



**Mann Chinese 6 Theatre – Hollywood**  
**2009 OFFICIAL PROGRAM OF THE SCREENINGS**  
**Information: [info@losangelesitalia.com](mailto:info@losangelesitalia.com)**

**SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 15**

**10:30am Scicolone, Lazzaro, Loren** 60' A documentary by Vincenzo Mollica  
A 2006 television special in which the incredible actress takes a journey through the most important steps of her life, recounting the memories of her childhood, relationship with her mother, beauty pageants, her launch into show business, and her professional collaborations with Vittorio De Sica and Marcello Mastroianni.

**11:30pm Fellini's Rome** (*Roma*) 128' Federico Fellini  
(Honoring the legendary Academy Award-winning director)

A virtually plotless, gaudy, impressionistic portrait of Rome through the eyes of one of its most famous citizens. Fellini sets out on an almost mythical journey through the shocking but fantastically real City of Rome, blending autobiography (a reconstruction of Fellini's own arrival in Rome during the Mussolini years; a trip to a brothel and a music hall) with scenes from present-day Roman life.

**2:00pm It Started in Naples** (*La baia di Napoli*) 100' Melville Shavelson  
(A tribute to the Academy Award®-winners Vittorio De Sica and Sofia Loren)

When Mike Campbell travels to Naples to clear up the estate of his late brother, he finds more than he bargained for: an eight year-old nephew he never knew he had, now living with his maternal aunt, Lucia who is a nightclub dancer on the isle of Capri. Gradually developing a bond with the impetuous little tyke, Campbell decides to take him back to the States for a "better" life. Naturally, this doesn't go down well with Lucia, and the pair become locked in a battle for the child's affection.

**4:00pm An Energy Story** (*Una storia per l'energia*) 28' Gillo Pontecorvo

In this film, Gillo Pontecorvo, one of the most internationally acclaimed directors, paints an exemplary portrait of Agip, a successful company consistently present in the world scene. The shots in this extraordinary documentary narrate a fascinating course, set in different times and space, in environments and places which identify an extremely broad and border-free range of action. A field as big as the world, in which men, cultures, and different experiences merge in the daily effort of "energy hunting."

**4:30pm Fellini Satyricon** 128' Federico Fellini  
(Honoring the legendary Academy Award-winning director)

In first-century Rome, two student friends, Encolpio and Ascilto, argue about ownership of the boy Gitone, divide their belongings and split up. The boy, allowed to choose who he goes with, chooses Ascilto. Only a sudden earthquake saves Encolpio from suicide. We follow Encolpio through a series of adventures, where he is eventually reunited with Ascilto, and culminates in them helping a man kidnap a hermaphrodite demi-god from a temple.

**6:45pm: Welcome to L.A. Italia 2009** - Introduction by the chairman Mr. Bobby Moresco  
**Special Music Performance by Andrea Griminelli**  
*Tribute to Nino Rota and Federico Fellini*

**7:15pm Giovanna's Father** (*Il Papà di Giovanna*) 104' Pupi Avati  
(Honoring the Maestro Pupi Avati who will attend the screening with the producer Antonio Avati)

Giovanna is a shy child, insecure and not very attractive. Her father, a failed painter, is completely dedicated to her education, reassuring her every day of her superior intellectual and cultural

capability. His goal is to give her a great future, but everything turns tragic when one day Giovanna kills her generous and pretty schoolmate

**9:00pm: Kapò** 116'

Gillo Pontecorvo

A teenage Jewish girl is captured by the Nazis and sent to a concentration camp. She is able to change her identity and rises in the ranks of the prisoners to become a "kapo" or camp guard, but the atrocities she witnesses propel her into self-sacrifice.

**11:00pm Pasquale Rotondi's List** (La Lista di Pasquale Rotondi) 60'

A documentary by Giovanni Minoli/Giuseppe Saponara

He has been defined as the "Schindler of the opera of Italian art" and the savior of "Beauty." This is the story of Pasquale Rotondi, the man that dedicated five long years of his life during the war to protect priceless artistic masterpieces while risking his own life.



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## **MONDAY, FEBRUARY 16**

**11:00am The Truce** (La Tregua) 125'

Francesco Rosi

This true story of Italian Jews returning home from Auschwitz after the war depicts how the encounter difficulty in readjusting to life, and experience fear about what they will find at home. Main protagonist Levi's appreciation of life and freedom slowly returns, but with it also comes a deep rage and an abiding guilt at having survived, a guilt that may have led Levi to suicide in 1987.

**1:00pm Ciao Professore** (Io speriamo che me la cavo) 115'

Lina Wertmuller

Marco Sperelli is a divorced teacher sent to work in Corzano, a town near Naples. The first day of school he finds only the caretaker and few girls and boys in the classroom. In looking for his students, he discovers a wretched life led by the boys and the girls of Corzano – a life in which only power and violence are worth respecting. The teacher's contradictory values, however, disturb too many people and he is eventually forced to leave Corzano and his students behind – but not without valuable life lessons.

**3:00pm: Just a Father** (*Solo un padre*) 93'

Luca Lucini

Carlo, thirty-something father of a ten-month-old baby girl is struggling with the death of his wife – who he lost while she was giving birth. Nonetheless he pushes forward thanks to the help and affection of his parents and friends. One day, however, Carlo's organized existence is turned upside down when he meets Camille.

**4.30pm Gela Ancient and New** (*Gela antica e nuova*) 32'

Giuseppe Ferrara

(An Eni documentary with the special contribution by Leonardo Sciascia)

The oil discovered in Sicily by Agip induced Eni, in keeping with the policies of intervention in the south, to construct a large petrochemical plant in Gela. These were the years of impressive migration from the South of the country to the large cities of the North, which caused a deep economic and cultural transformation never before experienced in Italy. Alongside extraordinary economic results, this process produced unavoidable contradictions in the new social set-up.

**5:00pm The Bicycle Thief** (*Ladri di biciclette*) 93' Vittorio De Sica

After nearly two years of unemployment, Antonio finally finds work posting bills. When his precious bike is stolen on his first day of work, he must comb the streets of Rome in search of the bike: his family's only means of survival. Hopeless, Antonio and Bruno wander aimlessly through Rome, landing outside of a soccer stadium where hundreds of bicycles are parked. His will broken, Antonio attempts to steal a bike but is caught in the act.

**6:45pm Special welcome to the beloved showman Christian De Sica**

**7:00pm Christian De Sica: Talk about me** (*Parlami di me*) 86' Brando De Sica

(The actors Christian De Sica and Paolo Conticini and the director will attend the screening)

An homage to the theatre, and at the same time, an occasion for Christian De Sica to tell his story as an artist and a son of a great artist. Along with a twenty-piece orchestra and in the company of eleven other artists, music accompanies the memory of De Sica – between memories of his infancy, his relationship with his father, his will to make acting his occupation, his successes, and the difficulties of a career lived with great passion.

**8:30pm The Second Wedding Night** (*La seconda notte di nozze*) 103' Pupi Avati

(Honoring the Maestro Pupi Avati who will attend the screening with the producer Antonio Avati)

After the second world war, Liliana, left a widow with economical difficulties, is forced to abandon Bologna together with her son, Nino. They discover by chance the existence of a rich uncle in Puglia who convinces Liliana to move in with him. Together on the manor farm of the emotionally fragile Giordano, Liliana's brother-in-law who was once in love with her, forgotten passions are re-awakened.

**10:15pm Strange Fate** (*Amore che vieni, amore che vai*) 103' Daniele Costantini

The streets, doors, alleys, and night-time locales of Genoa in 1963 set the tone, along with three male protagonists: A French contraband, Bernard, worldly and disenchanted, makes a living organizing "big hits"; a very young pimp by accident, Carlo, so sluggish that he brings along his mother, Lina, to watch over the prostitutes or "darlings"; and a tough sheep-herder, Salvatore, member of an anonymous kidnapping, who takes refuge in Genoa to start a new life after five years of hard time in prison.

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**TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 17**

**10:00am The English Patient** (*Il Paziente Inglese*) 162' Anthony Mingella

(Honoring the Anglo-American and Academy Award-winning director)

Set before and during World War II, *The English Patient* is a story of love, fate, misunderstanding and healing. Told in a series of flashbacks, the film can best be explained by unwinding it into its two chronological phases: the first set in the late 1930's, and the second set in Italy in the last months of the war.

**1:00pm A Morning in August** 60'

Giovanni Minoli/Di Stadio/Cortese

This documentary recounts the Nazi atrocities in Italy during World War II. Its making follows the court ruling of November 2007, which declared the massacre of Sant'Anna di Stazzema as a pre-meditated act of violence.

**2:30pm Incantato** (Il cuore altrove) 107'

Pupi Avati

(Honoring the Maestro Pupi Avati who will attend the screening with the producer Antonio Avati)

Nello Balocchi, a 35-year-old teacher of Greek and Latin, is invited to Bologna by his father, the owner of the Papal tailor's shop in Rome. His father hopes Nello will find a soul mate in Bologna and thus produce an heir for the business. After several unsuccessful efforts, Nello meets Angela, an exuberant, beautiful young blind girl with whom he falls hopelessly in love. The girl's father and Nello's parents do not approve of the relationship, but the real problem is Angela's temperament.

**4:20pm ICAM: 300 Days** (ICAM: 300 GIORNI) 35'

Valentino Orsini

(An Eni documentary with the special contribution by Paolo and Vittorio Taviani, Tonino Guerra)

The film shows the reconstruction of the ICAM ethylene plant in Priolo, Sicily, after the fire of May, 1985. Since then, things have radically changed in Italy, even the way the cinema looks at the world of labor and private enterprise has changed. The Priolo plant was rebuilt in the record time of eleven months. This was possible due to special technology as well as the cooperation of various Italian companies and the great commitment of Eni's workforce.

**5:00pm Camorra. A Complex Plot About Women, Alleys and Crimes**

(Un complicato intrigo di donne, vicoli e delitti) 115'

Lina Wertmuller

In Naples, a prostitute and an American drug dealer (her ex-boyfriend) find themselves embroiled in the murders of Neapolitan Mafia heads, when he becomes a suspect in the ritual executions of drug traffickers.

**7:00pm Special Music Performance by Tony Esposito**

**7:30Pm Screening of the Short The Differential Waste Disposal** 5' Luca Liguori

Winner of the competition, "Viva Napoli: The other side of Gomorrah," this short film recounts the bitter-sweet reality of the garbage collection problem in Naples.

**7:40pm Pa-Ra-Da** 100'

Marco Pontecorvo

(The director will attend the screening)

This film tells the true story of French clown Miloud Oukili from his arrival in Romania in 1992 to his encounter with the street children of Bucharest – known as "Boskettari" – who live in the streets and sleep in Bucharest's sewers, eeking a living out of petty crime, begging, and prostitution. Miloud wants to meet these neglected kids, who've been ravaged by physical and sexual abuse and drug addiction, and shine some light on their lives.

**9.30pm: Screening of the Short Helen** (Elena) 15'

Salvo Bitonti

(The actor Franco Nero and director will attend the screening)

In this episode, the second in a trilogy, the beautiful Helen (long forgotten by her many suitors) lives alone in solitude with the memories of her past. One day a general pays her a mysterious visit: he is a survivor of war and his conscience is profoundly disturbed by the terrible episodes he's lived through – which seem to reference contemporary conflicts such as Iraq and Afghanistan.

**To follow: Mario The Magician** (Mario il mago) 90'

Tamas Almasi

(The actor Franco Nero will attend the screening)

An Italian businessman, Mario comes to the country and opens his shoe company in a small village. A middle-aged female worker falls in love with Mario, but she is not the only one whose life will be changed.



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**WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 18**

**10:00am The Talented Mr. Ripley** (Il Talento di Mr. Ripley) 139' Anthony Mingella  
(Honoring the Anglo-American and Academy Award-winning director)

A 1950s Manhattan lavatory attendant, Tom Ripley, borrows a Princeton jacket to play piano at a garden party. When the wealthy father of a recent Princeton grad chats Tom up, Tom pretends to know the son and is soon offered \$1,000 to go to Italy to convince Dickie Greenleaf to return home. In Italy, Tom attaches himself to Dickie and to Marge, Dickie's cultured fiancée, pretending to love jazz and harboring homoerotic hopes as he soaks in luxury. Besides lying, Tom's talents include impressions and forgery, so when the handsome and confident Dickie tires of Tom, dismissing him as a bore, Tom goes to extreme lengths to make Greenleaf's privileges his own.

**12:20pm Tragedy of a Ridiculous Man**

(La tragedia di un uomo ridicolo) 116'– Starring Ugo Tognazzi Bernardo Bertolucci  
A factory owner's son is kidnapped and the police suspect the son to be in collusion with the criminals.

**2:20pm Christmas Present -** (Regalo di Natale) 101' Pupi Avati  
(Honoring the Maestro Pupi Avati who will attend the screening with the producer Antonio Avati)

Set entirely in one Christmas evening, four old friends and a lawyer who all have a passion for poker decide to play a hand that will change everyone's destiny. Years of life and an ex-friendship are all in play on the table. The game ends with a friend betrayed, the end of a friendship, and an opportunistic lawyer as the winner. With one hand, life as they know it, is over for the protagonists.

**4:10pm Vanilla and Chocolate** (Vaniglia e Cioccolato) 110' **Ciro Ippolito**  
(The actress Maria Grazia Cucinotta will attend the screening)

The marriage of Penelope and Andrea, married for love, lasts eighteen years mainly because Pepe, as her friends call her, as often turned a blind eye and put up with a lot from her husband. One day, however, she declares herself to be tired of Andrea's superficiality and selfishness, able to forgive herself for an affair with a tub of vanilla and chocolate ice cream. Pepe escapes married life, but begins a dangerous journey between memories and doubts.

**6:10pm The Man Who Loves** (L'uomo che ama) 102' **Maria Sole Tognazzi**  
(The director will attend the screening)

Roberto is an almost forty-year-old living two different love stories – in two different moments in time. One is with Sara, Associate Director of a hotel in the historic center of Torino, while the other is with Alba, who works in a contemporary art gallery. The game of love brings him to assume opposing roles in the two relationships, experimenting with both the sweetness and cruelty of love.

**8:00pm Special Music Performance by Guido Lembo**

**8:30pm Dad's Girlfriend** (La fidanzata di Papà) 90' **Enrico Oldoini**  
(The actress Simona Ventura will attend the screening)

Massimo is a widower with his head in the clouds. His son is about to have a baby with Angela's daughter, who owns a chain of restaurants in Miami, Los Angeles and New York. The two soon-to-be in-laws finally meet when their children, who live in Miami, decide not to return to Italy for their baby's birth.

**10:00pm Sandrine in the Rain** (Sandrine nella pioggia) 90' **Tonino Zangardi**  
(The actor Adriano Giannini will attend the screening)

Everything changes for Martine on a rainy night, when she leaves home to meet a friend arriving in the city. In the distance, police sirens sound and the girl suddenly finds herself in the midst of a shootout between three armed men and the police.

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#### **THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 19**

**11:00am The Story of Boys and Girls** (Storie di ragazzi e ragazze) 87' Pupi Avati  
(Honoring the Maestro Pupi Avati who will attend the screening with the producer Antonio Avati)

At a farmhouse, a large family cooks mountains of food for the following day's engagement party for Silvia and her big-city fiancé, Angelo. The day-long dinner is riotous: Silvia's parents feud about infidelity and an aging salesman who rents a cottage from them arrives with a young French woman while the children run amuck.

**2:30pm The Perfectionist** (La perfezionista) 100' Cesare Lanza

At the center of the story is Giselda, legal secretary and closest employee to the lawyer she works for. She's an incredible perfectionist when it comes to her job, and finds herself in a difficult situation with her boyfriend Angelo, a musician, discovers he has a life-threatening illness.

**4:15pm We can do that** (Si può fare) 111' Giulio Manfredonia

Nello, a Milanese businessman who has lost his job, finds himself managing a cooperative of former mental patients, relocated after the Italian state closed the country's psychiatric hospitals under the Basaglia law. A strong believer in the dignity of work, Nello encourages every cooperative member to learn a trade in order to free themselves from their dependence on charity handouts, inventing a role for each of them that is amazingly adapted to their abilities.

**6:15pm The Postman** (Il Postino) 108' Michael Radford

(The actress Maria Grazia Cucinotta will attend the screening)

The life of the fisherman Mario changes dramatically when the famous Chilean writer Pablo Neruda settles on his little Italian island. Living in exile because of his political beliefs, Neruda needs a postman to deliver the huge quantities of mail sent to him by his admirers and Mario takes the job since he hates fishing anyway. The two become friends and Neruda helps the shy and clumsy Mario to win the heart of Beatrice, the beautiful waitress at the village's inn, by showing him the beauty and power of poetry.

**8:30pm The Seed of Discord** (Il Seme della discordia) 85' Pappi Corsicato

(The director will attend the screening)

He and she are married with two successful careers: he is a fertilizer sales agent, and she works in a boutique inherited from her mother that she plans to turn into a new concept store. The problems in

their seemingly solid relationship begin when one fateful day, she discovers she's pregnant -- while he is simultaneously diagnosed with infertility.

**10:00pm *Screening of the Short Clouds Just Clouds* 5'** Pino Sondelli

This short film highlights the two drastically different souls of Naples: one violent, the other richly cultural and historic. Images of an artistic, cultured land interrupt the report of a killing, reminding that the great Neapolitans who have changed the course of humanity should not be overshadowed.

**To follow *The House on the Clouds* (La casa sulle nuvole) 100'** Claudio Giovannesi  
(The actor Adriano Giannini will attend the screening)

Michele and Lorenzo are two brothers that live in a large home on the outskirts of Rome. They're alone in the world and their house is all they have. One day a man arrives to give them some absurd news: their house has been sold by the legitimate owner: their father.



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### **FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 20**

**10:00am *Breaking and Entering* (Complicità e sospetti) 120'** Anthony Mingella  
(Honoring the Anglo-American and Academy Award-winning director)

Miro, a teen from Sarajevo, lives near King's Cross with his mother. As he is very nimble, his uncle hires him to break into offices to steal computers. They steal from Will's architectural firm twice, so he decides stake it out at night.

**12:30pm *Coverboy* 93'** Carmine Amoroso  
Coverboy is the story of the friendship between Loan and Michele, respectively Romanian and Italian, and the serendipitous encounter of two worlds apart: the travails of a young man, son of the Post-Communist Revolution, who flees his country in search of a better future and the travails of another youth who instead scrapes along the margins of a Western society that is unable to offer gainful employment to so much of its youth.

**2:15pm *A School Outing* (Una gita scolastica) 90'** Pupi Avati  
(The director and the producer Antonio Avati will attend the screening)

The story of two high school teachers in 1914 who take thirty of their honor students from the music department for a hike into the mountains to a historic hotel in Florence. The older professor expresses his love for his younger beautiful associate. The film's bittersweet, sentimental nostalgia is based on a story told to Avati by his aunt, who had a memorable school outing when she was in high school.

**4:00pm *I Imagine a Dream Like That* (Penso che un sogno così) 101'** Marco De Luca  
(The director will attend the screening)

A twenty-five year-old girl passes her simple and monotonous life between her studies, a boy who adores her, and a difficult relationship with her mother. When she is diagnosed with a life-threatening illness, the girl decides to take her boyfriend and their friends to her parents' beach house. During the holiday, Elisa will discover that the ties that unite the four friends are at their core, sick.

**5:50pm Screening of the backstage DOC WEST 10'**

Giulio Base

A behind-the-scenes look at the upcoming television series by the Italian director, a throw-back to the Spaghetti Westerns shot in the United States.

**To follow Postcards from Rome (Cartoline da Roma ) 82'**

Giulio Base

(The director will attend the screening)

At sunrise, a man and his dog go for a run. While on their route they meet a series of characters – some well-known, others not – but all equally interesting. Most of all, they pass by the most beautiful monuments in the city including, St. Peter's, Piazza Navona, the Pantheon, Trevi Fountain, Colosseum, and Circus Maximus to arrive where the sun is high on the Appian Way.

**7:40pm Franco Cristaldi: An Italian Legend**

Massimo Spano

(Franco Cristaldi e il suo Cinema Paradiso) 100'

(The producer Zeudi Araja and the director will attend the screening)

A documentary about the life of one of the most important producers in the history of Italian cinema. From the 1950's to the beginning of the 1990's, Franco Cristaldi was responsible for more than 100 films, including Oscar-winners *Amarcord*, *Divorzio all'italiana*, and *Nuovo Cinema Paradiso*.

**9:30pm Special welcome to the beloved showman Massimo Ranieri**

**9:45pm The Last Pulcinella (L'ultimo Pulcinella) 89'**

Maurizio Scaparro

(The actor Massimo Ranieri will attend screening)

The story of an often traumatic relationship between a Neapolitan boy in search of new creative stimulus and a life far away from his city, and his street artist father, who barely earns a living acting and singing "the stories of Pulcinella" in the piazzas of Naples. It is also therefore, the story of a changing world and of different generations trying hard to understand each other.

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**SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 21**

**10.00am Gela Ancient and New (Gela antica e nuova) 32'**

Giuseppe Ferrara

(An Eni documentary with the special contribution by Leonardo Sciascia)

The oil discovered in Sicily by Agip induced Eni, in keeping with the policies of intervention in the south, to construct a large petrochemical plant in Gela. These were the years of impressive migration from the South of the country to the large cities of the North, which caused a deep economic and cultural transformation never before experienced in Italy. Alongside extraordinary economic results, this process produced unavoidable contradictions in the new social set-up.

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Valentino Orsini

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**11:20pm An Energy Story** (*Una storia per l'energia*) 28'

Gillo Pontecorvo

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**12:00pm 2003: Ten Years without Federico Fellini** 60'

(2003: Dieci anni senza Federico Fellini) A documentary by Vincenzo Mollica

A television special to remember the great director, Federico Fellini (or the "Big Director," as he was defined by comedic-actor Toto'), through the words of his greatest collaborators and peers, including: Benigni, Villaggio, Mastroianni, Tonino Guerra, etc. They recount the memories of his immense professional abilities and his extraordinary humanity.

**1:00pm Amarcord** 123'

Federico Fellini

A year in the life of a small Italian coastal town in the 1930's, as is recalled by a director with a superstar's access to the resources of the Italian film industry and a piper's command over our imaginations. Federico Fellini's film combines the free form and make-believe splendor with the comic, bittersweet feeling for character and narrative we remember from some of his best films of the 1950's. The town in the film is based on Rimini, where Mr. Fellini grew up. Yet there is now something magical, larger-than-life about the town, its citizens and many of the things that happen to them.

**3:10pm Waiting for the Sun** (*Aspettando il sole*) 96'

Ago Panini

The place is Italy, anywhere in Italy, at the beginning of the Eighties. The setting is a non-place somewhere over the horizon, lost in the dark. Three bad boys stumble across a remote hotel, a sort of refuge at the end of the world. There's nothing normal about these bored young toughs. Looking for something to amuse them through the long hours until dawn, they decide to take the hotel's night porter hostage.

**5:00pm Flight to Freedom** (*Fuga per la libertà: l'aviatore*) 100'

Carlo Carlei

This film, based on real characters and facts, has both the tone of a thriller, with a touch of American "cinema noir" from the 1950's. It's the story of an Italy in chaos, gripped in the North by the German occupation, and overcome by fascism. The film recounts the story of those Italians who were unwilling to accept the situation -- good, simple people -- Catholic and Jewish heroes, who were committed to the cause of solidarity. Many paid for these courageous values with their lives, all because of an absurd and senseless war.

**6:40pm Massimo Ranieri: The Italian Showman** 60'

Massimo Ranieri: Cantatore da quarant'anni A documentary by Vincenzo Mollica

The famous Italian showman, Massimo Ranieri, recounts his forty-year singing and acting career in theater and film, highlighting the moments which launched his career. His multi-faceted career includes interpreting the songs that, by now, have become part of the collective memory of all Italians.

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