

in collaboration with:



Proudly present:

HOW CAN THE CINEMA COMMUNICATE RELIGIOUS AND PHILOSOPHICAL IDEAS?

"Therefore every man of worth, when dealing with matters of worth, will be far from exposing them to ill feeling and misunderstanding among men by committing them to writing. In one word, then, it may be known from this that, if one sees written treatises composed by anyone, either the laws of a lawgiver, or in any form whatever, these are not for that man the things of most worth, if he is a man of worth, but that his treasures are laid up in the fairest spot that he possesses".

PLATO Letter VII

Venice, 6th September 2010. Today at 15:00 in the exhibition space of Fondazione Ente dello Spettacolo, room Tropicana 1 of the Hotel Excelsior there will be the presentation of the **cinema project** provisionally titled **La strada di Paolo** (*The Road of Paolo*). This is a film which involved several diverse organizations such as the Officina della Comunicazione, the Pontifical Council of Culture, FAI - Federazione Autotrasportatori Italiani and the publishing house Marcianum Press.

The film which originated as a cultural challenge is the result of a complex project which culminated in its final production.

The screenplay is the result of research concerning an all-accomplished approach to religious themes. The references within the film arise from extremely diversified theological and philosophical sources as well as classical narrative models.

The substantial support of the Pontifical Council of Culture, in the person of **Mons. Franco Perazzolo**, plus the prestigious interviews carried out with authoritative representatives of both religious and secular European culture, have resulted in a deeper examination of such themes which, as well as providing a valid support for the film's narrative structure, constitute a subject matter which contains both intrinsic value and autonomy.

As such, the publishing house **Marcianum Press** will be supporting the project with the publication of a book which gathers together all of the interviews and the script of the film, putting together narrative material (in the classical sense of an account of the screenplay), with reflective essays (in the form of the answers given by the interviewees to the religious and existential questions which the film wishes to represent).

The interviews were carried out with: **Mons. Gianfranco Ravasi, Card. Angelo Scola, Prof. Salvatore Natoli, Dr. Fabrizio Palenzona, Prof. Roberto Vecchioni, the writer Julia Kristeva.**

The film is due to be filmed in Israel and Italy next autumn, between October and November, and will be an account of the journey of a haulier. In the course of his travels the haulier encounters people and situations which compel him to question himself on his earthly voyage.

It is precisely in virtue of this project that, within the prestigious confines of the International Venice Film Festival, an examination is proposed regarding cinematic reflections in terms of themes inherent to the sacred. It remains to be said that in spite of the profound nature of such film content, the considerations raised do not result from any intention of being exhaustive, but rather to become a good opportunity for proposing further discussion and analysis.

In this sense, the film ***La strada di Paolo*** can be seen as an excellent starting point, an example of a new form of approach to themes and situations involving a logic of cross-reference between a film and written speculation resulting in a "mutual" support for the in-depth examination of such content.

The approach of the ensuing discussions, far from being dogmatic and decisive, which also results from the heterogeneity of the speakers' opinions, will be on the theme of communicating the Holy through cinematic means.

The roundtable talks will include the participation of:

- **Mons. Franco Perazzolo**, Pontifical Council for Culture
- **Dario E. Viganò**, President of the Fondazione Ente dello Spettacolo
- **Carlo Nardello**, Managing Director of Rai Trade
- **Salvatore Nocita**, film director
- **Vittorino Andreoli**, psychiatrist and psychotherapist.

Actor **Giorgio Pasotti** will also be attending the event.

Press Office
Fondazione Ente dello Spettacolo

Rossana Arzone
+39 338 7094 793
r.arzone@prcsrl.com

Daniele Autieri
+39 339 2071 792
d.autieri@prcsrl.com

*The **Fondazione Ente dello Spettacolo** was founded in 1946 and works within the field of Italian cinema culture. Over the years it has become a leader in Cinema content which it manages for ilsole24ore.com, virgilio.it, yahoo.it, libero.it, Comingsoon Television, PreviewNetworks, MTV, ITS-Informatica, MSN, Tiscali, Nastro Azzurro, Noverca, lagazzettadelmezzogiorno.it and numerous others.*

It carries out activity in traditional and electronic publishing through the web portal www.cinematografo.it, organizes cultural events, international conferences, seminars and festivals (www.tertiomillenniofilmfest.org), film trailers, often in collaboration with important Italian and overseas partners, among which the 'Centro Sperimentale di Cinematografia', Cinecittà Luce SpA, "Cahiers du Cinéma", Fondazione Cineteca Italiana of Milan, Museo del Cinema of Turin.

*It publishes the **Rivista del Cinematografo**, the longest running Italian cinema periodical.*

*It runs the website **www.cineconomy.com** which was founded in 2009 in order to offer its users a comprehensive view of the market and cinema industry in Italy. Through numerous articles on politics and finance from major European newspapers and journals, Cineconomy offers a wide variety of opinion and outlook in its attempt to provide a unitary outline of the situation in Europe.*

*Each year it publishes the **Report - The Market and the Cinema Industry in Italy** which can be downloaded free of charge from the above website.*

*The **Tertio Millennio Film Fest** is the first cinema festival organized with the Patronage of the Vatican arriving at its 14th edition and developed by the Fondazione Ente dello Spettacolo presided over by **Dario Edoardo Viganò** and the "Rivista del Cinematografo" under the same leadership. It is organized in collaboration with the Pontifical Council for Culture and Social Communications and the Centro Sperimentale di Cinematografia - Cineteca Nazionale, with contributions from the General Direction for Cinema of the Italian Ministry for Heritage and Cultural Activity.*

The Festival had the Patronage of the Presidency of the Italian Republic and the support of the Department of Culture of the Rome local council.

SPETTACOLO