

28TFF
TORINO FILM FESTIVAL

ITALIANA.DOC

SPEZZACATENE

by Stefano Savona

**Lotus Production
Pulsemedia**

presents

SPEZZACATENE

a film by
STEFANO SAVONA

produced by **Marco Belardi** for **Lotus Production**

produced by **Roberto Ruini** for **Pulsemedia**

IN THE OFFICIAL COMPETITION AT THE 28° TORINO FILM FESTIVAL - SECTION ITALIANA.DOC

SPEZZACATENE

■ technical information

Nationality	Italian
Year of production	2010
Language	Italian and Sicilian
Subtitles	Italian
Running time	79 minuti
Format	Digibeta
Directed by	Stefano Savona
Cinematography	Stefano Savona, Ester Sparatore
Interviews	Letizia Gullo, Stefano Savona
Edited by	Stefano Savona
Sound	Letizia Gullo
Inspections and word processing	Alessia Porto
Music	Paolo Anello
Executive production	Fausto Rizzi for Pulsemedia
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NON-CONTRACTUAL CREDITS

SPEZZACATENE

■ synopsis ■ director's notes

■ synopsis

Six farmers, men and women born in Sicily during the first thirty years of the last century, tell about when they were hungry and about how they had themselves finally fill.

Will of a missing society and late collection of stories never told before, these witnesses reveal us the single persons' passions behind the silent reality of exploitation and burden. From the protagonists' unexpected words emerges what a heroic adventure is the subsistence. These picaresque tales, which are far away from bucolic stereotypes and from the redemptive and salvific work rhetoric, reveal an original landscape, a territory of stories and memories that verges kilometer after kilometer in the variety of faces and places.

■ director's notes

This editing assembles, in movie form, some of the hundred of oral witnesses that we collected during the last two years to realize an audiovisual archive of memories of the peasant in Sicily, which we decided to call "Il Pane di San Giuseppe". Fielding a very simple and, as far as possible, uniform recording device, we asked men and women born in Sicily before the 1930 to tell the story of their life, starting from the memory of their relationship with the food – its procurement, its preparation and consummation – from the meals that signed the key moments of each one of our protagonist's life. 1930 seemed to us a good distinction between the ones became adults before and the ones after the economic boom that progressively from the 50s swept across the Sicilian countryside, a territory that, while the new welfare was finally freeing large part of the population from the slavery of need, knew in few years a real revolution of the lifestyles, the points of references, the public imagination, through a process in which the sudden substitution of the new value system to the values inherited from a tradition of centuries ago, often took the characteristic of displacement and trauma.

Giving voice to the last witnesses and protagonists of a by then missing society, our archive would like to be a contribution, maybe delayed but, precisely for this reason, more urgent and needed, not only for the reconstruction of that memory, but also for the readmission of that forgotten heritage in the estate of our times culture.

Stefano Savona

SPEZZACATENE

■ the director ■ the production

■ the director

Stefano Savona (Palermo, 18th December 1969), studied archaeology and anthropology in Rome and took part to several archaeological digs in Sudan, Egypt, Turkey and Israel. In 1995 he began working as an independent photographer. From 1999 he devotes himself mainly to directing and producing documentary movies. He produced several video installations – among them we can recall the one for the collective exhibitions *La Città Infinita* (2003) and *Dreams* (2004) at the Triennale di Milano, *D-Day* (2005) at the Centre Pompidou of Parigi, *Bombay - Maximum City* (2006) at the Espace Tri-Postal of Lille. Moreover he produced the feature documentaries: *Roshbash Badolato* (1999), *Un Confine di Specchi* (2002), *Primavera in Kurdistan* (2006) and *Piombo Fuso* (2009), presented at the Festival di Locarno in the section Cinéastes Du Présent, in which he won the Special Prize of the Jury.

Filmography

2010 *Spezzacatene*, direction, documentary, 79', prod. Lotus Production e Pulsemedia
2009 *Piombo Fuso (Cast Lead)*, direction, documentary, 82'; prod. Pulsemedia
2009 *Diario da Gaza*, direction, documentary, 54'; prod. Pulsemedia in collaborazione con Rai Doc3.
2008 *Il Tuffo della Rondine*, direction, documentary, 46'; con Massimo Zamboni; prod. Pulsemedia e Vivo Film
2006 *Primavera in Kurdistan* direction, documentary, 80'; prod. JBA Parigi e Minimum Fax
2002 *Un Confine di Specchi*, direction, documentary, 72'; prod. Tipota Movie Company
2002 *I Formalisti Siciliani nel Cinema*, screenplay e co-direction con Marco Alessi, cortometraggio, 15'; prod. Maat
2001 *Alfabe, abbecedario curdo*, direction, documentary, 20'; prod. Associazione Un Ponte per...
1999 *Roshbash Badolato*, direction, documentary, 80'; con Anselmo De Filippis; prod. Maat

■ the production

LOTUS PRODUCTION is a television and cinema production company that was founded in 2004 by Marco Antonio Belardi. The society commands a large post-production section, which is always in the lead as regards technology and with valuable human resources. Among the cinema productions and co-productions of the Lotus Production, in addition to the recent Stefano Savona's movie *Spezzacatene* (79', 2010) in competition in the section Italiana.doc of the Torino Film Festival 2010, we can recall: *Viaggio in Italia* (2007) starring Licia Maglietta and Antonio Catania directed by Paolo Genovese and Luca Miniero, a "sperimental" project produced for the television program Ballarò (Raitre): *In Coda ai titoli* (2004) by R. Paletti, documentary chosen at the International Rome Film Festival 2004 in the section Extra; *Ça Rend Heueux* (2004) film by Joachim in competition at the 59th Festival del Cinema di Locarno (co-production Belgium-Italy). In 2009 it produced, together with the Medusa Film Spa, the movie "Amore 14", based on the homonymous novel by Federico Moccia directed by the writer himself. At the present time Paolo Genovese's last movie, titled "Immaturo", is in editing phase; its release is estimated in 2011.

Ideation, production and distribution of movies, documentaries and multimedia works are at the core of the activities of **PULSEMEDIA**.

After producing Stefano Savona's movies *Il Tuffo della Rondine*, 46', - co-production with Vivo Film and Castagneda - *Diario da Gaza*, 54', 2009, together with Rai Doc 3 and *Piombo Fuso*, 82', 2009, documentary movie winner of the Special Jury Prize at the Locarno Film Festival in 2009, of the Special Jury Prize Ciné Cinéma Cineasti del Presente and at the Annecy Cinéma Italien 2010 the Grand Prize of the Jury as best documentary, **PULSEMEDIA** takes part, in co-production with the Lotus Production, in the Italiana.doc section of the Torino Film Festival with the new work of the Palermitan director *Spezzacatene* (79', 2010), produced together with the contribution of the Regione Siciliana, project APQ named "Il Pane di Giuseppe".

Another recent work, in competition at the Italiana.doc of the Torino Film Festival 2010, too, is *Il Popolo che Manca* (75', 2010); this is a feature documentary by Andrea Fenoglio and Diego Mometti produced by **PULSEMEDIA**, in co-production with the Fondazione Nuto Revelli Onlus and with the contribution of Piemonte Doc Film Fund and Regione Piemonte.

In 2009 in co-production with Rai Cinema and the support of the Film Commission Torino Piemonte the **PULSEMEDIA** worked on the documentary *La Nascita della Luce - I capolavori del Museo Egizio di Torino* by Gianni Barcelloni Corte and Giorgio Montefoschi (72', 2009).

Several works are now in developing or in post-production phase, they are: *Beat Crazy*, docu-fiction directed by Luca Pastore and written by Claudio Piersanti, starred by Roberto 'Freak' Antoni, and with the contribution of the Regione Emilia-Romagna and the Cineteca di Bologna; *Pier Vittorio Tondelli, La dinamica dei desideri*, documentary movie directed by Enza Negroni, produced with the contribution of the Film Commission Emilia-Romagna; *Il Segno e la Voce*, by Nicola Nannavecchia, produced with the contribution of the Film Commission Emilia-Romagna.

From 2010 Pulsemedia signed the first web festival of the documentary *ViaEmiliaDocFest* (www.viaemiliadocfest.tv).