



**CA' FOSCARI SHORT FILM FESTIVAL 14**  
**20-23 MARCH 2024**  
**WIDESPREAD IN VENICE**

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**SHORT *meets* LILIANA CAVANI**

This year the **Ca' Foscari Short Film Festival** will host one of the Italian greatest directors, **Liliana Cavani**. She will be with us at the Auditorium Santa Margherita, where she will revisit her illustrious and courageous career alongside journalist and film critic Anton Giulio Mancino.

The interview will be complemented by screenings of iconic scenes from her most celebrated films: *Beyond Good and Evil*, *The Talented Mr. Ripley*, *The Night Porter*, and *The Berlin Affair*. This selection aims to highlight the psychological depth and audacity inherent in her cinematic works.

**Liliana Cavani** was born in Carpi (Modena), where she spent her childhood and youth, receiving a classical education both in high school and later at the University of Bologna, where she graduated in ancient literature. Her passion for cinema, inherited from her mother, led her to pursue a diploma from the Centro Sperimentale di Cinematografia in Rome, where she earned the prestigious "Ciak d'oro" award for the best short film upon completing the course, with her film *The Battle*. Subsequently, she ventured into directing for television, focusing on social inquiries for RAI. In 1966, she directed her first television film, *Francesco d'Assisi*, starting her remarkable career. Her oeuvre includes directing *Galileo* in 1968, followed by *The Cannibals* (a reimagining of Sophocles' *Antigone*) and *The Guest* in 1971—a film shedding light on the conditions of female patients in psychiatric institutions, which garnered her the "Timone d'oro" at the Venice Film Festival. In 1974, she drew inspiration from the life of Tibetan poet and yogi Milarepa for her film of the same name, presented at Cannes. The same year saw the release of perhaps her most renowned and controversial work: *The Night Porter*, delving into the sadomasochistic relationship between Lucia, a concentration camp survivor, and Maximilian, a former SS officer and her tormentor. From 1977 to 2002, she directed a string of notable films including *Beyond Good and Evil*, which explores the later years of Nietzsche, and *The Skin* (featuring Marcello Mastroianni and Claudia Cardinale), along with *Beyond the Door*, *The Berlin Affair*, *Francesco*, and *Ripley's Game*.

Since 2024, Liliana Cavani has predominantly focused on television, directing the miniseries *De Gasperi – The Man of Hope*, followed by the 2008 fiction series *Einstein*. In 2014, she revisited the figure of Saint Francis of Assisi for the third time in a Rai miniseries. Among the awards adorning her illustrious career, she received the David di Donatello Lifetime Achievement Award in 2012 and the Golden Lion Lifetime Achievement Award at the Venice Film Festival last year. In 2023, she returned to film direction with *The Order of Time*, which premiered out of competition at the same festival.