

The Italian Cultural Society
Presents



A
Children's
Christmas
Festival

"La Festa Della Befana"

Sunday, January 6, 2013

1:30 pm - 4:00 pm

Children 16 & Under Free - Adults \$10
At The Italian Center - Carmichael
6821 Fair Oaks Blvd, 95608

Puppet Show, Crafts, Music, Book Fair, T-Shirts,
Folk Dancing by the Bambini Dancers
Italian Biscotti & Panettone
a visit by "La Befana" + A free gift for every child.
Bring the whole family for this annual Children's Celebration
of an Italian Christmas Tradition, as it is celebrated in Italy.
Children of all ages are welcome.

Please call 916/494-2550 or 916/482-5900 for more information

LA FESTA DELLA BEFANA



January arrives with the New Year and as tradition has it, *La Befana* passes like Santa Claus (Bobbo Natale) over the rooftops and leaves presents for all the good children (bambini Buoni). On January 5th, the children go to sleep hoping the kindly old lady called *La Befana* will visit them during the night and leave presents for those who have been good. One of Italy's oldest and most renowned legends, *La Befana* is honored with special events throughout Italy. In Sacramento and cities across the United States with Italian communities, "*The Legend Of La Befana*" is celebrated with a Children's Festival.

This year's festival features a Puppet Show about the "Legend of La Befana," folk dances by the Society's children's "BAMBINI" dance group, a Children's Book Fair with dozens of titles for purchase, Crafts tables, special Befana T-shirts and books, and traditional Italian biscotti and desserts. La Befana will visit the children of Sacramento with her basket of chocolate gold coins and a free Befana gift for all the kids.

Donations of traditional Italian cookies and kitchen volunteers are needed. Please call Patty Peter at (916) 399-9592 to donate cookies or desserts or to work with her in the kitchen. We need volunteers to also work at the crafts booths and at the book fair and T-shirt tables. Please call Gina Nelson at 916/494-2550 to volunteer.

GENEALOGY GROUP MEETING

Discovering Our Roots Together

Sunday, January 20, 2 - 4 pm

Workshop Fee \$5 - at the Italian Center

Our next meeting of the Italian Genealogical Society of Sacramento (I.G.S.S.) will be both a lecture and a workshop discussion. During the first hour, Jerry Goggiel will give us the basics of reading and deciphering Italian Civil and Church documents such as birth, baptisms, marriages, and deaths. Jerry, the president of the Solano County Genealogical Society, has been researching his own Italian roots for over 20 years, transcribing and indexing over 22,000 civil and church records. Jerry has also made several trips to Italy to include doing research at the Italian Archives. In the second hour we will break into groups based on our Northern and Southern ancestry and exchange information about our own research discoveries and resources used to discover our family history. Please bring your laptops, pedigree charts and family group records, and any other records you may want reviewed. If you have questions or resources you would like to share with the group or are interested in becoming a mentor please email Nick at: nickb812@yahoo.com. Refreshments included.



VENETIAN MASK MAKING WORKSHOP

with Award Winning Artist Carla Almanza-deQuant

Saturday, January 26, 10:30 - 4:30 pm

at the Italian Center - Price is \$125 with refreshments included



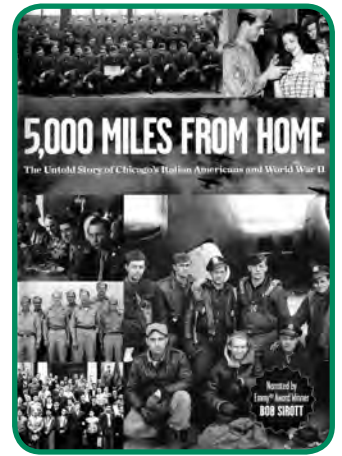
Known for their vivid colors and elegant designs, Venetian masks are decorated with everything from gold and silver to feathers and beads. Authentic Venetian Masks are made by artisan crafters called "mascareri" using traditional techniques and are hand-painted and decorated to make each mask a special work of art. Artist Carla Almanza - deQuant is one of the only artists in the United States using the original ancient techniques. All art materials for the creation of your own personal mask are included in the workshop along with complimentary wines, Italian pasta salad, coffee and biscotti. These fun workshops include learning five basic design and decoration mask making techniques. Here is a chance to awaken the hidden artist in you by creating your own amazing authentic Venetian mask. Additional masks will be available for purchase To Register: Send check payable to Carla Almanza-deQuant and mail to Gioia Company, 16395 Roseleaf Court, Los Gatos, CA 95032 or contact Carla at www.carlaalmanza-dequant.com or call (408) 640-6628

Italian American Experience

Film - 5000 MILES FROM HOME

Sunday, February 10, at 1:30 pm - Italian Center -\$5

More than a million Italian Americans have served in the United States military and tens of thousands have paid the ultimate price. *5000 Miles from Home* tells the story of Chicago's Italian Americans and World War II. They grew up in the neighborhoods of Chicago, speaking Italian at home and learning English at school. Then war came and turned their world upside down. This film tells the riveting tale of how an entire generation of Italian American boys went off to save the world ... Then came home to transform the world they grew up in. Italian Americans comprised one of the largest ethnic groups to serve in World War II. This is an intimate look at two dozen of the more than 500,000 Italian American men whose lives were changed by the experience. Copies of the film are available from the Italian American Veterans Museum of Chicago at 5000milesfromhome.com. The Museum exhibits explore the contributions of Italian Americans in defense of our nation from the Revolutionary War to the present. Refreshments included.



Lecture - Italian Travel and Culture

HOW ITALIAN GENIUS SHAPED THE WORLD

Sunday, February 24 at 2:00 pm - Italian Center - \$5



Some of the greatest artists, musicians, writers and scientists were Italian and their works helped shape the Western World. Not only does Italy contain over half of the world's artistic treasures it was the setting for the explosion of knowledge that was the Italian Renaissance. Join us as Italian art, music and travel expert, Rona Commins, takes us on a visual journey of Italy from Rome to Florence to Venice to Lucca to Verona and places in between to see where the Italian greats lived and where their creations live on. Along the way we will visit with such greats as Michelangelo the artist, Galileo the astronomer, Palladio the architect, Puccini the opera maestro, Cristofori the piano inventor, Galvani and Volta who gave us the electric light, Marconi the father of the radio, Dante, Machiavelli, Monteverde, Da Vinci, Ferrari and many more. Refreshments included.

Italian Cooking Show - And The Italian Feast Goes On

with Franca Brida Lingren and the Italian Center Volunteers

Sunday, March 3 from 1:00 to 3:30 pm

Price \$35 - at the Italian Center, Carmichael - Reservations encouraged

Get ready for our annual cooking show. Popular cooking instructor and cookbook author Franca Brida Lingren and friends will tickle your palate with new recipes.

Roasted Red Pepper Soup served with "Frico," a parmesan cheese cracker
Polpette di "Patate e Carne" ... savory potatoes and meat balls
Orzo Pasta Salad Primavera with sun dried tomatoes, asparagus,
& artichokes in a lemony vinaigrette
Pizelle (thin wafer cookies) ... both classic and sinful chocolate style
complimentary wine and "Vaneli's Grand Café"



Participants will get to sample the wonderful Italian specialties featured and served by the center volunteers. Printed recipes will be available and a variety of Italian style door prizes will be given away to those who attend.

We encourage advance reservations. Call 916-482-5900 or email Italy1@surewest.net. Buon Appetito!!!

Make Your Reservations Today

Name _____

Phone _____ No. of seats desired _____

Make checks payable to the Italian Cultural Society (ICS). Mail to: PO BOX 189427, Sacramento, CA 95818

Learn *ITALIAN* Now!

Classes are offered at both Carmichael and Sacramento Campuses!

The study of Italian Language and culture has increased in popularity in the United States during the past decade. This year the Italian Language school celebrates 31 years of bringing Italian language and culture to Sacramento. Our classes emphasize the pleasure and beauty of Italian language and culture. Our students not only learn Italian, they develop a real understanding of Italian culture, customs, food and people. In addition to the satisfactions of learning Italian, the classes offer a fun experience and the opportunity to meet people who share similar goals and interests. *We also offer free Tutoring and practice sessions to our students.*

Tuition in \$185 for a 9 week quarter.

Books may be purchased at the first class meeting

Registration fees can be paid at first class or can now be paid online at www.italiancenter.net

Fees for classes will not be pro-rated due to students absence. Grazie!



WINTER 2013 LANGUAGE CLASSES

ITALIANO UNO:

The perfect introductory class for those with very little or no knowledge of Italian.

Day Section 1: 16 Jan to 13 Mar

Wednesdays, 10:00a to 12:00 pm
(Carmichael) Inst: Lucia

Eve Section 2: 15 Jan to 12 Mar

Tuesdays, 7:00 to 9:00 pm
(Carmichael) Inst: Patrizia

Eve Section 3: 16 Jan to 13 Mar

Wednesdays 7:00 to 9:00pm
(Sacramento) Inst: Nancy

ITALIANO DUE:

Students expand vocabulary and learn verbs to use in conversations.

Day Section 1: 17 Jan to 14 Mar

Thursdays, 10:00a to 12:00 pm
(Carmichael) Inst: Lucia

Eve Section 2: 15 Jan to 12 Mar

Tuesdays 7:00 to 9:00pm
(Sacramento) Inst: Nancy

Eve Section 3: 16 Jan to 13 Mar

Wednesdays, 7:00 to 9:00 pm
(Carmichael) Inst: Patrizia

ITALIANO TRE:

The focus is on conversation with grammar reinforcement.

Day Section 1: 17 Jan to 14 Mar

Thursdays 10:00a to 12:00pm
(Carmichael) Inst: Orietta

ITALIANO TRE-QUATTRO:

Continue to increase vocabulary and enhance conversation.

Day Section 1: 17 Jan to 14 Mar

Thursdays 7:00 to 9:00pm
(Sacramento) Inst: Nancy

ITALIANO CINQUE:

Enhances conversation skills using readings and group discussions.

Day Section 1: 16 Jan to 13 Mar

Wednesdays 10:00a to 12:00pm
(Carmichael) Inst: Orietta

ITALIANO SEI:

Continue to focus on more advanced conversation and language.

Eve Section 1: 16 Jan to 13 Mar

Wednesdays, 5:00 to 7:00 pm
(Carmichael) Inst: Patrizia

ITALIANO SETTE-OTTO:

Students increase vocabulary and enhances conversation skills with lively conversation and fun exercises.

Day Section 1: 16 Jan to 13 Mar

Wednesdays 12:30 to 2:30pm
(Carmichael) Inst: Orietta

ITALIANO DIECI-

Conversazione E Lettura:

Modern Italian readings, plays, films and current events provide the backdrop to speaking Italian. Class focus is understanding and speaking Italian with attention given to core grammar concepts.

Day Section 1: 16 Jan to 13 Mar

Wednesdays 10:00 am to 12:00pm
(Sacramento) Inst: Patrizia

ITALIANO DIECI-UNIDICI:

Students complete Prego! text and improve comprehension, speaking reading and writing skills.

Eve Section 1: 15 Jan to 12 Mar

Tuesdays 5:00 to 7:00pm
(Sacramento) Inst: Nancy

CORSO AVANZATO:

Class taught completely in Italian with multimedia resources to greatly improve comprehension and conversation skills.

Day Section 1: 15 Jan to 12 Mar

Tuesdays, 10:00am to 12:00 pm
(Carmichael) Inst: Lucia

Day Section 2: 16 Jan to 13 Mar

Wednesdays, 12:30 to 2:30 pm
(Sacramento) Inst: Nancy

Eve Section 3: 15 Jan to 12 Mar

Tuesdays, 7:00 to 9:00 pm
(Carmichael) Inst: Leonardo

CORSO SUPERIORE:

Taught completely in Italian to fine tune the skills of our most advanced students this class uses literature, conversation, film and other media to enhance learning.

Day Section 1: 14 Jan to 11 Mar

Mondays, 12:30 to 2:30 pm (Sacramento)
Inst: Nancy

Eve Section 2: 14 Jan to 11 Mar

Mondays, 7:00 to 9:00 pm (Sacramento)
Inst: Leonardo

Free Tutoring will be available for our students after the quarter begins

**Italian 1-10 use Text Book *Prego!*
*An Invitation to Italian 7th Edition***

ITALIAN FOR KIDS

All classes meet at the Italian Center in Carmichael - 6821 Fair Oaks Blvd.

Ciao Piccoli – PRESCHOOL (2 - 5 yrs) Mondays, 14 January to 11 March - 10:30 am to 12:00 pm
Ciao Italia – WEEKEND CLASS (5 -12 yrs) Saturdays 19 January to 16 March - 10:30 am to 12:00 pm



Ciao Piccoli gives your Pre-school age child a program of their own. *Ciao Italia* gives school age children a week-end class to allow them to pursue Italian language and culture. The gift of learning is the most important gift you can give your child. Studies document the advantages of introducing a second language as soon as possible in a child's life. Preschool classes are offered year round with small teacher to student ratio for personalized learning.

In addition to Italian language, our program includes Italian culture and offers a place where children can learn naturally through play, games, songs, food and art. **Course registration is offered at only \$125 for this session and includes all materials. We encourage everyone to give their children this wonderful opportunity to learn one of the world's most beautiful languages. *l'Italiano!* Pre-register NOW at 916 482-5900 or www.italiancenter.net.**

Bambini Dancers Connect With Heritage

The Italian Cultural Society sponsors two Italian folk dance troupes. Both troupes practice at the Italian Cultural Center in Carmichael and both troupes perform in regional costumes. Our Children's folk dance troupe, "*I Bambini*" consists of 25 young Italian American kids who have been outfitted with colorful costumes representing the regions of Italy their ancestors came from. These kids are excited about learning the dances of their ancestral country and want to do it for their culture. It's a great opportunity for them to get closer to their cultural heritage. Persons interested in having their own children join the "*Bambini Dancers*" should contact Rachel Fracchia at Rachel.Fracchia@Yahoo.com.

Our adult folk dance troupe "*Balliamo*" also performs at festivals and events across the region. They are always looking for new dancers who want to learn and perform the folk dances of Italy. Persons wishing to attend a practice or book the group for a performance should contact Doris Beckert at (916) 482-8674.



Photo courtesy of Tony Peter.

New Census Reveals Dramatic Increase in Italian Americans

Did you know that Italian Americans are the 6th largest ethnic group in America, just behind the English, Mexican and Black populations. The German and Irish are the largest groups. Recent statistics from the US Census Bureau reveal a sizable increase in the number of Italian Americans since 2010. The new census found that there are 18 million Italian Americans who self identify as such and that is an increase of 2 million in two years. Italian Americans have often complained about being undercounted by the census and the Census Bureau estimates there are really 26 million Italian Americans. Why the increase? One reason is a new sense of pride and a new awareness of cultural identity by Italian Americans, especially the younger generation. The grandchildren and great grandchildren of the early immigrants have begun to discover their heritage. Italian is the fourth most popular foreign language studied at American colleges and universities. A growing number of Italian American college students spend a semester or summer studying abroad in Italy. The popularity of Italian food and culture and a new interest in family roots are also reasons why more people identify themselves as Italian Americans. The latest census reports dispel many of the stereotypes about Italian Americans. The new report reveals that Italian Americans have higher levels of academic, financial and professional achievement than the general American population. Four of ten Italian Americans are in white collar, professional careers. Italian Americans were the second largest European group to immigrate to America after the Germans and the single largest group to enter through Ellis Island. During the 20th century they were the largest immigrant group from Europe to settle in the US. Italian Americans have made enormous contributions to American life and their growing pride in their heritage is well justified.



Italian American Crowned Miss USA

Olivia Culpo, a 20 year old Italian American from Cranston, Rhode Island is the new Miss USA 2012. Olivia is the daughter of Peter and Susan Culpo and the middle child of five. Olivia's love for Italian led her to study Italian in Milano, Italy while in high school. She began studying cello in the second grade and her cello performance wowed the judges.



ITALIAN FOR TRAVELERS

“Don’t leave home without this class”

Carmichael Campus – 15 January to 12 March – Tuesdays, 5:30 to 7:00 pm

“In the heart of every man, wherever he is born...there is one small corner which is Italian.” –Luigi Barzini

Bring out your inner Italian with this class designed especially for travelers to “il Bel Paese:” Italy. Prepare yourself to experience the best the world has to offer: art, history, food, wine, music, culture and spectacular beauty all await the traveler to Italy. The course will make your trip to Italy much more enjoyable! Students learn basic conversation skills, useful vocabulary and key phrases and begin using Italian at the first lesson. Students appreciate the focus on Italian culture and customs, and the valuable travel tips and practical information which will prepare you to confidently visit and enjoy the Italian Peninsula. Students return from Italy praising the usefulness of the course.

“I’ve just returned from a three week trip in Italy. Thanks to all of your excellent teaching and valuable tips our trip was a complete success. We felt comfortable in bars, restaurants, and train stations knowing how the systems work. We enjoyed meeting the Italian people and talking with them in their own language. ... Our whole experience was deeper and richer because of what I learned from you.” –Chris B.

Instructor, Patrizia Cinquini Cerruti, is a native of Tuscany, an expert travel planner and the author of the course textbook: *BUON VIAGGIO! A TRAVELER’S GUIDE TO ITALIAN LANGUAGE AND CULTURE*. Register now at www.italiancenter.net. Tuition is \$160 and the book costs \$30 and may be purchased at the first class meeting.



See Italy With the Italian Cultural Society. The Society offers special fully escorted tours to Italy



SPRINGTIME IN SICILY, SORRENTO AND POMPEII

11 days – March 22 - April 1, 2013 (\$2,599)

Our spectacular tour includes Sicily, Sorrento, the Amalfi Coast and Pompeii. Sicily is unbelievably rich in beauty, history, arts, culture and cuisine. Unpack just once in Sicily and experience it from our lovely home base in gorgeous Taormina. This tour allows you to visit the greatest Greek ruins anywhere, to see incomparable Roman and Norman mosaics; and to explore remote hilltop villages and spectacular landscapes. Visit the Sicilian cities of Siracusa, Agrigento, Taormina, and visit Mount Etna. Then you fly to Naples and check into your hotel in the enchanting city of Sorrento. Enjoy a tour of the “Amalfi Drive” with its stunning views. This is said to be the most spectacular road in Europe. You will also visit the partially buried Roman city of Pompeii which is a UNESCO World Heritage Site and is one of the most popular tourist attractions in all of Italy. Take a hydrofoil to visit the stunning island of Capri.

The tour price is based on double occupancy and includes all accommodations in 4 star hotels, daily abundant breakfasts and dinners, a full time tour director and fully escorted sight seeing tours and excursions, museum admissions and much more! Pre-departure presentation and orientation luncheon also included. Air fare is not included, but can be arranged. The tour is hosted by Sicilian native and Italian Cultural Society Vice President, Patty Peter and is fully escorted by licensed local English speaking guides. Please visit www.italiancenter.net for a complete brochure and details or call (916) 482-5900 or e-mail Italy@winfirst.com.

ITALY GRAND TOUR: Tuscany, Cinque Terre and Rome

12 days – June 20 - July 1, 2013 (\$2,599)

This Italian Cultural Society exclusive Grand Tour will take you to the heart and soul of Italy. This fully escorted tour highlights the romantic, legendary region of Tuscany, Italy’s famous capital city of Rome, and also includes a ferry boat ride for a full day excursion to the magical Cinque Terre. An optional fully escorted day tour to Venice will also be offered.

In Tuscany, travelers will enjoy having their home base at a lovely four star villa hotel and visit Lucca, Florence, Siena, the Chianti Wine Region, Pisa, Volterra, San Gimignano and the Cinque Terre. We then transfer to Rome where we will enjoy fully guided visits to Vatican City and St. Peter’s, the Vatican Museums and the Sistine Chapel, the Spanish Steps, the Pantheon, the Colosseum, the Trevi Fountain and many other piazzas and famous sights. A one day excursion to Venice will also be offered if 20 passengers are interested. The tour price is per person double occupancy and includes all 4 star accommodations, all breakfasts and all dinners in Tuscany, welcome cocktail party, wine and olive oil tasting and hot buffet breakfasts in Rome, fully escorted sight seeing tours and excursions, museum admissions, tips, taxes and fuel charges, pre-departure presentation and orientation luncheon also included and much more! Airfare is not included but is available. The tour is hosted by Tuscan native Patrizia Cinquini Cerruti, and is fully escorted by licensed local English speaking guides. Please visit www.italiancenter.net for a complete brochure or call (916) 482-5900 or e-mail Italy@winfirst.com.



LA RICERCA d'IDENTITA / The Search for Identity

"Part of our shortsightedness is for each generation to see its forbears as ethnic, but not itself ... until it confronts its own grandchildren."

(Richard Gambino, The Case for Ethnicity - I-AM Magazine)

Little more than a century has passed since the mass migration of the Italians to America. The Italians were the last large European group to emigrate to America. Recent data indicates that the majority of the estimated 18 to 26 million Italian Americans are either second, third or fourth generation Italians. The relative recency of their arrival helps explain why ethnicity continues to be a central concern in Italian American life.

To be Italian American today is to belong to one of the largest ethnic groups in the United States. The sixth largest in fact. Until World War II they were the largest immigrant group to settle in California. These millions of Italian Americans are linked not only by common history and heritage but also by shared names, experiences, characteristics and traditions that have survived the heat of the melting pot.

Many Italian Americans are close to their immigrant past and feel a kinship even toward Italians who have never touched American soil. For many, being Italian helps define their identity and adds meaning to their lives. For them, being Italian means being part of a large and powerful whole. It means belonging to a people who helped shape the world, discovered continents, helped give birth to the Renaissance and sent forth millions of sons and daughters into the new world.

For the immigrant generation the challenge was to become American. The challenge for today's Italian Americans is how to maintain the ethnic link to family and culture, and how to transmit it to future generations. More and more Italian Americans recognize the importance of passing on a sense of their identity and teaching an appreciation for their ethnic heritage.

Language, food, and the celebration of Italian holidays and traditions are elements in the great fabric of ethnic identity. But the only fiber strong enough to create a strong Italian American identity is awareness achieved through the Italian people learning their own history - not simply the history of Italy, but more importantly that of the Italian American experience and Italian American contributions to American life. Herein lies the heart of our challenge, creation of our own identity through an awareness of our heritage and ethnicity.

This article was written by Patrizia Cinquini Cerruti and is reprinted from the September 1992 issue of ALTRE VOCE, "Other Voices."
Editors Note: The challenge for Italian Americans is as true today as it was 20 years ago.



Support Your Cultural Heritage Through a Donation To the Italian Center Fund

We Italians share a common love of our Italian American heritage and culture and our desire to pass it along to future generations. The Italian Center is crucial to keeping our rich cultural heritage alive and well. Our programs promote understanding and awareness of the Italian American heritage through cultural, educational and social programs. Our mission is to promote our Italian American identity and inspire our community and a new generation. To us every gift is a major gift and crucial to our mission, and there are many ways to give. You can make a gift of cash, securities or property or even a bequest in your will or trust. Make The Italian Center Fund Your Favorite Charity. Call us at (916) 482-5900 for information or assistance to make a gift. Your gifts are tax deductible and will make a difference in supporting the programs that empower our cultural community. We are fortunate to have a home, a place of our own, where we can celebrate our Italian heritage. Its ours and it needs your support.

Yes, I Would Like To Make A Donation To The Italian Center Fund

Please accept my donation of:

_____ \$25 _____ \$50 _____ \$100 _____ \$200 _____ \$500 _____ \$1,000 _____ \$2,500 _____ \$5,000 _____ or more

Dedication

Your Donation to the Italian Center Fund may be made in your name or in memory or in honor of your family or a loved one. Please indicate how you wish your gift to be listed.

(_____)

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ E-Mail: _____

Please make payable to: Italian Center Fund, Send to: P.O. Box 189427, Sacramento, CA 95818

ALTRE VOCI

OTHER VOICES

The newsletter of Sacramento's
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ICS EVENTS CALENDARIO

Jan. 6	Festa Della Befana
Jan. 14	Winter language classes start
Jan. 18	Film: "La Prima Cosa Bella"
Jan. 20	Genealogy Workshop
Jan. 26	Mask Making Workshop
Feb. 10	Documentary: 5000 Miles From Home
Feb. 15	Film: "Terraferma"
Feb. 24	Lecture: Italian Genius
Mar. 3	Italian Cooking Show

ITALIAN FILM SERIES

Admission \$10 – Refreshments included

Italian Film is as much a part of Italian culture as the food, the music, and the people. To this day Italian films continue to inspire and amaze us. Our monthly films celebrate the magic found in these films. Enjoy an evening with family and friends at these feature Friday Night films shown at the Italian Center in Carmichael located at 6821 Fair Oaks Blvd.



Friday, January 18 at 8:00 pm

“LA PRIMA COSA BELLA”

*Award winning comedy drama shot in Livorno, Tuscany about an Italian mothers struggle to raise her children (2010)
 In Italian with English subtitles*

Friday, February 15 at 8:00 pm

“TERRAFERMA”

*Contemporary drama about Sicilian fishermen coping with illegal immigrant boat people who land on their small island (2011)
 In Italian with English subtitles.*

