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Lovers
Film Festival

Countdown begins to the oldest film festival on LGBTQI+ issues in Europe and third in the world
(Turin, Cinema Massimo – 16/21 April 2024)

The first previews:

Lovers' guests Paolo Camilli, Annagaia Marchioro and Guglielmo Scilla

National premiere at the festival

"LIL NAS X: LONG LIVE MONTERO" by Carlos López Estrada and Zac Manuel

The countdown to the **Lovers Film Festival** begins, which will raise the curtain on Tuesday **April 16th** (press conference on **April 10th, at 12** at the Cinema Massimo, via Verdi 18, Turin).

The oldest Italian festival on LGBTQI+ (lesbian, gay, bisexual, trans, queer and intersex) topics directed by **Vladimir Luxuria** and founded by **Giovanni Minerba** and **Ottavio Mai** anticipates the presence of three guests much loved by the rainbow community. The comedian and activist **Annagaia Marchioro** who has worked in various television programs, from the Italian edition of SNL with Claudio Bisio to *La TV delle ragazze* on RAI 3 with Serena Dandini. Often on tour around Italy with her shows, she is a recurring guest on Propaganda live on La7 and very active on social media: on Instagram she shares her profile with her aunt Gina Francon. **Paolo Camilli**, actor, comedian and content creator who was awarded the Screen Actors Guild Award 2023 last year for the HBO series "The White Lotus 2", will also be at the Cinema Massimo. He starred opposite Whoopi Goldberg in *Leopardi & Co.* by Federica Biondi, soon to be released, and will soon be on Netflix with the film *The Dadchelor* by Jon Karthaus.

On television, in 2023 he was a regular judge in the third edition of "Drag Race Italia" on Paramount+ and, in the theater, with *L'amico di tutti*, he addressed issues such as gender controversy, intolerance, sexual discrimination, racism and hate speech. Last February, he started the tour of his new theatrical show *Sconfort Zone – the paradise of irrelationships*, written together with Moira Angelastri, Andrea Cappadona and Manuela Mazzocchi.

Among the 2024 guests of Lovers there is also the writer, actor, radio speaker, host and activist **Guglielmo Scilla**, the first Italian digital creator, who has become a spokesperson for



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the millennial generation. His career took off thanks to his ability to communicate and entertain audiences with comedy videos, vlogs, and sketches.

Also known by the pseudonym Willwoosh, he was active on social media in the early 2000s, when the world of online entertainment was emerging. Subsequently, he participated in TV programs and series, with both comic and dramatic roles, and published some books, focusing on her existential and professional experiences.

"Scilla, Marchioro and Camilli are artists much loved by our community who know how to make that type of comedy capable of dismantling prejudices. They teach us that after being made fun of we can afford the luxury, even better, we have the duty, to be ironic and put those who discriminate in the corner. The three artists are also very popular on social media," says **Vladimir Luxuria**, artistic director of the **Lovers Film Festival**.

The festival will feature the only Italian screening of Carlos López Estrada and Zac Manuel's documentary **LIL NAS X: LONG LIVE MONTERO** (USA, 2023, 95 min.) on the life of the famous **African-American rapper** from Atlanta. The film chronicles the artist's first tour and draws a surprisingly intimate portrait of a singer who ranges between identity, family, expectations and acceptance and who is part, to all intents and purposes, of the "Olympus" of queer black artists. Lil Nas X has unleashed a true global storm with his blatant depictions of sexuality, and audiences and critics have often wondered if he's an artistic genius, an agent of Satan, or a sneaky social media troll or, perhaps, all three. A tour, the one told, which was also a continuous test of strength and emotion: from the challenges of "sold out" to the homophobic attacks.

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

Images and press materials can be downloaded at this link:

https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1XytXf_-68YBX7p_h1JPLUKQliCGiHi62?usp=sharing

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