

Mario Brenta

Mario Brenta was born in Venice. First professional experiences in the advertising field; at the beginning as a graphic designer, then as a screenwriter for television commercials.

But cinema is his real interest, so he moved to Rome where he worked for several years as an assistant director and screenwriter. During this period he was able to shoot his first short films and to collaborate in parallel to some television broadcasts.

His debut feature, *Vermisat* - a story of marginalization, of conflict between cultures - is a bit of a revelation of the year. Invited to the official selection at the Venice Film Festival in 1974, he received the Golden Grolla for the Opera Prima and the Special Jury Prize (ex-aequo with Billy Wilder's *Front page*) at the Valladolid International Festival. Together with *Professione Reporter* of Antonioni and *Allonsanfàn* of the Taviani brothers, he is in the Rizzoli Prize final trio for the best film of the 74/75 season.

But the following years are dedicated above all to documentary: he collaborates with RAI 1, with Sept-Arté and Antenne 2 in France and with Svenska Film Institutet in Sweden. We have so *Jamais de la vie!* (1983) presented at Cannes "Un certain regard", and *Effetto Olmi* (1982) and *Robinson in laguna* (1985) both in official selection at the Locarno Festival and the latter awarded in Venice.

The return to fiction was in 1988 with the feature film *Maicol*, a nocturnal, metropolitan, minimal and terrible story about a single mother and her five-year-old child, which won the "Film et Jeunesse" award (Cannes1988) and, again in France, the Georges Sadoul Prize (ex-aequo with *Sweetie* by Jane Campion) as best foreign film of the year 1989 and the prize of the International Confederation of Cinema d'Art et Essai. The film was produced and shot entirely in the context of Ipotesi Cinema - a film studio, designed by Ermanno Olmi and of which Mario Brenta was one of founders and director of education for more than two decades.

Barnabo delle montagne 1994, filmic work of magical realism based on the first novel by Dino Buzzati, produced in co-production with France and Switzerland and with the contribution of Rai Uno and the European Community, was presented in competition at Cannes and got everywhere prestigious awards: from the Italy Award "Cinema and Society" as the best film of the year 1994, to the Grand Prize at the International Mediterranean Film Festival of Montpellier in France, to the Prize for the Best Director and the Special Critics Award at the International Film Festival Latin in Gramado (Brazil), to the Quality Award of the Ministry of Cultural Heritage; from the Grand Prix at the International Mountain Festival of Trento (1995) and at Diablerets in Switzerland (1996) to the "Ciak d'Oro" as best film of the year for the costumes and the "Nestor Almendros" Plate for the best photography, both in 1995.

Body to Body (2014), Prague Art Festival Grand Prix, *Black Light* (2015), *Agnus Dei* (2012), *Calle de la Pietà* (2010) all co-directed with Karine de Villers and both honored in Leeuwarden (Holland) and Tetuan (Morocco), *Delta Park* (2016), Grand Prix Festival of Fez and International Film Festival "San Giò" of Verona, *The Cat's Smile* (2019) Grand Prize International Festival "Cinemambiente" of Turin and *La pièce* (2011), the latter in co-direction with Denis Brotto, which received wide recognition internationally and of which Brenta also signed photography, marked the return to the creation documentary.

Parallel to the cinematographic profession, Mario Brenta carries out activities as a Professor of Theories and Techniques of Film Language and Iconology of Cinema at the University of Padua where he also collaborates on the Screenplay Master.

He was also teaching Film Directing at the film school of the Lazio Region "Gian Maria Volonté" and at the Cinema and Television Academy of Cinecittà as well as visiting professor at the Centro Sperimentale di Cinematografia, FEMIS of Paris, INSAS of Brussels, ISMAC of Rabat, HEAD of Geneva and various foreign universities including: Paris Sorbonne, Nice, Amiens, Valladolid, Segovia, Salamanca, Aix-en-Provence, Tetuan, Vancouver.

NOTE.

I take this opportunity to add to this curriculum a technical note due to the fact that I noticed that the window for the insertion of the three links related to the films, plus the one related to the category "A" festival, have problems in accepting the addresses of the various sites although these are correct and work properly.

Which is why I allow myself to insert them below and to report to you at the same time that, as far as my other films are concerned, there are no internet links but, if required, they are available in file or DVD format.

LINK VIMEO IL SORRISO DEL GATTO - JoleFilm

Version française Le sourire du chat: <https://vimeo.com/275262860>

password: SORRISO_15062018

Versione italiana: <https://vimeo.com/274084931>

pw: sorriso_08062018

English version The Cat's Smile: <https://vimeo.com/278642432>

pw: Sorriso_ENG_060718

Delta Park sottotitoli in italiano

<https://vimeo.com/171540015>

password : mario

Delta Park sous-titres français

<https://vimeo.com/filmflamme/review/164151045/0aafb2446a>

password: polygone

Delta Park english sub-titles

<https://vimeo.com/filmflamme/review/165180404/d3dea9a940>

password: polygone

«Corps à corps» Version française

<https://vimeo.com/wallonieimageproduction/review/>

[95952563/84a0c44de4](https://vimeo.com/wallonieimageproduction/review/95952563/84a0c44de4)

Mot de passe: [pil364020](#)

«Body to Body» English version

<https://vimeo.com/wallonieimageproduction/review/>

[95952562/5551b0ca91](https://vimeo.com/wallonieimageproduction/review/95952562/5551b0ca91)

Password: [pil364020](#)

«CorpoaCorpo» Versione italiana

<https://vimeo.com/wallonieimageproduction/review/95952561/0fdf8c339a>

Password: pil364020

Barnabo delle montagne - Official Competition Festival de Cannes 1994 - "A" Category

Internet link: <https://www.festival-cannes.com/en/69-editions/retrospective/1994/selection/competition-1>

Once you get the home page, click on 47th Edition 1994 button.

Almost all my films were shown in "A" category festivals but the one above is, as matter of fact, the most outstanding.