



ROME INDEPENDENT FILM FESTIVAL XXIV EDITION

RIFF AWARDS

**Academy Award winner Paul Edward Haggis will be the Festival's new artistic director.
From November 21 to 28, 2025 at The Nuovo Cinema Aquila and The Cinema Farnese**

From November 21st to 28th, Rome returns to be the capital of independent cinema with the 24th edition of the **RIFF Awards** - Rome Independent Film Festival. The event, which has been bringing the best of new international cinema to the capital for 24 years, announces key news: Oscar-winning director **Paul Haggis** will be the festival's artistic director.

"I am honored to be joining founder Fabrizio Ferrari in their 24th edition. RIFF has steadily become one of the most important festivals worldwide dedicated to Independent filmmaking. Italy has a great and long history of supporting fiercely independent voices in film, and Rome has always been its heart. Like everywhere in the world, the health of our industry is threatened by the consolidation of buyers and distributors. Not long ago a brave filmmaker could find a financier who would see his or her vision and trust their instincts. Today it is rare to find any producer who doesn't rely upon the judgement of streamers, and rarer still to find buyers who don't put their trust in their algorithms. It would be a great shame to lose today's independent voices, as those are the voices that will thrill us. For 24 years Fabrizio and his colleagues have given them a safe haven in Roma and heralded their bravery. I'm humbled to contribute in that effort any way I can" Paul Haggis.

The screenings will be held at the **Nuovo Cinema Aquila** and part of the International section at the **Cinema Farnese** in Rome.

In total, the following will be presented as **Italian premieres**: 5 international feature films - 5 Italian feature films - 12 documentaries - 50 short films (25 Italian - 25 international) - 6 animated videos - 10 experimental videos - and a pitch with the screenplays and finalist subjects.

Jurors of the 24th edition of the festival: **Ben Minot**, director of photography (USA); **Gabriele Ciampi**, Italian composer; **Barbara Busso**, production director; **Mario Colamarino**, president of the Mario Mieli Gay Culture Circle; **Enzo D'Alò**, director and screenwriter; **Teresa Monaco**, casting director.

The Festival, organized by the **RIFF Cultural Association**, is organized with the contribution and patronage of the General Directorate of Cinema - **Ministry of Culture** and the **Lazio Region**, Regional Directorate of Presidential Affairs, Tourism, Cinema, Audiovisual and Sport.

Ufficio stampa Storyfinders - Lionella Bianca Fiorillo - 340.7364203

lionella.fiorillo@storyfinders.it

Ass. Cult. RIFF - 06.45425050

press@riff.it - www.riff.it