast:** Paolo Pierobon, Fausto Russo Alesi, Enea Sala, Barbara Ronchi, Filippo Timi, Fabrizio Gifuni, Andrea Gherpelli, Samuele Teneggi, Corrado Invernizzi, Paolo Calabresi, Leonardo Maltese, Federica Fracassi, Bruno Carliello, Giustiniano Alpi.

**Festival & awards:** Festival de Cannes 2023: In Competition | AFI Los Angeles International Film Festival 2023: Luminaries | Anonimul 2023: Competition | BFI London Film Festival 2023: Debate | Busan International Film Festival 2023: Icons.



## LA CHIMERA La Chimera

By Alice Rohrwacher  
Italy - France - Switzerland, 2023, 130'

Everyone has their own Chimera, something they try to achieve but never manage to find. For the band of tombaroli, thieves of ancient grave goods and archaeological wonders, the Chimera means redemption from work and the dream of easy wealth. For Arthur, the Chimera looks like the woman he lost, Beniamina. To find her, Arthur challenges the invisible, searches everywhere, goes inside the earth - in search of the door to the afterlife of which myths speak. In an adventurous journey between the living and the dead, between forests and cities, between celebrations and solitudes, the intertwined destinies of these characters unfold, all in search of the Chimera.

**Cast:** Josh O'Connor, Carol Duarte, Isabella Rossellini, Alba Rohrwacher, Vincenzo Nemolato, Giuliano Mantovani, Gian Piero Capretto, Melchiorre Pala, Luciano Vergaro, Ramona Fiorini, Luca Gargiullo, Ylfe Vianello.

**Festival & awards:** Festival de Cannes 2023: In Competition | Busan International Film Festival 2023: Icons | Calgary International Film Festival 2023: Special Presentations | Chicago International Film Festival 2023: International Competition - Best Ensemble Cast Performance, Best Cinematography.



## THE BEST DAYS I migliori giorni

By Massimiliano Bruno, Edoardo Leo  
Italy, 2022, 125'

A funny but reflective comedy on humanity that will put our festive spirit to the test. Four separate episodes for a coral film that dives deep into the human soul around festivities. A Member of Parliament hosts a Christmas dinner hoping to gain the support of the party secretary, but her two rival brothers put everything at risk. A wealthy entrepreneur aims to polish his public image by spending New Year's Eve in a soup kitchen. A crowded Valentine's day in a love cube concerning him, her, the other, and the other's partner for a couple that persists in celebrating a 25-year-old relationship. On March 8th, a known anchorwoman has no choice but to apologize publicly for a piece on "the ideal woman" that has brought havoc around social platforms.

**Cast:** Edoardo Leo, Massimiliano Bruno, Anna Foglietta, Max Tortora, Paolo Calabresi, Luca Argentero, Valentina Lodovini, Greta Scarano, Claudia Gerini, Stefano Fresi, Marco Bonini, Maria Chiara Centorami, Ludovica Martino, Liliana Fiorelli, Tiberio Timperi, Pietro De Silva.



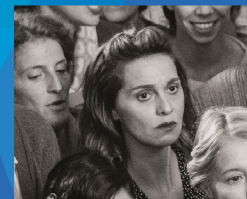
## THE ORDER OF TIME

L'ordine del tempo  
By Liliana Cavani  
Italy - Belgium, 2023, 112'

The book on which the film is based is an analysis of the mystery that everyone experiences in every moment: time. An illusion shaped by our own personal realities rather than any natural or scientific law. In a villa by the sea, a group of old friends gather to celebrate Elsa's 50th birthday. They soon discover that the world might be ending within the space of a few hours. From that moment on, the time separating them from the possible end of their lives seems to flow differently, both speedily and never-endingly.

**Cast:** Alessandro Gassmann, Claudia Gerini, Edoardo Leo, Ksenia Rappoport, Richard Sammel, Valentina Cervi, Fabrizio Rongione, Francesca Inaudi, Angelica Devi, Mariana Tamayo, Alida Baldari Calabria, Angela Molina.

**Festival & awards:** La Biennale di Venezia 2023: Out of Competition - Fiction | Festival do Rio 2023: Panorama Mundial | ST. ALI Italian Film Festival - Australia 2023: Special Presentation.



## THERE IS STILL TOMORROW C'è ancora domani

By Paola Cortellesi  
Italy, 2023, 118'

The Paola Cortellesi's film follows the domestic struggles of an abused housewife in post-war Rome, confronting issues related to patriarchy and women's empowerment. All Delia has ever wanted was to be a wife and mother. She lives in Rome in the late 1940s - a city divided between the positive thrust of liberation and the miseries of the war - with her husband, Ivano, and their three children. Ivano may be a harsh master; his father even more so. However, Delia has a best friend with whom to share moments of levity, and her daughter is about to get married. She accepts her fate - the good with the bad - until a mysterious letter arrives.

**Cast:** Paola Cortellesi, Valerio Mastandrea, Romana Maggiora Vergano, Emanuela Fanelli, Giorgio Colangeli, Vinicio Marchioni, Alessia Barela, Francesco Centorame, Lele Vannoli, Paola Tiziana Cruciani, Yonv Joseph, Federico Tocci, Priscilla Micol Marino, Maria Chiara Ortì, Silvia Salvatori, Mattia Baldo, Gianmarco Filippini.

**Festival & awards:** Rome Film Fest 2023: Concorso Progressive Cinema - Opening Film - Special Jury Award, Audience Award | Festival do Cinema Italiano no Brasil 2023: Mostra Inéditos | Haifa International Film Festival 2023: Panorama.

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