



MITREO FILM FESTIVAL ASSOCIATION

With the participation of

Campania Region

Nuovo Imaie

Isola Produzioni Srl

MitrArtProduction Srls

Fondazione Horcynus Orca

ITS ACADEMY Roberto Rossellini of Rome

DAM Academy of Naples

Presents

MITREOFILMFESTIVAL 2026

“LA BANDA”

FESTIVAL OF CINEMA AND CULTURE

7–12 December 2026

Santa Maria Capua Vetere (CE)

INTERNATIONAL SHORT FILM COMPETITION

NATIONAL SHORT FILM COMPETITION

SPAZIO FILM – Auteur Cinema

NATIONAL SHORT FILM SCREENPLAY COMPETITION

CALL FOR ENTRIES

1. INTERNATIONAL SHORT FILM COMPETITION

AUTHOR CATEGORY

Maximum duration: 15 minutes

Maximum age of author: 35 years

Subtitles: English/Italian

Production year: from 1 January 2024 onwards

2. NATIONAL SHORT FILM COMPETITION

FILM COURSES, SCHOOLS AND ACADEMIES CATEGORY

Maximum duration: 15 minutes

Maximum age of author: 30 years

Subtitles: English/Italian

REGULATIONS

On the occasion of the 26th edition of the Festival of the same name, the Mitreo Film Festival Cultural Association announces a selection call addressed to:

- **INTERNATIONAL SHORT FILM COMPETITION / AUTHOR CATEGORY:** international short films (including Italian films), with a maximum duration of 15 minutes, made by authors under 35 (having reached the age of 35 by 11:59 p.m. on 31 October 2026) and produced from 1 January 2024 onwards;
- **NATIONAL SHORT FILM COMPETITION / FILM COURSES, SCHOOLS AND ACADEMIES CATEGORY:** short films with a maximum duration of 15 minutes made by students regularly and currently enrolled in Film Courses, Schools and Academies operating in Italy, who are no more than 30 years old (having reached the age of 30 by 11:59 p.m. on 31 October 2026).

The call is officially open from 2:00 p.m. on 5 October 2026 and closes at 2:00 p.m. on 31 October 2026.

Short films in both categories must focus on the theme “LA BANDA”, understood literally as a musical band, but more generally as a symbolic and collective element that tells of harmony and symphony, history and memory, craftsmanship and art, generations in dialogue, a shared journey, collective sharing and the carnival of life.

Short films in both categories must be subtitled in Italian or English if they are in a language other than Italian, otherwise they will be deemed ineligible.

REGISTRATION AND SELECTION PROCEDURE

INTERNATIONAL SHORT FILM COMPETITION – AUTHOR CATEGORY: (international short films / maximum duration 15 minutes / authors under 35): registration exclusively through the FilmFreeway platform. Works submitted by e-mail or by post will not be accepted. **The registration fee is €5.00 (only for this category) IBAN IT03C0538575040CC1470001816**

NATIONAL SHORT FILM COMPETITION – FILM COURSES, SCHOOLS AND ACADEMIES CATEGORY: (Italian short films / students under 30 regularly and currently enrolled in Film Courses, Schools and Academies operating in Italy / maximum duration 15 minutes): the application must be submitted by the school/academy/Film Course office in which the author is enrolled, by e-mail containing the viewing link to the work. The e-mail must be sent to info@mitreofilmfestival.it.

NOTE: each author may register exclusively in one of the two categories.

Among all eligible submissions, the staff of MitreoFilmFestival 2026 will, at its sole discretion, select 10 short films for each category, for a total of 20 works.

The names of the selected participants will be announced by 15 November 2026 through FilmFreeway and the website www.mitreofilmfestival.it.

All authors selected, at the sole discretion of the staff of MitreoFilmFestival 2026, must send to the Festival secretariat e-mail address, info@mitreofilmfestival.it, by 2:00 p.m. on 30 November, under penalty of exclusion, the following documents:

- a copy of these regulations signed on every page;
- a release form as per Attachment 1, complete with the candidate's personal details, in PDF format and signed on every page;
- the author's bio-filmography;
- a signed copy of a suitably scanned identity document (PDF format);
- a download link for the selected short film in H264 format with STEREO audio and technical sheet;
- synopsis and director's notes for the selected short film.

It is the author's responsibility to ensure that the above material is correctly sent and received. Confirmation may be obtained by contacting the secretariat at info@mitreofilmfestival.it.

JURY AND AWARDS

A Technical Jury, composed of film experts and representatives of the entertainment industry, will, at its sole discretion, award the BEST INTERNATIONAL SHORT FILM 2026 (Author Category) and the BEST NATIONAL SHORT FILM 2026 (Film Courses, Schools and Academies Category).

The winner of each of the two categories will receive a sculpture depicting the Mithraeum and the opportunity to develop a new work to be proposed to the Mitreo Film Festival Cultural Association and MitrArtProduction Srls.

The Technical Jury will also award the following prizes (plaques), at its sole discretion, selecting the winners among participants in both categories: Best Director, Best Screenplay, Best Leading Actress, Best Leading Actor, Best Cinematography, Best Original Score, Best Production Design, Best Costume Design.

At its discretion, it may also award one or more special mentions (plaques).

A Public Jury, represented by citizens and representatives of local associations, will, at its sole discretion, award the Audience Award (plaque), one for each category.

A Young Jury, composed of students participating in the MitreoFRISKFilmFestival, will, at its sole discretion, award one short film in each category for innovation and experimentation (plaque).

All winners undertake to mention the prize received and MitreoFilmFestival 2026 in the credits of their short film.

The awards ceremony will take place at Teatro Garibaldi in S. Maria C. V. during the Festival's final evening, on 12 December 2026.

For all matters not specified in this call, the Festival management shall decide.

This call for entries can be downloaded from www.mitreofilmfestival.it

RELEASE FORM – ATTACHMENT 1
INTERNATIONAL SHORT FILM COMPETITION
MITREOFILMFESTIVAL 2026
“LA BANDA”
FESTIVAL OF CINEMA AND CULTURE

(write in block letters and clearly)

I, the undersigned _____
born in _____
on _____
tax code _____
resident in _____
Street _____
telephone _____
e-mail _____

REQUEST

to be admitted to (tick one choice):

- ☐ International Short Film Competition – Author Category
- ☐ National Short Film Competition – Film Courses, Schools and Academies Category

as part of the “MitreoFilmFestival 2026” event (organised by the Mitreo Film Festival Cultural Association, with registered office at Via G. Bonaparte, 20 – 81055, Santa Maria Capua Vetere (CE), tax code 94007300612 – 0280, hereinafter for brevity the “Association”).

I DECLARE

that I meet the requirements set out in the call/regulations, that I have read them and accept every provision thereof, attaching the signed copy as required;

that I am the author (director), as well as the sole holder of the rights of use, of the short film entitled:

that the short film is available at the following link:

that I am solely responsible for myself, my equipment and my belongings for the duration of MitreoFilmFestival 2026 and for my participation in it, and that I release the Association and the staff assigned to the cultural event "MitreoFilmFestival 2026" from any liability for damage to myself, my belongings or third parties;

that all music, compositions, recordings, phonograms and/or other musical materials used in the above-mentioned short film entitled _____ have been used in compliance with the applicable copyright and related-rights legislation and that, where necessary, all authorisations, licences, releases and/or concessions from the relevant rights holders have been duly obtained.

The undersigned _____ further declares that they are responsible for the lawful use of the music included in the short film and undertakes, upon request, to provide documentation proving the availability of the relevant rights and authorisations and hereby **INDEMNIFIES AND HOLDS HARMLESS** MitreoFilmFestival 2026, as well as its organisers, collaborators, partners, sponsors and representatives, from any liability, claim, demand, action, objection or dispute brought by third parties in connection with the use of music or other copyright-protected materials contained in the short film, where such use lacks the necessary authorisations or otherwise infringes third-party rights.

I AUTHORISE

the screening, by the Association, of the short film entitled

_____ during all Festival days as well as all ancillary and promotional activities of the Association taking place before and after the Festival.

Place and date _____

Signature _____

AUTHORISATION FOR THE PROCESSING OF PERSONAL DATA

In compliance with the information obligation under Article 13 of Legislative Decree 30 June 2003, no. 196, the undersigned _____ declares that they have been informed of the rights granted under Article 7 of the aforementioned Legislative Decree no. 196/2003 and have been informed that any information concerning them, acquired pursuant to this declaration and during subsequent stages, shall be processed in compliance with Legislative Decree no. 196/2003.

The data controller shall be the Association.

The undersigned _____ expressly acknowledges, as required by law, the full legitimacy of the processing of the data and, in particular, of their sensitive data, and gives their consent to such processing.

Place and date _____

Signature _____

SPAZIO FILM – Auteur Cinema

NATIONAL SHORT FILM SCREENPLAY COMPETITION

1. FILM COURSES, SCHOOLS AND ACADEMIES CATEGORY

2. UNDER 25 CATEGORY (out of competition)

REGULATIONS

SPAZIO FILM is a writing space intended for 10 authors (screenwriting and directing), up to 30 years old, having reached the age of 30 no later than 11:59 p.m. on 31 October 2026, the closing date of this call. The 10 finalists are selected from among students directly proposed by the Secretariats of Film Courses, Schools and Academies operating in Italy.

The winner of the Best Subject Award from the 2025 edition of MitreoFilmFestival also participates in Spazio Film.

Out of competition, 2 young authors under 25 who are not students at any Film School or Academy and do not attend any course of this kind also participate. They are offered the opportunity to follow the Spazio Film training programme and, if particularly deserving and at the sole discretion of the staff, to win an internship at one of the forthcoming productions of the Mitreo Film Festival Cultural Association and MitrArtProduction Srls.

The authors admitted to Spazio Film are hosted in Santa Maria C.V. by the Festival, with the exception of transport expenses, from 7 to 11 December, to devote themselves to writing short-film screenplays with a maximum duration of 10 minutes, inspired by the Festival theme, LA BANDA, and set in the Santa Maria Capua Vetere area.

The writing work is enriched by masterclasses with industry professionals and the screenplays compete for the final award.

The screenplays written during Spazio Film must focus on the theme “LA BANDA”, understood literally as a musical band, but more generally as a symbolic and collective element that tells of harmony and symphony, history and memory, craftsmanship and art, generations in dialogue, a shared journey, collective sharing and the carnival of life.

The prize for the competition winner, which will be awarded on 12 December during the Festival's final evening, consists of production of the screenplay. The short film will be produced during the 2027 edition of the Festival by the Mitreo Film Festival Association and MitrArtProduction Srls, which will decide, at their sole discretion and on the basis of the proposal submitted, whether the screenplay author may also direct the short film or not (otherwise a director with proven experience will be appointed).

REGISTRATION AND SELECTION PROCEDURE

The selection takes place in two stages:

STAGE 1

- **FILM COURSES, SCHOOLS AND ACADEMIES CATEGORY:** the Secretariats of Film Courses, Schools and Academies may nominate their students by 2:00 p.m. on 31 October 2026. To nominate students, an e-mail must be sent to info@mitreofilmfestival.it containing one short-film subject on a free theme for each proposed student. The subject must strictly be no more than 1 page (1,800 characters, divided into 30 lines of 60 characters each, including spaces).
- **UNDER 25 CATEGORY** (out of competition): young authors under 25 applying independently for the out-of-competition section must register through the FilmFreeway platform by 2:00 p.m. on 31 October 2026. The application must include a free-theme subject. The subject must strictly be no more than 1 page (1,800 characters, divided into 30 lines of 60 characters each, including spaces).

Among all submissions received, the staff of MitreoFilmFestival 2026 will, at its sole discretion, select the authors who proceed to Stage 2.

The names of those selected for Stage 2 will be announced by 15 November 2026 through FilmFreeway and on www.mitreofilmfestival.it.

By 2:00 p.m. on 30 November 2026, the authors selected for Stage 2 must send the following required material by contacting the secretariat at info@mitreofilmfestival.it:

- a copy of these regulations signed on every page;
- the application form as per Attachment 1, complete with the candidate's personal details, in PDF format and signed on every page;
- a signed copy of a suitably scanned identity document (PDF format);
- curriculum vitae.

STAGE 2 – SPAZIO FILM

The selected authors, the winner of the Best Subject Award from the 2025 edition of MitreoFilmFestival and the two young under-25 authors from the out-of-competition section all participate together in Spazio Film and each write a short-film screenplay reflecting the Festival theme, LA BANDA, and set in the Santa Maria Capua Vetere area.

The screenplays, no more than 5 pages long, must be completed and delivered by 2:00 p.m. on 11 December to the staff of MitreoFilmFestival 2026 in order to participate in the 2026 National Short Film Screenplay Competition and compete for the final prize.

All authors are guests of the organisation for the duration of the Festival. Only transport expenses remain at their expense.

Spazio Film takes place in person at the Mondadori Bookshop premises on C.so Aldo Moro and in other locations in the city of S. Maria C.V.

For all matters not specified in this call, the Festival management shall decide.

The call is officially open from 2:00 p.m. on 5 October 2026 and closes at 2:00 p.m. on 31 October 2026.

This call can be downloaded from www.mitreofilmfestival.it.

JURY AND AWARDS

The Technical Jury, composed of industry professionals, will, at its sole discretion, select from among the authors in the FILM COURSES, SCHOOLS AND ACADEMIES CATEGORY the winner of the MitreoFilmFestival 2026 Best Screenplay Award, who will be awarded the production of the short film to be shot during the 2027 edition.

The Technical Jury will also award, at its sole discretion, the Best Subject Award, which includes a plaque and direct access to Spazio Film 2027.

The Public Jury will be represented by Capua il luogo della lingua Festival and will, at its sole discretion, award the Audience Award (plaque).

The Young Jury, composed of students from upper-secondary schools in the Province of Caserta participating in the MitreoFRISKFilmFestival project, will, at its sole discretion, select the winner of the Bernardino Zapponi Award offered by the Caserta Film Commission Association (plaque).

The Mitreo Film Festival Association and MitrArtProduction Srls shall be the official producers and consequent rights holders of the short film produced. The Mitreo Film Festival Association and MitrArtProduction Srls shall also have a first-option right over all subjects and all screenplays produced within SPAZIO FILM.

The staff of MitreoFilmFestival 2026 will, at its sole discretion, award the out-of-competition prize to one or both authors in the UNDER 25 CATEGORY (out of competition). The prize consists of an internship during forthcoming productions of the Mitreo Film Festival Cultural Association and MitrArtProduction Srls.

APPLICATION FORM – ATTACHMENT 1
SPAZIO FILM – Auteur Cinema
NATIONAL SHORT FILM SCREENPLAY COMPETITION
MITREOFILMFESTIVAL 2026
“LA BANDA”
FESTIVAL OF CINEMA AND CULTURE

(write in block letters and clearly)

I, the undersigned _____ born in _____ on _____ tax
code _____

resident in _____ Street _____

telephone _____ e-mail _____

REQUEST

to be admitted to SPAZIO FILM as part of the cultural event “MitreoFilmFestival 2026” (organised by the Mitreo Film Festival Cultural Association, with registered office at Via G. Bonaparte, 20 – 81055, Santa Maria Capua Vetere, Caserta, tax code 94007300612 – hereinafter for brevity the “Association”), in the capacity of (tick one choice):

- ☐ FILM COURSES, SCHOOLS AND ACADEMIES CATEGORY
- ☐ UNDER 25 CATEGORY

In this regard, I specify that I have my own personal equipment, which I will use to work independently, in particular a laptop computer equipped with writing software.

I DECLARE

- that I meet the requirements set out in the call/regulations, that I have read them and accept every provision thereof, attaching the signed copy as required;
- that I choose to participate as:

☐ screenwriter

(reserved exclusively for authors in the FILM COURSES, SCHOOLS AND ACADEMIES CATEGORY. Tick if applying only as screenwriter)

☐ screenwriter and director

(reserved exclusively for authors in the FILM COURSES, SCHOOLS AND ACADEMIES CATEGORY. Tick if also applying as aspiring and candidate director of the short film to be produced if the screenplay wins)

that I am the author of the subject entitled

submitted during the application stage;

that I am solely responsible for myself, my equipment and my belongings for the entire duration of SPAZIO FILM, and that I release the Association and the staff assigned to the cultural event "MitreoFilmFestival 2025" from any liability for damage to myself, my belongings or third parties. In this regard, I acknowledge that the Association has no custody obligations in relation to my personal equipment.

that I am aware that the Mitreo Film Festival Association and MitrArtProduction Srls will be the official producers and consequent rights holders of the short film produced from the winning screenplay and that the Mitreo Film Festival Association and MitrArtProduction Srls will also have a first-option right over all subjects and all screenplays produced within SPAZIO FILM.

I AUTHORISE

the dissemination, by the Mitreo Film Festival Association, of the material produced in every cultural promotional activity of the Association, both during all Festival days and during all ancillary and promotional activities of the Association taking place before and after the Festival.

Place and date _____

Signature _____

AUTHORISATION FOR THE PROCESSING OF PERSONAL DATA

In compliance with the information obligation under Article 13 of Legislative Decree 30 June 2003, no. 196, the undersigned _____ declares that they have been informed of the rights granted under Article 7 of the aforementioned Legislative Decree no. 196/2003 and have been informed that any information concerning them, acquired pursuant to this declaration and during subsequent stages, shall be processed in compliance with Legislative Decree no. 196/2003.

The data controller shall be the Association.

The undersigned _____ expressly acknowledges, as required by law, the full legitimacy of the processing of the data and, in particular, of their sensitive data, and gives their consent to such processing.

Place and date _____

Signature _____