

Produced by **ARTICOLTURE**
In association with **APAPAJA**

FEDELE

ALLA

LINEA

***GIOVANNI
LINDO
FERRETTI***

FAITHFUL TO THE LINE

A Film by **GERMANO MACCIONI**

Press Book

HOW TO PORTRAY ONE OF THE MOST CHARISMATIC AND UNCONVENTIONAL POETS OF THE PAST DECADES. HOW TO RECOUNT THE HUMAN AND ARTISTIC SAGA OF GIOVANNI LINDO FERRETTI, TO CONVEY THE COMPLEXITY OF A CHARACTER WHO PROVOKES CONTRASTING EMOTIONS AND OPINIONS.

GIOVANNI LINDO FERRETTI

Giovanni Lindo Ferretti is one of the most original and important Italian artists and thinkers. Artistically he is considered one of the fathers of Italian punk, and the story of *CCCP – Fedeli alla linea* (CCCP Loyal to the Line), followed by *CSI* (Consorzio di Suonatori Indipendenti or Consortium of Independent Players) marks an important step in the history of Italian rock, bringing the Emilia province to the universal music scene. His involvement in music, literature and theater has made him an important reference point for many generations.

Born in Cerreto Alpi, a small village in Emilia Romagna's Apennine Mountains, after completing his studies in Reggio Emilia and being involved with the extra-parliamentary radical group *Lotta Continua*, Lindo Ferretti traveled around Europe. In East Berlin he met Massimo Zamboni, with whom he founded the band *CCCP - Fedeli alla linea* (CCCP Loyal to the Line), the Cyrillic lettering for SSSR (i.e. USSR) in 1982. The band dissolved in 1990. In 1992 with Massimo Zamboni he founded a new band called *CSI*, which continued until 2000. From 2002, he led the band *PGR*, an abbreviation of *Per Grazia Ricevuta* (For Grace Received). This is a stock phrase usually attached to mementos acknowledging miraculous divine gifts. The new band name, in fact, marked his own rediscovery of his Catholic roots.

Over the past ten years, which coincide with his return to his childhood home in the Apennines, Ferretti has divided his time between solo works and collaborations with other artists, the creation of an equestrian theater, and an intense literary career. Lindo Ferretti currently lives in his native village.

SYNOPSIS

Giovanni Lindo Ferretti, a public personality and a private man. Over the years Ferretti's strong thinking has intrigued his fans and the public, attracting criticism and misinterpretations.

An intimate conversation between the walls of his home, retracing his existence: from the Apennines to Mongolia, through success, sickness and the unraveling of an ideology. Finally the return home to his mountains, and the rediscovery of a centuries-old tradition. All the while his latest, ambitious project is being prepared *Saga. Il Canto dei Canti*, an epic equestrian opera which tells of the ageless bond between men, horses and mountains.

DIRECTOR'S NOTE

How to portray one of the most charismatic and unconventional poets of the past decades. How to recount the human and artistic saga of Giovanni Lindo Ferretti, to convey the complexity of a character who provokes contrasting emotions and opinions.

Faithful to the Line is a conversation, strengthened by a certain alchemy that allows a glimpse of those spaces, physical and non, which are usually off limits, along with an unusual perspective on the persona.



A strong political-intellectual view and a punk attitude, Christianity and Communism, popular music and chanting, stage and stable: existential questions and family history that trace an anti-conformist path.

Words, the first form of technology, are juxtaposed with the physical stateliness and the pure animal strength of the horses, silent witnesses to a new singular project, yet at the same time the focal point of past decisions, creating a constant aesthetic counter-melody.

Thoughts mark the journey, creating rhythm, breathing life into staid scenes with slow but steady breaths, where the past alternates with new material, accompanying and amplifying the story.

Thus the discovery of precious archival footage was fundamental to the narrative structure of the film: previously unseen images of *CCCP-Fedeli alla linea* in Berlin during the years of the Wall, photos from the early concerts by Umberto Negri, one of the group's founders along with Ferretti and Zamboni, VHS recordings from the Fondo Valdesalici, family photos, scenes from Luca Gasparini's film *Tempi Moderni*, and from the trip to Mongolia documented in Davide Ferrario's *Sul 45° parallelo*.

A fascination with Soviet cinema led me on daring forays into the works of one of the masters of the '20s, and to the discovery of a possible relationship between the sound of CCCP-CSI and the Russian aesthetic of that period.

Images of the mountains from the previous century evoke a part of that lost archaic world, *the force of the past* invoked by Pasolini. Lindo Ferretti demonstrates this through his use of words, his relationship with tradition, Christianity and his incessant quest for religiosity, or the ability to see in a ruin or in an ancient cobblestone road years of the force of human creation.

Leaving behind the *Paranoid Emilia* our gaze falls on the Appennine mountain peaks, the abandoned villages, the old Transhumant road, which still runs across the valleys.

Finally, Music, where the essence of his work lies. The role of music here goes beyond that of a soundtrack, it gives shape to Ferretti's thoughts and words: running the gamut from the rough and cutting-edge early CCCP to recent live sets, bare and direct, and finally to the ambitious experimental staging of a barbaric theater of men, horses and mountains.



DIRECTOR

GERMANO MACCIONI was born in Bologna in 1978.

As Director and Actor he has worked in theater and film with Giancarlo Cobelli, Kim Rossi Stuart, Franco Branciaroli, Giorgio Diritti, Franco Maresco, among others. In 2007-2008 he directed the documentary film *Lo Stato di Eccezione* (The State of Exception), which followed the trial for the Monte Sole massacre. The film was presented at numerous festivals between 2008 and 2009, including Giornate degli Autori – Venice Days at the Venice Film Festival. It was published on DVD by the Cineteca di Bologna, and purchased by RAI for national television. In 2009 Maccioni directed *My main man. Appunti per un film sul Jazz a Bologna* (My Main Man. Notes for a film about jazz in Bologna). In 2011 he directed Roberto Herlitzka, Angela Baraldi and Tatti Sanguineti in *Cose naturali* (Natural Things), his first fictional short film, which has received over twenty awards to date, including the Premio Antonioni for Best Director at Bif&st Bari International Film Festival, and was nominated for the Nastri d'argento and the Mibac Film d'Essai. In 2012 he directed *I giorni scontati*, a documentary shot entirely in a prison.

PRODUCTION

ARTICOLTURE is a film production company in Bologna.

Since 2008 it has created and carried out diverse audiovisual products, including the documentary *Stimati tempi di cottura* (Estimated Cooking Time, 2008), presented at Slow Food on Film 2009; the feature documentary film *My Main Man. Appunti per un film sul Jazz a Bologna* (My Main Man. Notes for a film about jazz in Bologna, 2009), created with the support of the Emilia-Romagna Region and in collaboration with Rai Teche, published by Ermitage and distributed by Cecchi Gori Home Video; the short fictional *Cose naturali* (Natural Things, 2011), with Roberto Herlitzka, Angela Baraldi and Tatti Sanguineti, directed by Germano Maccioni and winner of Bif&st 2011.

APAPAJA is a film production company founded by Simone Bachini, producer of Giorgio Diritti's films *Il Vento fa il suo giro* (The Wind Blows Round, 2005), *L'uomo che verrà* (The Man Who Will Come, 2009), awarded in 2010 at the Festival del Cinema di Roma, with the David di Donatello and at the Nastri d'argento, and *Un giorno devi andare* (There will come a day, 2013) previewed at the Sundance Film Festival. Besides *Fedele alla linea* (Faithful to the line), Apapaja is currently in pre-production of *Borsalino City*, a documentary film by Enrica Viola, and in development of *Il Vegetariano* (The Vegetarian), by Roberto San Pietro and *Il Cuore é uno Zingaro* (Gipsy Heart), by Claudio Casadio, with whom Bachini has been selected for Ateliers du Cinéma Européen.

TECHNICAL SPECS

(Italy/2013 – 74')

PRODUCTION
Articulture

IN ASSOCIATION WITH
Apapaja

DIRECTOR
Germano Maccioni

SUBJECT AND SCREENPLAY
Germano Maccioni

PRODUCERS
Ivan Olgiati, Stefania Marconi

ASSOCIATE PRODUCER
Simone Bachini

DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY
Marcello Dapporto

EDITING
Walter Cavatoi, Germano Maccioni

MUSIC
CCCP – CSI – Lorenzo Esposito Fornasari

DIRECT SOUND
Fabrizio Cabitza

PRESS OFFICE AND PROMOTION
Francesco Tosi, Chiara Galloni

FORMAT
HD 1.78, Color, Stereo

LANGUAGE
Italian

SUBTITLES
English

ARTICOLTURE

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