



VETERAN ITALIAN DIRECTOR SILVIO SOLDINI TO RECEIVE INAUGURAL ICFF LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

CANADIAN PREMIERE OF SOLDINI'S *COME UNDONE* (*Cosa voglio di più*) ANNOUNCED AS CLOSING NIGHT FILM – JULY 6

ICFF RUNS: JUNE 26 – JULY 6, 2013 IN TORONTO AND VAUGHAN

TORONTO, ON – June 19, 2013 - - The Italian Contemporary Film Festival, presented by IC Savings, is pleased to reveal its Closing Night Program which includes a tribute to veteran Italian-Swiss filmmaker **Silvio Soldini**, one of the most acclaimed directors of contemporary Italian cinema. Soldini will receive ICFF's first Lifetime Achievement Award in recognition of the veteran filmmaker's commendable body of works spanning a career of over three decades. Soldini will be in Toronto on July 6 to receive his award and to introduce two of his films at TIFF Bell Lightbox.

ICFF is proud to close the 2013 Festival with the Canadian premiere of Silvio Soldini's [COME UNDONE](#) (*Cosa voglio di più*), an absorbing, beautifully acted relationship drama about infidelity starring Alba Rohrwacher and Pierfrancesco Favino. In addition, the ICFF will present the North American premiere of Soldini's [FOR OTHER EYES](#) (*Per Altri Occhi*) a compelling documentary examining how the blind live in a world designed for the sighted.

Silvio Soldini is one of the most acclaimed directors of contemporary Italian cinema. His most decorated films include the 2000 romance comedy *Bread and Tulips* (*Pane e tulipani*), which won him international recognition and box office success, and the 2007 drama *Days and Clouds* (*Giorni e nuvole*). His first feature, *The Peaceful Air of the West* (*L'aria serena dell'ovest*) (1990), represents the revival of New Italian Cinema. One of the heirs of Italian comedy of the 50s and 60s, Soldini has proven himself to be equally adept directing dramatic, realistic films that explore social issues, such as *Burning in the Wind* (*Brucio nel vento*) (2001); *A Soul Split in Two* (*Un'anima divisa in due*) (1993); and *Le acrobate* (1997).

Throughout his 30-year career, Soldini has received 11 awards and 14 nominations for his shorts, documentaries and feature films. Born in 1958 in Milan, Soldini's filmmaking career began in the mid-1980s after returning to Milan following two years in a film studies program in New York.

Artistic Director Cristiano de Florentiis said: "We are delighted to present Silvio Soldini with the ICFF's first Lifetime Achievement Award in recognition of the exceptional and inspiring quality of the body of his work. It is a great pleasure to welcome Silvio to Toronto to present him with this award and to feature two of his films on the closing day of our festival."

The second edition of the ICFF will kick off on June 26th during Ontario's Italian Heritage Month, and will run until July 6th in Toronto and Vaughan. Building on the success of the 2012 inaugural edition, the expanded 11-day event will showcase the best in new Italian cinema from around the world and Canada, including 24 feature film premieres. The exciting and eclectic slate of 62 Italian and Italian-themed films and shorts will screen at the TIFF Bell Lightbox and the Royal Cinema in Toronto, and at AMC Interchange in Vaughan.

This year's slate, 50% larger than the inaugural edition, includes a wide array of genres – from comedies and searing political dramas – to documentaries and shorts, and covers a variety of issues. Other highlights include Opening and Closing Night parties, a nd international and local guests who will present their films and treat audiences to post-screening Q&A sessions.

In addition to SILVIO SOLDINI, visiting guests will include:

Walter Nudo – Montreal-born Italian megastar (TV series *Carabinieri* and *Incantesimo 8*) also star of ICFF film [HOPEFUL NOTES](#). Nudo currently resides in LA and speaks fluent Italian, English and Spanish.

Monica Nappo – Italian actress (Woody Allen's *To Rome With Love*). Star of ICFF film [W ZAPPATORE](#). Nappo lives in London, England and speaks fluent Italian and English.

Nicolas Vaporidis – Italian star of box office hit [OUTING: FIDANZATI PER SBAGLIO](#). Speaks Italian and French.

Andrea Iervolino – Italian (part Canadian) producer of [OUTING: FIDANZATI PER SBAGLIO](#) and [E IO NON PAGO](#).

Valeria Marini – popular Italian actress and TV Host. [E IO NON PAGO](#).

LOCAL TALENT:

Frank D'Angelo – writer, director, actor and musician - [REAL GANGSTERS](#)

Nick Mancuso - award-winning Toronto actor – ICFF film [REAL GANGSTERS](#)

Tony Nardi - award-winning Toronto actor – ICFF film [LETTER TWO](#)

Jerry Ciccoritti – award-winning Toronto director. ICFF film [THE RESURRECTION OF TONY GITONE](#)

A complete list of films is available at <http://www.icff.ca>.

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COME UNDONE (Cosa voglio di più) CLOSING NIGHT FILM (Canadian Premiere)
SILVIO SOLDINI TRIBUTE on July 6

Cast: Alba Rohrwacher, Pierfrancesco Favino, Giuseppe Battiston,

Country: Italy/Switzerland

Running Time: 126 min.

Anna has everything she thought she could ever need: a respectable career, a caring family, and a loving partner, Alessio. But when she meets Domenico, a handsome, married waiter, her neatly ordered world begins to fall apart. They quickly fall into a heated affair, based on secret meetings, stolen caresses, and endless lies. As the two lovers begin to fall deeper under the spell of passion, they are faced with a life-changing choice which neither is entirely prepared to make.

FOR OTHER EYES (Per Altri Occhi)
SILVIO SOLDINI TRIBUTE on July 6

(North American Premiere)

Country: Italy/Switzerland
Running Time: 94 min

How do the blind live in a world designed especially for the sighted? How do they get around? How do they interact with others? What access do they have to a world filled with obstacles? Does the experience of living in darkness lead to another interpretation of existence? Can the blind see things others cannot see? A surprising film that questions our present.

PREVIOUSLY ANNOUNCED SELECTED TITLES – full list available at
<http://www.icff.ca>

BENVENUTO PRESIDENTE

OPENING NIGHT FILM (International Premiere)

Director: Riccardo Milani
Cast: Claudio Bisio, Kasia Smutniak
Country: Italy
Running Time: 103 min.

Quoted from *The Guardian*, -Lizzy Davies, April 17, 2013

“Italian cinemas are this month showing a film about a bald librarian from the mountains called Peppino who, due to a voting glitch that terrifies everyone – including himself – is elected to the highest office in the land. As it charts his journey from provincial joker to maverick statesman, *Benvenuto Presidente!* has given viewers some much needed laughs at a time when real-life politics is every bit as strange as fiction, but certainly not as funny.”

SIBERIAN EDUCATION (Educazione Siberiana)

North American Premiere

Director: Gabriele Salvatores
Cast: John Malkovich, Peter Stormare, Arnas Fedaravicius, Eleanor Tomlinson
Country: Italy
Running Time: 103 min.
Canadian Distributor: Mongrel Media

The story of a gang of children growing up in a lawless community in a forgotten corner of the former Soviet Union, SIBERIAN EDUCATION follows two best friends who gradually become fierce enemies as they find themselves on opposite sides of the strict code of honour of the ‘honest criminal’ brotherhood. An adaptation of the Nicolai Lilin autobiography of the same name, this thriller stars John Malkovich as a colorful Russian godfather.

THE LAST LEOPARD: PORTRAIT OF GOFFREDO LOMBARDO

(L'Ultimo Gattopardo: Ritratto Di Goffredo Lombardo) North American Premiere

Director: Giuseppe Tornatore
Country: Italy
Running time: 75 min.

Legendary Italian film producer Goffredo Lombardo is one of the most celebrated producers in Italian cinema (*The Leopard, Rocco and His Brothers, Il Bidone*). The son of Gustavo, a pioneer of Italian cinema and founder of the Titanus Film Company, Goffredo helped to give international prestige to the Italian film industry after the Second World War. Directed by Giuseppe Tornatore (Oscar® winner *Cinema Paradiso*), THE LAST LEOPARD pays tribute to Goffredo Lombardo through archival footage and interviews with top actors and filmmakers.

[DIAZ: DON'T CLEAN UP THIS BLOOD \(*Diaz – Non pulire questo sangue*\)](#)

Writer/Director: Daniele Vicari

Cat: Elio Germano, Jennifer Ulrich, Claudio Santamaria

Country: Italy

Running Time: 120 min

Canadian Distributor: Mongrel Media

This searing political drama retraces the seminal events which took place in the Diaz school raid during Genoa's violent G8 Summit in July 2001. Diaz is named after the temporarily vacant city-center school used by protest-groups as a makeshift base and sleeping quarters during the economic summit. The police stormed the school and brutally attacked young men and women from all over Europe for two hours.

[REALITY](#)

Director: Matteo Garrone (*Gomorrah*)

Cast: Aniello Arena, Loredana Simioli and Claudia Gerini

Country: Italy/France

Running Time: 115 min.

Canadian Distributor: Mongrel Media

Acclaimed director Matteo Garrone follows his award-winning crime epic *Gomorrah* with this dark comedy about the impact of contemporary media and the nature of fame. Winner of the 2012 Cannes International Film Festival Grand Jury Prize, *REALITY* follows Luciano, a Neapolitan fishmonger who becomes obsessed with landing a role on the Italian version of the hugely popular reality TV series, *Big Brother*.

[BERBERIAN SOUND STUDIO](#)

Director: Peter Strickland

Cast: Toby Jones, Tonia Sotiropoulou, Cosimo Fusco, Antonio Mancino.

Country: UK

Running Time: 92 min

Canadian Distributor: Filmswelike – **PLEASE HOLD FULL REVIEWS UNTIL AUGUST 2nd THEATRICAL RELEASE**

Compared to David Lynch's *Mulholland Drive*, this smash hit at the Edinburgh Film Festival pays tribute to Italian horror master, Mario Bava. In this sinister and moody thriller, Gilderoy, a timid English sound engineer (Toby Jones - *Hitchcock*, *Infamous*), finds himself working with a group of mysterious filmmakers on a low budget horror film in 1976 Italy. Immersed in a Kafkaesque world, he slowly begins to lose his mind.

[SHUN LI AND THE POET \(*Io Sono Li*\)](#)

North American Premiere

Writer/Director: Andrea Segre

Country: Italy/France

Cast: Zhao Tao, Rade Serbedzija, Marco Paolini, Roberto Citran, Giuseppe Battiston

Running Time: 98 min.

Set in Chioggia, a small village on the Venetian lagoon, *SHUN LI AND THE POET* is a poetic and moving film about the fragile friendship between a shy Chinese waitress (Zhao Tao) and a middle-aged Slavic fisherman (Rade Serbedzija). Zhao was named Best Actress at Italy's David di Donatello Awards for her role, and director Andrea Segre received the London Film Festival's Satyajit Ray Award for his first feature.

UNA DOMENICA NOTTE (A Sunday Night)

International Premiere

Director: Giuseppe Marco Albano

Cast: Antonio Andrisani, Francesca Faiella, Ernesto Mahieux

Country: Italy

Running Time: 90 min.

Antonio is a 46 year-old director of horror movies whose dream of making it big has all but faded. Married with a young son, and then divorced, he lives in a small town in Puglia where he goes about his daily life, frustrated by his inability to raise financing for his projects. When he decides to produce a new low budget film on his own, he casts willing residents of the town in this charming, warm-hearted film.

THE LOST WORLD CUP (Il Mondial Dimenticato) North American Premiere

Directors: Lorenzo Garzella, Filippo Macelloni

Country: Italy-Argentina

Running time: 95 min

At the height of the Second World War, the Jewish Hungarian Otz, a count with an avid love of football, then living in exile in Patagonia, decides to approach FIFA about staging a possible World Cup a way from the chaos engulfing Second World War Europe. This film finally presents the true story of the 1942 World Soccer Championship, the story never acknowledged by the official sports organizations, shrouded for decades in legend. The outcome of the game is finally revealed.

OUTING – ACCIDENTAL FIANCÉS (Outing - Fidanzati per sbaglio)

International Premiere

Director: Matteo Vicino

Cast: Nicolas Vaporidis, Massimo Ghini, Giulia Michelini

Country: Italy

Running Time: 96 min

(Presented in collaboration with Toronto Inside Out LGBT Festival)

Guests in Attendance: Actor Nicolas Vaporidis and Producer Andrea Iervolino

Outing is a comedy starring two childhood friends from Puglia: Federico who toils away at menial jobs, and Riccardo, a fashion designer living in Milan whose job as a sales clerk is far from his dream. Once they find out about a program offering loans in support of entrepreneurial activities in the region of Puglia, the two friends decide to go into business together. Unaware that the loan was limited to common law couples, the two friends pretend to be a gay couple in order to qualify so that Riccardo can fulfill his dream of opening a fashion house.

REAL GANGSTERS

Canadian Premiere

Director: Frank D'Angelo

Cast: Nick Manuso, Michael Paré, Steven Bauer, Robert Loggia, John Savage, Margot Kidder

Country: Canada

Running Time: 87 min.

Talent in Attendance: Frank D'Angelo, Nick Mancuso

The Lo Giacomo family is one of the most successful crime syndicates in New York City. Run by cousins Vincent (Nick Mancuso) and Jack (Frank D'Angelo), these two men maintain control of their dangerous extended family and volatile business ventures by very different means. Vincent always tries to keep the peace and grow the family into a billion dollar empire while Jack enforces his code of duty and honor with brutal finality.

VIVA L'ITALIA

International Premiere

Director: Massimiliano Bruno

Cast: Michele Placido, Alessandro Gassman, Ambra Angiolini, Raoul Bova

Country: Italy

Running Time: 100 min.

A comedy portraying Italy in all its contradictions, VIVA L'ITALIA revolves around Michele Spagnolo, a corrupt politician who has a stroke while in bed with a showgirl whose career he has promised to promote. He is affected in the part of his brain that controls inhibitions, which leads Michele to start telling the truth about everything and everyone, eventually making him a loose cannon for himself and his family, as well as for his political party.

CAVALLI (HORSES)

Canadian Premiere

Director: Michele Rho

Cast: Vinicio Marchioni, Michele Alhaique, Asia Argento

Country: Italy

Running Time: 120 min

Michele Rho's directorial debut is a beautifully shot period piece set in the late 19th century in a small town in the Appenine Mountains. An archetypal story of two brothers, Alessandro and Pietro, who are very close, but very different, especially after the death of their beloved mother (played by Asia Argento). Her legacy to them is two magnificent, untamed horses. Alessandro is rebellious and seeks to travel beyond the mountains, while Pietro becomes a skilled horse breeder, content to live a traditional life at home with the woman he loves.

DOCUMENTARIES (free screenings)

ANTIGONE

Director: Antonio D'Alfonso

Running time: 87 min

A modern adaptation of the Greek tragedy written by Sophocles, has each character speaking in a different language

LETTER TWO

Director: Tony Nardi

Running Time: 2 hours

An examination of a non-actor-less theatre culture in Canada at the hands of director's theatre, in which, increasingly, a tradition of over-trained actors and under-trained directors is encouraged.

ZIA AND FRIENDS

World Premiere

Director: Angela Bianchi

Running time: 43 minutes

ZIA AND FRIENDS documents the lives of a few residents living at a long term care facility in Toronto. Most of them have dementia and spend their days eating, sleeping and sitting around the nursing station as they wait for God. They've lost track of time.

AWARDS

Eleven days of screenings and receptions will be capped with the Closing Night Ceremony on July 6, 2013 at 7:00 PM at the TIFF Bell Lightbox where the ICFF will announce the winners of three awards.

PEOPLE'S CHOICE AWARD

The People's Choice Award will be chosen by the audience, which will cast ballots for Best Feature. The winner will be announced at the Awards Ceremony.

ANGELA BALDASSARRE AWARD

A jury comprised of members of the Toronto Film Critics Association (TFCA) will present the Angela Baldassarre Award to the "Best Film" of the ICFF in memory of Angela, a gifted Toronto film critic who lost her battle with cancer on November 15, 2007. Angela was a member of the TFCA.

ICFF SHORT FILM AWARD

This year the festival is introducing the inaugural Best Short Film Award, which will be chosen by the Audience. It is sponsored by the ICFF and carries a \$1000 cash prize.

SPONSORS

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ABOUT THE ITALIAN CONTEMPORARY FILM FESTIVAL (ICFF)

Founded in 2012, the ICFF is a non-profit cultural organization which provides a showcase for the best in new Italian cinema. Each year, the festival will present international, national and local Italian and Italian-themed films to celebrate the diversity of this country's rich cultural heritage.

TICKETS

Tickets for all venues are now on sale [online](#) or in person at TIFF Bell Lightbox Box Office, 350 King Street West, (416) 599-8433, and as at presenting theatres and at the ICFF headquarter (416) 893-3966, info@icff.ca

For the complete film line-up and ticket information please visit: <http://www.icff.ca>

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