

“Il Capo” (The Chief)
a film by Yuri Ancarani



TECHNICAL INFORMATION

Year of Production: 2010

Country: Italy

Format: 35 mm

Ratio: 1.85 :1

Length: 15 min

no dialogues

no subtitles

SYNOPSIS

Monte Bettogli, Carrara: in the marble quarries men and machines dig the mountain. “Il Capo” (The Chief) manages, coordinates and guides quarrymen and heavy-duty machines using a language consisting solely of gestures and signs. Conducting his dangerous and sublime orchestra against the backdrop of the sheerslopes and peaks of the Apuane Alps, the Chief works in total noise, which create a paradoxical silence.

CREDITS

directed by YURI ANCARANI

with FRANCO BARATTINI

Produced by N.O. GALLERY

Executive Producers DENE MEDIA MILANO, GEMEG CARRARA, DADA MEETING POINT

Director of Photography UGO CARLEVARO

Film editing by YURI ANCARANI

Sound Design (Spherical Sound) MIRCO MENCACCI

Original Music by WANG INC.

First Assistant Director ANDREA CASADIO

Still Photographer PIETRO SAVORELLI

Varicam Operators LUCA NERVEGNA, GIACOMO BERNASCONI

Cineflex XDCam Operator FABIO IANNOTTA

Post-Production GRUPPO ANTEPRIMA MILANO

Composers LUCA ESPOSTO, ROBERTA FRANCO, DAVIDE ROMANONI

Sound Recordlist ALESSANDRO ROMANO

Sound editing by PIER GIORGIO DE LUCA, ANDREA CIACCHINI

Sound post-production by SAM

Logistic MICHELE BERGAMINI, LORENZO GATTI, DAVIDE GUIDI

Helicopter ELISERVICE

Helicopter pilot GIANPAOLO BERTONCINI

Thanks to GIANFRANCO VIETTI, GIUSEPPE TAGLIAVINI, EMANUELE MOCARELLI

Filmed in CARRARA (ITALIA), MONTE BETTOLLI

DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT

"In a lot of documentaries about the marble quarries, the quarrymen, are shown as Neorealist archetypes, tough guys made of sweat and swear words. I, on the other hand, admire their practical intelligence: it is a form of elegance that can teach us a lot, and which my head quarryman possesses: he is a man who has style in his gestures and manners. In such a tough and dangerous environment I wanted to highlight an aspect of delicacy".

Yuri Ancarani

REVIEWS

"Yuri Ancarani manages to build frames and angles that are quite unusual in cinema, meant to turn the operation into an even bigger spectacle. Aesthetically and geographically speaking, *Il Capo* is a monumental work."

Bruno Carmelo, [NISIMAZINE](#)

"A choreographed, spooky portrait of a marble quarry, this film features the best use of a monolith and upward pan since Kubrick's 2001. Man, machines, nature come together in an elemental masterpiece".

True/False Film Festival, Columbia

"A surprisingly poetic documentary short shot in an Italian marble quarry, *Il Capo* finds the strangeness in the spinning wheels and giraffe-like necks of heavy machinery, and the grace in the weathered face and nonverbal gestures of the man directing the machines. The film ends with sweeping shots of the mountains that surround the noisy quarry site, perhaps a testament to the power of the work being done there, perhaps as an expression of awe at all that we cannot move."

Victoria Large, NOTCOMING

"The laborious construction of a sensitive mutual trust has allowed the Italian artist Yuri Ancarani to film the work of the quarrymen from Carrara marble Apennines. The landscape and the shape of the mountain is transformed before our eyes, the result of a harmonious choreography between the mysterious coded gestures and movements of the quarry of heavy machinery at his command, assault rock."

David Hudson, MUBI

At the heart of this is a bare-chested man standing in the mist, directing labourers without a word. The «Man» is stood there, unmoving, as massive slabs of marble are being cut by gigantic machines, an incarnation of the «Essence of Man»; the whole shot looks like a perfume advert, the man an orchestra conductor guiding a ballet of machines. A sense of majestic beauty is conferred onto the man via his sign language, through the machines strength and noises, through the slabs of marble.

Clotilde, MYDYLRAMA

UGO CARLEVARO

Graduated at the Scuola Civica di Cinema e Televisione of Milan, Ugo Carlevaro works with various production houses for television projects and for the realisation of advertising videos. He collaborates with many video artists. In 2008 he signed his first feature film as director of photography: "Il Primo Giorno d'Inverno" by Mirko Locatelli, showed at the Mostra del Cinema di Venezia in 2008 and later on at many International Festivals.

MIRCO MENCACCI

Mirco Mencacci, born in 1961 in Pontedera, has been since 1981 the owner of the firm "S.A.M Sistemi Audio di Memorizzazione", a recording studio based in Lari (Pisa), and he is an associate with a post-production studio in Rome. Internationally renown sound designer (last work "Puccini e la fanciulla" by Paolo Benvenuti, 2008), he is the creator of the "spherical sound" system, which he uses in his works. He realized and collaborated in more than 340 movies, Tv series, documentaries, shorts and additions of soundtrack with important directors like Michelangelo Antonioni, Nanni Moretti, Marco Tullio Giordana, Vittorio de Seta, Ferzan Ozpetek. He also realized sound repairs, like the one in 1939 for "Fascisti su marte" by Corrado Guzzanti. Since 2001 he has been developing his own idea for the realization of "InSuono", a sound and renewable energy Theme Park.

Yuri Ancarani

BIOGRAPHY

Yuri Ancarani, Ravenna 1972.

He is a visual artist, director and lecturer in Video Art at the NABA - Nuova Accademia Belle Arti, in Milan.

His works have been shown at national and international museums and exhibitions, such as:

MAXXI, Museo Nazionale delle Arti del XXI secolo (Rome, Italy), *R. Solomon Guggenheim Museum* (New York, USA), *Cinema Eye Honors, Museum of Moving Image* (New York, USA), *Prague Biennial 5* (Prague, Poland), *XIV Biennale Internazionale di Scultura* (Carrara, Italy), *14 Media Art Biennale Wro* (Wroklav, Poland), *ZERO...gallery* (Milan, Italy), *Fair: Berlin* (Berlin, Germany), *T.I.C.A. Tirana Institute of Contemporary Art* (Tirana, Albany), *La Friche Marseille* (France), *Videoart Yearbook 09*.

And at several film festivals:

67th and 68th Venice Film Festival (Venice, Italy), *Hot Docs, Canadian International Documentary Festival* (Toronto, Canada), *Cinema Eye Honors* (Museum of Moving Image, New York), *IFFR International Film Festival Rotterdam* (Rotterdam, The Netherlands), *DocuWest Documentary Film Festival* (Colorado, USA), *23rd IDFA International Documentary Film Festival* (Amsterdam, The Netherlands), *SXSW* (Houston, Texas), *4th Ann Arbor Film Festival* (Michigan, USA) *Full Frame Documentary Festival* (Dhuram, USA), *True/False Film Festival* (Columbia, Missouri), *Cinéma du Réel* (Centre Pompidou, Paris, France).

FILMOGRAPHY

2011 *Piattaforma Luna (Platform Moon)*;

2010 *Il Capo (The Chief)*;

SOLO EXHIBITIONS

2012:

Museo Marino Marini, Florence, Italy (upcoming)

Il Capo and Piattaforma Luna, MAXXI, Museo Nazionale delle Arti del XXI secolo, Rome, Italy

La Malattia del ferro, Galleria ZERO..., Milan, Italy

Il Capo and Piattaforma Luna, R.Solomon Guggenheim Museum, New York, USA

2010:

Made in Italy, critic text Andrea Lissoni, N.O Gallery, Milano, Italy

2009:

Souvenir, curated by the artist, Studio di via Ariani, Ravenna, Italy

Pink Flag, curated by Alessandra Pioselli, T.I.C.A. Tirana Institute of Contemporary Art, Tirana, Albany

2008:

In God We Trust, PlacentiaArte, Piacenza, Italy

Rendering Video, *Yuri Ancarani*, *Kjersti Sundland*, curated by Alessandra Pioselli, T.I.C.A. Tirana Institute of Contemporary Art, Tirana, Albany

2007:

Yuri Ancarani, N.O Gallery, Milano, Italy

Il Gigante di Ravenna, critic text Milovan Farronato, N.O Gallery out of Milano, Italy

2004:

Yuri Ancarani/Laura Henno, curated by Luigi Fassi, Galleria Francesca Aversa, Perugia, Italy

Yuri Ancarani – personale, curated by Maria Rita Bentini e Serena Simoni, Villa Serena, Bologna, Italy

2003:

No border, curated by Maria Rita Bentini e Serena Simoni, MAR Museo d'Arte Contemporanea della Città, Santa Maria delle Croci (RA), Italy

GROUP EXHIBITIONS

2011:

Prague Biennial 5, Prague, Poland

Guarda che Luna, 14 Media Art Biennale Wro, Wroclaw, Poland

2009:

New Italian Epic, curated by Andrea Bruciati, Brown Project Space, Milano, Italy

Multiplo 6 "Uno Nessuno Centomila", N.O. Gallery, out of Milano, Italy

2008:

200 Artisti per Careof, curated by Roberto Pinto, Careof, Milano, Italy

Torinover 08, curated by Elisa Lhenard, Palafuksas, Torino, Italy

Stars, curated by Andrea Bruciati, G.C.A.C. Galleria Comunale d'Arte Contemporanea, Monfalcone (GO), Italy

Videoart Yearbook 2008, curated by Renato Barilli, Alessandra Borgogelli, Paolo Granata, Silvia Grandi, Fabiola Naldi, Paola Segà

Inscape Landscape, N.O. Gallery, Milano, Italy

Fragil, curated by Maite Lores e Keith Patrick, Espay Ubù, Barcelona, Spain

A,B,F,G,M,N,O,R,O,Z..., curated by Chiara Agnello, Fondazione Bevilacqua La Masa, Italy

Gold. Zero Karati, curated by Maria Chiara Valacchi, My Own Gallery, Milano, Italy

2007:

Multiplo 5, N.O. Gallery, Milano, Italy

Twentyfive, Banca Akros, Milano, Italy

Cine Bus, Guido Costa Project, Torino, Italy

Giovani idee cambiano l'Italia, curated by Flavia Fossa Margutti e David Tomasi, Mart, Rovereto, Italy

New entry, curated by Chiara Agnello, C/O Careof, Milano, Italy

Fair Play 2007, Film & Video Award 4th edition, Kino Babylon, Berlin Mitte, Germany

White sun, curated by Andrea Bruciati, G.C.A.C. Galleria Comunale d'Arte Contemporanea, Monfalcone (GO), Italy

Albedo, a new prospective italiana moving images, curated by Andrea Bruciati, Teatro Junghans, Venice, Italy

XII International Media Art Biennale Wro 07, Wroclaw, Poland

Never ending Cinema/Cinema Infinito, curated by Barbara Mattei e Zimmerfrei, Cinema Lumiere, Bologna, Italy

2006:

Quelli del Sud, Catodica 2006/ Lipanjepuntin ArteContemporanea, Trieste, Italy

GeneraComunicazioni.tv, curated by Mario Giorni, Casa Masaccio, San Giovanni Valdarno (AR), Italy

Termometri, curated by Mario Giorni, D'A Spazio d'Arte, Empoli (FI), Italy

Videoreport Italia 04_05, curated by Andrea Bruciati, G.C.A.C. Galleria Comunale d'Arte Contemporanea, Monfalcone (GO), Italy

Never ending Cinema/Cinema Infinito, curated by Barbara Mattei e Zimmerfrei, Galleria Civica, Trento, Italy

Double Happiness, Galleria Civica, Ex Italcementi, Trento, Italy

Video in vitro, curated by Andrea Bruciati, Galleria Medusa, Capodistria

Videotheka, Kunsthalle, Wien, Austria

Media 06, curated by Mario Giorni, Galleria Accursio, Bologna, Italy

2005:

Gemine Muse, Museum of Byzantine Culture, Thessaloniki, Greece

Mediterraneo/Artinformazione N.E.W.S. 2005, curated by Paolo Antognoli e Alessandro Romanini, Fortezza della Brunella, Aulla (MS), Italy

Diverse attitudini, curated by Mario Giorni, Villa delle Rose, Bologna, Italy

ACSE, curated by Andrea Bruciati, Villa delle Rose, Bologna, Italy

2004:

Al Limite, curated by Gabi Scardi, Museo PAV, Barchidda, Sassari, Italy

Empowerment/Cantiere Italia, curated by Marco Scotini, Museo di Villa Croce e Villa Bombrin, Italy

Keep in touch, project open space, GAM Bologna, Areoportto G.Marconi, Bologna, Italy

Making movie, curated by Luigi Fassi, FrancoSoffiantino ArteContemporanea, Torino, Italy

2003:

RAM, Mostre di Artisti Ravennati 2003, curated by Maria Rita Bentini, Santa Maria delle Croci; Ravenna, Sala San Giovanni, Riolo Terme; Palazzo Sforza, Cotignola; Cinema Gulliver, Alfonsine, Italy

Lido Adriano, photographic project published on PANTA (Bompiani), Italy

Note Metropolitane, curated by Riccarda Mandrini, Pavia, Italy

Adriati c/o, curated by Marco Antonini, centro sociale Spartaco, Ravenna, Italy

2001:

Glob, la Torre di Babele, curated by Sandra Solimano, Museo di Villa Croce, Genova, Italy

Biennale delle Arti e delle scienze del Mediterraneo, curated by A. Javino, Palazzo Vanvitelli, Mercato S. Severino (SA), Italy

2000:

Homo Ludens, curated by F. Acevedo, Buenos Aires, M.A.M.B.A Museo d'Arte Contemporanea, Buenos Aires, Argentina

Homo Ludens, curated by F. Acevedo, Centro Culturale Parco di Spagna, Santa Fe, New Mexico

Auguri Monica, curated by Marco Scotini, con S. Bocalini, S. Fadda, P. Almeoni, Galleria Bordone, Milano, Italy

FESTIVALS

2012:

Lo Schermo dell'Arte Film Festival, Florence, Italy

Flagstaff Mountain Film Festival, Flagstaff, Arizona, USA

12° Festival de court metrage Lille, Lille, France

XXII Message to Man International Film Festival, Saint Petersburg, Russia

Encounters Short Film and Animation Festival, Bristol, UK

FilmCaravan Festival, Imperia, Italy

Lago Film Fest, International Festival of Short Films, Documentaries and Screenplays, Treviso, Italy

Kinemastik International Short Film Festival, St. Julians, Malta

19th Herceg Novi Film Festival, Herceg Novi, Montenegro

8th Tabor Film Festival- International Short Film Festival, Zabok, Croatia

Dokufest- International Documentary and Short Film Festival, Prizren, Kosovo

FIB Cinema, Festival Internacional de Cortos, Benicàssim, Spain

20th art film fest IFF Trencianske Teplice/Trenin, Bratislava, Slovakia

Open City Docs Fest, London, UK

28° Hamburg Short Film Festival, Hamburg, Germany

Hot Docs, Canadian International Documentary Festival, Toronto, Canada

Vienna Independent Shorts, Vienna, Austria

Riga International Short Film Festival, Amburgo, Germany

IndieLisboa, 9th International Independent Film Festival, Lisbon, Portugal

Storie dall'Italia, Istituto Italiano di Cultura di Stoccolma, Stockholm, Sweden

KKO, Knock Knock Out Festival, Alsace, France

Terra di Cinema, Festival du nouveau cinéma italien, Tremblay-en-France, France

Festival Do Cinema Italiano, Lisbon, Funchal, Coimbra, Guimares, Porto, Portugal

Regard le court, Saguenay International Short Film Festival, Quèbec, Canada

Tampere Film Festival, Tampere, Finland

Taos Shortz Film Festival, Taos, Mexico

Clermont-Ferrand Film Festival, Clermont-Ferrand, France

IFFR International Film Festival Rotterdam, Rotterdam, The Netherlands

2011:

Cinema Eye, sezione "Nonfiction Short Filmmaking", New York, USA

Bergfilm Festival, Salzburg, Austria

Bucharest International Experimental Film Festival, Bucharest, Roumania

Plus Camerimage Festival, Bydgoszcz, Poland

L'Alternativa, Barcelona Independent Film Festival, Barcellona, Spain

Images en Vue, 8° Festival de Court Metrages, Iles de la Madeleine, Quebec, Canada

7° Silhouette Film Festival, Paris, France

CIFF- Camden International Film Festival, Camden, USA

OFF-COURTS Trouville, International PCC, Québec, Canada

Milano Film Festival, Milano, Italy

Orizzonti, 68th Venice Film Festival, Venice, Italy

New Currents Shorts, 17th SFF Sarajevo Film Festival, Sarajevo, Bosnia Herzegovina

Lussasdoc, Lussas, France

Concerto Film Festival, Pontenure (PC), Italy

XIV Cervino CineMountain Film Festival, Cervino, Italy

DocuWest, Documentary Film Festival, Colorado, USA

Cinema Corto in Bra, International Short Film Festival, Bra (CN), Italy

New Horizon I.F.F., Wroclaw, Poland

SFF Sidney Film Festival, Sidney, Australia

Open City Docs Fest, London, UK

59° Trento Film Festival, Trento, Italy

EDOC_ Encuentros del otro cinema, Festival Internacional de Cine Documental, Quito, Ecuador

New Docs, Full Frame Documentary Film Festival, Durham, USA
4th Ann Arbor Film Festival, Michigan, USA
Cinéma du Réel, 33rd International Documentary Film Festival, Centre Pompidou, Paris, France
SXSW, South by Southwest, Austin, Texas
True/False Film Festival, Columbia, Missouri, USA

2010:

IDFA, 23rd International Documentary Film Festival, Sezione "Reflecting Images - Best of Fests", Amsterdam, The Netherlands

Orizzonti, 67th Venice Film Festival, Venice, Italy

2009:

28. Asolo Art Film Festival, Asolo, Italy

Fiav 07/Festival d'Images Artistiques Video, Centre Pablo Neruda, Nimes, France

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