mente locale

visioni sul territorio

13th EDITION 2026

INTERNATIONAL DOCUMENTARY FILM FESTIVAL

FROM 23.10 TO 01.11 2026

International competition of documentary films dedicated to telling the story of places

Visione Globale - Visione Globale short
Special events - Talks

BOLOGNA, CASTELNUOVO RANGONE (MO)
SAVIGNANO SUL PANARO (MO),
VALSAMOGGIA (BO), ZOLA PREDOSA (BO)

festivalmentelocale.it

JURY, AWARDS & MENTIONS

JURY AND AWARDS

INTERNATIONAL JURY

Ivan Gergolet (director)
Marta Rocchi (lecturer, DAR)
Andrea Vogt (producer and director)

PRIZES & MENTIONS

- MENTE LOCALE AWARD – Visione Globale:
€2,000 for the Best Documentary in Competition
- MENTE LOCALE AWARD – Visione Globale Short:
€1,000 for the Best Documentary with a running time of up to 20'
- MENTE LOCALE AWARD – Visioni d'Archivio:
€500 for the documentary that makes the best use of Archive Material
- MENTE LOCALE AWARD – Suono e Territorio:
€500 for the documentary with the Best Sound
- MENTION – Pignoletto La Fondazza:
Special Mention awarded by the International Jury

AUDIENCE JURY

PRIZE

- MENTE LOCALE – Audience Award for Best Film

PARMIGIANO REGGIANO JURY

PRIZE

- MENTE LOCALE - Parmigiano Reggiano:
€1,000 to the Director of the work that best reflects the values of the Consorzio del Formaggio Parmigiano Reggiano

JURY AND AWARDS

SAYONARA JURY

Ilaria Del Vecchio, Eleonora Muzzi, Alessia Pischedda, Adam Selo, Olga Torrico

PRIZE

- MENTE LOCALE - SAYONARA FILM Distribution

DAR JURY

DAR Students – Department of the Arts, University of Bologna:
Anna Baccini, Giorgia Battista, Andrea Fontanini, Anna Lo Porto, Sofia Milanin

MENTION

- MENTE LOCALE - DAR Students:
  Special Mention awarded by the students to a film in Competition

TOURING CLUB ITALIANO JURY

MENTION

- MENTE LOCALE - Visioni sul territorio italiano:
  Special Mention awarded by the Touring Club Italiano to the work that best embodies the values of this historic association

INTERNATIONAL COMPETITION JURY

MARTA ROCCHI

researcher in Cinema, Photography, Radio, Television and Digital Media at the Department of the Arts of the Alma Mater Studiorum - University of Bologna. Her research focuses on audiovisual communication, science, contemporary audiovisual seriality and gender inequalities in the audiovisual industry, combining qualitative and quantitative methods.

IVAN GERGOLET

focuses his research on the exploration of the body, trauma and identity. His acclaimed Dancing with Maria (2014) was the first documentary ever selected for the Venice International Film Critics' Week, earning a nomination at the European Film Awards and a place in the special shortlist of the Nastri d'Argento. He went on to extend his work to immersive formats with the interactive virtual reality short In the Cave (2018), presented at the Venice VR Island. His fiction debut, L'uomo senza colpa (2022), premiered in Tallinn, won the Ettore Scola award for Best Director at Bif&st 2023 and at the Slovenian Film Festival 2023, and then toured worldwide with the European Union Film Festival. He is the founder and head of programme of the Cross Border Film School, an international film training organisation based in Gorizia.

ANDREA VOGT

co-founder and CEO of Millstream Films and Media. A trilingual documentary filmmaker and journalist, she has co-produced and co-written more than 150 documentaries currently distributed worldwide on international markets. She directed "The Monsters of Florence" (Netflix/Paramount+) and "Bella Ciao, Song of Rebellion", selected for 15 international festivals and winner of the Best Documentary award at the Barcelona International Film Festival. She has been a Fulbright fellow and a member of Yes She Cannes, an organisation that promotes the empowerment of women directors.

VENUES
AND ORGANISATION

VENUES OF THE 2026 EDITION

◦ **CINEMA BRISTOL**
Savignano sul Panaro (MO)

◦ **CINEMAX**
Bazzano (BO)

◦ **CINEMA ARISTON**
Castelnuovo Rangone (MO)

◦ **DAR - UNIVERSITY OF BOLOGNA**
Sala Sergio Secci, Via Barberia 4, Bologna

◦ **VILLA EDVIGE GARAGNANI,**
Via Angelo Masini 11, Zola Predosa (BO)

◦ **CENTRO SAN TEODORO,**
Monteveglio (BO)

◦ **AGRITURISMO IL CASTELLAZZO,**
loc. Monteveglio, Valsamoggia (BO)

ORGANISATION OF THE 2026 EDITION

- **Artistic direction, Mente Locale - Visioni sul territorio:** Leena Pasanen
- **Organisational direction:** Marilisa Murgia, Giulio Filippo Giunti
- **Technical direction:** Domenico G.S. Parrino

- **Fundraising and Grants:** Marilisa Murgia and Giulio Filippo Giunti
- **Programmer:** Monica Marcasciano
- **Graphic design:** Francesca Di Tella
- **Logo:** Sara Garagnani
- **Social media manager:** Luca Corraini
- **Communications coordination:** Giorgio Pesola
- **Green Manager:** Marianna Moser
- **Organisation and logistics:** Monica Marcasciano, Giorgio Pesola
- **Organising committee:** Marilisa Murgia, Giulio Filippo Giunti, Monica Marcasciano, Luca Corraini, Domenico G. S. Parrino, Francesca Di Tella, Elena Ferretti, Katia Raguzzoni, Stefano Tealdi

- **Photo and video:** Davide Pippo and Salvatore Lento - Luce Narrante
- **Press office:** MEC & Partners
- **Website:** I musicanti non dormono mai

- **International competition jury:** Ivan Gergolet, Marta Rocchi, Andrea Vogt
- **DAR jury:** Anna Baccini, Giorgia Battista, Andrea Fontanini, Anna Lo Porto, Sofia Milanin
- **Sayonara jury:** Ilaria Del Vecchio, Eleonora Muzzi, Alessia Pischedda, Adam Selo, Olga Torrico

Special thanks to
Giorgia Boldrini, Federica Govoni and Cristina Serafini

ORGANISATION OF THE 2026 EDITION

Mente Locale – Visioni sul territorio 2026 is conceived and organised by CARTA|BIANCA APS

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In collaboration with: Touring Club Italiano, Dipartimento delle Arti - Università di Bologna, Fondazione Sardegna Film Commission, DER Documentaristi Emilia-Romagna, Ente di Gestione per i Parchi e la Biodiversità Emilia Orientale, CAI - Club Alpino Italiano, Cinemax Bazzano, Cinema Bristol Multisala di Savignano sul Panaro, Cinema Teatro Ariston di Castelnuovo Rangone, Sayonara Film, Fondazione Rocca dei Bentivoglio, Associazione Amici del Vittoria, Reggio Film Festival, Associazione Bonlieue, Demetra Formazione, Libreria Carta Bianca, Comune di Casalecchio di Reno (BO), Comune di Loiano (BO), Comune di Zola Predosa, Biodistretto Appennino Bolognese, Tourtlen RistoAssociazione, SPI CGIL - Lega Valsamoggia, FreeU, Agriturismo Il Castellazzo, Teatro dei Ragazzi Marano, FNC, Colline tra Bologna e Modena

Technical partners: Eurovideo, Luce Narrante
Press office: Mec & Partners
Media partners: TRMedia, TiConsiglio.it, Taxidrivers
Associated festival: AFIC

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FOREWORD

Mente Locale - Visioni sul territorio

Mente Locale was born in **2014** from the desire to explore **territory as a cinematic subject in its own right:** not simply a physical space that can be measured and bounded, but a place in constant becoming, a cultural and relational construction continually redefined by people, stories, memories, territories, landscapes, cultures, transformations and imaginaries.

To explore this complexity, over the years the festival has chosen **Documentary Cinema** and, edition after edition, has built up an archive of perspectives on the world: rural communities and metropolises, natural landscapes and territories shaped by markets and industry, traditions of identity and a sense of estrangement, individual and collective stories, visions of possible territories of the future and stories of resistance.

Now at our **13th edition,** we have reflected on **the meaning of a documentary film festival** today, and we have done so from a threefold perspective: the conditions that make it possible, the search for and selection of films, and the curatorial approach able to give the festival as an event its overall coherence.

We looked at all the **difficulties encountered** over the years, also widening our gaze to the overall landscape of film festivals in Italy. Afic, the Association of Italian Film Festivals of which Mente Locale is a member, reports that since 2024 **37% of festivals have had to cut back their activities** to stay within budget, with an average loss of 1.4 days of programming and a 12% drop in the number of people involved in the organisation; many 'traditional' cinemas have been closing for several years now: this year we too had to give up one of our historic screening venues because there were not enough resources to maintain the spaces; the global audiovisual landscape offers an enormous quantity of films and content, yet many works that manage to be made, to circulate and to win recognition on the cultural circuit then struggle to find stable distribution and to reach

an audience.

It is within this contradiction that, as a festival, we keep finding our motivation.

We have identified **4 dimensions** that give meaning to our project and, in our eyes, make it essential to the wellbeing of anyone who wishes to take part in Mente Locale.

Watching together, being together

We continue to believe in the value of **watching films together, live.** Watching a film together means sharing a time and a space, building a common experience, stepping out of the home. The experience does not end with the screening: it is what happens afterwards, in the questions, the comments and the discussions the film manages to spark; but also in the so-called side events around the films in competition, which in fact help make the collective experience coherent and recognisable. From this perspective we have chosen to open a space where the audience can express its preference, introducing, for the first time this year, the **Audience Award.** Making the audience's response visible is an opportunity for participation and a recognition of its active role. It will be interesting to see which way its judgement goes and whether, and how far, it differs from that of the professional juries.

Taking cinema where it cannot go alone

Mente Locale has always chosen to take the festival to places where cultural and film offerings are not easily accessible, creating opportunities to meet that do not depend on the presence of large cultural institutions but on the enhancement of local realities and on the trust built up over the years in our editorial choices.

The territorial dimension therefore concerns not only the content of the films, but also **the territories in which the films are screened.** Festivals continue to be an important space of circulation for independent works and take cinema out of traditional theatres, into the spaces that territories and communities offer.

This is a form of distribution that still has many opportunities to offer and to develop.

For the 2026 edition, we have further expanded our presence in other territories, in particular Sardinia, building on collaborations established since our very first editions.

The risk of searching

From the very beginning, our search has focused on works from all over the world, made outside the main production and distribution circuits. We are interested in **non-standardised languages, hybrid forms and independent productions,** but also in films made with very different means, paths and ambitions.

Variety is part of the search: we come across highly accomplished works and others that are more fragile or experimental, films made with significant resources and works produced almost by hand. In this sense, selecting also means accepting the risk of the unknown, being surprised by an unexpected discovery and being enriched by the unpredictable responses of the audience.

Networking

In a system where resources are limited and the economic model of festivals is **heavily dependent on public funding,** working as a network is not just a choice but a necessity and an opportunity. For this reason we have opened up to collaborations with other local cultural and production organisations, to make the most of organisational resources and broaden our projects.

We are working to further expand - for the benefit of future editions - our exchange with other regional festivals. The network is also an important tool for finding films: through exchanges and collaborations we hope to open the way to works and authors that we would have struggled to find on our own, but which we believe deserve to be seen.

Pooling our strengths therefore means multiplying **the opportunities for discovery and circulation.**

This year Mente Locale - Visioni sul territorio runs from 23 October to 1 November across the provinces of Bologna and Modena, with 20 films in competition over 10 festival days, which in fact sit within a series of events of various kinds that began back in the spring and will continue after the Festival itself has closed.

To Sardinia we have dedicated a programme built around 3 main actions: a series of summer and autumn screenings of **Sardinian documentaries** to support and promote regional audiovisual production and circulation and the encounter with the community; a screening of **documentaries made by the students of the Istituto Comprensivo Statale di Ozieri** thanks to the **Cinema e Immagini per la Scuola funds of the Ministry of Culture and the Ministry of Education and Merit;** and finally a professional **Workshop,** "Producing Sustainably", held in Ozieri (SS) in July: 3 days for production companies and authors from Sardinia and beyond, with tools for developing documentary projects, an overview of the main national and European funding opportunities and a location scouting session in the Ozieri area.

Alongside the Workshop, on 23 and 24 July we screened 2 films with free admission and the filmmakers in attendance, as part of the "Estiamo in piazza" summer programme at the Civico Museo Archeologico Alle Clarisse: **Nella colonia penale,** presented at Locarno this year, by Gaetano Crivaro, Silvia Perra, Ferruccio Goia and Alberto Diana, in the presence of director Crivaro,

Calabrian by birth and Sardinian by adoption; and **Un pioniere nel sottosuolo** by Nuoro-born Monica Dovarch, presented at the Trento Film Festival. We chose two works that each, in their own way, explore the inaccessibility of two places: the last penal colonies remaining in Italy, and an abandoned Sardinian mine explored by a man in search of his roots.

In Bologna, as part of the Festival, we will hold 2 events dedicated to sustainability; the first devoted to **sustainable agriculture** in Emilia-Romagna, in collaboration with the Consorzio del Formaggio Parmigiano Reggiano, accompanied by the screening of a documentary awarded at the last edition of Mente Locale in 2025; in the second we will talk about sustainable trekking in the **Errare Umano panel** with **Lino Cianciotto,** a renowned Sardinian environmental hiking guide and former **ambassador of the Fondazione Mazzola, which supports sport as a tool for social inclusion,** and **Andrea Devicenzi,** Paralympic athlete, coach and trainer, in collaboration with Reggio Film Festival and Touring Club Italiano.

Two more events extend the festival beyond its official closing date: on 6 November in Porretta Terme, in collaboration with **CAI,** we will screen the documentary **Sulla Via,** devoted to the historical reconstruction of the Via Vandelli, and on 27 November we will return to Ozieri, to the Cineteatro Oriana Fallaci, to screen the winners of the 13th edition.

…but by then we will already be at work **on the 2027 edition!**

INTRODUCTION

Mente Locale – Visioni sul territorio returns for its thirteenth edition: the widespread festival that brings the unique gaze of contemporary documentary cinema on the geographies of the world and of the soul to cinemas across the provinces of Bologna and Modena. Once again this year, the competition takes us on a **journey through intimate and collective stories, remote and nearby territories, family memories, environmental challenges, cultural resistance and social transformation.** From the beaches and forests of the Bulgarian-Turkish border to the vitality of the neighbourhoods of Naples and Havana, from the traditions of Korea and Japan to the silences suspended by Cuba's blackouts, each film is a window onto a humanity on the move, in search of meaning, belonging and a future.

At a time when the relationship between people and the places they inhabit is becoming ever more fragile, the festival welcomes **stories of communities and ecosystems that resist and transform.** There are those who confront the traces of mass tourism as the sea retreats and those who rediscover the value of mystery in the alleys of the Rione Sanità, those who fight to preserve the ancient knowledge of paper and craftsmanship and those who reopen the encounter with animal presence, among dragons and wolves, those who reread the past through archives and family memories and those who turn the experience of the body and of illness into an exploration of sound. And then the many faces of change: the border between states dissolving into the nature of a forest, daily life in a Caribbean boxing gym, everyday spaces that become places of memory, and dreams that keep blossoming even in solitude.

Leena Pasanen
artistic director, Mente Locale

COMPETITION

MENTE LOCALE
VISIONE GLOBALE

ALTRIMENTI INVENTA

by Meriam Jarboua, 24', Italy, 2025

The documentary addresses the absence, from our shared visual imagination, of people who migrated to Italy from North African countries before visas were introduced in the 1990s. Trying out different ways of "reacting" to and (re)constructing this absence - of telling stories without images - the film searches, manipulates and plays with material from Italian archives, starting from my own family history, and then opens up to a more collective dimension, unfolding in recorded conversations between me and my father, and then between other fathers and their daughters.

MERIAM JARBOUA

Having completed her studies in Philosophy, she turned to documentary cinema, developing an interest in participatory video and in the reuse of archive material. At the same time she takes part in visual arts projects linked to decolonial studies, diasporic identities and people on the move.

In 2024 a project that later became Altrimenti Inventa was selected by the Premio Zavattini. She is currently studying Directing at the Zelig School of Documentary Cinema, continuing her search for a way to combine a desire for artistic expression with a commitment to political activism.

THE ANSWER IS OUT THERE

by Anna de Manincor, ZimmerFrei, 42', Italy, 2025

Documentary shot on 16 mm film in the remote Strandja forest and along the Black Sea coast. The film begins as a road movie towards the border that once divided the communist countries from the "free world", and turns into a silent auscultation of the voices of people who live and work along the green border between Bulgaria and Turkey, which separates "Fortress Europe" from the rest of the world opening up to the south-east.

ANNA DE MANINCOR

Artist, author and director, she teaches at the Accademia di Belle Arti di Bologna. In 2000 she founded the ZimmerFrei collective together with sound designer Massimo Carozzi, with whom she has made documentaries, installations, performances and projects for public space. ZimmerFrei's films explore the boundaries between public space and private territories in urban and rural settings: neighbourhoods, citadels and temporary communities take shape, vanish and change again.

A TU LADO

by Cristiano Regina, 80', Italy-Spain-Cuba, 2025

Through daily life in a boxing gym in Havana, run by a man from Bologna in memory of his business partner, an Olympic champion, the story of the young athletes and their coaches becomes a microcosm for a universal reflection on the resilience of the Cuban people.

CRISTIANO REGINA

Italian documentary maker and filmmaker. In 2009 he founded Voice Off, an association devoted to audiovisual production and participatory workshops. Since then he has worked with political refugees, second-generation teenagers, the elderly and people with disabilities. In 2015, La Parte che Resta won best documentary at the Napoli Film Festival. In 2017 the documentary Ca' Nostra, about a community of elderly people with Alzheimer's disease, won the Verona FilmFestival. In 2018 he shot After the Last Sky and Baladi - This is my village in Palestine, the latter premiering worldwide at Visioni dal Mondo 2019 in Milan. A Tu Lado is his first international co-production.

UNA COSA VICINA

by Loris G. Nese, 90', Italy, 2025

In the 1990s, a boy grows up surrounded by deep secrets. The men in his family, his father included, die too young, but he is not yet able to understand why. When he discovers that his surname weighs on him like a brand in his town, he feels he is seeing his own life in the gangster and horror films he loves, a mirror of the violence that changed his life. It is through cinema that, now an adult, he begins to question the past and rebuild his identity. Turning his story into a film becomes the only way to confront a burdensome legacy and to fill a void that has always been with him.

LORIS G. NESE

Director, screenwriter, animator, DoP and co-founder of Lapazio Film. In 2018 his short "Quelle brutte cose" won an award at the Venice International Film Critics' Week (SIC) and was selected at Sundance. Two years later, "Malumore" won awards in Turin, at DOK Leipzig and in Krakow, and was selected at Annecy Animation FF, Atlanta, Slamdance and Belfort Entrevues. In 2021, "Il turno" was in competition in Venice Orizzonti and at the Palm Springs International ShortFest. In 2023 "Z.O." won awards at Locarno and Brooklyn FF and was in competition at Alice nella città and Cinemed in Montpellier. His first feature, "Una cosa vicina", was selected for the 82nd Venice International Film Festival – Giornate degli Autori.

DOM

by Massimiliano Battistella, 81', Bosnia and Herzegovina, 2025

Thirty years after the end of the siege of Sarajevo, the homecoming of Mirela — who arrived in Italy as a child in 1992 — becomes a profound journey of personal discovery among former companions from the institute, a mother found again and her own Bosnian roots.

MASSIMILIANO BATTISTELLA

He graduated in literary criticism and furthered his training in the humanities and the visual arts. He started working early in the audiovisual sector, gaining experience as an assistant director and in casting, working with leading Italian and international directors. Author and director of short films selected at Academy Award-qualifying international festivals, he has seen his works distributed and sold in Europe, Asia, the United States and South America through companies such as Sayonara Film, Elefant Film and Premiere Film. He also works with Trullove Cinema, with whom he made the documentary Pierrot sui binari, which has won awards in several international settings.

THE FIRST SOUND

by Andrea Mura, 19', Italy, 2026

On a mountaintop, a musician and instrument maker living with a degenerative illness transforms wood, iron and pain into sound, seeking the secret voice of things by listening to nature and through creative disobedience.

ANDREA MURA

Director and producer. He has made documentary films (Il primo suono 2026, Ewa The last lesson 2025, Transumanze 2021, Nodas 2014, La Memoria del Mare 2012) that explore the transformations of the present, weaving together environmental and social themes. As a producer he has worked on films produced by Ginko Film, including Toxicily by François Xavier Destors (Italy-France 2023) and Oplà by Giulia Camba (Italy 2024). He runs training in audiovisual language as a tool for expression and inclusion, through workshops in schools and universities. Since 2014 he has been the artistic director of the Sole Luna Doc Film Festival, an international documentary film festival that has been running in Palermo for over twenty years.

FROM THE MOUNTAIN WE SEE THE MOUNTAIN

by Julián García Long, 30', Belgium-Argentina, 2025

Set in the forests of the Patagonian Andes, the film weaves together ethnographic documentary and magical realism to unravel the mystery of a burned native forest. As conflicting accounts of the fire emerge, the film questions the idea of Patagonia as an empty land, giving space to the many experiences and stories that inhabit these wounded mountains, scarred by fire and by colonisation.

JULIÁN GARCÍA LONG

Born in Patagonia in 1988, Julián García Long is a director, screenwriter and researcher in the visual arts. A graduate of the Universidad Nacional de las Artes (Argentina) and Le Fresnoy (France), he is currently doing a PhD at the LUCA School of Arts, KU Leuven (Belgium).

His work has been presented at international festivals such as Fipadoc, Vienna and Glasgow. He is currently developing projects exploring the landscapes of Patagonia.

HAIR, PAPER, WATER...

by Nicolas Graux, Trương Minh Quý,
71', Belgium-France-Vietnam, 2025

An elderly Ruc woman, born in a cave, goes about everyday life and passes on her people's language to her grandchildren.

NICOLAS GRAUX

Born in Binche, a small town in the former coal-mining region of Belgium. His work, which blends documentary and fiction, explores socio-political realities through in-depth research and a poetic, sensitive gaze. His first feature film, "Century of Smoke" (2019), premiered at Visions du Réel and was screened at numerous international festivals.

TRƯƠNG MINH QUÝ

Born in Buôn Ma Thuột, a city in the Central Highlands of Vietnam, Trương Minh Quý often sets his films in this region, which inspires his work. His films have been screened at numerous film festivals including the Berlinale, Locarno, Rotterdam and New York. His previous film, "Việt and Nam" (2024), was selected for the "Un Certain Regard" section at Cannes.

THE INHERITORS

by Serge-Olivier Rondeau, 80', Canada, 2025

The Inheritors offers an intimate and moving observation of the daily life of a colony of ring-billed gulls nesting next to Canada's largest landfill, following them through an entire breeding season amid invasive tracking systems and falconry deterrence, in a sensory experience that invites us to rethink the way we live and die on a planet devastated by mass consumption.

SERGE-OLIVIER RONDEAU

A director whose work straddles media arts and experimental ethnography. His films and installations explore the relationships between humans and non-humans — particularly animals, plants and technology. His work has been shown in numerous exhibitions and festivals across Canada and internationally, including as a member of the Épopée group and co-founder of the After Faceb00k collective. Fractures, an installation comprising the films Ruptures and Insurgence and focusing on the 2012 Québec student strikes, was presented at Manif d'Art 7. As part of the Mois de la Photo à Montréal, the McCord Museum exhibited In Loving Memory <3, an immersive nine-screen video dedicated to Facebook users who live on after death on the site's servers. In 2021 he co-directed his first feature documentary, Ressources, with Hubert Caron-Guay, which premiered at IDFA. The film examines the modes of existence of animals, humans and landscapes caught up in the industrial meat production chain. The Inheritors, his second feature documentary, was presented at DOK Leipzig.

PESTIFERUS LUPUS

by Ludovico Serra, Luca Jankovic, Francesco Cutello, 54', Italy, 2025

In a small, remote Alpine village, Don Gaudenzio revives an ancient tradition: the exorcism mass against the wolf, an invocation once addressed to God to protect the people from the fury of nature. Two hundred years later, Pestiferus Lupus explores the consequences of the wolf's return to Forno, one of the few mountain villages still holding out against depopulation. As the wilderness slowly reclaims the forest, the shepherds gather to discuss and resist. In an Italy where the mountains seem forgotten, religion becomes the last stronghold against fear.

LUDOVICO SERRA

A filmmaker working between Italy and southern Africa. As a director and cinematographer, he has made documentaries and TV series for international media outlets, with projects distributed on Sky, Amazon, Rai and DStv. His work focuses on telling stories and visions capable of shaping and transforming the world we live in. Notable titles include Romano Cagnoni – War Photographer (2020) and La casa di Cini Boeri (2024).

PESTIFERUS LUPUS

by Ludovico Serra, Luca Jankovic, Francesco Cutello, 54', Italy, 2025

LUCA JANKOVIC

Screenwriter and director, between 2013 and 2020 he made more than ten short films, including the series I Mostri 2.0, inspired by Dino Risi's cult film; Falene, co-written and co-directed with Marco Pellegrino, with whom he won the 2019 Nastro d'Argento; and Il rimbalzo del gatto morto, directed by Antonino Valvo and starring Claudia Marsicano, presented at Alice nella città 2022. For some years he has devoted himself to writing feature films and plays, such as Like the hunted animals we are, a fiction feature in development with Brandon Box; the documentary Pestiferus Lupus, winner of the Gedi Visual award at the MIA Market 2025 and produced by his production company Box Vision; the play Particolarmente molto, commissioned by the theatre company Le Petit Mort; and a debut feature, A passo d'uomo, a noir inspired by a true crime story from Milan, in development with Brw Filmland.

FRANCESCO CUTELLO

Born and raised in Milan, he developed an early passion for writing and journalism. He contributes articles on current affairs and geopolitics, and is interested in marketing, photography and corporate storytelling. In 2021 he began working as a producer for the Milan-based production company Box Vision on the documentary Pestiferus Lupus, winner of the Gedi award at the MIA Market in Rome and selected at the Trento Film Festival.

REMEMBER MY SONG

by Jelena Bosanac and Tanja Brzakovic, 60', Croatia-Serbia, 2026

In the 1980s the "Jablan" tavern, in the Croatian village of Jugovo Polje, was a symbol of brotherhood and a meeting place for people of every background and nationality, until the first gunfight between Serbs and Croats marked the beginning of the end, turning a place of love and light-heartedness into a theatre of hatred and destruction, recounted in the film by those who lived it.

TANJA BRZAKOVIC

Born in Belgrade, Serbia, she studied film and television directing at the Faculty of Dramatic Arts of the University of Arts in Belgrade. She completed postgraduate studies in directing at the University of Hamburg. She has lived in Berlin since 2003. She writes and directs short films, documentaries and video art. Her films have been screened at festivals all over the world and have received numerous awards. She is a member of the European Film Academy.

JELENA BOSANAC

She studied acting at the Academy of Arts in Belgrade, graduating in 2011. Straight after her studies she moved first to Italy and then to Germany, where she took a master's degree in Performance Studies and trained in theatre pedagogy at the prestigious Berlin University of the Arts (UdK). Since 2016 she has worked intensively in film on the other side of the camera, exploring video art and documentary. "Jablan" is her first feature-length documentary.

WEN-JIN

by Roy Tsai, 47', Canada-Hong Kong, 2025

Wen-jin (問津) is a performative documentary that traces the digital rebirth of the 1946 film by my grandfather Tsai Wen-jin, shot in Singapore and long considered lost. The film was unknown to my family in Hong Kong, and its unexpected resurfacing from public archives sets off a personal journey into family history, bringing to light divergent memories, inherited silences and the shifting relationship between cinema, archive and intergenerational bonds.

ROY TSAI

An editor turned director, with 20 years of professional experience in post-production in Hong Kong. He approaches every edit point with great attention to detail and firmly believes that the editing desk is a magical space where meaning takes shape.

WHAT REMAINS WHEN THE SEA MOVES

by Gaetano Crivaro, 67', Italy, 2025

When summer ends in Sardinia, the mistral reshapes the coast: between the retreating sea and the traces of mass tourism, a fragile coastal ecosystem emerges, suspended between land and water.

GAETANO CRIVARO

Independent director, photographer and researcher. In 2021 the collective film Rondò Final was in the international competition at Visions du Réel and the Festival dei Popoli. He is one of the authors of the collective film Nella Colonia Penale, Marco Zucchi Award - Semaine de la Critique - Locarno Film Festival 2025 and Premio Corso Salani 2026 - Trieste Film Festival. He devotes much of his research to archive cinema and analogue formats, especially 16mm, running a number of workshops and collaborative projects. His latest film, Cosa rimane quando il mare si muove (2026), won the award for Best Film for Cinematic Innovation at the Bellaria Film Festival.

COMPETITION

MENTE LOCALE
VISIONE GLOBALE SHORT

CHIACCHIERIÀ

by Andrea La Puca, 20', Italy, 2025

Chiacchierià is a documentary about the fragile boundary between legend and reality in the Rione Sanità district of Naples, where the story of the Munaciello still lives on in the voices of its inhabitants. Through testimonies and popular lore, the film reflects on today's need to explain every mystery, forgetting the value of doubt and imagination. A journey that invites us to go back to listening to stories, before even trying to prove them.

ANDREA LA PUCA

Film and commercials director. His cinema weaves together magical realism, myth and popular culture to explore the boundary between reality and imagination. His works include L'universo delle Piccole Cose (in the running for the David di Donatello 2023), Voce (Special Mention at the Premio Ermanno Olmi 2024), I fiori sbocciano a Napoli (Best Short Film at the Ariano International Film Festival 2024) and Chiacchierià (Best Documentary and Audience Award at the Procida Film Festival 2025). Through his films he seeks a language capable of giving myth a contemporary dimension and of defending imagination as a form of resistance to the oversimplification of the present.

COMMON PEAR

by Gregor Božič, 15', Slovenia, 2025

In a not-too-distant future devastated by the climate crisis, a team of scientists analyses archive footage of farmers from the past, trying to understand their bond with the land.

GREGOR BOŽIČ

Slovenian director, screenwriter and cinematographer, Gregor trained in Ljubljana, at the DFFB in Germany and at Le Fresnoy in France. His debut feature, STORIES FROM THE CHESTNUT WOODS, premiered at TIFF in 2019; his short film COMMON PEAR premiered at IFFR 2025, going on to more than 25 festival selections and awards at Oberhausen and Beldocs. As a cinematographer he has worked with directors such as Nebojša Slijepčević, Matjaž Ivanišin and Igor Bezinović, on works presented at major international festivals. Since 2008 he has also been researching ancient and endemic fruit varieties: in 2013 he created a gene-bank orchard in Goriška Brda and wrote a book on the fruit-growing heritage of the Italian-Slovenian border.

THE DRAGON

by Francesco Rubattu, 15', Italy, 2025

Beneath today's port of Chioggia, south of Venice, the memories of the Adriatic's last sea dragon make the lagoon tremble, while on the surface a summer of work and silence goes by on a sea that seems ever more exhausted.

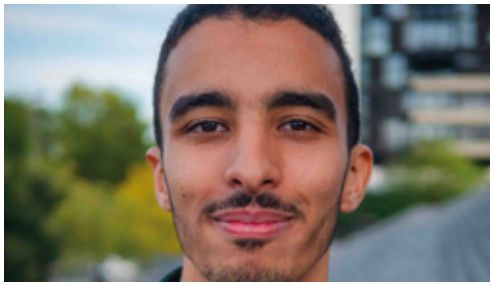
FRANCESCO RUBATTU

He lives and works between Milan and Paris. In 2025 he directed the short film Pische Siluru, currently in post-production, and co-directed the short Devotee, currently in distribution, which explores "devoteeism", a sexual paraphilia. Devotee has been selected by several international festivals, including Huesca Film Festival, REGARD, London Short Film Festival, Doc.Coimbra, Visioni Italiane, RIDF, Corto Dorico and Premio Libero Bizzarri. His latest documentary, El Draa – developed during the Laguna Film Lab residency run by ZaLab Docs – had its official premiere at the Giornate degli Autori. He is currently developing his next short film, Singh, and the TV series Metroboys.

PARIS FOX

by Sofian Chouaib, 4', France, 2025

In an urban "friche" on the edge of Paris, between wild nature and concrete, Swiper the fox finds food and shelter, raising the question of how long this fragile coexistence can last.



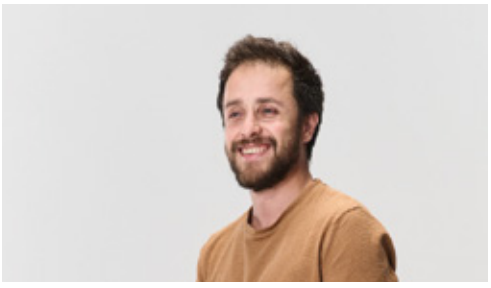
SOFIAN CHOUAIB

Born in the south of France, Sofian Chouaib started making YouTube content during his high-school years, but soon found his true calling in cinema. He went on to study at the University of Paris 1 Panthéon-Sorbonne, graduating in film in 2021. Sofian is currently a director and screenwriter based in Paris.

SONMAT, A RANTAN STORY

by Emanuele Segre, 10', Italy, 2026

Sonmat, a Rantan Story is an observational film following kimjang, the Korean ritual of making kimchi, through wide shots of the Choi family at work. As the seasons settle into the soil of an Alpine valley in Italy, Carol's voice guides us on an inner journey made of roots, distance and belonging. Because some things are not explained. They are handed down.



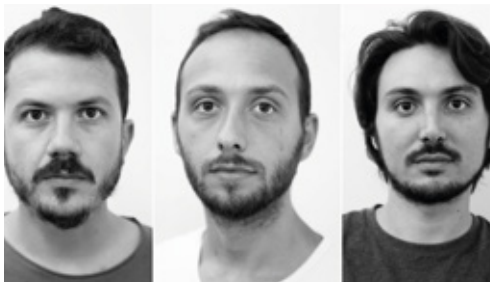
EMANUELE SEGRE

He grew up with a camera in his hand and learned his craft in the field. He took his first steps on the sets of Daniele Segre's socially engaged documentaries. His encounter with cinematographer Luca Bigazzi was also decisive for his path. Passionate about editing and post-production, over the years he has built a personal visual language spanning camera work, colour grading and visual effects. He has worked with directors and productions of Italian documentary cinema, all the way to the major international festivals. Since November 2023 he has been the managing director of I Cammelli S.a.s., a historic Turin production company. He teaches After Effects at IED – Istituto Europeo di Design. For some years he has also been pursuing his own path as an author.

SUEÑA AHORA

by Gabriele Licchelli, Francesco Lorusso, Andrea Settembrini,
20', Italy-Cuba, 2025

In the thick darkness of the Cuban «apagón», amid portable lamps and the re-emerging sounds of untouched nature, the lives and daily gestures of the inhabitants intertwine in an intimate, dreamlike experience where reality gives way to imagination.



GABRIELE LICCHELLI (1993),
FRANCESCO LORUSSO (1993)
ANDREA SETTEMBRINI (1991)

They were born in a small village in southern Italy. Together they directed and produced Anche gli uomini hanno fame, which premiered at IDFA (then selected at MakeDox, FEST - New Directors New Films and ShorTS), and Go, Friend, Go, which premiered at the Festival dei Popoli and was then selected at several international festivals (Crossing Europe and Festival Jean Rouch, among others). In 2024 they took part in a workshop led by Gianfranco Rosi at the EICTV in Cuba, where they developed the short film Sueña Ahora.

THE KEEP

by Federico Conti, 18', Italy, 2024

Sally Barnes is the last person in Ireland to smoke only wild fish. Overwhelmed by the consequences of climate change and intensive fishing, her invaluable know-how is at risk of disappearing forever.

FEDERICO CONTI
Italian director, producer and editor. A DAMS graduate, he has worked since 2010 across documentaries, fiction and commercial productions. The Keep (2024) is his directing debut. Winner of the "Premio Agostini" at Glocal DOC and of the "Best Focus on Food Heritage" award at the WFF Youth Film Festival, it has also been screened at numerous festivals such as Cork IFF and In The Palace ISFF.

Controvento (2026) is his first feature-length documentary.

WAITING FOR MENTE LOCALE

19 MARCH, BOLOGNA
CINEMA GALLIERA

- Screening of the short films made by the students of Il prodotto audiovisivo per il racconto del territorio, a training course run in collaboration with Demetra Formazione thanks to the European Social Fund+
- Special screening of the documentary SULLA VIA, by Giulio Filippo Giunti and Maurizio Dall'Acqua, Italy, 52', 2026

16 JUNE, OZIERI (SS)
CIVICO MUSEO ARCHEOLOGICO ALLE CLARISSE

- Preview screening of the film IMPARAMUS UMPARE, Italy, 38', 2026

Documentary conceived and made by the students **of the Istituto Comprensivo Statale di Ozieri,** accompanied by the **Carta Bianca APS** team, funded by CIPS - Cinema e Immagini per la Scuola, promoted by the Ministry of Culture and the Ministry of Education and Merit. The initiative took place as part of the **Estiamo in piazza** 2026 programme, promoted by the Culture Department of the Municipality of Ozieri together with the Istituzione San Michele.

2 JULY, BOLOGNA
GIARDINO DELLA GHIACCIAIA

4 JULY, BAZZANO (BO)
BAR DELLA STAZIONE

16 JULY, LOIANO (BO)
CINEMA IN PIAZZA

- Special screening of the short films made by the students of the training courses Il prodotto audiovisivo per il racconto del territorio, a training course run in collaboration with Demetra Formazione thanks to the European Social Fund+

WAITING FOR MENTE LOCALE

23 - 25 JULY, OZIERI (SS)
PALAZZO COSTI

- Mente Locale Lab – Producing Sustainably

Film-writing workshop **Mente Locale Lab – "Producing Sustainably",** run in collaboration with **Stefano Tealdi,** director and producer, Head of Development at Stefilm, and **Leena Pasanen,** artistic director of Mente Locale, together with the **Municipality of Ozieri** and the **Fondazione Sardegna Film Commission,** with the support of the **Fondazione di Sardegna.** The workshop participants wrapped up the experience with location scouting, accompanied by guides from the Istituzione San Michele, at the San Francesco complex, Fontana Grixoni, the Alle Clarisse complex and the San Michele Caves.

23 JULY - 24 JULY, OZIERI (SS)
CIVICO MUSEO ARCHEOLOGICO ALLE CLARISSE

- Film screenings as part of the "Estiamo in piazza" summer programme

NELLA COLONIA PENALE
by Gaetano Crivaro, Silvia Perra, Ferruccio Goia and Alberto Diana, 82', Italy, 2024

UN PIONIERE NEL SOTTOSUOLO
by Monica Dovarch, 67', Italy, 2023

27 AUGUST, LOIANO (BO)
PIAZZALE CHIESA

- Screening of SULLA VIA, by Giulio Filippo Giunti and Maurizio Dall'Acqua, Italy, 52', 2026

- Short films made by the students of the Demetra Formazione and Festival Mente Locale courses

SPECIAL EVENTS & TALKS

SPECIAL EVENTS AND TALKS

23 OCTOBER, ZOLA PREDOSA (BO)
VILLA EDVIGE GARAGNANI

- **From farm to table: alliances of taste for the territory**

From farm production to the plate: the dialogue between producers and restaurateurs as a driver of local development and identity. A moment of exchange between the key players in the supply chain to close the gap, share visions and build networks. Moderator: **Claudio Ferri.**

Special event in collaboration with **Consorzio del Formaggio Parmigiano Reggiano, Consorzio Emilia-Romagna, Biodistretto dell'Appennino Bolognese, Tourtlen RistoAssociazione, Comune di Zola Predosa.**

26 OCTOBER
ONLINE EVENT

- **Round table presenting the films in competition with the directors and the Artistic Director of Mente Locale**

27 OCTOBER, BOLOGNA
DEPARTMENT OF THE ARTS, UNIVERSITY OF BOLOGNA

- **Film distribution from the producer's point of view**

Having met documentary film distributors and, later, cinema exhibitors, Mente Locale now gives the floor to producers, who are invited to share their experience of distributing their own films. Through a number of case studies, the meeting will take a concrete look at the strategies adopted, the mistakes made and the results achieved, in terms of both economics and promotion. The picture that emerges is of a long, demanding road full of obstacles, along which, however, one often learns to make a virtue of necessity.

Panel: **Andrea Paco Mariani,** author and producer - SMK Factory - Distributor - OpenDDB - Distribuzioni dal Basso, **Marta Melina,** producer - SMK Factory, **Stefano Bacchiocchi,** CEO & founder Duende Film, **Andrea Vogt,** head of production and director, Millstream Films & Media, **Paul Russell,** head of development, Millstream Films & Media, director, **Andrea Mura,** director and producer, Ginko Film. Moderator: **Stefano Tealdi,** producer and director.

In collaboration with **Reggio Film Festival.**

SPECIAL EVENTS AND TALKS

28 OCTOBER, VALSAMOGGIA (BO)
CINEMAX BAZZANO

- Special event in collaboration with SPI-CGIL

Screening of the short film **FAI UN BEL SORRISO,** by Luigi Savino, Marco Erpete, Michela Musumeci, Italy, 13', 2026.

A documentary built on archive footage that travels back in time through a family story, via the footage shot by Francesco Rinaldi, with his daughter Annalisa as guide.

29 OCTOBER, SAVIGNANO SUL PANARO (MO)
CINEMA BRISTOL

- Special screening in collaboration with Demetra Formazione

LA BIFOLCA by Dovile Blaskeviciute, Vittoria Buldrighini, Tommaso Calcagnile, Claudio Campobasso, 10', Italy, 2026. World premiere.

In the countryside around Vignola, Maria has built her own refuge. She and her land live in harmony, deeply bound together. Over time, unexpected encounters and new friendships have given rise to a hive of collaboration and mutual support.

30 OCTOBER, VALSAMOGGIA (BO)
CINEMAX BAZZANO

- Special screening in collaboration with Demetra Formazione

RADICI, by Loula Le Cam, Giacomo Righi, Giacomo Toscano, Aurora Volpato, 11'18", Italy, 2026. World premiere.

Giorgio Erioli, poet, painter and winegrower, is preparing for his last grape harvest in the place where he was born and raised. At his side is Federico, who found a lifeline in him and now finds himself helping Giorgio, taking him to a new plot of land to start again together.

SPECIAL EVENTS AND TALKS

31 OCTOBER, VALSAMOGGIA (BO)
CINEMAX BAZZANO

- Special screening in collaboration with Demetra Formazione

CELEBRARE LA VITA, by Simone Fontana, M. Eleonora Mesiano, Silvia Sarti, Nicol Savo, Italy, 9'15'', 2026. World premiere.

A journey inside the Certosa Cemetery of Bologna, where the undying memory carved in stone intertwines with the daily lives of the people who live in and animate the place, in a fresco that celebrates life, art and human endeavour.

31 OCTOBER, MONTEVEGLIO (BO)
CENTRO SAN TEODORO

- ERRARE UMANO – the value of walking beyond all limits

A meeting devoted to the inclusive value of walking routes, where travelling on foot becomes a means of redemption, of overcoming limits and of full accessibility for all: how nature and slow mobility can become a shared, barrier-free experience. Stories, testimonies and visions for an ever more open and inclusive tourism.

Speakers: **Lino Cianciotto,** Environmental Hiking Guide and Promoter of Accessible Tourism, **Andrea Devicenzi,** Paralympic athlete, coach and trainer. Moderator: **Barbara Gallucci,** journalist for the monthly magazine Touring and editor of the book-magazine Mappe of the Touring Club Italiano.

In collaboration with **Reggio Film Festival** and **Touring Club Italiano.**

SPECIAL EVENTS AND TALKS

1 NOVEMBER, VALSAMOGGIA (BO)
AGRITURISMO IL CASTELLAZZO

- International competition award ceremony

Announcement of the winners of the international competition, followed by a special event on extra virgin olive oil and the traditional end-of-festival get-together, in collaboration with **Confcommercio - Città metropolitana di Bologna, Consorzio Formaggio Parmigiano Reggiano, Consorzio Emilia - Romagna.**

- From the Ancient Mediterranean to the Wisdom and Taste of EVO Oil
  Special event on extra virgin olive oil

Maurizio Saggion, olive oil sommelier, takes us on a short but intense journey through the history of olive oil, from the earliest evidence in the ancient Mediterranean civilisations to today's culture of extra virgin olive oil.

A story that weaves together agriculture, food, economy, ritual and the identity of territories, showing how olive oil has accompanied the evolution of Mediterranean communities and is still able today to tell the story of places, landscapes and people. The historical journey gradually leads to the present day and introduces participants to an EVO oil tasting, turning the knowledge acquired into a direct experience of the product.

6 NOVEMBER, PORRETTA TERME (BO)
CENTRO SAN TEODORO

- OFF-festival screening

Screening of **SULLA VIA,** by Giulio Filippo Giunti and Maurizio Dall'Acqua, 52', 2025
A documentary devoted to the historical reconstruction of the Via Vandelli.

Event in collaboration with **CAI.**

A project by

CARTA BIANCA

With the support of

In collaboration with

Technical partners

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Press office

Associated festival

The future of a Festival is built together, year after year.

There are still many territories to explore: discover them with us at the next edition!