***Pesaro Film Festival #60***

***June 14-22, 2024***

***The festival programme in the year of Pesaro Italian Capital of Culture 2024 for an event that is more than ever poised between past, present, and future***

***Our guests: Sergio Castellitto, Jasmine Trinca, Valentina Lodovini, Enzo D’Alò, Ficarra & Picone, Franco Maresco, and Pesaro Film Festival #60 Award Luca Guadagnino***

***An international competition to explore the new cinema; a Virtual Reality project; and the research of art in film pursued by Brigid McCaffrey and Arcangelo Mazzoleni.***

***Screenings in the Piazza include Four Weddings and A Funeral and Forrest Gump; Marcello Mastroianni and Walter Chiari in 35mm at the beach; Adriano Aprà to be remembered at the Teatro Sperimentale, also the venue of tributes to jury members Júlio Bressane, Myriam Mézières, and Luis Miñarro.***

***The Circus for the little ones, music at The Wall of Sound, a concert in the Piazza dedicated to Henry Mancini, the Vedomusica contest, and the Focus on Enea Colombi.***

The Fondazione Pesaro Nuovo Cinema is proud to introduce the full programme of **Pesaro Film Festival #60 to take place 14 through 22 June, 2024** with the support of the Ministry of Culture – Direzione Generale Cinema e Audiovisivo, the Pesaro Municipality, and the Marche Region.

To celebrate the milestone of its 60th anniversary, and within the cultural events that make Pesaro a protagonist in Italy and in the world as the 2024 Italian Capital of Culture, the film festival directed by **Pedro Armocida** opted for an additional day of activities, thus moving up the festival’s beginning to Friday, June 14.

**Sergio Castellitto** will inaugurate the Festival in the town’s famed square, Piazza del Popolo, introducing the projection of one of his most successful films, ***Don’t Move***, two decades after its release - also the first screening of the Cinema in the Square section, made possible thanks to CSC - Cineteca Nazionale, Cattleya, and Medusa.

Following up on the recent editions, that featured Liliana Cavani, Mario Martone, Giuseppe Tornatore, the Special Event on Italian Cinema doubles and proposes the retrospectives of **Ficarra & Picone** – who will be in the Piazza Sunday, June 16, to meet the audience and introduce *L’ora legale* – and of **Franco Maresco**. With the collaboration of Fondazione Centro Sperimentale di Cinematografia - Cineteca Nazionale and thanks to Medusa Film and Tramp Ltd., all the films directed by Ficarra & Picone will be screened from Friday 14 to Sunday 16. The Special Event Franco Maresco will follow, with the collaboration of Ila Palma and Dream Film, presenting the films Maresco directed solo. The Special Event programmes include round tables with the presence of the film directors and the presentation of the two monographs published by Marsilio.

From Monday, June 17 the Festival gets into the heart of the programme with the international competition. Always open to the ‘new’ cinema regardless of formats, durations, and age barriers, this section boasts three juries – one of students; one of international outstanding professionals such as **Júlio Bressane, Myriam Mézières, and Luís Miñarro**; and one composed of Italian Union film critics.

On Monday, June 17 the Piazza will welcome one of the most acclaimed Italian actresses of the present, **Jasmine Trinca**, to introduce the national premiere of *Maria Montessori - La nouvelle femme*, directed by Léa Todorov, in which Trinca plays the revolutionary educator (to be released in Italy next September). Another young, charming talent, **Valentina Lodovini**, will be the protagonist of the Piazza on Tuesday, June 18, for the screening of ***The Right Distance***, in which she starred for director Carlo Mazzacurati, whom we remember ten years from his death.

In the same spirit that guides its research, the PFF features a section dedicated to the little ones which, on the Festival’s 60th anniversary, gives the floor to one of the greatest Italian animation artists, i.e., **Enzo d'Alò**. On Thursday, June 20, d’Alò will be in the Piazza to introduce the Italian release of his latest, acclaimed movie **A Greyhound of A Girl** and a special backstage of the film production.

Every year, the Piazza holds screenings of popular movies cherished by millions of viewers on the occasion of important anniversaries. Therefore, let’s rewatch together Mike Newell’s **Four Weddings and a Funeral**, the low-budget British romcom that went unexpectedly viral in 1994, making an instant star of Hugh Grant. On the same year, Robert Zemeckis’ **Forrest Gump** went on to conquer six academy awards with its peculiar version of the American dream and its innovative visual effects.

A very special guest is expected on the festival’s closing day, Saturday, June 22, to receive the Pesaro Nuovo Cinema #60 Special Award: **Luca Guadagnino**, the most international Italian film director as well as the one who best represents the idea of ‘new cinema.’ The Pesaro Nuovo Cinema Award is accompanied by the first ever monograph on the cinema of Luca Guadagnino (Marsilio) and the projection of the director’s latest work, starring Zendaya, Josh O'Connor, and Mike Faist, acclaimed by critics and audience, ***Challengers***, on the closing night.

“The subversive, revolutionary, totally destructured and destructuring power of the new waves finds a home in the Pesaro Film Festival,” says Guadagnino. “Receiving an award for the 60th anniversary of a revolution that is constant and keeps on breaking grids and cages that stifle imaginaries is an immense honour, of course. As the masters of the Nouvelle Vague taught us, ‘Cinema is political’; therefore, I take this as an amazing political award for my being a filmmaker who has never given up watching and desiring the perspective that has unceasingly inspired the ‘new cinema’ of Pesaro.”

The PFF explores film in all its forms all the while giving music a key role. In fact, over the past few years, the Conservatorio di Musica G. Rossini and the Festival have conjointly celebrated the World Music Day on June 21. This year, the Piazza will hold a great concert as a homage to the great composer of music for film, **Henry Mancini**.

Music plays the lead every night also in the suggestive courtyard of 17th-century Palazzo Gradari by the **Wall of Sound**, in memory of **Zagor Camillas**, with live soundtracks of rare films and experimental performances.

Even more than in past years, the PFF looks at the future while being well-anchored to its past, its sense of history, and its retrospectives on the Cinema Novo. Therefore, the programme includes a homage – developed with Fuori Orario – to **Júlio Bressane**, the connecting link between the before and after of the disruptive film movement and one of the greatest contemporary Brazilian filmmakers, who will present two works, **Leme do destino** (Italian premiere) and **Relâmpagos de críticas Murmúrios metafísicos** (world premiere). From Latin to North America with the focus on **Brigid McCaffrey**, whose work documents landscapes and people throughout change and is shown in arts venues worldwide. Hailing from the Netherlands, filmmaker **Jaap Pieters** will conduct the workshop on Super 8 film practices.

Focuses to explore and become familiar with innovative personalities and their works are offered throughout the entire festival, including the one dedicated to acclaimed **Gianluigi Toccafondo**, who made this year’s opening theme and poster. This focus is part of the Best in shorts section curated by Pierpaolo Loffreda, which also showcases the latest animated films of very young or established animation artists. Another focus, within the section Vedomusica curated by Luca Pacilio which highlights the best new music videos made in Italy, is dedicated to emerging video maker **Enea Colombi**.

Last but not least, the focus curated by Bruno Di Marino in collaboration with CSC – Archivio Nazionale Cinema Impresa presents the work of **Arcangelo Mazzoleni**, an experimental filmmaker, photographer, TV director, writer and playwright who has also made documentaries and artist’s films exploring the potential of film language. Not to be missed, Federico Rossin’s Lessons in Film History: this year, Rossin has revived multi-screen films of the sixties and seventies that have been recently restored.

The big screen at the beach at night, where only 35mm films are projected, pays homage to two important Italian centenaries, those of actors **Marcello Mastroianni and Walter Chiari**, with the invaluable collaboration of CSC Centro Sperimentale di Cinematografia.

The younger viewers remain protagonists of Pesaro Circus, after the success of the past few years, featuring two Italian premieres among others, Christopher Jenkins’ *10 Lives* and Jérémie Degruson *Les Inséparables*. Its curator Giulietta Fara will be supported by renowned filmmakers and illustrators **Piero Tonin and Manfredo Manfredi**, with the latter being paid a homage from the Festival.

In collaboration with Pesaro Italian Capital of Culture and the Week dedicated to Korean culture, the 60th Pesaro Film Festival will host a three-day programme on Korean cinema, with screenings and national premieres in partnership with the Busan Cinema Center.

Thanks to the collaboration with Pesaro Italian Capital of Culture, the Novi Bioskop Project is also in place: a group of students from the Sarajevo Film Festival will take part in a workshop and make a short film.

A major new feature of PFF #60 is the Virtual Reality Project in collaboration with the Casa delle Tecnologie Emergenti in Pesaro and Pesaro Italian Capital of Culture 2024. Curated by Simone Arcagni, the section displays the most innovative works produced with Virtual Reality on show at the CTE in Pesaro.

The Pesaro Film Festival is committed to the AFIC Green protocol to keep raising awareness on environmental issues, something that the Pesaro Municipality has already tackled by promoting the Bicipolitana.

EMERGENCY, PFF Charity Partner since 2021, celebrates 30 years of humanitarian commitment. Their activity takes centre space twice at the Festival: *Uomo in mare*, made in collaboration with Ogilvy and directed by **Igor Borghi**, will be shown in Piazza del Popolo on Sunday, June 16, to remember that since 2014 there have been more than 28,000 victims in the Mediterranean Sea, which continues to be a graveyard. With a simple, yet dystopian story, EMERGENCY intends to remind us that the work of the civil fleet is fundamental if we are not to stand by and watch. Furthermore, on Monday morning, Palazzo Gradari hosts the screening of *EMERGENCY in the Mediterranean Sea: Life Support on the Frontlines* directed by **Francesca Tosarelli**, to be followed by a panel on EMERGENCY's Search and Rescue activities in the Mediterranean Sea with the film director and **Roberto Maccaroni**, EMERGENCY's Clinical operation manager migration.

While the theme of disability is included in the programme thanks to the Eleanor Project (Eleanor Worthington Prize Association APEW-ODV), the Festival has been committed for three years now towards deaf audience, providing Italian sign language for some events in the Piazza.

Aimed at novelty and the future, the Festival has for years reserved special attention for schools and the education to film for young people. In this regard, in collaboration with INDIRE, the Festival participates in the "La Scuola allo schermo" initiative and holds the first competition in Italy, and one of the few international ones, curated by Chiara Grizzaffi and Andrea Minuz, dedicated to video essays - the new form of film criticism - by film students from all over the world. Still with a view to educating the audiences of tomorrow, in collaboration with the Sindacato Nazionale Critici Cinematografici Italiani (SNCCI), the PFF holds a competition for critics/reviewers named after Lino Miccichè, founder of the Festival, which this year dedicates a deeply heartfelt tribute to **Adriano Aprà**, one of the most influential film critics and cultural operators of recent decades, who was director of the Festival from 1990 to 1998.

Meetings and presentations take place every morning in the main hall of Palazzo Gradari.

The poster and opening theme representing the 60th PFF are signed by artist **Gianluigi Toccafondo**. They epitomise the soul of a festival that has always sought innovation, change, evolution, while always turning a passionate gaze to the historicity and origins of film.

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**PESARO FILM FESTIVAL 2024 – PRESS PACK**

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