

CERCANDO VALENTINA



→ IL MONDO DI GUIDO CREPAX

UN FILM DI GIANCARLO SOLDI



© Archivio Crepax

BIZEF

Rai Com

Rai Cultura

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MIBAC Direzione Generale Cinema

Progetto realizzato nell'ambito del Programma Sensi Contemporanei Toscana per il Cinema
SENSI CONTEMPORANEI



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Un film di Giancarlo Soldi
(Italy, 2019, 75 minutes)

Produced and distributed by BIZEF PRODUZIONE

Venice Days – Le Notti Veneziane
Screening: Friday august 30th 9pm - Villa degli Autori

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produced by **BIZEF Produzione**
with **RAICOM**
in collaboration with **RSI-Radiotelevisione svizzera**
and with **RAI CULTURA**
associated producer **LASER DIGITAL FILM**
in collaboration with **CHROMATICA**

Project realized under the programme *Sensi Contemporanei Toscana per il Cinema*
With financial support of *Regione Lazio – Fondo regionale per il cinema e l'audiovisivo*
With financial support of *DG Cinema*

CREDITS

directed by	GIANCARLO SOLDI
producer Bizef Produzione	STEFANIA CASINI
producer Rai Com	NICCOLO' NATALI
producer RSI	SILVANA BEZZOLA RIGOLINNI
subject	GIANCARLO SOLDI E STAFANIA CASINI
screenplay	GIANCARLO SOLDI E MARCO LODOLI
photography	GIUSEPPE BARESI
editing	SILVIA DI DOMENICO
music	TEHO TEARDO
visual effect	CHROMATICA
graphic consultant	MARCELLA MARIANI

CAST

Philip Rembrandt	RICCARDO VIANELLO
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Interviewees:

Luisa Crepax	Salvatore Gregoriotti
Antonio Crepax	Milo Manara
Caterina Crepax	Rita Marcotulli
Giacomo Crepax	Mario Martone
	Lucio Morawetz
Daniele Barbieri	Giovanni Mastrangelo
Tinto Brass	Maria Mulas
Paolo Boccara	Josè Muñoz
Francesco Casetti	Denis Santachiara
Annamaria Gandini	Elena Stancanelli

LOGLINE

Valentina is as beautiful as Louise Brooks, as disturbing as a Fontana cut, as disturbing as Bob Dylan's lyrics and as free as Charlie Parker's music

SYNOPSIS

The late Sixties: Paris, London, and Milan; the cities pulse to the same rhythm, stars in the same cultural constellation, which rebels and renews itself.

Guido Crepax intercepts all that cultural ferment in Milan and captures its aesthetic revolution, transposing everything into his drawn stories, innovating the structures of storytelling.

The character Valentina is Crepax's alter ego and through her we discover the artist and that magical time. The narration starts in NY, where Rembrandt, Valentina's long-time boyfriend, receives a message from her asking for help.

Through the narrative device of this search, the documentary reveals Guido Crepax's world, traveling between the past and present, with a rhythm and visionary ability typical of the artist. The dreamer photographer Valentina becomes an icon loved for several generations.

"Elegant and sophisticated erotic dream for men and a symbol of independence, charm and seduction for women" - VOGUE



DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT

A comic book is a time capsule telling us about the world in which it appeared.

Besides reading them, I began studying their style and narration. I wanted to reveal Crepax as the artist who transfers into his stories the impulses of those revolutionary and creative years. The narrative style of Crepax, who breaks the page in details jazzing or dilating the rhythm, leads back to the modernity of the Nouvelle Vague.

The artifice of giving life to Rembrandt, a character that becomes a sort of Virgil, allows me to lead the viewer into the artist's obsessions and dreams.

The rich archive of the Crepax family, combined with Gandini's surprising images of 1960s Milan and the archive's footages reinvented by me allow moving in and out of the past with the fluid rhythm of the dream. Use of EFX, experimented during my career, makes the audience float between drawn stories and reality. The documentary became a journey made of encounters, dreams, visions, and obsessions, where time is never linear.

Giancarlo Soldi



GUIDO CREPAX

Guido Crepax is considered one of the most illustrious masters of Italian comics. He has influenced erotic comics in all Europe.

Born in Milan on July 15th 1933, Guido - whose real family name is Crepas - began working in illustrations and graphics while attending the faculty of architecture. He created important and famous advertising posters and book covers, magazines and record disks (his is the cover of *Nel Blu dipinto di Blu* by Domenico Modugno).

In 1963 he approached the world of comics and a few years later he realized the story *La curva di Lesmo*. The protagonist is Philip Rembrandt, a foreign art critic with super powers, also known as Neutron. His most famous character, Valentina, appeared here for the first time as Rembrandt's girlfriend. Soon she became the uncontested protagonist of Crepax's stories and the companion of his career.

Even then his work is represented by the sophisticated design and the psychedelic and dreamlike plot. His style is personal, elegant and refined. Extremely free from the compositional point of view, Crepax built each table according to the needs of the moment. It can be easily noticed the frequent use of the

decomposition of the images into smaller vignettes, at times very small element (of the lips opening, a look, a not ringing phone) used to emphasize a state of mind, to create a wait, to highlight an important detail. During his career Crepax has given life to numerous other heroines, protagonists of elegant and refined eroticism stories; some are fictional characters, others are sophisticated comic versions of erotic literature classics, such as *Emmanuelle*, *Justine* and *Histoire d'O*.

He worked for all the comic magazines, such as the famous *Linus*, *alter alter* and *Corto Maltese*, but also *Il Grifo*, *Comic Art* or *Eureka*.

His work is translated in many countries, including France, Brazil, Spain, Germany, Japan, the United States, Finland and Greece.

After a long disease battle, Guido Crepax died on July 31th 2003 in Milan, at the age of 70.

VALENTINA

Valentina Rosselli, the rebel and dreamer photographer with bob black hair, has been a symbol of freedom and independence and one of the few comic book characters that ages over the years.

The physical traits of the character are inspired by the American actress Louise Brooks. In an episode dedicated to her childhood, Valentina reveals that she took on Lulù's look at the end of her adolescence, inspired by the movie *Pandora's Vase*.

The character made his debut in 1965 in the *Linus* magazine as a secondary character, but it won't take long for Valentina to become the protagonist of Guido Crepax's stories.

The comic strip has a cinematic, often dreamlike, slant and it is full of quotes ranging from history, to art, to the comic itself. In the plots, real and imaginary often merge without a clear distinction.

She is one of the few characters in the history of Italian comics with his identity card: she was born on Christmas day (like Luisa, Crepax's wife) in 1942 and officially leaves the scene in 1995, in her last story *To hell with Valentina!*.

The image shows a hand-drawn identity card for Valentina Rosselli, divided into two columns. The left column contains personal information, and the right column contains a portrait and official details.

Cognome	ROSSELLI
Nome	Valentina
nato il	25.12.1942
(atto n. 3025_R 1 S.)	
a	Milano
Cittadinanza	italiana
Residenza	Milano
Via	De Amicis n 45
Stato civile	nubile
Professione	fotografa
CONNOTATI E CONTRASSEGNI SALIENTI	
Statura	1,72
Capelli	neri
Occhi	chiarissimi
Segni particolari	//

Portrait of Valentina Rosselli with short black hair.

Firma del titolare Valentina Rosselli

Milano li 15.3.1970.

IL SINDACO

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PRODUCTION PROJECT

Film production is realized as a coproduction with RaiCom and RSI-Radiotelevisione Svizzera, to which is added Rai Cultura, Laser Digital Film and the precious collaboration of Chromatica.

The production gets economic contributions of the Tuscany Film Commission with the Tuscany Contemporary Senses for Cinema program, the Lazio Region Found and the DG Cinema.

We have also opened a crowd funding campaign on Ulule platform, exceeding our goal of 30.00€.

For the campaign, that involved the large Valentina fan base, we organized dedicated auction with special prizes: 38 drawings of the famous designers and comic authors, whom was asked to realize their vision of Valentina. The collection of drawings has become a precious volume, *Questa Valentina è mia (This Valentina is mine)*, designed by the great graphic designer Salvatore Gregorietti, a sought-after reward from the crowd funding financiers.

Designers who have participated in the realization of the volume:

Lola Airaghi	Sara Colaone	Josè Munoz
Altan	Marco Corona	Okayado
Carlo Ambrosini	Pasquale Del Vecchio	Leo Ortolani
Paolo Bacilieri	Aldo Di Gennaro	Giuseppe Palumbo
Emanuele Barison	Carmine Di Giandomenico	Corrado Roi
Bruno Brindisi	Stefano Disegni	Laura Scarpa
Larry Camarda	Luca Enoch	Silver
Giampa Casertano	Tanino Liberatore	Luigi Siniscalchi
Giorgio Cavazzano	Emiliano Mammucari	Marco Soldi
Gigi Cavenago	Milo Manara	Davide Toffolo
Gianluca Cestaro	Nicola Mari	Claudio Villa
Fabio Civitelli	Corrado Mastantuono	Silvia Zich

RICCARDO VIANELLO – Philip Rembrandt

Riccardo Vianello born in 1980. Graduated in Romance Philology, approaches theater acting at 19. He works for several seasons as mime at Carlo Felice Opera Theatre in Genoa. He starts studying drama at Teatro della Tosse in Genoa and keeps training with international acting coaches, such as the renowned Michael Margotta. In the last 20 years he has worked in several film productions (such as *Alice e il paese che si meraviglia* by Giulia Grandinetti) TV shows (*Masantonio* directed by Fabio Mollo) and plays (*Colloquia*, by David Zarko).



GIANCARLO SOLDI – director

Giancarlo grew up in the colorful world of comics (he owns a vast collection of drawings) and specialized in visual communication; one of his professional trademarks is the use of experimentation with new technology, which he filters through poetry and emotion. This approach has led him to work with the best Italian and international designers. He also realized TV programs as *Buzz-Italy and Alex* and films as *Polsi Sottili* (presented at Berlin Forum 1985), *Nero* (presented at Venice Film Festival) which boasted Sergio Castellitto and Ugo Pratt among its cast. Awards: *Industrial Film Award of New York*, *Creative Film Award of Chicago*, *Nastro d'Argento*, *Globo D'oro* nomination.

STEFANIA CASINI – producer

After a degree in architecture, she began acting in key roles with Pietro Germi, Dario Argento, Peter Greenaway, Bernardo Bertolucci, Paul Morrissey and Andy Warhol. In New York at the end of the seventies she became a reporter for Italian TV. With Francesca Marciano she directs the film *Lontano da Dove*, presented in competition in Venice and winner of the *Nastro d'Argento* for actress Monica Scattini. Back in Italy she devoted herself to journalism and documentary direction, increasingly interested in social issues. She realizes many series for RAI, like *America Latina: storie di donne* and *Islam: storie di donne, Avere 20 anni a*, broadcast in 6 different countries. Next step is to set up your own production company. In recent years he has devoted herself to production and to the immersive experiences that technology allows to explore. In 2017, her first virtual reality *Lost Memories*, combining poetry and technology for a story on the migrant deaths in the Mediterranean, official competition at the prestigious World Vr Forum. He has just finished his second virtual reality *Mare Nostrum*. The nightmare that tells, with 360 VR emotional language, about the journey of a teenage migrant.

She produces all Bizef films.

Bizef Produzione

Bizef Produzione is based from 2005 on the experience and creative vision of Stefania Casini and Giancarlo Soldi, both long-time multimedia professionals, who have been working in documentaries, multimedia projects, and corporate films. Thanks to the two partners' different but complementary approaches to the creative documentary, the company develops and produces docs on social issues as well as on art and artist biopics and Vr. Recent titles: *Nessuno siamo perfetti*, awarded with the prestigious *Nastro d'Argento*, *A blow to the Mafia*, *Palermo's secret waters*, *Made in Albania*, *Five wor(L)ds*, presented at Rome Film Festival and nominated for a *Globi d'oro* and a *Nastro d'Argento*, and *Lost memories*, a VR experiences.