

ITALIAN MIRACLE

SHORT FILM
DIRECTED BY FRANCESCO GABRIELE

Nationality: **Italy / UK**
Duration: **9' 10"**
Format: **ProRes 422, 4K**
Aspect Ratio: **1.85:1**
Sound: **5.1 & Stereo**
Languages: **Italian / English**
Production Company: Thespian Films Ltd.
Year: 2015
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ONE LINE SYNOPSIS

In a small Italian village, Antonio translates the confession of an English-speaking woman to the local priest... kind of.

SYNOPSIS

In a rural Italian village, Antonio is asked to translate an English-speaking woman's confession, but when he starts disagreeing with the priest, he has to make a decision that might change the course of her life and maybe his too.

CAST

Antonio	Francesco Gabriele
Bridget	Jennifer Ann Elmore
Don Lorenzo	Pietro Marchesani
Concetta	Anna Maria Teresa Ricci

CREW

Director/Producer/Writer	Francesco Gabriele
Cinematographer	Giacomo La Monaca
1 st Assistant Camera	Serena Perla
2 nd Assistant Camera/DIT	Carolina Krebs
Gaffer	Stefano Massa
Grip	Ilya Sapeha
1 st Assistant Director	Luigi Pietrobono
2 nd Assistant Director	Mattia Manzi
Sound Recordist	Giuseppe Tripodi
Make Up Artists	Francesca Santarelli Manuela Frattaioli
Editors	Riccardo Angelucci Francesco Gabriele
Sound Designer	Jan Meinema
Color Grading	Giacomo La Monaca
Visual Effects	Gabrielle Gozo
Music Composer	Shane Rutherford-Jones

DIRECTOR'S BIOGRAPHY

Francesco Gabriele is an Award-winning director and producer based in London. He holds an MA in Directing from the London Film School and is a graduate of the American Academy of Dramatic Arts in Los Angeles.

He is the founder & director of the London-based production company Thespian Films Ltd.

His first feature, 'Blue Hollywood', entirely filmed between London and Los Angeles, premiered at the Regina International Film Festival & Awards (RIFFA) in Canada where it was awarded the Best International Feature Award. It had its UK Premiere at the BT Tower in London as the closing night film of the British Urban Film Festival and it was also screened in Italy, Sweden, Bulgaria, Germany, Russia China and USA receiving mentions and awards and achieved international distribution.

His short film, 'Italian Miracle,' played at over 40 festivals worldwide including the Oscar & BAFTA Qualifying LA-Shorts Fest and won, among other awards, the Jury Award-Best Short at the Stony Brook Film Festival in New York.

He is the Screen Acting Program Lead at St Mary's University in London and a Lecturer in Digital Film Production at SAE Institute in Oxford.

DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT

A few years ago I was driving in Los Angeles with my then American girlfriend and as usual, we were stuck in traffic.

That day we were fantasising about relocating to Rome together, joking about living in a small rural village in the middle of nowhere far away from the chaos and confusion of the city. We were just so tired and bored of having to use the car to go everywhere, there was traffic every hour of every day! Exhausting!

So as a distraction we always ended up having silly conversations about everything and nothing in particular. That day, while thinking about our big move, it came to my mind that she didn't speak Italian at all! I started thinking about the numerous limitations that the lack of knowledge of the language entitled in a country like Italy, where not everyone speaks fluent English.

It's worth mentioning that she was very catholic, the kind of girl that taught catechism to children in church every Sunday and went to confession every week. So immediately I wondered: "What would happen if she needed to confess while living in Italy and the priest didn't speak English?"

At first we found the idea funny, but soon her expression got serious and staring at me she said: "seriously, what if I really need to confess and the priest doesn't speak English?" She looked very worried, so worried it made me laugh.

From that moment on I knew it was a story that, sooner or later, I wanted to tell.

Many years went by and our lives went down different paths, yet I've never stopped looking for the perfect place to set that story.

Then one day in July 2014, I was walking in the beautiful medieval village of Sermoneta and it was love at first sight. There was the place I had been looking for all this time, the perfect setting topped with extremely friendly people!

I had no doubt in my mind that this was the place where I wanted to film my story!

So I got to writing my script. Oddly enough the first 3 drafts were actually very dramatic... It wasn't until later, after writing about it over and over again, that I realised how comic the situation actually was. When it came to getting it done, I was lucky enough to build an enthusiastic team that helped and supported me through the entire process. I'm specially thankful to Stefano Cortelletti and Giacomo La Monaca because without their help I wouldn't have been able to make the film.

I'm very excited and satisfied with Italian Miracle, it has been an amazing journey and, who knows, maybe watching the film you will encounter the answer that my ex was unable to find.

FILM FESTIVALS

AWARDS

2018 Best Screenplay Award - AShorts International Film Festival - Italy
2017 Fellini Award & Audience Award - Corto Fiction Chianciano Terme - Italy
2017 Special Mention - Premio Cinematografico Palena - Italy
2017 Best Screenplay Award, Best Short Film 3rd Place - The Monthly Film Festival - UK
2017 Audience Choice Award - Exposure Short Film Festival - UK
2016 Jury Award, Best Short - Stony Brook Film Festival - USA
2015 Best Short - Cinevana London Film Festival – UK

OFFICIAL SELECTIONS

2018 Comète Film Festival - Official Competition - France
2018 Corti in Cortile Film Festival - Official Selection - Italy
2018 AShorts International Film Festival - Official Competition - Italy
2017 Via Dei Corti Film Festival - Official Selection - Italy
2017 Reggio Film Festival - Official Selection - Italy
2017 Corto Fiction Chianciano Terme - Official Competition - Italy
2017 Sedicicorto International Film Festival - Official Selection - Italy
2017 Coffi Film Festival - Official Selection - Germany
2017 Corti Sonanti Film Festival - Finalist - Italy
2017 Premio Cinematografico Palena - Official Competition - Italy
2017 The Monthly Film Festival - Official Competition - UK
2017 Exposure Short Film Festival - Official Competition - UK
2017 Geo Film Festival & Expo - Official Selection - Italy
2017 Barcelona Planet Film Festival - Official Competition - Spain
2017 Burién Film Festival - Official Selection - USA
2017 The Big Shorts Film Festival - Official Selection - USA
2017 Kalat Nissa Film Festival - Finalist - Italy
2016 Frames Film Festival - Official Selection - India
2016 ACME Comedy Film Night - Official Selection - USA
2016 Ozark Shorts - Official Selection - USA
2016 Salento Finibus Terrae - Official Competition - Italy
2016 Fabriano Film Fest - Official Competition - Italy
2016 Italian Contemporary Film Festival - Official Competition - Canada
2016 LAIFFA, April - Official Competition - USA
2016 Las Vegas Galaxy Film Awards - Official Competition - USA
2016 MadHouse Movies Film Festival - Official Selection - USA
2016 Chennai International Short Film Festival - Official Selection - India
2016 Petaluma International Film Festival - Official Selection - USA
2016 River Film Festival - Official Competition - Italy
2016 Stony Brook Film Festival - Official Competition - USA
2015 'O Curt Film Festival - Official Competition - Italy
2015 Västerås Film Festival - Official Competition - Sweden
2015 Blackbird Film Fest - Official Selection - USA
2015 As Film Festival - Official Competition - Italy
2015 PiGrecoZen Film Fest - Official Competition - Italy
2015 Cannes Film Festival - Short Film Corner - France
2015 Molise Cinema - Official Competition - Italy
2015 Cinevana London Film Festival - Official Competition - UK

2015 Rural Film Fest - Official Competition - Spain

2015 LA Shorts Fest - Official Competition - USA - (Oscar & BAFTA Qualifying)