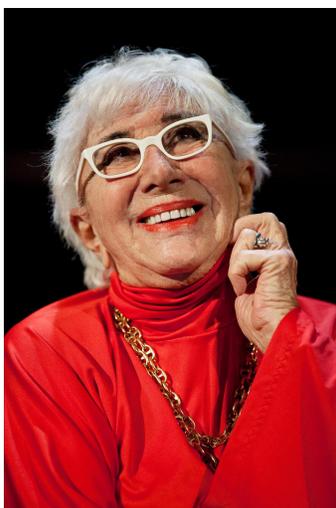




Cinema Italia SF, in collaboration with the Italian Cultural Institute of San Francisco and The Italian Consulate General and with the support of The Leonardo da Vinci Society, is proud to present its 6th series of Italian Classic Cinema:

Homage to Lina Wertmüller

The first woman ever nominated for the Academy Award for Best Director.
Saturday, September 23, 2017 – Castro Theatre, San Francisco



A day-long cinematic celebration of Lina Wertmüller, the groundbreaking, pioneering woman director and visionary whose fearless, polemical and provocative films have left indelible marks and influence on the international entertainment field.

- **11:00 AM:** “Love & Anarchy” (129 min.)
- **1:30 PM:** “Behind the White Glasses” (104 min.)
- **4:00 PM:** “Swept Away” (115 min.)
- **6:30 PM:** “Seven Beauties” (116 min.)
- **8:30 PM:** White Glasses Party in the Theatre’s Mezzanine (ends at 10:00 PM)
- **10:00 PM:** “The Seduction of Mimi” (112 min.)

Four narrative films in 2K Restoration DCP and one documentary film. All DCPs are provided by Kino Lorber.

All four narrative feature films star Giancarlo Giannini.

We are excited to welcome to San Francisco Valerio Ruiz, the director of the documentary film “Behind the White Glasses”.

The Director:

Lina Wertmüller was born Arcangela Felice Assunta Wertmüller von Elgg Spañol von Braueich in Rome in 1928 to a devoutly Roman Catholic Swiss family of aristocratic descent. After graduating from school, her first job was touring Europe in a puppet show. For the next ten years she worked as an actress, director and playwright for the stage. During this period she met Giancarlo Giannini, who later starred in many of her films.

Through her acquaintance with Marcello Mastroianni, she met Federico Fellini and, in 1962, Fellini offered her the assistant director position on *8½*. The following year, Wertmüller made her directorial debut with *The Lizards (I Basilischi)*. The film's subject matter—the lives of impoverished people in southern Italy—became a recurring motif in her later work. In 1972, Wertmüller achieved international acclaim with a series of four movies starring Giancarlo Giannini. The last, and best-received of these, was 1975's *Seven Beauties (Pasqualino Sette Bellezze)*, which earned four Academy Award nominations and was an international hit.

Wertmüller was the first woman nominated for an Academy Award for Best Director. Jane Campion, Sofia Coppola, and Kathryn Bigelow are the only other female directors nominated (with Bigelow the first to win).

In 1985, she received the Women in Film Crystal Award for outstanding women who, through endurance and the excellence of their work, have helped to expand the role of women within the entertainment industry. She is known for her whimsically prolix movie titles. For instance, the full title of *Swept Away* is *Swept Away by an Unusual Destiny in the Blue Sea of August*. These titles were invariably shortened for international release. (She is entered in the Guinness Book of Records for the longest film title: *Un fatto di sangue nel comune di Siculiana fra due uomini per causa di una vedova. Si sospettano moventi politici. Amore-Morte-Shimmy. Lugano belle. Tarantelle. Tarallucci e vino*. That 1979 movie with 179 characters is better known under the international titles *Blood Feud* or *Revenge*.)

Wertmüller has had a prolific career, and still actively directs. She was married to Enrico Job (died March 4, 2008), an art designer who worked on several of her pictures.
(Biography Source: Wikipedia)



11:00 AM Love and Anarchy

(Film d'amore e d'anarchia, ovvero 'stamattina alle 10 in via dei Fiori nella nota casa di tolleranza...)

129 mins. 1973. Italy. Directed by Lina Wertmüller. Screenplay by Lina Wertmüller. Starring Giancarlo Giannini, Mariangela Melato, and Eros Pagni. In Italian with English subtitles. Color. DCP projection.

An epic tragicomedy, *Love and Anarchy* plumbs the depths of fascist Italy from the perspective of a simple farm boy sent to kill Mussolini. Giancarlo Giannini won the best acting prize at the Cannes Film Festival for his achingly sensitive portrayal of Tunin, a freckle-faced innocent who became an accidental anarchist. His contact in Rome is Salomè (Mariangela Melato), a prostitute with her own sob story. While they prepare for the assassination, Tunin falls in love with Tripolina (Lina Polito), which threatens the entire operation. A film of operatic emotion and subversive comedy, *Love and Anarchy* is a powerful statement on the terror of fascism and the ignoble fates of those who challenged it.



1:30 PM Behind the White Glasses

Documentary Film / Director Valerio Ruiz in Person

104 mins. 2017. Italy. Directed by Valerio Ruiz. In Italian and English with English subtitles. Color. DCP projection.

Behind the White Glasses offers a deep dive into the groundbreaking life and career of Lina Wertmüller, the first woman ever nominated for the Academy Award for Best Director for her masterpiece *Seven Beauties*. The documentary spans decades, from the unpublished pictures taken in Cinecittà, when she was Federico Fellini's assistant director on *8 1/2*, to the places where her most famous films were set, revealing the artistic and human universe of a woman who, with her unflinching irony and taste for the grotesque, has left her mark in all the fields of entertainment in which she worked: cinema, drama, television, music. The journey is accompanied by many exclusive interviews with the artists who witnessed her intense and constantly evolving career. Among them: Giancarlo Giannini, Marina Cicogna, Sophia Loren, Harvey Keitel, Nastassja Kinski, and film critic John Simon. The film features a long series of unreleased videos, images and songs written by Lina Wertmüller. *Behind the White Glasses* is a personal poetic portrait by Valerio Ruiz, her longtime assistant director and very close collaborator. It held its World Premiere at the Venice International Film Festival in 2016.



4:00 PM *Swept Away*
(Travolti da un insolito destino nell'azzurro mare d'agosto)

115 mins. 1974. Italy. Directed by Lina Wertmüller. Screenplay by Lina Wertmüller. Starring Giancarlo Giannini, Mariangela Melato, and Riccardo Salvino. In Italian with English subtitles. Color. DCP projection.

Set against the backdrop of the beautiful Mediterranean, *Swept Away* is Lina Wertmüller's most famous and controversial film about sex, love and politics. On an elegant yacht cruising off the coast of Sardinia, Raffaella (Mariangela Melato), a rich and stunning capitalist, enjoys tormenting Gennarino (Giancarlo Giannini), a Communist sailor. Fate weaves a different scenario and roles become reversed when the two find themselves stranded together on a deserted island. Raffaella must submit to Gennarino in order to survive, which culminates in a dramatic climax when they are rescued. They must determine if their love can survive the harsh realities of civilization.



**6:30 PM *Seven Beauties*
(Pasqualino Settebellezze)**

116 mins. 1975. Italy. Directed by Lina Wertmüller. Screenplay by Lina Wertmüller. Starring Giancarlo Giannini, Fernando Rey, Shirley Stoler, and Elena Fiore. In Italian, German, Neapolitan, and Spanish with English subtitles. Color. DCP projection.

Nominated for four Academy Awards® including Best Director, *Seven Beauties* stars Giancarlo Giannini (*Swept Away*) as Pasqualino Frafuso, known in Naples as "Pasqualino Seven Beauties." A petty thief who lives off of the profits of his seven sisters while claiming to protect their honor at any cost, Pasqualino is arrested for murder and later sent to fight in the army. The Germans capture him and he gets sent to a concentration camp where he plots to make his escape.



**10:00 PM *The Seduction of Mimi*
(Mimi metallurgico ferito nell'onore)**

112 mins. 1972. Italy. Directed by Lina Wertmüller. Screenplay by Lina Wertmüller. Starring Giancarlo Giannini, Mariangela Melato, Agostina Belli. In Italian and English with English subtitles. Color. DCP projection.

The Seduction of Mimi is a raucous sex comedy that brought international fame to director Lina Wertmüller. Giancarlo Giannini gives a wonderfully comic performance as the sad sack Mimi, a Sicilian laborer whose refusal to vote for the Mafia's candidate leads him to lose his job, his wife and his home. At rock bottom, he revives his spirits by falling in love with the beautiful, radical Fiorella (Mariangela Melato), with whom he starts a new life as a reliable husband and father. But the past comes back to haunt him, piling on comical complexities as all his energies surge into defending his honor, an obsession that has horrendous but hilarious consequences. A blistering satire of Italy in the 1970s, *The Seduction of Mimi* takes aim at a corrupt government, compromised labor leaders and the Neanderthal sexual politics of men in power, with uproarious results.

Tickets

- Matinée Screenings (4:00 PM and earlier): \$12.00 per admission
- Evening Screenings: \$14.00 per admission
- White Glasses Party: \$20.00 per admission
- Festival Pass (All Films + Party): \$70.00 per pass

Online ticket sales begin on July 23, 2017 via CinemaItaliaSF.com.

About Visiting Filmmaker: Valerio Ruiz

Valerio Ruiz was born in Rome in 1986. He has been working with Lina Wertmüller for some years now, including scriptwriter and assistant director of the documentary directed by Lina Wertmüller *Roma, Napoli, Venezia... in un crescendo rossiniano* (2014). He started working with Wertmüller ten years ago as assistant in organizing the film section of the 2006 Ravello Festival and then went on to cooperate in the staging of two plays: “Il Giornalino di Gianburrasca” (2010) and “Un’allegra fin de siècle” (2013) and has continued through to the present day as assistant director of the TV-movie *Mannaggia alla miseria* (2009).

In 2012, he contributed to the drafting of Lina Wertmüller’s autobiography “Tutto a posto e niente in ordine” (“Mondadori”). He contributed also in several master classes of acting such as the one held at Taormina Arte (2009) dedicated to the writer Vitaliano Brancati. In 2011 Valerio Ruiz wrote, produced and directed his first short film *Piazza Fellini*, a tribute to Federico Fellini interpreted by Sandra Milo, who was both actress and muse for some of the masterpieces of the maestro. The short won the 2011 Capri Short Cut Award at the Capri Hollywood International Film Festival and third prize at the XI Villammare Film Festival. The short was then presented at the Los Angeles Italian Film Fashion and Art Fest and in other Italian festivals. In 2010 for the 20th anniversary of the Italy-Albania development cooperation, he was art director of the film festival Italian eyes, promoted by the Ministry for Foreign Affairs.

About Cinema Italia San Francisco

Cinema Italia San Francisco, founded in 2013, operates in San Francisco to bring the best of classic Italian cinema to the big screen. The Homage to Lina Wertmüller follows the success of the tributes to Dino Risi (Spring 2017), Anna Magnani (2016), Vittorio De Sica (2015), Bernardo Bertolucci (2014), and Pier Paolo Pasolini (2013) – all playing at the iconic Castro Theatre. Special guests have included Italian Ninetto Davoli at the Pasolini series, international actress Joan Chen at the regional premiere of the 3D/restored version of “The Last Emperor” at the Bertolucci series, and Italian actor Lino Capolicchio at the De Sica series’ screening of “The Garden of the Finzi-Continis”.

Amelia Antonucci, Program Director

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