



PRESS RELEASE

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LEONARDO'S HORSE AWARD TO PIETRO SCALIA

Los Angeles, California – The Leonardo's Horse Award of the Made in Milan International Film Society presented for the first time in Los Angeles. Martha De Laurentiis hands the award to double-Oscar winner Pietro Scalia

The 2012 MIFF Awards for Life Achievement has been given to double-Oscar winner Pietro Scalia, in an event honored by special guest Martha De Laurentiis, who handed the award to the movie editing talent. It was the first time the award was celebrated in Los Angeles.

Pietro Scalia, born in Catania in 1960, won Oscars for his editing on Oliver Stone's *JFK* in 1992 and on Ridley Scott's *Black Hawk Down* in 2002. He was also nominated for his work on Gus Van Sant's *Good Will Hunting* in 1998 and on Ridley Scott's *Gladiator* in 2002. In addition to these films, his body of work includes many other well-known film credits including *Hannibal*, *American Gangster* and *Prometheus*. He is currently in London working on Ridley Scott's new film *The Counselor*, featuring an all-star cast that includes Michael Fassbender, Brad Pitt, Cameron Diaz, Javier Bardem and Penelope Cruz.

"We couldn't start with a better assignment and in a more suitable place. Peter is an Italian par excellence in his field and sought after by the world's greatest international filmmakers. The Italian Institute is a flagpole of Italian culture located in the perfect place for cinema," says Andrea Galante, President of the Made in Milan International Film Society (MIMIFS) and Director of the MIFF Awards. When apprised of his receiving the award, Peter Scalia responded: "An exclusive award that celebrates one of the greatest minds in history, an absolute genius who used to create his works making note of his visions and then rearranging his ideas for execution. It seems that the miracle of Vinci has now entered the cinema world as well, and it is truly commendable that Milan has honored him as an inspiration of creativity to independent movies. I am honored to receive this prestigious Italian award in Los Angeles, my second nest. "

Besides Scalia and Martha De Laurentiis, the event was attended by many industry figures, including Tomas Arana (*Gladiator*, *Limitless*, *The Bourne Supremacy*), the Italian Consul in Los Angeles, Giuseppe Perrone and Made in Milan International Film Society President Andrea Galante.

The MIFF Awards are a revolutionary format specially created to enhance and support international talent of independent cinema, and recognized with the precious Leonardo's Horse. Celebrating its twelfth anniversary this year, the MIFF Awards take place in Milan in May of each year, with the winning filmmaker also celebrated in Los Angeles, hosted by the Italian Institute of Culture.

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Special thanks to

