

REPORT ACTIVITIES

1. Visione del film “The man who will come”
2. Scambio dei documenti predisposti per lo studio dell’evento storico
3. Analisi del film e dei documenti
4. Approfondimento dell’evento e condivisione dei punti di vista durante la duplice visita guidata al Parco di Monte Sole e a Marzabotto

DOCUMENTS

The Man Who Will Come

TRAILER

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=o8D7Coxba4I>



The Man Who Will Come (Italian: *L'uomo che verrà*) is an Italian film released in 2009. It was directed by Giorgio Diritti and written by Giorgio Diritti, Giovanni Galavotti and Tania Pedroni, starring Maya Sansa and Alba Rohrwacher.

PLOT

Winter 1943. Martina is small child, who stopped talking since the death of her infant brother some years before. She lives in a rural area of central Italy. Her mother is pregnant again and Martina lives for the arrival of her new brother. Meanwhile, the war is getting closer and closer, forcing the people of the village to tread a difficult path, torn between the partisan brigades and the Nazi Army. On practically the same day as the birth of Martina's brother, the SS start a massive roundup of civilians in the area, an infamous event that will come to be known as the Marzabotto massacre during which more than 770 people were killed in houses, cemeteries and churches.

Film Reviews

The Man Who Will Come -- Film Review

By Natasha Senjanovic, ottobre 28, 2009 02:15 ET



"The Man Who Will Come"

Diritti's second feature a surprisingly elegant and thoughtful take on wartime massacre.

ROME -- Giorgio Diritti's second feature, "The Man Who Will Come," is a dense historical drama that earned him the Silver Grand Jury prize at the Rome fest and the Audience Award. The film's sparse dialogue (in dialect

rather than in Italian), strong acting and lack of sentimentality make it a unique film at home. A sober, independent two-hour war movie without a major cast will be a tough sell both domestically and in North America, though a recent resurgence in European World War II-themed films could give the film a little boost in Europe.

"The Man Who Will Come" recreates events leading to a 1944 massacre of nearly 800 civilians (mostly women, children and the elderly) by SS soldiers in the mountains near Bologna. Despite the tragic backdrop, Diritti delicately depicts a year in the life of one the region's many poor, farming families.

Thoughtfully evoking questions on the nature of violence and survival, without judgment, the film's greater significance lies in its portrayal of what happens when some of the world's richest nations wage war against some of the world's poorest.

Eight-year-old Martina (Greta Zuccheri Montanari, mesmerizing) stopped speaking when her little brother died in her arms some years ago. Her mother Lena (Maya Sansa) is expecting another child. Her father Armando (Claudio Casadio in a faultless big-screen debut) does whatever he can to keep their large family, which includes Martina's aunt Beniamina (Alba Rohrwacher), fed and safe.

We see most of the action through Martina's eyes in this pastoral work. Diritti never romanticizes or plays down to her point of view. On the contrary, at times the film could soar emotionally higher, given the cast and especially that Zuccheri Montanari seems incapable of childish posturing. She wordlessly conveys depths of confusion, wonder and intelligence, her muteness a reflection of the unspeakable events taking place around her.

In the end, it is impossible not to hope that Martina and her family will be spared the genocide. Or be moved by unexpected scenes such as when, happily playing in the woods, the girl comes across a Nazi soldier forced by partisans to dig his own grave. The beautiful photography of the serene countryside only heightens the senselessness of the tragedy unfolding.

The man of the title could be one of many, from Lena's expected child to the Resistance fighters and Nazi troops in the surrounding hills. Which will come first, salvation or death? The characters can do little but wait for the answer to that question, caught powerless in the crossfire of a battle they did not begin.

HISTORY

MARZABOTTO MASSACRE (From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia)

The **Marzabotto massacre** was a World War II war crime consisting in a mass murder of at least 770 civilians by Nazis, which took place in the territory around the small village of Marzabotto, in the mountainous area south of Bologna. It was the worst massacre of civilians committed by the Waffen SS in Western Europe during the war. In reprisal for the local support given to the partisans and the Resistance between 29 September and 5 October 1944, SS-*Sturmbannführer* Walter Reder led soldiers of the *SS-Panzer-Aufklärungsabteilung 16* to systematically kill hundreds of people in Marzabotto. They also killed numerous residents of the adjacent Grizzana Morandi and Monzuno, the area of the massif of Monte Sole (part of the Apennine range in the province of Bologna).

Historians have struggled to document the number of victims: some sources report up to 1,830 victims; others estimate 955 people killed. Today, the Peace School Foundation of Monte Sole reports 770 victims. This number is close to the official report by *Sturmbannführer* Reder, who reported the "execution of 728 bandits". Among the victims, 45 were less than 2 years old, 110 were less than 10 years old, 95 were less than 16 years old, 142 were over 60 years old, 316 were females and five were Catholic priests.

Giovanni Fornasini, a parish priest and member of the Resistance, risked his life to protect the defenseless population from the Nazis during the massacres. By his actions, Fornasini saved the lives of many of his parishioners, and managed to escape death. As he was burying the bodies of those killed in the massacre, which was forbidden by the Nazis, Fornasini was discovered by an SS officer. The officer accused Fornasini of crimes committed in the Marzabotto area. When Fornasini confessed to having helped the villagers avoid execution, the officer shot and killed him.

On 18 October 1998, Cardinal Biffi opened in Bologna the process for the [beatification](#) of Fornasini and two other priests (Ferdinando Casagrande and Ubaldo Marchioni), considered the "[martyrs](#) of Sonnenberg". Today Fornasini is remembered as "the angel of Marzabotto". A memorial commemorates him in the cemetery of San Martino di Caprara, together with four other priests killed by the SS in the area.

Justice

- The British tried SS General Max Simon for his part in the massacre. He was sentenced to death, later changed to life in prison. Simon was pardoned in 1954 and died in 1961.
- The Americans arrested SS Major Walter Reder, an Austrian national, in Salzburg, and passed him to the Italians via the British. In 1951 he was tried in an Italian military court in Bologna. He was sentenced to life imprisonment in the military prison at Gaeta. He was released in 1985 and died six years later in 1991.
- In 1998, on the 54th anniversary of the massacre, the German President Johannes Rau made a formal apology to Italy and expressed his "profound sorrow and shame" to the families of the victims of Marzabotto.

- In January 2007, 10 of 17 suspected former SS members were found guilty *in absentia* by an Italian military tribunal in the north Italian town of La Spezia. They were sentenced to life imprisonment for the massacre. The Italian media reported that the 10 were also ordered to pay roughly €100 million to the survivors and relatives of the victims. Seven suspects were acquitted.

World War II

Painful memories of Nazi massacre in Italy



Nazis killed thousands of Italians between 1943 and 1945. A report released by a German-Italian historical commission in Rome has brought new light to the war crimes.

- The release in Rome of a report by a German-Italian historical commission has opened old wounds: it documents about 5,000 attacks by German troops, including theft, rape and murder.

Elide Ruggeri, who miraculously survived an attack by German Wehrmacht and SS troops in the mountains south of Bologna on September 29, 1944, remembers. "I was there and an SS man came, who killed a girl, smashed her head in, and she just let out a wail. He struck her and I thought the next one was for me. He fixed me in his gaze and said, 'Niente kaput.' That's how he let me know he wouldn't kill me."

From allies to enemies



The Marzabotto massacre's backstory begins on September 8, 1943. When Italy broke off its alliance with Hitler's Germany, friends became foes - from one day to the next, German forces in the country became occupiers, leaving behind a trail of devastation in their retreat to the north.

A limited number of units were involved in the violence, said Wolfgang Schieder, a history professor and deputy director of the commission. Keeping that in mind, the German military formations acted all the more horribly, according to him.

The historians researched the bloody history of World War II's final years in Rome and Berlin for the past three-and-a-half years. Guided by the questions of where, when and who, Schieder said they based their research on the experiences of those affected, including victims and perpetrators.

This research provides an alternative view of German-Italian history, refuting national myths - including some that are widespread in Italy. For example, that from 1943 Italy belonged to the "resistance" against Hitler - since Italian fascists and Mussolini followers supported German troops in their actions against the civilian population.

That's also what the historical work is about, Schieder said: "This issue of collaboration must be more intensively investigated, because aspects very different from a pure resistance perspective have emerged."

The commission was created after the Italian high court in 2008 ruled that Germany pay damages, and sought to appropriate German property in Italy. The Hague Tribunal rejected the demands against Germany, saying no state may hold another liable - an unsatisfying decision for the victims and their families in Italy.



Survivors' suffering

The Nazi Marzabotto Massacre: life sentence for 10 defendants

In the Marzabotto massacre alone, 1,830 people were killed, almost exclusively civilians including the elderly, women and children. Gianluca Lucarini, whose grandparents died in the massacre, is president of the victims' association in Marzabotto.

He described the consequences, which to this day affect the descendants. "This is my heritage, a very difficult part of my

life. My father lost his parents when he was 18, and naturally, he brought that pain into the family that he started."

His father's life was anything but easy, Lucarini said, since no one was around to help or even help him to understand and process what had happened.

Finding out what actually occurred is the work of the historical commission. For Lucarini's father and most other victims, however, this understanding is coming far too late.

From

<http://www.dw.com/en/painful-memories-of-nazi-massacre-in-italy/a-16467267>

