



# ITALIAN FILM FESTIVAL USA

## OF METRO DETROIT April 2 – 25, 2026



Enjoy the local premiere of 12 recent Italian films plus a short film program shown in original language with English subtitles at 6 locations: Detroit Institute of Arts, University of Michigan (UofM), Wayne State University (WSU), Michigan State University (MSU), Chippewa Valley High School and Schoolcraft College. Presented under the auspices of the Consulate of Italy in Detroit. **FREE** admission. Visit [www.italianfilmfests.org](http://www.italianfilmfests.org)



**NAPOLI-NEW YORK** • Director, Gabriele Salvatores, Drama, 2024, 124 min  
 Thursday, April 2 • 7:00 pm • Detroit Film Theatre (DIA), 5200 Woodward Avenue, Detroit  
 Orphaned children Carmine and Celestina survive post-war life in Naples and dream of going to America. One night, they stow away on a ship bound for New York. Based on an original screenplay by Federico Fellini.



**SWEETHEART** • Director, Margherita Spampinato, Drama, 2025, 90 min  
 Saturday, April 4 • 5:00 pm • Henrichsen Auditorium, Chippewa Valley High School, 18300 19 Mile Rd, Clinton Twp  
 Saturday, April 25 • 3:00 pm • Schoolcraft College, Kehrl Auditorium of Vistatech Center, 18600 Haggerty Rd, Livonia  
 Young Nico is forced to spend the summer in Sicily, staying with an elderly, unmarried aunt who lives in an old building full of superstitions and without Wi-Fi. There is a clash between modernity and the past, yet a deep bond is formed.



**LIFE IS LIFE** • Director, Riccardo Milani, Comedy, 2025, 118 min  
 Saturday, April 4 • 7:30 pm • Henrichsen Auditorium, Chippewa Valley High School, 18300 19 Mile Rd, Clinton Twp  
 Saturday, April 11 • 5:00 pm • MSU, Wells Hall B122, 619 Red Cedar Rd, East Lansing  
 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.



**THE TASTERS** • Director, Silvio Soldini, Drama, 2025, 123 min  
 ♦ An exclusive recorded interview of director Soldini will be shown before the screening ♦  
 Friday, April 10 • 7:00 pm • MSU, Wells Hall B122, 619 Red Cedar Rd, East Lansing  
 Sunday, April 12 • 5:00 pm • UofM, Rackham Amphitheatre, 915 E Washington St, Ann Arbor  
 1943. Rosa, fleeing Berlin, reaches her in-laws in a village and soon discovers in the nearby forest is Hitler's secret headquarters. One morning, Rosa is taken, along with other young women, to taste the food prepared for the Führer.



**SHORT FILM PROGRAM** • Drama, Documentary, Comedy, Animation, 120 min  
 Saturday, April 11 • 5:00 pm • UofM, Rackham Amphitheatre, 915 E Washington St, Ann Arbor  
 Seven recent films are in competition for your vote for best short film.



**THE ASCENT** • Director, Massimiliano Gallo, Drama, 2025, 90 min  
 Saturday, April 11 • 7:30 pm • MSU, Wells Hall B122, 619 Red Cedar Rd, East Lansing  
 Saturday, April 25 • 7:30 pm • Schoolcraft College, Kehrl Auditorium of Vistatech Center, 18600 Haggerty Rd, Livonia  
 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 Eduardo De Filippo helps to renovate the prison's theater and create a school for acting.



**FAMILIA** • Director, Francesco Costabile, Drama, 2024, 120 min  
 Saturday, April 11 • 7:30 pm • UofM, Rackham Amphitheatre, 915 E Washington St, Ann Arbor  
 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 is forced to confront his past and make crucial decisions. Can he save the family?



**FIVE SECONDS** • Director, Paolo Virzì, Drama, 2025, 105 min  
 Thursday, April 16 • 7:00 pm • Detroit Film Theatre (DIA), 5200 Woodward Avenue, Detroit  
 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. What is the heavy burden Adriano is trying so hard to conceal?



**THREE GOODBYES** • Director, Isabel Coixet, Drama, 2025, 120 min  
 Friday, April 17 • 7:00 pm • WSU, 0146 University Auditorium, 5203 Cass Avenue, Detroit  
 After a trivial argument, Marta and Antonio break up. When Marta discovers her loss of appetite has more to do with her health than the pain of separation, she makes an important choice on how to live the rest of her life.



**PATERNAL LEAVE** • Director, Alissa Jung, Drama, 2025, 90 min  
 Saturday, April 18 • 5:00 pm • WSU, 0146 University Auditorium, 5203 Cass Avenue, Detroit  
 Searching for answers, a German girl embarks on a journey to the Romagna Riviera to meet her biological father.



**ZVANI** • Director, Giuseppe Piccioni, Biografic, 2025, 110 min  
 Saturday, April 18 • 7:30 pm • WSU, 0146 University Auditorium, 5203 Cass Avenue, Detroit  
 The life of famous 19<sup>th</sup> century poet Giovanni Pascoli as seen through the eyes of his beloved sister Mariù.



**ELVIRA NOTARI. BEYOND THE SILENCE** • Director, Valerio Ciriaci, Documentary, 2025, 94 min  
 ♦ Special appearance by director Valerio Ciriaci and producer Antonella Di Nocera ♦  
 Sunday, April 19 • 5:00 pm • Detroit Film Theatre (DIA), 5200 Woodward Avenue, Detroit  
 A look at Elvira Notari, Italy's first female director during the golden age of Neapolitan silent cinema who made more than sixty films entertaining audiences not only in Italy but in the Little Italy neighborhoods of the US.



**FOR YOU** • Director, Alessandro Aronadio, Drama, 2025, 115 min  
 Saturday, April 25 • 5:00 pm • Schoolcraft College, Kehrl Auditorium of Vistatech Center, 18600 Haggerty Rd, Livonia  
 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.

**City Sponsor:** Michigan Arts & Culture Council

**Opening/Closing Night Sponsors:** Café Cortina, Dante Alighieri Society of Michigan, Italian American Club of Livonia Charitable Foundation, NOI Foundation, Schlossberg Legal

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