



ST. ANTHONY MAIN THEATRE 115 MAIN STREET SE, MPLS, MN 55414 **FOR TICKETS + SCHEDULE INFORMATION:** MSPFILM.ORG/IFF2018

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH: FILMSOCIETY

Dear Friends,

Benvenuti, we are pleased to welcome you to the 10th Annual Italian Film Festival of Minneapolis/ St. Paul. For a decade, the ICC has been bringing the best of Italian cinema to the Twin Cities, and we look forward to another decade of the same.

We're very proud of this year's line-up. All of the current Italian films in the 2018 IFF are Minnesota premieres, and we have a number of comedies, documentaries, and dramas that capture the



complexity of Italy from its distant past to the present, its joys and challenges.

This year, we unveil the "Building Bridges: Emerging Filmmaker Awards," made possible with the generous donation by Minneapolis-based design firm KNOCK, inc, and dedicated to Massimo Bonavita, founder and former president of the ICC. With these awards, we look forward to making connections between Italy and the Twin Cities. Each filmmaker draws on personal and collective memories, considers forgotten histories, and highlights the ways that places have changed over time, and our hope is that film will help us build bridges between old homes and new, while demonstrating similarities between people and places. We are so thankful to the filmmakers who shared their work with us and to the jurors who have shared their expertise in choosing this year's winners. We will present the awards and screen the winning films at the festival, so don't miss this opportunity to meet the filmmakers in person.

Our festival is made possible by the generous donations of our many sponsors and the support of the Consulate General of Italy in Chicago. We are also grateful to the Film Society of Minneapolis St. Paul and for the tireless efforts of our dedicated volunteers and staff. Most importantly, though, we want to thank you for joining us to celebrate Italian cinema and culture.

Grazie e buona visione! Vittorio Raimondi President, The Italian Cultural Center

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 22 - OPENING NIGHT

7:30 PM IN GUERRA PER AMORE (AT WAR FOR LOVE) Pierfrancesco "Pif" Diliberto Comedy, 99 min.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 23

- 7:00 PM TUTTO QUELLO CHE VUOI (EVERYTHING YOU WANT) Francesco Bruni Comedy, 106 min.
- 9:15 PM LA GUERRA DEI CAFONI (THE WAR OF THE BUMPKINS) Davide Barletti and Lorenzo Conte Comedy, 97 min.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 24

- 3:00 PM INDIVISIBILI (INDIVISIBLE) Edoardo De Angelis Drama, 100 min.
- 5:00 PM BUILDING BRIDGES AWARDS CEREMONY WITH SCREENING + Q&A WITH VISITING DIRECTORS Free, 70 min.
- 7:00 PM IL PADRE D'ITALIA (FATHER BY CHANCE) + Q&A WITH VISITING DIRECTOR Fabio Mollo Drama, 93 min.
- 9:30 PM SPETTACOLO Jeff Malmberg and Chris Shellen Documentary, 91 min.

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 25

- 1:00 PM IL BOOM (THE BOOM) Vittorio De Sica Classic Comedy, 85 min.
- 3:00 PM A CIAMBRA + POST-SCREENING Q&A Jonas Carpignano Drama, 120 min.
- 6:00 PM SMETTO, QUANDO, VOGLIO: MASTERCLASS (I CAN QUIT WHENEVER I WANT: MASTERCLASS) Sydney Sibilia Comedy, 118 min.

All films presented in Italian with English subtitles.

TICKETS

SINGLE MOVIE

\$ 12.00 General Admission\$ 10.00 ICC and Film Society members, students with a valid ID

ALL-ACCESS FESTIVAL PASSES

\$ 60.00 General Admission \$ 45.00 ICC and Film Society members, students with a valid ID

THE ITALIAN CULTURAL CENTER

ABOUT

Since 2006, The Italian Cultural Center (ICC) has been a non-profit organization dedicated to promoting the best of Italian life and culture to all people in Minnesota. Located in the historic Hennepin Center for the Arts in downtown Minneapolis, the ICC offers Italian language classes for adults and children at all levels of proficiency. The ICC also sponsors cultural and social events throughout the year.

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By becoming a member of the ICC you are supporting the cultivation of Italian culture and language in the Twin Cities as well as enjoying a wide range of unique benefits. Your non-refundable membership fee is valid for 12 full months.

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IN GUERRA PER AMORE

COMEDY

7:30 PM

2016, 99 MIN. MINNESOTA PREMIERE

How far are you willing to travel for love?

While working in a high-class restaurant in New York City in 1943, Arturo ("Pif") finds an answer to this question. A young Sicilian immigrant, he is broke and in love with his boss' niece, Flora (Miriam Leone), a beautiful Italian woman. The two want to marry, but they first need her father's blessing. The trouble? He lives in Sicily. Without money for travel, Arturo enlists in the U.S. Army, and fortunately, he's deployed to Sicily, where nothing short of misadventure ensues.

In this romantic journey through Italy's past, Pif's latest comedy unfolds in classic Italian style, drawing out the complexities of love, war, and organized crime.

DIRECTOR Pierfrancesco "Pif" Diliberto was born in Palermo. He has worked as an assistant director, an actor, a writer, and as a television host. In 2007 he started his own television show on MTV, *Il Testimone* (The Witness). In 2013, he began his filmmaking career, directing, writing, and starring in his first feature film, *La mafia uccide solo d'estate* (The Mafia Kills Only in Summer), which screened at the 2015 IFF of MSP.

CAST Pif, Miriam Leone, Andrea Di Stefano, Stella Egitto

SPONSORS Christopher Beaudet, Cynthia and Ron Curran, Jesse and Brian Fanciulli

FESTIVALS + AWARDS

David di Donatello Awards (2017) Best Production Designer, Festival del cinema di Spello (2017) Best Production Design, Premio Berenice (2017)

TUTTO QUELLO CHE VUO

COMEDY

7:00 PM

2017, 106 MIN. MINNESOTA PREMIERE

An aimless young troublemaker, Alessandro (Carpenzano), squanders his days gambling and getting into fights, and he often spends his nights in jail. With few prospects, he begrudgingly accepts a job as a companion to Giorgio (Montaldo), an elderly poet suffering from Alzheimer's. On their daily walks, the two banter and become friends, and Alessandro quickly learns more about this forgotten poet as the old man's memory drifts. After learning a secret from Giorgio's past, Alessandro and his friends work to uncover the mystery of this tale, an unexpected history lesson and a touching coming-ofage adventure.

This little gem of Italian cinema, nominated for three prestigious Nastro d'Argento awards and winner of one, will make you laugh and cry. A film not to be missed, with unforgettable performances by Andrea Carpenzano and Giuliano Montaldo.

DIRECTOR Francesco Bruni started his professional career as a screenwriter with the film *Il Condominio* (1991). In 1994 he started a long collaboration with director Paolo Virzì working on the film *La bella vita*. In 2011, Bruni made his directorial debut with *Easy!*, which earned him the David di Donatello for Best New Director as well as the Silver Ribbon award in the same category. He currently teaches screenwriting at the Centro Sperimentale di Cinematografia in Rome.

CAST Andrea Carpenzano, Giuliano Montaldo, Arturo Bruni, Antonio Gerardi

SPONSORS Joan and Rick Naymark, James and Denise D'Aurora

FESTIVALS + AWARDS

Special Nastro d'Argento, Giuliano Montaldo (2017) Nastro d'Argento, Best Screenplay (2017)

LA GUERRA DEI CAFONI

COMEDY

9:15 PM

2017, 97 MIN. MINNESOTA PREMIERE

Once upon a time... Summer 1975. In a village on the eastern coast of Puglia, a war is rekindled between the sons of the wealthy and the children of local fishermen, shepherds, and farmers: the so-called cafoni or "bumpkins."

Based on a novel by the same name, the film uses childhood skirmishes over territory and bragging rights to tackle historical class divisions that are still relevant, even today. However, out of a tragically comic misunderstanding, the leader of the rich kids declares war and quickly learns that his view of the world needs an update. A film about childhood and class that revises our concepts of "good" and "evil," this adaptation is at once a love story, a training course, and a fairy tale.

Introduction by Joseph Sannicandro

DIRECTORS Davide Barletti is a director, screenwriter, and producer, and he is one of the founders of the collective audiovisual Fluid Video Crew. Through the collective, he has worked on films, documentaries, shorts, and television.

Lorenzo Conte is a writer, director, and one of the founders of the independent collective Fluid Video Crew, which he produces video installations and documentary films. In 2008, he directed his first feature film *Fine pena mai*, which he worked on with Davide Barletti.

CAST Pasquale Patruno, Letizia Pia Cartolaro, Donato Paterno, Angelo Pignatelli

SPONSORS Genie and Joe Dixon

FESTIVALS + AWARDS

International Film Festival Rotterdam, Netherlands (2017) Buenos Aires Festival Internacional de Cine Independiente, Argentina (2017) Munich Film Festival, Germany (2017); Seville European Film Festival (2017)

INDVISIBI

DRAMA

3:00 PM

2017, 100 MIN. MINNESOTA PREMIERE

"I feel like I'm dreaming," says young Daisy to her sister Viola over halfway into *Indivisibili*, and it's a sentiment likely to be echoed by audiences.

A subtle and appealing Neopolitan fable that unfolds with the often brutal logic of a fairytale, Edoardo De Angelis' award-winning film has the feel of updated folklore — a Brothers Grimm classic, perhaps — relocated to contemporary Italy. Daisy and Viola (Angela and Marianna Fontana) are conjoined twin sisters living in the suburbs of Naples. From a young age, they having been singing talents, performing at weddings, communions, and baptisms for pay. Their gigs become the main source of income for their family, creating a situation that only strengthens the bond between sisters. Sheltered and isolated in a world dominated by their father's invasive presence, the twins' lives are turned upside down when one of them falls in love for the first time.

A provocative coming-of-age story, *Indivisibili* is a moving tale about bravery, love, and friendship.

Introduction by Kathy Rider

DIRECTOR Edoardo De Angelis is a film director and screenwriter born in Naples. He studied filmmaking at Centro Sperimentale di Cinematografia in Rome. His films have screened around the world and have won several awards, including his two previous features: *Mozzarella Stories* (2011) and *Perez* (2014).

CAST Angela Fontana, Marianna Fontana, Massimiliano Rossi, Antonia Truppo

SPONSOR Christine Imbra

FESTIVALS + AWARDS

Best Costume Design and Best Score, Bari International Film Festival (2017) Best Screenplay, Costume Design, and Music, David di Donatello Awards (2017) Best Supporting Actress, Antonia Truppo, David di Donatello Awards (2017)

BUILDING BRIDGES: EMERGING FILMMAKER AWARDS

CEREMONY + SCREENING

5:00 PM

FREE

POST-SCREENING Q&A WITH VISITING LOCAL FILMMAKERS AND JURORS

The IFF celebrates 10 years of Italian cinema in the Twin Cities with the new **Building Bridges: Emerging Filmmaker Awards.** We created these awards to make connections between Italy and Minnesota through film. These awards recognize short works by new filmmakers in each place. This year's theme, "Places of Memory and Change," asked filmmakers to submit works that focused on some aspect of history, memory, or geography. By drawing connections between the diverse communities and landscapes that make up the state of Minnesota with the people and places that define Italy's cities and towns, our goal is to build visual bridges between our current home and the one many of us left behind. As disputes over immigrants' rights and place divide the U.S., we hope to highlight the links between people and place and to demonstrate the ways that film can bring us together by displaying our similarities, our differences, and our growing need for understanding. Our talented jurors—Koel Banerjee, Tommaso Cammarano, Eric D. Howell, and Bruna Roccasalva—selected three films from this year's competition.

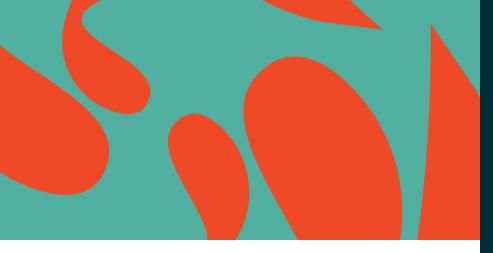
Dedicated to Massimo Bonavita, former president and founder of the ICC. **SPONSOR** KNOCK, inc.





WE WANTED TO MAKE PICTURES (Niccolò Gentili, 14 min.) Paolo from Calabria and Davor from Serbia have one

aim in life: to make pictures. Unskilled filmmakers, they are united by their love for Italian great Marco Bellocchio, so when they learn that he will shoot his next film in Bobbio, they know they must meet him and discover the secret to making pictures.







NEW NEIGHBORS (E.G. Bailey, 9 min.) How far will a mother go to protect her children? *New Neighbors* tells the story of a mother who moves her two sons to a new

neighborhood to escape violence against black lives. A 2017 Sundance Official Selection, this film provides a clever and necessary approach to the Black Lives Matter dialogue.





THE HOUSES WE WERE. LIVING IN ROME FROM 1948-2014. (Arianna Lodeserto, 15 min.) Of what is a city made? In its careful design, who gets left out? This film looks at

the first fifty years of the Low-Income Housing Institute in Rome, which created a "city within a city" to deal with "the main and persistent problem" in Italy's capital: housing. In this unique look at what seems like an unending issue, it is the archives that respond.

IL PADRE D'ITALIA

DRAMA

7:00 PM

2017, 93 MIN. MINNESOTA PREMIERE + POST-SCREENING Q&A WITH VISITING DIRECTOR

Paolo (Marinelli) is a skeptical, and at times ill-tempered, thirty-year-old who works as a sales clerk in a Turin Department Store. Mia (Ragonese) is a backup singer in a band; she's pregnant and homeless, and her pink hair and flashy style stand out in a crowd. By chance, the two meet at a nightclub and it's not long before they "borrow" a van from Paolo's store and make their way from Turin to Rome. A geographical and emotional road trip, the two strangers become friends as they embark on a cross-country journey, discovering themselves, their country, and each other.

Visually charming, Mollo's second feature brilliantly tackles outdated ideas about gender, sexuality, and family with this unexpected story about love and what it means to really need one another.



DIRECTOR Fabio Mollo studied Visual Theory and Film History at the University of East London and filmaking at Centro Sperimentale di Cinematografia. In 2011, he was among the ten young international directors selected by the Cannes Film Festival for the Atelier of the Cinéfondation. His short film, *Al buio* premiered at the 62nd Venice Film Festival, and

Giganti, which won the Best Short Film Award at the Turin Film Festival. His first feature film *Il Sud è niente*, screened at the 7th annual IFF of MSP.

CAST Luca Marinelli, Isabella Ragonese, Anna Ferruzzo, Mario Sgueglia

SPONSORS Luisa O'Gara

FESTIVALS + AWARDS

Jury Prize, Best Film, Festival du Film Italien de Villerupt (2017) Young Jury Prize, Best Film, Festival du Film Italien de Villerupt (2017) Best Actress, Isabella Ragonese, Golden Globes Italy (2017) Audience Award, Best Film, Ortigia Film Festival (2017)

SPETTACOLO

DOCUMENTARY

9:30 PM

2017, 91 MIN. MINNESOTA PREMIERE

Once upon a time... villagers in a tiny hill town in Tuscany decided to confront their issues by turning their lives into a play. Every summer, the piazza becomes their stage and residents of all ages play a part: themselves. Monticchiello's annual tradition has attracted worldwide attention and kept the town together for nearly 50 years. However, with an aging population and a new generation more interested in Facebook than farming, the town's most recent performance might be its last.

Spettacolo tells the story of Teatro Povero di Monticchiello by interweaving episodes from its past with its present and showing the process by which villagers turn a series of devastating blows into a new play about the end of their world.

Introduction by Peter Schilling

DIRECTORS Jeff Malmberg is a documentary director and editor based in Los Angeles. His films have the support of a Guggenheim Fellowship and grants from the National Endowment for the Humanities, Sundance Documentary Fund, Creative Capital, and the Tribeca Film Institute.

Chris Shellen is a writer and filmmaker based in Los Angeles. She produced the awardwinning documentary *Marwencol* and co-authored the companion art book *Welcome to Marwencol*, which was named one of the Best Books of 2015 by Amazon. *Spettacolo* is her directorial debut.

FESTIVALS + AWARDS

South by Southwest, USA (2017) Tallgrass Film Festival, USA (2017) Northwest Film Forum, USA (2017)

800

CLASSIC COMEDY

1:00 PM

1963, 85 MIN.

What would you give up for success? What would you be ready to sacrifice in order to keep "living large"? Giovanni Alberti (Sordi), a mid-level executive during the economic boom following WWII, goes to absurd lengths to maintain his family's standard of living. So, when Signora Bausetti (Nicolai), the wife of a wealthy industrialist, makes him an offer that would wipe out his debts, Giovanni is faced with an eye-popping dilemma, literally.

A zany film about Italy's postwar transition from reconstruction to consumerism, De Sica's classic "Italian style" comedy offers a timely critique of economic swings. Sordi stars in one of his most celebrated performances.

Don't miss this beautiful digital restoration by Rialto Pictures!

Introduction by Graeme Stout

DIRECTOR Vittorio De Sica was born in Sora, Italy, in 1901 and grew up in Naples. While in his teens he worked as an office clerk to help support his family, but soon found acting a more satisfying escape from the drudgery of his youth. He made a name as a suave leading man in Italian films from the fascist period, mostly light comedies. During World War II he turned to directing, and after the war he directed two of the most significant films of post-war Italian neorealism, *Shoeshine* (1946) and *Bicycle Thieves* (1948). Throughout his career, De Sica won 4 Academy Awards and several other prestigious international prizes, including the Grand Prix at the Cannes Film Festival and a Lion Bear at Berlin.

CAST Alberto Sordi, Elena Nicolai, Gianna Maria Canale

A CIAMBRA

DRAMA

3:00 PM

1963, 120 MIN. MINNESOTA PREMIERE WITH POST-SCREENING Q&A

In *A Ciambra*, a small Romani community in Calabria, Pio (Amato) is desperate to grow up fast. At 14, he drinks, smokes and easily slides between the regions' multiple factions of local Italians, African immigrants, and his fellow Romani. Pio follows his older brother Cosimo everywhere, learning the necessary skills for life on the streets. When Cosimo disappears and things start to go wrong, Pio faces an ethical dilemma, and he is forced to decide, before he is ready and at enormous cost, what kind of person he wants to be. To put the film's central problem in political terms, Pio is forced to choose between solidarity and identity, between friendship and blood, and between universalism and community.

A Ciambra, which includes Martin Scorsese among its executive producers, shows some of his influence as well, in its depiction of crime as a family business and in its attention to masculine codes of loyalty, violence, and respect.

Introduction and discussion with Jen Caruso

DIRECTOR Jonas Carpignano spent his childhood between Rome and New York City. He began making films at Wesleyan University and his work as a director has been shown around the world. His films have received awards at Cannes, Venice, and Sundance. His first feature film *Mediterranea* (2015) debuted at the Cannes Film Festival and was named best directorial debut by the National Board of Review.

CAST Pio Amato, Koudous Seihon, Damiano Amato, Francesco Pio Amato

SPONSORS Systems 4 Living Architecture, Michael Harlow, Marco Pavoloni, Honorary Consul of Italy

FESTIVALS + AWARDS

Cannes Film Festival, France (2017) Label Europa Cinema, Cannes (2017) Best Actor, Pio Amato, Seville European Film Festival (2017) Cinema Extraordinare, Bergen International Film Festival (2017)

SMETTO QUANDO VOGLIO: MASTERCLASS

COMEDY

6:00 PM

2017, 118 MIN. MINNESOTA PREMIERE

They're back! Well, really, they never left. As a matter of survival, Pietro Zinni (Leo) and his co-workers tried to create a legal drug that would make them millions. Instead, it landed them in jail. But now the government needs them, and at the request of Inspector Paola Coletti (Scarano), Zinni must get the gang back together to stop the circulation of illegal "smart drugs." Of course, they are met with a slew of unbelievable and unforeseen events, a succession of accidents, explosions, and assaults. Coming up against ever-worsening enemies, endless chases, and incredible situations, this sequel to Sibilia's 2014 hit, *Smetto quando voglio* (I Can Quit Whenever I Want) is an absolute rollercoaster. Even if you haven't seen the first installment, this hysterical film promises to get your blood racing.

DIRECTOR Sydney Sibilia began making short films in 2007, and he directed *Oggi Gira Cosi* (2010), a film that collected numerous honors. In 2014, he directed his first featurelength film, *Smetto quando voglio*, which was met with high praise at many festivals, receiving twelve David di Donatello nominations and winning a host of national and international honors, including the Nastro d'Argento Award for Best Producer and the Ciak d'Oro director's award for Revelation of the year.

CAST Edoardo Leo, Valerio Aprea, Paolo Calabresi, Libero De Rienzo, Stefano Fresi

SPONSORS Nancy Schaefer

FESTIVALS + AWARDS

Festival del Cinema Italiano Tokyo, Japan (2017) Nominated for Nastro d'Argento for Best Actress, Best Costume Design, and Best Production Design (2017)

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Jen Caruso is Assistant Professor of Liberal Arts at the Minneapolis College of Art and Design. She earned a PhD in Comparative Literature with an emphasis on European modernism and critical theory and holds an MA from the Center for the Study of Theory and Criticism at the University of Western Ontario. Her recent research and teaching interests include aesthetics in the context of late capitalism, and cultural responses to climate change. She teaches courses in world film, media studies, and literature.

Kathy Rider has been teaching both the Italian language and culture for first- through third-year Italian studies students at the University of Minnesota for the past 20 years. She also leads a global seminar biennially in May, Urban Transformation, a short-term study abroad course that focuses on how Italian neighborhoods in Rome and parts of Southern Italy have been transformed through processes such as gentrification, urban policy, and other influences like the arrival of recent immigrants and the continual influx of tourists.

Joseph Sannicandro is a PhD candidate in Cultural Studies at the University of Minnesota. He previously earned an MA in Communication Studies from McGill University, and studied History and Philosophy at SUNY Purchase. His dissertation concerns Italian cultural production during the social movements of the 1960s and '70s. He is also a sound artist, producing soundscapes and works for radio composed from field-recordings of protests.

Peter Schilling is a local writer, former director of the Italian Film Festival, and Publicity and Outreach Manager at the Film Society of Minneapolis St. Paul. He is the author of *The End of Baseball: A Novel*, and *Mark Twain's Mississippi River*.

Graeme Stout is the Film Studies Coordinator for the University of Minnesota, where he is also a Senior Lecturer in the Department of Cultural Studies and Comparative Literature. He writes on contemporary films, television, and new media with a focus on issues of historical violence and radical politics.

JURORS

Koel Banerjee is a PhD scholar at the University of Minnesota. Her doctoral research is on Indian cinema and the neoliberal turn. Her other research interests include Third Cinema, star studies, literary and screen melodrama, critical theory, and film philosophy. She has also worked on the Indian New Wave, and on the cinemas of Satyajit Ray and Mrinal Sen. She is particularly interested in the politics of the film form.

Tommaso Cammarano, Jury President, earned his MFA in Film at Columbia University. He is a screenwriter and producer. He was a head writer on Season 8 of *Un Medico in Famiglia* (A Doctor in the Family), one of Italy's most renowned and longest running TV Series. He co-produced the short film *The Bravest, The Boldest,* which premiered at Sundance in 2014 and won awards around the world. In 2016 he co-produced the documentary *House in the Fields,* which premiered at the 2017 Berlin Film Festival and screened at the Walker Art Center last October.

Eric Howell is an international award-winning writer and director with experience in every aspect of motion picture production. After working his way through technical filmmaking, Eric joined the Screen Actors Guild in 1992 as a stuntman and actor. He has directed narrative episodic television, and served as cinematographer/director for a series of documentaries for Non-Governmental-Organizations. Eric was dubbed by Shoot! Magazine "as one of the industry's crop of new directors to watch" and won the FADE IN Magazine Grand Prize. His short *Ana's Playground*, was shortlisted for an Academy Award nomination and he won top honor Silver Telly Awards for a series of three, one-minute shorts he directed for the American Cancer Society.

Bruna Roccasalva is Artistic Director of Fondazione Furla and Editor in Chief of L'Officiel Art Italia. She was co-director of Peep-Hole Art Center, which she co-founded in 2009. She co-curated exhibitions of artists including Ahmet Ögüt, Renata Lucas, Gabriel Sierra, and Trisha Baga, to name only a few. She was Head of Publications at Mousse Publishing, and Associate Curator at GAMeC, where she collaborated on solo and group exhibitions and worked on several catalogues, like the monographs of Alighiero Boetti, Getulio Alviani and Giulio Paolini. She also taught History of Contemporary Art at IED-Istituto Europeo di Design in Milan (2006).

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