



Press Release

The Italian-Canadian Experience in Quebec: films by Italian-Canadian Directors at Library and Archives on Thursday, March 10

Ottawa, February 22, 2011: On **Thursday, March 10**, four films by Italian-Canadian filmmakers will be shown in the Auditorium of Library and Archives Canada, 395 Wellington Street as part of the Canadian Film Institute's series, "*Je me souviens*, Italian-Style: Italian-Canadian Experience in Quebec". The series is co-sponsored by the Dante Alighieri Society, Ottawa and the National Congress of Italian Canadians, Ottawa District.

The films begin at 7:00 pm with ***Ricordati di noi (Don't Forget About Us)***, a short documentary by Paul Tana about *Teledomenica*, a Montreal Italian-language TV program from the 1960s that put Italian immigrants in touch with their families in Italy. The film shows both the role of cinema in the preservation of cultural memory and some very poignant images of the history of Italians in Montreal (2007, 26 min). The film is in French and Italian, and will be shown with English subtitles.

The documentary is followed immediately by ***1981***, a feature film by Ricardo Trogi, which tells the story of a young boy Ricardo who moves to a new neighbourhood in the Québec City area, Ricardo is in sixth-grade and struggles to gain acceptance because, among other things, of his Italian origins. To win approval, he promises his classmates copies of *Playboy* and has a crush on the smartest girl in the class...***1981*** is a charming slice of unabashedly autobiographical filmmaking inspired by the high drama in Trogi's life. This, his third feature, was selected to open the 2009 Montreal World Film Festival, and nominated for the Jutra Awards in 2010. It will be shown in French with Italian subtitles (GO Films, 2008. 102 min)

The films continue at 9:30 pm with ***The Beautiful Mistakes*** and ***Ho fatto il mio coraggio***, two documentary films by Giovanni Princigalli which explore the remarkable stories of Italian immigrants who settled in Ottawa and in Montreal, establishing vibrant communities. ***COURAGE*** is a beautifully interwoven social history focussed mostly on the women who arrived in Montreal in the 1950s betrothed to marry men whom they had never met. (2007 & 2009, 99 minutes, with English subtitles)

Tickets are available at the door, half-hour before film starts. Tickets are \$8.00 for CFI members, students and seniors, and \$12 for non-CFI members.

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For further information, contact

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