

ITALIAN FILM FESTIVAL USA

of Pittsburgh

March 26 - April 11, 2026



Enjoy the local premieres of eight recent, critically acclaimed Italian films at the 2026 Italian Film Festival USA of Pittsburgh. All films are shown in original language with English subtitles at the Frick Fine Arts Auditorium on the campus of the University of Pittsburgh. In collaboration with the Italian Program at the University of Pittsburgh.



NAPOLI-NEW YORK

Thursday, March 26 • 7:00 p.m.

Director, Gabriele Salvatores, Drama, 2024, 124 min. ♦ *Opening Night Sponsor: Heinz History Center: Italian American Program* ♦ Orphaned children Carmine and Celestina survive post-war life in Naples, dreaming of going to America. One night, they stow away on a ship bound for New York. Based on a screenplay by Federico Fellini.



SWEETHEART • GIOIA MIA

Friday, March 27 • 7:00 p.m.

Director, Margherita Spampinato, Drama, 2025, 90 min. ♦ *Film Sponsor: San Rocco Foundation* ♦

Young Nico is forced to spend the summer in Sicily, staying with an elderly, unmarried and very religious aunt who lives completely 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.



THE ASCENT • LA SALITA

Saturday, March 28 • 7:00 p.m.

Director, Massimiliano Gallo, Drama, 2025, 90 min. ♦ *U.S. Premiere* ♦

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 the first school for acting in a juvenile prison.



THREE GOODBYES • TRE CIOTOLE

Thursday, April 2 • 7:00 p.m.

Director, Isabel Coixet, Drama, 2025, 120 min.

After an argument, Marta and Antonio break up. When Marta discovers her loss of appetite has more to do with her health than the separation, she makes an important choice on how to live the rest of her life.



FIVE SECONDS • CINQUE SECONDI

Friday, April 3 • 7:00 p.m.

Director, Paolo Virzi, Drama, 2025, 105 min.

Adriano lives alone in the renovated stables of a crumbling Tuscan villa. Suddenly, a group of young idealists, led by Matilde, takes over the villa hoping to restore its vineyards. Initially annoyed, Adriano is drawn to this group. But what is the heavy burden Adriano is trying so hard to conceal?

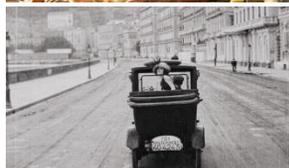


FOR YOU • PER TE

Saturday, April 4 • 7:00 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.



ELVIRA NOTARI. BEYOND THE SILENCE • ELVIRA NOTARI. OLTRE IL SILENZIO

Friday, April 10 • 7:00 p.m.

Director, Valerio Ciriaci, Documentary, 2025, 94 min. ♦ *Special Guest, Director Valerio Ciriaci* ♦

A look at Elvira Notari, Italy's first female director during the golden age of Neapolitan silent cinema, who made more than 60 films.



LIFE IS LIFE • LA VITA VA COSÌ

Saturday, April 11 • 7:00 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?




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