



**Best leading actor**  
Silvio Orlando

**Best original screenplay**  
Leonardo Di Costanzo  
Bruno Oliviero  
Valia Santella

**tempesta and Rai Cinema**  
present

a **tempesta / Carlo Cresto-Dina** production  
with **Rai Cinema**  
in co-production with **Amka Films Productions**

# ARIAFERMA

directed by  
**Leonardo Di Costanzo**

**Toni Servillo Silvio Orlando**  
**Fabrizio Ferracane**

Italian and International Distribution  
**VISION DISTRIBUTION**

Swiss Distribution  
**NOHA FILM**  
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Trailer (mp4 e DCP)

link: <https://we.tl/t-L6y0C537jl>

## CAST

**TONI SERVILLO**

Gaetano Gargiulo

**SILVIO ORLANDO**

Carmine Lagioia

**FABRIZIO FERRACANE**

Franco Coletti

**SALVATORE STRIANO**

Cacace

**ROBERTO DE FRANCESCO**

Buonocore

**PIETRO GIULIANO**

Fantaccini

**NICOLA SECHI**

Arzano

**LEONARDO CAPUANO**

Sanna

**ANTONIO BUIL**

Bertoni

**GIOVANNI VASTARELLA**

Mazzena

**FRANCESCA VENTRIGLIA**

Warden

## **CREW**

directed by

**LEONARDO DI COSTANZO**

written by

**LEONARDO DI COSTANZO, BRUNO OLIVIERO, VALIA SANTELLA**

general manager

**GIORGIO MAGLIULO**

cinematographer

**LUCA BIGAZZI**

editor

**CARLOTTA CRISTIANI**

set designer

**LUCA SERVINO**

original music

**PASQUALE SCIALO'**

floor sound engineer

**XAVIER LAVOREL**

costume designer

**FLORENCE EMIR**

make-up artist

**MARY SAMELE**

sound editor

**DANIELA BASSANI**

sound recordist

**MAXENCE CIEKAWY**

assistant director

**DAVID MARIA PUTORTÌ**

casting

**ALESSANDRA CUTOLO**

acting coach

**ANTONIO CALONE**

executive producers

**JAN PACE, JAMES ATHERTON**

## CREDITS

producer	<b>CARLO CRESTO-DINA</b>
co-producers	<b>MICHELA PINI, AMEL SOUDANI</b>
associate producers	<b>VALERIA JAMONTE, MANUELA MELISSANO</b>
associate producer	<b>ALESSIO LAZZARESCHI</b>
production	<b>TEMPESTA / CARLO CRESTO-DINA with RAI CINEMA</b>
co-producer	<b>AMKA FILMS PRODUCTIONS</b>
co-producer	<b>RSI RADIOTELEVISIONE SVIZZERA</b>
in collaboration with	<b>VISION DISTRIBUTION</b>
financial support	<b>EURIMAGES</b> <b>UFFICIO FEDERALE DELLA CULTURA (UFC)</b>
in collaboration with	<b>SKY</b> <b>PRIME VIDEO</b> <b>QUICKFIRE</b>
financial support	<b>MIC - Direzione Generale Cinema e Audiovisivo</b> <b>REGIONE AUTONOMA SARDEGNA</b> <b>SARDEGNA FILM COMMISSION</b> <b>REGIONE LAZIO - Fondo Regionale per il Cinema e l'Audiovisivo</b>
Italian and International Distribution	<b>VISION DISTRIBUTION</b>

## SYNOPSIS

In an inaccessible location on the Italian territory, an old nineteenth-century jail is in the process of being vacated, when bureaucracy comes in the way. Together with a handful of officers, a dozen prisoners are left behind in a suspended bubble where rules get hazy, and new relationships form.

## DIRECTOR'S NOTES

Mortana prison does not exist in reality: it is an imaginary place, built after visiting many different jails. In most of them, we met with people who were willing to talk and tell us their stories. Sometimes, our interviews involved prison officers, wardens, and convicts in the same session. On those occasions, an unexpected atmosphere of conviviality took form, and competition would start as to who would tell us the best story. There were laughs, too. Then, when the moment was over, everyone would go back to their roles, and the officers in uniforms, keys clinking in their hands, would take the prisoners back to their cells. As outsiders, this drastic return to reality would make us feel disoriented. And it was just this very feeling of disorientation that drove the making of this film: *The Inner Cage* is not about the conditions in Italian prisons. It is most likely about the absurdity of prison itself.

*Leonardo Di Costanzo*

## THE DIRECTOR

After graduating from the University of Naples in 1992, Leonardo Di Costanzo moved to Paris, where he gained valuable experience in directing documentaries, receiving awards in many international festivals. His first feature film, "**The Interval**", was screened at the Venice Film Festival and won, among many awards, a David di Donatello as Best New Director. "**The Intruder**", his second film, was shortlisted at Cannes, in the Quinzaine des Réalisateur section. With the segment "**L'avant-poste**", he participated in the collective production "**Bridges of Sarajevo**", selected at Cannes for the Séance spéciales section.

## FILMOGRAPHY

2021 - THE INNER CAGE

2017 - THE INTRUDER - *Quinzaine des Réalisateur*

2014 - BRIDGES OF SARAJEVO (segment "L'avant-poste")

2012 - THE INTERVAL - *Venice Film Festival FIPRESCI Prize*

2011 - CADENZA D'INGANNO

2006 - ODESSA (with Bruno Oliviero)

2003 - AT SCHOOL

1999 - PROVE DI STATO

## THE PRODUCTION

**tempesta** was founded in 2009 by Carlo Cresto-Dina. His previous work, carried out under the umbrella of important production companies in Italy and London, gave birth to relevant movies by famous authors such as Ken Loach, Abbas Kiarostami, Emir Kusturica, Ermanno Olmi and Fernando Trueba, as well as to dozens of prizewinning titles by young filmmakers.

Produced by **tempesta**, Alice Rohrwacher's *Happy as Lazzaro* and *The Wonders* were awarded Best Screenplay and Grand Prix at the Cannes Film Festival.

While new films are in the works, **tempesta** is also carrying out TV series projects.

British director Cathy Brady's debut feature, *Wildfire*, has been produced by the company's overseas branch, **tempesta UK**, and it is currently in its post-production phase.

### Filmography

2021	<i>Calcinculo (post-production)</i>	Chiara Bellosi
2021	<i>The Inner Cage</i>	Leonardo Di Costanzo
2019	<i>Ordinary Justice</i>	Chiara Bellosi
2018	<i>Happy as Lazzaro</i>	Alice Rohrwacher
2017	<i>The Intrusion</i>	Leonardo Di Costanzo
2016	<i>Pawn Street</i>	Irene Dionisio
2015	<i>Fräulein – A winter's tale</i>	Caterina Carone
2014	<i>Donkey Flies</i>	Paolo Tripodi e Marcello Fonte
2014	<i>The Wonders</i>	Alice Rohrwacher
2012	<i>The Interval</i>	Leonardo Di Costanzo
2010	<i>Heavenly Body</i>	Alice Rohrwacher

**Amka Films Productions** is active in the film and television production of feature films and documentaries. Founded in 1987 by Tiziana Soudani (1955-2020) and Mohammed Soudani (director of *Waalo Fendo*, Swiss Film Award 1998, Best Fiction Film), it became a public limited company in 1988. Among many others, **Amka Films** produced the box-office hit *Bread and Tulips* by Silvio Soldini, the award-winning *Happy as Lazzaro*, by Alice Rohrwacher, *Favolacce* (Bad Tales) by the D'Innocenzo Brothers, Silver Bear at the Berlinale 2020 ([www.amka.ch](http://www.amka.ch)). **Amka Films'** productions are overseen since 2020 by Amel Soudani and Michela Pini, and a team including producers Olga La Montanara and Rhea Plangg and junior producer Sarah Schiesser. Among the many films in the pipeline we can mention the fiction series *Doppelgänger* by Erik Bernasconi and the Ghimel collective, *Happy 40* by Robert Ralston, and Alice Rohrwacher's latest film, *La Chimera*.

## PRODUCTION NOTES by CARLO CRESTO-DINA

We have been working with Leonardo Di Costanzo for several years: after the documentaries came *"The Interval"* (Venice Festival 2013) and *"The Intruder"* (Cannes, Quinzaine 2018), which both cast non-professional actors who had undergone long and hard workshop training. It is now the time of *"The Inner Cage"* which has been written with two great actors in mind: Toni Servillo and Silvio Orlando.

We filmed in Sardinia, between two different "bubbles": the physical cage that was the prison, and the pandemic lockdown that every night confined the whole team in a hotel. We believe it was important to participate in this captivity together with our cast and crew.

Working with our authors invariably represents a teachable moment for us. *"The Inner Cage"* is, once again, a "civil" movie, the kind we care about. A prison that could be found anywhere in Italy or around the world, a congealed setting where the smallest gesture turns into a reflection on guilt, punishment, and the whole concept of imprisonment.

Once again, Leonardo Di Costanzo tells us a story that ranges from minimal to universal.

## THE DISTRIBUTION

Vision is a distribution company born in December 2016 as a joint venture between Sky Italia and five major Italian independent studios: **Cattleya, Wildside, Lucisano Media Group, Palomar, and Indiana Production.**

In 2018, Vision Distribution earned the **golden ticket for Highest Grossing Italian Film** with Riccardo Milani's **Like a Cat on a Highway**, starring Paola Cortellesi and Antonio Albanese and produced by Wildside. The movie grossed over 10 million euro and was viewed by more than one and a half million people.

In 2019, Vision Distribution co-produced and distributed Claudio Giovannesi's **Piranhas**, based on Roberto Saviano's book, which won a **Silver Bear for Best Screenplay** at the **69th Berlin Film Festival**, Riccardo Milani's **Don't Stop Me Now**, starring Paola Cortellesi, a comedy that, as of today, is the highest Italian grossing film on Easter weekend since 2010, Alessandro Siani's **The Most Beautiful Day in the World**, which grossed nearly 3 million euro on its first weekend, and Marco D'Amore's debut movie **The Immortal**, which ranked as best grossing Italian film on a weekday in the past five years.

In February 2020, at the **70th Berlin Film Festival**, **Bad Tales** won a **Silver Bear for Best Screenplay**. In September 2020, Vision Distribution presents Claudio Noce's **Our Father**, with Pierfrancesco Favino, who won a **Coppa Volpi** at the **77th Venice Film Festival**.

As of today, Vision Distribution **has distributed over 50 films.**

## ECOMUVI



*The Inner Cage* complies with EcoMuvi environmental sustainability criteria.

EcoMuvi is the first and only European sustainability protocol for film production. It actively rethinks the film-making process, providing guidelines to analyze and reduce the environmental impact.

It is not just about counterbalance, it is about respect and making intelligent and waste-free use of resources.