



THE OSSINING PUBLIC LIBRARY

*As part of the celebration of opening our new building this year,
The Ossining Public Library
Proudly presents*

Classic Italian Film Festival

Date: Each last Thursday of the month starting March 2008.

Time: 7:00PM

Place: 53 Croton Ave, Ossining, NY 10562

Admission: Free

Program

The festival program is devoted to celebrate the prominent achievements of the classic Italian cinema. The selected films represent different styles of some of the major directors from late Neorealism to the Italian Comedy (Commedia all'italiana) genres of the 50's and 60's.

With the paramount exposure films by acclaimed directors such as Fellini or De Sica have received, there are many other cinematic gems that over the years have been overlooked. The intent of this program is to introduce some of these less known works by innovative directors such as Ermanno Olmi, Alessandro Blasetti and Mario Monicelli. In this sense, the program not only provides a glimpse into rare classic cinema, but also runs the gamut from dramatic to light comic themes.

The program includes brief introductions by Shlomi Ron, co-founder of *cafe Pellicola*, a popular blog dedicated to fine Italian cinema. The program provides a rich cross-media audience participation that includes an open discussion with the audience after each screening and the opportunity to continue discussions about presented films on the Internet at www.cafepellicola.com.

3/27/08 – The Job - Il Posto (1961)



Do you remember your first job interview and your mom protectively cautioning you, don't mess up this could be a great opportunity, practically work for life?

In this film, Director Ermanno Olmi effectively captures the world of a young guy from the province who comes to the big city, Milan, in his quest to get a job in a large corporation. Olmi does a fantastic job painting these fragile feelings of inexperience, naivety, and anxiety against the rigid ideas of the importance of finding work, but not just any work – work for life (aberration in today's job market), family responsibilities, and corporate dominance over the lives of employees inside and outside the office.

Director: Ermanno Olmi

Starring: Sandro Panseri, Loredana Detto

Genre: Drama, Romance, Late Neorealism

Runtime: 93 minutes

4/24/08 - Big Deal on Madonna Street - I Soliti Ignoti (1958)



This film represents one of the emblematic examples of the Italian Comedy (commedia all'italiana) genre after WWII. Director Mario Monicelli delivers a classic satire introducing a bungling group of amateurs -- including an ex-jockey (Carlo Pisacane), a former boxer (Vittorio Gassman) and an out-of-work photographer (Marcello Mastroianni). The crew plans a seemingly simple heist with a retired burglar (Totó), who serves as a consultant. But this Italian job is doomed from the start.

Director: Mario Monicelli

Starring: Claudia Cardinale, Vittorio Gassman

Genre: Comedy (Commedia all'italiana), Romance

Runtime: 106 minutes

5/29/08 – Too Bad She’s Bad - Peccato che sia una Canaglia (1955)



Looking to start the spring with a smile?

Director Alessandro Blasetti is here to take you back to 1954 Rome in a brilliant comedy featuring signature performances by 20-years old Sophia Loren, Marcello Mastroianni and Vittorio De Sica. The film is a fine example of the Italian comedy (commedia all'italiana) genre of the 50's-60's known for masterpieces by Mario Monicelli, Pietro Germi and others that self-explored the social and economic changes affecting post-war Italian society.

Director: Alessandro Blasetti

Starring: Sophia Loren, Vittorio De Sica

Genre: Comedy (Commedia all'italiana), Romance

Runtime: 95 minutes

About Shlomi Ron

His interest in Italian cinema has sprung after seven years of studying the language and Italian culture in numerous schools from the *Scuola Italiana del Greenwich Village*, *The Italian Community Center of San Diego* and currently at *SUNY's Westchester Community College*. It's truly all about the teachers and the beauty of the language to take you places. So much that he used to joke that every Saturday he's literally spending a few hours in Italy... Before moving to Briarcliff Manor, he served on the board of *The Italian Community Center of San Diego*, during his term he initiated and led the implementation of two successful programs: *Italia Mia - real photos by real people*, a member-generated photo exhibit; and a yearlong *Italian Film Festival* dedicated to the accomplishments of classic Italian cinema. He continued this interest, by co-founding a popular blog, *cafe Pellicola* (www.cafepellicola.com), a vibrant online community dedicated to celebrate the prominent achievements of Italian cinema, from the Neorealist film movement to the present. Beyond cinema, he wears the high-tech marketing hat, serving as co-founder at *Marble Key* (www.marblekey.com), a consulting network of marketing experts and on the board of *Decision Tactics* (www.decisiontactics.com), a live behavioral customer segmentation technology.