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Season Pass  
for All 7 Films

# Film Schedule

<b>Fri</b>	15 September
7.00	<b>Shoeshine</b>
9.30	<b>Sambizanga</b>
<b>Sat</b>	16 September
5.15	<b>Assunta Spina</b>
7.00	<b>Chess Of The Wind</b>
9.15	<b>The Birds, the Bees and the Italians</b>
<b>Sun</b>	17 September
3.45	<b>A River Called Titas</b>
7.00	<b>Al Hal - Transes</b>
9.00	<b>Shoeshine</b>
<b>Tue</b>	19 September
7.00	<b>The Birds, the Bees and the Italians</b>
9.30	<b>Al Hal - Transes</b>
<b>Wed</b>	20 September
7.00	<b>Sambizanga</b>
9.15	<b>Chess Of The Wind</b>
<b>Thu</b>	21 September
7.00	<b>Assunta Spina</b>
8.45	<b>A River Called Titas</b>

## Assunta Spina

Directed By:

**Gustavo Serena  
Francesca Bertini**

1915 / Italy / PG / Drama, Silent / Italian  
[Eng Subtitles] / 67 min

**SAT 16 5.15** **THU 21 7.00**

Assunta and Michele are in love, but others come between them and jealousy arises. Assunta Spina stands out as an early landmark of naturalistic acting and a blueprint for the Italian Neorealist films to come, without a doubt one of the unforgettable films of Italian silent cinema.



## Shoeshine

Directed By:

**Vittorio De Sica**

1946 / Italy / PG13 / Drama / Italian [Eng Subtitles] / 93 min

**FRI 15 7.00** **SUN 17 9.00**

The tragedy of a wretched childhood and social exclusion. In the 1950s, Vittorio de Sica, an ardent champion of the neorealist movement, was committed to pushing the boundaries of classical Italian cinema. In 1945-1946, in a desolate post-war Italy, where everything had to be reconstructed, he shot Sciuscià (Shoeshine), a tragic story about guilt, portraying the sad destiny of two underprivileged children.



# Partners

## The Italian Cultural Institute Abu Dhabi

A body of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation (MAECI), the Italian Cultural Institute Abu Dhabi is responsible for spreading and promoting the Italian language, culture and arts to the wider world. As the cultural arm to the Italian Embassy in the UAE, the body strives to organize cultural, artistic and scientific initiatives to UAE's richly diverse population - with Italy as their central theme. The Italian Cultural Institute Abu Dhabi is one of 83 Italian Cultural Institutes in the (IIC) around the world which, together, promote the image of Italy and its rich culture abroad.

## Fondazione Cineteca di Bologna

The year 2012 is a turning point for the Cineteca di Bologna, almost fifty years after the creation of the Commissione Cinema, the organization that started it all: on January 1 the Cineteca became a foundation. We chose this new organizational form to make the best use of our resources, to seize dynamic work and research opportunities, and to establish the Cineteca as a leading institution in the field of film culture. Our mission that embraces the past and is open to the future remains unchanged: the Fondazione Cineteca di Bologna is a place for archival conservation and restoration, film and audiovisual promotion and dissemination, training, research, and publishing. A multifaceted mission, a Cineteca ready for all the challenges of conserving and promoting the moving image in an era of immense technological, aesthetic and social change.

## The Film Foundation

The Film Foundation is a nonprofit organization established in 1990 dedicated to protecting and preserving motion picture history. By working in partnership with archives and studios, the foundation has helped to restore over 1000 films, which are made accessible to the public through programming at festivals, museums, and educational institutions around the world. The Film Foundation's World Cinema Project has restored 53 films from 30 different countries representing the rich diversity of world cinema. The foundation's free educational curriculum, The Story of Movies, teaches young people - over 10 million to date - about film language and history.

## World Cinema Project

The World Cinema Project (WCP) preserves and restores neglected films from around the world. To date, 54 films from Africa, Asia, Eastern Europe, Central America, South America, and the Middle East have been restored, preserved and exhibited for a global audience. The WCP also supports educational programs, including Restoration Film Schools; intensive, results-oriented workshops allowing students and professionals worldwide to learn the art and science of film restoration and preservation. All WCP titles are available for exhibition rental by clicking "Book This Film."

## Cinema Akil

Cinema Akil is the UAE's first and only independent cinema platform that brings quality films from across the world to the audiences in the UAE. Showcasing directors and filmmakers across decades, Cinema Akil aims to create awareness and interest in film and the cinematic arts while amplifying the exposure of international films to a regional audience. Launched in 2014 as a nomadic cinema, Cinema Akil has held over 75 pop-up cinemas attracting over 85,000 attendees in Dubai, Abu Dhabi and Sharjah. In September 2018, Cinema Akil opened its first permanent location in Al Quoz, Dubai making its flagship home the GCC's first arthouse cinema which has been brought to you in partnership with Alserkal. The independent cinema has grown to launch the UAE's first-ever Arab Cinema Week in 2022 to celebrate Arab Cinema and has also hosted global film festivals to bring innovative cinematic artworks from the lands of Hong Kong and Italy here in the GCC region. In 2022, Cinema Akil also held its first-ever regional pop-up in Doha during the World Cup. Cinema Akil is a member of the Network of Arab Alternative Screens (NAAS) which includes members from the MENA region such as Metropolis in Beirut, Zawya in Cairo and Cinematheque du Tangier in Morocco.

## The Birds, the Bees and the Italians

Directed By:

**Pietro Germi**

1966 / Italy, France / PG13 / Drama / Italian  
[Eng Subtitles] / 119 min

**SAT 16 9.15** **TUE 19 7.00**

With Signore & Signori Pietro Germi moved away from his Sicilian themes and relocated to the Veneto region, in a gentle environment populated by priests, former Alpine troopers, dames, bigots and teachers. Here, he walked along the path of the small town bourgeoisie, enclosed by a parish, a villa and a square, and figured out that hadn't the Italian Republic be founded on labor it would certainly be on cheating. As a matter of fact, there is one dominant element in this story, a character with several faces and attitudes, but one name: cuckold.



## Chess Of The Wind

Directed By:

**Mohammad Reza Aslani**

1976 / Iran / PG13 / Drama / Farsi [Eng Subtitles] / 93 min

**SAT 16 7.00** **WED 20 9.15**

This rediscovered jewel of Iranian cinema has reemerged as one of the most astonishing works of the country's prerevolutionary New Wave. A hypnotically stylized murder mystery awash in period atmosphere, Chess of the Wind unfolds inside a candlelit mansion, where a web of greed, violence, and betrayal ensnares potential heirs as they vie for control of their matriarch's estate. Melding the influences of European modernism, gothic horror, and classical Persian art, Mohammad Reza Aslani crafts an exquisitely restrained mood piece that erupts into a subversive final act in which class conventions, gender roles, and time itself are upended with shocking ferocity.



# Il Cinema Ritrovato

On Tour

The festival **Il Cinema Ritrovato** is organized by **Cineteca di Bologna**, one of Europe's most renowned archives for film restoration and preservation. Nine memorable days to dive into the pleasure of unique screenings, to discover the best restorations of the year (film print or digital), to meet renowned experts on film history as well as protagonists of the current cinema. More than 500 titles are presented in six cinemas and on a giant screen at free outdoor screenings in Bologna's Piazza Maggiore, which turns into a 4,000-seat beautiful open air movie theater for the entire summer (*Sotto le Stelle del Cinema*). Il Cinema Ritrovato has been defined as "pure heaven for cinéphiles". The 38th edition will take place from Saturday June 22nd to Sunday June 30th, 2024.

**THE PROGRAM WILL RUN FROM 15-21 SEPTEMBER AT CINEMA AKIL. TICKETS ARE AVAILABLE AT WWW.CINEMA AKIL.COM**



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## Sambizanga

Directed By:

**Sarah Maldoror**

1972 / Angola, France / PG13 / Drama / Portuguese, Lingala and Kimbundu [Eng Subtitles] / 96 min

**FRI 15 9.30** **WED 20 7.00**

A revolutionary bombshell by one of Africa's first female directors, Sarah Maldoror's electrifying chronicle of Angola's awakening independence movement is a stirring hymn to those who risked everything in the fight for freedom. Based on a true story, Sambizanga follows young resistance leader Domingos Xavier (Domingos Oliveira) whose arrest by the Portuguese authorities helps ignite an anti-colonialist uprising and leads his determined wife Maria (Elisa Andrade) on an epic journey by foot to save him. Underscored by the language of revolution and the spiritual songs of the Angolan villagers, this landmark work of political cinema stands apart for the way that it honors both the courage of and hardships endured by women in the global struggle for liberation.



## A River Called Titas

Directed By:

**Ritwik Ghatak**

1973 / India / PG13 / Drama / Bengali [Eng Subtitles] / 158 min

**SUN 17 3.45** **THU 21 8.45**

The Bengali filmmaker Ritwik Ghatak's stunningly beautiful, elegiac saga concerns the tumultuous lives of people in fishing villages along the banks of the Titas River in pre-Partition East Bengal. Focusing on the tragic intertwining fates of a series of fascinating characters—in particular, the indomitable widow Basanti—Ghatak tells the poignant story of an entire community's vanishing way of life. Made soon after Bangladesh became an independent nation, the elliptical, painterly A River Called Titas is a grand epic from a director who has had a devoted following for decades.

# মহরজান রত্নোফাতো للأفلام الكلاسيكية

For the first time, **Il Cinema Ritrovato on Tour** is landing in Dubai at Cinema Akil to present 7 renowned heritage films from Italia, India, Morocco, Iran, and Angola, all digitally restored by Cineteca di Bologna in its laboratory L'Immagine Ritrovata. The titles have been carefully chosen by **Guy Borlée**, the festival coordinator, to make you discover different periods of Italian cinema and new horizons in world cinema.

**Il Cinema Ritrovato on Tour** in Dubai is proudly presented by **Cinema Akil** in partnership with the **Italian Cultural Institute Abu Dhabi**, in collaboration with **Cineteca di Bologna**, and The Film Foundation's **World Cinema Project**, fostering global storytelling and cultural exchange.

This programme is curated by **Guy Borlée** (Festival Coordinator).

Special thanks to **Gian Luca Farinelli**, **Andrea Meneghelli**, **Carmen Accaputo**, **Alessandro Criscitello**, **Violette de La Forest** (Cineteca di Bologna).

# Cinema Akil Presents

# Il Cinema Ritrovato

# On Tour

# 21-15

# Sept

# 23

**Assunta Spina** | **Sciuscià Shoeshine** | *Signore e signori* **The Birds, the Bees and the Italians** | *Chatranj-e baad* **Chess of the Wind** | **Sambizanga** | *Titas Ekti Nadir Naam* **A river called Titas** | *Al Hal* **Transes**



## Al Hal - Transes

Directed By:

**Ahmed el Maanouni**

1981 / Morroco PG13 / Documentary / Arabic [Eng Subtitles] / 87 min

**SUN 17 7.00** **TUE 19 9.30**

The groundbreaking Moroccan band Nass El Ghiwane is the dynamic subject of this captivating, one-of-a-kind documentary by Ahmed El Maanouni, who filmed the four musicians during a series of electrifying live performances in Tunisia, Morocco, and France; on the streets of Casablanca; and in intimate conversations. Storytellers through song and traditional instruments, and with connections to political theater, the band became a local phenomenon and an international sensation, thanks to its rebellious lyrics and sublime, fully acoustic sound, which draws on Berber rhythms, Malhun sung poetry, and Gnawa dances. Both a concert movie and a free-form audiovisual experiment, bolstered by images of the band's rapt audience, Trances is pure cinematic poetry.



**SCIUSCIA (SHOESHINE)** - Restored in 4K in 2022 by The Film Foundation and Cineteca di Bologna in collaboration with Onum S.A. with funding provided by Hobson/Lucas Family Foundation at L'Immagine Ritrovata laboratory.

**SIGNORE E SIGNORI (THE BIRDS, THE BEES AND THE ITALIANS)** - Restored in 2016 in 2K by Cineteca di Bologna and Istituto Luce - Cinecittà at L'Immagine Ritrovata laboratory, from the original camera and sound negatives made available by the copyright holder Dear S.p.A. Special acknowledgments to Luca Bigazzi for supervising the color correction stage.

**ASSUNTA SPINA** - Restored in 2016 by Cineteca di Bologna at L'Immagine Ritrovata laboratory from the internegative photochemically restored version from 1993.

**CHESS OF THE WIND** - Restored by Cineteca di Bologna at L'Immagine Ritrovata and The Film Foundation's World Cinema Project. Funding provided by the Hobson/Lucas Family Foundation, in collaboration with Mohammad Reza Aslani

**SAMBIZANGA** - Restored by Cineteca di Bologna and The Film Foundation's World Cinema Project at L'Immagine Ritrovata (Paris) from the 35mm original negatives, in association with Editions René Chateau and the family of Sarah Maldoror. Funding provided by Hobson/Lucas Family Foundation. This restoration is part of the African Film Heritage Project, an initiative created by The Film Foundation's World Cinema Project, the FEPAI and UNESCO - in collaboration with Cineteca di Bologna - to help locate, restore and disseminate African cinema.

**TRANSES** - Restored in 2007 by The World Cinema Foundation at Cineteca di Bologna/L'Immagine Ritrovata in association with Ahmed El-Maanouni and Izza Genini. Restoration funding provided by Armani, Cartier, Qatar Airways and Qatar Museum Authority.

**A RIVER CALLED TITAS** - *A River Called Titas* was restored in 2010 by the Cineteca di Bologna/L'Immagine Ritrovata laboratory, in association with the Ritwik Memorial Trust, the National Film Archive of India, and The Film Foundation's World Cinema Project. Additional film elements provided by the Bundesarchiv-Filmarchiv. Restoration funded by Doha Film Institute.

# Restoration Credits



سينما عقيق  
CINEMA AKIL

Assunta Spina | *Sciuscita Shoeshine* | Signore e signori  
The Birds, the Bees and the Italians | *Chatranj-e baad*  
Chess of the Wind | **Sambizanga** | *Titas Ekti Nadir Naam*  
A river called Titas | *Al Ha/ Traneses*

15

September

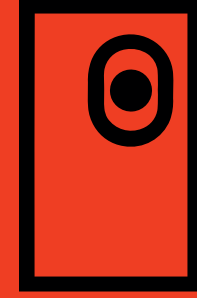


# Il Cinema Ritrovato

on Tour

September

21



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WORLD CINEMA PROJECT

