

THE SETTLER



MANDATORY AI STATEMENT | ROME AI FILM FESTIVAL

Human intention. Machine imagination. Shared meaning.

"If machines can create and operate without us, what do we still give them?"

THE SETTLER is a 100% AI-generated film, born from a continuous dialogue between human intention and generative technology - a process that mirrors the film's central question: if machines can create and operate without us, what do we still give them?

The concept, story, symbolism, visual language and direction were developed by the filmmaker through an iterative workflow with ChatGPT, used for visual development, image generation and the construction and refinement of detailed prompts.

These AI-generated images established the visual identity of PAINTLESS: an abandoned extraterrestrial ranch where machines reinterpret traces of human culture - from Van Gogh's Sunflowers to Picasso's Guernica - transforming art into functional technology waiting for someone to give it purpose again.

The images were then used as visual references and starting frames in Dreamina, using Seedance for image-to-video generation. Each sequence was iteratively directed through prompts defining camera movement, lighting, character behavior, mechanical transformations, atmosphere, sound and emotional rhythm. Generations were selected and refined to maintain continuity across the film.

The resulting AI-generated footage was finally selected, edited, paced and assembled in CapCut.

The filmmaking process thus became part of the film's meaning: AI generated its images and motion, but human intention gave them purpose, relationships and meaning - precisely what THE SETTLER asks whether we still give to the machines we create.