Enjoy nine recent Italian films and one program of short films at the 2023 Italian Film Festival USA of Portland. Films shown in Italian with English subtitles at Fifth Avenue Cinema, 510 SW Hall Street, on the campus of Portland State University, and the Lincoln High School Theatre, 1750 SW Salmon St. Sponsored by Volpi Foods, Caffè Umbria, Giovannì Catalano-Inhabit Real Estate, Mucca Osteria, Gallo Nero, Pinolo Gelato, Italian Benvenuti Club, Nostrana, Nicoletta’s Table and Il Bel Paese Genealogia; in collaboration with the Associazione Culturale Italiana, Portland State University and the Italian Cultural Institute of San Francisco.

THE CHAMPION (Director, Leonardo D’Agostini, Comedy/Drama, 2019, 105 min.)
Friday, April 14 • 7:00 p.m. • Lincoln High School Theatre • Film Sponsors: Caffè Umbria and Giovannì Catalano-Inhabit
Valerio is a lonely professor who is assigned to help Christian, a star soccer player, pass his high school equivalency exam. The two could not be more different! But they will learn to lean on each other.

TOMORROW’S A NEW DAY (Director, Simone Spada, Drama/Comedy, 2019, 100 min.)
Saturday, April 15 • 7:00 p.m. • 5th Avenue Cinema • Film Sponsor: Mucca Osteria
Giuliano and Tommaso have been friends for more than thirty years, but the next four days will be the hardest they’ve ever known. Tommaso returns to Rome to help Giuliano who is ill and worried about the future of his dearest companion, Pato, a wide-eyed Bernese mountain dog.

NEVIA (Director, Nunzia De Stefano, Drama, 2019, 86 min.)
Saturday, April 15 • 9:00 p.m. • 5th Avenue Cinema • Film Sponsor: Gallo Nero
Nevia is seventeen, too grown up before she’s even had the chance to be a child. Tiny and naive, but stubborn, she and her sister Enza are being raised by their grandmother in a container park in Ponticelli.

L’IMMENSITY (Director, Emanuele Crialese Cerasuolo, Drama, 2022, 94 min.)
Sunday, April 16 • 4:00 p.m. • 5th Avenue Cinema • Film Sponsor: Pinolo Gelato
Rome, 1970s. Clara and Felice have just moved into a new apartment despite their marriage being over. Their eldest child, Adriana, has just turned twelve and rejects her name, her identity, and wants to convince everyone that she is a boy. Her obstinacy brings the already fragile family balance to the breaking point.

THE INVISIBLE WITNESS (Director, Stefano Mordini, Drama, 2018, 102 min.)
Sunday, April 16 • 6:00 p.m. • 5th Avenue Cinema • Film Sponsor: Italian Benvenuti Club
Adriano, a rich industrialist, is charged with murder. He chooses Virginia Ferrara, a veteran attorney who has never lost a case, to decide the defense strategy. With no alternative, he is forced to tell the full truth to the lawyer. Will he be freed?

NOSTALGIA (Director, Mario Martone, Drama, 2022, 118 min.)
Friday, April 21 • 7:00 p.m. • 5th Avenue Cinema • Film Sponsor: Nostrana
After forty years abroad, Felice returns to Napoli. He does not heed the advice of others to leave and forget a dangerous friendship—as if it were possible to leave behind a city that has entered your heart forever.

THE PASSION OF ANNA MAGNANI (Director, Enrico Cerasuolo, Documentary, 2019, 60 min.)
Friday, April 21 • 9:30 p.m. • 5th Avenue Cinema • Film Sponsor: Nicoletta’s Table
An intimate portrait of the great Italian actress Anna Magnani. In 1956, she was won an Academy Award for Best Actress and remains the only Italian actress to win for an English-speaking film.

WELL BUT NOT VERY WELL (Director, Francesco Mandelli, Drama, 2018, 100 min.)
Saturday, April 22 • 7:00 p.m. • 5th Avenue Cinema
Candida is fifteen years old. When her father loses his job, she moves to Turin with him, starts a new life, and attends a new high school. She makes friends with Jacopo, an introverted boy who’s often bullied by his classmates, and the two get along well, but his father does not approve of their friendship.

ASPROMONTE, LAND OF THE FORGOTTEN (Director, Mimmo Calopresti, Drama, 2019, 87 min.)
Saturday, April 22 • 9:00 p.m. • 5th Avenue Cinema • Film Sponsor: Il Bel Paese Genealogia
In 1951, no road connects a small village in the southern valley of Aspromonte with other towns. In the wake of a tragedy, the inhabitants put aside their work and unite to build a road.

SHORT FILM PROGRAM (Comedy, Drama, Animation 2022, 100 min.)
Sunday, April 23 • 4:00 p.m. • 5th Avenue Cinema
Six recent films—L’allaccio, Mammarancia, Bricole, Caramella, Story of Your Life and Tana libera tutti—are in competition for your vote for best short film.

FREE admission. For further information, visit www.italianfilmfests.org