

ORA! FEST

FESTIVAL INTERNAZIONALE DEL CINEMA IN PUGLIA

ORA! FEST STARRING HELEN MIRREN

THE NEW FILM FESTIVAL
FOR THE ENVIRONMENT, SUSTAINABILITY AND SOCIAL JUSTICE
FROM 3 TO 7 JUNE IN APULIA (MONOPOLI - BA)

GREAT EXCITEMENT FOR GUEST STARS TERRY GILLIAM,
MATTHEW MODINE, MARISA TOMEI, ANDRE' ACIMAN, PAOLO
GIORDANO, NICOLA LAGIOIA AND MANY OTHERS

ARTISTIC DIRECTOR SILVIA BIZIO
AND PRESIDENT GIOVANNI DE BLASIO
HAVE CONFIRMED THE JURY FOR THE EVENT

PRESIDENT OF THE JURY:
ACTRESS AND PRODUCER
ALFRE WOODARD

Ora! Fest, an international film festival dedicated to the environment, sustainability and social justice, will be held in Monopoli, Puglia, **from 3 to 7 June**, chaired by **Giovanni De Blasio** under the artistic direction of **Silvia Bizio** and the general direction of ArtsFor_.

Opening the 2023 edition of Ora! Fest will be the Oscar-winning actress Helen Mirren, star of the first day of the Festival, who will be joined by many national and international stars on the red carpet of the kermesse such as: **Marisa Tomei**, member of the Ora! Fest Honorary Committee, chaired by John Turturro. Other much awaited stars include **Terry Gilliam**, **Matt Dillon**, **André Aciman**, **Maria Sole Tognazzi**, and **Sabina Guzzanti**.

The Festival will also have the honour of welcoming **Matthew Modine**, with whom Ora! Fest has made a deal. His production company Cinco Dedos Production is to make a 50-second video, 'Heaven on Earth', narrated by Modine himself, which will also be the festival's theme song. To top this, the actor will also showcase his commitment to the environment with 'RIPPLE EFFECT', his new 5-episode series which focuses on environmental sustainability. The audience will get the chance to sneak an 8-minute preview of it during the Festival.

The feature film jury chaired by **Alfre Woodard** ("12 Years a Slave", "Crooklyn" "Desperate Housewives", Emmy Award winner for "The Practice") will be joined by Oscar-nominated screenwriter and producer **Alessandro Camon** ("The Messenger", "Wall Street"), also former director of the *Centro sperimentale di Cinematografia* **Marcello Fotti**. With them, there will also be former model and actress **Antonia Dell'Atte** and **Lawrence Bender**, producer of Quentin

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Tarantino's most acclaimed films, from 'Pulp Fiction' to 'Kill Bill', and of the two emblematic documentaries on the environment 'An Inconvenient Truth' (1 and 2).

The short film jury is to be chaired by writer **André Aciman**, author of the bestseller "Call Me by Your Name", together with producer and director of Cortinametraggio **Maddalena Mayneri**, and actor **Richard Flood** (Grey's Anatomy).

A special prize, the Premio Sguardi Giovani, will also be awarded to the best short film by a jury of 60 young high school students from Monopoli, invited by **Sudestival** to take part in the event's project.

Ora! Fest is a new cultural event that aims to enhance cinema as an instrument of artistic expression and reflection on the most pressing issues of our time, such as social sustainability and environmental culture.

As part of the packed programme of events, the Festival days will be enriched by a programme of in-depth analysis and cultural entertainment realised in collaboration with "**Lucy. Sulla cultura**", a multimedia magazine dealing with culture, arts, and current affairs, directed by **Nicola Lagioia**. During the event, Lagioia and **Paolo Giordano** will be the protagonists of a reading of "Tasmania" and of the live podcast "Fare un Fuoco" (Making a fire), both created in collaboration with Lucy. Sulla cultura. Together they will host the panel "Raccontare il cambiamento: l'importanza della letteratura e del cinema nella crisi climatica" (Narrating change: the importance of literature and cinema in climate crisis).

"Tasmania" (Einaudi) is a novel written by Paolo Giordano that explores themes of the future, the fear of losing control and the environmental crisis. The protagonist is a young man who finds himself facing a wall of questions after believing that science could provide all the answers. The story is also about the crisis of a couple, a generation and the whole world, with a focus on climate crisis. The book was written by the author of 'La solitudine dei numeri primi', which won the Premio Strega and the Premio Campiello Opera Prima. In addition, Giordano was the screenwriter of the film 'Siccità' by Paolo Virzì, which focuses on the drought in Rome. In Nicola Lagioia's live podcast entitled "Raccontare storie in un tempo difficile", "Telling Stories in a Difficult Time", he traces the history of the written and oral word from antiquity to the present day, emphasising the importance of literature as an instrument of sentimental education and liberation, and the importance of technological tools such as Chat Gpt. Literature and storytelling remain one of the most powerful means for humanity to understand the world and free itself from prejudice and limitations, despite climate instability, wars and social inequalities of our time.

The Festival is promoted and supported by the **Apulia Region** and the **Municipality of Monopoli**, which confer patronage on the event and, above all, share its projects and objectives.

INFORMAZIONI
ORA!FEST
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ORA! FEST

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A project by **ALLORA FEST**
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and
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