

# IT'S NOT DARK YET

a film by  
**Rossano B. Maniscalchi**



Director ROSSANO B. MANISCALCHI ◊ Art Director & Screenwriter SERENA DEL NERO ◊ Voice Actors JO KERN, DUANE MARCH, NOEMI PAOLI ◊ Camera FRANCESCO BUGGEA ◊ Film & Music Editing ALBERTO MARIA GENNUSO ◊ Cast JASMIN STEFANAZI, GRETA PARDINI, LORENZO PROVVEDI, JEAN-PIERRE XAUSA, GIULIO BORDONE, LORENZO MANSI, ALIDA POZZATO ◊ Makeup & Hair Styling ALIDA POZZATO ◊ Graphic Designer DUANE MARCH ◊ Ms. Stefanazi's wardrobe by RINASCIMENTO ◊ WALKING STICKS Giorgio Rizzetto ◊ ACQUA DELLE LANGHE Alberto Avetta ◊ TRU VIRTU ◊ Shot on locations in Florence, Italy

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# Concept

IT'S NOT DARK YET is a film that deals with the theme of violence against women, presenting a story of female solidarity. The protagonists are women who, from generation to generation, speak to other women through example and storytelling. What emerges is a shared and supportive consciousness that embraces diverse identities and empowers them to escape the darkness of an adverse, limiting, and oppressive culture.

## Synopsis

The protagonist tells a little girl the “Story of Jasmin.”

In reality, she is recounting her own adolescence, a period during which both love and her human rights were denied to her.

Despite those traumas, today the woman lives courageously in the new life she has earned for herself.

**Film runtime: 9:57**

# Rossano B. Maniscalchi

## Director



Rossano has been making award-winning films for years and has a great deal of experience in organizing, financing and producing films.

As a highly acclaimed photographer Rossano has worked with many high-profile fashion brands. Many of his photos have won international awards.

Rossano works with esteemed companies on promotional films for products that are unique and prominent within the fashion world. His work has always been outstanding, whether in the field of portraiture, art, still life, fashion, culture and glamour photography, or in advertising and in his work with celebrities such as Barack Obama, Tilda Swinton, Michelangelo Antonioni, Prince (now King) Charles, Arnold Schwarzenegger, Wim Wenders, Susan Sontag, Ray Manzarek (The Doors), Mikhail Gorbachev, Salman Rushdie, Andrea Bocelli, just to name a few.

Maniscalchi has a definitive signature style. He communicates a unique personal message and perspective in his work. His many years of creativity for well-known fashion salons and advertising agencies, along with still life, portraiture, fine art and work, have all influenced and developed his modus operandi.

Maniscalchi's extensive portfolio has been exhibited extensively at art galleries and museums throughout the world. His work continues to maintain important global recognition and his published books have been major sellouts.

### Film Award Highlights

- \* Best Film & Best Fashion Film for "The Key to Heaven" Global Short Film Awards, Cannes 2023
- \* Best Cinematography for "Anyway" Croatia Fashion Film Festival 2022
- \* Best Narration (Duane March) for "The Key to Heaven" - La Jolla International Fashion Film Festival 2022
- \* Best Cinematography for "Anyway" - Style, Experimental, Fashion Film Festival Jan. 2022, Los Angeles
- \* Best Director for "In the Ring" Best Istanbul Film Festival 2022

- \* Best Director for "Touch Me" Best Istanbul Film Festival 2021
- \* Best Cinematography for "Anyway" La Jolla International Fashion Film Festival 2020
- \* Best Artistic Director for "Denying Beauty" Palm Beach International Mini Movie & Film Festival 2019
- \* Best Director for "Denying Beauty" La Jolla International Fashion Film Festival 2019
- \* Best Supporting Fashion Brand for "Touch Me" La Jolla International Fashion Film Festival 2018

"Capturing our pure, human form in the silence of light. Life, a luminescent force. Inside myself, the precise instant when an image must be held." RBM

# Serena Del Nero

## Art Director & Screenwriter



Serena Del Nero has been Rossano B. Maniscalchi's closest collaborator since 2011.

In recent years she has worked with him in fashion and art projects around the world.

Serena has received nominations for her ART DIRECTION for the Maniscalchi films:

- “Failing Light” (2017)
- “Touch Me” (2018)
- “Denying Beauty” (2019)
- “Anyway” (2020)
- “A Thin Slice Of Life” (2021)
- “In The Ring” (2021)
- “To the Point” (2021)
- “The Key To Heaven” (2022)

In 2022 she won an award for Art Direction at the BEST SHORTS COMPETITION (La Jolla, California) for “The Key to Heaven”.

# Jasmin Stefanazi

## Lead Actress



Jasmin was born in Adria, a small town in Veneto.

As a child, she dreamed of being part of the entertainment world but only began her career when she was 16. She started with beauty contests and photo shoots, which helped her gain confidence.

She is a sunny person who always tries to see the good in people and in bad situations. “As I always say ‘in the good there is

always some bad, and in the bad there is always some good’.”

“In short, I've always thought that life was like a flower garden, where flowers are the opportunities that life offers us. Rain represents the bad times, sad, and yet necessary to grow and blossom. And then there's the sun—what can it represent, if not love. It is love that makes us grow, that makes us shine and that lights up our lives.”

This film marks Jasmin’s second participation in a film directed by Rossano B. Maniscalchi. Her first film was “Beyond” (2023) in which she played the main female protagonist.

# Lorenzo Provedi

## Actor



Lorenzo Provedi is an Italian actor and model. Born in Florence in 1991, Provedi began his career in theater in the early 2000's.

Provedi took on his first leading roles in **Zoroastro** (2017), **La partita** (2017), **Toct** (2018), **Regression** (2018), and **Ho sposato**

**mia madre** ("I Married My Mother") (2019).

Lorenzo has also played roles in Italian television series "Pezzi Unici". He has often played unconventional roles, particularly in biopics and period films.

This film marks his second film under the direction of Rossano B. Maniscalchi.

In 2019 he played the main male protagonist in **Denying Beauty**, a film that was recognized with several awards at international film festivals .

# Jean-Pierre Xausa

## Actor



Known in show business as “Mr JP”, Jean-Pierre has appeared in Italian TV programs. He is also a national contact person for Unimpresa Moda (representing small businesses in fashion) as an ambassador for the excellence of Italian Craftsmanship. Jean-Pierre has been named “the last of the Dandies”

by the National Press.

Mr JP is also a fashion designer who has always been attentive to the issue of violence against women, and collaborates on artistic projects of relevant importance for the purpose of raising awareness and funds.

Not least among his projects was one named “Wearing Art”® in which a painting was transferred to a dress designed by him. He is also a guest of the most important fashion salons such as Pitti Uomo, Alta Roma, and the Milan Fashion Week.

Mr JP has also won multiple awards at the World Beard and Mustache Championship, thanks to his unmistakable, rich mustaches.



## **Actor Lorenzo Mansi**

Lorenzo is active as a fashion model.

His appearance in this film marks his first as an actor in film.

## **Actress Greta Pardini**

Also a model, this is Greta's first appearance in an acting role and voice acting role.



## **Actor Giulio Bordone**

Giulio is also active as a fashion model, and this is also his first work before the film camera in an acting role.

## **Voice Actress Noemi Paoli**

This is Noemi's very first role in a film.

# Jo Kern

## Female Voice Actress



Jo Kern is a German actress and voice artist . Her career spans a variety of roles in film, television, and theater productions.

Jo Kern began her acting career with a leading role in the film “Ede und das Kind” alongside Carl-Heinz Schroth and Heinz Reincke, after selected in a casting organized by the magazine “Gong.”

She appeared in well-known German TV series such as “Tatort,” “Das Traumschiff,” “Gegen den Wind,” and “Derrick.”

Additionally, she had recurring lead roles in the series “Sterne des Südens” and

“Mallorca – Suche nach dem Paradies.” She has also appeared in movies like “Abgetrieben” (1992) and “Nur über meine Leiche” (1995).

Jo Kern is also active as a voice artist, lending her voice to audiobooks and audio dramas.

In addition to screen acting, she has been involved in theater productions, including the staging of “Jedermann The King 2008” and in 2012, she, along with Rufus Beck and Karl-Walter Sprungala, received first prize at the INTHEGA Awards for the touring production of the play *Rain Man*.

Apart from her artistic pursuits, she works as a business coach.

Jo Kern’s versatile career reflects her passion for the performing arts, whether on stage, in front of the camera, or in the dubbing studio.

IT’S NOT DARK YET marks Jo’s first time working with film director Rossano B. Maniscalchi.

# Duane March

## Male Voice Actor



Duane March was born in the USA and currently lives in Germany.

A Ph.D. in Ancient History, he developed language skills in German, French, Latin and Ancient Greek.

His fashion experience consists of work as a model and in photographic projects, especially with Rossano Maniscalchi.

Duane provided the English language narration for Maniscalchi's films **In the Ring** (2021) and **Beyond** (2023). Both films have been selected for and received awards at international film festivals.

In 2022 he won the award for BEST NARRATION at the **13th La Jolla International Fashion Film Festival** for Maniscalchi's film **The Key to Heaven**. Other awards for his film work are:

**Best Global Shorts 2022**— Award for Narration / Voice Over Talent

**Pure Magic International Film Festival 2022**— Award for Best Voice Actor

**Accolade Global Film 2023**— Award for Narration / Voice Over Talent

His multi-lingual and multi-media experience consists of work in the IT, Training, Education and Renewable Energy sectors.

He is also active as a voice talent, translator and project coordinator.

# Alberto Maria Gennuso

## Film & Music Editing



Alberto is one of the most appreciated independent film composers on the national scene. He took his first steps in the world of music and cinema at an early age by studying and listening to famous authors of soundtracks such as Ennio Morricone, Hans Zimmer and Steve Jablonsky.

In 2010 he began studying piano at the "Banda Passons" Musical Association in Udine, where he grew in artistic maturity and refined his skills thanks to the knowledge of renowned Italian and

foreign masters: a quality that translates into his selection of sounds and structures of original cinematographic and musical soundtracks.

Since 2011, he has created a series of videos written, edited and set to music that characterize the physiognomy of an all-round artist as appreciated by Masters and Professors. In 2020, he graduated from the ISIS "Fermo Solari" in Tolmezzo with an Applied Sciences diploma and continued his studies at the SAE Institute in Milan to study the most avant-garde national and international production techniques. He refined his skills in the use of DAWs (Digital Audio Workstations) and composition techniques (mixing and mastering) that came in handy for his first film music production: "Laudato Creato", an environmental-themed film by Virginia Barrett inspired by Pope Francis' Encyclical "Laudato Sii". Alberto produced and signed all the soundtracks, using Artificial Intelligence tools in editing and post-production. The film was screened in a music room during the Venice Film Festival. In October 2022 Alberto obtained the qualification of "Electronic Music Producer" with full marks.

This film marks Alberto's second participation in a film directed by Rossano B. Maniscalchi. He composed and engineered the music for "Beyond" (2023).

# Francesco Buggea

## Camera Operator



Francesco Buggea studied at the National Independent Cinema School of Florence in 2009, excelling in the disciplines of Editing, Video Shooting, Audio and Photography.

As a videomaker, he has created wedding videos, and conducted drone shots and concert shots.

Francesco has worked with Rossano B. Maniscalchi on several of his award-winning films, most recently on **The Key to Heaven** (2022) and **Beyond** (2023).

He is also involved in other Maniscalchi film projects in development.

He has also worked for 10 years as a cameraman for the local Florence television stations RTV8, Italia7, TV Prato, TELE Iride, as well as for Mediaset.

# Alida Pozzato

## Makeup, Hair Stylist and Actress



Even as a young girl, I dreamed of the fashion world. I studied at Palmer School in Bologna to become a hairdresser and started my professional career when I was 14 years old. When I was 18, I opened my own hairdressing salon “Alida Parrucchieri”. I also received training as an hairstyle demonstrator, because I wanted to work at hairdresser shows.

Over the years, I have collaborated with different hair stylists and have worked at many fashion shows in different places near my hometown.

I have also organised some fashion shows by myself. The most important show that I organized was “Angels Under The Stars” in Loreo, and it was a great success.

My greatest satisfaction has been my participation in the “Tre Ponti Fashion Show” in Comacchio. I have been collaborating with a well-known fashion stylist Patrizia Farinelli since 2019.

This film marks my second participation in a film directed by Rossano B. Maniscalchi. I was Hair Stylist for his film “Beyond” (2023).

# Maryam Howe

## Artist



Maryam Howe, is an Iranian artist and writer, based in England.

Inspired by the identity of Iranian women to explore various aspects of the cultural reformation in Iran, Maryam started to paint her ideas to bring them to life. At this point, her style developed into a surrealistic genre.

In 2021 Maryam created a portfolio of oil paintings, launching her first series “The Absent Face”. The London Art

Biennale curatorial team reviewed her work: *Your work is very interesting, and you succeed in transmitting an emotion to the viewer which is not so evident.*

She also published a book “Miracle of Light” in 2021, a compilation of her poems in Farsi and English.

In 2023 she exhibited in the International Florence Biennale and won the joint artist “I am Mahsa” award.

*“I believe the beauty of a woman is in her strength. In the journey towards gender equality in the middle east, I’d like to invite the viewers to observe the challenges, leaving them with a feeling of hope moving forward.”*

Maryam contributed her painting “Shade of Identity” to the filming of **It’s Not Dark Yet.**

You can see an image of the painting on the next page.

# Shade of Identity



Artist: Maryam Howe

# Rinascimento

## Fashion Design for Women

RINASCIMENTO provided Ms. Stefanazi's wardrobe.



**RINASCIMENTO**  
MADE IN ITALY

The Rinascimento brand was launched in the year 2000 and ever since has stood for creating women's fashion that is contemporary and always up to date with the latest fashion trends.

Unpretentious clothes made with attention to detail, with colours and prints to match your personal style. The Rinascimento total-look is dedicated to the women of today: independent, aware of their femininity, who enjoy playing with style choosing from a wide range of impeccable clothes and accessories, that make them feel unique in both everyday life and on special occasions.

### THE DISTINCTIVE CHARM IS IN THE DETAILS

The Rinascimento collections combine Italian design, with the latest trends and attention to detail. This places them at the crossroad of timeless elegance and contemporary glamor. Thanks to the experience and passion of our team of stylists, each offering interprets the latest trends with the most exclusive processes in an unforgettable and authentic style concept.

# Walking Sticks

**Giorgio Rizzetto**



Our company has been handcrafting luxury handles and objects for collectors and daily use for years.

We specialize in the production of walking sticks, shoe horns, umbrellas and similar fashion accessories which are made by our craftsmen with quality raw materials and extreme attention to detail.

Over time, our canes have become synonymous with elegance Made in Italy.

Our products are successfully exported and sold all over the world.

After all, there is nothing more cosmopolitan than beauty.



**WALKING STICKS**

Handmade in Italy

# Acqua delle Langhe

**Alberto Avetta**



Acqua delle Langhe is a Unesco World Heritage Site since 2014 and exporter of unmistakable wine excellence all over the world. It is from here that the path of Alberto Avetta, creator of the Acqua delle Langhe project and of all the product lines, began.

He always had a passion for perfumes. With determination and a little

daring in 2012 he founded and registered the brand Acqua delle Langhe, and created the first three personal fragrances:

***Cannubi, Villero, and Arborina***

**ACQUA  
DELLE  
LANGHE**



# TRU VIRTU®

## Hi-Tech Wallets Made in Germany

The Safety and protection of personal data and documents come first in relation to our TRU VIRTU® products.

The TRU VIRTU® product philosophy stands for the development of innovative and functional products with protectoral functions combined with a distinctive design and high quality.

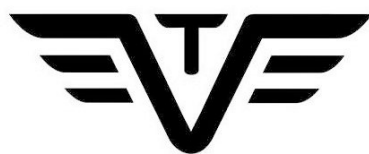
In the process, high-quality materials such as anodized aluminum, high-strength plastics and stainless steel are being used. This is what makes TRU VIRTU® products extremely robust but light at the same time and that is how new product characteristics and functions, e.g. RFID-protection, can be realized.

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TRU VIRTU® - Reduced to the Max!® means maximum functionality at minimum size.

TRU VIRTU®  
HI-TECH WALLETS



GERMANY

# Palazzo Strozzi

## Location



Begun in 1489 by Benedetto da Maiano, for Filippo Strozzi the Elder, the Palazzo Strozzi is an example of civil architecture with its rusticated stone, inspired by the Palazzo Medici, but with more harmonious proportions.

Unlike the Medici Palace, which was sited on a corner lot, and thus has only two sides, this building, surrounded on all four sides by streets, is a free-standing structure. The ground plan of Palazzo Strozzi is rigorously symmetrical on its two axes, with clearly differentiated scales of its principal rooms.

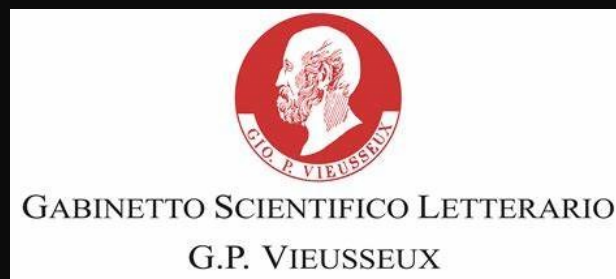
The Palazzo contains many impressive rooms ideal for filming. One room in particular features in the film:

**La Sala Ferri in the Gabinetto Vieusseux**

# Palazzo Strozzi

## Il Gabinetto Vieusseux

The G. P. Vieusseux Gabinetto Scientifico Letterario , founded in 1819 by Giovan Pietro Vieusseux, merchant and publisher from Geneva, is a library in Florence, Italy. It played a vital role in linking the culture of Italy with other European countries in the 19th century, and became one of the chief reference points for the Risorgimento movement.



## Sala Ferri

The elegant Sala Ferri is room in the library used by the G. P. Vieusseux Gabinetto institute's events, meetings, conventions, conferences, and even small exhibitions.

# Hotel Sina Villa Medici

## Location



SINA VILLA MEDICI  
FIRENZE

AUTOGRAPH COLLECTION®  
HOTELS

This handsome heritage 18th-century residence was converted into luxury hotel in 1960, respecting the charm and the history of yore. The Sina Villa Medici continues to attract illustrious visitors as it has done during the years. On the ground floor the hall, the gallery and the lounge bar now have many 20th-century objets d'art, like the beautiful photographs representing Catherine de' Medici and some details of paintings of the Uffizi Gallery created by the artist Marco Lanza for the Sina Villa Medici. The hotel, set in an incomparable lush oasis, boasts a private garden and swimming pool right in the heart of Florence.

The property has a wide range of rooms and suites, from those with garden views to those on the top floor with views on the dome of the Cathedral, the Baptistery and the surrounding hills appearing like framed paintings. The 99 rooms and suites are in both classical and contemporary style and have different types of furnishings with great attention being paid to even the smallest detail.

# Hotel Sina Villa Medici

SINA HOTELS BECOMES PART OF  
THE ITALIAN HISTORICAL BRANDS



# Harry's Bar 1953 Firenze

## Location

### HARRY'S BAR

EXCLUSIVE RESTAURANT FIRENZE

**Since 1953, Harry's is true to its style.**

**Unique and inimitable.**

Always trendy, Harry's Bar has welcomed several generations with its class and innate elegance, in an international atmosphere.

Located on the right bank of the Arno, Harry's Bar is an elegant and venue where you can sip a cocktail or enjoy a refined dinner. Timeless style and tradition in an environment with contemporary taste.

On December 1953, Enrico Mariotti and Raffaello Sabatini created Harry's Bar at Via del Parione in Florence. Their friend Giuseppe Cipriani, patron of the already famous Harry's Bar in Venice, gave them some suggestions: the Cuisine – the gratin noodles, the carpaccio, the shrimp curry, the tartare, the flambéed crepes Grand Marnier, the American Bar – the Bellini, the Martini, the Negroni.

More than 60 years after its birth, Harry's Bar is the undisputed cornerstone of the tradition of the American Bar in Florence.

The secret of this uninterrupted success is the ability to interpret modernity with the continuous renewal of its classic proposal.

Harry's Bar Firenze is proud to have been included by the Daily Meal in the ranking of the 150 best bars in the world and among the top three in Italy.

In 2016 Harry's Bar in Florence became listed as an "Historic Place" in Italy.

# IT'S NOT DARK YET

Film Director

Rossano B. Maniscalchi

Art Director & Screenwriter

Serena Del Nero

Lead Actress

Jasmin Stefanazi

Actress

Greta Pardini

Actor

Lorenzo Provvedi

Actor

Jean-Pierre Xausa

Actor

Giulio Bordone

Actor

Lorenzo Mansi

Actress

Alida Pozzato

Voice Actress

Jo Kern, Noemi Paoli

Voice Actor

Duane March

Film & Music Editing

Alberto Maria Gennuso

Camera Operator

Francesco Buggea

Director of Photography

Rossano B. Maniscalchi

Hair Styling & Makeup

Alida Pozzato

Editing, Translation &

Graphic Design

Duane March

Ms. Stefanazi's wardrobe

RINASCIMENTO

Fashion accessories & sponsors

Walking Sticks

Acqua Delle Langhe

TRU VIRTU® Hi-Tech Wallets

Locations in Florence, Italy

Palazzo Strozzi

G. P. Gabinetto Vieusseux

Hotel Sina Villa Medici

Harry's Bar 1953 Firenze

# IT'S NOT DARK YET

## Special Thanks

**G. P. Vieusseux Gabinetto Scientifico Letterario**

**President Riccardo Nencini**

**Director Michele Rossi**

**Cultural activities: Franco Zabagli, Stefania Morogna**

**Library: Sandra Vallesi, Antonino Safina, Roberta Coppola**

## The Hotel Sina Villa Medici

**Giorgio Rizzetto**

**Alberto Avetta**

**TRU VIRTU®**

**Maryam Howe**

**Walking Sticks**

**Acqua Delle Langhe perfumes & colognes**

**Hi-Tech Wallets Made in Germany**

**for her painting "Shade of Identity"**

## Special Recognition

**Cristiana Papini**

**Fabio Pardini**

**Azzurra Mazzara Toce**

**Sarajo Mariotti**

**Carlo Anzilotti**

**Francesco Bechi**

**"What gives light but endures burning."**

# IT'S NOT DARK YET

## Personal Thanks to

Riccardo Nencini

Azzurra Mazzara Toce

Serena Del Nero

Giorgio Rizzetto

Alberto Maria Gennuso

Maryam Howe

Francesco Buggea

Francesco Bechi

Carlo Anzilotti

Carole Wess

Irene Ferroni

Michael March

Alida Pozzato

Alena Dlabacova'

Sarajo Mariotti

Al Tolstoy

Alberto Avetta

Duane March

Cristiana Papini

Alessandra Pisano

Fabio Pardini

Fred Sweet

Jo Kern

# IT'S NOT DARK YET

Filmed on location 2024 in Florence, Italy



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