
DIVA!, THE FIRST FILM CO-PRODUCED BY CASTA DIVA GROUP, WINS BEST DOCUFILM AT THE NASTRO D'ARGENTO 2018 ITALIAN FILM AWARDS

The documentary film on the life of Valentina Cortese, directed by Francesco Patierno, was awarded equal first place at the Oscars of Italian cinema

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Casta Diva Group (CDG:IM), a multinational communications company listed on the AIM Italia stock exchange, is proud to announce that **DIVA!, the first film produced by CDG, was awarded the NASTRO D'ARGENTO 2018 for BEST DOCUFILM.**

The Nastro d'Argento is one of the most prestigious awards in Italian cinema, assigned by journalists and film critics each year. **DIVA!** was awarded equal first place together with *La corsa de L'Ora*.

The film **DIVA!**, based on the autobiographical book *Quanti sono i domani passati* edited by Enrico Rotelli and published by Mondadori, and co-produced by **D.O. Production** di **Daniele Orazi**, recounts the life of **Valentina Cortese**, one of the greatest Italian actresses of all time. The director, **Francesco Patierno**, didn't simply put together a series of clips but rather succeeded in creating a genuine and original narrative flow in which Cortese is interpreted by eight of today's most talented actresses: **Barbora Bobulova, Anita Caprioli, Carolina Crescentini, Silvia D'Amico, Isabella Ferrari, Anna Foglietta, Carlotta Natoli, Greta Scarano**; the cast also includes **Michele Rioldino**, who interprets Giorgio Strehler. The film is therefore also a tribute to the art of being an actress, a woman and an artistic personality.

Andrea De Micheli, CEO and Luca Oddo, Chairman of the Casta Diva Group: *"We are honoured to receive this prestigious award on our first attempt, that is, for our first co-production. Casta Diva companies produce communication for their clients, and today even corporate communication is becoming increasingly about entertainment. That's why we believe it is so important to accumulate as many success stories as possible in the world of cinema, of TV series (we are currently producing one in Lebanon) and in the world of music, with the Blue Note in Milan."*

Francesco Patierno, director of **DIVA!:** *"I am very pleased to receive this Nastro for the second time in a row for a documentary film such as DIVA! that means so much to me."*

DIVA! was presented in September at the Mostra di Venezia as part of the Official Selection, hors concours, it received a standing ovation in a completely *sold out* Sala Grande and won the **Starlight Cinema International Award** presented to its female cast.

The main technical and artistic roles were covered by multi-award-winning professionals such as executive producer **Carla Mori**, film editor **Maria Fantastica Valmori** (*Naples '44*), director of photography **Michele D'Attanasio** (David for *Veloce come il vento*), costume designer **Massimo Cantini Parrini** (David for *Il racconto dei racconti* and for *Indivisibili*), set designer **Paki Meduri** (*Gomorra – La Serie, Suburra*) and the **Simone Belli** make-up academy. The sound track, often in contrast with the scenes, was developed by the collective **The Spectre**.

Associate producers **Riccardo Di Pasquale** for Fenix Entertainment and **Pier Paolo Piastra** for Viva Productions also contributed to the development of **DIVA!**. The film was developed in collaboration with **Sky Arte** and **Luce Cinecittà**.

DIVA! will be released in Italian cinemas in May by **Officine Ubu**, one of the most highly qualified distributors for the promotion of documentary films.

The press release is available on the websites www.castadivagroup.com and www.emarketstorage.com

Casta Diva Group (CDG:IM) is a multinational company active in the field of communication for the production of branded content, viral videos, digital content, films and live music entertainment. It is present in 4 continents with offices in 14 cities: Milan, Rome, London, Manchester, Prague, Beirut, Istanbul, New York, Los Angeles, Buenos Aires, Montevideo, Cape Town, Mumbai and Shanghai. Group brands are Casta Diva Pictures, Casta Diva Events, Anteprema Video, Blue Note Milano and Monaco Growth Forums. It represents the most extensive production network of advertising films and events worldwide, created through an active and continuous interaction between the different locations and the experience of its digital communication and live entertainment professionals. It is a talent hub capable of engaging Oscar winners and celebrities from around the world, and to discover and attract new creative talents that guarantee an extremely high standard of excellence. Casta Diva Group and its managers have offered innovative and creative communication strategies to over 100 prominent brands reinterpreting conventional communication rules. Since its establishment in 2005, the Group has grown steadily and has been regularly awarded numerous prizes and awards including several Lions at the Cannes Lions International Festival of Creativity and the Mobius Award, LIA - London International Awards, EuBEA – European Best Event Awards. It is the owner of Blue Note Milano, a prestigious jazz club and restaurant which opened in 2003 and is part of the international Blue Note network, a focal point on the world jazz scene, which in via Borsieri, at Isola (and not only) it puts on over 300 shows a year, invoicing approximately 25% (source: SIAE) of the jazz industry's income in Italy.

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