

# ITALIAN FILM FESTIVAL USA

## of Phoenix

### April 11- 12, 2026



Enjoy the local premiere of five recent Italian films and a program of short films at the 2026 Italian Film Festival USA of Phoenix. All films shown at the Scottsdale Public Library - Civic Center Auditorium, 3839 North Drinkwater Blvd, Scottsdale. Sponsored Arizona State University's School of International Letters and Cultures; Cultural Partner: the Italian Cultural Institute of Los Angeles.



#### FAMILIA

Saturday, April 11 • 10:30 a.m.

Director, Francesco Costabile, Drama, 2024, 120 min.

Gigi lives with his brother and their mother, who separated from their violent father Franco. When Franco is released from prison and shows up, Gigi must confront his past and make crucial decisions. Can he save the family?



#### SWEETHEART • GIOIA MIA

Saturday, April 11 • 1:00 p.m.

Director, Margherita Spampinato, Drama, 2025, 90 min.

Young Nico is forced to spend the summer in Sicily, staying with an elderly, unmarried and very religious aunt who lives out of time in an old building full of superstitions and without Wi-Fi. There is a clash between modernity and the past, yet, little by little, a deep bond is formed.



#### FOR YOU • PER TE

Saturday, April 11 • 2:45 p.m.

Director, Alessandro Aronadio, Drama, 2025, 115 min.

Based on the true story of young Mattia Piccoli and his father Paolo who, in his early forties, slowly begins to lose parts of his memory. A story that celebrates the power of love beyond memory and time.



#### SHORT FILM PROGRAM • PROGRAMMA DI CORTOMETRAGGI

Sunday, April 12 • 10:30 a.m.

Drama, Comedy, Animation, Historical, 2025, 120 min.

Seven recent films—*Viola*, *Mercato libero*, *Il gatto di Monica*, *Rukeli*, *Oltre la collina*, *C'è da comprare il latte*, *Twentyseven: Sister Portrait*—are in competition for your vote for best short.



#### THE ASCENT • LA SALITA

Sunday, April 12 • 1:00 p.m.

Director, Massimiliano Gallo, Drama, 2025, 90 min.

Naples, 1983. Due to earthquake damage, the women's prison is closed and the inmates are moved to the juvenile prison on the islet of Nisida. Playwright and Senator for life Eduardo De Filippo helps to renovate the prison's theater and create a school for acting.



#### LIFE IS LIFE • LA VITA VA COSÌ

Sunday, April 12 • 2:45 p.m.

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. Who will prevail?



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

