



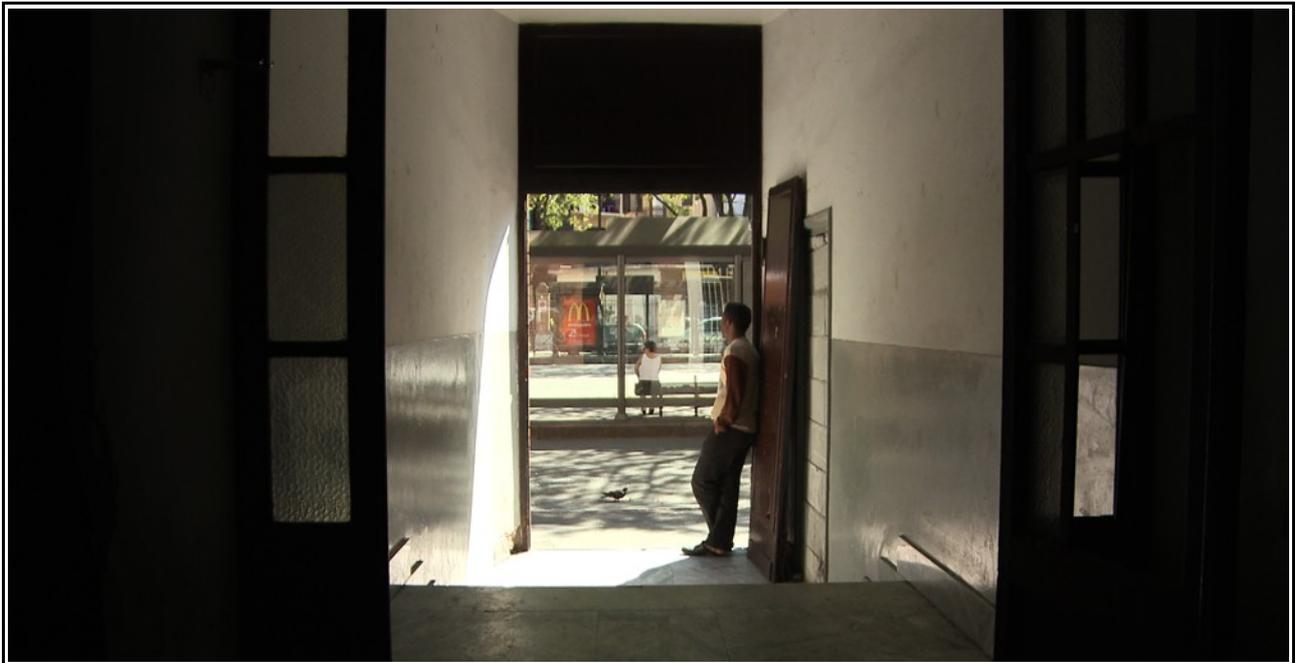
present

## ALTRA EUROPA

"OTHER EUROPE"

(HDCAM, 2011, 75 mins)

a documentary film by **ROSSELLA SCHILLACI**



CAMERA **ROSSELLA SCHILLACI, ROBERTO GRECO** SOUND **SONIA PORTOGHESE** EDITING **DARIO NEPOTE** SOUND MIX **FABIO COGGIOLA** MUSIC COMPOSER **DANIELE DE LUCA** PRODUCTION **AZUL (ITALY)** IN COLLABORATION WITH **LARANJA AZUL (CATARINA MOURÃO - PORTUGAL), CLAC (ITALY)** WITH THE SUPPORT OF **PIEMONTE DOC FILM FUND, SICILIA FILM COMMISSION** ASSISTANT PRODUCTION **GIULIO PEDRETTI** ASSISTANT DIRECTOR **FULVIO MONTANO** AUTHOR AND DIRECTOR **ROSSELLA SCHILLACI** SPONSORSHIP BY **AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL**

**FESTIVALS>** Al Jazeera International Film Festival, Qatar 2012 - **Public liberties & human rights award for long categories**

This Human World International Film Festival, Vienna 2011 – ***jury prize***

12° RAI International Film Festival, London 2011 - ***RAI film prize***

Salina Doc Fest 2011 ITALIA.DOC section - ***best documentary***

Piemonte movie - ***first prize***

Docudays UA, Kiev 2011

Addis Ababa International Film Festival 2011

Tri Continental Film Festival, Soth Africa 2011

Gottingen Int. Film Festival

**TRAILER>** <http://www.azulfilm.com/altra%20europa.html>

## SYNOPSIS

What happens to African migrants once granted political refugee status? Which challenges they will need to face and what are their prospects for a decent livelihood in Italy?

In Turin, a northern Italian industrial city, **an abandoned clinic has been squatted** by more than 200 **refugees** since December 2008. All of whom are legal.

Set between a cinema and a street market in a working-class neighborhood, this 5-story building is now inhabited by Somali and Sudanese refugees, forming a **small African island in the heart of a European city**, yet isolated from the rest of the world. There is running water in one room per floor for 80 persons on each floor; there is electricity but no heating.

**Khaled, Shukri and Ali**, as all the other migrants, have been travelling through the hell in order to arrive in Italy. They crossed the border and are determined to have a normal life. Their hopes crash with a life condition "suspended". Their expectations do deal with the limitations of a reality that welcomes them in a contradictory manner.

The film follows their stories in a years, showing life in the clinic and in the city, including the inevitable internal problems (due to the scarcity of food and water), the commitment of voluntary associations in providing a minimum support, the protests of citizenship and the initiatives of the City and Prefecture. The cold winter, unbearably sultry August, until the evacuation of the former clinic by the city authorities and the transfer of refugees in a barracks refitted for the occasion.

**Three emblematic characters** guide us in a story that reveals, with intimate look, a collective history, an emblematic tale of all European countries today and about their immigration policies and the changes the social fabric of European cities is undergoing.

## NOTE OF INTENT

"Do you know what is it "immigration"? It's only courage", told me a man coming in Italy from North Africa. In Turin I found that an old clinic right near my house had been squatted. I started to go and talk to people, I wanted to know more about their history, what do they face coming in Europe, at the limit of human dignity. I brought with me the recorder and at first I recorded their testimonies. They told me of their landings and the fact that we try not to travel in the company of brothers or cousins, because they know that there is only one possibility: "dead or alive," they said that in Italian.

Who makes it, has then to deal with the extended family. Then I saw the photos and commemoration of those who "do not make it," young boys that they could apply for political asylum in Italy and "search for life" in Europe. I think the absurdity of their journey of hope: they actually have all the rights to be welcomed and helped, and instead they lose their lives in our sea.

I met many young Somalis and Sudanese, of my age and much younger, living in difficult conditions, but not resigned. Their strength and determination to find a life in Europe gave them the energy to go forward. They exceeded the "limit" in the Mediterranean Sea, Allah kept them alive, they were now in Europe and they were here to succeed. I thought it was worth telling their stories and the story of the Europe they found, from their point of view. For over a year I have been following them in their daily struggles for a normal life. I've been learning from their joy and their strength of mind that the push for life cross every limit imposed by bad laws.

## BIOGRAPHY

ROSSELLA SCHILLACI gained a MA in visual anthropology and direction of documentaries at the University of Manchester (UK). She participated to the EU-India Documentary Initiative and the Berlinale Talent Campus.

Her last three documentaries have been awarded in many international film festivals.

She produced and directed several documentaries broadcasted by RAISAT, Sky and Al Jazeera.

## FILMOGRAPHY :

**SHUKRI, A NEW LIFE** (2010 HD, AZUL per Al Jazeera, 21 min.) broadcasted by AL JAZEERA ENGLISH

**ONLY THE SEA IS MISSING** (2009 HD, AZUL, 6 min.) - TORINO FILM FESTIVAL 2009

**LA FIUMA. Incontri sul Po e dintorni** (2008, HD, 64 min, European Project BLUE Méditerranée)

FESTIVAL CINEMAMBIENTE 2008 - BERGAMO FILM MEETING 2009 - ISCHIA FILM FESTIVAL 2009

**VJESH/CANTO** (2007, Palomar Endemol, DIGITALBETA, 57 min)

PRIX INT. DOC E REPORTAGE MEDITERRANEO – SIEFF, Nuoro 2008 - JEAN ROUCH INTERNATIONAL

FILM FESTIVAL, Paris 2008 - Prix Jean Rouch - RAI FILM FESTIVAL 2007 - 25° TORINO FILM FESTIVAL

## PRODUCTION

AZUL develops and realizes documentary films for the national and international market. Its recent productions have been broadcasted on Al Jazeera, TSI e Indian Television and have been selected and awarded in several international film festival, like Jean Rouch film festival, Prix International du Documentaire Méditerranéen, Torino Film Festival, RAI film festival.

AZUL also produces reportages for satellite TV like RAISAT and cooperates with different companies and institutions of relief. It moreover directs institutional videos for public and private subjects, event documentations and backstage, it promotes and develops didactic workshops in schools, professional training in associations and institutions.

As a young and dynamic working reality AZUL looks after each documentary production stage, from research and development, the shooting, the post-production until the DVD authoring.

## CONTACT

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