

A 30MILES FILM AND PIEBALD FILM PRODUCTION IN ASSOCIATION WITH CINEMATOGRAFICA LIGHT SERVICE

WITH MASSIMO BONETTI, DANIEL BONDÌ, LEE LEVI, FLORENCE NICOLAS, ARIANNA ALOI, VERONICA BRUNI, IVRIYA EYDAR, DENIS PERSICHINI, GIULIETTA REVEL, GENNARO CASSINI, AURORA RAVELLI, BARBARA DI MATTIA

FREELY ADAPTED FROM THE NOVEL GLI ANNI DEL PADRE BY DOMENICO MATTIOLI, GIANANTONIO BARBARELLA

SCREENPLAY ANNA PAVIGNANO, STEFANO VENERUSO, BARBARA DI MATTIA, ALFREDO MORABITO LITERARY, HISTORICAL AND RELIGIOUS CONSULTING DROR EYDAR

PRODUCTION COORDINATOR FEDERICA SGUEGLIA PRODUCTION MANAGER DINO VENERUSO PRODUCTION CONSULTANT EDUARDO RUMOLO PRODUCTION DESIGNER PAOLO INNOCENZI

COSTUME DESIGNER ANTONELLA BALSAMO MAKE-UP VALENTINA PEZONE LOCATION SOUND MIXER DAVIDE GAUDENZI SCRIPT SUPERVISOR SAMUELA ZAMPAGNI FIRST ASSISTANT DIRECTOR MARTINO MANGIACAPRA EDITING FABIO SORMANI

LINE PRODUCER RAFFAELE VENERUSO CINEMATOGRAPHER DANIELE POLI A.I.C./IMAGO ASSOCIATED PRODUCER GIULIETTA REVEL, LUIGI CARAMANNA PRODUCED BY BARBARA DI MATTIA

DIRECTED BY STEFANO VENERUSO

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AWARD CROSSING SCRIPT 2019

The years of the father

CROSSING SCRIPT AWARD *Lazio Film Commission* - Israel Cinema Project & Rabinovich Foundation.

M I C: Contribution for Development and Pre-Production (Won).
M I C: Contribution for Production (Won).

Status Post-production
Production company 30Miles Film Srl, Piebald Film Srl, in association with Cinematografica Light Service Srl
Producer Barbara Di Mattia
Associate producer Giulietta Revel, Luigi Caramanna
Director Stefano Veneruso
Genre Drama
Screenplay Anna Pavignano, Stefano Veneruso, Barbara Di Mattia, Alfredo Morabito
Screenplay Dror Eydar (Literary, historical and religious consulting)
Based on the novel *The years of the father* by Domenico Mattioli and Gianantonio Barbarella
Line producer Raffaele Veneruso
Dop Daniele Poli
Set designer Paolo Innocenzi
Editor Fabio Sormani
Video graphic designer Aldo Boccolari
Costume designer Antonella Balsamo
Language English, Italian, Hebrew
Country of production Italy
Post production Italy

CAST
Massimo Bonetti, Daniel Bondì, Lee Levi, Florence Nicolas, Arianna Aloi, Ivriya Eydar, Denis Persichini, Gennaro Cassini, Aurora Ravelli, Veronica Bruni, Giulietta Revel, Barbara Di Mattia

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Synopsis
by Stefano Veneruso

Joseph, a thirty years old young Israeli Orthodox Jew, discovers that his father, whom he has always believed dead and has never known, is alive and has created a family in Italy. Joseph's decision is imperative: in order to get to know his father and conquer the status of a son, which he missed and suffered immensely in childhood, is willing to leave, to relinquish the protective figure of his mother Ester and his uncle Shmuel who raised him with love and also forsake his religion.

Sebastiano, his father, is more than ever on the run from his past. He leads a typically middle-class life, comforted by a model family, a wife and two studious children whom he loves immensely and spoils in every way.

Will Sebastiano be willing to recognize and accept, after so many years, the deliberately "forgotten" son?

Joseph, having arrived in Italy, manages to find his father and reveals to him the purpose of his visit: to be finally recognized and loved like the other children. Sebastiano, after an initial refusal, does not seem to hold back, but asks for time and for the moment decides to introduce him as a family friend, then meets him clandestinely to get to know each other better. The confrontation with the siblings, to whom Sebastiano will constantly submit him to, will be painful and humiliating for Joseph.

The frequent meetings between the two prove to be an authentic torture, a lacerating game of acceptance and rejection, a search for affection and vindication, indifference, anger, hope. Dynamics that could continue forever if fate had not intervened to clear the cards: Sebastiano, who in the meantime has fallen ill, remains alone in the world and the only one who can take care of him is Joseph, who will dedicate himself completely to his father, becoming his salvation and his tormentor. Joseph will look after his father, giving up his own life, but he will torment him daily by reminding him of his sins, the cruelty of fate that made him lose his model family, his total dependence on him. But they will finally be father and son and Joseph will have his satisfaction and his revenge.

Character Profiles

Joseph is a young man in his early thirties; he grew up with his mother, his aunt and his uncle in Jerusalem. He loves music and takes lessons of guitar. His daily life, serene and carefree, is upset by a clamorous revelation: his father Sebastiano, whom he has always believed dead, he is alive and well, living in Rome with his wife and their two children. After many ambushes he finally finds his father. Joseph becomes restless and irritable, blinded by jealousy and by his father's false promises of recognize him as his legitimate child. Joseph's repressed feeling in regards to his father, result in planning a revenge. During an umpteenth argument, Joseph's despair reaches its peak so much so that it triggers a sensational epilogue. When fate gives him the opportunity to finally have the role of a son, he will welcome it with open arms, but it will be too late to recover the filial love towards a father who has never given him anything: the two will only have one sick coexistence made of mutual torment.

Sebastiano, sixty-five years of age, grew up in a small town in southern Italy. He is accustomed to comfort and luxury, thanks to the fact that Marisa, his wife, comes from a wealthy family. Sebastiano has a jovial character, though living a life marked by a heavy lie. Suddenly, his quiet daily life is struck by a drastic shock: Joseph, a child born to him when a youngster in Israel and which has never taken care of, came to Italy to look for him. Nevertheless, he continues to live as he has always done, revealing his innate superficiality, addressing problems irresponsibly, continuing to escape from himself and from his duties as a man and father. Even when, for brief moments, the words of his son Joseph, seem to awaken in him a light, which anyhow, fails to enlighten his consciousness. Struck by a misfortune, although he does not want to, he will end up accepting the child who has always been rejected.

Elisa is a woman who grew up in a town in northern Italy, with a strong character, independent and rebellious. She meets Joseph and despite the obvious cultural and social diversity, a love relationship begins between them, her strong personality has a considerable influence on Joseph 's already complicated relationship with his father, definitively degenerating. Elisa proves soon to be, for Joseph, the wrong girl at the wrong time. Elisa is unable to accept Joseph's total emotional submission towards Sebastiano, his weakness kills the love she felt for him.

Marisa, Sebastiano's wife, housewife in her late fifties. She comes from a middleclass family in northern Italy. A snobbish and formal woman, not so devoted to the life of her husband and children, incapable of showing affection, will prove to be, despite everything, comprehensive in regards to Joseph.

Luisa is a confident young woman, the spoiled daughter of Sebastiano, accustomed to a life of luxury and constant attention. She places great value on material possessions, as evident from her enthusiastic reaction to the gold necklace. Luisa is superficial and lacking in empathy, focusing more on appearances than on the feelings of others. Thus, Luisa embodies the privileges of a wealthy life but lacks emotional depth and has a rather superficial view of human relationships.

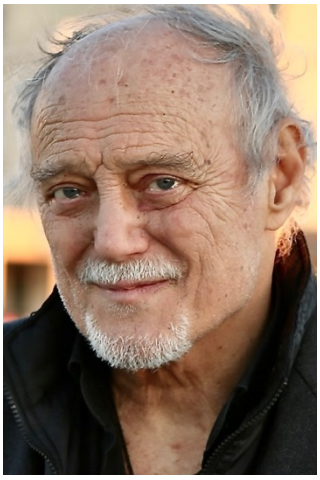
Ester, fifty years old she is Joseph's mother. She lived her life bringing up her son trying to compensate the absence of his father, who coldly abandoned them even before Joseph was born. Sustained by her sister in law Teresa and from her husband Shmuel, did the impossible for Joseph not to miss anything. Ester's life was dramatically signed by great sacrifices, sorrows and disappointments, worn out from having hidden the truth about his father to her son, so much so as to make her hopelessly ill.

Ruth, thirteen years old, nephew of Teresa and Shmuel, very beautiful and lively, impertinent and nice, definitely more mature than her age, she has a very nice and affectionate relationship with her uncle Joseph.

Teresa, sixty years old, she is Sebastiano's sister, combative woman, strong and firm character, for Joseph she is like a second mother. She arrived in Israel from Italy thanks to her language studies, but then she fell in love and remained there. Always present in Ester and Joseph's life, almost as if she felt guilty that her brother Sebastiano has abandoned them forever. This resulted in the two women becoming close like sisters, to the point of choosing to live together under the same roof to educate and bring up Joseph.

Shmuel, Joseph 's uncle, Teresa's husband and Ester's brother, is a handsome man in his sixties. Shmuel raised Joseph as his own son. He is a rabbi, dressed in accordance with his role, a hat and black overcoat. Very calm and determined, he is the authority figure in the home. He imposed a total cancellation of Sebastiano from the family, so much so that Teresa also completely cut ties with him. When Joseph decides to leave in search of his father, Shmuel will give him an ultimatum: either your family or your father. Joseph will not hesitate and will choose his father, even before having met him.

Cast - *The years of the father*



Massimo Bonetti (Sebastiano)



Daniel Bondì (Joseph)



Lee Levi (Elisa)



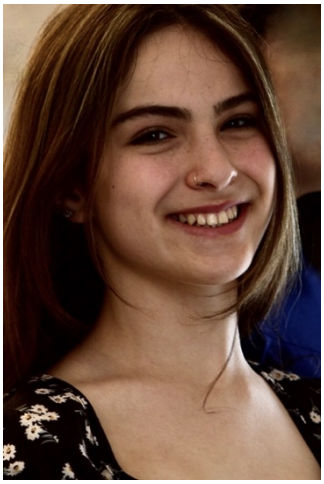
Florence Nicolas (Marisa)



Arianna Aloi (Luisa)



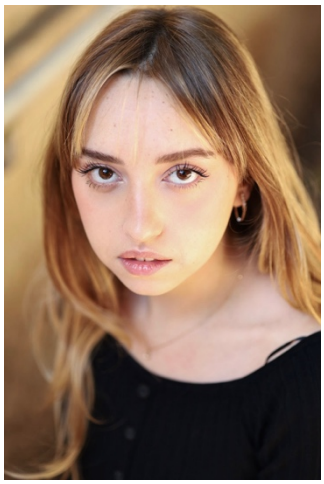
Denis Persichini (Pietro)



Ivriya Eydar (Ruth)



Gennaro Cassini (Alberto)



Aurora Ravelli (Danila)

Our team



Stefano Veneruso director, screenwriter and producer began his carrier as assistant director for the Academy Award-winning film *The Postman, (Il Postino).* He contemporaneously directed the movie's *"Behind the Scenes*", which earned him several awards. Stefano moved to Los Angeles and studied filmmaking at both UCLA and at the AFI. While living in Los Angeles Stefano directed his first short film: *I'm Sophie and You?* The film was granted several awards. In 1997 Stefano produced a compact disc *Nei Tuoi Occhi*, in memorial of Massimo Troisi, a collection of love poems by the world-renown poet Pablo Neruda, were read by notorious Italian artists, eventually racked up huge commercial rewards and critical tributes, selling 250.000 copies. In 2000, Stefano was an assistant for Martin Scorsese's film *Gangs of New York*. After working as assistant to Mel Gibson on the set of *The Passion of The Christ*, Stefano directed and produced the film *All the Invisible Children*, released in 120 countries, directed among others by Spike Lee, John Woo, Emir Kusturica and Ridley Scott. Furthermore, he directed musical videos for artists such as Tina Turner and Elisa. Recently, Stefano directed the docu-film *We, People of September* on the life of Franco Califano, a renowned Italian singers and song writers, selected at the Rome Film Festival 2011. In 2014 he is co-author and directs the play *What do I think of Switzerland*, played by Giancarlo Giannini. In 2018 he writes and directs the show *Annunciazione Annunciazione!*, in honor of Massimo Troisi and the 40 years of *La Smorfia.* In 2019 he is author and director of the play *Troisi Poeta Massimo* and art director of the homonymous multimedia exhibition. In 2022 he is the creator and art director of the collective exhibition of contemporary art *I volti di Massimo Troisi* - Palazzo D'Avalos, as part of the program *Procida Italian Capital of Culture 2022,* achieving a huge success.
In 2022 he is director, screenwriter and producer of the film *Starting tomorrow I'll get up late*, inspired by the life of his uncle, Massimo Troisi, starring John Lynch and Gabriella Pession. On February 13th 2023, the film was screened at the auditorium of the prestigious National Archaeological Museum of Naples and on May 3 it has been screened at the Italian Parliament, and on September 15th at the Italian Senate, in the presence of the highest institutional authorities. In 2023 the film is selected at Giffoni Film Festival - Special Events, also won the prize Premio Charlot - Speciale Cinema 2023. In the same year he directed and produced the docufilm *Speciale Il Postino - A look inside (1994-2024).* In 2023 he is the author of the book *Massimo Troisi - Il mio verbo preferito è evitare* (Massimo Troisi - My favorite verb is to avoid), published by Rizzoli, with which he participates in numerous literary reviews, winning the 2023 Charlot Prize, as book of the year. In 2023 he was jury member of the Tehran International Film Festival. Since 2014 he has been the honorary president of the *Short Film Festival... Corto ma non troppo!,* a competition for short films interpreted and made by people with mental illness. In the two-year period 2019-2020 he was president of the jury of the Massimo Troisi Award. Since 2009 he is member of ItalianAttori, the soccer team made up of Italian actors and directors who play to raise funds for various charitable initiatives.



Barbara Di Mattia producer, actress and screenwriter, started her career as print model and actress. She also starred in various Tv movies and Tv shows, plays, films and numerous commercials for international brands like Nutella, Barilla, Mulino Bianco, Bialetti, Johnson, etc. In 2004 Barbara moved to Los Angeles where studied production for film and television and where she produced several Tv shows, web series and documentaries. In 2015 she produces the docufilm *Insanity* (I danni dell'inverno); in 2018 she produces with 30Miles Film the show *Annunciazione Annunciazione! Revuoto 2018* - (piazza del Plebiscito, Naples), in honor of Massimo Troisi and the 40 years of *La Smorfia.*
In 2019 produced along with Istituto Luce - Cinecittà the multimedia exhibition and the homonymous play entitled *Troisi Poeta Massimo* debuted at the Teatro dei Dioscuri al Quirinale in Rome, and later at Cinema Anteo (Milano), both exhibition and play have been repited at the Maschio Angioino and Castel dell'Ovo (Naples), achieving a huge success. In December 2020 the *Troisi Poeta Massimo* play made its debut in streaming from the *Premio Massimo Troisi*, recording a sold-out crowd, reaching over 45,000 spectators. In 2022 she produced in collaboration with Rai Cinema the film *Starting tomorrow I'll get up late*, inspired by the life of Massimo Troisi, starring John Lynch and Gabriella Pession. The worldwide premiere was held on February 13th 2023 at prestigious MANN (Naples National Archaeological Museum), and on May 3 it has been screened at the Italian Parliament, and on September 15th at the Italian Senate, in the presence of the highest institutional authorities. In 2023 the film is selected at Giffoni Film Festival - Special Events; also won the prize Premio Charlot - Speciale Cinema 2023, and the award Trani Festival Del Cinema e Del Mare. In 2022 she produced the collective exhibition of contemporary art *I volti di Massimo Troisi* - Palazzo D'Avalos, as part of the program Procida Italian Capital of Culture 2022, achieving a huge success. In the same year she produced the docufilm *Il Postino - A look inside (1994-2024).*



Giulietta Revel is an actress, producer, director, writer, television host, and performer. Graduated in Political Science in Turin, her subsequent studies are concentrated on performing arts, dance, and contemporary art. She made her debut as an actress with the Teatro di Roma and premiered under the direction of Renato Giordano in the play "Cabiria," which won an award at the Fondi Festival. She served as assistant director to Castellano and Pipolo ("Il Vigile," 12 episodes for Rai1) and in the series "Le Comiche" with Neri Parenti. In 1992, she became the first woman to enlist in the experimental group of the Italian Army.
In 2001, she worked as assistant director to Maestro Dario Argento in the film "Non ho sonno." She has acted in numerous television series, including "Don Matteo," "Incantesimo," "Orgoglio," "Eravamo solo mille," "Il commissario Manara," "Pompei," "Ho sposato uno sbirro," "Aldilà del lago," "Il tredicesimo apostolo," and "Squadra Mobile." She is best known for the international series "Giovanni Paolo II," where she worked alongside Jon Voight. She has hosted several television formats alongside Maurizio Costanzo. In theater, she has produced and performed in various shows presented at the La Versiliana Festival, and most recently (2021), she directed and adapted "*Giro di Vite"* by Henry James. For cinema, she has produced and directed the short films *I colori del buio* (NYC Film Festival Award) and *Where Is My Tomorrow?*, a docu-fiction made in Vietnam for the NGO Animals Asia Foundation. She writes for several newspapers (l'Opinione, Il Giornale) and recently collaborated with Corriere della Sera (Corriere Torino) in the culture pages. In 2021, she published her first novel, "*La Fanciulla dalle Mani d'Argento*", with Cairo Editore.
In 2021, she founded her Production Company, Piebald Film, with which, in 2023, she wrote, directed, produced, and distributed the film *Next!*. She is currently preparing a new film titled "*Il becco prodigioso*" and numerous television and documentary projects, including "Pasquale Squitieri: il vizio della libertà", in collaboration with Rai Documentari and Cinecittà Istituto Luce.



Raffaele Veneruso is a line producer and an executive producer with a long professional career. What sets him apart is his exceptional organizational skills, developed in the field, and his ability to take on any role within a film crew. He can accurately and precisely identify the operational needs of a production and intervene with quick and intuitive solutions, optimizing time and resources. His expertise also extends to the economic and contractual aspects, budgeting, technical review of scripts with production planning, supervision of audio and video production, as well as editing and post-production. He has worked on over 100 films, both for cinema and television. Some notable titles include *"Il piccolo Diavolo", "Il caso Moro", "Padre Pio", "Ci sta ancora la valigia sul letto", "Massimo, il mio cinema secondo me", "Donna per amico", "Nassyria", "Christopher Roth", "All the Invisible children"*, as well as the entire filmography of Massimo Troisi up to *The Postman – Il Postino*. He has worked alongside major producers, writers, and directors such as Paolo and Vittorio Taviani, Massimo Troisi, Roberto Benigni, Franco Zeffirelli, Spike Lee, Ridley Scott, John Woo, Emir Kusturica, and many others.
He was among the first to collaborate with the emerging regional Film Commissions, making a substantial contribution to the start-up phase of these organizations, particularly in the regions of Piedmont and Apulia.
In recent years, alongside major projects, he has also dedicated himself to new emerging cinema, supporting young producers and directors and making his extensive experience and expertise available to them through consulting and technical staff training.



Anna Pavignano is an Italian screenwriter, she wrote many successful films including the entire filmography of Massimo Troisi, one of the greatest Italian actors of all time. In 1996 Anna received an Academy Award nomination (best foreign screenplay) for the Oscar winning film The Postman "*Il Postino*". In 2020 she is screenwriter of the film *Starting tomorrow I'll get up late* with directed by Stefano Veneruso, with John Lynch and Gabriella Pession.



Alfredo Morabito author, writer, composer and director has worked in several very successful TV shows such as: "School Rocks", "Island of the famous", "Sarabanda", "La Fattoria", "La Talpa", and others. He also wrote the books "Il Concerto di Apollo" (Feltrinelli Editore) and "Il Pescatore Giovanni", winner of the fifth edition of the unpublished works section Sardinia. He is also a radio host, director and author for the Italian Rai Radiotelevisione.



Dror Eydar is an Israeli writer, diplomat, and scholar. He earned a Ph.D. in Hebrew and Jewish Literature from Bar-Ilan University. Previously, he served as a columnist and op-ed editor for *Israel Hayom*. On September 2, 2019, he was appointed Israel's Ambassador to Italy, a position he held until September 2022.



Daniele Poli is an Italian cinematographer renowned for his refined visual style and his ability to create evocative imagery. With a strong technical and artistic background, Poli has worked on a wide range of projects, including feature films, documentaries, commercials, and music videos. His career is marked by a constant pursuit of aesthetic and narrative excellence, with a particular focus on lighting and composition - elements he uses to amplify the emotional impact of the stories he helps tell. He has collaborated with prominent directors both in Italy and internationally, contributing to visually memorable and technically flawless works.



Fabio Sormani editor, born in Rome, after graduating as an industrial technician he started dealing with videomaking. In 2006 he began his studies at the Griffith 2000 Academy of Cinema and Television. He began working on various short films and then he joined Imago Casting in 2016 as editor for various productions. in 2020 he is the editor of the film *Starting tomorrow I'll get up late*, directed by Stefano Veneruso, with John Lynch and Gabriella Pession.



Aldo Boccolari video graphic designer, editor, photographer has over 30 years of experience. For more than 20 years, he has been one of the editors and artistic-technical consultants at 30Miles Film.



Paolo Innocenzi is an Italian set designer. A graduate in Architecture, he has worked in both cinema and television with directors such as Michele Massimo Tarantini, Luca Manfredi, and Sergio Martino.

30MILES FILM is an independent film and theater production and distribution company, founded in 2008 by Stefano Veneruso (director, screenwriter and producer) due to his passion for cinema and from the solid previous experience in the film industry acquired between 1990 and 2010, initially with the family company Esterno Mediterraneo Film, Massimo Troisi's film production company, Oscar winner for *The Postman – Il Postino* (1996), and then with MK Film Productions where Veneruso produced and directed the film *All the Invisible Children* (distributed in over 120 countries) also co-directed by Ridley Scott, Spike Lee, Emir Kusturica and John Woo.

30MILES FILM has also produced several music videos for artists such as Tina Turner for the song *Teach me again*, directed by Stefano Veneruso, Dop Vittorio Storaro (3 times Oscar winner).
In 2011, 30MILES produced the docufilm *Noi di Settembre (We, people of September),* starring Franco Califano, one of the greatest Italian singers and songwriter of all time, selected at the Rome Film Festival, directed by Stefano Veneruso.

In 2014 produced the play *What do I think of Switzerland*? starring Giancarlo Giannini, directed by Stefano Veneruso.
In 2018 produced the show *Annunciazione, Annunciazione* (piazza del Plebiscito, Naples), directed by Stefano Veneruso, starring greatest artists of the Italian show business.
In 2019 produced along with Istituto Luce - Cinecittà the multimedia exhibition and the homonymous play entitled *Troisi Poeta Massimo* debuted at the Teatro dei Dioscuri al Quirinale in Rome, and later at Cinema Anteo (Milan), both exhibition and play have been repited at the Maschio Angioino and Castel dell'Ovo (Naples), achieving a huge success. In December 2020 the *Troisi Poeta Massimo* show made its debut in streaming from the *Premio Massimo Troisi*, recording a sold-out crowd, reaching over 45,000 spectators.

In 2022 produced, in collaboration with Rai Cinema, the film inspired by the life of Massimo Troisi, one of the best italian actor and director of all time, entitled *Starting tomorrow I'll get up late* starring John Lynch and Gabriella Pession, the premiere was held on February 13th 2023 at MANN Museo Archeologico Nazionale di Napoli (Naples National Archaeological Museum), on May 3rd it has been screened at the Italian Parliament, and on September 15th at the Italian Senate, in the presence of the highest institutional authorities.
30MILES FILM produced the collective exhibition of contemporary art *I volti di Massimo Troisi* - Palazzo D'Avalos, as part of the program Procida Italian Capital of Culture 2022, and then at the MANN Museo Archeologico Nazionale di Napoli (Naples National Archaeological Museum), with the artistic direction of Stefano Veneruso, achieving a huge success. In the same year produced the docufilm *Speciale Il Postino - A look inside (1994-2024).*
In 2025 produced the film *The years of the father* based on a true story that narrates a very tense father and son relationship starring Massimo Bonetti e Daniel Bondì.

30MILES has also developed a series of international theatrical and film projects including: *7 Dwarfs at Auschwitz* based on an incredible true story, set during the Holocaust period, inspired by the life of the seven legendary Ovich brothers.