



BAD WEATHER

a film by Giovanni Giommi

Germany / UK 2011

82 min

ma.ja.de. filmproduktion, Cornbread Films, Century Films and ZDF

in association with ARTE, YLE, NRK

Supported by Mitteldeutsche Medienförderung and the MEDIA Programme of the European Union

World Sales:

Deckert Distribution

Marienplatz 1

04103 Leipzig, Germany

Phone: +49. 341. 215 66 38

Fax: +49. 341. 215 66 39

e-mail: info@deckert-distribution.com

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Country of production: Germany / UK
Year of production: 2011
Length: 82 min
Shooting format: HD
Screening format: HD-Cam, Digi Beta Pal (16:9, stereo)
Language: Bengali
Subtitles: English
Color: color

Production: ma.ja.de. filmproduktion, Cornbread Films, Century Films and ZDF
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Synopsis: BAD WEATHER tells the story of Banishanta Island. It is made up of a community of sex workers. Living on a tiny sliver of land 100 meters long and only ten meters wide in the Bay of Bengal, south Bangladesh, this community survives at the front line of climate change. The rising river, soil erosion and frequent cyclones are slowly destroying what is left of the island. Razia, Khadija and Shephalie, three of the last 65 women left living there, are in a battle for their homes, the future of their families, and even their quest for true love. As they strive to hold onto their livelihood, time is running out. Soon the whole of Banishanta will be totally submerged under water, making it one of the first real casualties of the shifting global environment.

Director's statement: In the social heterotopia of the brothel island of Banishanta (Bangladesh), folly, destiny, love, richness, body, social demands and childhood take on unpredictable traits - sometimes contradictory- but powerfully vivid and authentic. Keeping these arguments of universal character as a main trajectory, the film tells the story of a few women of the island to try to depict a collective affresco of this extraordinary as much as precarious community of sexual workers. (Giovanni Giommi)

Festivals: Dok Leipzig 2011, Germany
IDFA Amsterdam 2011, Netherlands
Torino IFF 2011, Italy
DocPoint Helsinki 2012, Finland

DocPoint Tallinn 2012, Estonia
ZagrebDox 2012, Croatia (**Special Mention**)
Festival Cinema Africano Asia America Latina Milano 2012, Italy
Visions du Réel Nyon 2012, Switzerland
Documentary Edge 2012, New Zealand
DocAviv Tel-Aviv 2012, Israel
Planete Doc Review Warsaw 2012, Poland
Bellaria FF 2012, Italy (**Best Italian Doc Award**)
Pärnu IDF 2012, Estonia
Galway Film Fleadh 2012, Rep. Of Ireland
Women's FF Chennai 2012, India
Lemesos IDF 2012, Cyprus
Message to Man St. Petersburg IFF 2012, Russia
Vancouver IFF 2012, Canada
nominated for Cinema for Peace Award 2012

Credits

Author, Director and DoP: Giovanni Giommi
Sound: Igor Francescutti, Bruno Pappalettera
Editor: Fabio Capalbo
Music: Ursula Schifflin
Commissioning Editors: Sabine Bubeck-Paaz, Martin Pieper (ZDF / ARTE)
Producers: Heino Deckert, Carlotta Mastrojanni, Brian Hill
World Sales: Deckert Distribution

Biography / Filmography Giovanni Giommi

Graduated at the faculty of Architecture at the Politecnico of Milan and in the same city frequented the Civil School of Cinema. In 1997 he starts to work as author, producer and director for Tele+ and MTV Italia (Com'è; Brand:New, Pavlov).

“Nel Cuore delle Alghe e dei Coralli - I Cento Passi di Peppino Impastato” is his first documentary and tells of the story of Peppino Impastato. The film is shot in 2000 during the filming of the homonymous film by Marco Tullio Giordana in Cinisi and it is divided between the fiction set of the film and the real characters of the story.

“Beisbol”, his second documentary, shot in 2001, tackles the theme of baseball in Cuba. A lens through which to take a second look at the state of the Cuban Revolution 40 years on from the declaration “O Patria o Muerte!”(Kodak prize at the festival Sport Movies & TV 2001).

In 2003 thanks to Filmmaker he produces the documentary **“NICE!”**, the story of Ronald, a young Filipino in Milan, divided between his work as a house helper and the world of basketball playing grounds for citizens.

In the same year he films “**Frames-Variazioni per Catena di Montaggio**”, a 13 minute corporate video (commissioned by a window factory in the North-East) that features short but intense portraits of the workers met along the chain; for this work he receives a special mention for the Cipputi Prize at the Turin Film Festival in 2005.

In 2005 he begins his collaboration with Massimo Coppola for the TV doc series “**Avere Ventanni**” (MTV Italy) that in the space of four years allows them to tell the story of Italy at the turn of the century, realizing more than 20 documentaries dedicated to the stories of the 20 year old kids resident in our country. The series wins the prize for Best Program of the Year at MEI 2005 and the Public Jury Prize at the Bizzari Film Festival in 2005.

In 2006 he presents the documentary “**Politica Zero**” at the Turin Film Festival (co-directed with M.Coppola and A. Piccinini), a tale of the last months of the Italian election campaign in 2006 following the four youngest candidates: Mara Carfagna (Forza Italia), Giorgia Meloni (AN), Arturo Scotto (DS), Francesco Caruso (RC).

In 2007 he realizes for Mercurio Cinematografica “**Les Ninjas du Japon**” a documentary film on the participation of a young team of 5 Japanese cyclists at the Tour du Faso, the most important and difficult stage race in the African continent. A pretext to tell the story of two opposing universes that meet in Burkina Faso (Africa and Japan) 20 years from the political murder of Thomas Sankara. (Avanti! Prize at the Torino Film Festival in 2007; Silver Magnolia Award Best Social Documentary Shanghai Film Festival 2008; Best Documentary Feature Award Austin Film Festival 2008.)

“**Parafernalìa**” in 2008 takes us to the lucid folly of the world of Brazilian Evangelicals, where for the first time in history and without hesitation, religion is transformed into Spectacle and Business. Ana Carolina Dias at 13 is considered one of the most famous preachers in Brazil. Accompanied by her father, (ex military police fired following a severe condemnation), Ana meets masses of believers to whom she recounts she died at the age of 3 and was resuscitated thanks to the direct mediation of her father with Christ. The film was selected at the Locarno Film Festival of 2008 and the Courmayeur Noir in Film Festival 08.