**PRESS RELEASE**

**October 2023**

**MIPCOM**

**16-19 October 2023**

**Rai Com – Stand R7.C1**

**Palais des Festivals, Cannes**

From October 16th, the Rai Com international team will have the pleasure to meet content Commissioners at the traditional company stand located at R7.C1, to pitch the latest productions and acquisitions from Italy.

The Mipcom lineup features a large variety of new content ready for delivery, original tv shows and movies, documentaries, feature films, live Opera, concerts and ballets.

**THE DRAMA LINEUP**

**Gerri**

Genre: Detective

Duration: 4 X 100’

Year: 2023

Director: Giuseppe Bonito

Cast: Giulio Beranek, Valentina Romani, Fabrizio Ferracane, Roberta Caronia, Cristina Pellegrino, Cristina Cappelli, Tony Laudadio, Beatrice Bruschi, Lorenzo Aloi, Lorenzo Adorni

Production: Cattleya

Gregorio Esposito – known as Gerri – is a Neapolitan inspector who works in Puglia. Thirty years old, deep eyes and elusive air, he exerts a great fascination on women but not as the classic womanizer, loving them back and aspiring to a sentimental equilibrium that, however, he throws away each time. Gerri is a restless man with a painful past, his Roma origins are lost the night his mother abandoned him at a street corner when he was just five years old. In the sunny lands of Puglia, Gerri works tirelessly on investigations that involve the weakest victims, therefore losing the detachment that is usually required of a policeman, leading to unpleasant consequences with his superiors and colleagues. Inspired by the novels of Giorgia Lepore, Gerri's four investigations are not the only mystery to be revealed.

**Kostas**

Genre: Detective

Duration: 4 x 100’

Year: 2023

Director: Milena Cocozza

Cast: Stefano Fresi, Francesca Inaudi, Blu Yoshimi.

Production: Palomar, Rai Fiction

This light crime drama is based on the books of Armenian-Greek writer and playwright Petros Markaris.

The head of the homicide section of the Athens police is Kostas Charitos, a tenacious and relentless officer, inseparable with his old car, a Fiat Mirafiori, reticent to technology including mobile phones and computers. Kostas Charitos has the peculiar hobby of obsessively consulting his many dictionaries, often in the middle of the night, as if in those pages he could find the most difficult answers and hidden truths. Operating in the Mediterranean area, character resembles both Pepe Carvalho and Montalbano, already defined by international critics as the Greek brother of French inspector Maigret.

**Six Women (Sei Donne)**

Genre: Mystery, Psycho-Drama

Duration: 6 x 50’ / 3 x 100’

Year : 2023

Director: Vincenzo Marra

Cast: Maya Sansa, Isabella Ferrari, Ivana Lotito, Denise Tantucci, Alessio Vassallo, Maurizio Lastrico

Production: Rai Fiction, IBC Movie

The disappearance of a little girl, Leila, is the beginning of the search for the truth and intersects with the stories of six women, each with their own experiences, each with their own secrets. The mystery plot investigates the psychology of complex and multifaceted characters with a focus on female emancipation. Nothing is predictable in this noir that unravels, episode after episode, offering the audience clues, confirmations, confessions, and unexpected turnarounds, without reassurance of rhetoric, to the truth. The series creates a portrait of a contemporary Taranto, a perfect background to the choral tale where the protagonists’ stories are connected to an environment that is far from the usual stereotypes.

**The Bride (La Sposa)**

Genre: Period drama

Duration: 3 x 100’

Year: 2022

Director: Giacomo Campiotti

Cast: Serena Rossi, Giorgio Marchesi, Maurizio Donadoni, Mario Sgueglia

Production: Rai Fiction, Endemol Shine Italy

Italy, late 60s. Maria is a young Calabrian woman who, to save her family from poverty, decides to accept the proposal of a marriage "by proxy" with Italo, nephew of the rude farmer from Vicenza, Vittorio Bassi. Having arrived in the North, Maria finds herself having to deal with a completely hostile reality and, above all, the rejection of her husband, still shattered by the loss of his first wife. But Maria is a strong and resilient woman and she doesn't let go.

**5 Minutes Before (Cinque Minuti Prima)**

Genre: Young adult

Duration: 8 x 25’

Year: 2023

Director: Duccio Chiarini

Cast: Tecla Insolia, Ludovica Ciaschetti, Alessandro Garbin, Simone Fumagalli, Edoardo Pagliai, Isnaba Na Montche, Laura Martinelli, Francesco Siciliano, Valentina Carnelutti, Tatiana Lepore, Olivia Manescalchi

Production: Rai Fiction, Panama Film

Life is a succession of first times, adolescence even more so: the first love, the first goodbye, the first important choices and, obviously, the "first time" par excellence, or the loss of virginity. A step that Nina, a sixteen-year-old from Turin with an incredible talent for comics, just can't take. Shy and awkward, Nina feels wrong and she tries, also through her drawings, to understand why every time she comes close to the fateful moment, she stops, five minutes before.

**2023 – THE DRAMA NEW SEASONS LINEUP**

**Lolita’s Investigations (Le indagini di Lolita Lobosco)**

3rd season / 4 x 100’ – 2024

**Imma Tataranni – Deputy Prosecutor (Imma Tataranni- Sostituto Procuratore)**

3rd season / 8x50’ – 2023

**The Ladies’ Paradise** **(Il Paradiso delle Signore)**

8th season Daily 6 /1020 x 45’ (total all seasons) – 2023

**My Brilliant Friend (L’amica Geniale)**

4th season / 10 x 50’ – 2023

**The Bastards of Pizzofalcone (I Bastardi di Pizzofalcone)**

4th season / 4 x 100’ – 2023

**Doc** **(Doc Nelle Tue Mani)**

3rd season / 16 x 50’ – 2024

**THE TV MOVIES LINEUP**

**Margherita of the Stars (Margherita delle Stelle)**

Genre: Biopic

Duration : 100’

Year: 2023

Director : Giulio Base

Cast: Cristiana Capotondi, Cesare Bocci, Sandra Ceccarelli, Flavio Parenti

Production: Rai Fiction, Minerva Pictures

On the occasion of the centenary of her birth, the film tells the extraordinary story of Margherita Hack, the internationally renowned astrophysicist. From her childhood to adulthood, retracing the most important stages of her life. Freely inspired by her book “Nine lives like cats”, ‘Margherita of the Stars’ draws an intimate and emotional portrait of the life of a woman who never compromised, living to a reality that represented herself: from her way of dressing, to a happy unconventional marriage.

**Fernanda Wittgens, the Heroine of Brera (Fernanda Wittgens)**

Genre: Biographical, period drama

Duration: 100’

Year: 2023

Director: Maurizio Zaccaro

Cast: Matilde Gioli, Eduardo Valdarnini, Maurizio Marchetti, Valeria Cavalli, Francesca Beggio, Lavinia Guglielman

Producer: Rai Fiction, Red Film

Anti-fascist, feminist, art critic and historian, director of the Brera art gallery. This was Fernanda Wittgens, a twentieth-century heroine who during the Second World War managed to save not only dozens of works of art from the art gallery, but also Jews and opponents of the regime, whom she helped to take refuge in Switzerland. Born in Milan in April 1903, she became passionate about art from a young age, encouraged by her father, a literature professor of Swiss origin from Parini. She graduated in literature at 22, and was hired at the Brera art gallery by the director at the time, Ettore Modigliani. A working partnership was born that would last until the racial laws of 1938, when Modigliani, a Jew, was removed from the state administration.

**Tina Anselmi – A Life for Democracy (Tina Anselmi – Una Vita per la Democrazia)**

Genre: Biographical, period drama

Duration: 100’

Year: 2023

Director: Luciano Manuzzi

Cast: Sarah Felberbaum, Alessandro Tiberi, Benedetta Cimatti, Sara D’Amario.

Producer: Rai Fiction, BIBI Film

Partisan at 16, trade unionist in defense of female workers, first female minister, President of the Commission of inquiry into the P2 Masonic lodge. As she often was the sole woman in a man’s world, Tina Anselmi’s life was the life of our democracy: “If you want to change the world, you have to be there!”. Anselmi’s story is of someone who paved the way for women’s emancipation throughout the twentieth century, a fantastic and heroic character. Throughout her life she struggled against abuses, injustices, unnecessary waste and lack of protections that she regarded as unbearable insults.

**The Winning Thrust (La Stoccata Vincente)**

Genre: Biographical, drama

Duration: 100’

Year: 2023

Director: Nicola Campiotti

Cast: Alessio Vassallo, Flavio Insinna

Production: Anele, Rai Fiction

Freely inspired by the book The Winning Shot, and for the first time on screen, the film tells an exemplary story of sport and redemption, tenacity and determination of world’s fencing champion Paolo Pizzo, played by Alessio Vassallo, with Flavio Insinna in the role of his father, Piero.

Two-time world champion in the epee specialty (in 2011 and 2017), as a child Paolo Pizzo had to face the most important challenge of his life, a battle against a brain tumor that seemed invincible at first. A battle won thanks to the support and unconditional love of the family and above all of the father, a true life coach as well as his first fencing teacher. Among other locations, the story was set in Sicily, in Catania and on the slopes of Mount Etna, and in Rome. Through flashbacks of the childhood, the sport and the human life of the stubborn, exuberant and impetuous man, the film narrates the experience of pain, disappointments, defeats, rivalries, rebirths and revenge up to his consecration in his native Catania as world champion, on October 12th 2011.

**Radical Novel (Romanzo Radicale)**

Genre : Docufiction

Duration : 98’

Year: 2022

Director: Mimmo Calopresti

Cast: Andrea Bosca, Marco Leonardi, Maxence Dinant, Irene Casagrande

Production: Rai Fiction, IIF

This is the story of Marco Pannella’s political and human adventure.

In 1959, Italy is a country where a mentality closed to change prevails, it is not possible to divorce, abortion is a crime and military service is an obligation. Less than twenty years later, divorce, abortion and conscientious objection have become inalienable rights. Marco Pannella manages to shake up Italy, moved by the simple and revolutionary conviction that politics should deal with people’s lives and their happiness. And to make himself heard, he invents a new language of politics made up of fasting, arrests and provocations. Mimmo Calopresti, director of the film comments “The structure of the series, that also features archival images and interviews from those who lived those years, allowed me to write a gripping plot that, starting from the personal story of a brave and adventurous man, Marco Pannella, covers the history and the narrative of those days of political battle and of real revolution in the Italian Society”.

**Gardini**

Genre : Bios – Docufiction

Duration : 90’

Year : 2022

Director: Francesco Miccichè

Cast: Fabrizio Bentivoglio, Pilar Fogliati, Sara D’Amario, Helene Nardini

Production: Rai Fiction , Aurora TV

Thirty years after the death, Roman director Francesco Miccichè pays a tribute to Raul Gardini with a docufiction that focuses on the few years at the peak of an astonishing career, until the sudden and violent end. Raul Gardini, an entrepreneur from Ravenna who became popular in Italy and around the world thanks to his investment in the “Moro di Venezia sailing company” and his endeavor to conquer the America's Cup. The Corsair made millions of Italians dream and live that experience as a single, great, national emotion. This document is the opportunity to discover the entrepreneur, the businessman, his ties with his family and his country, his vision of the world, and his dreams.

**An Inconvenient Inheritance (Una Scomoda Eredità – Purché finisca bene)**

Genre: Comedy

Duration: 100’

Year: 2023

Director: Fabrizio Costa

Cast: Euridice Axen, Chiara Francini, Cristiano Caccamo, Mariangela D’Abbraccio

Production: Pepito Produzioni in collaboration with Rai Fiction

Two sixty-year-old lovers, Mariella and Domenico, have finally decided to confess to their daughters, Diana and Gaia, the truth about their hidden relationship. Unfortunately, the two die in a car accident before they can do so. Diana and Gaia, who do not know each other, will end up having to agree on the division of the villa they inherited. The two women are very different and immediately dislike each other, though forced to live together until the paperwork is done.

**THE DOCUMENTARIES LINEUP**

**The Lion’s Share (La Parte del Leone) – History of the Mostra**

Genre: Arts & Culture

Director: Baptiste Etchegaray and Giuseppe Bucchi

Duration: 52’

Year: 2023

Production: Canal Plus and Rai Com, with editorial supervision by Rai Cultura

In the documentary, Carla Bruni narrates the world’s oldest film festival through historical and unpublished stories and testimonies, retracing crucial steps and significant moments of the Mostra del Cinema that, since its first edition in 1932, has reflected its time and the Italian cultural heritage.

* 80th Venice International Film Festival, world premiere

**Music Sets You Free** **(La Musica Rende Liberi) – A story of musical notes, imprisonment, horros and hopes**

Genre : History, Culture, Social

Director : Alessandra Peralta

With the special accompaniment of Maestro Francesco Lotoro

Duration : 52’

Year : 2023

Production : Rai Cultura

The documentary is a journey to concentration camps and other places of imprisonment during the years of the Second World War. Maestro Francesco Lotoro and the Foundation of the Institute of Concentrational Music Literature, the largest hub in the world dedicated to music produced in camps, carry on since 1989 the project that music is to be liberated and returned to humanity. Pianist and composer Francesco Lotoro has searched for over 20 years for music composed clandestinely, from Auschwitz to Prague, Berlin, Paris, Washington and to Jerusalem where he met with Holocaust survivors and their children, anyone who treasured a note composed during captivity, thus recovering thousands of scores, resonating many of the melodies that prisoners composed in Nazi concentration camps between 1933 and 1945 as an irrepressible hymn to life.

**1969 Murder in Viareggio (Viareggio 1969)**

Genre: Crime investigation

Director: Claudio Pisano

Duration: 90’

Year: 2023

Co-production : Red Film, RAI Documentari, Luce Cinecittà

The documentary narrates the Ermanno Lavorini affair, first case of abduction of a minor in Italy, that kept the country in suspense. The event represented an epochal change for the city of Viareggio and for Italy with the first contemporary example of distortion of reality through the media.

**Pope John XXIII The Angel of Istanbul** **(L’ultimo degli U-boot e L’Angelo di Istanbul)**

Genre : Religion

Director: Vincenzo Pergolizzi

Duration: 52’

Year: 2023

Production: Galata Produzioni Culturali

During the Second World War, Msgr. Angelo Roncalli, later Pope John XXIII, of the Catholic community in Turkey, worked tirelessly to help save Jews fleeing Nazism. The 24,000 Jews saved by bishop Roncalli, as declared by the German ambassador in Turkey, Von Papen, are actually far more numerous. From the documentary will emerge astonishing methods and stratagems, involving men of opposing backgrounds and factions, Jewish children sent off by trains to Palestine through the Bosphorus, false baptism certificates issued, as well as many other expedients of boundless humanity, deep faith and Christian charity.

**Daniel Pennac: Ho Visto Maradona!**

Genre: Art, Theatre, Biographical

Director: Ximo Solano

Duration: 80’

Year: 2022

Production: Film Societat Sardina, Toné-Franché, Feltrinelli Real Cinema

The documentary tells of Daniel Pennac’s creative and surreal investigation on soccer legend Diego Armando Maradona: a unique and original story that follows the process of making a theatrical show, and the work of one of the most imaginative and entertaining contemporary writers inspired by a passionate and popular theme, such as the myth of “Sand Diego”. Naples is at once the stage and the megaphone of the myth itself.

**Italian Fashion Revolution (Moda: Una rivoluzione italiana)**

Duration: 4x52’

Year: 2023

Production: Panama Film – Sky Arte

The documentary series is dedicated to the Italian fashion revolution through an analysis of the social changes that have influenced the image itself of fashion. Material from archives with unpublished interviews enrich the exploration of the symbolism of fashion that have become style icons all over the world.

Genre: Fashion, History

Director: Laura Chiossone

**THE FEATURE FILMS LINEUP**

**The Shadow of the Day (L’Ombra del Giorno)**

Directed by Giuseppe Piccioni

Genre : Drama

Duration: 125’

Year: 2022

Production Lebowski, Rai Cinema

The film is set in a provincial town (Ascoli Piceno) in the late 1930s. Luciano, a Fascist sympathizer, like most Italians at that time, is the owner of a restaurant, who nevertheless believes he can live his life according to rules he has set himself, in a sort of isolation from the outside world. But at the window overlooking the old square, along with the worrying signs of something that is about to happen in the world, a young woman appears bearing a secret. Her name is Anna and she manages to get a job in the restaurant. From that point on, life will never be the same for Luciano, and among the dangers he faces, there is the greatest of all: love. The shadow of the day is a love story set in those difficult years.

**Flowing (Piove)**

Directed by Paolo Strippoli

Genre: Drama / Horror

Duration: 95’

Year: 2022

Production: Propaganda Italia Production, in association with Polifemo. An Italy-Belgium coproduction with Gapbusters

After receiving the Best Director Award at the 2021 Taormina Film Festival for his film debut A Classical Horror Story, Paolo Strippoli presents Flowing, a drama-horror, defined as a coming of (R)age, set in a silver-tinted Rome, constantly on the verge of exploding. An unusual event pervades the city when it rains. A sinister steam of unknown origin and composition comes out of the street manholes. No one knows that those who breathe in the mysterious substance will have to deal with what they repress, their darkest instincts, their anger. Not even the Morel family.

**Postatomic Love (Amore Postatomico)**

Director: Vincenzo Caiazzo

Cast: Virginia Apicella, Ludovico Girardello, Davide Marotta

Genre: Drama-fantasy

Duration: 106'

Year: 2022

Production: EWC 2001- Eyes Wide Ciak, Rai Cinema

Dramatic story of a young woman (Titti) overwhelmed by a media pillory due to a hot video that has ended up online. She is a cartoon designer and will interact on the narrative level with the heroine of Postatomic Love, the graphic novel that she is working on together with her colleague and friend Loris.

* 52° Giffoni Film Festival

**Piano Piano**

Director: Nicola Prosatore

Cast: Dominique Donnarumma, Giuseppe Pirozzi, A. Truppo, G. Esposito, A. De Matteo, M. Caiazzo, L. Arena

Genre: Drama

Duration: 119'

Year: 2022

Production: Briciola, Eskimo, Soul Movie, Rai Cinema, supported by Ministero della Cultura, with the support of Regione Campania, Regione Lazio

Naples, 1987. Final season of the national soccer year, and the great « Scudetto » victory, for a city hoping for redemption. The inhabitants of a suburban condominium spend their last months in a neighborhood that will be destroyed to make room to a highway, living their lives while their little world is swept away forever.

* 75th Locarno Film Festival 2022 (In competition, screening Piazza Grande section

**THE ARTS AND CULTURE - OPERA LIVE, BALLETS, CONCERTS LINEUP**

**Don Carlo by Giuseppe Verdi**

Genre: Opera

Duration: 170’

Conductor: Riccardo Chailly

Director: LLUÍS Pasqual

Location: Teatro alla Scala, Milan

Date: December 7th, 2023

Set design: Daniel Bianco

Costumes: Franca Squarciapino

Cast: René Pape, Francesco Meli, Luca Salsi, Ain Anger, Jongmin Park, Anna Netrebko, Elīna Garanča

Orchestra and Choir of Teatro alla Scala

**Turandot by Giacomo Puccini**

Genre: Opera

Duration: 160’

Conductor: Dan Ettinger

Director: Vasily Barkhtov

Location: Teatro di San Carlo, Naples

Date: December 9th, 2023

Set design: Zinovy Margolin

Costumes: Galya Solodovnikova

Cast: Sondra Radvanovsky, Nicola Martinucci, Alexander Tsymbalyuk, Yusif Eyvazov, Alexander Tsymbalyuk, Rosa Feola, Alessio Arduini, Gregory Bonfatti, Francesco Pittari, Gregory Bonfatti, Francesco Pittari.

Orchestra and Choir of Teatro di San Carlo

**Mefistofele by Arrigo Boito**

Genre: Opera

Duration: 160’

Date: Nov. 27th, 2023

Location: Teatro dell’Opera di Roma

Conductor: Michele Mariotti

Director: Simon Stone

Cast: John Relyea, Joshua Guerrero, Maria Agresta, Sofia Koberidze, Marco Miglietta

–Orchestra and Choir of Teatro dell’Opera di Roma

**Rusalka by Antonín Dvořák**

Conductor: TOMÁŠ HANUS

Genre: Opera

Location: Teatro alla Scala, Milan

Date: June 3rd, 2023

Director: Emma Dante

With Dmitry Korchak, Elena Guseva, Olga Bezsmetra, jongmin Park, Okka von der Damerau, Jiří Rajniš, Svetlina Stoyanova, Hila Fahima, Juliana Grigoryan, Valentina Pluzhnikova.

Orchestra and Choir of Teatro alla Scala, Milano

Duration: 170’

**Coppélia**

Conductor: Paul Connelly

Teatro alla Scala New Production

World Premiere, Teatro alla Scala Ballet Company and Orchestra

Genre: Ballet

Duration : 70’

Location: Teatro alla Scala, Milan

Date: December 17th, 2023

Choreography: Alexei Ratmansky

**Assisi Christmas Concert 2023**

Conductor: David Gimenez

Genre: Concert

Duration: 60’

Location: Basilica Superiore di San Francesco, Assisi

Date: Dec. 25th, 2023

Special guest Angela Gheorghiu, soprano

Children’s Choir “Piccoli Musici”

Male Choir Coenobium Vocale

Rai National Symphony Orchestra

**La Scala Christmas Concert 2023**

Conductor: Daniel Harding

Genre: Concert

Duration: 70’

Location: Teatro alla Scala, Milan

Date: Dec. 23rd, 2023

Program: Ludwig van Beethoven Fantasia in do min. op. 80 For piano, soloists, Choir and Orchestra Johannes Brahms Sinfonia n. 2 in re magg. Op. 73

Piano: Kirill Gerstein.

Choir Master: Alberto Malazzi

Orchestra and Choir of Teatro alla Scala

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**About Rai Com:**

Think Global, Live Italian!

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Rai channels. Through a consolidated presence in 174 countries on five continents and over 200 partnerships, Rai Com provides access to the various Rai channels to the Italians residing abroad.

Digital. Rai Com licenses film and television content in the paid digital rights management markets and is an attractive partner for independents who wish to outsource the distribution of their libraries. Through Rai Digital and Rai Pubblicità, Rai Com assists with snack content. “Novecento – The Movies” is the on-demand channel available on Amazon Prime Video, dedicated to the best Italian and international film classics of the 20th Century.

Rai archives and production services (Teche Rai). Covering 70 years of programming, images, sounds and words that have shaped a portrait of modern Italy, Rai Com proposes a valuable and essential multimedia catalogue, also accessible online. The archive-legacy is filled with content on events, on personalities, on moments that from 1954 onward are making history. Rai Com also provides advanced technological infrastructure for artistic, cultural and business events.

Home video. Collectible DVD and Blu-ray in partnership with major publishing groups, special editions with exclusive and extra content, distributed in newsstands, shops and digital platforms.

Agreements, tenders and partnerships. Rai Com supports local authorities, consortia and institutions in the communication and production of audiovisual and multimedia products, for the promotion and development of Italy around the world.

Music publishing and production. Rai Com produces, publishes and acquires the rights to all kinds of original music, background, theme tunes and jingles for radio programs, commercials and contemporary music, managing their distribution via online channels and digital stores.

With the Rai Libri editions, Rai Com enters bookshops. A catalog created over one hundred years of history, with fifty new titles every year, to delve deeper into TV, major themes and communication techniques

The Rai Group, aware of their responsibility as a media company, producer and distributor of content, promotes ambitious and inclusive creations (No Women, No Panel), which also address the urgency of climate change.