



PRESS RELEASE

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THE 13TH EDITION OF THE MIFF AWARDS IS ON START

High-quality films, television, environment, fashion, design and celebrities in one event: the Milano International Film Festival, scheduled 8-18 May.

Milan, May 2013 - Ten days of films, special events and award ceremonies: here is what the MIFF Awards -- the Milanese festival promoting international high-quality cinema, including feature films, documentaries and short films, since 2000 -- offers every year. Since 2011, the MIFF has also dedicated a section to Italian television programs.

In this thirteenth edition of the Festival, to be held 8-18 May, entertainment and culture are a must. The two elements, matched as usual in a formula that combines film projections and an Award Ceremony format, are offered in several social venues of Milan, also through gala nights, theme events, and all types of celebrations.

The MIFF will open on May 8, with the screening of *No* by the Chilean director Pablo Larraín, winner of the Best director award at the 2012 Cannes Festival and shortlisted in advance for Best Director at 2012 Cannes Film Festival, and for a nomination for Oscars 2013. Starring Gael García Bernal e Alfredo Castro, *No* tells the story of the end of Pinochet's regime, overthrown by a national referendum promoted by the opposition through a successful TV election campaign. Celebrities like Eugenio Garcia, the real creator of the anti-Pinochet Campaign in 1988, drama writer and director Renzo Sicco, an expert on Chile, are invited to the film projection.

On May 9, *Desire*, a short film co-created by Jaguar and Ridley Scott Associates, will be presented. The film, starring Golden Globe winner Damian Lewis, Jordi Moller, and Shannyn Sossamon, features the new Jaguar F-Type and Lana Del Rey's soundtrack.

New in the 2013 edition, *Green Screen* is a series of environmental documentaries belonging to *Expo days*, interdisciplinary events and manifestations taking place throughout May, that mark the path towards Milan's World Expo 2015.

MIFF's "docu-greens" fit with the themes of Expo 2015 – nutrition and sustainability. Among the five films to be screened at the Auditorium Palazzo Lombardia from 10-12 May are *GMO OMG*, which describes a planet eating genetically modified food, and *New Project The Moo*, about the one-sided fight of a farmer against the large distribution groups.

In the same days, short films produced in 17 countries will also be screened at the Auditorium. Worthy of note are *Ce l'hai un minuto*, starring Francesco Montanari, and *God's Got His Head In The Clouds*, with a soundtrack by Angelo Badalamenti, the creator of *Twin Peaks*' music and long-time collaborator of David Lynch.

On May 14, the program will continue at the 31st floor of the Pirelli skyscraper, with the Leonardo's Horse Awards assigned to the winners of all sections and categories, in an Oscar-like awards





ceremony: Best actor/actress in a leading role, Best actor/actress in a supporting role, Best director, Best film editing, Best screenplay, Best photography, and Best picture and Best original score. Like at the Oscars, within each category various names compete with various films. The event, hosted by Thomas Incontri, director of the TV section of the MIFF, will be aired on Vero TV.

Amongst this year's nominees are Mira Sorvino and Lou Diamond Phillips, lead in the legendary film *La Bamba* by Luis Valdez. Among the nominated documentaries, *Blood Brothers* already won at the 2013 Sundance, while *Manhunt* is a real-life version of *Zero Dark Thirty*. Also the European *The Girl and Death* (as many as 6 nominations), *Eden* by Megan Griffith (5 nominations) and the Taiwanese *Touch of the Light* have been shortlisted. Nominations have also gone to Italian films, including *Lost in Laos*, starring Dario Vergassola and Carla Signoris, and *Waves*, a noir directed by Corrado Sassi shot with a budget of less than a 100,000 Euros.

The Festival award (Cavallo di Leonardo) will also honor the best Italian TV performances in 2012. Among the nominees are Gerry Scotti, anchorman of *The winner is*, and Barbara d'Urso, with her *Pomeriggio 5*. Young generation actors Marco Bocci and Giulia Michelini (*Squadra Antimafia – Palermo oggi 4*), Anna Safroncik and Roberto Farnesi (*Le Tre Rose di Eva*), and soap star Sara Zanier (*Centovetrine*) have earned a nomination in the categories Best male/female interpretation; while TV journalists Edoardo Raselli and Dan Peterson have been nominated respectively for *Melaverde* and the sport program *NBA Extra*, broadcast on Sportitalia.

Colorado Cafè is the most "nominated" program, with Paolo Ruffini up for Best TV host, and Angelo Pintus and Barbara Foria up for Best comedian. Finally, with a special eye for the young generations and the newest media, this year the Television committee of Made in Milan has shortlisted *Aglien.com* in the category Best format. Aglien is a web TV series created by Andrea Camerini to parody the cult movie *Alien*.

Fashion and design will also be in the spotlight, with the fashion movies contest *MIFF Style Take 1*, an initiative devised to promote young designers with a cinematographic DNA.

In virtue of its link with the film industry, throughout the years MIFF has involved remarkable personalities of international stature, from Renée Zellweger to George Clooney, Mario Monicelli and Charlize Theron. And Hollywood is the setting of the annual *MIFF's Best* too, a window on Milan's scenario held during the American Film Market.

Our mission is always the same, declares the Festival's founder Andrea Galante: to promote films that "develop an artistic and entertaining form, in which the authors' expression and the emotions of the audience can meet half way in the moving images of the film".

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