

PRESS RELEASE

**THE MUSEUM HOSTS VISIONI VR, VIRTUAL REALITY
DOCUMENTARIES**

**The International Documentary Festival Visioni dal Mondo launches
the first edition of its new VR film section**

**FRIDAY 16TH SEPTEMBER FROM 2 TO 4 PM
SATURDAY 17TH AND SUNDAY 18TH SEPTEMBER FROM 10 AM TO 5:30 PM**

Museo Nazionale Scienza e Tecnologia Leonardo da Vinci
Via San Vittore 21, Milan

Visit <https://www.museoscienza.org/it/area-stampa/visioni-vr>
for the press release and a selection of images

Milan, 5th September 2022. In partnership with **Museo Nazionale Scienza e Tecnologia** and with the support of **Rai Cinema**, the **International Documentary Festival Visioni dal Mondo** is launching a new section entirely devoted to virtual reality: **Visioni VR**.

Between Friday 16th and Sunday 18th September, four documentaries competing in the Festival will be screened in the Museum Auditorium. One is Italian and three are international: **Genesis**, a fictional CGI documentary on the crucial stages of human evolution; **Replacements**, an animated story about roots, time and change; **The Above and the Below**, a documentary in the Equator 360 series, a journey along the imaginary line of the Equator to explore the fascinating cultures that live there; and **Mare Nostrum - The Nightmare**, a fictional film about a refugee's harrowing journey from the Sahara to the Mediterranean Sea.

The public will vote on the films and the winner will receive a **cash** prize. At the end of each screening, participants will be asked to vote for the best film in the contest. In addition, a **prestigious panel of judges** made up of members of the press and influencers will award **two special mentions**.

The documentaries in the contest will also be shown at the Museum's **Open Night on Friday 30th September as part of the European Researchers' Night**, when they will be featured in the special **VR CINEMA WORLD EDITION** program at VR CINEMA, the Museum's virtual reality cinema developed in collaboration with Rai Cinema.

Visioni VR is an activity that must be booked in advance. It is included in the cost of the ticket to the Museum.

Book and buy your ticket > <https://www.museoscienza.org/it/offerta/visioni-vr-2022>

VISIONI VR SCREENINGS

For the Visioni dal Mondo Festival, the Museum has set up a special VR Zone in the Auditorium to host the Visioni VR documentaries.

Friday 16th September | 2 pm, 3 pm, 4 pm

Saturday 17th and Sunday 18th September | 10 am, 11 am, 12 pm, 2:30 pm, 3:30 pm, 4:30 pm, 5:30 pm

Available spaces: 8

MARE NOSTRUM. THE NIGHTMARE

Directed by: Stefania Casini

A production by: Tama Filmproduktion, Bizef Produzione, in association with Intrigo Internazionale, MediaApes

Country: Italy | **Year:** 2019

Running time: 11' | **Language:** English, French

MARE NOSTRUM - The Nightmare is a fictional 360° VR film with CGI effects that sends spectators on a thrilling tour de force as it recreates the nightmarish journey of a young Maghreb boy, Atambo, who leaves home after an anguished goodbye with his mother in a desperate attempt to reach Europe from the Sahara, travelling to the Mediterranean Sea. His harrowing odyssey explores what it means to leave everything behind and encourages us to reflect on the concepts of hospitality, racism and intolerance.

REPLACEMENTS

Directed by: Jonathan Hagard

A production by: Kampung Ayu, Suwe Ora Jamu, Ossa Film

Countries: Japan, Indonesia, Germany | **Year:** 2020

Running time: 12' | **Language:** silent movie

Replacements portrays a Javanese family living in an imaginary neighbourhood in Jakarta, the capital of Indonesia. Inspired by real people and places, the characters in this short film witness the urban, environmental, political and cultural transformations of the metropolis between the 1980s and 2020. An ode to the pleasure derived from that which is fleeting, the film recounts the transformation of an ancient traditional village into a rootless megalopolis across three generations. This experience examines and analyses Jakarta's recent history through the eyes of an ordinary family with whom most Jakartans can easily identify.

THE ABOVE AND THE BELOW

Directed by: Nicolas Jolliet

A production by: DEEP Inc. / Liquid Cinema in association with ARTE, Discovery and NHK with the participation of the Bell Fund, OMDC

Country: Canada, France | **Year:** 2018

Running time: 12' | **Language:** English with English subtitles

The Above and the Below is part of the "Equator 360" documentary consisting of 5 episodes, each of which explores the magical, fascinating places on the Equator and their mysterious rituals and surprising ecological diversity. This short film tells the story of the Bajau Laut, an indigenous people in Southeast Asia who have lived by the sea for millennia. Eschewing a life on solid ground, they know no borders and their nomadic way of life is increasingly imperilled by the modern world, with its destructive overfishing and climate change.

GENESIS

Directed by: Jörg Courtial

A production by: Maria Courtial - Faber Courtial, Magenta Virtual Reality

Country: Germany | **Year:** 2021

Running time: 13' | **Language:** English

Genesis embarks on an emotionally intense 24-hour journey that relives the drama of evolution from a new perspective. Spectators travel through time, amidst chaos, rebirth and catastrophe, visiting unknown, mystical and daunting dimensions of stunning landscapes and creatures that once walked the Earth. From a bright young planet surrounded by cosmic debris to the dark and infinite oceans of an underwater world, from prehistoric jungles with paradisiacal plants and enormous insects to mass extinction and the start of a new cycle, in which the dinosaurs appear and conquer the Earth before becoming, in turn, extinct, it brings us to a tête-à-tête with our ancestors and leaves us with an intense impression of the Earth and the insurmountable strength and fragility of life.

INTERNATIONAL DOCUMENTARY FESTIVAL VISIONI DAL MONDO

The 8th annual International Documentary Festival Visioni dal Mondo will be held from Thursday 15th to Sunday 18th September in Milan. This highly anticipated event devoted to documentary films was created and founded and is organised by Francesco Bizzarri, with Artistic Director Maurizio Nichetti.

More knowledge. More awareness. This is the theme for 2022. Knowledge and Awareness, two terms that denote how every individual makes choices and endorses ideas, espouses beliefs and adopts behaviours. Knowledge to forge an awareness of what is real, knowledge that saves us from limitations and opens our minds beyond the borders of our awareness.

For the 2022 edition, the Festival has chosen three iconic locations of Milanese culture: Teatro Litta, Eliseo Multisala and Museo Nazionale Scienza e Tecnologia Leonardo da Vinci.

36 premieres of Italian and international documentaries in the different sections of the Festival: the Italian contest with two categories for feature-length films and first films by Italian film makers; the International contest for foreign productions; and the non-competitive section.

The 36 films will be shown at Teatro Litta and Eliseo Multisala with the directors present to answer questions.

The best VR documentaries will be shown at Museo Nazionale Scienza e Tecnologia Leonardo da Vinci.

Visioni dal Mondo 2022 is free and open to the public subject to availability. Again this year, spectators may watch the Visioni dal Mondo premieres anywhere in Italy on the Festival's official website www.visionidalmondo.it in the online viewing rooms of the MYmovies Italian streaming service.

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