



Press release

“PIER PAOLO PASOLINI POET OF ASHES” exhibitions, cinema, lectures, music, theater

New York celebrates the great Italian culture

New York, from November 27 to December 18 2007

New York celebrates the great Italian culture through “*Pier Paolo Pasolini - Poet of Ashes*” the retrospective dedicated to the important author that is going to be one of the most interesting event in Autumn in the Big Apple. On November and December several New York cultural Institutions will host this big event that pays tribute to Pasolini.

It's been nearly two decades since many of Pasolini's films have been seen and never before has such a comprehensive series of events highlighting the man and his art been presented in the United States. This year, **Fondazione Aida** has been the leading force in assembling the extensive initiative that will include a general overview of the great Italian author that is manifested realized through an series of extraordinary programs and events including exhibitions, readings, lectures with personalities who worked with Pasolini, to performances, and the a cinema retrospective.

The numerous Italian cultural organizations and individuals who have collaborated to bring this event to the United States include **Graziella Chiarcossi** and **Fondazione Cinema per Roma**, **Fondazione Musica per Roma**, the **Istituto per il Libro of Italian Ministry of Cultural Heritage and Activities**, **IMAIE**, the **Cineteca di Bologna**, the **Friuli Venezia Giulia Cultural Commission**, **Titivillus Mostre Editoria** with the support of **Consorzio per la Tutela dell'Asti**.

Our project partners in **New York for this first-ever celebration of Pasolini are the Italian Cultural Institute of New York, the Film Society of Lincoln Center, the famous La MaMa Experimental Theatre Club, Joe's Pub at the Public Theater and Casa Italiana Zerilli-Marimò.**

The choice to celebrate Pier Paolo Pasolini now, is because through his poetry, literature, cinema and journalism he has marked deeply the Italian culture and society of the second post-war period. In Pasolini the contradictions of Italian Twentieth century meet and clash and become pre-condition and lymph for his thought and work.

Although his work is strongly rooted to the post war Italy, the economic boom and the social conflicts post '68, his cultural proposal is always extremely interesting and stimulating, either if we look at it as unrealizable utopia, or if consider it as prophetic message, still today valid.

It starts with a preview at the Italian Cultural Institute on November 26: Readings and Lectures: Pasolini's Poetry and Literature with participation of the author Vincenzo Cerami, Graziella Chiarcossi and other personalities.

On **November 27** Italian and American personalities will attend the **official opening** of 'Pier Paolo Pasolini Poet of Ashes' at the **Italian Cultural Institute**, where **Pasolini's Voice -La voce di**

Pasolini will be screened the documentary with introduction by the director Matteo Cerami. The event will also mark the opening of the **exhibition Pier Paolo Pasolini, *The Body's Truth*** that will be open to public till December 15 and that presents a selections of photos by Angelo Novi, taken on the film sets of *Mamma Roma*, *La ricotta*, *The Gospel According St. Matthew*, *The Hawks* and the *Sparrows and Teorema*.

An interesting **series of documentaries** will be screened **from December 4 to December 18**: from *Sopralluoghi in Palestina* directed by Pier Paolo Pasolini, to *Pasolini l'enragè* directed by Jean-**André Fieschi**, from *Pasolini e il cinema: al cuore della realtà* directed by **Francesco Savio** and *Pasolini e la forma della città* directed by **Paolo Brunatto**.

A series of *affiches* and posters realised by painters and craftsmen will be presentd at the **Film Society** Lincoln Center **from November 2 to 2 December**. A selection of promotional material used to advertise Pasolini's movies, the so-called Foto Buste will be displayed.

From **November 28** the **Film Society** will present an **important retrospective** that will screen, among the others, *Salò* and *Teorema*.

Music, theatre performances and readings are also presented at the Joes' Pub del Public Theatre and at the La MaMa Experimental Theatre Club . On **november 27** at the **Joe's Pub** the concert – ***The Songs of Pier Paolo Pasolini (Le Canzoni di Pasolini)*** will be performed by Aisha Cerami, Nuccio Siano, Andrea Colocci and other italian musicians.

A three days run of the theatre performance '**Trash**', inspired by texts of Pier Paolo Pasolini and directed by Andrea Mancini and Lorenzo Bassotto, will be presented at **La MaMa Experimental Theater Club** on **November 29 and 30 and December 1**.

A special guest, the great poetess and musician **Patti Smith**, will participate in the round table ***The Last Questions of Pasolini (Le Ultime Domande di Pasolini)*** at the **Casa Italiana Zerilli Marimò** on **november 29**. The round table will see the participation of **Gianni Borgna** President of Fondazione Musica per Roma, **Goffredo Bettini** President of Fondazione Cinema per Roma, both friends of Pier Paolo Pasolini, **Roberto Chiesi** curator of Study Centre and Archive 'Pier Paolo Pasolini' of Cineteca di Bologna, **Antonio Monda** professor and journalist, and the screenwriter Vincenzo Cerami.

Moreover, on **November 30** Vincenzo Cerami will present the **Masterclass *The Tale of Reality - Il racconto della realtà*** at the **Yale University** (in New Haven, CT), that will then presented to the students of **CUNY Graduate Center** on **December 3**.

Finally on **December 4** the closing night at the **Walter Reade Theater** della Film Society: on stage the concert-reading ***Accattone in Jazz – An Homage to Pier Paolo Pasolini*** presented by Kairos Italy Theater with italian artists Valerio Mastandrea, voice, Danilo Rea piano, Roberto Gatto, drums.

Together with the celebration there will be the launch of the new book in english dedicated to Pier Paolo Pasolini, *The Poet of Ashes* edited by Andrea Mancini and Roberto Chiesi, co-published by Titivillus Mostre Editoria from San Miniato Pisa and City Lights Books, the publishing house co-founded by poet Lawrence Ferlinghetti in 1953 in San Francisco.

Fondazione Aida di Verona is a professional theater for young audiences and cultural center established in Verona. In addition to a serious theater program, Fondazione Aida di Verona also organises cultural events Nationally and Internationally and collaborates with important public and private institutions to produce exhibitions and publications dedicated to culture and show business for Italy and abroad.

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