VALERIA BONO

SAIYFIDIN AYOUBE NOEMI GUGLIETTA ZAKARIA HAMZA
ANNA LAZZERI SAMER SALAMEH LUDOVICO SUCCIO
AND GABRIELE VACIS

THE WAY *THROUGH*

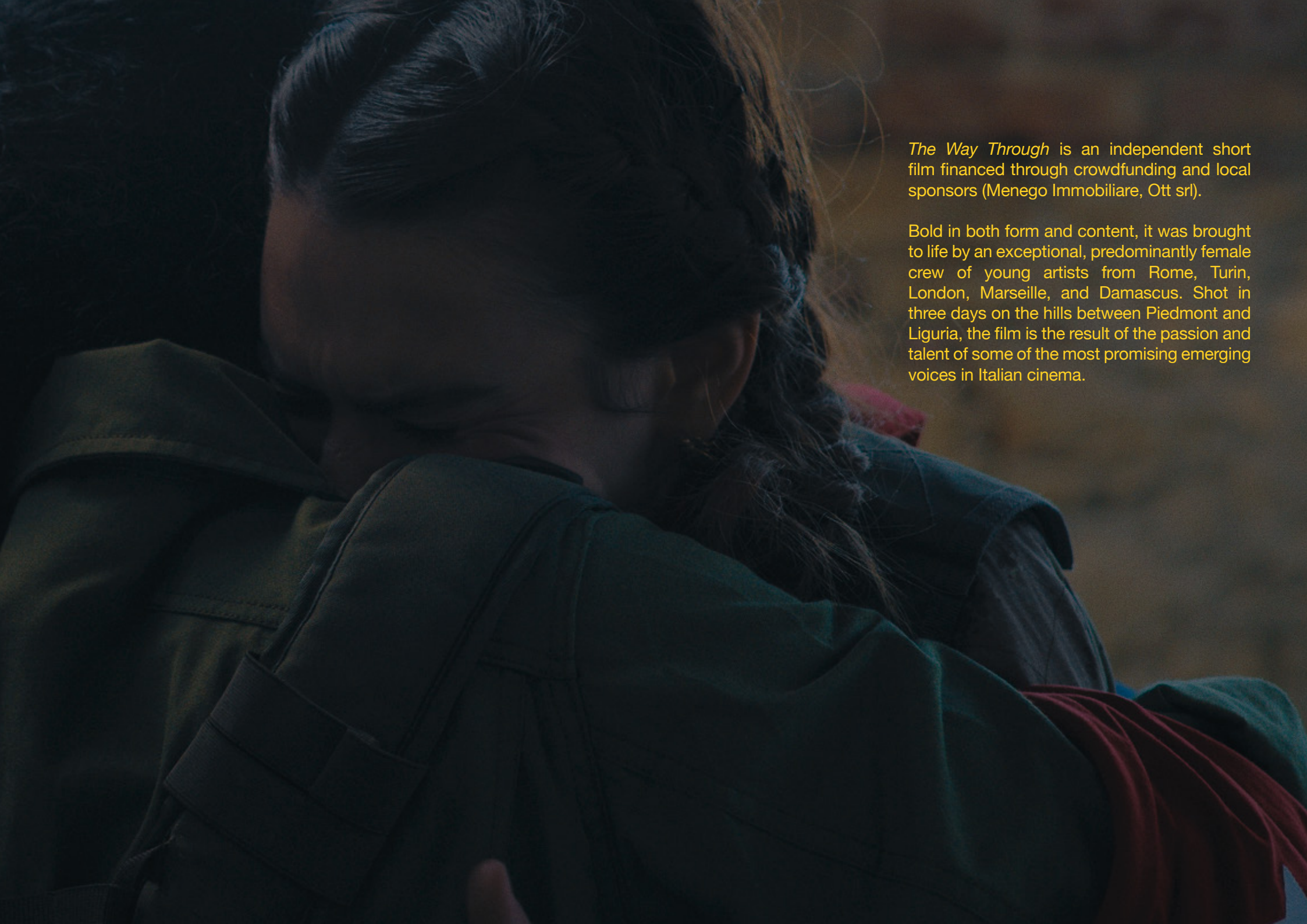
A FILM BY
LUDOVICO SUCCIO

supported by

synopsis_

ITALIA 2035

Mansfield, Stendhal and Buzzati are friends and partisans fighting against the fascists. Engaged in relays of coded messages hidden in ciphered books, they are forced into a race against time: the enemy's about to take the town of Ovada.

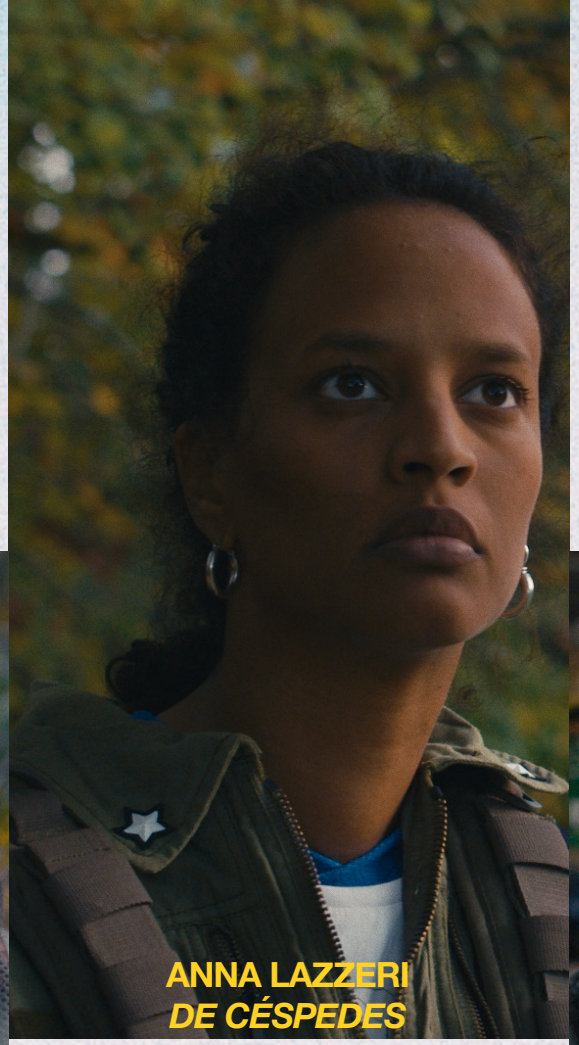


The Way Through is an independent short film financed through crowdfunding and local sponsors (Menego Immobiliare, Ott srl).

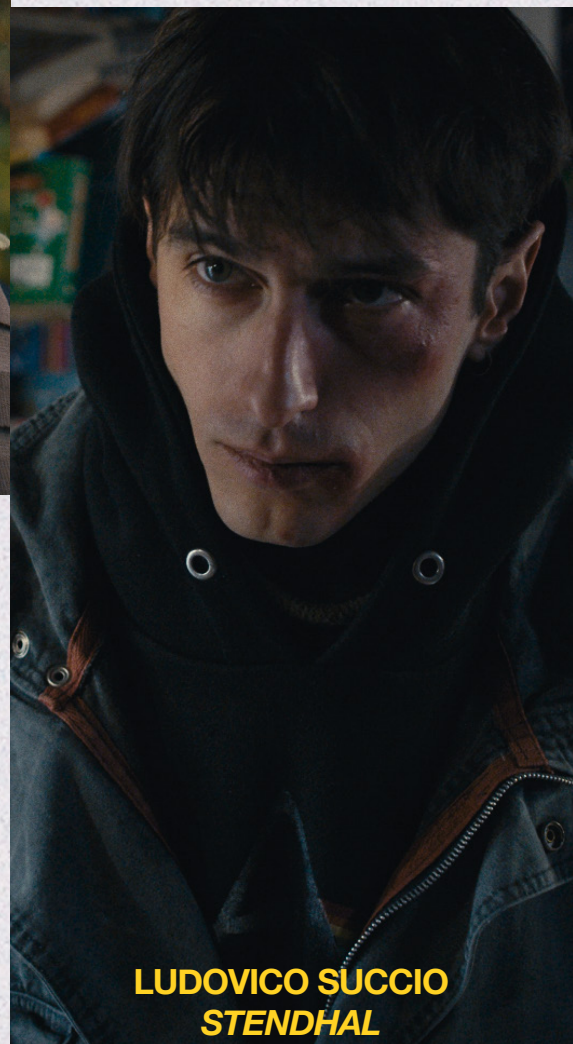
Bold in both form and content, it was brought to life by an exceptional, predominantly female crew of young artists from Rome, Turin, London, Marseille, and Damascus. Shot in three days on the hills between Piedmont and Liguria, the film is the result of the passion and talent of some of the most promising emerging voices in Italian cinema.

VALERIA BONO
MANSFIELD

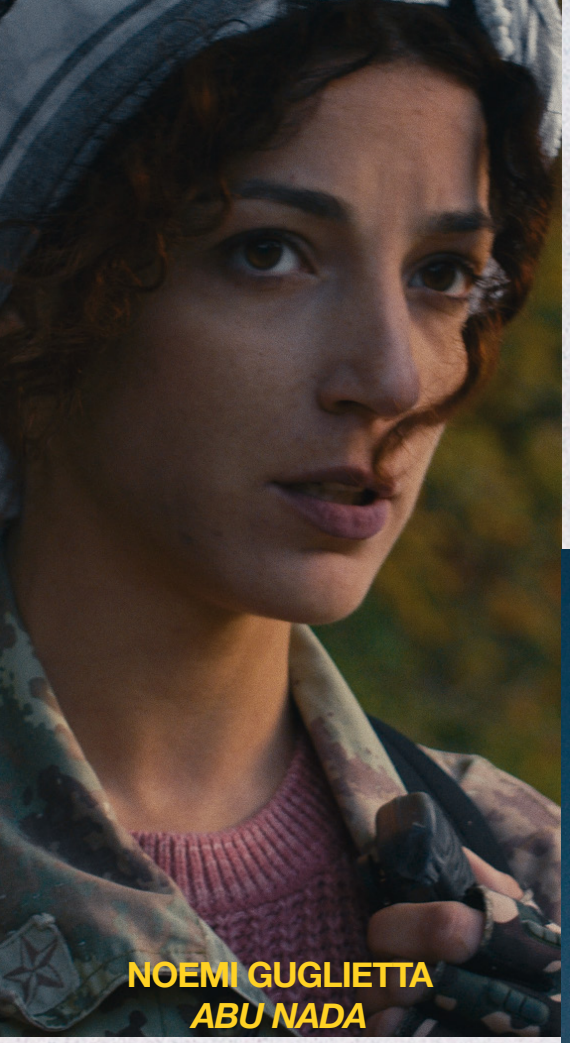
ZAKARIA HAMZA
BUZZATI



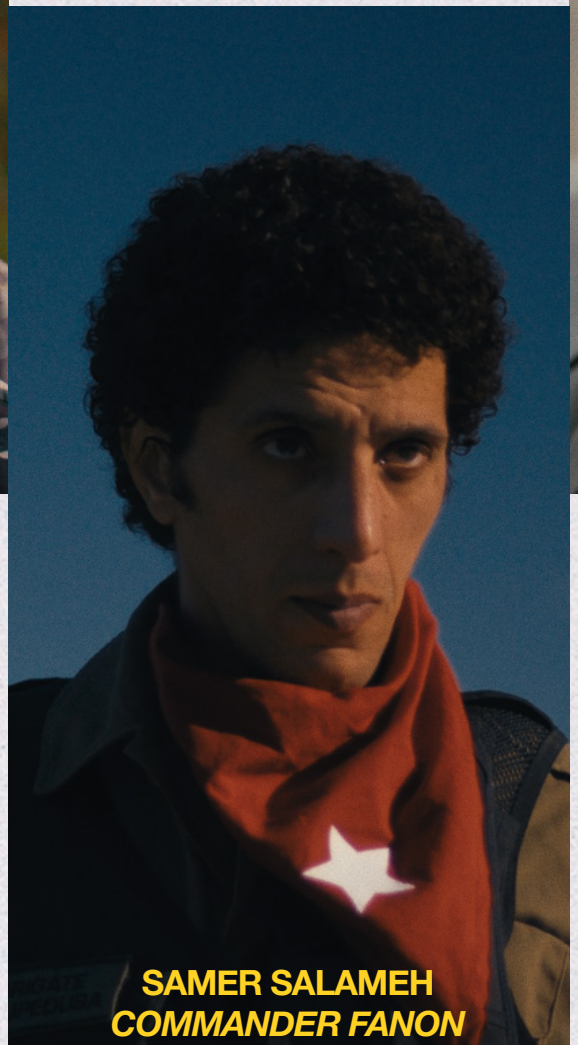
ANNA LAZZERI
DE CÉSPEDES



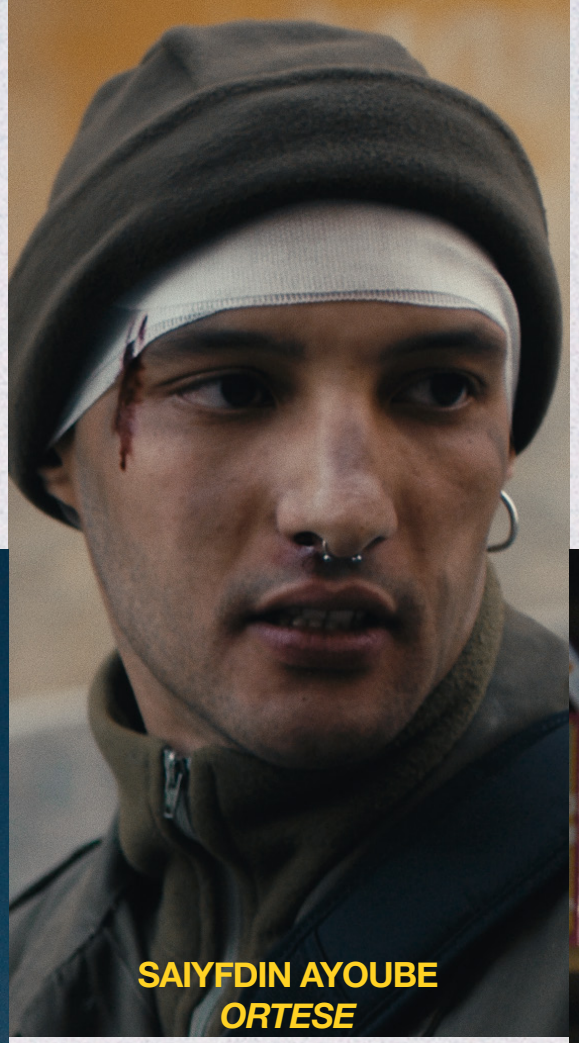
LUDOVICO SUCCIO
STENDHAL



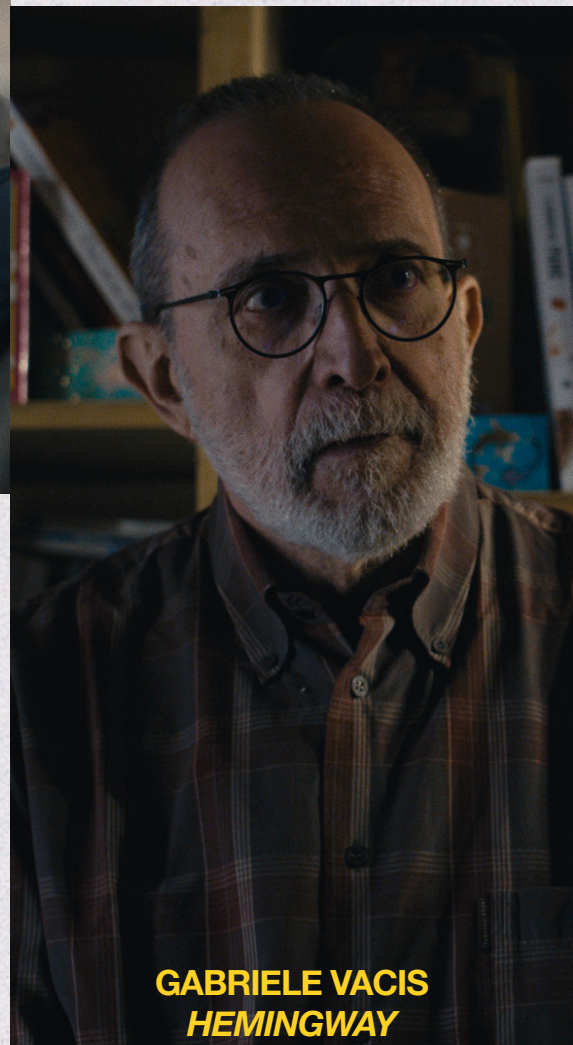
NOEMI GUGLIETTA
ABU NADA



SAMER SALAMEH
COMMANDER FANON



SAIYFDIN AYOUBE
ORTESE



GABRIELE VACIS
HEMINGWAY

director's statement_

We are proud to present ***The Way Through*** (*Il Varco*), a film that looks at the future of Europe through the lens of armed revolution, state violence, and the legacy of colonialism.

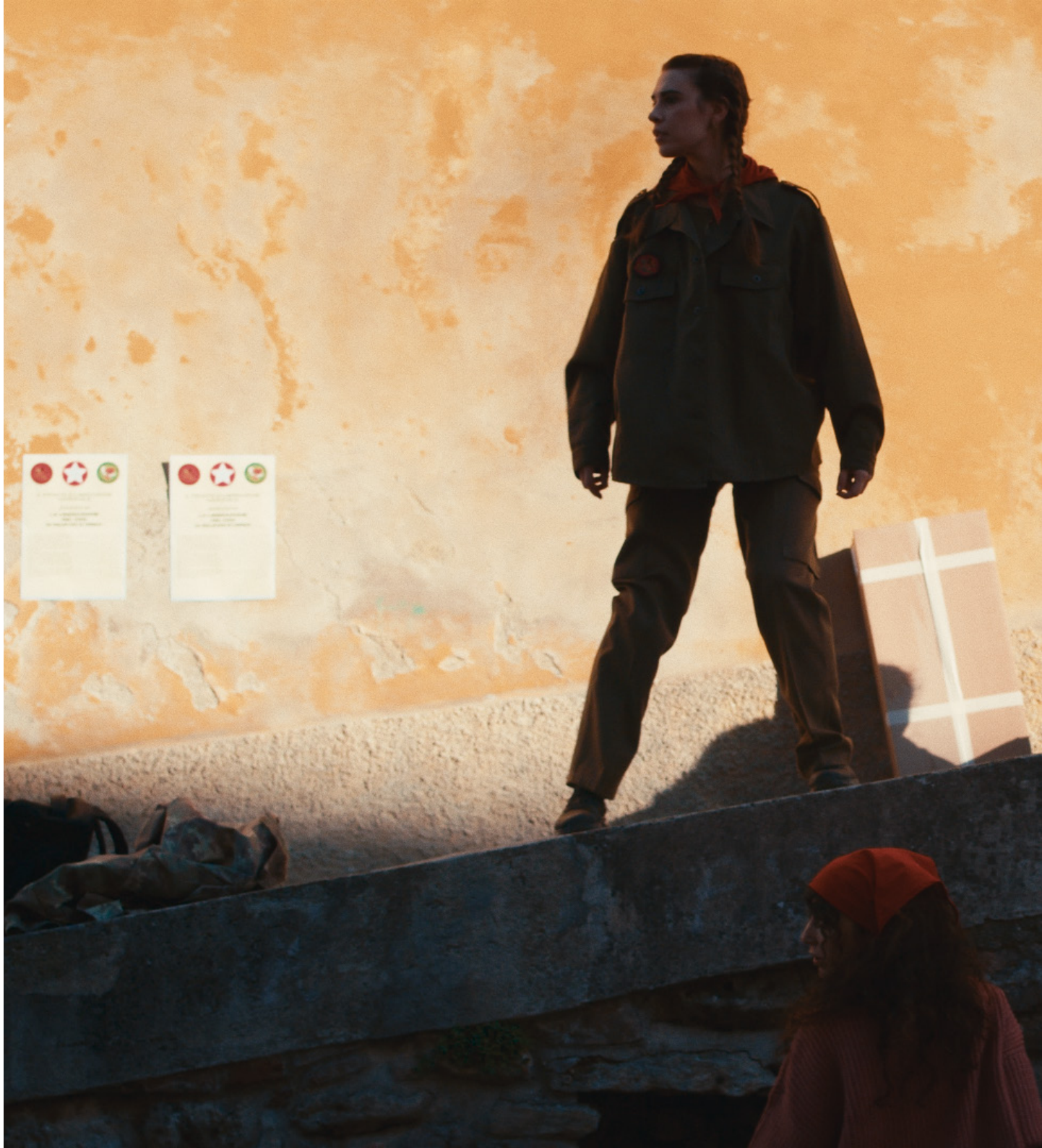
The story is set in Italy, 2035. After a fascist coup, the country is torn apart by civil war. Three revolutionaries (Mansfield, Stendhal, and Buzzati) are fighting against a brutal euro-fascist regime. **Their mission: to deliver a secret communication locked inside a coded book.**

Our film is not a grim reflection on our current situation. Rather, **it is a bold hyperstition: a prophecy filmed before it happens**. **We wrote this film with Gaza, Palestine, Lebanon, Syria, Iran, and Yemen in mind**. We know that imperialism will not be stopped by words alone – or by movies, for that matter. But we also know that art matters, and that art is always political. This is our stance.

We believe that **revolutions are not waited for**. They are built. They are nurtured by feeding the collective imagination.

We have woven a reverse timeline – a red thread that connects the Italian resistance against fascism with the present struggle for Palestinian liberation from zionism. We do not pretend to speak for Palestine. But we believe in the solidarity of struggles: against imperialism, and for a multipolar world.

And after all, despite everything, like all revolutionaries we mostly speak of love. Love for our hills and rivers, for our friends, for art, and for the films that make our lives sweeter and our struggle necessary.



- After all, will it be worth it?

- It's just a matter of time

crew & production_

CLÉMENT TASSART
MEZZI DI PRODUZIONE
OTTO
PRESENT
THE WAY THROUGH
(*Il Varco*)
A FILM BY
LUDOVICO SUCCIO

WITH
SAIYFIDIN AYOUBE
VALERIA BONO
NOEMI GUGLIETTA
ZAKARIA HAMZA
ANNA LAZZERI
SAMER SALAMEH
LUDOVICO SUCCIO
AND
GABRIELE VACIS

SCREENPLAY:
LUDOVICO SUCCIO, ALESSANDRA FORTE,
SEDANUR SAYGILI
CINEMATOGRAPHY: MARGHERITA MARZARI
FIRST CAMERA ASSISTANT: GIOVANNI MARINO
CAMERA SECOND ASSISTANT: GIULIA SALVATORI
LIGHTING TECHNICIAN: CAMILLA TRINCO

ASSISTANT DIRECTOR: MELANIA RUGGIERO
SCRIPT SUPERVISOR: NINA JOTTI

SOUND: JOY RENÈ ABELA
SOUND EDITING: SILVIA ORENGO
SOUND EFFECTS: JONAH BUHAT GARDOSE
COSTUME/PRODUCTION DESIGN: EMILY SCORZATO
COSTUME ASSISTANT AND STYLING: GIACOMO RANIERI
MUA: HOUDA HNIDA

LINE PRODUCER: GUIDO ZANGHI
PRODUCTION ASSISTANT: MARTINA DAGELLE
EDITING: MATTEO SERMAN
ORIGINAL SOUNDTRACK BY: RBSN

MAIN SPONSORS

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OTT SRL

UNDER THE PATRONAGE OF

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NATIONAL ASSOCIATION PARTISANS OF ITALY
OVADA CHAPTER

WITH THE SUPPORT OF THE MUNICIPALITIES OF

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ROSSIGLIONE

PARTNERS

CASCINA BATTURA, ROSSIGLIONE
LIBRERIA BIUNE, OVADA
IL BAFFO, OVADA
ASS. CULT. KANYON, MOLARE

TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS

ORIGINAL TITLE
IL VARCO

INTERNATIONAL TITLE
THE WAY THROUGH

RUNTIME
19’

LANGUAGE
ITALIAN, FRENCH

FORMAT
1.85:1

YEAR
2026

COUNTRY
ITALY

authors_

Ludovico Succio (b. 1995) is an Italian actor and director. A graduate of the Centro Sperimentale di Cinematografia (Rome, 2018), **he made his screen debut in Eugène Green's La Sapienza**, presented at the Locarno Film Festival. He has since worked with directors such as Matteo Rovere (*Il primo Re*), Paolo Virzì (*Siccità*), Andrea De Sica (*I figli della notte*), and Roberto Faenza (*Folle d'amore – Alda Merini*). His television work includes the series *Baby* (Netflix), *1993* (SKY), and *Non uccidere* (RAI), where he developed a strong confidence of both period drama and contemporary storytelling as an actor.

Alongside his acting career, **Succio holds a Master's degree in Publishing and Information Systems from La Sapienza University**, where he also earned a BA in Foreign Languages. He has worked as an editor and marketing specialist for STC Edizioni, gaining experience in content strategy, brand building, and audience development. He is fluent in English and French.

His first short film, *Arsenic*, was shot as part of the Atelier de Création Cinématographique at the Sorbonne. It tells the story of a young student who radicalizes to the far right during the COVID-19 pandemic. **His latest short, *Il Varco*** (The Way Through), is a political science-fiction film set in a dystopian Italy of 2035. **The project was funded through a successful Kickstarter campaign**, received support from local enterprises, municipalities and the National Association Partisans of Italy (ANPI), and was shot by a majority-female crew.

In his work, Succio explores the intersections of politics, collective memory, and resistance, with a particular interest in narratives that fight imperialism and shape new visions for the future.

Alessandra Forte (b. 1995) is a Psychiatry resident at Sapienza University of Rome, where she graduated in Medicine with a thesis on perinatal depression. Her clinical and academic work is driven by a deep commitment to understanding mental health through a social and political lens — a perspective she further developed at the **summer school of the Frantz Fanon Association, where she engaged with postcolonial and critical approaches to psychiatry**.

Alongside her medical career, Forte has always cultivated a profound interest in the arts and their intersection with the human experience. **She believes that storytelling and cinema can offer unique insights into the psyche, particularly in times of collective trauma and political crisis.** This conviction brought her to collaborate with director Ludovico Succio as a screenwriter, contributing to the development of narratives that explore resistance, memory, and the emotional fabric of revolutionary struggle. Her writing for *The Way Through* reflects a rare synthesis of clinical precision and poetic sensitivity, grounding the film's dystopian vision in an authentic understanding of human vulnerability and resilience.

Sedanur Saygılı (b.1995) is a writer and PR & communications professional based in Munich She holds a Master of Arts in English Literature from the University of Göttingen, where her academic interests developed around feminist and postcolonial literature. Across her studies, she was particularly drawn to **writing that places women's voices and experiences at its centre, exploring questions of autonomy, identity and power across different cultural contexts**. Her Master's thesis continued this interest through poetry, examining female empowerment and the ways poetic language can become a means of self-expression and agency.

These interests have shaped her broader fascination with storytelling and with the ways art can translate complex social and political realities into intimate human experience. A long-standing passion for cinema has also taken her to **international film festivals including Cannes, Venice, Berlinale** and Filmfest München, alongside **professional PR work with Garden State Media connected to major film festivals**.

She is a co-writer of *The Way Through*, marking her first screenplay project.

Alessandro Rebesani (b. 1996) is an Italian singer-songwriter and multi-instrumentalist known by the moniker **RBSN**.

His artistic journey began at the Berklee College of Music (2015) and continued at the Leeds College of Music (2018) in the UK, where he encountered London's vibrant nu-jazz scene. This period led to collaborations with Sofar London and the Tate Modern, before returning to Italy to share the stage with artists such as Anna Calvi, The Blaze, Rareş, Venerus, Daniela Pes, and Willie Peyote.

Rebesani's work fuses jazz roots with songwriting, electronics, psychedelia, and soul influences. In 2022 he became the first Italian artist signed to New York label Ropeadope, releasing his debut album *Stranger Days*. His latest album, *Here*, released in November 2025, represents a milestone in his artistic maturity, exploring introspection, experimentation, and a return to musical craftsmanship.

The soundtrack for the short film The Way Through is his first OST. In his work, Rebesani carves the spacetime of rhythm with eerie yet familiar voices and sounds, reminiscent of a future nostalgia for revolutions yet to come.

festivals and screenings_

Palestine House London Film Festival
11–13 September 2026
London, UK
World Premiere

Micro μ Festival
23 September 2026
Athens, GREECE
Audience Favourite
Best International Short Film

Verona International Short Film Festival
15 December 2026
Verona, Italy
Semifinalist

Athens International Monthly Festival
September 2026
Athens, GREECE
Honorable Mention

Alessandria Film Festival
24 October 2026
Alessandria, ITALY

FLIGHT - Mostra Internazionale del
Cinema di Genova
15 October 2026
Genova, ITALY