

comunicato stampa

La Biennale di Venezia and Fondazione Prada with "Italian Kings of the Bs" at "Tokyo Filmex"

Italian Kings of the Bs is on its way to Tokyo. The program is to be included in the festival "Tokyo Filmex" November 26 - 30, 2004, which is organized by Takeshi Kitano's production and distribution house Office Kitano. It is the first segment of the project *Storia segreta del cinema italiano (Secret History of Italian Cinema)* which the Biennale Cinema initiated and presented with great success at the *61. Mostra Internazionale d'Arte Cinematografica*. The initiative, carried out in collaboration with and given support by Fondazione Prada, which is presided over by Miuccia Prada and directed by Germano Celant, was also honoured with a generous contribution from the Italian Minister of Arts and Culture, the objective being to recover, restore and systematically rediscover forgotten and "invisible" Italian films.

Italian Kings of the Bs, during the Mostra in Venice, saw the presence of two "Godfathers", Quentin Tarantino and Joe Dante, as well as the arrival of directors and leading actors from the restored films in encounters in their honour, packed with young movie-goers. Even during the Mostra, Ichiyama Shozo, director of "Tokyo Filmex" had already asked to host a selection of the titles from *Italian Kings of the Bs* at the fifth edition of their festival in Japan, on the whole dedicated to the director's vision. The titles to be screened in Tokyo are: "Milano calibro 9" (1972) and "I padroni della città" (1976) by Ferdinando Di Leo, "Estratto dagli archivi segreti" (1972) by Riccardo Freda, "Non si sevizia un paperino" (1972) by Lucio Fulci, "Danza macabra" (1964) by Antonio Margheriti, and "Quel maledetto treno blindato" (1977) by Enzo G. Castellari, which Quentin Tarantino, while in Venice, announced his intention to shoot a remake of in the near future.

Therefore, Marco Müller, the Director of the Mostra di Venezia, with the active support of the President of the Biennale, Davide Croff, sees his project of a full calendar of "Standing Activities" take shape as the circulation of the initial projects of *Storia segreta del cinema italiano* is underway both in Italy and abroad. "*Italian Kings of the Bs* finishes here in Venice", Marco Müller had said at the end of the event, "however the adventure continues. Many Italian cities and cultural capitals, not only in Europe but around the world, have already requested the chance to host the collection of films".

After taking up *Italian Kings of the Bs* once again in Milan, which Fondazione Prada will present from December 13- 16 at the venue in Via Fogazzaro 36, there will be a large-scale initiative backed by the Biennale di Venezia and Fondazione Prada to distribute a selection of restored copies in high definition (HD) in Italy.

The calendar of “Standing Activities” already foresees, during the *62. Mostra Internazionale d’Arte Cinematografica*, the undertaking of the project *Storia segreta del cinema asiatico (Secret History of Asian Cinema)*. The Biennale di Venezia and Fondazione Prada are finalizing the terms of the agreement of collaboration for the new initiative. The details of the project will be announced in an upcoming press conference.

For any further information please contact:

Fondazione La Biennale di Venezia
Press office, ph. 0039 041 52 18 861, fax 0039 041 52 00 569
e-mail: foreignpress@labiennale.org

Fondazione Prada
Press office, ph. 0039 02 546 70 515, fax 0039 02 546 70 258
e-mail: info@fondazioneprada.org