

PICASSO<sup>film</sup>  
presents

# LAMPEDUSA

THE GATEWAY TO HOPE

IT'S A JOURNEY INTO THE HEART OF HUMAN STRUGGLE, WHERE SURVIVAL HANGS IN THE BALANCE AGAINST RELENTLESS FORCES.

A gripping documentary film chronicles the journey of migrants navigating the perilous routes of the Mediterranean Sea, highlighting the presence of traffickers, baby smugglers, exploiters, and illicit enterprises. The film tells the poignant human stories of the migrants, capturing their hopes and the immense challenges and hardships involved in embarking on a perilous and unsafe journey. We delve into the odyssey of desperate individuals who stake their future on these crossings, despite the tragic toll of lives lost and the profound pain endured.

60' Documentary film

LAMPEDUSA HAS BECOME THE GATEWAY TO HOPE, THE PORTAL TO EUROPE.

# FILM OVERVIEW

**LAMPEDUSA**  
THE GATEWAY TO HOPE

There exists an imaginary yet undeniably tangible divide—a wound left open, a space that belongs to everyone and yet to no one, in which all are subtly entwined: it is the border demarcating and simultaneously bridging the North—democratic, liberal, and civilized—and the South—impoverished, ravaged by conflict, regressive, and undemocratic.

It is along this boundary's edge that the grand theater of the modern world unfolds. This threshold remains intangible, indescribable, immaterial. Our documentary strives to approach it through documents, insights, interviews, personal narratives, venturing into the uncharted territories where migrations and rejections intersect, where individuals struggle to survive or succumb to their fate.

Each day, tens of thousands depart their homelands, fleeing conflicts, civil wars, ethnic or religious strife, and unbearable living conditions. They depart from cities and villages across Africa and the Middle East, from regions so remote they are unmarked on maps. They merge into the flow of migrants converging on the Mediterranean, seeking a different, perhaps better, future. Within this mass exodus, the shores of Sicily, Italy, and particularly the island of Lampedusa, symbol emblematic of this tragedy, serve as a nexus for human trafficking, controlled by ruthless criminal syndicates.

Upon reaching Italy by sea, aboard decrepit boats or rubber dinghies, migrants are passed to other traffickers—land smugglers—to reach the affluent nations of Northern Europe, their ultimate goal. Yet, only a fraction of this intricate and subterranean reality reaches us, glimpsed through the tragic images that inundate news reports and newspaper pages nearly every day. The media's repetitive narrative ensures that scenes of landings and shipwrecks blur together, each new tragedy eclipsing the last.

**BUT WHAT REMAINS UNSEEN?**

**WHAT OCCURS AFTER THE DARING RESCUES BY THE NAVY AND COAST GUARD, WHO PLUCK MIGRANTS FROM THE SEA'S CLUTCHES?**

Our film plunges into the depths of this modern-day inferno—a journey through nine circles, inhabited by smugglers, traffickers, activists, rescuers, journalists, politicians, profiteers, and defenders of human rights. Their perpetual struggle unfolds, while the souls of the damned survivors—already disillusioned by Europe's false promise—are left to endure the shackles of slavery.

# OUTLINES

60' Documentary film

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## INTRODUCTION

Lampedusa, renowned as a pivotal destination for migrants, serves as a symbolic gateway into Europe, encapsulating the complexities of the migration phenomenon.



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## ACT I: PERSONAL STORIES OF MIGRANTS

Embark on a journey into the lives of migrants, discovering their origins, aspirations, and the compelling reasons behind their departure from their homelands. Through intimate interviews, migrants share their remarkable experiences, hopes, and the myriad challenges endured during their arduous voyages to Lampedusa.

## ACT 2: THE JOURNEY AND ITS CHALLENGES

Delve into the treacherous routes undertaken by migrants in their quest to reach Lampedusa, traversing deserts, seas, and perilous overland paths. Gain insights into the formidable obstacles encountered along the way, including the pervasive threats posed by human traffickers, the harsh realities of refugee camps, and the inherent risks associated with crossing the Mediterranean.





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## ACT 3: LAMPEDUSA AS A POINT OF ARRIVAL

Gain a poignant understanding of the realities unfolding in Lampedusa, where migrants are greeted with overcrowded reception centers and the tireless efforts of local authorities to address the pressing humanitarian needs. Engage with the perspectives of Lampedusa residents and humanitarian organizations, witnessing firsthand their compassionate responses to the influx of migrants seeking refuge on their shores.

## ACT 4: IMPLICATIONS OF THE MIGRATION PHENOMENON

Navigate the broader implications of the migration phenomenon, from the intricacies of European migration policies to the profound economic and social impacts on both local and global scales. Explore the insidious realities of the black market of human trafficking, as unscrupulous traffickers exploit the vulnerabilities of migrants for personal gain.



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## CONCLUSION

Reflect on the multifaceted challenges and opportunities inherent in the migration journey through Lampedusa, culminating in a message of hope and solidarity. Emphasize the critical importance of fostering understanding and empathy towards migrants, as we collectively strive to navigate the complexities of the human experience.



# SOME OF OUR GUESTS



**Filippo Mannino**, The island's mayor of Lampedusa



**Pietro Bartolo**, the doctor of Lampedusa

As a member of the European Parliament, the doctor of Lampedusa advocates for the rights of migrants and refugees, and fair migration policies globally. He provides medical aid to those arriving by sea.



**Karolina Wigura** is a sociologist, historian of ideas and journalist.



**Roberta Altin** is associate professor of cultural anthropology at the Department of Humanities, University of Trieste (Italy).



**Michelle Pace** is Professor in Global Studies at the Department of Social Sciences and Business, Roskilde University. She is also Honorary Professor in Politics and International Studies at the University of Birmingham in the UK.

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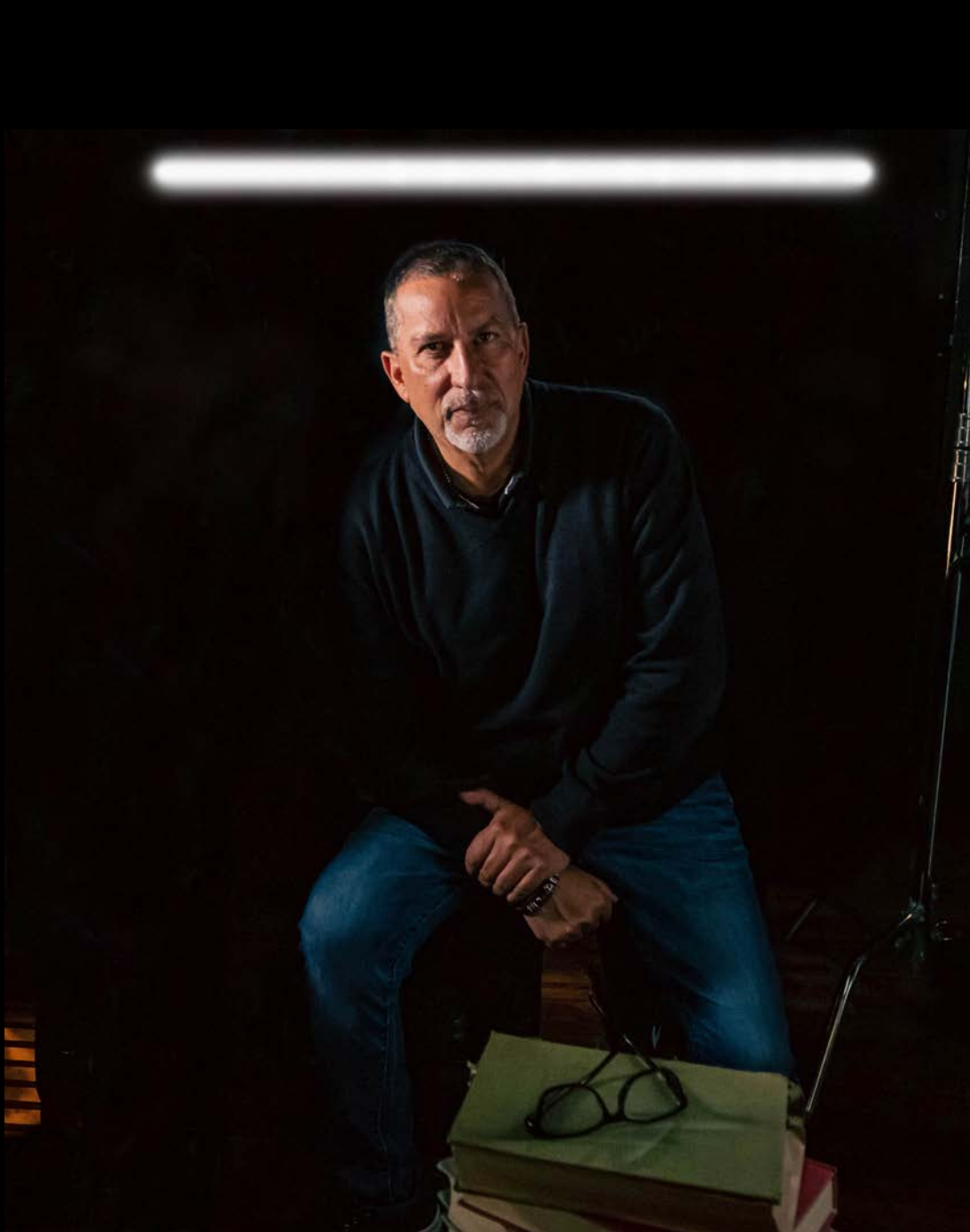
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# THEIR INCREDIBLE STORIES







# THE DIRECTOR

## Max Serio

Max is a renowned TV and film producer, director, content creator, and the visionary behind the formation of Picasso Film. With a stellar track record, Max has made his mark as an executive producer, director, and creator on various esteemed platforms, including Netflix, National Geographic, Curiosity Stream, ZDF, Discovery Channel, RAI, France Télévision, RTL Germany, RMC, ITV, BBC, AGE, and History Channel.

**Over the past 14 years**, in collaboration with [www.bigmedia.tv](http://www.bigmedia.tv), Max has played a key role as an associate producer, contributing to the production of over 300 hours of documentary series that have been widely distributed and broadcasted worldwide.

**His credits span across a diverse** range of genres, including psychological thrillers such as "Hunger" "Cyber War" "Cult of Personality," "Inside the Criminal Mind," "Serial Psyche." Additionally, he has delved into historical series like "Hitler's Gold", "The Pope and the Devil", "Hitler's secret mission" "The Secret of the Templar's Knights," "Footprints of Civilization," "Warrior's Way." "M.A.D. World"...

**Max, as creative team leader at Picasso Film**, is a dynamic force in the industry, bringing with him a wealth of experience, a visionary creative vision, and deep industry expertise. His creativity is instrumental in driving Picasso Film's mission to produce groundbreaking and high-quality content that captivates and resonates with audiences around the globe.

**THANK YOU ALL FOR YOUR TIME AND ATTENTION DURING THE PRESENTATION.**

**YOUR ENGAGEMENT AND THOUGHTFUL QUESTIONS ARE GREATLY APPRECIATED.**

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