



Adriana Chiesa Enterprises

ANTONIO AVATI and MEDUSA FILM

present

DIEGO ABATANTUONO VANESSA INCONTRADA

VIOLANTE PLACIDO INÉS SASTRE

and with the participation of
FRANCESCA NERI

LA CENA PER FARLI CONOSCERE

(commedia sentimentale)

A Dinner for Them to Meet

(a sentimental comedy)

a film by

PUPI AVATI

a
DUEA FILM
production

in collaboration with
MEDUSA FILM and SKY

produced by
ANTONIO AVATI

***a man, four women and a dinner
to discover love, and rediscover the family***

WORLD DISTRIBUTION

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<i>story and screenplay</i>	PUPI AVATI
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<i>editor</i>	AMEDEO SALFA
<i>director of photography</i>	PASQUALE RACHINI
<i>costumes</i>	MARIA FASSARI STEFANIA CONSAGA
<i>sound</i>	BUNO PUPPARO
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<i>music publisher</i>	FONOROMA

produced by
ANTONIO AVATI

a
DUEA FILM – MEDUSA
coproduction

DIEGO ABATANTUONO	<i>Sandro Lanza</i>
VANESSA INCONTRADA	<i>Clara Lanza</i>
VIOLANTE PLACIDO	<i>Betty Lanza</i>
INÉS SASTRE	<i>Ines Lanza</i>
FRANCESCA NERI	<i>Alma Kero</i>
BLAS ROCA REY	<i>Federico</i>
FABIO FERRARI	<i>Matteo</i>
OSVALDO RUGGIERI	<i>Padre Matteo</i>
MARICA PELLEGRINELLI	<i>Orietta Boserman</i>
GAIA ZOPPI	<i>Celestina</i>
GASTON TROIANO	<i>Ferdinando</i>
GIANFRANCO BARRA	<i>Corrado Baghdikian</i>
MANUELA MORABITO	<i>Giuliana (psychiatrist)</i>
RENATO CORTESI	<i>Faliero</i>

THE CRITICS

*LA CENA PER FARLI CONOSCERE
A DINNER FOR THEM TO MEET*

THE INIMITABLE "AVATI TOUCH"

"Like the famous 'Lubitsch touch'... there is the inimitable Avati Touch: **warm yet pierced through with irony and poetic flight, driven by the passion for storytelling** without ever compromising to fashion... **Extraordinary performance by Abatantuono...**" LA GAZZETTA DEL MEZZOGIORNO – Oscar Larussi - 7 Feb 2007

DELICIOUS... RELENTLESS... ABSORBING

"**A delicious and reflective comedy** relentlessly paced and absorbing..."
IL CORRIERE LAZIALE – 7 Feb 2007

AVATI IN TOP FORM

"The film **never slips into the pathetic or 'happily ever after'** just when (almost) everyone thinks that's where it's leading..." LIBERO – 6 Feb 2007

AVATI'S "MELAN-COMIC" DINNER PARTY

TRAGEDY AND IRONY WITH A PERFECT DIEGO ABATANTUONO

"... Three distant daughters... A frowning look at our times, families in crisis, unfulfilled women, egocentric males... **A female cast solidly united: Ines Sastre, Vanessa Incontrada, Violante Placido and Francesca Neri...**"

L'UNIONE SARDA – Sergio Naitza – 3 Feb 2007

AVATI BETWEEN DARKNESS AND HOPE

"**Avati's light methodical step, at times elegiac, at others corrosive...** but always attentive to the subtleties of our human condition"...

IL MATTINO – Valerio Caprara – 4 Feb 2007

ABATANTUONO DELIVERS IN A GUSHING RIVER OF BRILLIANT SCATHING LINES... "A bittersweet comedy already hailed by critics..."

IL TEMPO – Dina d'Isa – 28 Jan 2007

FRANCESCA NERI WITH ALL THE VERVE OF A TRUE VIRTUOSO

"..... spurring the rhythm on, extracting its bitter quintessence... **kindness and cruelty, good sense and folly, hope and destiny...** inextricable elements for the Avati conception of life (and cinema)... IL MATTINO – Valerio Caprara – 4 Feb 2007

...the critics
La cena per farli conoscere
A Dinner for Them to Meet

MADCAP GROTESQUE AND POETICALLY TENDER

Right up to the crucial dinner of the title resolved in a **madcap rebound of lines and fistfuls of mishaps – thanks above all to Fabio Ferrari, the morbid son-in-law** –reversing 'normality' into the grotesque and vice versa...

IL MATTINO – Valerio Caprara

ABATANTUONO ACHIEVES PERFECT BALANCE

The narrative latticework is based upon... Abatantuono, such a melancholic scoundrel that he has been likened to the immature anti-hero losers of certain comedies **balanced between the eccentric and poetically tender** made by Risi, Germi, or Pietrangeli..." IL MATTINO – Valerio Caprara

FOUR ACTRESSES IN TOP FORM

Bitter smiles, words of wisdom, actresses in top form: **Vanessa Incontrada to Violante Placido, Ines Sastre to the warm appearance of Francesca Neri.**"

IL TIRRENO – 2 Feb 2007

A GLIMMER OF HOPE... DESTINIES THAT TOUCH

"... Yielding melancholic moods and clots of neuroses, the stylistic mark of Pupi Avati... **yet there is always release in Avati's indulgent gaze at our weaknesses, even as he lashes out at our vanities...**" L'UNIONE SARDA – Sergio Naitza

FRANCESCA NERI A BEAUTIFUL 'CURE' FOR DIEGO

"In addition to being a great actress, Neri is a symbol of beauty and sensuality..."

GIORNALE DI BRESCIA – Emanuela Castellini – 28 Jan 2007

AVATI IN GREAT FORM HITS THE MARK ONCE AGAIN GRACE AND CAREFUL BALANCE

"With that fine 'touch' that resolves both comedy and drama with equal grace and careful balance... **Avati's 'sentimental comedy' shares in the joys and pains, fusing irony and serious intent to carry his protagonist from darkness to light...** The nimblest rhythms that never trip over pauses, in the end even the brightest colors converge into moods of **attentive measure and half-tones...**"

IL TEMPO – Gian Luigi Rondi – 3 Feb 2007

...the critics
La cena per farli conoscere
A Dinner for Them to Meet

AVATI'S TENDER SENSITIVE FRESCO

"For Avati, another tender and sensitive fresco on the **imperceptible borderline between everyday joy and pain...**" AVVENIRE – Massimo Giraldi – 4 Feb 2007

**CRYSTALLINE PHOTOGRAPHY BY PASQUALE RACHINI
STRONG PERFORMANCE BY DIEGO ABATANTUONO
FEMALE CAST IS A QUARTET TO BE REMEMBERED**

"**Rachini's cinematography brings an almost crystalline limpidity** to even the harshest moments. **Diego Abatantuono's strong performance recreates all the contradictions of his Sandro**, and the three daughters played by **Vanessa Incontrada, Ines Sastre, and Violante Placido** clearly draw their distinct personalities with **Francesca Neri** as a sophisticated girlfriend. **A quartet to be remembered.**" IL TEMPO – Gian Luigi Rondi

DIEGO A LIKEABLE RASCAL WITH WOMEN

"... The heart of the film is above all Diego Abatantuono and his character, and equally, the hero's three daughters and their shaky girlfriend who are all excellent... **Diego works his role with great measure... Avati remains coherent to the sensitivity that has made his films famous...**"

LA REPUBBLICA – Paolo Agostini – 2 Feb 2007

RAGE PASSION AND GREAT COMPASSION

"... Pupi Avati has made a film with rage, passion, and **tremendous compassion for human weakness...**" IL RESTO DEL CARLINO -3 Feb 2007

FRANCESCA NERI BRILLIANT AND UNFORGETTABLE

IN HER CAMEO ROLE... "the actress truly in a state of grace as the wounded abandoned woman" CORRIERE DELLA SERA – Tullio Kezich – 2 Feb 2007

ABATANTUONO PERFECTLY DIRECTED BY AVATI

VIOLANTE PLACIDO'S ASTOUNDING HUMANITY

"... Abatantuono directed by Avati, gives us his best... **Vanessa Incontrada, Ines Sastre, Violante Placido never miss a beat**, Placido worthy of special mention for her astounding humanity." IL MESSAGGERO – Fabio Ferzetti – 2 Feb 2007

ABATANTUONO AND FABIO FERRARI EXTRAORDINARY...

"Avati's brilliant elegant comedy also so poignant... The director evokes today's world, touching upon themes such as the deterioration of the family, trash TV, infidelity, and above all **the incapacity to grow and to let go, the heartrending (and pathetic) clinging to the past...**" IL MESSAGGERO – Fabio Ferzetti – 2 Feb 2007

AVATI'S PERFECT MELANCHOLIC MIX

"His film seems to have everything to be a hit: **a great cast, the right alchemy between comedy and melancholy (Avati's "trademark"). This is a golden age for the director...** thanks to **his eclecticism and innate sense of the poetry of time and place...** one of Italy's greatest directors."
IL GIORNALE DI VICENZA – Adamo Dagradi – 2 Feb 2007

VIOLANTE PLACIDO THE BEAUTY OF AN ENGLISH PORTRAIT

"Violante's English beauty, **like a Reynolds portrait: the blushing cheeks, clear eyes, delicate lines, gentle smile...** Though her father Michele has the dark sensuous looks typical of southern Italians, and her mother, Simonetta Stefanelli, is also an icon of Mediterranean beauty..." LA STAMPA – Simonetta Robiony – 28 Jan 2007

HILARITY, HEARTBREAK, CHILLING ATMOSPHERES

"Pupi Avati's new film talks about today **in the director's dreamy melancholic style** that mixes, in various resolution, hilarity, heartbreak, and chilling atmospheres... ITALIA – Claudio Fontanini – 2 Feb 2007

ONE OF AVATI'S BEST FILMS IN RECENT YEARS

"... **the story of a family reunited**, one of director Avati's best films in recent years..." LA REPUBBLICA – Franco Montini – 1 Feb 2007

COMPASSION SAVES THE CHARACTERS

"Avati always keeps viewers on their toes as he shifts between the most disparate genres, **from pure comedy to the melo of the rawest emotions, yet also with a merciless gaze... A film that doses with savvy, unbridled hilarity and black humor, making us reflect... and moving us as it strikes the truest chords of the human heart.**" ITALIA – Angela Verratti – 28 Jan 2007

A "SENTIMENTAL COMEDY" PERFECT FOR ITS BLACK HUMOR

"...the entire film permeated... **with the most varied emotions...**"

ITALIA – Angela Verratti

AVATI'S BRILLIANT HEARTRENDING FILM

EXTRAORDINARY ACTRESSES AND MAGNIFICENT ABATANTUONO

"Avati's film reveals in a brilliant heartrending way all the emotions, cares, fears, failures, but **also redemption and hope, as he directs a winning hand** of extraordinary actresses and a magnificent Diego Abatantuono..."

LA GAZZETTA DEL MEZZOGIORNO – Osvaldo Scorrano - - 27 Jan 2007

A MODERN FRESCO THAT BLENDS POETRY AND IRONY

"A sentimental comedy written and directed with great conviction and the desire to blend into one modern fresco, both poetry and irony..."

LIBERO – Annamaria Piacentini – 27 Jan 2007

A QUIRKY SENSITIVE SENTIMENTAL COMEDY

"A quirky sensitive sentimental comedy... **Pupi Avati focuses on traditional emotions...** in the end what remains of today's family is finally salvaged..."

VIVI MILANO – Maurizio Porro – 24 Jan 2007

THANK YOU PUPI AVATI FOR A DAZZLING "DINNER"!

"**Pupi Avati is in a period of dazzling form...** Extraordinary Diego Abatantuono..." L'UNITA – Alberto Crespi – 2 Feb 2007

NEVER "OBVIOUS" EMOTIONS OR EASY TEARS

"... as director **Avati describes his microcosmic world with quiet energy... to say that life is always worth living.** Despite the problems, heartaches, there is the **joy and the desire to see the new break of day.**"

METRO – Mattia Nicoletti – 2 Feb 2007

DELICACY AND DEPTH

"A protest against TV's show biz world, but not only... **it never preaches or rings of simplistic nostalgia...** filmed in Avati's unique rare style... **combining delicacy and depth, irony and bitterness...** He makes the story work, obtaining perfect performances by the actors, also minor roles such as those of Fabio Ferrari... or Marica Pellegrinelli..." SECOLO D'ITALIA – Walter Delle Donne – 3 Feb 2007

SYNOPSIS

La Cena per farli conoscere *A Dinner for Them to Meet*

A comedy, as lacerating as it is comical, set in the present day, in Rome, at Christmas time with its shimmering lights...

Time seems to stop when Sandro Lanza's three ravishing successful daughters in Rome, Paris, and Madrid, each receive an urgent call to rush to their father's bedside. Indeed, the once popular TV star, now relegated to begging bit parts in afternoon soaps, has stunned them all by staging a desperate suicide attempt that was almost successful.

Yet their father is a total stranger to the three now grown-up women, all by different mothers. All of whom the actor eventually abandoned for yet another sexy starlet during his long career in the industry that was now, to his disbelief, turning its back on him.

The intense dark and elegant Ines, a brilliant journalist in Paris. Clara, a statuesque stunning blonde with a thriving medical practice in Spain. The tender delicate Betty, a young sensuous bride of a mysterious Roman gentleman. All feel strangely compelled to suspend their lives as if irresistibly drawn to Betty's appeal to meet at once in her luxurious Italian villa.

What awaits these four adults in this timeless moment when roles of "father" "daughter" "past" seem to dissolve into simply "human beings" and "living"? Certainly not at all what they expected. And the crucial dinner party so painstakingly planned for their father's encounter with his ideal woman? Perhaps a dinner for them to meet, truly. And the chance to receive the incredibly mundane yet precious gift of simply loving.

director's note

Among my films, *LA CENA PER FARLI CONOSCERE / A DINNER FOR THEM TO MEET* belongs to the handful of my works about the present day. I had done this, each time from a different perspective, whenever society was undergoing a change: from *Ultimo Minuto* to *Regalo di Natale*, from *Festival* to *Impegnati*, from *Fratelli e sorelle* to *Ma quando arrivano le ragazze*. Though with different contexts, they were all strongly representative of a present day that I wanted to slowly reveal.

Just as the world of bankers helped me, at least partially, to reconstruct the eighties, in *A DINNER FOR THEM TO MEET* I decided to look at today's world through a show biz character from the TV world. He (Sandro Lanza / Diego Abatantuono) is a has-been soap actor. Through our protagonist, we focus on the quality of relationships today, particularly those of the family.

I called my story a "sentimental comedy". This was in the attempt (hopefully successful) of respecting the brio and incisiveness of comedy, yet combining it with the suffering that seems to be so widespread.

I had felt compelled for a long time, almost like a duty, to take a look at certain attitudes and lifestyles that unfortunately have become so fashionable. Yet it was only with this unusual family story did I finally find the narrative opportunity I was looking for. Working with this situation, my characters – a totally irresponsible father and his three daughters scattered around the world – slowly grew in my mind.

Through this story I hoped to express how difficult middle age is for all of us, but most of all for those who have been spoiled by life. For the role of such a protagonist, I realised immediately that I was writing for Diego. I knew he would play the part without ever losing control, with that involvement that would make his character totally convincing, arousing both hilarity and the sadness of broken hearts. And that was exactly what he did.

For the four female roles, geographically spanning Rome, Paris and Madrid, we indulged in the privilege of having both Ines and Vanessa with us again. They had already been our accomplices in the cast of two successful films. And, to them we added Violante Placido, who for a few years now I had been following with interest.

Francesca Neri (though she'll deny it) refused a part in one of my films about fifteen years ago.

I got my 'revenge' by offering her a role that was light years away from the territory familiar to her. An extremely perilous role. She accepted it, like a challenge. And I feel she has triumphed.

PUPI AVATI

Note by Antonio Avati

Despite our long experience producing films, *La CENA PER FARLI CONOSCERE / A DINNER FOR THEM TO MEET* was still one of the most pleasant experiences of them all. It was also one of the easiest to organize from a production point of view. Apart from the quality of the film itself, the film will be remembered as the chance to apply the legendary "French hours" during the entire shoot. That is, by not interfering with concentration by taking breaks, the cast and crew prepared to finish the working day by three in the afternoon... This was also possible thanks to the genre of the film itself: a comedy.

More than half of the story takes place in one location, the splendid villa where the dinner of the title takes place. All of the interiors of this rich abode were reconstructed in Cinecittà's mythic Studio 5, so beloved of Federico Fellini. For the first 5 to 6 weeks we were therefore able to concentrate on the various units, plan the lighting, characters, and coordinate the actors. In the meantime, another section concentrated on organizing exteriors as the action was also set in Rome during Christmas.

The excitement of working on this project was undoubtedly related to the shared concern (especially Pupi's and mine) of a great potential danger: here we would be working with four actresses and stars all at once. How highly probable that even from the first "Action!", a climate of fierce competition would set in. Factions, disputes at make-up, costumes, on the set. But, in fact, none of this happened. My brother's charisma and, perhaps, my own long experience helped Ines Sastre, Vanessa Incontrada, Violante Placido and Francesca Neri to interact in genuine team spirit, even cheering each other on.

As for Diego Abatantuono, this was not our first film together. Each time, these films have further consolidated our friendship. Each production has given us the chance to appreciate Diego's attentiveness, his emotional involvement in the project itself.

A DINNER FOR THEM TO MEET was made thanks to the support of Medusa. The company participated in production costs (with a subsequent contribution from Sky). This gave us a reasonable average-sized budget, similar to the budget of our previous film co-produced with RAI Cinema.

ANTONIO AVATI

filmography **PUPI AVATI**

1968-**BALSAMUS** - Prod. Magic Film; with Bob Tonelli, Greta Vajant, Gianni Cavina, Giulio Pizzirani.

1969-**THOMAS** - Prod. Cidierre Cinematografica; with Anita Sanders, Edmund Purdon, Mariangela Melato, Gianni Cavina, Giulio Pizzirani, Bob Tonelli. / 1970 Locarno Festival in competition
Bob Tonelli Premio Stefen for Best Actor

1974-**LA MAZURKA DEL BARONE** - Prod. Euro International Films; with Ugo Tognazzi, Paolo Villaggio, Delia Boccardo, Lucio Dalla, Gianni Cavina.

1975-**BORDELLA** - Prod. Euro International Films; with Luigi Proietti, Al Lettieri, Vincent Gardenia, Taryn Power, Vladeck Sheybal, Christian De Sica, Gianni Cavina.

1976-**LA CASA DALLE FINESTRE CHE RIDONO (THE HOUSE OF THE LAUGHING WINDOWS)**
Prod. A.M.A. Film; with Lino Capolicchio, Francesca Marciano, Gianni Cavina, Bob Tonelli, Giulio Pizzirani.
/First Prize Critics's Award -Festival de Paris Film Fantastique et de Scienze Fiction.

1977-**TUTTI DEFUNTI TRANNE I MORTI** Prod. A.M.A.Film; with Gianni Cavina, Francesca Marciano, Carlo Delle Piane, Giulio Pizzirani.

1978-**JAZZ BAND** (TV-Series) Prod. A.M.A.Film-R.A.I; with Lino Capolicchio, Gianni Cavina, Carlo Delle Piane, Adriana Innocenti, Pietro Brambilla. / Chianciano Award for 1978 Best Television Production; 1978 Maschera d'Argento; Salsomaggiore Award for 1978 Best TV Series; 1978 Critics Award at the 1979 San Sebastian Festival.

1978-**LE STRELLE NEL FOSSO (THE STARS IN THE DITCH)** Prod. A.M.A.Film; with Lino Capolicchio, Gianni Cavina, Carlo Delle Piane, Roberta Paladini, Giulio Pizzirani, Adolfo Belletti. / First Prize 1979 Festival Valladolid; 1979 Targa d'Oro Cinema e Società Award/

1979-**CINEMA !!!** (TV Series); Prod.A.M.A.Film-RAI; with Lino Capolicchio, Gianni Cavina, Carlo Delle Piane, Roberta Paladini, Adriana Innocenti. / Best Screenplay of the Year – 1979 Naxos Award

1980-**AIUTAMI A SOGNARE (HELP ME TO DREAM)** Prod.A.M.A.Film-RAI; with Mariangela Melato, Anthony Franciosa, J.P.Leaud, Alexandra Stewart, Paola Pitagora. / Nastro d'Argento and David di Donatello Awards to Mariangela Melato for Best Actress; Nastro d'Argento to Riz Ortolani for Best Music Score

1981-**DANCING PARADISE** (TV-Series) Prod. A.M.A.Film-RAI; with Gianni Cavina, Carlo Delle Piane.
/Chamrousse Festival award to Carlo Delle Piane for Best Actor; Chianciano Award for Best 1982 TV Series;
First Prize 1982 Nice Film Festival.

1982-**ZEDER (REVENGE OF THE DEAD)** Prod. A.M.A.Film-RAI; with Gabriele Lavia, Anne Canovas.

1983-**UNA GITA SCOLASTICA (A SCHOOL OUTING / LA BALADE INOUBLIABLE)** Prod.A.M.A.Film-RAI;
with Carlo Delle Piane e Tiziana Pini. / 1983 Venice film Festival in competition; Pasinetti Award to Carlo Delle Piane for Best Actor; Ischia Award (Audience Award); Nastro d'Argento for Best Film; Nastro d'Argento to Antonio Avati for Best Story; Nastro d'Argento to Carlo Delle Piane for Best Actor; Nastro d'Argento to Riz Ortolani for Best Music Score; Nastro d'Argento to Lidia Broccolino for Best Emerging Actress; Globo d'Oro to Carlo Delle Piane for Best Actor; Prades Festival (France) Award for Best Film; Bastia Mediterranean Film Festival Audience Award for Best Film.

1984-**NOI TRE (WE THREE / UNE SAISON ITALIENNE)** Prod. D'uea Film-Istituto Luce-Raiuno; with Lino Capolicchio, Gianni Cavina, Carlo Delle Piane, Ida Di Benedetto, Christopher Davidson, Dario Parisini, Barbara Rebeschini. / 1984 Venice film Festival in competition – Special Jury Award Leone for Technical Quality.

1984-**IMPIEGATI (THE EMPLOYEES)** Prod. Duea Film-National-Filmes-Dania; with Claudio Botosso, Elena Sofia Ricci, Nick Novecento, Dario Parisini, Giovanna Maldotti, Luca Barbareschi. / Globo d'Oro to Elena Sofia Ricci for Best Actress Revelation of the Year; Cannes Film Festival Directors' Fortnight selection.

1985-**FESTA DI LAUREA (GRADUATION PARTY)** Prod. Duea Film-National-Filmes-Dania-Raiuno; with Carlo Delle Piane, Aurore Clement, Lidia Broccolino, Nik Novecento, Dario Parisini.

1986-**REGALO DI NATALE (CHRISTMAS PRESENT)** Prod. Duea Film-DMV distribuzione-Raiuno; with Carlo Delle Piane, Diego Abatantuono, Gianni Cavina, Alessandro Haber, George Eastman, Kristina Sevieri. / Nastro d'Argento to Diego Abatantuono as Best Supporting Actor; Venice Film Festival - Leone d'Oro to Carlo Delle Piane for Best Actor; David di Donatello to Raffaele De Luca for Best Sound and to Riz Ortolani for Best Music Score.

1986-**HAMBURGER SERENADE** (TV programme in 12 episodes) ; Prod. Duea Film-Raiuno; with Nick Novecento, Alfiero Toppetti e Beatrice Macola. / Toto' Award for Best Show of the Year

1987-**ULTIMO MINUTO (THE LAST MINUTE)** Prod. Duea Film-DMV distribution -Raiuno; with Ugo Tognazzi, Elena Sofia Ricci, Lino Capolicchio, Diego Abatantuono e Massimo Bonetti. / Nastro d'Argento to Riz Ortolani for Best Theme Song; David di Donatello to Riz Ortolani for Best Music Score; David di Donatello to Raffaele De Luca for Best Sound.

1987-**SPOSI (JUST MARRIED)** Prod. Duea Film-Numero Uno Cinematografica; with Carlo Delle Piane, Simona Marchini, Nick Novecento, Jerry Cala', Alessandro Haber, Ottavia Piccolo. / (An episode film directed with L. Manuzzi, C. Bastelli, F. Farina, A. Avati).

1989-**STORIA DI RAGAZZI E RAGAZZE (THE STORY OF BOYS AND GIRLS / HISTOIRE DE GARCONS ET DE FILLES)** Prod. Duea Film-Unione Cinematografica-Raiuno; with Alessandro Haber, Lucrezia Lante Della Rovere, Massimo Bonetti, Felice Andreasi. / 1989 Venice Film Festival -Nastro d'Argento for Best Film; Nastro d'Argento for Best Screenplay; David di Donatello for Best Screenplay; Ciak Award for Best Screenplay; De Gasperi Award.

1990-**BIX UN'IPOTESI LEGGENDARIA (BIX AN INTERPRETATION OF A LEGEND / BIX UNE INTERPRETATION DE LA LEGENDE)** Prod. Duea Film-Union P.N.-Raiuno; with Bryant Weeks, Romano L. Orzari, Sally Groth. /1991 Cannes Film Festival in competition; Nastro d'Argento to Rachini Pasquale for Best Photography; Ciak award Best Set Design; David di Donatello to Carlo Simi for Best Set Design.

1991-**FRATELLI E SORELLE (BROTHERS AND SISTERS)** Prod. Duea Film-Filmauro-Raiuno; with Franco Nero, Anna Bonaiuto, Matthew Buzzel, Kelly Evinston, Barbara Wilder. / 1992 Venice Film Festival in competition; Special Jury Prize 1992 Baule Film Festival; Nastro d'Argento to Paola Quattrini

1992-**MAGNIFICAT** Prod. Duea Film-Istituto Luce-Union P.N.; with Arnaldo Ninchi, Luigi Diberti. / 1993 Cannes Film Festival in competition; Ciak Award to Sissi Paravicini for Best Costumes.

1993-**L'AMICO D'INFANZIA (THE CHILDHOOD FRIEND)** Prod. Duea Film-Filmauro; with Jason Robards III, Amy Galper, Jim Ortilieb.

1994-**DICHIARAZIONI D'AMORE (DECLARATION OF LOVE)** Prod. Duea Film-Filmauro With Arnaldo Ninchi, Angiola Baggi, Delia Boccardo, Valeria Fabrizi, Alessio Modica. Venice Film Festival -1994.

1995-L'ARCANO INCANTATORE (THE ARCANO ENCHANTER) Prod. D'uea Film-Filmauro; with Stefano Dionisi, Carlo Cecchi, Arnaldo Ninchi, Andrea Scorzoni, Consuelo Ferrara. / Jury Grand Prize – Puchon Film Festival – Korea 1998; The Silver Raven 98 Film festival (Brussels) First Prize; Montreal Film Festival in competition 1996.

1996-FESTIVAL Prod. D'uea Film-Filmauro; with Massimo Boldi, Isabelle Pasco, Gianni Cavina, Margaret Mazzantini, Paola Quattrini, Lorenzo Flaherty, Andrea Scorzoni. / 1996 Venice Film Festival; Valencia Film Festival – Jury Grand Prize; Nastro D'Argento to Gianni Cavina for Best Supporting Actor; Nastro D'Argento to A. Avati/De Laurentis for Best Producer.

1997-IL TESTIMONE DELLO SPOSO (THE BEST MAN) Prod. D'uea Film-Filmauro; with Diego Abatantuono, Ines Sastre, Dario Cantarelli. / Nomination Golden Globe L.A. 1997; Italian Nomination Oscar 1997/98; 1998 Berlin Film Festival in competition; First Prize at 2000 Belgrade Film Festival.

1999 - LA VIA DEGLI ANGELI Prod. D'uea Film – Medusa Film; with Carlo Delle Piane, Gianni Cavina, Valentina Cervi, Chiara Muti. / 2000 Montreal Film Festival award for Best Screenplay.

2000 – I CAVALIERI CHE FECERO L'IMPRESA (THE KNIGHTS OF THE QUEST) Prod. D'uea Film-Quinta Communications-Rai Cinema; with Raoul Bova, Marco Leonardi, Edward Furlong, Thomas Kretschmann, Stanislas Merhar, F. Murray Abraham.

2002 – IL CUORE ALTROVE (A HEART ELSEWHERE / INCANTATO) Prod. D'uea Film – Rai Cinema; with Neri Marcorè, Vanessa Incontrada, Giancarlo Giannini, Sandra Milo, Nino D'angelo, Anna Longhi. / David di Donatello to Pupi Avati for Best Director; 2003 Cannes Film Festival in competition; Festivals Denver – Chicago – Toronto – Montreal (out of competition); First Prize LATIN USA Film Festival N.Y. 2003; Audience Award Miami 2003; Nastro d'Argento to Neri Marcorè for Best Actor.

2003 – LA RIVINCITA DI NATALE Prod. D'uea Film – Medusa Film; with Diego Abatantuono, Gianni Cavina, Carlo Delle Piane, Alessandro Haber, George Eastman.

2004 – MA QUANDO ARRIVANO LE RAGAZZE? Prod. D'uea Film – RAI Cinema; with Johnny Dorelli, Vittoria Puccini, Claudio Santamaria, Paolo Briguglia. / David di Donatello to Riz Ortolani for Best Music Score.

2005 – LA SECONDA NOTTE DI NOZZE Prod. D'uea Film – RAI Cinema; with Antonio Albanese, Neri Marcorè, Katia Ricciarelli, Angela Luce, Marisa Merlini. / 62nd Venice Film Festival in competition.

2006 – LA CENA PER FARLI CONOSCERE Prod. D'uea Film – Medusa Film; with Diego Abatantuono, Vanessa Incontrada, Violante Placido, Inès Sastre, Francesca Neri.

TITLES AND ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS

- Member of the International Jury – 1989 Venice Film Festival
- Officer of the Order of Merit of Arts and Sciences of the French Republic (awarded on 1 September 1992)
- Member of the International Jury – 1994 Cannes film Festival
- Life Achievement Award "LUCHINO VISCONTI" (1995 DAVID DI DONATELLO)
- Commendatore della Repubblica of the Italian Republic bestowed in 1996
- President of the CINETECA DI BOLOGNA 1998 / 1999
- DE SICA Award for Life Achievement 2001 Centenary
- President of "CINECITTA' HOLDING" 2002 / 2004
- President "FONDAZIONE FELLINI" 2004

filmography **ANTONIO AVATI**

AS FILM PRODUCER

LA CASA DALLE FINESTRE CHE RIDONO (1976) - TUTTI DEFUNTI TRANNE I MORTI (1977) - BERLINGUER TI VOGLIO BENE (1977) - LE STRELLE NEL FOSSO (1978) - UN DRAMMA BORGHESE (1979) - MACABRO (1979) - FUORI STAGIONE (1979-80) - AIUTAMI A SOGNARE (1980-81) - LA BARAONDA (1980) - ZEDER (1982) - GITA SCOLASTICA (1983) - NOI TRE (1984) - IMPIEGATI (1984) - FESTA DI LAUREA (1985) - UNA DOMENICA SÍ (1986) - REGALO DI NATALE (1986) - ULTIMO MINUTO (1987) - SPOSI (1987) - STORIA DI RAGAZZI E RAGAZZE (1989) - DOVE COMINCIA LA NOTTE (1990) - BIX (1990) - UN AMORE AMERICANO (1991-92) - FRATELLI E SORELLE (1991-92) - MAGNIFICAT (1992-93) - L'AMICO D' INFANZIA (1993) - LA STANZA ACCANTO (1993) - DICHIARAZIONI D'AMORE (1994) - IO E IL RE (1995) - L'ARCANO INCANTATORE (1995) - IL SINDACO (1996) - FESTIVAL (1996) - TI AMO MARIA (1996) - IL TESTIMONE DELLO SPOSO (1997) - IL PIÚ LUNGO GIORNO (1997) - LA PRIMA VOLTA (1998) - LA VIA DEGLI ANGELI (1999) - I CAVALIERI CHE FECERO L'IMPRESA (2000) - IL CUORE ALTROVE (2002) - LA RIVINCITA DI NATALE (2003) - MA QUANDO ARRIVANO LE RAGAZZE? (2004) - LA SECONDA NOTTE DI NOZZE (2005) LA CENA PER FARLI CONOSCERE (2006).

AS TELEVISION PRODUCER

JAZZ BAND (1978) - CINEMA!!! (1979) - DANCING PARADISE (1981) - HAMBURGER SERENADE (1986) - È PROIBITO BALLARE (1988) - T'AMO TV (1992-93) - VOCI NOTTURNE (1994).

EXECUTIVE PRODUCER: BORDELLA (1975).

AS DIRECTOR: KOLOSSAL (1978) - SPOSI Un episodio (1987).

AWARDS: DAVID DI DONATELLO Best Producer 1982 (Fuori Stagione) - NASTRO D'ARGENTO Best Original Story 1984 (Una gita scolastica) - NASTRO D'ARGENTO Best Producer 1996 (Festival) MONTREAL FILM FESTIVAL Best Screenplay 2000 (La via degli angeli) VITTORIO DE SICA AWARD (2006)

PROFESSOR Department of Production at the Centro Sperimentale di Cinematografia during the academic years: 1995-1996-1997 and the year 2003.

filmography **DIEGO ABATANTUONO**

Born in Milan in the popular neighborhood of Giambellino, even as a youngster Diego Abatantuono was a regular at "The Derby". This was the famous cabaret, owned by his uncles, where popular artists performed. And here Abatantuono began working as lights engineer and stage manager, soon coming into contact with personalities such as Jannacci, Boldi, Porcaro, Faletti, Salvi and the Gatti di Vicolo Miracoli. In 1975 he in fact became art director of the Derby. Success was soon to follow and, after a period as a cabaret artist, Abatantuono was cast in a series of films among which "Il Papocchio", "Fantozzi contro tutti", and "Fico d'India". The films "Tango della gelosia" (by Steno), "I Fichissimi", and "Eccezzionale veramente" (by Carlo Vanzina) paved the way for leading roles for the actor. His Terrunciello in these films so inspired the public that his persona became a veritable social model, emulated and imitated by countless fans. In 1984 Abatantuono worked almost exclusively in theatre (gaining acclaim in Molière's "Don Giovanni", directed by Franco Morini). In 1986 he starred in "Regalo di Natale", directed by Pupi Avati. This film marked the beginning of a new career working with many great directors from Giuseppe Bertolucci to Marco Risi, from Luchetti to Cristina Comencini, from Ettore Scola to Gabriele Salvatores (the actor delivered an unforgettable performance in "Mediterraneo", a film that won the Oscar for Best Foreign Film in 1992). In addition to co-starring with Michael York, Ben Kingsley, Andie McDowell, and others, in the telefilm directed by Alberto Negrin "Il segreto del Sahara", Abatantuono was also Inspector Corso in "Eurocops". This was a European co-produced television series. In 1997 Abatantuono also began writing. He is in fact author of his autobiography "Eccezzionale veramente", to be released by Zelig/Baldini & Castoldi. Diego Abatantuono's passion for cabaret, however, has never left him to this day. And thus in 2002 he became art director and presenter of Colorado Café.

CINEMA "Liberi, armati, pericolosi" dir. by Romolo Guerrieri **1978** "Saxofone" dir. by Renato Pozzetto **1980** "Fantozzi contro tutti" dir. by P. Villaggio, N. Parenti / "Il Papocchio" dir. by Renzo Arbore / "Arrivano i Gatti" dir. by Carlo Vanzina / **1980** "Fico d'India" dir. by Steno / **1980** "Una vacanza bestiale" dir. by Carlo Vanzina / "Prestami tua moglie" dir. by Giuliano Carminio / "I Carabinieri" dir. by Francesco Massaro **1981** "I Fichissimi" dir. by Carlo Vanzina / "Il tango della gelosia" dir. by Steno / "Sballato, gasato, completamente fuso" dir. by Steno / "Viuuulentemente... mia" dir. by Carlo Vanzina / "Eccezzionale... veramente" dir. by Carlo Vanzina / "Scusa se è poco" dir. by Marco Vicario / "Grand Hotel Excelsior" dir. by Castellano & Pipolo **1982** "Attila, flagello di Dio" dir. by Castellano & Pipolo **1983** "Arrivano i miei" dir. by Nino Salerno / "Il Ras del quartiere" dir. by Carlo Vanzina **1986** "Regalo di Natale" dir. by Pupi Avati **1987** "Un ragazzo di Calabria" dir. by Luigi Comencini / "Ultimo minuto" dir. by Pupi Avati / "Strana la vita" dir. by Giuseppe Bertolucci / "I Cammelli" dir. by Giuseppe Bertolucci **1988** "La moglie ingenua ed il marito malato" dir. by Mario Monicelli / **1989** "Marrakech Express" dir. by Gabriele Salvatores / "Turnè" dir. by Gabriele Salvatores **1990** "Vacanze di Natale '90" dir. by Enrico Oldoini **1991** "Mediterraneo" dir. by Gabriele Salvatores (*OSCAR* for 1992 Best Foreign Film) / "Nel continente nero" dir. by Marco Risi **1992** "Puerto Escondido" dir. by Gabriele Salvatores / "Arriva la bufera" dir. by Daniele Luchetti **1993** "Per amore solo per amore" dir. by Giovanni Veronesi **1994** "Il toro" dir. by Carlo Mazzacurati **1995** "Camerieri" dir. by Leone Pompucci / "Viva San Isidro" dir. by Alessandro Cappelletti **1996** "Il barbiere di Rio" dir. by Giovanni Veronesi / "Nirvana" dir. by Gabriele Salvatores **1997** "Camere da letto" dir. by Simona Izzo / "Il testimone dello sposo" dir. by Pupi Avati (*Golden Globe* nomination for 1997 Best Foreign Film) / "Figli di Annibale" dir. by Davide Ferrario (story and screenplay in collaboration with Davide Ferrario) / "Matrimoni" dir. by Cristina Comencini **1998** "Paparazzi" dir. by Neri Parenti **1999** "Tifosi: L'Italia nel pallone" dir. by Neri Parenti / "Metronotte" dir. by Francesco Calogero **2000** "Concorrenza sleale" dir. by Ettore Scola **2001** "Amnesia" dir. by Gabriele Salvatores / "Mari del sud" dir. by Marcello Cesena **2002** "La rivincita di natale" dir. by Pupi Avati / "Io non ho paura" dir. by Gabriele Salvatores **2006** "La cena per farli conoscere" dir. by Pupi Avati / "Eccezzionale... veramente capitolo secondo me" dir. by Carlo Vanzina (story and screenplay in collaboration with Enrico and Carlo Vanzina).

TELEVISION **1987** "Il segreto del Sahara" – telefilm dir. by Alberto Negrin / "Eurocops" 5 episodes – TV series for Rai 2 dir. by A. Sironi, G. Lepre / "Eurocops" 2 ep. – TV series for Rai 2 dir. by G. Lepre / "Eurocops" 3 ep. – TV series for Rai 2 dir. by G. Lepre **1991** "Eurocops" 3 ep. – TV series for Rai 2 dir. by G. Lepre **2003** "Colorado Café Live" – Italia Uno dir. by Rinaldo Gasperi **2005** "Scherzi a Parte" – Canale 5 / "Il giudice Mastrangelo" - 6 ep. - Canale 5 dir. by Enrico Oldoini **2006** "Colorado Café Live" – Italia Uno dir. by Beppe Recchia.

AS AUTHOR **1997** "Eccezzionale Veramente" published by Ed. Zelig **2004** "Milanismi (assolutamente forse)" published by Mondadori **2006** (to be released) "Eccezzionale" published by Mondadori.

filmography VANESSA INCONTRADA

CINEMA

- 2006 – "Tutte le donne della mia vita" dir. by Simona Izzo
- 2006 – "La cena per farli conoscere / A Dinner for Them to Meet" dir. by Pupi Avati
- 2005 – "Quale Amore" dir. by Maurizio Sciarra
- 2004 – "A/R Andata e Ritorno" dir. by Marco Ponti
- 2003 – "Il cuore altrove" dir. by Pupi Avati

TELEVISION

- 2006 – "Zelig Circus" dir. by Beppe Recchia
- 2005 – "Festivalbar" (Italia Uno)
- 2005 – "Zelig Circus" (Canale 5) dir. by Beppe Recchia
- 2004 – "Zelig Circus" (Canale 5) dir. by Beppe Recchia
- 2003 – "Sky Lounge"
- 2002 – "Galà Dello Sport" (Rai Uno)
- 2002 – "Sanremo Giovani" (Rai Uno)
- 2002 – "Non Solo Moda" (Canale 5)
- 2000 – "Subbuglio" (Rai Uno)
- 2000 – "Super" (Italia Uno)
- 1999 – "Millenium" (Rai Uno)
- 1999 – "Super" (Italia Uno)
- 1998 – "Super" (Italia Uno)

OTHER

- 2005 – "Chiquillos Y Chiquillas" (RTL 102.5)
- 2002 – "Protagonisti" (RTL 102.5)
- 2001 – "Hit Channel"

AWARDS

- 2003 – Most Promising Actress (Festival Fiano) for "Il Cuore Altrove"

filmography **VIOLANTE PLACIDO**

CINEMA

- 2006 - "La cena per farli conoscere / A Dinner for Them to Meet" dir. by Pupi Avati
- 2005 - "Fade to Black" dir. by Oliver Parker
- "Il giorno più bello" dir. by Massimo Cappelli
- 2003 - "Dovunque sei" dir. by Michele Placido
- 2003 - "Che ne sarà di noi" dir. by Giovanni Veronesi
- 2003 - "Raul" dir. by Andrea Bolognini
- 2002 - "L'anima gemella" dir. by Sergio Rubini
- 2001 - "Ciao America" dir. by Frank Ciota
- 1996 - "Jack frusciante è uscito dal gruppo" dir. by Enza Negroni
- 1996 - "Vite strozzate" R. Tognazzi
- 1993 - "Quattro bravi ragazzi" dir. by Claudio Camarca

TELEVISION

- 2006 - "Guerra e pace" dir. by Robert Dornhelm
- 2005 - "Il Furto della Gioconda" dir. by Fabrizio Costa
- 2004 - "Karol" dir. by Giacomo Battiato
- 2002 - "Sospetti 2" dir. by Gianni Lepre
- 2000 - "Compromesso mortale" dir. by G. Robbiano
- 2000 - "Casa famiglia" dir. by Riccardo Donna
- 1997 - "Farfalle" dir. by Roberto Palmerini

SHORTS

- "La Famiglia" dir. by E. Iacovoni

VIDEO CLIPS: Ivan Graziani

THEATRE

- "Bash" dir. by Neil Labile, M. Cotugno

CINEMA

- 1987 "El Dorado" dir. by Carlos Saura
- 1987 "Joan of Arc in Mongolia" dir. by Ulrike Ottinger
- 1987 "Escape Flight from Paradise" dir. by Ettore Pasculli
- 1995 "Al di là della nuvole" dir. by Antonioni / Wim Wenders
- 1997 "Il testimone dello sposo" dir. by Pupi Avati
- 1998 "The Count of Montecristo" dir. by José Dyan
- 1999 "Vercingetorix 'Druidas'" dir. by Jacques Dorffman
- 2000 "Torrente li" Santiago Segura
- 2000 "Vidocq" dir. by Pitof
- 2001 "Volpone" dir. by Frederic Auburtin
- 2002 "Variaciones 1/100" dir. by Javier Aguirre
- 2002 "Io No" dir. by S. Izzo e Ricky Tognazzi
- 2004 "The Lost City" dir. by Andy García.
- 2006 "La Cena per farli conoscere / A Dinner for Them to Meet" dir. by Pupi Avati

filmography **FRANCESCA NERI**

2005 - Francesca Neri produced "Melissa P", a film based on the novel "Cento colpi di spazzola prima di andare a dormire".

CINEMA as actress:

2006 - "La cena farli conoscere/ A Dinner for Them to Meet" dir. by Pupi Avati

2005 - "La Signora delle Camelie" dir. by Lodovico Gasparini

2004 - "Il Siero della Vanità" dir. by Alex Infascelli;

2003 - "Per Sempre" dir. by Alessandro Di Robilant

2003 - "La Felicità non costa niente" dir. by Mimmo Calopresti

2002 - "Ginostra" dir. by Manuel Pradal;

2002 - "Collateral Damage" dir. by Andrew Davis;

2000 - "Hannibal" dir. by Ridley Scott;

2000 - "Io Amo Andrea" dir. by Francesco Nuti

1999 - "Il dolce rumore della vita" dir. by Giuseppe Bertolucci

1998 - "Matrimoni" dir. by Cristina Comencini

1997 - "Carne Tremula" dir. by Pedro Almodòvar

1997 - "Le Mani Forti" dir. by Franco Bernini

1996 - "La Mia Generazione" dir. by Wilma Labate

1995 - "Il Cielo è sempre più Blu" dir. by Antonello Grimaldi

1995 - "Ivo il Tardivo" dir. by Alessandro Benvenuti

1993 - "Sud" dir. by Gabriele Salvatores

1993 - "Dispara" dir. by Carlos Saura

1993 - "La Corsa dell'Innocente" dir. by Carlo Carlei

1992 - "Al Lupo Al Lupo" dir. by Carlo Verdone

1992 - "L'Ultima frontiera" dir. by Manuel Cussò Ferrer

1992 - "Sabato Italiano" dir. by Luciano Manuzzi

1991 - "Pensavo fosse amore invece era un calesse" dir. by Massimo Troisi

1991 - "Captain America" dir. by Albert Pyun

1990 - "Le Età di Lulu" dir. by Bigas Luna

1990 - "Briganti" dir. by Marco Modugno

1989 - "Bankomatt" dir. by Villi Hermann

1989 - "Buon Natale... Buon Anno" dir. by Luigi Comencini

1988 - "Una Donna Spezzata" dir. by Marco Leto

1987 - "Il Grande Blek" dir. by Giuseppe Piccioni