# SARA' UN PAESE- IT WILL BE A COUNTRY

## **SYNOPSIS**

As per Director Nicola Campiotti

Following the path of the Phoenician hero, Cadmus, to whom mythology attributes the introduction of the alphabet into Greece, Nicola, a thirty-something who is uncertain about the future, and his 10-year-old brother Elia, undertake a journey through Italy in search of a new language, to give back to things their proper names and restore meaning to words. In their wanderings, taking in faces and places, painful realities and historic memories, the road becomes a path of learning and, at the same time, an exploration of the imaginary. On the border between documentary and fiction, the film describes the hopes of the country that will be.

# IT WILL BE A COUNTRY – ALL THE THEMES OF THE FILM, IN THE ORDER IN WHICH THEY APPEAR

As per Director Nicola Campiotti

## Pollution

The protection and safeguarding of the environment. The first encounter is dedicated to air quality, to the presence of nano particles and residues of metals that have been ingested because of combustion. The meeting takes place in Emilia Romagna, in Forli  $\boxtimes$ . Elia meets Matilde, 12, the sister of Massimiliano.

#### Workplace fatalities

Elia meets Graziella, the mother of Andrea. The meeting takes place in the Marche, in Porto S. Elpidio. Italy has the highest number of workplace accidents in Europe.

#### The meeting between different cultures and religious traditions

Elia meets Anok, a Hindu boy, Greta, a Jewish girl and Haroun, a Muslim boy. The meetings take place during the feast of Durga Puja in Rome, the Hanukkah celebrations in Florence and in a small mosque in the outskirts of Rome.

#### Citizenship and cultural identity

The theme is developed above all with reference to children born in Italy to immigrant parents. Elia meets Mohamed, his sister Lamis and their mother Mona, who is Egyptian. Children of immigrants make up 7% of the school population nationally. Italy has one of the harshest systems in terms of acquiring citizenship.

#### Youth unemployment, short-term work, the brain drain.

On the edge between dream and reality, Elia will hear fragments of the experiences and thoughts of young people in short-term work or who are unemployed.

#### **Public ownership**

The theme is dealt with through an abstract vision, which introduces the topic and it is then taken up again, in the finale, using a concrete example: the testimony of the community of Boschetto, in Umbria, which fought for years against the privatisation of the village spring. The struggle for public water in our country represented the apex of this raising of awareness and reflection on the theme of public ownership.

## The cosmotheandric vision

The ancient intuition, according to which cosmos, theos and andros are intimately linked. The anima mundi and the interdependence of every living being are described to Elia by a group of shoeless women in the Sibillini Mountains, between the Marche and Umbria.

# **Good government**

What are the effects and consequences of good or bad government? Is it possible to distinguish between good and bad management in the public sphere? Seven centuries ago, with naive simplicity, the rulers of Siena asked an artist to fresco the debating chamber of the town council, as a warning and inspiration to good government. A young jester uses an archaic language to describe to Elia the spirit of the fresco.

# The sense of the limits that exist

Serge Latouche, a French economist and degrowth theorist, discusses the sense of the limits that exist with Elia. The meeting took place in Calabria one day in spring.

# Virtuous councils

The National Association of Virtuous Councils is a network of Italian councils that seek to practise good governance. The film describes the experience of some of these councils.

## Safeguarding and respecting the landscape

Defending the country and its protected areas. The struggle against illegal building and unbridled construction. This topic also has to do with the positive experience of the virtuous councils.

## The Italian Constitution

In the Italian Constitution, Elia finds all the topics dealt with in the film. A ready-to-use manual, whose solid principles only need to be respected.

# The fight against protection money and the culture of illegality

Elia hears about this from a group of young people from Ercolano, in Campania.

## Europa

Europa, kidnapped by Zeus disguised as a bull, is still wandering today... in search of her role and identity; she represents the hope of evolving, profoundly, into a community.

# SUGGESTIONS FOR TEACHERS AS PER THE ONTARIO CURRICULUM

«It Will Be A Country neither exhausts nor completes the topics it explores; rather it raises them for younger viewers as a seed, a notion, a source of reflection». (The director, Nicola Campiotti)

Although the movie is set in Italy, the themes it touches upon are universal.

English- Oral Communication

## **Overall** expectations

1. Listen in order to understand and respond appropriately in a variety of situations for a variety of purposes.

Students can demonstrate an understanding of the film by being asked to identify the important information and ideas in the film.

- Identity and discuss the most important themes with a partner
- Use a graphic form of expression to depict the main ideas in the film

# Critical literacy

Students can be asked to explain the strategies that were used in the movie to inform and persuade the audience that the issues presented are critical.

# Writing

1. Developing and organizing content: Generate, gather and organize ideas and information to write for an intended purpose and audience.

# *Identifying topic, purpose, and audience*

Students can be asked to write a movie review to encourage others to see the movie or to warn them about some aspect they may not like.

# Media Studies

1. Understand media texts: demonstrate an understanding of a variety of media texts.

## Audience Responses

Students can be asked to identify and explain different audiences responses to the film. Students can be asked to choose a theme presented in the film and discuss how different members in society might respond to the issue. For example, how might employers respond to the worker fatalities theme?

2. Understanding media forms, conventions and techniques.

Students can be asked to explain what techniques are used in the film to convey the meaning of the film and influence the audience. For example, what is the effect of using a young boy to explore these very mature themes.

## Conventions and Techniques

Students can be asked to produce a movie poster for the film. Students will be asked to think about the elements to include in the poster and what strategies they would use to ensure the poster appeals to the movie's target audience.

# Critical Literacy

If the movie were set in Canada, what Canadian examples could you use to explore the themes of the movie.