



**CA' FOSCARI SHORT FILM FESTIVAL 13**  
**22-25 MARCH 2023**  
**WIDESPREAD IN VENICE**

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**SHORT *meets* AMOS GITAI**

In this edition of the **Ca' Foscari Short Film Festival** a tribute to the Israeli filmmaker **Amos Gitai** will be held. The director is internationally recognized for his documentaries and fiction films, often used as a powerful political tool for understanding the Middle East situation. Gitai will therefore be the protagonist on the stage of the Auditorium Santa Margherita with a long interview by the lecturer and film critic **John Bleasdale**, during which he will review his intense film career. The interview will be interspersed with clips from some of his most famous feature films, which will be commented on by the director himself.

**Amos Gitai** was born in Haifa, in Israel, in 1950 and he is a director, screenwriter, artist and film producer recognized internationally. He participated in the war in Kippur in 1973, surviving the shooting down of the helicopter in which he was travelling, an experience that would mark him deeply. Unable to work in his own country, he moved first to the United States, where he graduated in architecture from Berkeley, and then to Paris. The subjects he often deals with include war, politics and the complex situation in the Middle East, always analysed with a critical eye, particularly when he focuses on the history of Israel, with which he has always had a conflictual relationship. He made his debut in the 1970s with short films and documentaries, a type to which he remains attached, including *House* (1980), part of a trilogy censored, however, in his country, from which he remained distant for over twenty years. He then continued the production of other trilogies including the Exile and Wadi series, which ended in 2001 with *Wadi Grand Canyon*, with which he enjoyed considerable international success. With his fiction works, he participated numerous times in the Cannes and Venice film festivals, winning various side prizes and receiving the Leopard of Honour in Locarno in 2008. His most important works include *Esther*, winner of the Festival di Torino in 1986, *Berlin-Jerusalem* (1989), *Kadosh* (1999), *Kippur* (2000), an autobiographical depiction of the war of the same name, *Promised Land* (2004) and *Ana Arabia* (2013). The complex vision of the situation in Israel has allowed him to critically represent conflicts and deal with issues of human rights and cultural diversity with a lucid and attentive eye, as in *Rabin: The Last Day* (2015), about the last days and the murder of Itzhak Rabin. His last film is *Laila in Haifa*, presented in competition in Venice in 2020.