



OFFICIAL SELECTION
**INTERNATIONAL
FILM FESTIVAL
ROTTERDAM**
2020

Rosa pietra stella

Rose stone star

a film by

Marcello Sannino



with



CREDITS

Director	Marcello Sannino
With	Ivana Lotito Ludovica Nasti Fabrizio Rongione
And with	Imma Piro Francesca Bergamo Valentina Curatoli Niamh Mccan Gigi Savoia
Story	Marcello Sannino, Giorgio Caruso, Guido Lombardi, Massimiliano Virgilio
Screenplay	Marcello Sannino, Giorgio Caruso, Guido Lombardi
Director of photography	Alessandro Abate
Editing	Giorgio Franchini
Production design	Antonio Farina
Costume design	Rossella Aprea
Sound	Daniele Maraniello
Music	Riccardo Venò
Casting	Adele Gallo, Massimiliano Pacifico
Produced by	Antonella Di Nocera, Pier Francesco Aiello, Gaetano Di Vaio
A production by	Parallelo 41 produzioni, Bronx Film, PFA film
With	Rai Cinema
With support of	Regione Campania (POC 2014-2020)
In collaboration with	Film Commission Regione Campania
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Promotion in collaboration with



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Linea 3 "Empowering Talent" – POC 2014-2020*



SHORT SYNOPSIS

Carmela is a beautiful young woman, wild and untamed like an Amazon. She ekes out a living day by day with odd jobs and worthless schemes, until, through a lawyer, she gets involved in a permits racket with the illegal immigrants who populate the backstreets of the centre of Naples. She has an 11 year old daughter called Maria, but has been largely absent from her life. Now, however, she wants to turn this around, accept her responsibilities and try to be a decent mother. She meets Tarek, a forty-year old Algerian and drags him into her struggle to find balance and some sort of life.

SYNOPSIS

Carmela is thirty, beautiful and as wild and untamed as an Amazon. She struggles to get by on her own, doing endless oddjobs until she finds herself involved in a business racket with the immigrants who populate the maze of alleyways in the centre of Naples. It's like one of the circles of hell, where even to get a residence permit and then a job – you have to pay. She has an eleven-year old daughter called Maria. They live with her mother, Anna, in Portici, a nearby coastal town in the province of Naples. Their relationship is a fraught one: Anna wishes her daughter would lead a simpler, more grounded life; but instead she is making the same mistakes she herself made in her time. Carmela has been more of a sister than a mother to Maria. The girl suffers because of this and has long been monitored by social services. Carmela feels the time has now come to take on the responsibilities of motherhood. She desperately wants to win her daughter's trust. She makes a sincere effort. She meets Tarek, a forty-year old Algerian who has lived in Naples for twenty years. He is strongly attracted to Carmela and feels no small amount of tenderness. But this fragile edifice on which she tries to build a life gradually starts to crumble. This is a story told against the backdrop of a city that acts as a metaphor of the contemporary world – multicultural and dust-laden, sensual and unjust, where sparse beams of sunlight merely serve to cultivate our illusions. A place where you can arrive but you can never leave.



DIRECTOR'S NOTES

This story was inspired by a real person, a girl I knew years ago. She would get me involved in long days spent running around looking for people who had to be met, or tying up errands and deals at the last minute. Always looking for excuses to not go home and basically trying to avoid the fate that had been dealt at birth. This relationship gave me the idea for the character of Carmela.

The film focuses on that moment when Carmela must, from necessity and her own unconscious desire, leave behind her solitude and her pride; she must open herself to the world and encounter otherness. A "new" otherness, unknown to her and also desperate.

Carmela is also something of a "clandestine" in her city, given her chaotic existence, lack of home or role in society, and the fact that she is a mother unable to care for her daughter.

This same clandestinity is a condition shared by immigrants and those Italians with no financial resources, little education, few rights and therefore limited life opportunities.

This is the social and political context of the story.

The point is: are we talking here about people or social problems? In my opinion, no single social problem emerges above others. The problems are all human ones. There is no doubt that we are in an age of decline, of social injustice and creeping dehumanisation – but we all know it and we are not equipped to defend ourselves. So we start from the person, from the people involved in these themes, driven by the need to survive and the struggle for life. Beyond these considerations on the world, what always interests me in my work is the person.

In this case it is a woman, who, even in today's world, is all too often confined to the margins.

My Carmela, as well as being based on a real person, has resonances in the women depicted in *Rosetta* by the Dardenne brothers, *Adua and Her Friends* by Antonio Pietrangeli, *Mouchette* by Robert Bresson and *Vivre sa vie* by Jean Luc Godard. But we also see her in *Gloria* by John Cassavetes, *Vagabond* by Agnes Varda and *Mamma Roma* by Pasolini. Women on their own, often bewildered by the circumstances they live in. They are often forced to take drastic and sometimes cruel courses of action, driven by absolute necessity. They are women who struggle, who bring chaos into their lives but who also carry within them a great desire; a confused and yet very present dream – a dream waiting to come true, perhaps in another life.

Much of the film is set in Portici, a small but crowded town on the south-east margins of Naples. A prosperous and conservative little town where someone like Carmela, with her particular character and difficulties in coping with life and motherhood, would stand out much more than in a city like Naples where these problems affect very many women and families. For her, the big city is a place of greater opportunity and of escape, a place where people don't know you and won't judge you. But it is also a place where you can get lost in the great maelstrom that stifles movement and from which it is impossible to escape unscathed. The footage shot in Portici is more descriptive of the places and environments in which Carmela lives and has lived. It endows the places with a certain heritage and landscape beauty, but one that conveys a strong sense of loneliness.



THE DIRECTOR

MARCELLO SANNINO

Biography

(Portici Naples, 1971)

After several studies and experiences in architecture and independent bookselling, he dedicates himself to cinema. Beyond his commitment as director, from 2008 to 2016 he collaborates in various workshops and atelier in filmmaking teaching documentary cinema. Film critic and event curator, his documentaries were awarded in several festivals. *Rosa pietra stella* is his first feature film.



Filmography

- 2003 - *Decroux e il mimo corporeo* - documentary
- 2004 - *La passione Suessana* - documentary
- 2007 - *L'ultima Treves* – documentary
- 2008 - *In Purgatorio* - documentary (photography)
- 2009 – *Corde (Ropes)* - documentary
- 2010 - *Napoli 24* (episod in a documentary film)
- 2012 - *La seconda natura (The second nature)*- documentary
- 2014 - *Altrove – (Somewhere else)* short
- 2015 - *Appunti sulla fine del mondo (Notes about end of the world)*- short
- 2016 - *For ever* - short
- 2017 - *Perduto amore (Lost love)*- short
- 2018 - *Porta Capuana* - documentary
- 2019 - *Rosa pietra stella* – feature film

Awards

Corde

27° Torino Film Festival- Special Prize Of The Jury, Avanti Award (Agency for the Valorization of the New Italian Authors), Special Mention Ucca | 28° Bellaria Film Festival- Special Prize of the Jury “Casa Rossa Doc” Best Documentary | Indox 2010 Festival - Italiana Doc Second Price | Salinadocfest 2010 - “Tasca D’almerita” Award For The Best Documentary Film | Obiettivi sul lavoro 2010 - “Selection Award Documentary In Theatres” Special Mention | Festival Terra di Cinema 2011 -Tremblay-En-France - Special Prize of the Jury for the Best Film | Napoli Film Festival 2010 - Vesuvio Award for Best Director | Euganea Film Festival 2010 - Special Prize Of The Jury.

La seconda natura

Torino Film Festival 2012 - Italian Doc Jury Special Mention, Ucca Venti Città Award | First Prize of the Jury - Territori-Contest 013 Nuovo Cinema Aquila Roma.

MAIN CAST

IVANA LOTITO



- 2006 - **A volte verso sera**, by E. Barbani
- 2007 - **Hotel Meina**, by Carlo Lizzani
- 2008 - **Il coraggio di Angela**, by Luciano Manuzzi - tv miniseries
- 2009 - **Cado dalle nubi**, by Gennaro Nunziante
- 2010 - **Letters to Juliet**, by Gary Winick
- 2010 - **Terra ribelle**, by Cinzia TH Torrini
- 2010 - **Paura di amare**, by Vincenzo Terracciano - tv miniseries
- 2012 - **Il restauratore**, ep. "Segreti e bugie"
- 2012 - **Ultimo 4 - L'occhio del falco**, by Michele Soavi - tv miniseries
- 2012 - **Stuck – The Chronicles Of David Rea**, by Ivan Silvestrini - web series
- 2013 - **Bella di papà**, by Enzo Pignonica
- 2013 - 2014 - **Squadra antimafia 5** - series TV
- 2014 - **Don Matteo 9**, ep. "Questione di priorità", by Jan Michelini
- 2015 - **Io che amo solo te**, by Marco Ponti
- 2015 - **Loro chi?**, by Francesco Miccichè and Fabio Bonifacci
- 2016 - 2019 - **Gomorra - La serie** - series TV
- 2016 - **La cena di Natale**, by Marco Ponti
- 2018 - **Immaturo - La serie**, by Rolando Ravello
- 2018 - **Liberi sognatori - La scelta**, by Stefano Mordini - film TV
- 2018 - **Tutto può succedere** - series TV
- 2018 - **Solo** - seconda stagione, by Stefano Mordini - series TV
- 2019 - **Il grande spirito**, by Sergio Rubini

FABRIZIO RONGIONE



- 1999 - **Rosetta**, by Jean-Pierre and Luc Dardenne
- 2002 - **Le Troisième Œil**, by Christophe Fraipont
- 2001 - **Le parole di mio padre**, by Francesca Comencini
- 2004 - **Ne fais pas ça**, by Luc Bondy
- 2004 - **Nema problema**, by Giancarlo Bocchi
- 2004 - **Tartarughe sul dorso**, by Stefano Pasetto
- 2005 - **L'Enfant - Una storia d'amore (L'Enfant)**, by Jean-Pierre and Luc Dardenne
- 2006 - **Fratelli di sangue**, by Davide Sordella
- 2007 - **Ça rend heureux**, by Joachim Lafosse
- 2007 - **Le Dernier Gang**, by Ariel Zeitoun
- 2008 - **Il matrimonio di Lorna (Le Silence de Lorna)**, by Jean-Pierre and Luc Dardenne
- 2008 - **Passe-passe**, by Tonie Marshall
- 2008 - **Il nostro messia**, by Claudio Serughetti
- 2009 - **Lionel**, by Mohamed Soudani
- 2009 - **L'altro uomo**, by Emiliano Corapi
- 2009 - **La prima linea**, by Renato De Maria
- 2011 - **Il ragazzo con la bicicletta (Le Gamin au vélo)**, by Jean-Pierre and Luc Dardenne
- 2012 - **Omblin**, by Stéphane Cazes
- 2012 - **Diaz - Don't Clean Up This Blood**, by Daniele Vicari
- 2012 - **Sulla strada di casa**, by Emiliano Corapi
- 2012 - **L'Œil de l'astronome**, by Stan Neumann
- 2013 - **Une chanson pour ma mère**, by Joël Franka
- 2013 - **La religiosa (La Religieuse)**, by Guillaume Nicloux
- 2013 - **Violet**, by Martin Provost
- 2014 - **La Sapienza**, by Eugène Green
- 2014 - **Due giorni, una notte (Deux jours, une nuit)**, by Jean-Pierre and Luc Dardenne
- 2016 - **La ragazza senza nome (La Fille inconnue)**, by Jean-Pierre and Luc Dardenne
- 2017 - **I figli della notte**, by Andrea De Sica
- 2019 - **Il primo re**, by Matteo Rovere
- 2006-2007 - **Mafiosa - Le clan** - series TV
- 2008-2013 - **Un village français** - series TV

LUDOVICA NASTI



- 2018 - *L'amica geniale*, by Saverio Costanzo
- 2019 - *Rosa pietra stella*, by Marcello Sannino
- 2019 - *Un posto al sole* – tv series

Awards

- 2019 - Golden Globe of Italian International Press for “Best Breakthrough actress”
- 2019 - Premio Virna Lisa 2019 for “Best new promise”
- 2019 - Italian Movie Award XI ed. Festival Internazionale del Cinema Italiano all'Estero
- 2019 - Gran Galà del cinema e della fiction



THE PRODUCERS

PARALLELO 41 PRODUZIONI

Founded in Napoli in 2002 to promote young talents and develop independent contents, for international relations, output and opportunities with local creative professionals. Aesthetic principles are informed by digital technologies, minimal crews, street locations, characters and stories that originate in reality and narratives that question and recount it.

The company produced several award winning films including: *Corde* (2010) and *La seconda natura* (2012) by Marcello Sannino, *Il segreto* (2014) by cyop&kaf (Nomination Best Documentary - David di Donatello | Joris Ivens Prize and Young Jury Special Mention -Cinema du reel Paris | Best Film PravoLjudski Film Festival, Sarajevo | Special Mention - Doc Lisboa | Special Prize of the Jury - Fronteira International Festival of Documentary and Experimental Film, Brasil | Jury Special Mention - Torino Film Festival | Casa Rossa Award - Bellaria Film Festival); *Le cose belle* (2013) by Agostino Ferrente and Giovanni Piperno (Nastri D'Argento - Special Mention Best Docufilm| Doc/it Professional Award - Best Italian Documentary | Best film - SalinaDocFest | Special Mention - XVIII MedFilm Festival | Azzeddine Meddour Award - International Festival Tetouan | Young Jury Prize - Annecy Cinéma Italien | Special Mention - Rencontres du CinémaItalien à Toulouse | Special Mention Italia Doc Festival and Special Mention Casa Rossa Doc - Bellaria Film Festival); *Pagani* (2016) by Elisa Flaminia Inno (Filmmaker Festival | Cinéma du Reel Paris | Terre di Cinema – Tremblay en France | Lovers Film Festival – Torino | Films Femmes Mediterranee – Marsiglia | Los Angeles - Best Religious Documentary); *MalaMènti* (2017) by Francesco Di Leva (Nastri d'Argento - Best short for innovation, 2018); *Aperti al pubblico* (2017) by Silvia Bellotti (Festival dei Popoli Firenze – Audience Award | Visioni Italiane Bologna 2018 - Best Documentary | International Leipzig Festival - Healthy Workplaces - Honorable Mention | Jean Rouch International Film Festival 2018 - Grand Prix Nanook); *Non può essere sempre estate* (2018) by Margherita Panizon and Sabrina Iannucci (Extra Doc Festival 2018 Roma – Prize | Annecy Cinema Italien 2018 | Shorts International Film Festival 2018, Trieste 2018 | Viva il Cinema!, Tours (France) 2019 | Festival du nouveau cinema italien, Tremblay-en-France, 2018); *Giù dal vivo* (Up to down) (2019) by Nazareno M. Nicoletti (coproduction with Arci Movie) Selection International Competition in Karlovy Vary 2019.

BRONX FILM

Bronx Film produces motion pictures, short movies, documentaries presented in prestigious festivals around the world and stands out for its vision of the movie industry as a tool to show and tell the urban reality. It is one of the most interesting organizations in the Italian independent movie industry. Beside many movies produced and in production, it has an important role in supporting and mediating italian and international productions. Among the productions and co- productions:

Sotto la stessa Luna by Carlo Luglio and *Napoli, Napoli, Napoli* directed by Abel Ferrara starting the collaboration with Minerva Pictures Group; *Là Bas – Criminal Education* (2010) Guido Lombardi's debut film is awarded Best Movie Award and Kino Award at the 68thInternational Venice Film Festival Critics week and Golden Lion – Debut film of Biennale and flash Forward Best movie in Busan; *Largo Baracche* (2014) by Gaetano Di Vaio wins Best documentary during the 9th Edition of the International Film Festival of Rome.

In 2015 Bronx is in competition at the 72ndInternational Venice Film Festival with the movie *Per Amor Vostro* by G.M Gaudino, starring Valeria Golino who wins the Coppa Volpi as best actress.

In 2015-2016 the company collaborates with the seasons of the TV series GOMORRA -Sky Cattleya production. In 2017 *Veleno* directed by Diego Olivares is selected in 32 Venice Critics Week at Biennale.

In 2019 coproduces with Indigo *The Thieve of Days* directed by Guido Lombardi, starring Riccardo Scamarcio and presented at the Rome Film Festival 2019.

At the moment the film *Pompei La via dell'abbondanza* by Peppe Gaudino starring Valeria Golino is now in development

P.F.A. FILMS

Film production and distribution company based in Rome founded by Pier Francesco Aiello in 1991, since then it has been developing, producing and co-producing films, TV-series and documentaries at national and international level. Starting from 1992, P.F.A. Films also operates as distributor. Among recent films produced by P.F.A.: *Il ladro di cardellini* by Carlo Luglio (in post-production) *Deprivation* by American director Brian Skiba (2018), the independent cult movie *Spaghetti Story* by Ciro De Caro, *Napoli Napoli Napoli* by Abel Ferrara (premiered at Mostra internazionale di arte cinematografica di Venezia).

In distribution among the films acquired and released there are: *Border* by Ali Abbasi (winner of Un Certain Regard, Cannes 2018); *Beast* by Michael Pearce (TBR); *Les grands esprits* (The Teacher) by Olivier Ayache-Vidal; *Custody* by Xavier Legrand (Silver Lion and Best first feature, Venice Film Festival 2018); *A Day* by Cho Sun-ho; *The Good Neighbor* by Kasra Farahani with James Caan; *Bitter Harvest* by George Mendeluk with Max Irons and Terence Stamp; *Enemy* by Denis Villeneuve with Jake Gyllenhaal; *Phantom Boy* by Jean-Loup Felicioli and Alain Gagnol; *Long Way North* by Rémi Chayé; *Camp X-Ray* by Peter Sattler and with Kristen Stewart; *Tangerines* by Zaza Urushadze (Oscar nominee in 2015); *What Richard Did* by Lenny Abrahamson; *Rebellion* by Mathieu Kassovitz; *Of Horses and Men* (Icelandic entry for Oscar in 2013); *A Cat in Paris* by Jean-Loup Felicioli and Alain Gagnol (Oscar nominee in 2013); *L'Exercice de l'état* by Pierre Schoeller (awarded with 3 César); *Diary of the Dead* by G. A. Romero; *About Elly* by Asghar Farhadi (Silver Bear for best director at Berlinale 2009); *Exit Through the Gift shop* directed by the street artist Banksy (Oscar nominee in 2013).

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