



Two Weeks to *CineFesta Italia*  
Contemporary Italian Film Festival  
June 1-4, 2017 in Santa Fe



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE** -- May 19, 2017 (Santa Fe, NM) CineFesta Italia 2017 opens on June 1 with a reception at 5pm at Jean Cocteau Cinema, featuring Italian hors d'oeuvres and a selection of Italian wines. Refreshments may be enjoyed in the theatre.

At 6pm, following the reception, the first film in the lineup is *Fuocoammare (Fire at Sea)*. Nominated for Best Documentary Feature in this year's Oscars, this timely documentary captures life on the Italian island of Lampedusa, a frontline in the European migrant crisis.

Focusing on 12-year-old Samuele, as he explores the land and attempts to gain mastery of the sea, the film builds a naturalistic portrait of the Lampedusan people and the events that surround them.

"There are countless noteworthy threads that weave the complex fabric of *Fuocoammare*," says CineFesta Creative Director, Luca Ceccarelli. "This is an opportunity not to be missed by all cineastes. On the surface the candid, clean, expert filmmaking is refreshing in its simplicity. Below the surface Rosi taps into both the profound struggle and resilience, singularity and community that is the human condition. We have been tracking this film since it was first released in the festival circuits, and are very proud to open the festival with this exceptional, timely, and important film."

Following the documentary, at 8:30pm, the second feature is the surprising and imaginative debut film from director Gabriele Mainetti, *Lo Chiamavano Jeeg Robot (They Call Me Jeeg Robot)*.

A lonely and misanthropic small time crook uses the superpowers gained after falling in the Tiber river to chase down a crazy gangster called "The gypsy."

"As many of our patrons know one of CineFesta's goals is to identify, celebrate and expose American audiences to up-and-coming new voices in Italian cinema," says Luca. "*They Call Me Jeeg Robot* speaks to that mission perfectly. Like an Italian precursor to *Deadpool*, Gabriele Mainetti has shocked, amused and impressed Italian audiences and critics with his gritty, fresh, and dextrous voice."

After the movies, the opening night after party will be held at Cowgirl, from 10:00 to 11:45pm.

Other films in the following days of the festival include:

- *Le Confessioni (Confessions)*, a timely drama/thriller from director, Roberto Andò and starring Toni Servillo and Connie Nielsen
- *L'Attesa (The Wait)*, starring Juliette Binoche, from first-time feature Director, Piero Messina (Messina was Paolo Sorrentino's assistant director on Academy Award winning *La Grande Bellezza*)
- **SURPRISE SCREENING**, a special surprise film to screen on the closing day of CineFesta

The weekend's events include:

- On Friday, June 2, after an early evening film, there will be a celebration of Italy's national holiday, Festa della Repubblica, with pizza, pasta, beer and wine at Pizzeria & Trattoria da Lino and Chili Line Brewing Co.
- On Saturday, June 3, a tasting of Italian wines, with accompanying hors d'oeuvres, at Osteria d'Assisi.
- On Sunday, June 4, closing day activities include the special Surprise Screening with refreshments and audience awards following.

Prices:

- All Festival Pass, including films, receptions, dinners, afterparties: \$185
- All Film Pass (including opening reception and afterparties): \$85
- Individual film tickets: \$12; student and senior discounts available. See website for details.

- Opening reception: \$45, includes film
- Festa della Repubblica: \$65
- Italian wine tasting and hors d'oeuvres: \$50

To stay up-to-date about film selections, programming and other events, visit [CineFestaItalia.org](http://CineFestaItalia.org) and join the mailing list. Tickets to all scheduled films and events may also be purchased on the CineFesta website. Tickets to films may also be purchased at the Jean Cocteau box office.

### **About *CineFesta Italia***

*CineFesta Italia raises awareness of Italian culture through an annual Italian film festival, delighting moviegoers with contemporary and emerging Italian cinema. A 501(c)(3) non-profit organization fully staffed by volunteers, CineFesta Italia donates a portion of festival proceeds to charitable partners that support Santa Fe's neediest children in today's challenging world. This year's festival benefits Communities in Schools at Santa Fe and Cooking with Kids.*

### **Full Schedule:**

#### **Thursday, June 1:**

5pm Opening Reception - Jean Cocteau Cinema  
 6pm *Fuocoammare* - Jean Cocteau Cinema  
 8:30pm *Lo Chiamavano Jeeg Robot* - Jean Cocteau Cinema  
 10-11:45pm Opening Night After Party - Cowgirl

#### **Friday, June 2:**

6pm *Le Confessioni* - Jean Cocteau Cinema  
 8pm Festa della Repubblica Celebration - Pizzeria & Trattoria da Lino and Chili Line Brewing Co

#### **Saturday, June 3:**

4-5:30pm Taste of Italy Italian Wine Tasting & Hors d'oeuvres - Osteria d'Assisi  
 6:30pm *L'Attesa* - Jean Cocteau Cinema  
 10-11:45 After Party - Cowgirl

#### **Sunday, June 4:**

Showtime TBD Special Surprise Screening - Jean Cocteau Cinema

Film stills from top:

*Fuocoammare, Lo Chiamavano Jeeg Robot, L'Attesa*

SCREENERS FOR ALL FILMS ARE AVAILABLE TO THE PRESS.

EMAIL [Eileen@CineFestaItalia.org](mailto:Eileen@CineFestaItalia.org) for links and passwords.