

Technical Information

Working Title: A Ciambra

Director: Jonas Carpignano

Nationality: Italy

Genre: Drama

Format: 16mm

Length: Apx. 100 min.

Shooting Location: Calabria, Italy

Director's Biography

Jonas Carpignano was born to an American mother and an Italian father and has spent his life in between Italy and the US. He has made several award winning short films and his first feature film **Mediterranea** will have its world premier this year at the Semaine de la Critique – Cannes. He currently lives in Gioia Tauro where he has been making films for the last five years.

. **Mediterranea**, 2015, 109 min.

Official Selection – Cannes Film Festival – Semaine de la Critique -2015

. **A Ciambra**, 2014, 16 min.

Winner, Discovery Prize, Cannes Film Festival – Semaine de la Critique

Winner, Grand Jury Prize for Short Film Making, Miami International Film Festival

Official Selection New York Film Festival

. **A Chjana**, 2011, 18 min.

Winner Controcampo Award, 68th Venice International Film Festival

Winner Special Mention, Nastri d'Argento (SNGCI)

Official Selection New Directors /New Films

A Ciambra

A Film by Jonas Carpignano



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Since 2000, the Festival Residence has provided each year accommodation and support to twelve selected young directors in order to help them prepare their first or second feature film. A jury presided by a film director sits twice a year, selecting these young filmmakers on the basis of their short films, or

even first feature film, and the merits of their feature film project. During their 4-and-a-half-month stay in Paris, they work on the writing of their feature film project, have meetings with professionals and try, with the support of the Cannes Film Festival, to bring their project to co-production status.

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With the support of HP. Printed on an HP Indigo Digital Press.



Synopsis

A *Ciambra* follows the story of Pio Amato a young Romani boy living in Southern Italy. Pio, the youngest of ten children, is in a hurry to grow up. At age eleven he already drinks, smokes and follows his older brother Cosimo (18) everywhere he goes. One night while going to kidnap some cars Cosimo and his team mistakenly take a car belonging to the wrong person. The next day the local Mafia boss who reigns over the Ciambra, issues a warning to everyone. The car must be returned along with an “apology fee”. Cosimo, anxious to resolve the problem sets out to make the money and in the process gets caught and thrown in prison. Pio, despite being distraught by his brother’s capture takes it upon himself to find the money to cancel the debt. He begins working with Ayiva, a Burkinabe’ man living in a neighboring town, to find the money. As time passes and pressure mounts, Pio’s family considers leaving the Ciambra and breaking up the family. Leaving the Ciambra is Pio’s nightmare, and in the end Pio must decide how far he is willing to go to keep the family together.

Statement of Intent

With my film *A Ciambra*, I intend to create a faithful portrait of a community that I have come to love and admire in recent years. The protagonist, Pio Amato, is the perfect entry point into this community because he embodies everything that is special about it: he defies expectations, he is determined and he is loyal to his friends and family. *A Ciambra* is a film where the characters’ interactions and the effect of events on Pio will be more significant than the plot itself. This is because the film will explore the ties within the Romani community while also showing how they fit into the larger social fabric of Gioia Tauro. Pio’s engagement with a wide network of people and events will reveal some of the darker undertones of life in Southern Italy: the African immigrant workers who make up half of the population, the Eastern Europeans, the sex workers and the N’drangheta who imposes a strict order on all of the workings of the region. Through Pio we will get a glimpse into all of these facets of life in this town, but without condemnation or judgment. The goal is to present these extraordinary lives in an ordinary fashion, and to show how and why Pio grows up to become the man he becomes by the end of the film.



Synopsis

Pio Amato le plus jeune de dix enfants rom vivant dans le sud de l’Italie est pressé de grandir. A onze ans il boit déjà, fume et suit son frère aîné Cosimo (18) partout où il va. Une nuit en allant voler des voitures Cosimo et ses complices prennent par erreur la voiture de la personne à éviter. Le lendemain, le chef de la mafia locale qui règne sur la Calabre, envoie un avertissement. La voiture doit être retournée avec une «taxe d’excuses». Cosimo, soucieux de résoudre le problème est arrêté et mis en prison alors qu’il essayait de trouver de l’argent. Pio, bien qu’affolé par l’arrestation de son frère, prend sur lui pour trouver l’argent et annuler la dette. Il se met à travailler avec Ayiva, burkinabé vivant dans une ville voisine. Comme le temps passe et que la pression monte, la famille de Pio envisage de quitter la Calabre et de séparer la famille. Quitter la Calabre est un cauchemar pour Pio qui doit décider jusqu’où il est prêt à aller pour garder la famille unie.

Note d’intention

Avec mon film *A Ciambra*, je souhaite donner un portrait fidèle d’une communauté que j’ai appris à aimer et admirer au cours des dernières années. Le protagoniste, Pio Amato, est le point d’entrée parfait dans cette communauté parce qu’il incarne tout ce qui est particulier à ce sujet : il défie les attentes, il est déterminé et est fidèle à ses amis et sa famille. *A Ciambra* est un film où les interactions des personnages et l’impact des événements sur Pio seront plus importants que l’intrigue elle-même, car le film explorera les liens au sein de la communauté rom, tout en montrant comment ils s’intègrent dans le tissu social plus large de Gioia Tauro. L’engagement de Pio avec un vaste réseau de personnes et d’événements va révéler certains des aspects plus sombres de la vie dans le sud de l’Italie : les travailleurs immigrés africains qui constituent la moitié de la population, les Européens de l’Est, les travailleurs du sexe et la Ndrangheta qui impose un ordre strict sur tout le fonctionnement de la région. Grâce à Pio nous allons avoir un aperçu de toutes ces facettes de la vie dans cette ville, mais sans condamner ni juger. L’objectif est de présenter ces vies extraordinaires de manière ordinaire, et de montrer comment et pourquoi Pio grandit pour devenir l’homme qu’il devient à la fin du film.