



**HIFF 2025**

**The Italian Focus**



# Habitat International Film Festival The Italian Focus

21st – 30th March 2025





## Note from the Director of the Italian Cultural Centre, New Delhi

Italy as focus country of the sixth edition of HIFF is a great opportunity to share with the Indian audience the profound passion for cinema that Italy has always nurtured, placing its own filmography among the best in the world.

Right from the beginning, the Italian Culture Centre in New Delhi has decided to work in two directions. While proposing a good selection of the newly released films with the intent of showing a wide variety of genres and some of the best authorial voices of the Country, we are also very keen in showcasing the excellent and world famous work that the Cineteca di Bologna and the Immagine Ritrovata do, in order to restore and conserve cinematography heritage that otherwise would be lost forever.

It is a way of talking about the future, understanding the precious value of preserving films that have made the history of world cinema, for the generations to come. These two institutions based in Bologna have been restoring hundreds of films in the past decades and have become a point of reference for those who are in need of restoring films from all over the world.

Cinema, together with literature, has the capacity of generating visions, nurturing creativity while caring about communities. Narrating stories is one of the demarcating aspects of civilisations. Human beings have gathered around the telling of stories for millennia and cinema has inherited the mission pushing it further, blurring it with life. At times where smartphones, pc and tablets are hypnotising us, absorbing our eyes and our time, it is even more relevant to come together and sit in the theatre to share the magic of the **big screen**.

We would like to thank Cineteca di Bologna and Immagine Ritrovata for the fantastic work they do and for their availability: our dream of screening in India such a precious collection of films would have been impossible without their work. We thank Italian Screens, the Department of Audio-visuals of Ministry of Culture and Cinecitta' for their generous support and Stefano Francia di Celle for his enormous knowledge of cinema, his capacity of sharing it and his professional qualities. We thank Milo Adami, Giuseppe Cederna, Gian Luca Farinelli, Goutam Ghose, Marco Tullio Giordana, Celine Pozzi, Asia Ruperto, Sergio Scapagnini, Roberto Stabile, for accepting our invite to be present at the festival and ITA Airways for supporting the programme. Last but not least the India Habitat Centre for the wonderful collaborative energy with which it has accompanied this project right from the very beginning.

Thanks to the Italian Culture Centre team: Lucrezia Aloisio, Daniele Castiglioni, Jyoti Parashar, Neha Sagar and Gurdeep Singh. A special thanks to the Deputy Director, Leonilde Calocchia for the thousands of emails that have been necessary to put together this unique screening of masterpieces.

**Andrea Anastasio**  
Director of Italian Culture Centre, New Delhi

## **Note from the Head of the International Department at Cinecittà**

We are delighted to return to New Delhi for the fourth edition of ITALIAN SCREENS, an initiative conceived to support the international promotion of Italy's audiovisual sector. This program aims to showcase the finest of Italian contemporary cinema abroad and to promote tax incentives for distribution and co-productions.

The agreement, signed by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation and the Directorate for Cinema and Audiovisual of the Ministry of Culture, provides Italian Cultural Institutes and Consulates with recent audiovisual works of high cultural and commercial value. It also seeks to strengthen the distribution of our cinema by increasing its presence in established markets while also operating in emerging new markets, creating interest and opportunities.

ITALIAN SCREENS is also a platform to showcase the protagonists of Italian cinema abroad, to create an audience that appreciates the major productions of the moment, and to present the best of what the Italian audiovisual system has to offer to local film makers in order to encourage collaborations and enhance the professional quality of our industry.

We hope the Indian audience appreciates this initiative and enjoys the curated selection of films, developed in collaboration with Andrea Anastasio, Director of the Italian Cultural Centre; Stefano Francia di Celle, curator of the Focus; and the team at the India Habitat Centre.

Through this event, we aim to foster the passion for Italy that strengthens not only our cultural ties but also the broader relationship between Italy and India.

**Roberto Stabile**  
Head of the International Department at Cinecittà

## Note from the Curator of The Italian Focus

The Italian Focus is divided into two parts: a selection of new films produced and released mainly in 2024 and a selection of classic to celebrate Marcello Mastroianni's centenary anniversary and highlight some topics of cinematographic art.

The selection of new films has been made to offer a broad spectrum of genre and authorial voices. Thriller, drama, brilliant and romantic comedy, civil commitment work are the main genres that the Indian audience will have a chance to experience: a multiplicity of voices and genres that spans from the generation that came soon after the maestros of Italian cinema to the younger authors who have been recently viewed at the Venice Film Festival. An important Italian-Indian production will be shown as well: *Parikrama* by Goutam Ghose that raises the question of the Western gaze on India and comes across as a poetic follow-up piece to Roberto Rossellini's ethnographic docu-fiction *Matri Bhumi* (1959).

Marco Tullio Giordana is the film director to whom a special tribute is dedicated. On the opening night his latest film *La vita accanto* (*The Life Apart*), a true psychological thriller with melodramatic aspects which has been recently premiered in Locarno Film Festival on the occasion of the awarding of the Leopard of Honor for Lifetime Achievement. In the following days the spectator will be able to follow the path of strong civil commitment that starts from the lessons of the great Italian post-war masters and takes us up to the present day, admirably dealing with burning issues of contemporary society and creating, with *La meglio gioventù* (*The Best of Youth*), an intense fresco of the dramatic Italian events in the last forty years of the past century.

The impressive tribute to Marcello Mastroianni - which will show all masterfully restored copies - allows us to relive the grandiose path of one of the most important Italian actors that led him to become an absolute protagonist of the artistic world of the greatest Italian directors like Federico Fellini. The tribute is organized with a great number of Italian companies involved in preserving and supporting Italian film heritage in Italy: they are like a galaxy around the Italian Ministry of Culture which supports the restoration, the valorisation and the rediscovery of the enormous and important treasure of Italian Classic Films.

The focus will also specifically celebrate the work of Cineteca di Bologna and its film restoration laboratory L'Immagine Ritrovata for strongly contributing to the conservation of films that deserves to be consigned to the next generations. They are involved in restoring many classic films and they have a special role in the Criterion restoration of the Apu Trilogy by Satyajit Ray, one of the most important event of the festival associated with the screening of three masterpieces by Vittorio De Sica. De Sica films brought cinematic techniques to bear on social issues and this new filmmaking had a tremendous impact in India, especially in the work of Satyajit Ray. Ray's Apu Trilogy would go onto win awards at the Berlin, Cannes, and Venice Film Festivals and bring Indian art films to the global stage. Céline Pozzi, Project Manager of L'Immagine Ritrovata, holds a workshop on restoration and preservation techniques of these great masterpieces.

The Italian Focus activities also include a public conversation focused on archaeological heritage, public good and democracy in collaboration with the Aga Khan Trust for Culture which includes the participation of the actor and writer Giuseppe Cederna, heir of the journalist and intellectual Antonio Cederna who played a great role in protecting the vast archaeological area of the Appia Antica from building speculation. The documentary filmmaker Milo Adami will also be the protagonist of the conversation and will show some of his important works as tools of knowledge and awareness.





The tribute to Sergej Paradzanov, organized in collaboration with the Embassy of Ukraine, is another way to underline the international importance of the Cineteca di Bologna which, in cooperation with Martin Scorsese's The Film Foundation World's Cinema Project, has brought absolute masterpieces of world cinema to new life, a strong inspiration for independent Ukrainian filmmakers. The tribute is completed by the brand new *The Lilac World of Paradjanov* in which director Ali Khamraev retraces the human and artistic events of a man who was much loved in Italy and found strong support by Italian intellectuals in the early Seventies during the years in which he was imprisoned by the Soviet regime.

The Italian Focus has been curated by Stefano Francia di Celle, former director of Torino Film Festival and in charge of RAI Classic an Art Film sector, in collaboration with Andrea Anastasio, Director of Italian Embassy Cultural Centre.

**Stefano Francia di Celle**  
**Curator of The Italian Focus**



# FOCUS SECTIONS

	Marcello Mastroianni Retrospective
	Marco Tullio Giordana
	Classics Restored
	New Releases

## SCHEDULE OF FILM SCREENINGS

### Friday | 21st March | INAUGURATION CEREMONY

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6:00 PM

STEIN AUDITORIUM

#### **LA VITA ACCANTO (THE LIFE APART)**

Marco Tullio Giordana

2024, 1h 47min



Starring: Valentina Bellé, Sonia Bergamasco, Alessandro Bressanello

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. The film had its world premiere at the Locarno Film Festival in 2024 on the occasion of the awarding of the Leopard of Honor to Marco Tullio Giordana, recognition for the most outstanding personalities of cinema.

Marco Tullio Giordana, director of the film, will attend the screening and Q&A will follow.

## Saturday | 22nd March

11:00 AM

STEIN AUDITORIUM

### LA DOLCE VITA (THE SWEET LIFE)

Federico Fellini

1960, 2h 54min



Starring: Marcello Mastroianni, Anita Ekberg, Anouk Aimee

The biggest hit from the most popular Italian filmmaker of all time, *La dolce vita* rocketed Federico Fellini to international mainstream success by offering a damning critique of the culture of stardom. A look at the darkness beneath the seductive lifestyles of Rome's rich and glamorous, the film follows a notorious celebrity journalist (a sublimely cool Marcello Mastroianni) during a hectic week spent on the peripheries of the spotlight.

*Restored by Fondazione Cineteca di Bologna in collaboration with The Film Foundation, Pathé, Fondation Jérôme Seydoux-Pathé, Mediaset – Medusa Film, Paramount Pictures, Cinecittà Luce, and the Centro Sperimentale di Cinematografia – Cineteca Nazionale, with support from Gucci and The Film Foundation.*

3:00 PM

THE THEATRE CINECLUB

### MIRACOLO A MILANO (MIRACLE IN MILAN)

Vittorio de Sica

1951, 1h 40min



Starring: Emma Gramatica, Francesco Golisano, Paolo Stoppa

In this poetic and neorealistic fantasy, renowned filmmaker Vittorio De Sica followed up his international triumph *Bicycle Thieves* with this enchantingly playful neorealist fairy tale, in which he combines his celebrated slice-of-life poetry with flights of graceful comedy and storybook fantasy. On the outskirts of Milan, a band of vagabonds work together to form a shantytown. When it is discovered that the land they occupy contains oil, however, it's up to the cherubic orphan Totò (Francesco Golisano)—with some divine help—to save their community from greedy developers. Tipping their hats to the imaginative whimsy of Charles Chaplin and René

Clair, De Sica and screenwriter Cesare Zavattini, adapting his own novel, craft a bighearted ode to the nobility of everyday people. One of the founding masterpieces of Italian neorealism which were of great inspiration to the Indian director Satyajit Ray.

*Restored by Fondazione Cineteca di Bologna and Compass Film, in collaboration with Mediaset, Infinity, Arthur Cohn, and Variety Communications.*

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5:00 PM

THE THEATRE CINECLUB

**LA MEGLIO GIOVENTÙ– Atto I  
(THE BEST OF YOUTH– Act I)**

Marco Tullio Giordana

2003, 1h 30 min



Starring: Luigi Lo Cascio, Alessio Boni, Jasmine Trinca, Sonia Bergamasco

Spanning four decades, from the chaotic 1960s to the present, this passionate epic directed by Marco Tullio Giordana follows two Italian brothers through some of the most tumultuous events of recent Italian history. Their politics and personalities are inextricably intertwined as the world around them violently shifts and they are pushed together and pulled apart by the tides of history and their own divergent dreams. Few films have ever made better use of combining social and political history with romantic melodrama and suspense.

Marco Tullio Giordana, director of the film, will attend the screening.

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6:30 PM

THE THEATRE CINECLUB

**LA MEGLIO GIOVENTÙ– Atto I, seconda parte  
(THE BEST OF YOUTH– Act I, second part)**

Marco Tullio Giordana

2003, 1h 30 min

## Saturday | 22nd March

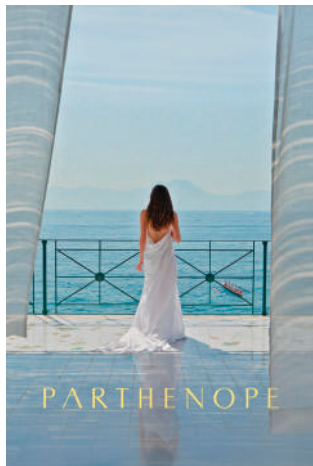
9:00 PM

STEIN AUDITORIUM

### ***PARTHENOPE***

Paolo Sorrentino

2024, 2h 17 min



Starring: Celeste Dalla Porta, Isabella Ferrari, Silvio Orlando, Gary Oldman

Parthenope, born in the sea of Naples in 1950, searches for happiness over the long summers of her youth, falling in love with her home city and its many memorable characters. From Academy Award-winning filmmaker Paolo Sorrentino comes a monumental and deeply romantic story of a lifetime. The newest work from Paolo Sorrentino, the Academy Award-winning director with *The Great Beauty*. Heir to Fellini's cinema of grandiose melancholy and cutting social observation.

## Sunday | 23rd March

11:00 AM

THE THEATRE CINECLUB

### ***SCIUSCIÀ (SHOESHINE)***

Vittorio De Sica

1946, 1h 33min



Starring: Franco Interlenghi, Rinaldo Smordoni, Annielo Mele

De Sica's heart-wrenching portrait of two impoverished shoeshine boys uses the ever-present Allied soldiers and bombed ruins as a constant reminder of the still reverberating devastation of war. De Sica and Zavattini's interest in symbols and, increasingly, fantasy, is legible in the figure of the horse that becomes the boys' sole source of happiness and, almost simultaneously, despair. Rarely screened today, *Shoeshine* stands with Bunuel's *Los Olvidados* as one of the greatest films about children. One of the founding masterpieces of Italian neorealism which were of great inspiration to the Indian director Satyajit Ray.

*Restored by The Film Foundation and Fondazione Cineteca di Bologna, in association with Orium S.A. Funding provided by the Hobson/Lucas Family Foundation.*

2:00 PM

THE THEATRE CINECLUB

## **IL VIALE DELLA SPERANZA (THE STREET OF HOPE)**

Dino Risi

1953, 1h 26 min



Starring: Cosetta Greco, Marcello Mastroianni, Lilians Bonfatti

Director Dino Risi's second feature film shows the joys and disappointments of three young women who dream of making a career in film at Italy's famous Cinecittà Studios. Luisa has talent and may find fame; Franca tries to seduce a producer, but has no artistic skills; and Giuditta, the most inexperienced and naive, will have to choose between the dream of cinema and the reality of marriage. Also featuring Marcello Mastroianni as a cameraman who's also a ladies' man. As we follow the story, we get some interesting glimpses inside the famous studio at work. As in a counterpart to *La Dolce Vita*, the director Dino Risi talks about the fragility of the illusions of a world incapable of dealing with reality and shows an unmistakable ability to put individual and collective events on the same level. A young Mastroianni, before his great success, stands out in the cast.

*Restored by VIGGO*

4:30 PM

THE THEATRE CINECLUB

**VITTORIA**

Alessandro Cassigoli, Casey Kauffman

2024, 1h 29 min



Starring: Marilena Amato, Gennaro Scarica, Anna Amato

Jasmine is a working-class Neapolitan mother. In Casey Kaufmann and Alessandro Cassigoli's film, based on Jasmine's life, we chart her relentless journey to adopt an orphan girl from Belarus – overcoming both official bureaucracy and her family's objections. A variation on the hybrid docu-drama, the film has people recreating a momentous chapter in their own lives. It won the Arca CinemaGiovani and FEDIC awards at the Venice Film Festival. Italian filmmaker Alessandro Cassigoli and US journalist Casey Kauffman have known each other and worked together for years. With their second narrative feature, *Vittoria* – which follows two documentaries and the 2021 feature *Californie* – they have won many awards and achieved an important position in film industry.

6:30 PM

THE THEATRE CINECLUB

**I CENTO PASSI (ONE HUNDRED STEPS)**

Marco Tullio Giordana

2000, 1h 54min



Starring: Luigi Lo Cascio, Luigi Maria Burruano, Lucia Sardeo, Tony Sperandeo

The shocking story of Peppino Impastato, a young left-wing activist who vocally opposed the Mafia in the 1970s and paid a brutal price. This was an era when almost nobody dared to speak about the Mafia in Sicily and several politicians maintained that it did not even exist. Impastato repeatedly denounced local mob boss Tano Badalamenti's criminal activities and the whole mafia system by broadcasting his ironically funny political pronouncements over a small local radio station. His passionate diatribes earned him a loyal audience, as well as the the growing ire of the mob, growing to vio-

lent retribution. Nominated at the 2001 Golden Globes for Best foreign Film

Marco Tullio Giordana, director of the film, will attend the screening.

*Restored by Minerva Pictures*

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9:00 PM

THE THEATRE CINECLUB

### **L'ULTIMA NOTTE DI AMORE (LAST NIGHT OF AMORE)**

by Andrea Di Stefano

2023, 2h 4min



Starring: Pierfrancesco Favino, Linda Caridi, Antonio Gerardi

Franco Amore is putting together his retirement speech. Tonight is the last night in 35 years of distinguished service in the Police force. In his long career, he writes, he's never shot his gun to kill, and he's done his best to keep honest. He doesn't know that this will be the longest and most challenging night of his life and that everything that matters to him will be in danger: his role as a servant of the State, his unconditional love for his wife Viviana, his friendship with his working partner Dino, and his own life. Tonight in Milan, events will unfold frantically while the light of dawn keeps moving farther. The engaging crime thriller *The Last Night of Amore* is an accomplished genre exercise, distinguished by strong craft contributions and first-rate performances - among which the one of the acclaimed Italian actor Pierfrancesco Favino.

## Monday | 24th March

2:00 PM

THE THEATRE CINECLUB

### **CONTRO LA LEGGE (AGAINST THE LAW)**

Flavio Calzavara

1950, 1h 39 min



Marcello Curti is a young man who is part of a middle-class family. In spite of his appearances, however, he conducts trafficking in dirty money by acting as an intermediary between the large foreign mafia clans and his fellow villagers. The crime film *Contro la legge* is a great example of one of the numerous films that the young Marcello Mastroianni starred in in the 1950s before becoming one of the most important interpreters of Italian cinema collaborating with the greatest directors of his time.

Restored by VIGGO

4:00 PM

THE THEATRE CINECLUB

### **DIVORZIO ALL'ITALIANA (DIVORCE ITALIAN STYLE)**

Pietro Germi

1961, 1h 44min



Starring: Marcello Mastroianni, Stefania Sandrelli, Leopoldo Trieste, Daniela Rocca

Baron Ferdinando Cefalù (Marcello Mastroianni) longs to marry his nubile young cousin Angela (Stefania Sandrelli), but one obstacle stands in his way: his fatuous and fawning wife, Rosalia. His solution? Since divorce is illegal, he hatches a plan to lure his spouse into the arms of another and then murder her in a justifiable effort to save his honor.

The director Pietro Germi's hilarious and cutting satire of Sicilian male-chauvinist culture (divorce became legal in Italy in 1970) has been winner of the 1962 Academy Award for Best Original Screenplay.

Restored by *Fondazione Cineteca di Bologna and CristaldiFilm.*



6:30 PM

THE THEATRE CINECLUB

## **MATRIMONIO ALL'ITALIANA (MARRIAGE ITALIAN STYLE)**

Vittorio De Sica

1964, 1h 42min



Starring: Sophia Loren, Marcello Mastroianni, Aldo Puglisi, Tecla Scarano

Marriage, Italian Style, Italian romantic comedy film released in 1964, was directed by Vittorio De Sica and based on a play by Eduardo De Filippo. It established Sophia Loren and Marcello Mastroianni as one of the most popular screen couples in international film. Loren portrayed Filumena Marturano, the longtime mistress of successful businessman Domenico Soriano (played by Mastroianni), who saved her from a life of prostitution when she was still in her teens. Though happy to share a bed with her and to let her work for him, Domenico is unwilling to marry her. When she realizes that he is turning his attentions toward another woman, Filumena resorts to faking a fatal illness in order to lure him to the altar. Loren and Mastroianni, friends in real life, had previously worked together in director De Sica's *Yesterday, Today, and Tomorrow (Ieri, oggi, domani, 1963)*, and their second costarring turn was an immense success.

*Restored by Fondazione Cineteca di Bologna and the Technicolor Foundation for Cinema Heritage, with support from Memory Cinéma.*

9:00 PM

THE THEATRE CINECLUB

**IL SOL DELL'AVVENIRE (A BRIGHTER TOMORROW)**

Nanni Moretti

2023, 1h 35 min



Starring: Nanni Moretti, Margherita Buy, Silvio Orlando, Barbra Bobulova

Director Giovanni and his wife Paola are working on a film about the Italian Communist Party in around 1956. The leads are for two journalists from the L'Unita newspaper who have to decide whether to remain loyal to their Soviet masters or to disown them now the Hungarian Revolution has broken out. Fiction soon merges with fact when Giovanni's relationship with Paola worsens, a financier proves unreliable and things get out of hand on set. The last film by Nanni Moretti, one of the greatest Italian authors, is a funny and bitter comedy which is also a treatise on the condition of the Seventh Art, the highs and lows of the contemporary film industry. And above all, about what remains most important in life, the loss of values, relationships, and understanding of reality.

## Tuesday | 25th March

4:00 PM

THE THEATRE CINECLUB

### **BERLINGUER LA GRANDE AMBIZIONE** **(BERLINGUER: THE GREAT AMBITION)**

Andrea Segre

2024, 2h 3min



Starring: Elio Germano, Stefano Abbati, Francesco Acquaroli

Secretary of the most influential Communist Party in the Western world, Enrico Berlinguer challenged the international balance by seeking to bring the Communists to government in Italy and achieve socialism in a democratic country. From 1973, when he escaped an attack by the Bulgarian secret services, to the assassination of his main ally Aldo Moro in 1978, not forgetting his trips to Moscow and the covers of Time: the story of a man who wanted to change the world, but failed. Daniele Segre is director of films and documentaries for cinema and television, he has also a PhD in Sociology of Communication. For over ten years he has paid particular attention to the issue of migration and follows the Italian events of the past and present with passion and creativity.

6:30 PM

THE THEATRE CINECLUB

### **MEDITERRANEO**

Gabriele Salvatores

1991, 1h 36min



Starring: Diego Abatantuono, Claudio Bigagli, Giuseppe Cederna

Greek Sea, World War II. An Italian ship leaves a handful of soldiers on a little island; their mission is to spot enemy ships and to hold the island in case of attack. The village of the island seems abandoned and there isn't a single enemy in sight, so the soldiers begin to relax a little. Soon the soldiers discover that being left behind in a God-forgotten Greek island isn't such a bad thing, after all.. Gabriele Salvatores' most famous film, awarded the Oscar for best foreign film, is dedicated to "all those who flee". The exotic scenarios transform the story into a story of training and authentic sentimental education.

## Tuesday | 25th March

Giuseppe Cederna, actor and among the protagonists of the film, will attend the screening, Q&A will follow.

9:00 PM

STEIN AUDITORIUM

### ***DIAMANTI (DIAMONDS)***

Ferzan Ozpetek

2024, 2h 15min



Starring: Luisa Ranieri, Jasmine Trinca, Stefano Accorsi

A film director gathers his favorite actresses, those he worked with and those he loved. He wants to make a film about women but he doesn't reveal much: he observes them, takes cue, until his imaginary throws them into another era, in a past where the noise of the sewing machines fills a workplace handled and populated by women, where men have minor and marginal roles and cinema can be told from another point of view. Hailed by Italian critics as a love letter to women, the art of costume design and the emotional power of cinema, *Diamanti*, has been shining at the Italian box office.

## Wednesday | 26th March

11:00 AM

AGA KHAN FOUNDATION

### ***MILO ADAMI'S DOCUMENTARIES (A NORD-EST, APPIA ANTICA, MIRABILIA URBIS)***

Screening at the Humayun's Tomb Museum in collaboration with the Aga Khan Trust for Culture. The film director and the actor Giuseppe Cederna will be in public talk with Ratish Nanda (Director of Aga Khan Trust for Culture), Jyotsna Lal (Director of AKTC Programmes), Biraj Patnaik (Director of NFI), Stefano Francia di Celle (Film curator) and Andrea Anastasio (Director of the Italian Embassy Culture Centre in New Delhi) on Heritage and Democracy, the relevance of archaeology and heritage in building public space's awareness and the role of cinema in generating that awareness.

3:30 PM

THE THEATRE CINECLUB

## LA CITTÀ DELLE DONNE (CITY OF WOMEN)

Federico Fellini

1980, 2h 19min



Starring: Marcello Mastroianni, Anna Prucnal, Bernice Stegers

Fellini's fascination with the opposite sex reaches a crescendo with this raucous fantasia populated by women. The womanizer Snàporaz (Marcello Mastroianni, once again appearing as Fellini's alter ego) attempts to seduce a femme fatale, but instead finds himself led to a feminist convention in the remote countryside. The circus-like atmosphere sets Snàporaz's head spinning; one moment he confronts a dizzying room full of roller-skating ladies and the next he is simultaneously rescued and bamboozled by a group of punk girls driving cars. The hallucinatory experience forces Snàporaz to reconsider his views on women—and his relationships with them.

*Restored by Fondazione Cineteca di Bologna in collaboration with Europictures, with support from the Italian Ministry of Culture, using original negatives provided by Gaumont.*

6:30 PM

THE THEATRE CINECLUB

## OTTO E MEZZO (8½)

Federico Fellini

1963, 2h 18min



Starring: Marcello Mastroianni, Anouk Aimee, Claudia Cardinale

Marcello Mastroianni plays Guido Anselmi, a director whose new project is collapsing around him, along with his life. One of the greatest films about film ever made, Federico Fellini's *8½* (*Otto e mezzo*) turns one man's artistic crisis into a grand epic of the cinema. An early working title for *8½* was *The Beautiful Confusion*, and Fellini's masterpiece is exactly that: a shimmering dream, a circus, and a magic act. *8½* was critically acclaimed and won the Academy Award for Best Foreign Language Film and Best Costume Design.

## Wednesday | 26th March

*Restored by CSC - Cineteca Nazionale in collaboration with RTI Gruppo Mediaset e Deluxe Digital*

9:00 PM

THE THEATRE CINECLUB

### **DUE SOLDATI (TWO SOLDIERS)**

Marco Tullio Giordana

2017, 1h 34min



Starring: Angela Fontana, Daniele Vicorito, Luigi Chiocca

Two young soldiers: Enzo in service to the military; Sasà, to the Mafia. Engaged to Maria, Enzo has taken a mortgage on a nice, new apartment. But while she and her mother are planning the wedding and shopping for furniture, he is killed in action in Afghanistan. The wedding turns into a funeral. Maria is devastated. The new flat is to be sold before it has even been occupied. When she arrives to clear out, she finds Sasà - a soldier of another kind.

Marco Tullio Giordana, director of the film, will attend the screening. Q&A will follow.

## Thursday | 27th March

4:00 PM

THE THEATRE CINECLUB

### **WORKSHOP ON FILM RESTORATION**

with Céline Stéphanie Pozzi and Shivendra Singh Dungarpur

Project Manager L'IMMAGINE RITROVATA, CINETECA DI BOLOGNA and Director of Film Heritage Foundation, India.

The workshop will be a journey through documents and images about the restoration of De Sica's film and the challenge of preserving the original elements of the Apu Trilogy. Along this main focus, we will be able to discuss film restoration and preservation techniques the way they are carried out at L'Immagine Ritrovata. Come along with your questions and curiosity!

6:30 PM

THE THEATRE CINECLUB

**LADRI DI BICICLETTE (BICYCLE THIEVES)**

Vittorio De Sica

1948, 1h 29 min

Starring: Lamberto Maggiorani, Enzo Staiola, Lianella Carell



Hailed around the world as one of the greatest movies ever made, the Academy Award–winning *Bicycle Thieves*, directed by Vittorio De Sica, defined an era in cinema. In poverty-stricken postwar Rome, a man is on his first day of a new job that offers hope of salvation for his desperate family when his bicycle, which he needs for work, is stolen. One of the founding masterpieces of Italian neorealism which were of great inspiration to the Indian director Satyajit Ray.

*Restored by Fondazione Cineteca di Bologna, Compass Film, and Istituto Luce – Cinecittà, in collaboration with Arthur Cohn and Euro Immobilfin.*

9:00 PM

STEIN AUDITORIUM

**TINI ZABUTYKH PREDKIV (SHADOWS OF FORGOTTEN ANCESTORS)**

Sergei Paradjanov

1965, 1h 37min

Starring: Ivan Mikolaychuk, Larisa Kadochnikova, Tatjana Bestayeva



One of the most beloved Soviet-era films, winner of multiple international awards, Sergei Paradjanov's visionary feature from 1965 summons a world of psychedelic folklore and ritual with bracing originality. Set in a remote village in the Carpathian Mountains, the story follows Ivan and Marichka, star-crossed lovers whose families are embroiled in a blood feud. When Ivan marries another woman but continues to pine for Marichka, his wife solicits the aid of a sorcerer to win him back, setting off a flurry of both natural and seemingly supernatural forces. Paradjanov, aided by his brilliant cinematographers Yuri Illienko and Viktor Bestayev, creates a delirious, magically charged atmosphere that fully cap-

## Thursday | 27th March

tures the sense of a folk legend brought to shimmering life. Starting with the dissident scandal at the premiere of the movie at the Ukraine cinemas, continuing with the long confrontation of directors-followers of the “poetic” school with Soviet censorship, ending with the transformation of Paradjanov’s film into a style icon for the young cinema of independent Ukraine.

*Restored by The Film Foundation’s World Cinema Project and Fondazione Cineteca di Bologna, in association with Dovzhenko Film Studio and in collaboration with the Oleksandr Dovzhenko National Centre. Funding provided by the Hobson/Lucas Family Foundation.*

## Friday | 28th March

4:00 PM

THE THEATRE CINECLUB

### **THE LILAC WIND OF PARADJANOV**

Ali Khamraev

2025, 1h 15 min



Filmmaker Ali Khamrayev, accompanied by cinematographer Yuri Klimenko delved into the archives, and travelled to Armenia and Georgia to honour Sergei Paradjanov: one of cinema’s greats, whose vision and defiance of convention transcended borders. Ali Khamraev (1937, Uzbekistan) is an Uzbek actor, director, screenwriter and producer. Khamraev graduated in 1961 from the VGIK in Moscow. He has made more than 30 documentary films and more than 20 feature films, for which he has received numerous titles and awards.



6:30 PM

THE THEATRE CINECLUB

## SAYAT NOVA (THE COLOR OF POMEGRANATES)

Sergei Paradjanov

1969, 1h 19 min



Starring: Sofiko Chiaureli, Melkon Alekryan, Medea Japaridze

One of the greatest masterpieces of cinema, Sergei Paradjanov's *The Color of Pomegranates*, inventively reveals the life of the 18th century Armenian troubadour Sayat Nova (King of Song) through his poetry and his inner world instead of a conventional narrative. We see the poet grow up, fall in love, enter a monastery and die, but these events are depicted through images of how Paradjanov's imagination perceived Sayat Nova's poems, poems that are seen and rarely heard. Void of dialogue and camera movement this is indeed a revolutionary work of the seventh art. A breathtaking fusion of poetry, ethnography, and cinema, Sergei Paradjanov's masterwork overflows with unforgettable images and sounds.

*Restored by Fondazione Cineteca di Bologna and The Film Foundation's World Cinema Project, in association with the Cinema Foundation of Armenia and Gosfilmofond of Russia. Funding provided by the Material World Foundation.*

## Friday | 28th March

9:00 PM

STEIN AUDITORIUM



### **ROMEO È GIULIETTA (ROMEO IS GIULIETTA)**

Giovanni Veronesi

2024, 1h 45min

Starring: Sergio Castellitto, Pilar Fogliati, Geppi Cucciari

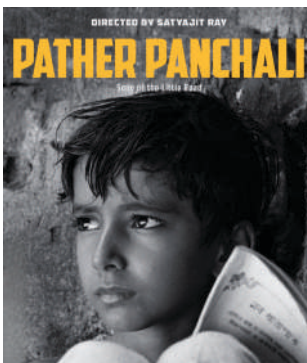
With excellent locations and beautiful direction, the film tells the story of the staging of Shakespeare's classic by the great director Federico Landi Porrini, played by Sergio Castellitto, who brings to the stage all the quirks of directors "with scarves and without" (as he says in the press conference), who is looking for a grand conclusion to his career now coming to an end.

So here are the audition scenes, where among unlikely actors and actresses, perfect Vittoria emerges but she gets rudely turned down for the role as Juliet by the famous director. She returns in disguise to audition as Romeo just to show him how good she really is and is cast for the role. A comedy of errors that reflects on the theme of identity, in general, and not just and simply gender. Pilar Fogliati, a very talented young Italian actress, gives a profound and fascinating performance.

## Saturday | 29th March

1:30 PM

THE THEATRE CINECLUB



### **THE APU TRILOGY- PATHER PANCHALI (SONG OF THE LITTLE ROAD)**

Satyajit Ray

1955, 2h 5min

Starring: Kanu Bannerjee, Karuna Bannerjee, Chunibala Devi, Uma Das Gupta

With the release in 1955 of Satyajit Ray's debut, Pather Panchali, an eloquent and important new cinematic voice made itself heard all over the world. A depiction of rural Bengali life in a style inspired by Italian neorealism, this naturalistic but poetic evocation of a number of years in the life of a family introduces us to both little Apu and, just as essentially, the women who will help shape him. With resplendent photography informed by

its young protagonist's perpetual sense of discovery, *Pather Panchali*, which won an award for Best Human Document at the Cannes Film Festival, is an immersive cinematic experience and a film of elemental power.

Shivendra Singh Dungarpur, Director of Film Heritage Foundation will be present at the screening.

*Restored by The Criterion Collection*

4:00 PM

STEIN AUDITORIUM

## **PAIKRAMA— LA STORIA DI LALA**

Goutam Ghose

2024, 1h 52 min

Starring: Aryan Badkul, Chitrangda Singh, Cristina Donadio, Enzo Decaro



Alessandro is an established Italian director who makes films on environmental issues. During his trip to India, along the sacred Narmada river, he meets Lala, a “street urchin” from an Indian village who left his home to work and guarantee dignity and land for his family of farmers displaced by the construction of a large dam. The film – an Italian-Indian coproduction - originates from Sergio Scapagnini’s book *La storia di Lala* which fascinated director Goutam Ghose, one of the vanguards of the Parallel Cinema movement in India.

Goutam Ghose, director of the film, and the author of the script will attend the screening. Q&A will follow.

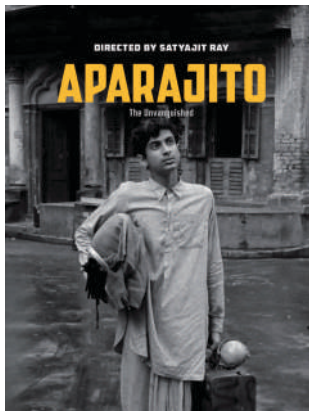
6:30 PM

THE THEATRE CINECLUB

**THE APU TRILOGY - APARAJITO (THE UNVANQUISHED)**

Satyajit Ray

1956, 1h 50min



Starring: Pinaki Sengupta, Smaran Ghosal, Kamala Adhikari

Satyajit Ray had not planned to make a sequel to Pather Panchali, but after the film’s international success, he decided to continue Apu’s narrative. Aparajito picks up where the first film leaves off, with Apu and his family having moved away from the country to live in the bustling holy city of Varanasi (then known as Benares). As Apu progresses from wide-eyed child to intellectually curious teenager, eventually studying in Kolkata, we witness his academic and moral education. This tenderly expressive, often heart-wrenching film, which won three top prizes at the Venice Film Festival, including the Golden Lion, not only extends but also spiritually deepens the tale of Apu.

*Restored by The Criterion Collection*

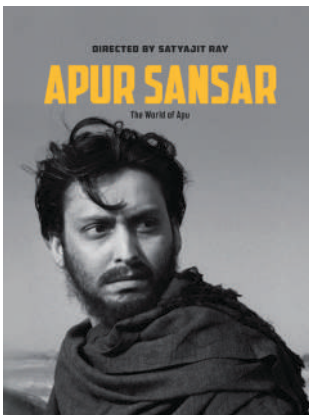
9:00 PM

THE THEATRE CINECLUB

**THE APU TRILOGY - APUR SANSAR (THE WORLD OF APU)**

Satyajit Ray

1959, 1h 45min



Starring: Soumitra Chatterjee, Sharmila Tagore, Alok Chakravarty

By the time Apur Sansar was released, Satyajit Ray had directed not only the first two Apu films but also the masterpiece The Music Room, and was well on his way to becoming a legend. This extraordinary final chapter brings our protagonist’s journey full circle. Apu is now in his early twenties, out of college, and hoping to live as a writer. Alongside his professional ambitions, the film charts his romantic awakening, which occurs as the result of a most unlikely turn of events, and his eventual, fraught fatherhood. Featuring soon-to-be Ray regulars

Soumitra Chatterjee and Sharmila Tagore in star-making performances, and demonstrating Ray's ever more impressive skills as a crafter of pure cinematic imagery, *Apur Sansar* is a moving conclusion to this monumental trilogy.

*Restored by The Criterion Collection*

## Sunday | 30th March

11:00 AM

THE THEATRE CINECLUB

### **OCI CIORNIE (DARK EYES)**

Nikita Mikhalkov

1987, 1h 58 min



Starring: Marcello Mastroianni, Elena Savonofa, Silvana Mangano

Based (loosely) on Chekhov's story "The Lady With The Little Dog," *Oci Ciornie (Dark Eyes)* features some of the most sumptuous photography of recent years. Set in Yalta, a sultry Black Sea spa for stylish Russian idlers, "Dark eyes" features a memorable tragic-comic performance by Marcello Mastroianni as Romano, foolish, gallant, ultimately trivial, and a superbly innocent, deeply moving performance by Yelena Safonova as the woman whom he utterly, shamefully fails. Mikhalkov's script departs from the Chekhov story in ways that some Chekhov-loving viewers might balk at. But Chekhov's ending is perhaps too subtle and introspective for cinematic realization, and Mikhalkov's alternative, seems justified, if only as a vehicle for Mastroianni's extraordinary performance. The film, based on some of Chekhov's stories, earned Mastroianni the award for Best Performance at the Cannes Film Festival.

"Maybe I love Chekhov so specially because his characters, his stories resemble life. I like that small, subdued world made up of characters full of illusions, inconclusive, immersed in an eternal, chattering vagueness: imaginative creatures, at the same time victims and accomplices of the world around them: and for this very

Sunday | 30th March

reason skeptical and sarcastic witnesses - that is, worthy of faith." Marcello Mastroianni

*Restored by Istituto Luce Cinecittà, CSC—Cineteca Nazionale and VIGGO Srl in collaboration with RAI Cinema*

2:00 PM

STEIN AUDITORIUM

### **UNA GIORNATA PARTICOLARE (A SPECIAL DAY)**

Ettore Scola

1977, 1h 43 min



Starring: Sophia Loren, Marcello Mastroianni, John Vernon

Italian cinema dream team Sophia Loren and Marcello Mastroianni are cast against glamorous type and deliver two of the finest performances of their careers in this moving, quietly subversive drama from Ettore Scola. Though it's set in Rome on the historic day in 1938 when Benito Mussolini and the city first rolled out the red carpet for Adolf Hitler, the film takes place entirely in a working-class apartment building, where an unexpected friendship blossoms between a pair of people who haven't joined the festivities: a conservative housewife and mother tending to her domestic duties and a liberal radio broadcaster awaiting deportation.

*Restored by CSC – Cineteca Nazionale in collaboration with Surf Film*

*Credits: Fondazione CSC – Cineteca Nazionale*

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