



IL MUSEO NAZIONALE DEL CINEMA
PRESENTA

37°
Lovers
Film Festival

**Europe's oldest festival about LGBTQI+ topics,
and the third oldest worldwide, will take place from
April 26 to May 1, 2022**

(Turin, Cinema Massimo – National Cinema Museum)

**The 2022 image has been donated by ConiglioViola,
which also designed the exhibit “ConiglioViola Teorema Pasolini”
(April 11 – September 4, 2022, Mole Antonelliana outside railings)**

Lovers also dedicates a special section to Pier Paolo Pasolini



The Lovers Film Festival, the oldest festival dedicated to LGBTQI+ (lesbian, gay, bisexual, trans, queer, and intersexual) topics, **will be held from April 26 to May 1, 2022** at the Cinema Massimo, the multiplex of the **National Cinema Museum** in Turin.

The festival, directed by **Vladimir Luxuria** and founded by **Giovanni Minerba and Ottavio Mai**, will last 6 days and has returned to its historical time frame.

ConiglioViola for the Lovers Film Festival

ConiglioViola has created the 2022 image.

"The image of the 37th Lovers Film Festival is a celebration of major icons of LGBTQI+ films, from Marlene Dietrich to The Rocky Horror Picture Show, from The Night Porter to Querelle, passing by way of Brokeback Mountain and Priscilla. I am infinitely grateful to ConiglioViola for their graphic re-elaboration; I consider them some of the most interesting, surprising, and creative minds on the international artistic scene. Our Festival will be equally iconic, colorful, and thrilling," commented the director, **Vladimir Luxuria**.

"Working in close contact with the director Vladimir Luxuria has let us reflect on and give voice and form to some of the pop icons that have always inspired our artistic pathway," noted **ConiglioViola**.

Tribute to Pier Paolo Pasolini

On the **one hundredth anniversary** of his birth, the National Cinema Museum dedicates a tribute to **Pier Paolo Pasolini** with an artistic project at the **Mole Antonelliana** and a tribute during the **Lovers Film Festival**, a special section screening **four of his films**.

The exhibit

The artistic project ConiglioViola Teorema Pasolini – designed by **ConiglioViola** – will be on view from April 11 to September 4, 2022 on the outside railings of the **Mole Antonelliana**. The project is both a tribute to Pasolini and an unusual take on his film opus, which still today can offer new and unexpected interpretations. The exhibit proposes re-elaborations of a number of iconic photographs that were taken on the set of *Teorema* (1968) - one of Pasolini's most forceful and controversial movies - by **Angelo Frontoni** (1929-2002), whose archive is conserved at the National Cinema Museum and at the Cineteca Nazionale.

As **Domenico De Gaetano**, director of the National Cinema Museum, pointed out, *"We felt we needed to hold this tribute to honor such an important and controversial artist, a connoisseur of the human soul and its weaknesses, a person who was able to recount society on various levels. His artistic interpretation, which was new and unusual compared to the past, made him unique: the goal of this double tribute, along the railings of the Mole Antonelliana and with the screenings during the Lovers Film Festival, moves in this*

direction by visually communicating and re-interpreting one of the most important filmmakers of the 20th century."

As **ConiglioViola** noted, these five large-scale tableaux vivants "recount the strong sacredness of Pasolini's message, a search for God in part through carnality and physicality; he tried to render more bearable the existential difficulty of humans, even endowing them with a pair of wings. Our use of classic pictorial techniques makes the message even stronger, with a highly graphic edge that brings out both the beauty and the drama."

The screenings

Comizi d'amore (*Love Meetings*), the historical film from 1964 that deals with the topics – which were thorny at the time – of divorce, virginity, prostitution, and homosexuality. A multi-faceted investigation, during which the director crossed Italy from north to south, gathering the testimony of the working-class, famous people, and intellectuals, moving through the countryside, factories, beaches, and cultural salons.

Il Decameron: nine novellas and one setting, in which Pier Paolo Pasolini also plays the role of a student of Giotto's. The movie is a silver screen rendering of the Middle Ages, dynamic and mocking, vulgar and promiscuous, based on Boccaccio's anthology in an exuberant and evocative fresco. The film is partly inspired by 14th-century paintings as it interweaves sexual intercourse and death, excrement and religion, with grotesque and joyous results. The first chapter of the "Trilogy of Life" won the Silver Bear at the 1971 Berlinale and was denounced and put on trial. A huge box office success, it was the progenitor of the so-called "decamerotic" genre.

I racconti di Canterbury (*The Canterbury Tales*). With a series of lecherous and lewd stories, Geoffrey Chaucer (played by Pasolini himself) entertains the other pilgrims on their way to the tomb of Saint Thomas Beckett. The second chapter of the "Trilogy of Life," it is based on the same-titled, fundamental text of British literature and continues Pasolini's reconstruction of the Middle Ages during the 14th century. The setting changes but not the intentionally provocative representation of cheerful, grabby, and prurient humanity.

And lastly, **Il Fiore delle mille e una notte** (*Arabian Nights*), with which Pasolini concluded his "Trilogy of Life," a silver screen adaptation of a selection of novellas borrowed from the same-titled Arabian anthology. The director's final exploration of the Middle Ages, which here become exotic and mysterious in a kaleidoscope of images, it features the topic of sex, in all its forms, and death as its counterpart.

"The Lovers Film Festival, in collaboration with the National Cinema Museum, remembers Pasolini's genius with an anniversary dedicated to how extraordinarily up-to-date he still is.

Just one regret: not being able to know his opinion of what is going on today, which would have helped us form a view of our reality that is never a foregone conclusion nor banal," commented Vladimir Luxuria.

The films and the competitive sections

Over **60 movies** – feature films, documentaries, and shorts – from **all over the world**, including **50 in competition**.

3 competitive sections: **All The Lovers**, international feature film competition; **Real Lovers**, international documentary competition; and **Future Lovers**, international short film competition.

A jury composed of young students will assign the **Young Lovers** award, selecting a movie competing in the International Feature Film Competition.

A special award dedicated to **Giò Stajano** will be assigned; based on an idea by the author **Willy Vaira** and by **Claudio Carossa**, Lovers dedicates the award to the memory of Giò Stajano, one of the most important and significant figures in Italy's LGBTQI culture.

The **Riflessi nel Buio** award is back, assigned to a movie made in a country where being homosexual is a danger and a risk, sometimes mortal.

Another return is the **Torino Pride Award**, assigned by the **Coordinamento Torino Pride**, in collaboration with the association **Amiche e amici della cultura e del Festival del Cinema LGBT**, to a movie which best represents the struggles and militancy of the LGBTQI+ community.

The **Lovers Film Festival** is realized by the **National Cinema Museum** of Turin and takes place with the contribution of the **Ministry of Culture**, the **Piedmont Region**, and the **Municipality of Turin**.

[The press conference presenting the Lovers Film Festival will be held in Turin on **Wednesday, April 13, 2022 at 11:30 a.m.** in the National Cinema Museum's Temple Hall.](#)

Images and the press conference's Save the Date can be downloaded at this link:

<https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1nYQOO0adeDdei4ErsPyb3TsdWk3DNjky?usp=sharing>

Lovers Film Festival

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