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Doc/it – Italian Documentary Association, has been operating for **25 years** and is recognized in Italy and abroad as the official representative for Italian producers and authors. Currently, about 170 members are subscribed to Doc/it, including companies, authors and professionals directly involved in the association's activities, in an open dialogue with a network of 3000 professionals from the audiovisual and communication industries, institutions, universities and schools. Doc/it's purpose is to promote the Italian documentary at both a national and an international level, through several actions.

- Organizing delegations of companies and authors, in Italy and abroad, in order to participate
 in international markets and festivals;
- Producing IDS Academy, a training program dedicated to documentary work, collaborating
 with the main qualified Institutes of professional development, Universities and specialized
 schools for documentaries both in Italy and abroad; for the first time in 2020 producing a
 new session dedicates to Documentary Series;
- Building a network of contacts amongst producers, authors and television channels world-wide for the coproduction of audiovisual documentary products such as creative documentary, genre documentary, factual, docu-reality, etc.
- Offering a database of the companies within the documentary sector in Italy;
- Managing Italiandoc (www.italiandoc.it), the first digital platform dedicated to Italian documentary;
- Representing the demands of the independent documentary sector at national and international authorities and institutions;
- Being a partner of the principal national and international documentary archives;
- Sending out a newsletter which reaches over 4.000 readers with the main news of the field: announcements, contests, festivals, shows, workshops, viewings, etc

www.documentaristi.it_

Italiandoc, Italian documentary directory: www.italiandoc.it

Facebook page: facebook.com/Ass.Doc.it Instagram: instagram.com/associazionedoc.it





ITA - Italian Trade Agency is the Governmental agency that supports the business development of our companies abroad and promotes the attraction of foreign investment in Italy. With a motivated and modern organization and a widespread network of overseas offices, **ITA** provides information, assistance, consulting, promotion and training to Italian small and medium-sized businesses. Using the most modern multi-channel promotion and communication tools, it acts to assert the excellence of Made in Italy in the world. The audiovisual office of **ITA** is engaged in:

- promoting the internationalization of the Italian audiovisual industry and is committed to growing the value of Italian film exports, supporting the presence of Italian films and TV products at festivals and markets such as Cannes Marché du Film, Berlinale/EFM, TIFF- Toronto International Film Festival, MipCom, Hot Docs and Mifa among others;
- supporting the Italian Film Commissions in attracting film and TV inward investment, and in promoting Italy as a film making destination, and the Italian technical industries as partner of choice;
- fostering co-production projects by helping to connect Italian film makers (producers, writers, directors) with international counterparts;
- helping Italian film and TV festivals to grow internationally by inviting to Italy buyers, producers, broadcasters, commissioning editors and other foreign representatives of the audiovisual sector.

ITA works for the promotion of the Italian audiovisual industry in close connection with ANICA (National Association of Italian cinematographic, audiovisual and multimedia industry), APA (Association of Italian Audiovisual producers), CNA Cinema e Audiovisivo, Doc/It (Association of Italian Documentary Producers), Cartoon Italia, and with Cinecittà and the Italian Film Commissions.

Through its engagement in the internationalization of the Italian audiovisual sector, **ITA** also promotes worldwide the "Made in Italy" image and the Italian life-style, indirectly contributing to the development of other important Italian production sectors (tourism, food, fashion, furniture, culture).

More recently **ITA** has opened up its activity to the promotion of the Italian videogame industry in cooperation with IIDEA (Italian Interaction Digital Entertainment Association) considering videogames as a very innovative sector that integrates technology and creativity, with a strong international growth potential.

Rome Headquarters

Via Liszt, 21 - 00144 Roma - Audiovisual & Multimedia Office

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ITALIAN DELEGATES



ADR Distribution

Erika Scandone







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Altara Film

Giovanni Donfrancesco

Altara Films is a production company based in Florence, Italy, mainly dedicated to the production of creative documentaries.



Films produced by Altara Films have won many awards and have been shown in several of the most important international film festivals, such as Venice, Rome, Rotterdam, Cinéma du Réel, IDFA, Visions du Réel, Dok Leipzig, Hot Docs...



Among the partners the company has made films with, there are numerous international television channels such as ARTE, YLE, RAI, NDR, SVT, DR, RTBF, SBS, Australia and others.

Contacts

altarafilms@altarafilms.com www.altarafilms.com







Aplysia Lucia Pornaro

Aplysia was established in 2007 as a collective of artists and film industry professionals. Since 2020 it is a production company. Over the years, numerous creative documentaries - focused on social issues, arts and ecology - have been carried out, with national and international collaborations.

Contacts lucia@aplysia.net www.aplysia.net

B&B Film

Raffaele Brunetti

B&B Film is a dynamic independent production company based in Rome. The company develops and produces documentaries and docu-series thanks to co-production agreements with major European and international broadcasters and platforms, including ZDF, Arte, NDR, WDR, YLE, SVT, RAI, A+E, Warner Bros/ Discovery, National Geographic and Netflix. Its documentaries have been broadcast in more than 160 countries and have been selected in prestigious international festivals such as the Venice International Festival. IDFA, HOT DOCS, Full Frame and Locarno, receiving awards including the Creative Excellence at the US International Film Festival, the Golden Globe, the Jury Prize at the Guanghzou Festival, the Silver Ribbon Award and the Ondas Award.





Contacts

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Biografilm Festival

Chiara Liberti



BIOGRAFILM

Since 2005 in Bologna, Biografilm brings to a passionate audience the best of Italian and international documentaries and fiction films, focusing on life stories characterdriven that push boundaries, generate debate and enhance the perspective on universal and current topics. The festival features indoor, outdoor and online screenings, Q&A, panels, Bio to B Industry Days. During the year Biografilm curates film-related educational activities.

Contacts

liberti@biografilm.it www.biografilm.it



Bunker HillAntonio Giugliano

Bunker Hill is an independent film Production and Distribution company, founded in 2011, with its main office in Rome, Italy. Since then it has been producing and distributing, both in Italy and abroad, Films and Documentaries characterized by the authors' originality of vision.



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IndycaSimone Catania





Indyca, established in 2007 in Italy, produces groundbreaking documentaries and art house films with international appeal.

Notable works include titles such as "Samia", "We Are the Thousand," and "Becoming Zlatan" premiered at major festivals like Berlin, Tribeca, Venice, IDFA, and SXSW. As a reputable co-producer, they collaborate globally receiving support from such as Eurimages, Ibermedia, and Creative Europe Media.

Contacts
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K+ Niccolò Tubini





Founded two decades ago, K+ is a Film & TV production, and International Sales company based in Verona (HQ), Rovereto, Trieste, and Bologna. K+ produces scripted and unscripted content, and collaborates with US and European major studios for global productions' location management and executive production services. K+ is a member of EPC (The European

Producers Club) and APE (Italian Production Service Companies Association)

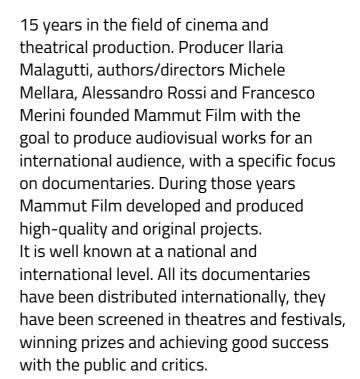
Contacts

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Mammut Film

Ilaria Malagutti







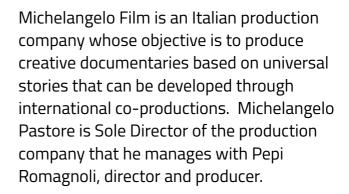
Contacts

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Michelangelo film

Pepi Romagnoli



Last documentaries produced: *Punti di vista*, creative documentary (2023), *Uguale a ieri*, creative documentary (2021), *Rossi Crociati*, creative documentary (2019), *Una gloriosa delegazione a Pyongyang*, creative documentary (2018) *Tre finestre sul cortile*, fiction movie.



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MICHELANGELOWILL

Reassemblage Produzioni Audiovisive

Christian Nicoletta



Rinssimblaci

Reassemblage was founded in 2015 by Christian Nicoletta with the aim of developing and producing documentaries about people challenging the problems of the contemporary world.

It was among the founders of the Ligurian Producers Association ALPA in 2016, from whose proposals the Bando Audiovisivo Liguria was born. Since 2021 it has been a member of CNA Cinema Liguria. It regularly participates in the main festivals and markets dedicated to documentaries. It collaborates with national and international museum institutions and makes international co-productions.

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Rizoma Film is an independent film and television production company based in Rome, Italy. After over 10 years since its foundation, Rizoma Film has consistently followed its passion for documentary bringing to light stories with a strong message but still little known, at the same time strengthening its vocation to produce for the international market. Rizoma Film documentaries were shown and awarded in numerous festivals, and distribuited on Amazon Prime and Netflix.

Contacts
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www.rizomafilm.com

ZeLIG School for Documentary / ESoDoc

Heidi Gronauer





ZeLIG is a cooperative focused on documentary training. We run a three-year program focused on documentary filmmaking. We equip students with the skills to tell compelling, real-world stories. Additionally, ZeLIG runs ESoDoc, a European MEDIA program-funded training initiative for professionals, helping them develop impactful documentary projects. Our mission is to provide the creative and technical tools to represent reality authentically, fostering a deep understanding of storytelling in the documentary field.

Contacts

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IDFA FORUM SELECTION





Director **Enrico Parenti**

Production Company **Elliot Films**, **Final Cut for Real**

Country of Production Italy, Denmark

Format

Feature length

Estimated length **80'**

Production status **Development**

Expected release **November 2026**



Born in 1950s Beijing, Nanyang's life mirrors China's turbulent history. Her father, Li Rui, Mao Zedong's former secretary, was purged for criticizing the Chairman. Raised on revolutionary ideals, Nanyang faced hardship but found resilience in table tennis and engineering. Sent to build a factory in a remote region, she reconnected with her father, learning of his sacrifices. Rising as a scientist at CERN, she fled to California after the 1989 Tiananmen Square massacre. Now, she fights to publish her father's diaries, revealing hidden facets of Chinese history in a powerful animated documentary.

Elliot Film

Susanna Trojano







Contacts

elliotfilms.info@gmail.com www.elliotfilms.eu





Director **Viesturs Kairišs**

Production Company Mistrus Media, Nanof, Dash Film, MDR / ARTE

Country of Production
Latvia, Italy, Romania,
Germany

Format

Feature length

Estimated length

Production status **Production**

Expected release

April 2026

Emptiness

A poetic documentary essay about emptiness in Europe, exploring its causes, life in the emptying places, and attempts to overcome it in six distinct landscapes: Latvia, Romania, Italy, Spain, Germany, and the UK.



Nanof

Filippo Macelloni



NANOF

NANOF is an independent production company, founded in 2001 by Filippo Macelloni and Lorenzo Garzella. They produce documentaries, fiction and cross media projects focused on global interest topics, social and current affairs, culture and art issues, aimed to reach a wide audience. Among their credits: Broken Dream, Italy-France, 2024; Touché, Italy-Belgium, 2023; Climbing Iran, Italy-France, 2020; The Disappearance of My Mother, Italy-USA, in competition at Sundance Film Festival 2019; Children Over Time, nominee at the Focal Int. Awards 2016; Silvio Forever, 2011; The lost World Cup, by Filippo Macelloni and Lorenzo Garzella, premiered at the Venice Film Festival 2011.

Contacts

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Fabrizio Albertini

Director

Production Company
Studio — x01

Country of Production

Format **Feature length**

Estimated length **80**′

Production status

Development

Expected release

March 2026

As Red as Water

Sardinia, Portoscuso. Dawn. Small boats crossing the sea towards San Pietro. They call them 'Tonnarotti', tuna fishermen. They have been busy for months. Mending nets. Repairing hulls. Drinking. Eating. Under the eyes of the Rais, the leader of the Tonnarotti. Finally, lowering their traps. Scanning, above and below water. Lulled by the waves, they wait. In the houses, with family, alone, humble life. Harsh. Deep in the Island, Lost, And then in Tonnara. Every day. All is ready. Black outlines, the tunas. Trapped by nets, driven by currents. Tricked by the island. The men on the boats shout: "Leva!" "Issa!". The nets go up, the fishermen pull. Then the slaughter. The water turns red. Sunset.





Studio — x01 Giorgio Viscardini

Studio — x01 is an award winning creative studio that produces scripted, non-fiction and commercial projects. We are inspired by true stories because they are the lifeblood of our industry. Our mission is to create compelling visual experiences that resonate with authenticity and push narratives into new directions.

Studio - x01

Contacts
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www.studiox01.com



Director Kamal Al Azraq, Francesca Tosarelli

Production Company Voirex Production Company

Country of Production

Palestine, Italy

Format

Feature length

Estimated length

Production status **Development**

Expected release

January 2027

The West Bank Project

Three lives collide and intertwine in the heart of the West Bank: a journalist, a paramedic and ambulance driver and a young boy mourning the loss of his father and his brother.





Voirex Production Company Francesca Tosarelli

We produce documentary films for TV broadcasters and online platforms, with a focus on character-driven, observational cinéma vérité style. Our goal is to create feature films for international theatrical and



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festival release.

DOCS FOR SALE





Director Maurizio Sciarra

Production Company
Le TALEE, Agherose

Country of Production Italy

Length **67' / 52'**

Year **2024**

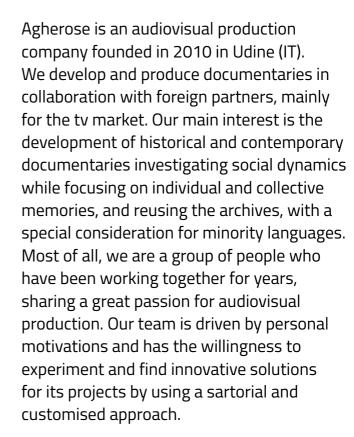
Let him free

100 years after Franco Basaglia's birth, his direct pupils tell his ideas for his revolutionary theories on mental health, placing the person and his discomfort at the centre and demolishing asylum institutions. There is no turning back from this - it is also stated by the WHO, which has made Basaglia's guidelines its own. To frame that great reform, strong archive images and direct testimonies of those locked up explain what asylums used to be and how the mentally ill lived there, transformed into objects, deprived of all rights and dignity.

Basaglia was a path-breaking figure, dealing with mental illness without violence and constraint and reintegrating these people into society.

Agherose

Anna Di Toma





agher se

Contacts

anna.ditoma@agherose.com www.agherose.com





Director

Massimo D'Anolfi,

Martina Parenti

Production Company
Montmorency Film,
Lomotion, Luce Cinecittà,
Rai Cinema

Country of Production Italy, Switzerland

Length

207'

Year **202**4

Bestiaries, Herbaria, Lapidaries

"Bestiaries, Herbaria, Lapidaries" is an "encyclopaedic" documentary, whose nonhuman protagonists talk about us humans. The film is divided into three volumes, each dealing with a single subject: animals, plants, stones. In this tripartite vision, each of the segments is a tribute to a specific genre of documentary filmmaking. Through the three volumes, a single dramaturgical body emerges, that stages a process of admission of responsibility, a process of maintenance and protection, and finally of rediscovery of a common and fundamental value: care.

Fandango

Raffaella Di Giulio



On the Tv side, Fandango produced *The Gomorrah* series with Cattleya and Sky; *L'Amica geniale* (My Brilliant Friend), the HBO RAI series co produced with Wildside/ The Apartment, based on Elena Ferrante's novels; Netflix's *La vita bugiarda degli adulti* (The Lying Life of Adults), also based on a Ferrante's novel.





Contacts

raffaella.digiulio@fandango.it www.fandango.it



Director Francisco Grimaldi

Production Company iFrame, Harvest Film AB

Country of Production Italy, Sweden

Length **60'**

Year **2024**

The home of champions

The world's strongest runners come mainly from Kenya, but few people know that all these champions train in the same village in Iten. "Welcome to Iten, Home of Champions" reads the entrance door to the town. This is how the journey of InYourShoes begins: a pair of shoes there can change the future of an entire community, where people live on sport, but above all on dreams. Women have made of it their revolution for emancipation: it is a model of great modernity. Running is the only way out of a state of absolute poverty. InYourShoes, it is a dream to create an emotional bridge, connecting this place with the rest of the world.



iFrame Silvia Giulietti

iFrame is an independent production and audiovisual post-production company founded in 2004 that produces documentaries, develops feature films and television series, offers post-production service services, and designs multimedia advertising projects, music videos, short films and live concerts.



Contacts
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www.iframe.it





Director

Fabiana Sargentini

Production Company Kama Production, Film Affair

Country of Production Italy

Length

Year **2024**

She painter

Anna Paparatti is the Pitturessa: a free woman with a talent for painting, born in Calabria and graduated from the Academy of Fine Arts in Rome. She has been part, from the inside, of fifty years of Italian and international contemporary art history (from the 1960s to the present). In 2021, Dior's artistic director, Maria Grazia Chiuri, suggested using her geometric paintings from the 60's "Il grande gioco" and "Popoca," "Le jeu qui n'existe pas" and "II gioco del non-sense"-canvases that had remained for years in her large home on the Lungotevere in Rome-to build the set up for Dior's Parisian prêt-à porter fashion show in the same year. Anna is back on the contemporary scene, at 87.

KAMA Productions

Riccardo Biadene



KAMA is a production, creative and distribution company whose main focus is cinema and the performing arts. The main goal is exploring current issues of the present time by bringing their contradictory yet multicultural sides into focus with the aim a compelling storytelling.



The documentaries produced by Kama in recent years have offered relevant and engaging content, focusing on keyfigures who played an international role, ranging across several genres, from biopics to socially themed documentaries and experiments with the performing arts.

Contacts

riccardobiadene.doc@gmail.com





Director Flaminia Cardini. Simone Pierini

Production Company L'Altravista

Country of Production Italy

Length

2024

Mireille and Antonio. A'bout de petit souffle

Mireille Delmas-Marty is a heretical and visionary jurist. She created together with the artist of Italian origin, Antonio Benincà, the "Compass of Possibilities" to give substance to her reflections on a world shaken by the winds of globalization. They describe the creative process they shared involving. Shortly after the inauguration of the sculpture, she fell ill and had to undergo a delicate operation. She experiences the hospital as a prison. Antonio helps her escape and opens the doors of his bubble house without doors. After several months of intense vitality, Mireille dies. Initiatives multiply to remember her and to spread her vision of an interconnected and inclusive world.

L'Altravista

Flaminia Cardini





L'Altravista is an independent film company based in Rome. It produces documentaries, shorts, exhibitions. Some of its documentaries have been broadcast on television, while others have been presented at national and international festivals. The female company has created short films addressing gender-based violence (Punto... e basta!, 8 Marzo) and a docufilm on feminism (La politica del desiderio). In recent years, it has focused on exploring the various forms of interaction between visual arts and significant social, political, and educational topics (Se potessi mangiare un'idea, Michelangelo Pistoletto. Il Terzo Paradiso a Roma, Avventure in Galleria, The Art of Discovering Art).

Contacts

flaminiacardini@laltravista.it www.laltravista.it



IDFA DOCS FOR SALE

Director **Simona Ris**i

Production Company
3D Produzioni,
Nexo Digital

Country of Production

Length

Year **2023**

Picasso a Rebel in Paris

The film moves in and out of the Musée Picasso in Paris, that has the largest existing collection dedicated to the painter and follows Picasso through the Parisian neighborhoods where he lived, from the early days in ateliers with no heating to the large middle-class apartments where his success began: a physical and intellectual journey to gain a deeper understanding of his work and spirit. Guiding us on this journey is Mina Kavani. This film develops an original portrait of the artist, outlining the contradictory nature of his character - made of sunshine and shadow, often hidden behind a mask - and the duplicity of his behavior, even with the many women in his life.

Nexo Digital

Rosella Gioffré





A leading player in the production and distribution of cinematic documentaries: art, music, history, human stories, environment and social issues. 4k native content which redefines the standards of portraying art, narrating history theatrically released in more than 60 countries. Nexo Studios represents major licensors of content from the worlds of cinema, music, museums, theater, and the arts. In 2021, Nexo TV was launched and since 2023 five new free thematic linear channels among which House of Docs available on major Smart TVs and platforms across Italy.

Contacts

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Director

Igor D'India

Production Company
POPCult

Country of Production Italy

Length

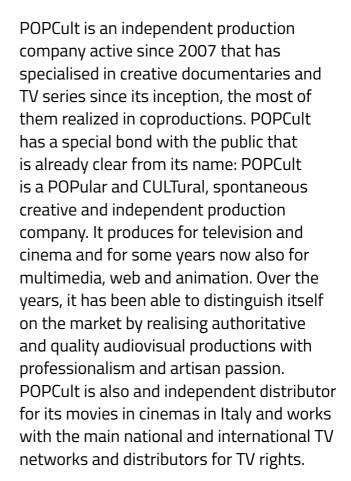
Year **202**4

Abyss clean up

In 2016, the CNR and La Sapienza University of Rome published a study on the discovery of a huge dump in the depths of the underwater canyons of the Strait of Messina. This garbage dump, identified through the use of a sophisticated ROV, remotely operated wireguided underwater vehicle, is not an isolated case, but an example of a phenomenon also found in several other marine abysses around the world, from Gibraltar to Nice, from Korea to Africa. Using the latest sophisticated technical means, the film documents the underwater exploration conducted at the end of June 2023 by the director, together with CNR marine geologists, marine biologists and robotics engineers at a depth of 600 meters.

POPCult

Giusi Santoro







Contacts

popcultdocs@gmail.com www.popcultdocs@gmail.com



IDFA DOCS FOR SALE

Director

Paolo Civati

Production Company
Rice Media

Country of Production Italy

Length 180'

Year **2024**

Veloce, The Motor Valley Legend

Through a historical and sporting investigation, "VELOCE" introduces us to the companies that represent Made in Italy around the world: Maserati, Lamborghini, Ferrari, Ducati, Pagani, Dallara, Energica. We'll meet the people who are part of these companies, and who design their future. We'll get to know their perspective on the present, while keeping an eye on the origins of Motor Valley, in an attempt to understand how everything began in that small stretch of land along the Via Emilia. Together with the drivers who made the Motor Valley great, especially Valentino Rossi, we explore the six key elements of the Motor Valley's success: speed, competition, passion, risk, beauty, and ingenuity.

Rice Media

Filippo Cellini





Rice Media is a division of the Ince Media Group, specializing in documentary productions dedicated to the motorsport sector. Rice Media was founded in 2020, drawing from twenty years of national and international experience in producing factual, fictional, and commercial videos. After launching "GRIP" (the docuseries on World Superbike distributed in the fall of 2021 by Discovery+), the Group co-produced the documentary "D'Annunzio, The Man Who Invented Himself" with Rai Doc in 2022. It was a success echoed by the documentary "Veloce: The Motor Valley Legend," about the Silicon Valley of motors, which aired in prime time on Rai Due in the Spring of 2024.

Contacts

amministrazione@ricemedia.it



Director **Federika Ponnetti**

Production Company **Zoom**

Country of Production

Italy

Length **85**′

Year

2024



Lorenzo, Andrea and Gabriele are three waiters who work in a well-known pizzeria in Italy run by autistic young people. Gabri studies History at university, Lori takes two hours by public transport to get to work and can't wait to be hired on a permanent basis, and Andrea, who has quickly become a violinist, plays at a wedding for the first time. In the meantime, the students of a high school go on a journey about the value of diversity. The stories intertwine with the classroom experience with our protagonists who become special tutors to teach the waiter's trade, and reflection ensues. Wouldn't it make more sense today to talk about the uniqueness of the individual, instead of diversity?



Z-O-O-M LATERAL THINKING FOR HUMANS

Zoom Federika Ponnetti

A fresh Italian production company born for out of the box creative documentaries. Its first 'Equally different' (2024), is a Green Film about the Diversity value with impact campaign on equal film accessibility for all and a spin-off educational. 'Heartbeats at Cretto', with development grants secured, adopts Code of ethical conduct for the audiovisual sector of WIFTM. From 2021 it is part of the Italian Delegation to the main European co-production markets.

Contacts

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CINECITÀ + idfa DOCUMENTARY: AN ITALIAN LOVE STORY

<mark>Bestiaries, Herbaria, Lapidaries</mark> Massimo D'Anolfi, Martina Parenti

The Golden Age Camilla lannetti Green Is The New Red Anna Recalde Miranda

<mark>Machine Boys</mark> Karimah Ashadu

<mark>Personale</mark> Carmen Trocker

REAL Adele Tulli

Things That Happen on Earth Michele Cinque

Valentina and the MUOSters Francesca Scalisi

www.filmitalia.org

IDFA OFFICIAL SELECTION





Bestiaries, Herbaria, Lapidaries

Director

Massimo D'Anolfi,

Martina Parenti

Production Company
Montmorency Film,
Lomotion, Luce Cinecittà,
Rai Cinema

Country of Production Italy, Switzerland

Length 207'

Year **2024** "Bestiaries, Herbaria, Lapidaries" is an "encyclopaedic" documentary, whose nonhuman protagonists talk about us humans. The film is divided into three volumes, each dealing with a single subject: animals, plants, stones. In this tripartite vision, each of the segments is a tribute to a specific genre of documentary filmmaking. Through the three volumes, a single dramaturgical body emerges, that stages a process of admission of responsibility, a process of maintenance and protection, and finally of rediscovery of a common and fundamental value: care.



Director Camilla lannetti

Production Company **Zabriskie, Cut&, Rai Cinema**

Country of Production

Length

Year **202**4

The Golden Age

Lucy from Palermo is studying music in England and is very pregnant. Her mother and teenage sister visit to be with her for the birth of baby Futura. Afterward the three of them return to Sicily, where Kitim, the father of Futura, also lives.

As she's forced to give up her studies due to student debt, Lucy also faces the emotional challenge of creating a stable family life and meaningful existence for herself. She comes from an artistic family, but her mother Roberta also struggles to achieve her full potential. A life marked by unreliable men, financial insecurity and an inclination toward the counterculture has left Roberta living in a spartan and cramped two-room apartment. And now Lucy, Kitim and the baby are moving in. Is this Lucy's future too? And what will life be like for Futura? This empathetic, closeup film portrait reveals the resilience and drive of these two artistic women, and the sometimes uncomfortable choices they have to make.



Director **Anna Recalde Miranda**

Production Company
Lardux Films,
Mammut Film,
Tell Me Films,
Picante,
Sisyfos Film Production

Country of Production
France, Italy,
Paraguay, Sweden

Length

Year **2024**

Green Is the New Red

In the modern history of Latin America, a direct line runs from the anti-Communist repression of the 1970s to the fight against land defenders and human rights activists today. Across the continent and with US support, political opponents of right-wing dictatorships were kidnapped, tortured and murdered under the banner of Operation Condor. Now, economic power in Latin America lies with multinationals, including in the soy industry. Their enemies are indigenous people and landless farmers who claim the right to land and are thus persecuted and criminalized as terrorists, or killed by hitmen. Director Anna Recalde Miranda looks for the roots of this violent conflict. Her journey in limbo between past and present is a character-driven pathway that elucidates the genealogy of today's ecological disaster. The tactics might be different from those of 50 years ago, but the structures are the same: landowners and multinationals securing their interests with the help of police and the army. The condor's shadow still hovers over the Latin American continent.



Director

Karimah Ashadu

Production Company
Fondazione In Between
Art Film,
Golddust by Aahadu

Country of Production

Nigeria, Italy, Germany

Length

Year **2024**

Machine Boys

The young men driving okada motorbikes offer an alternative taxi service in the Nigerian capital Lagos. They weave at top speed with their passengers on the back through the often congested and poorly maintained streets of the most densely populated city on the African continent. The Nigerian government banned okadas in 2020, and hundreds of them have been confiscated. The work itself is dangerous, too: they are often involved in accidents, and are sometimes deliberately run off the road. In Machine Boys, several okada riders talk about why they continue anyway. The main reason is that it pays well-one rider explains that it enabled him to fund his studies. It remains a lucrative business model, even including the bribes they have to pay the police to continue driving. But clinging to this forbidden subculture is about more than just earning money, suggests director Karimah Ashadu, using imagery that nods to the romance of gangster life. The okada riders are proud entrepreneurs who keep their motorbikes in top condition—they even give them names. With God on their side they will continue to defy the dangers of Lagos.

IDFA SELECTED: LUMINOUS

Director **Carmen Trocker**

Production Company Bagarrefilm, Albolina Film, Mischief Films

Country of Production Italy, Austria

Length

2024

Personale

Folding towels, straightening out sheets, taking bathrobes out of the dryer, stripping beds, cleaning up vomit. Fluffing pillows—making a dent for elegantly turned-up corners—and endless scrubbing, cleaning and clearing up messes. Behind the scenes of a hotel in the Italian Dolomites, the staff do everything they can to serve the guests and prevent complaints. The hotel has four stars, and a fifth is in sight.

We don't see the tourists, nor the beauty of the surroundings, but only what goes on behind the scenes. Along with the rhythm of their actions and the endless repetition, we see how the people who do the dirty work try to take pride in it. In the meantime, the staff, many of whom come from other countries, practice their new language.

In the corridors and the basement laundry together they keep their spirits up, despite fatigue and chronic understaffing. And when everything is finally spick-and-span, it starts all over again: picking up towels, polishing banisters.



Real

Our communication devices are now so advanced that they offer us access to a new reality, one we can enter without any kind of physical connection. *REAL* takes the viewer on a meandering journey into this digital reality. It's a place where we can change our identities, earn money and create safe spaces for our most secret fantasies.

Director Adele Tulli uses webcams, security cameras, and smartphones to thread the examples together. We see chat room users using VR to (almost) physically connect, a takeaway courier in Japan streaming his delivery run and an OnlyFans model serving her customers with sexual poses and music.

But these digital connections don't cancel out the feelings of loneliness—the series of depressed influencers is proof of that. "Are we the freest generation ever?" asks a motivational speaker. Or are we prisoners in a virtual universe deprived of true connection?

Director Adele Tulli

Production Company

Pepito produzioni.

Film Affair, Rai Cinema, Luce Cinecittà, Les Films d'Ici

Country of Production

Italy, France

Length

Year **2024**





Director

Michele Cinque

Production Company
Lazy Film,
Flute Film

Country of Production Italy, Germany

Length

Year **2024**

Things That Happen on Earth

Brave cattle ranchers in an increasingly arid part of Italy have changed course: this couple with two children have imported heat-resistant livestock from the United States, invested in an inventive breeding program, and introduced an ecologically responsible grazing plan. But the costs are high, as are the risks. Wolves have made their home around the ranch, and regulations and shareholders prove to be as forbidding as the landscape on which these ranchers herd their cattle, like archetypal cowboys complete with lassos, cowboy hats and western saddles. Michele Cinque followed the family over an extended period. He shows their lives without commentary, in wide, stylish shots—down to the microcosm in the rugged landscape. In voice-over, the mother and daughter talk about the ranch, the family history, the maverick choices of the parents, and their dreams and worries. They also discuss their vision of life, in which all animals, including the threatening wolves, and human beings themselves, are part of the natural cycle.

BEST OF FESTS

Director Francesca Scalisi

Production Company **Dok Mobile, Articolture**

Country of Production

Switzerland, Italy

Length

Year

2024

Valentina and the MUOSters

Valentina is 27 and lives with her parents in rural Sicily, near a high-profile US military base and its MUOS communications system. She is eager to start a life of her own, like her older sister, but she's torn by a sense of responsibility for her increasingly frail parents. Though they clearly love each other, they often express it in clumsy ways.

The film follows the family's slow-paced existence, focusing on handcrafts, tending to plants, Valentina's driving lessons and her father's health. The sedate rhythm of these daily routines is interrupted by visits from Valentina's sister, who lives in the city, and protests against the presence of military antennas that emit dangerous radiation. And all the while, Valentina is slowly but surely loosening her ties with her parents.

The carefully composed shots, ranging from evocative landscapes to close-ups of Valentina's hands as she crochets, are accompanied by the striking and at times almost indiscernible presence of the soundscape—but it is always present in the background, like the radiation.