

ORA! FEST

FESTIVAL INTERNAZIONALE DEL CINEMA IN PUGLIA

ORA! FEST
THE NEW FESTIVAL OF CINEMA, ART, ENVIRONMENT AND SOCIAL
JUSTICE
FROM JUNE 3 TO 7 IN APULIA (MONOPOLI - BA)

MANY INTERNATIONAL STARS
INCLUDING OSCAR WINNER MARISA TOMEI, TERRY GILLIAM, MATT
DILLON, MATTHEW MODINE, AND LAWRENCE BENDER

HONORARY COMMITTEE PRESIDENT
JOHN TURTURRO

AMONG CONFIRMED ITALIAN STARS RAOUL
BOVA, MARIA SOLE TOGNAZZI, AND SABINA GUZZANTI

ARTISTIC DIRECTION BY SILVIA BIZIO
PPRESIDENT GIOVANNI DE BLASIO

ORA! FEST, the international film festival with a focus on the environment, art, and social justice, will take place from **June 3 to 7** in **Monopoli** (BA).

Many Italian and international stars have already been confirmed for the event. Oscar winner **Marisa Tomei** and the eclectic **Terry Gilliam** will arrive in Apulia for the festival, as well as superstars **Matthew Modine**, **Matt Dillon**, and **Lawrence Bender**, producer of Quentin 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), plus directors and talents of most of the selected films. Attending also writer **André Aciman** ("Call Me by Your Name").

There are also many prominent Italian names: **Raoul Bova**, **Maria Sole Tognazzi**, **Sabina Guzzanti**, **Rita Marcotulli**, **Paolo Rotondo**, and executive producer **Enzo Sisti**.

The association organizing the event, chaired by **Giovanni De Blasio**, has entrusted the artistic direction to **Silvia Bizio** and the general direction to **Camilla Invernizzi**, CEO and founder of ArtsFor_. **ORA! Fest** in this new edition has an Honorary Committee comprising internationally renowned artists, presided over by the actor and director of Apulian origins **John Turturro**.

During the festival, free masterclasses will be held alongside the feature films and short films competition. The masterclasses will be taught by experts in the film industry and by the Italian and international guests present at the festival, moderated by Silvia Bizio and by many professionals in the industry. Admission is free until seats run

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In the name of environmental care, Ora! Fest has partnered with **Matthew Modine** and his production company, **Cinco Dedos Peliculas**, to create HEAVEN ON EARTH, a 50-second film written and narrated by Modine. The short will have its festival premiere on June 3 and serve as Ora!'s leitmotif for the duration of the festival. Modine will also showcase his commitment to the environment with an 8-minute preview of RIPPLE EFFECT, his new series focusing on environmental sustainability. The show presents solutions which demonstrate how each of us can take measurable steps to protect our precious world.

THE CONTEST

The festival focuses on various key themes such as the environment and social justice, which are central to most of the selected films, including short films, feature films, and documentaries.

There are **ten films in competition and five out of competition**. Some of the selected films are Klondike by Maryna Er Gorbach, La California by Cinzia Bomoll, The Last Film Show by Pan Nalin, and Downwind by Mark Shapiro. There are also 12 Italian and international short films in competition, including Maunga Cassino by Italian-New Zealander Paolo Rotondo, Reginetta by Federico Russotto, Guerra tra poveri by Kassim Yassin Saleh.

To apply for the competition, filmmakers can register on the festival's dedicated page on the international platform www.filmfreeway.com. The deadline for registration is May 1, 2023.

SHORT FILMS

Ora! Fest will also feature a selection of award winning short films presented by **WeShort**, a startup based in Bari that created a streaming platform dedicated to the world of short films, available worldwide, showcasing thousands of short films and series. WeShort is an Associate Partner of the Sundance Institute and presented the official panel "New Short Cinema by WeShort" during the Sundance Film Festival 2023.

The festival is promoted and supported by the **Apulia Region** and the **Municipality of Monopoli**, which share its objectives and project vision.

Giuseppe De Bellis, director of Sky TG24, will contribute to the festival by curating a series of meetings, interviews, and talks dedicated to sustainability, environment, and social inclusion.

The festival days will be enriched by a program of cultural entertainment and in-depth analysis realized in collaboration with **Lucy. Sulla cultura**, a multimedia platform focusing on culture, arts, and current affairs directed by **Nicola Lagioia**.

The **Sylva Foundation**, a non-profit organization founded in Apulia in 2021 that deals with environmental regeneration through reforestation, will partner with the festival on its efforts towards sustainability and the environment.

Another important partnership will be the one with **Sudestival** (the Italian cinema festival in its 23rd edition) to create a program for local schools and use cinema, its language, and the dynamics of the film industry to raise awareness and train students who participate in the project.

All the festival events will take place in Monopoli, with various locations involved, including the suggestive Piazza Palmieri, the Radar cinema, and the Sala delle Armi of the Carlo V Castle, where some of the screenings will take place.

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INFORMATION

ORA!FEST

www.orafest.com

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ORA! FEST 2023

3-7 June 2023

Monopoli (BA)

A project by **Associazione culturale ALLORA FEST**

President **Giovanni De Blasio**

Artistic Direction **Silvia Bizio**

General Direction **Camilla Invernizzi ArtsFor_**

Art Direction **Atelier Tatanka**

Press Office **MNcomm**

Ora! Fest is realized with the support and under the patronage of

Regione Puglia

Comune di Monopoli

Sustainability and Environment Partner **Fondazione Sylva**

Public Program **Lucy. Sulla Cultura**

School Program **Sudestival**

Partner **AKNEYE**

Sponsor **Ethos Profumerie**

Digital Partner **WeShort, Entertainment Oxygen, Obi1**

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