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# QUI FINISCE L'ITALIA

A DOCUMENTARY BY GILLES COTON based upon the diary: «The long road of sand» by Pier Paolo Pasolini

## SYNOPSIS

Summer 1959, Pier Paolo Pasolini decides to travel on his own along the Italian coast from Ventimiglia to Trieste, with his Fiat Millecento. He writes a travelogue entitled *The Long Road of Sand*.

Summer 2008, the objective is to follow the footsteps of the Italian poet and filmmaker. The film is a road movie, not a documentary about Pasolini. An adventure

story that will pay attention as much to places as to people along the way. Pasolinis narration will be used as a guide, as a shadow to chase.

During his travel Pasolini focussed on single stories and observations, such constructing a puzzle that reflected his view of Italy's reality. That's what we did : meeting a hotel owner, a beach papagallo, a hawker, a priest, an illegal immigrant, Claudio Magris or the philosopher Massimo Cacciari. The aim is not to describe individuals but to reflect a mood. The purpose is not to make inquiries about obvious differences but to find out what there is in common

### DIRECTOR'S BIOGRAPHY

Gilles Coton (\*1973) is a documentary filmaker. He lives in Brussels and spent a lot of time in Italy teaching at Gorizia and Udine's Universities and travelled from the North to the South of the country.

Freelance reporter, he recreated the Long Road of Sand and brought back another vision of today's Europe.

#### **DIRECTOR'S INTENTIONS**

The structure of the documentary film follows the writing pattern of Pasolini's book, taking notes on the fly and divided in three parts : from the Thyrrhenian coast to Napoli, very discursive and descriptive about today's Italy ; a jumping through the miror towards the South, showing the transition, a travel more intimate and with silent thoughts. Finally, the Adriatic's coast following the places of Pasolini's childhood and to reach the border of Italy to the East and reflect on the idea of today's Europe.

The themes that we find in the movie are the very same as Pasolini's : identity, power, justice, religion, unemployment, beauty, art and death. But there is also poetry everywhere. In Pasolini's words but also listening to Sbarbaro, Joyce, Rilke or Saba.



## PLAYTIME FILMS

Playtime Films was founded in 2007 by three young directors : Julien Bechara, Matthieu Frances and Gilles-Ivan Frakignoul. Since then, Playtime has been producing more than fifteen movies of all type and genre : short and feature films, mostly documentaries.

Playtime is also producing content for several broadcasters such as RTBF or Arte.

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