



**5<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL ITALIAN  
FILM FESTIVAL**  
OF MINNEAPOLIS AND ST. PAUL

**APRIL**

**4<sup>TH</sup>**

**-THRU-**

**7<sup>TH</sup>**

**2013**

**PRESENTED BY**

**THE ITALIAN CULTURAL CENTER**  
[THEITALIANCULTURALCENTER.ORG](http://THEITALIANCULTURALCENTER.ORG)

**VENUE**

**MINNEAPOLIS COLLEGE OF ART AND DESIGN**  
**2501 STEVENS AVENUE**  
**MINNEAPOLIS, MN 55404**



**Italian Cultural Center**  
MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL

# SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

All films are in Italian with English subtitles

Dear Friends:

Benvenuti, welcome to the 5th Annual Italian Film Festival of Minneapolis/St. Paul. I am thrilled to have you join us as we celebrate the best recent cinematic works from Italy. A half century ago, cinephiles discovered Italian cinema during the Italian Neo-realism movement's heyday. Italian film is once again alive and vital. With a traditional focus on ordinary people, social issues and all the passions of life, it continues to engage our hearts and minds with eternal themes of the human condition.

For a fifth year, our film lineup encompasses a wonderful array of new works that feature the landscapes and stories of Italy. Each film is screening in the Twin Cities for the first time. Through the lens of dramas, comedies and documentaries, our movies offer a view of an Italy rarely seen by American audiences. Many unforgettable moments await you in this spectacular cultural journey throughout Italy...from shimmering Venice and cosmopolitan Rome to rural Friuli and a small island off the coast of Sicily.

Our festival is supported by the Consulate General of Italy in Chicago and the generous contributions of all our sponsors and donors; it is made possible through the extraordinary hospitality of the Minneapolis College of Art and Design and the tireless efforts of our volunteers. However, more than anything, we want to thank you for joining us in celebrating Italian culture and language.

Grazie e buona visione!

Anna Bonavita

Artistic Director and Co-founder of the Italian Cultural Center

## THURSDAY APRIL 4<sup>TH</sup>

- 6:30 PM | ITALIAN WINE AND ANTIPASTI
- 7:00 PM | INTRODUCTIONS:  
MASSIMO BONAVITA, FABRIZIO BONELLI, NICCOLÒ BRUNA
- 7:30 PM | FILM: POLVERE-IL GRANDE PROCESSO DELLAMIANTO (DUST--THE GREAT ASBESTOS TRIAL)  
85 min. Documentary LIMITED PRIVATE SCREENING
- 9:00 PM | PANEL DISCUSSION

## FRIDAY APRIL 5<sup>TH</sup>

- IFF 2013 OPENING NIGHT**
- 6:30 PM | ITALIAN WINE AND ANTIPASTI
- 7:15 PM | INTRODUCTIONS:  
VITTORIO RAIMONDI, ANNA BONAVITA, CY DE COSSE
- 7:30 PM | FILM: TERRAFERMA (DRY LAND)  
88 min. Drama
- 9:00 PM | DISCUSSION: PROF. HISHAM BIZRI, UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

## SATURDAY APRIL 6<sup>TH</sup>

- 4:00 PM | FILM: UN GIORNO SPECIALE (A SPECIAL DAY)  
89 min. Drama | Moderator: Sarah Faggioli, University of St. Thomas
- 6:00 PM | FILM: L'ESTATE DI GIACOMO (SUMMER OF GIACOMO)  
78 min. Romantic Docu-fiction | Moderators: Massimo Bonavita and Alessandro Comodin
- 8:30 PM | FILM: IO SONO LÌ (SHUN LÌ AND THE POET)  
92 min. Drama | Moderator: Massimo Faggioli, University of St. Thomas

## SUNDAY APRIL 7<sup>TH</sup>

- 2:00 PM | DIRECTORS' WORKSHOP  
Conducted by Niccolò Bruna, Director of "Dust" and Alessandro Comodin, Director of "Summer of Giacomo"
- 4:30 PM | FILM: LA KRYPTONITE NELLA BORSA (KRYPTONITE!)  
98 min. Comedy | Moderator: Giacomo D'Aurora
- 7:00 PM | FILM: È STATO IL FIGLIO (IT WAS THE SON)  
90 min. Comic Drama | Moderator: Steve Appelhans

Please note that movies and schedule are subject to change.  
The ICC holds no responsibility for discrepancies in the information provided.

## POLVERE—IL GRANDE PROCESSO DELL'AMianto (DUST—THE GREAT ASBESTOS TRIAL)

2011, 85 min.

### LIMITED PRIVATE SCREENING

**Moderator:** Fabrizio Bonelli, Citizen of Casale Monferrato and VP, Chief Technology Officer at DIASORIN Inc., Stillwater, Minnesota

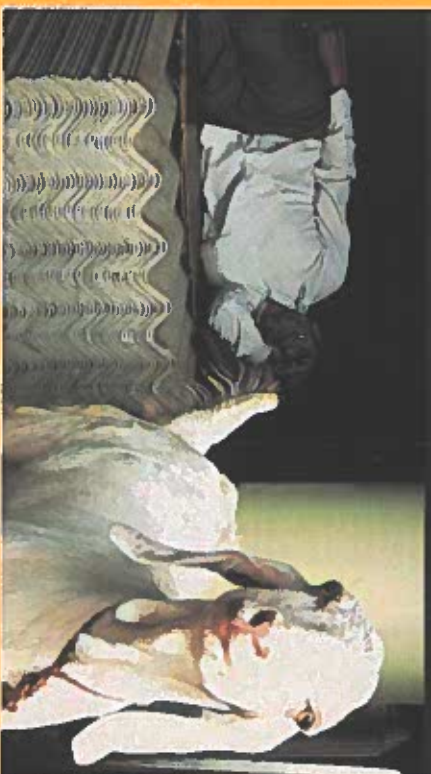
GraffitiDoc AMKA Films Productions Beta Production

present

# DUST

## THE GREAT ASBESTOS TRIAL

a documentary film by Niccolò Bruna and Andrea Prandstaller



"Lords of Asbestos" is the Italian press nickname for Swiss billionaire Stephan Schmidheiny and Belgian Baron Louis Cartier de Marchienne. The two men are the CEO and major shareholder of an asbestos-material manufacturing operation and were convicted in an Italian criminal court for their role in a tragedy that continues to unfold in Casale Monferrato. This northern Italian city of 37,000, was one of many Italian sites of Schmidheiny and Cartier de Marchienne's factories that manufactured asbestos-cement sheet and pipe sold under the brand-name Eternit. The factory produced Eternit for nearly eighty years, leaving behind a legacy of lung disease and cancer deaths. Nearly 900 Casale Monferrato residents who lived near or worked in the factory have been victims of the asbestos-related cancer called mesothelioma. Despite the factory closing in the mid-1980s, new mesothelioma cases continue to be diagnosed each year.

In 2009, an Italian prosecutor acting on behalf of Eternit factory employees began legal proceedings against Schmidheiny and Cartier de Marchienne. The proceedings came to a dramatic—but not final—conclusion Feb. 13, 2012. The case is currently in Italian appellate court.

The documentary captures the haunting drama of the trial through the testimony of Casale Monferrato residents sickened by asbestos exposure or bereaved of spouses, friends and children exposed to the deadly dust. The trial against Eternit—the greatest trial ever for environmental disaster—represents a good opportunity to tell an Italian story with world impact.

The film will be followed by a panel discussion that includes:

**Niccolò Bruna**

Director of "Dust," Torino, Italy

**Tobias Peikert, MD**

Pulmonary and Critical Care Medicine, Mayo Clinic, Rochester, Minnesota

**Jeff Mandel, MD, MPH**

Associate Professor, University of Minnesota School of Public Health

Division of Environmental Health Sciences

Principal Investigator, Taconic Workers Health Studies

**Roger Branigin**

Executive Director at Global Corporate Community of Practice

Principal at InVergent LLC, Minneapolis, Minnesota

DRAMA

**TERRAFERMA (DRY LAND)**

2011, 88 min.

*Moderator: Hisham Bizri, Filmmaker and Associate Professor of Film, Dept. of Cultural Studies and Comparative Literature, University of Minnesota*



**DIRECTOR:**  
Emanuele Crialeso

**CAST:**  
Filippo Pucillo,  
Donatella Finocchiaro,  
Giuseppe Fiorello,  
Mimmo Cuticchio

Filippo is a simple, naïve, young man who lives on the small Sicilian island of Linosa, far from the Italian mainland (called "terrafirma" or "solid land" by the locals). One fateful day while trolling the sea in their fishing boat, Filippo and his grandfather, Ernesto, encounter a raft full of exhausted African illegal immigrants. What happens next illustrates the contrast between the "law of the land" and the "law of the sea." "Terraferma" is not simply a story of illegal immigrants, intolerance, and cultural diversity; it is an accurate portrait of the life of Sicilian fishermen, and the difficult life-changing choices available to a new generation. Beautifully framed by the picturesque images of a seemingly simple life, where the water of the sea simultaneously represents a tourist attraction, a source of daily sustenance and a passageway of hope for a new life.

*Winner Silver Lion - Special Jury Award at the Venice Film Festival 2011  
Nominated as the Italian entry for the 84th Academy Awards*

SPONSORS: MS. CHRISTINE IMBRA AND BRIAN & JESSE FANCIULLI

DRAMA

**UN GIORNO SPECIALE (A SPECIAL DAY)**

2012, 89 min.

*Moderator: Sarah E. Christopher Faggioli, Italian Program Coordinator, University of St. Thomas*



**DIRECTOR:**  
Francesca Comencini

**CAST:**  
Giulia Valentini, Filippo Scicchitano

Young Roman suburbanites Gina and Marco are forced to enter the world of adults in this celebrated film. Gina is driven by motivation to please her mother and dreams of becoming an actress. Marco works as a chauffeur for a politician. On his first day on the job, Marco is assigned to drive Gina to meet Marco's boss, who led Gina to believe he could help her enter the entertainment world. The story that unfolds takes viewers from the shabby outskirts of Rome to the glitzy downtown, all the while building a case against the power imbalances that exist in contemporary Italy. This film explores the sharp division between powerful adults and those they seek to exploit. Despite their circumstances, Gina and Marco maintain a freshness and innocence that leaves the audience hopeful, if not a little changed by this unforgettable story.

*Nominated for the Golden Lion Award of the 69th International Venice Film Festival 2012*

SPONSOR: THE TONY AND GIADA NUCERA FAMILY

ROMANTIC DOCU-FICTION

**L'ESTATE DI GIACOMO (SUMMER OF GIACOMO)**

2011, 78 min.

*Moderator: Massimo Bonavita and the director, Alessandro Comodin***DIRECTOR:**  
Alessandro Comodin**CAST:**  
Giacomo Zulfan,  
Stefania Comodin,  
Barbara Colombo

Giacomo and Stefania are two teenagers hiking along the banks of the Tagliamento River, in the northeastern region of Friuli. The excursion soon becomes an exciting adventure: not only for the exploration of the woods, river and the abandoned cottages, but, above all, because of the growing curiosity Giacomo and Stefania have toward each other. The skin begins to burn, not just because of the sun's heat. Summer is a season of life. The camera follows the deaf Giacomo and a childhood girlfriend Stefi closely—in the woods, by the river—without disrupting the mystery of their relationship, which is a combination of restrained sensuality and childhood games. Many critics regard this lyrical and modest docu-fiction as the best Italian debut in years.

*Winner Golden Leopard Filmmakers of the Present –  
Locarno International Film Festival 2011*

*Grand Prize Woosuk Award – Jeonju Film Festival 2012*

*Grand Prix - Belfort International Film Festival*

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DRAMA

**ID SONO LI (SHUN LI AND THE POET)**

2011, 92 min.

*Moderator: Massimo Faggioli, Assistant Professor of Theology,  
University of St. Thomas***DIRECTOR:**  
Andrea Segre**CAST:**  
Tao Zhao,  
Rade Serbedzija

*"A contemporary snapshot of Italy; a slice-of-life reflection on the meeting of two cultures." — Elisabetta Povoledo, The New York Times*

Shun Li is an illegal Chinese immigrant in Italy who works as a barmaid in a rundown waterfront café in Venice. Shun Li—a shy, single mother—is treated as a virtual slave of the café's owners. Bepi, nicknamed "the Poet" is a grizzled fisherman who has a tragic past in Croatia. Bepi senses Shun Li has a well of loneliness similar to his own. Director Andrea Segre artfully portrays the encounter between two people in crisis as their cultural roots fade. Shun Li and the Poet captures the language of Italian neorealism and the dreamlike aesthetics of Eastern cinema. A backwater lagoon within sight of shimmering Venice is the backdrop of this poignant portrait of friendship and love that bridges the divides of language and prejudice.

*In Italian and Mandarin with English subtitles.*

*Winner Best Actress – David di Donatello 2012 (Academy of Italian Cinema)*

*Winner Satyajit Ray Award – London Film Festival 2012*

*Winner Laterna Magica Prize, FEDIC Award and Lina Mangiacapre Award –  
Venice Film Festival 2011*

*Winner European Parliament's LUX Award*

SPONSOR: CENTURYLINK

SUNDAY APRIL 7<sup>TH</sup>

2:00 PM

The Directors' Workshop is free to the public.

## DIRECTORS' WORKSHOP

*Niccolò Bruna and Alessandro Comodin will share their expertise in creating dramatic and documentary films. Attendees at this workshop will learn how the directors' personal histories, social motivations and artistic leanings led them to create the films featured at the film festival.*



**Niccolò Bruna,  
Director of "Dust"**

*(Born in 1974 in Turin, Italy)*

Niccolò is a filmmaker and an independent producer. He holds a degree in Modern Literature with a focus on Film Studies. He attended the Italian National School of Cinema. Niccolò has been experimenting with the expressive tools of documentary filmmaking since he attended the Escuela Internacional de Cine y Televisión (The International Film and TV School) in Cuba in 1998. For the past 15 years his objective has been to create quality film productions with human interest while offering a fresh view of powerful social issues. He has directed a number of documentaries, including "Con la Carne de Mi Puerquito" (Cuba, 1999), "Materi, Una Casa in Africa" (Kenya, 1999), "Storie di Paglia" (Italy, 2003) and "My Nigerian Sisters" (Nigeria, 2005). He is the founder of the Associazione di Autori Indipendenti Colombrè (Colombrè-Association of Independent Authors: [www.colombrè.it](http://www.colombrè.it)).



**Alessandro Comodin,  
Director of "Summer of Giacomo"**

*(Born in 1982 in San Vito al Tagliamento in Friuli, NE Italy)*

Alessandro was deeply influenced by the dialect poetry of Pier Paolo Pasolini, a celebrated and controversial filmmaker and poet. After his post-graduate literature studies in Bologna, Alessandro went to Paris to study film. He was later admitted to the National Institute for Spectacle Arts in Brussels, Belgium. In 2009, he completed his graduation film, "Jagdfieber," a documentary about hunting that Alessandro shared at the Directors' Fortnight of the Cannes Film Festival. "The Summer of Giacomo" (2011) is Alessandro's first feature-length film and was presented at the Film Festival of Locarno, Switzerland, where it won the Golden Pardo.

SUNDAY APRIL 7<sup>TH</sup>

4:30 PM

COMEDY

## LA KRYPTONITE NELLA BORSA (KRYPTONITE!)

2011, 98 min.

*Moderator: Giacomo D'Aurora, Ph.D. in Counseling Psychology*



**DIRECTOR:**  
Ivan Cotroneo

**CAST:**  
Valeria Golino,  
Luca Zingaretti,  
Luigi Catani

"Kryptonite!" is the directorial debut of highly regarded novelist and screenwriter Ivan Cotroneo (I Am Love). It's 1970s Naples and bullied, nine-year-old Peppino is watching the world around him as his extended dysfunctional family changes. Psychedelic flower power and hippie love is threatening the traditional southern Italian family. Dad is having an affair and Mom has taken to her bed with depression. Super-mod brother and sister Titina and Salvatore take Peppino under their wings, introducing him to demonstrations and love-ins and caped superhero Gennaro visits Peppino after Gennaro is killed by the number 12 bus. The imaginary appearances of Peppino's older cousin help the young boy navigate the complicated adult world, as well as encouraging Peppino to accept his individuality in spite of what is said at home and at school.

With Italian versions of period classic songs, all the colors of peace and love amid the city's backstreets, seventies-set "Kryptonite!" is a fresh, tender and funny tale exploring love, diversity and dreams.

*Winner Best Actress - Annecy Italian Film Festival 2012*

**SPONSOR: NANCY & GARY SCHAEFFER**

SUNDAY APRIL 7<sup>TH</sup>

7:00 PM

COMIC DRAMA

## È STATO IL FIGLIO (IT WAS THE SON)

2012, 90 min.

*Moderator: Steve Appelhans*



**DIRECTOR:**  
Daniele Cipri

**CAST:**  
Toni Servillo, Giselda Volodi,  
Alfredo Castro, Fabrizio Falco

Nicola's ordinary life is upended when his daughter is caught in the crossfire of a Mafia shootout. As he attempts to get compensation for his daughter's misfortune, Nicola becomes entangled in a web of obligation and debt. What comes next is a comic story that pits loved ones against each other. As a bystander walks the audience through this strange, cautionary tale, dazzling images illustrate a story that could take place only in Sicily. Cruel fate and unsettling comedy are kept in wonderful balance by Director Daniele Cipri's warm feelings toward his protagonists. The imaginative videographic imagery in this movie provides deep insights into the culture of this island while spinning a yarn from Sicily's complicated folklore. The central story is a moral parable about the corrupting power of money inspired from a recent novel by Sicilian writer Roberto Alajmo.

*Winner Golden Osella at Venice Festival 2012*

*(Outstanding Technical Contribution for Cinematography)*

*Nominated for Best Film at the London Film Festival 2012  
and for the Golden Lion at the Venice Film Festival 2012*

**SPONSORS: JOHN & SHEILA MORONEY AND THE SCARPA FAMILY**

# ABOUT THE ITALIAN CULTURAL CENTER

The Italian Cultural Center (ICC) is a nonprofit organization dedicated to promoting the best of Italian life and culture to all people in Minnesota. Located in the historic Hennepin Center for the Arts in downtown Minneapolis, the ICC offers Italian language classes for adults and children of all levels of proficiency. The Center also sponsors cultural events and film screenings throughout the year.

## ICC Services

Language classes | Resource center for Italian media | Cooking classes  
Wine and food tastings | Book club | Cultural events

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For more information, please visit [theiraitalianculturalcenter.org](http://theiraitalianculturalcenter.org)

# 5<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL ITALIAN FILM FESTIVAL

OF MINNEAPOLIS AND ST. PAUL

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Anna Bonavita

## Film Selection

Massimo Bonavita

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## Special Thanks

Minneapolis College of Art and Design  
Bachman Printing  
Toast Wine Bar & Cafe  
Astrid Ganno  
KNOCK, inc.

As an independently funded, nonprofit organization, ICC and its cultural programming initiatives, including this film festival, are dependent on the support of our member base. Please consider supporting the Italian Film Festival by becoming a member today!

### PLEASE NOTE

Seating is limited and we encourage you to buy your tickets online. All tickets purchased online can be picked up at the Will Call table, at the festival. You can also purchase movie tickets directly at the theater. Prices are as follows:

**\$10.00 for General Public**  
**\$7.00 for ICC Members & Students (with valid membership card and Student ID)**

Individual membership holders are allowed to purchase up to 2 tickets at the discounted price. Family membership holders can purchase up to 4 tickets at the discounted price.

During the festival we will accept cash and checks only (sorry, no credit cards). For your convenience, an ATM machine can be found at MCAD's entrance. Free parking is available at the MCAD parking lot located on 26th Street between 3rd Ave. and Stephens Ave.

### BECOME A MEMBER OF THE ITALIAN CULTURAL CENTER!

By becoming a member of the ICC you are supporting the cultivation of Italian culture and language in the Twin Cities as well as enjoying a wide range of unique benefits.

### MEMBER BENEFITS:

- 5% discount on ICC language classes
- 10% discount on ICC wine-tasting and cooking classes
- 10% discount on tickets to the Minnesota Opera
- Free borrowing privileges at the ICC's Rudi Vecoli Resource Center
- Discounted or free admission to events organized by ICC promotional partners
- Member-only events
- Discounts at local businesses

### MEMBERSHIP LEVELS:

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- Lifetime (\$1,000.00)

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INTERNATIONAL

**FILM**  
FESTIVAL  
APRIL 11-28 2013

[mspfilmfest.org](http://mspfilmfest.org)



**MUST SEE  
ITALIAN FILMS**  
at the 2013 Festival



**Caesar Must Die**  
4/20 at 7:15pm  
4/28 at 6:45pm



**Dust: The Great  
Asbestos Trial**  
4/12 at 7:00pm



**The Last Shepherd**  
4/20 at 11:20am  
4/23 at 9:55pm

and many more!  
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