

Rich in a variety of proposals, the **25th edition** of **BERGAMO FILM MEETING (10-18 March 2007)** will blend as usual novelty (i.e., the competition-exhibition section and the emergent talents exhibition) and rediscoveries, eccentric visions and classic cinema. Well-known films, films to be rediscovered, cult films and quite a lot of surprising things: this year's programme will try and feature every possible – or better still, imaginable – aspect of contemporary cinema, including:

❖ **“LOOK BACK IN ANGER”: BRITISH CINEMA, 1950-2007**

Protest and the cry of anger and indignation have been central in British cinema since (at least) the 1930s, from experimental documentaries to today's cinematography, where the working class, the homeless and unemployed – even angrier than in the past – still find a representative place of their own. The retrospective will account for the history of British cinema from the famous 50s – with early short films by **Anderson, Richardson** and **Reisz**, and genre-films addressing most urgent social issues – to **free cinema**, from the decadence of national cinema to the powerful emergence of television (with early works by **Loach** and **Monty Python**). It will then explore the “Renaissance” of the early 80s, and the subsequent representations of anger in the working class and the social fringes. The retrospective will include more than 20 films – more or less rigorous, or *à-la-mode*, from **Frears** to **Jarman**, from **Leigh** to **Boyle, Jordan**, and **Boorman** – accounting for the notoriously sharp British social consciousness.

In cooperation with **London British Film Institute**.

❖ **JAN SVERÁK'S AFFECTIONATE WORLD**

This year's emergent talent will be Czech **Jan Sverák**, the world's most awarded young filmmaker. Seven of his films will be shown, from his first full-length film, *Obecná škola* (*The Elementary School*, 1991), made in affectionate cooperation with his father, Czech comedy actor and playwright Zdenek Sverák, to *Kolya*, his best-known film, awarded the 1997 Academy Award as Best Foreign Language Film and the passionate melodrama *Tmavomodrý svět* (*Dark Blue World*, 2001), the most celebrated recent film in the Czech Republic.

Jan Sverák will be our guest at Bergamo Film Meeting.

In cooperation with **Karlovy Vary Festival**.

❖ **NINO ZUCHELLI COLLECTION
TWO MASTERS OF POLISH CINEMA: SKOLIMOVSKI & ZANUSSI**

The 3rd exhibition of films from Nino Zucchelli's Collection, an important collection owned by GAMEC – Galleria d'Arte Moderna e Contemporanea Accademia Carrara and currently kept at Lab 80. This year's theme is Polish cinema from the 1960s and 1970s; we will show three early internationally distinguished films by **Skolimovski** and **Zanussi**.

In cooperation with **Gamec, Galleria d'Arte Moderna e Contemporanea, Bergamo**.

❖ **EUROPE IN SHORTS: WOMEN'S WIT & HUMOUR**

Less than 1 film (screened in Europe) **out of 5** is by a woman-director. This is why the European Coordination of Film Festivals has decided to celebrate the prestige and importance of women's cinema by selecting 12 short films, each one of them rich in irony and a humour of its own, and a mirror of different European interpretations of irony and wit.

Offering good visibility to short films from European Festivals, the 12th edition of *Europe in Shorts* was originally conceived by Women and Film Working Group and worked out at **Festival International de Films de Femmes, Créteil** (France).

❖ **GARY LUCAS POSTRECORDS *DER GOLEM***

Gary Lucas' performance *Der Golem* postrecords Paul Wegener & Carl Boese's classic silent film. From a 16th-century Jewish legend, very popular in Prague, the film is among the masterworks of German expressionism and one of the forerunners of modern horror.

A sheer alchemist, Gary Lucas has got a real gift for experimentation. His variegated musical career includes a collaboration with Leonard Bernstein. He has recently taken part in Magic Band, Captain Beefheart's former group.

In cooperation with **Bergamo Jazz 2007**.

❖ **COMPETITION – EXHIBITION**

In the last 25 years the competition-exhibition section has been the ultimate place for young, international talents to be discovered and launched. The section will present, as usual, **8** recently produced films, young authors, not yet known directors and productions. Golden, silver and bronze prizes will be awarded according to audience preferences.

Nor is this all: Bergamo Film Meeting 2007 will present more **classics**, **cult movies**, **previews**, a one-night long **film marathon**, and some **surprises** – including a **tribute** to comedy genius **Billy Wilder**.

Bergamo Film Meeting is sponsored by Ministero per i Beni e le Attività Culturali – Direzione Generale per il Cinema; Comune & Provincia di Bergamo; Regione Lombardia; the European Committee. It benefits from the support of Fondazione della Comunità Bergamasca, Credito Bergamasco, *L'Eco di Bergamo*.

Marzia Milanese

Press Office
Bergamo, 29th January 2007