

Close-up Federico Fellini at Transilvania IFF 2020

The always fascinating Italy, which has been in the world spotlight in this unusual year, also gets top billing at the **Transilvania International Film Festival**. Those who want to spend their summer vacation in Cluj-Napoca between **July 31-August 9** will get to enjoy a generous dose of *cinema italiano* in **Focus Italy**, as well as a centennial celebration of one of the most influential filmmakers in history, **Federico Fellini**.

Close-up Federico Fellini presents eight of his cinematic masterpieces, most of them digitally restored: *I Vitelloni*, *La Dolce Vita*, *8 ½*, *Giulietta degli spiriti*, *Roma*, *Amarcord*, *E la nave va*, and *La voce della luna*. A master of desire, memory, and imagination, Fellini left behind over 20 flamboyant films that are both visually arresting and unmistakably melancholic. His unique contribution to world cinema was rewarded not only in Cannes, Venice, or at the Oscars, but also in the countless works inspired by him.

“There is no end. There is no beginning. There is only the infinite passion of life,” said Fellini. Born on January 20, 1920, in Rimini, this iconic 20th century director started out as a cartoonist and was inspired by reporter characters in American films to pursue a career as a journalist. He started out in film as a screenwriter shortly after he turned 20. By 1947, he got his first Oscar nomination for the screenplay of *Roma, città aperta*, which he had developed with Sergio Amidei and Roberto Rossellini. Eleven other nominations followed, as well as four wins for best foreign-language film — alongside Golden Globes, a Palme d’Or for *La Dolce Vita*, and awards in Venice.

His films are often autobiographical — his third feature, *I Vitelloni* (1953), is about the delayed development youngsters in small Italian town, as exemplified by five friends who are each at a turning point in their life. The film launched one of the most popular Italian actors, Alberto Sordi. *La dolce vita* (1960) secured his place among the most influential filmmakers of all time and became a huge box office success. Featuring Marcello Mastroianni and Anita Ekberg in iconic films, it is an acid comment on Europe’s moral decadence and toxic culture of celebrity. The charming Mastroianni also stars as the Fellini’s alter ego in *8 ½* (1963), a masterpiece on creative blockages and a behind-the-scenes look on cinema.

Giulietta degli spiriti (1965) features the sensational Giulietta Masina, Fellini’s life partner, as a betrayed wife exploring her subconscious in flamboyant, carnivalesque scenes that are Fellini’s trademark. *Roma* (1972) is an exploration of Fellini’s own move from Rimini to the capital at age 19 and

TIFF - Transilvania International Film Festival

Adresa: Str. Popa Soare Nr. 52, Sector 2, Bucuresti, Romania

Telefon: +40 213 266 480 | Fax: +40 213 260 268 | E-mail: press@tiff.ro

an impressionistic portrait of the eternal city as a kaleidoscope of sensations, people, and places. By contrast, *Amarcord* (1973) is a nostalgic memory of life in Rimini, traversed by eccentric characters which exemplify the Italians' never-ending adolescence under the twin rules of fascism and catholicism.

The musical drama *E la nave va* (1983) is a visually arresting fable about war shot in a studio. A group of aristocrats taking the last journey with a dead opera singer are perturbed by the appearance of another group — this time, war refugees. Finally, the TIFF summer selection will also feature Fellini's last film, *La voce della luna* (1990), which reaffirms him as the reigning king of style in Italian cinema, and takes audiences on a fantastic journey in search of the feminine ideal.

TIFF cards and subscriptions are back on sale. Those who hold one of the three TIFF cards — [X-Card](#), [SuperCard](#) și [Iron Card](#) — will be able to reserve seats to films or special events, as the card allows, 48 in advance and enjoy access to a number of special screenings and events. Cards and subscriptions can be purchased from tiff.eventbook.ro and, soon, on the official app for TIFF 2020. Those who purchased cards earlier in the year can use them for the new dates with no changes.