

27 NOVEMBER 2024

Screening - 6:00 pm

VERMIGLIO

by Maura Delpero - duration 119'

in attendance: **GIUSEPPE DE DOMENICO**

booking on **Eventbrite**

28 NOVEMBER 2024

Screening - 6:00 pm

SICILIAN LETTERS

by Antonio Piazza and Fabio Grassadonia - duration 122'

in attendance: **ANTONIO PIAZZA AND FABIO GRASSADONIA**

booking on **Eventbrite**

29 NOVEMBER 2024

Screening - 6:00 pm

BATTLEGROUND

by Gianni Amelio - duration 104'

booking on **Eventbrite**

30 NOVEMBER 2024

Screening - 6:00 pm

THE OPERA! ARIAS FOR AN ECLIPSE

by Davide Livermore

and Paolo Gep Cucco - duration 106'

booking on **Eventbrite**

1 DECEMBER 2024

Screening - 5:00 pm

THE LIFE APART

by Marco Tullio Giordana - duration 110'

booking on **Eventbrite**

2 DECEMBER 2024

Screening - 6:00 pm

ETERNAL VISIONARY

by Michele Placido - duration 112'

booking on **Eventbrite**

The association of film authors Controluce, in collaboration with the Ministry of Culture of Italy MIC, The Embassy of Italy in South Africa, the Consulate General of Italy in Johannesburg and the Italian Cultural Institute in Pretoria presents the 24th edition of

THE ITALIAN FILM FOCUS SOUTH AFRICA 2024

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Italian Film FOCUS

24th EDITION

**27 November -
2 December 2024**

THE LARGEST SHOWCASE OF
RECENT ITALIAN FILMS IN AFRICA



JOHANNESBURG

Ster-Kinekor "The Zone" Rosebank,
181 Oxford Service Road, Rosebank

free entry

Eventbrite

booking on



BATTLEGROUND

Campo di Battaglia

By Gianni Amelio
Italy, 2024, 104'

During World War I, Dr. Stefano Zorzi spends his days in the Exemption Clinic in a large Northern Italian city, where he treats frontline soldiers, but also also fights self-harm among those hoping to be dispensed. Dr. Giulio Farradi instead is deeply opposed to war, and assists the wounded in self-harming just enough to be exonerated. The two doctors, close friends since university, secretly challenge each other both professionally and romantically, as they are both attached to Anna, a strong-willed nurse. But when the Spanish flu epidemic arrives in 1918, love, politics, and science dangerously blur.

Cast: Alessandro Borghi, Gabriel Montesi, Federica Rosellini, Giovanni Scotti, Vince Vivencio, Alberto Cracco, Luca Lazzareschi, Maria Grazia Plos, Rita Bosello, Giuseppe Amelio, Roberta Barbiero, Maurizio Grassia, Luca Lo Destro, Nicoletta Maragno, Giulio Maroncelli, Stefano Scandaletti, Stefano Scherini, Massimo Scola, Marco Sincini, Gianluca Zaccaria, Francesco Busolin, Guido Rigatti, Michele De Paola, Lorenzo Della Pasqua, Samuel Fantini, Gianluca Guizzardi, Riccardo Mori, Mattia Musa, Pietro Nalesso, Marco Rivolta, Sabino Rocola, Sara Stablum, Gabriel Zama.

Festival & awards: La Biennale di Venezia 2024: Venezia 81 Competition.

Eventbrite

booking on



ETERNAL VISIONARY

Eterno Visionario

By Michele Placido
Italy - Belgium, 2024, 112'

1934: On a train to Stockholm, where he will shortly receive the Nobel Prize for Literature, Italian playwright and novelist Luigi Pirandello, relives his fascination with the figures who populated his life and also inspired his art. He reminisces about his controversial stance towards fascism, his turbulent bond with his children, the painful mental illness of his wife, and his love for Marta Abba, the young actress who became his muse and lover. A captivating story that unfolds between Rome, the Stockholm of the Nobel Prizes, the Berlin of Kurt Weill, the backward Sicily of archaic landscapes. Eternal Visionary concentrates on one phase of Pirandello's career in order to show the playwright's more intimate side in a vivid and authentic portrait of an eternal visionary.

Cast: Fabrizio Bentivoglio, Valeria Bruni Tedeschi, Federica Luna Vincenti, Giancarlo Commare, Aurora Giovannazzo, Michelangelo Placido, Michele Placido, Ute Lemper, Mino Manni, Marcello Mazzarella, Dajana Roncione, Guia Jelo, Cele Abba.

Festival & awards: Rome Film Fest 2024: Grand Public.

free entry

Eventbrite

booking on



SICILIAN LETTERS

Iddu

By Antonio Piazza, Fabio Grassadonia
Italy - France, 2024, 122'

Sicily, early 2000s. After a prison term for mafia ties, career politician Catello has lost everything. When Italian intelligence seeks his help in capturing Matteo, his godson and the last fugitive mafia boss, Catello seizes the chance to get back in the game. A master of deception, Catello begins an unlikely letter exchange with the fugitive, hoping to exploit Matteo's emotional void. But gambling with a wanted criminal has risks.

Cast: Toni Servillo, Elio Germano, Daniela Marra, Barbora Bobulova, Fausto Russo Alesi, Giuseppe Tantillo, Antonia Truppo, Tommaso Ragno, Betti Pedrazzi, Filippo Luna, Roberto De Francesco, Rosario Palazzolo, Vincenzo Ferrera, Gianluca Zaccaria.

Festival & awards: La Biennale di Venezia 2024: Venezia 81 Competition - Lizzani Award, Francesco Pasinetti Award, Rotella Award.

Eventbrite

booking on



THE LIFE APART

La Vita Accanto

By Marco Tullio Giordana
Italy, 2024, 110'

In Vicenza, a beautiful Italian art city, a young wealthy couple joyfully welcomes the birth of a long-awaited daughter in the early 1980s. But the child's face is disfigured by a red birthmark that covers half her face. This spot haunts the mother to the point that she rejects her responsibilities as a mother. The child's aunt, a famous concert pianist, takes over her education, thus discovering her exceptional musical talent.

Cast: Beatrice Barison, Sonia Bergamasco, Paolo Pierobon, Valentina Bellè, Michela Cescon, Edoardo Gero, Giulia Briata, Viola Basso, Flora Zambello, Sveva Bassan, Laura Cavinato, Sabrina Simonetto, Sara Ciocca, Licia Navarrini, Alessandro Bressanello, Susanna Acchiardi, Angela Fontana, Luigi Diberti.

Festival & awards: Locarno Film Festival 2024: Out of Competition.

Eventbrite

booking on



THE OPERA!

ARIAS FOR AN ECLIPSE

The Opera! Arie per un'eclissi

By Davide Livermore and Paolo Gep Cucco
Italy, 2024, 106'

This is the modern version of the famous Greek myth of Orpheus and Eurydice. In this version, Eurydice dies from a gun fire on her wedding day. Orpheus, being devastated by the loss of his beloved, will pursue a quest to Hades' kingdom, more known as "hell", embodied by the Grand Hades Hotel. In the search for his lover, Orpheus will encounter a lot of iconic characters and will have to face his deepest fears, in a distorted reality rhythmized by the most famous opera songs. This is the tale of all tales, the tale of a timeless love story meeting the most famous Opera's songs. Costumes are designed by Dolce&Gabbana.

Cast: Valentino Buzza, Mariam Battistelli, Erwin Schrott, Vincent Cassel, Caterina Murino, Fanny Ardant, Rossy De Palma, Angela Finocchiaro, Linda Gennari, Charlotte Gentile, Sergio Bernal.

Festival & awards: Rome Film Fest 2024: Special Screening.

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VERMIGLIO

Vermiglio

By Maura Delpero
Italy - France - Belgium, 2024, 119'

Set in the eponymous village of Vermiglio, high in the Italian Alps, during the waning days of World War II, Vermiglio tells the story of a large family that has lived, for generations, in quiet isolation from the rest of the world, far enough even from the conflict to not feel its effects. But peace is lost when Pietro, an illiterate Sicilian army deserter, comes walking into the village with his injured comrade Attilio on his back. Initially hailed as a hero, Pietro catches the eye of Lucia and gently falls in love with her, shaking the community, uncapping intolerance and altering the dynamics of the place forever.

Cast: Tommaso Ragno, Giuseppe De Domenico, Carlotta Gamba, Roberta Rovelli, Martina Scrinzi, Sara Serraiocco, Orietta Notari, Santiago Fondevila Sancel, Rachele Potrich, Anna Thaler, Patrick Gardener, Enrico Panizza, Luis Thaler, Simone Benedetti.

Festival & awards: Opening festival: La Biennale di Venezia 2024: Venezia 81 Competition - Silver Lion - Grand Jury Prize - Italian Candidate for the Oscar 2025.

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