



IL MUSEO NAZIONALE DEL CINEMA
PRESENTA

38° Lovers Film Festival

PRESS RELEASE

38th Lovers, the **oldest LGBTQI+ festival in Europe and third in the world**
directed by Vladimir Luxuria
(Turin, Cinema Massimo – National Museum of Cinema)

THE PROGRAM OF APRIL 21st

The programming of the **Lovers Film Festival** continues, the oldest festival on LGBTQI+ themes (lesbian, gay, bisexual, trans, queer and intersex) directed by **Vladimir Luxuria** and founded by **Giovanni Minerba** and **Ottavio Mai**, which **takes place from 18 to 23 April 2023** at the Cinema Massimo the multiplex of the **National Museum of Cinema** in Turin.

On the morning of **Saturday 21st at 9.00** am the scientific communicator and influencer **Marco Martinelli** will be the protagonist of a talk for secondary schools that will precede the screening of **Hablame de ti** by Edu Cortés (Mexico 2022).

At 9.30 am Andrea Martini, author with Raffaele Bortone of **Lampadino e Caramella nel MagiRegno degli Zampa** will entertain primary school students on the animation and "secrets" of his famous cartoon. Following screening of **Strange World - A Mysterious World** by Don Hall, Qui Nguyen (USA, 2022).

At 6.15 pm the actor, presenter and author **Fabio Canino**, much loved by the LGBTQI+ community, will speak to Lovers for the panel that introduces the awarding of the **Riflessi nel buio** prize. Luca Poma, Alberto Pini, Bohdan Zhuk, programmer at the Kyiv International Film Festival Molodist and tutor of the Real Lovers jury, and Vladimir Luxuria will participate in the award ceremony. In streaming connection Seyed Mohsen Pourmohseni Shakib, director of *It's a Gray, Gray World*.

THE PROGRAM



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FRIDAY, APRIL 21

CABIRIA ROOM

17:30

OUT OF COMPETITION

EISMAYER

DAVID WAGNER • AUSTRIA, 2022, 87'

Sergeant Major Eismayer is the toughest and most feared NCO drill officer in the Austrian army. He is ruthless with recruits and relentlessly enforces both discipline and order with macho toughness. But when, Falak, a new recruit who has unashamedly embraced his homosexuality joins the army, it shakes Eismayer's existence to its very core. To love another man does not fit in with the idea of what a perfect soldier should be like. Falak becomes his target, but simultaneously triggers an overwhelming attraction.

Based on an incredible true story.

19:30

OUT OF COMPETITION

HÁBLAME DE TI

JOSE EDUARDO CORTES • MEXICO, 2022, 97'

Chava is not lucky in love. Everything seems to change when a mysterious admirer, Brujita, starts sending him messages. With Carlos, a boy from his swimming class, he tries to uncover the truth about Brujita. During his quest, he will learn unknown sides of his family, his friends, and even himself, which will allow him to determine who he is and who he wants to love. A coming-of-age story about adolescence, and the doubts and thrills of the first serious love story. A light-hearted romantic comedy, already a great success in Mexico.

Opening: Vladimir Luxuria in dialogue with Vauro on his cartoons and drawings on LGBTQI+ themes

Present at the cinema: Jose Eduardo Cortes and Candy Alvarado, director and producer of *Háblame de ti*.

22:15

ALL THE LOVERS/INTERNATIONAL FEATURE FILM COMPETITION

BONES AND NAMES

FABIAN STUMM • GERMANY, 2023, 102'

Boris and Jonathan are at the point in their relationship where they spend their evenings together, yet apart. One lies in bed reading scripts, and the other works in the next room. Deep in the rehearsals for a film with an ambitious director, for Boris



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the lines between reality and imagination begins to blur, while Jonathan struggles to redefine his voice as a writer. Then too, we find Josie, Boris's niece, who, flitting about like Shakespeare's Puck, is testing their limits. With humour and tenderness, Fabian Stumm ponders cleverly and playfully on relationships and their possible outcomes.

Opening: Priscilla

Present at the cinema: Fabian Stumm, director of *Bones and Names*

RONDOLINO ROOM

18:00

ALL THE LOVERS/INTERNATIONAL FEATURE FILM COMPETITION

CHRISSY JUDY [R]

TODD FLAHERTY • USA, 2022, 96'

20:00

FUTURE LOVERS/INTERNATIONAL SHORT FILM COMPETITION

I AM LEO

TAJO HURRLE • GERMANY, 2022, 17'

Leo, who is twelve, is spending the autumn holidays in the countryside, having a great time with a sister and a cousin. Everything changes when the grandma says, "This is big news: you are a real woman now". But is that what Leo feels?

PAPER PLANES

MICHAEL GLOVER SMITH, ALYSSA THORDARSON • USA, 2023, 17'

December is coming and Christmas is already in the air. A young, agoraphobic woman begins to exchange letters with the guest of the Airbnb next to her. Will this relationship develop into something more by the time the holidays arrive?

CLAUSE

SCOTT HURRAN • UNITED KINGDOM, 2022, 6'

Lunch break: Manny and Guy teach in a school about to hold a meeting to discuss the ongoing protests against LGBTQI+ topics in class. What can you do when you are the school principal but you live with the man you love?

COMBIEN DANSERONT SUR TA LANGUE

LOUIS BARTHELEMY ROUSSEAU • FRANCE, 2022, 19'

Alice is a doctor at the STD centre. Everyday she asks her patients about their intimate activities and takes blood samples. At home, physically weak Bianca is



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waiting for her. At the right moment, Alice pours some blood on Bianca's tongue and starts talking...

PARAMORE

ANDREA LAMEDICA, FRANCESCO MASTROLEO • ITALY, 2023, 20'

Thomas is a young man, who was born in a female body that he does not feel is his own. Among the buildings of the outskirts of Milan, Elisa notices him. The scooter rides, then a party and a kiss: these are moments that will change his life forever.

ROMANA GIOVENTÙ!

FEDERICO CIANFERONI • ITALY, 2022, 10'

Luke is a millennial, an aspiring filmmaker with a creative block. He's looking for new sources of inspiration in the city where he lives, Rome. In this city, electrifying and stale at the same time, friends and lovers become his only form of distraction, analysis and awareness.

Present at the cinema: Trev Gibb, author of the soundtrack of *Paper Planes*, Louis Barthelemy Rousseau, director of *Combien danseront sur ta langue*, Andrea Lamedica and Francesco Mastroleo, directors of *Paramore*, Federico Cianferoni and Claudio Fagugli, director and executive producer of *Romana gioventù!*

22:15

REAL LOVERS/INTERNATIONAL DOCUMENTARY COMPETITION

LABOR

TOVE PILS • SWEDEN, 2023, 95'

Hanna leaves Sweden for her dream city: San Francisco. With the intention of exploring and fully experiencing the city's queer scene, she meets Chloe and Cyd, a dominatrix and a trans guy, who will help her get close to the world of sex work. *Labor* is a film diary, a box full of interviews and experiences, a way for Hanna to keep track of her sexual awakening and identity discovery, to hold together the pieces of the person she was before leaving and the one she is becoming.

SOLDIERS' ROOM

18:15

OUT OF COMPETITION/REFLECTIONS IN THE DARK

LEILA



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FARIBA HAIDARI • SWEDEN, 2023, 25'

The daily life of a 64-year-old transgender teacher struggling to keep her job in a hostile world. The movie was shot before the Taliban regained control of Afghanistan.

THE FENCE

TOMASZ WOLSKI • POLAND, 2022, 19'

The arrival of an unusual couple creates chaos in the ordinary life of a rural village in Poland. Will these two men manage to protect their relationship from people's judgmental gaze?

IT'S A GRAY, GRAY WORLD

SEYED MOHSEN POURMOHSENI SHAKIB • IRAN, 2022, 6'

In a completely gray world, a young man's true colors are accidentally revealed by a playful child. People are terrified and they call the police. He manages to save himself, only to come back the following day with a precise plan.

Participating in the awarding of the Riflessi nel buio prize: Luca Poma, professor of Communication Sciences, Alberto Pirni, professor of Moral Philosophy, Fabio Canino, Bohdan Zhuk, programmer at the Kyiv International Film Festival Molodist and tutor of the Real Lovers jury, and Vladimir Luxuria. In streaming connection Seyed Mohsen Pourmohseni Shakib, director of *It's a Gray, Gray World*.

Free admission

20:30

ALL THE LOVERS/INTERNATIONAL FEATURE FILM COMPETITION

LA AMIGA DE MI AMIGA

ZAIDA CARMONA • SPAIN, 2022, 85'

30-year-old Zaida comes back to Barcelona after a breakup. She is an aspiring director who would like to shoot her first film, but she spends her evenings in queer clubs, as if she were 20. One evening she meets her ex-girlfriend's new girlfriend and falls madly in love with her. This multi-faceted pop comedy is an autofiction story, a tribute to the films of Éric Rohmer. The plot develops in Barcelona's lesbo-queer scene, exploring and describing its bedrooms, bathrooms and streets.

22:30



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OUT OF COMPETITION

PUNCH [R]

WELBY INGS • NEW ZEALAND, 2022, 98'

The **Lovers Film Festival** is powered by the **National Museum of Cinema** in Turin and takes place with the contribution of the **MiC**, the **Regione Piemonte** and the **City of Turin**.

The complete press kit and images can be downloaded at this link:

[https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1hs44x8DQFGn6u7qDONPKUwNiMc3cxoxL
?usp=share link](https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1hs44x8DQFGn6u7qDONPKUwNiMc3cxoxL?usp=share_link)

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