

ANDREA ROMEO – CURRICULUM VITAE

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Born in Padova (Italy), May 27th 1974.

I moved to Bologna in 1993, where I graduated with honour in *Television and Multimedia Production* with a final paper dedicated to *Film festival future perspectives*.

IN BRIEF

Artistic Director with over 20 years' experience, I am specialized in integrating artistic excellence and innovative technologies. I have a strong experience in managing large-scale event marketing activities, the coordination of large teams and the valorisation of all the professionals involved.

I always engaged myself in developing my artistic focus, constantly following international cinema scene, established directors and the discovery of new talents. My personal background includes grant and retrospective writing, and the ability of delivering a balanced selection among thousands of titles.

I am expert in the negotiation of complex agreements with major companies in the implementation of special events, premieres and talents tributes. I have successfully integrated my work in contents creation, always respecting budgeting and timing and constructing a strong relationship with cultural international organizations.

I have a strong experience working closely with the Managing Director, with the aim to best represent the festival vision with sponsors and funders. I build a fruitful dialogue with the audience in order to drive the festival to become a continuously growing community. My focus is especially on culture exchange, intergenerational relationship, gender equality and tackling discrimination.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE IN DISTRIBUTION

2013 - today | Founder and General Manager

I WONDER PICTURES

I Wonder Pictures distributes the best of international biographic and fiction, along with documentary films in Italian theatres. It counts in its line-up winners of some of the most prestigious international prizes, such as the Oscar® winner SUGAR MAN and CITIZENFOUR, the Venice Gran Prix of the Jury THE LOOK OF SILENCE, the Golden Bear TOUCH ME NOT.

At I Wonder Pictures, I've been responsible for the selection, acquisition, and editorial work for the Italian release of over 400 films in the 10 years of the distribution company's activity. Our catalogue includes Oscar-winning films such as ***Searching for Sugarman***, ***Citizenfour***, ***Navalny***, ***The Whale***, and ***Everything Everywhere All at Once***; Berlinale Golden Bear winners ***Touch Me Not*** and ***Sur l'Adamant***; the Palme d'Or and Special Jury Prize winner ***The Zone of Interest***; winners of the Special Jury Prize ***Do Not Expect Too Much From the End of the World*** and Golden Leopard ***Critical Zone*** at Locarno Film Festival; winners of Orizzonti ***Full Time***, ***Liberami***, ***NICO 88***, and Orizzonti Extra ***The Blind Man Who Refused to See Titanic***; the Special Jury Prize winner ***Nuevo Orden*** and

The Look of Silence; the Coppa Volpi winner ***Hannah***; and the Golden Lion winner ***All the Beauty and the Bloodshed*** at the Venice Film Festival's Biennale Cinema.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE IN PRODUCTION

During the last few years I have been involved in the production of several projects, between film and tv series (doc and fiction):

- 2024 The End di Joshua Oppenheimer (Executive Producer)
- 2024 I Love Lucca Comics & Games di Manlio Castagna (Producer)
- 2024 100 Litri di Birra di Teemu Nikki (Producer)
- 2022 La morte è un problema dei vivi by Teemu Nikki (Executive Producer, Co-Producer)
- 2022 Denise (Executive Producer)
- 2022 Marcia su Roma: Directed by Mark Cousins (Co-Producer)
- 2022 Amanda by Carolina Cavalli (Executive Producer)
- 2022 BELLA CIAO – PER LA LIBERTÀ by Giulia Giapponesi (Executive Producer)
- 2021 Volami via by Christophe Barratier (Co-Producer)
- 2020 SanPa - Luci e tenebre di San Patrignano by Cosima Spender (Executive Producer)
- 2020 La piazza della mia città - Bologna e Lo Stato Sociale by Paolo Santamaria with Lo Stato Sociale (Executive Producer, Writer)
- 2019 Vivere, che rischio by Alessandro Rossi and Michele Mellara (Co-Producer)
- 2019 Ex-Otago - Siamo come Genova by Paolo Santamaria (Producer)
- 2018 The Cleaners by Hans Block and Moritz Riesewieck (Co-Producer)

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE IN FESTIVALS

I have dedicated the last 20 years to the study, project and realization of festivals and festival-related events, such as:

2005 - 2019 | Founder and General/Artistic Director

BIOGRAFILM FESTIVAL – INTERNATIONAL CELEBRATION OF LIVES, Bologna (Italy)

One of the European leading festivals for documentary and long feature film.

2014 - 2019 | Founder and General Manager

BIO TO B – DOC & BIOPIC BUSINESS MEETING

Annual event, within Biografilm Festival's programme, dedicated to networking business to business between project in production (directors and producers) and market (investors, commissioning editors and international sellers), through pitching sessions, panel, workshops, meetings one to one.

2008 - 2012 | General Manager

FESTIVAL OF FESTIVALS, Bologna (Italy)

Congress of Italian festivals of cinema, theatre, music, culture and science.

2003 - 2005 | Managing Director

TELEFILM FESTIVAL, Milano (Italy)

Italian festival of television series.

2003 - 2004 | Managing Director

GENDER BENDER FESTIVAL, Bologna (Italy)

International Festival introducing the Italian public to the new imagery related to gender identities, sexual orientations and body representations stemming from contemporary culture.

1999 - 2002 | Founder and General/Artistic Director

FUTURE FILM FESTIVAL – NEW TECHNOLOGIES IN ANIMATION CINEMA, Bologna (Italy)

One of the biggest Italian festival of cinema entirely dedicated to traditional and digital animation and special effect.

NETWORKING / LIFELONG LEARNING

Since 2020

Head of Commission for Study, Innovation, and Promotion of the Role of Film Distribution ANICA

Since 2016

Member of EFA - The European Film Academy

Since 2016

Member of the jury of David di Donatello Awards Italian Academy of Motion Pictures

Since 2001

Member of FIPRESCI - Fédération Internationale de la Presse Cinématographique

Since 1996

Member of the Italian Federation of Film Critics

Since 1995

Journalist, member of the Italian Journalists' Association

I always and continuously wrote about cinema, working with various magazines, such as: *Voci Off*, *Ciak Magazine*, *GQ Italy*, *Condé Nast Italy*, *Mondadori*, *Panorama*, et al.)

From 1995 I continuously participated to numerous festival and film markets, such as Cannes Film Festival and Marché du Film, Venice International Film Festival, Berlinale - Berlin International Film Festival and European Film Market. I have also occasionally participated to Telluride Film Festival,

Toronto Film Festival, Sundance Film Festival, IDFA - International Documentary Filmfestival Amsterdam, Rome Film Fest and MIA Market, Torino Film Festival.

I always distinguish myself for a focus on the discovery of new talents, working on events of high cultural profile. I personally designed and realized, among the others:

- 2019 First European tribute to Participant Media (celebrated producer of *Green Book*, *The Look of Silence*, *Roma* et al.) @Biografilm Festival
- 2019 Retrospective on *Sundance Film Festival* @Biografilm Festival
- 2018 Word Premiere of *Renzo Piano, An Architect for Santander* by Carlos Saura @Biografilm Festival
- 2018 Retrospective on *DOK Leipzig* @Biografilm Festival
- 2017 Retrospective on *Telluride Film Festival* @Biografilm Festival
- 2016 Retrospective on *Ambulante - Cine Documentale Itinerante* and tribute to Gael García Bernal @Biografilm Festival
- 2015 Celebration of Life Award to Matteo Garrone @Biografilm Festival
- 2014 Tribute to Donn Alan Pennebaker @Biografilm Festival
- 2014 Tribute to Nicolas Philibert @Biografilm Festival
- 2013 Retrospective on Ed Lachman *The Camera and Eye*
- 2012 Tribute to Leonard Maltin @Biografilm Festival
- 2011 Tribute to The Walt Disney Company *The Disney Family Project* at the presence of Diane Disney Miller @Biografilm Festival
- 2010 First European retrospective and tribute to Charlie Kaufman @Biografilm Festival
- 2009 Coordinator with Warner Brothers Entertainment, Inc. of the European event *Woodstock 1969 – 2009* and European premiere of *Motel Woodstock* by Ang Lee
- 2008 Tribute to Hunter S. Thompson
- 2007 Tribute to Fela Kuti *The Black President*
- 2005 Tribute to Douglas Adams and premiere of *The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy* by Garth Jennings @Biografilm Festival
- 2002 First European tribute to Weta Digital and Weta Workshop with Italian premiere of *Lord of the Rings* by Peter Jackson
- 2001 First tribute to the animator and film director Pierre Coffin (creator of *Despicable Me*)
- 2000 First International retrospective on Aardman Animations
- 1999 First European retrospective on Pixar Studios
- 1999 First European retrospective on Hayao Miyazaki @Future Film Festival

- 1998 First European retrospective on James Cameron @Cineteca di Bologna Foundation

From 2005 to today I personally elaborated, as part of Biografilm Festival activities, the construction of an **Honorary Board** of well-known authors of contemporary cinema, keeping contact with most of them for a continuous confrontation about the vision and the aim of the festival.

This Honorary Board includes at the moment, among others: Charlie Kaufman, Francis Ford Coppola, Joshua Oppenheimer, Gael García Bernal, Michal Marczak, Amy Adams, Lenny Abrahamson, Ed Lachman, Soko, Pierce Brosnan, Jaco Van Dormael, Kirill Serebrennikov, Ulrich Seidl, Matteo Garrone, Jeremiah Zagar, Sebastián Lelio, Werner Herzog, Roberto Minervini, Fabrice Luchini, Leonard Maltin, Adina Pintilie.

I have personal relationship with many other festival directors and programmers, as **Julie Huntsinger** from *Telluride Film Festival*, **Alberto Barbera** from *Venice International Film Festival*, **Thierry Frémaux** and **Paolo Moretti** from *Cannes Film Festival*, **Eugene Hernandez** and **Kim Youtani** from *Sundance Film Festival*, **Mike Goodridge** from *International Film Festival & Awards – Macao*, **Eva Sangiorgi** from *Vienna International Film Festival*, **Carlo Chatrian** from *Berlinale - Berlin International Film Festival*, **Nyrabia Orwa** from *IDFA – International Documentary Filmfestival Amsterdam*, **Hussain Currimbhoy** from *Hot Docs Canadian International Documentary Festival*, **Cecilia Barrionuevo** from *Mar del Plata Film Festival*.

TEACHING

2023/2024 - 2024/2025

University of Padova – Performing Arts and Audiovisual Production

Teacher, *Organization of Audiovisual Production*

Since 2016, not continuous

Cineteca di Bologna Foundation

Teacher, various courses, related to festival and distribution fundraising

2013-2017

Biografilm School

Teacher, *Festival Management and Artistic Direction*

2013

ENFAP - Vocational and Professional Education and Training Agency

Teacher, *Fundraising – Cultural Economy*

2012 – 2013

IED - European Design Institute, Florence

Teacher, *Marketing and Communication Integration in Festivals*

2010 - 2011

FoF – Festival of Festival

Teacher, *Flash master in Festival foundation and Management*

2009 – 2010

IED - European Design Institute, Venice

Teacher, *Marketing and Economics in Culture and Events*

2006 – 2007

University of Udine – European Advanced Training Course for Festival Professionals

Teacher, *Film Festival Structure and Management*

2000 – 2001

University of Bologna – Arts, Music and Showbusiness Department

Teacher, *Journalism and Critics for New Media*

2003 - 2006

IED - European Design Institute, Rome

Teacher, *Contemporary Visual Communication*

LANGUAGES

Italian native speaker.

		English	French
Understanding	Listening	C1	C1
	Reading	C1	C1
Speaking	Spoken interaction	C1	C2
	Spoken production	C1	C2
Writing	Writing	B2	C1

Data: 16/06/2025

