

# ITALIAN FILM FESTIVAL USA

## OF MEMPHIS

### April 9, 17 & 24, 2026



Come spend an evening in Italy! Enjoy the local premieres of three recent, critically-acclaimed Italian films at the 2026 Italian Film Festival USA of Memphis. Films shown in Italian with English subtitles at the University Center Theatre on the campus of the University of Memphis and the Dixon Gallery and Garden's Winegardner Auditorium. Sponsored by the University of Memphis.



#### **LIFE IS LIFE • LA VITA VA COSÌ**

Thursday, April 9 • 7:00 pm • UC Theatre, University of Memphis  
Director, Riccardo Milani, Comedy, 2025, 118 min.

Two worlds collide on a beautiful Sardinian beach—that of Efisio, a local shepherd, and that of Giacomo, a Milanese real estate developer who is determined to transform the unspoiled coast into a luxury resort. As the pressure mounts and the community is divided between those who dream of new job opportunities and those who fear losing their identity forever, Efisio's unwavering "no" takes on a collective meaning. Who will prevail?



#### **NAPOLI - NEW YORK**

Friday, April 17 • 6:00 pm • Dixon Gallery and Gardens  
Director, Gabriele Salvatores, Drama, 2024, 124 min.

Orphaned children Carmine and Celestina survive post-war life in Naples, dreaming of going to America where Celestina's sister, who emigrated two years earlier, lives. One night, they stow away on a ship with an eccentric captain bound for New York and join hordes of Italian emigrants hoping for a better life in this new country. Based on an original screenplay by Federico Fellini and Tullio Pinelli.



#### **SWEETHEART • GIOIA MIA**

Friday, April 24 • 7:00 pm • UC Theatre, University of Memphis  
Director, Margherita Spampinato, Drama, 2026, 90 min.

Nico, a lively boy raised in a secular and technologically-connected family, is forced to spend the summer in Sicily, staying with an elderly, unmarried and very religious aunt who lives alone in an old building without Wi-Fi and completely out of time. The clash between modernity and the past marks the beginning of their stormy relationship. Yet, little by little, a deep bond is formed, one that neither knew they needed,

**FREE** admission

For further information, visit [www.italianfilmfests.org](http://www.italianfilmfests.org)

italian  
film  
festival  
usa

 THE UNIVERSITY OF  
**MEMPHIS**  
Department of World  
Languages and Literatures

