

FULVIA MANZOTTI and THE COPRODUCERS

present

an

ipotesiCinema and Faso Film
production

produced by

The Coproducers

MATERNITY BLUES

directed by

FABRIZIO CATTANI



www.fandango.it



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director	FABRIZIO CATTANI
story and screenplay	FABRIZIO CATTANI GRAZIA VERASANI Based on the novel of Grazia Verasani "FROM MEDEA"
director of photography	FRANCESCO CARINI (A.I.C.)
editor	PAOLA FREDDI
original music	PAOLO VIVALDI
sound engineer	FRANCESCO LIOTARD
production designer	DANIELE FRABETTI
costume designer	TERESA ACONE SANDRA CIANCI
production manager	ADOLFO DRAGO
line producer	FRANCESCO RUGGERI
producer	IPOTESI CINEMA FASO FILM
produced by	THE COPRODUCERS
italian distribution	FANDANGO
world sales	INTRAMOVIES
nationality	ITALIAN
release date	2011
running time	95'

Thank you for support
COMUNE di MASSA, PROVINCIA di MASSA CARRARA
and FONDAZIONE CASSA di RISPARMIO di CARRARA



ANDREA OSVART	Clara
MONICA BIRLADEANU	Eloisa
CHIARA MARTEGIANI	Rina
MARINA PENNAFINA	Vincenza
and with	
DANIELE PECCI	Luigi
ELODIE TRECCANI	Giulia
PASCAL ZULLINO	Dott. Scalia
GIULIA WEBER	Trudy
with the participation of	
LIA TANZI	Rosa
PIERLUIGI CORALLO	Lawyer
GIADA COLUCCI	Lucia Stregari
FRANCA ABATEGIOVANNI	Elsa
AMINA SYED	Mari

Four different women, but bound by a common guilt: the infanticide. Inside a judicial psychiatric hospital, they spend their time expiating a sentence which is mainly inner: the sense of guilt for a gesture what has made useless their existence. From the forced living together, new friendly relationship born and everyone can read the guilty inside the other. From the confessions, born a comfort that doesn't completely succeed to alleviate the suffering, but that makes appear these women, like innocent guilty.

Clara atones for the effects of a life based on an appearing normality, she isn't able to express her emotions and believes to have not ever felt them. Rina is a girl-mother, she has drowned her daughter into the bathtub to practice on her euthanasia. Eloisa, passionate and direct, she continue to deny of having killed her son: only an appearing cynicism. Vincenza, despite a deeply religious faith, she will be the only one to complete a definitive action against herself. she has still two sons, outside, and writes them pages of letters which will never arrive to destination.

Maternity Blues evokes sweet-sounding music, but in reality is a deadly syndrome, a form of post-natal depression which can lead a mother to kill her child.

Post-natal depression is an increasingly worrying type of emotional disturbance which affects up to 30% of women immediately after giving birth and can take various forms.

According to the Report "Eurispes Italia 2011", in 2010 an infanticide was committed every 20 days. A year earlier the rate was one every 33 days and, in 2008, every 91. In absolute terms, there were 4 cases in 2008, 11 in 2009 and 20 in 2010.

Psychiatrists often talk of "post-natal depression", but this diagnosis reveals not only the symptom of a real disease but also the state of being a mother, where love for the child is never separated from hate for the child, since it lives and feeds on the mother's sacrifice: sacrifice of her body, space, time, sleep, personal relationships, work, feelings and also love other than the love for her child. Our society is incapable of accepting a truth which modern psychology and anthropology have long verified: the so-called maternal instinct does not exist. *The idea by which there is a kind of natural bond between mother and child which starts from birth, a bond which some extend to all women and all children regardless of blood relations, a bond which, on the contrary, many deny exists in males, even between a fathers and his children, is to all intents and purposes a myth.* Often knowing the past history of infanticide can help us appreciate that the maternal instinct is not in fact innate, that motherhood is something extremely complex and serious or post-natal depression, if not understood, can also lead to the killing of one's own child, which is tantamount to suicide. The symptoms of post-natal depression are often kept hidden both by the mother herself, due to lack of self-esteem, but also by her close relatives, due to the sense of *shame*. Loneliness is the first barrier which a mother must overcome.

The theatre piece "From Medea" by Grazia Verasani, from which the screenplay is taken, came into being not only as a reflection *on the mothering instinct* but also as an *accusation against society* with its constant need to create monsters and to judge a malaise which must not be lightly written off.

In the film there is no hint of judgement of the protagonists, but nor are they justified or, even less so, absolved. This is simply the photograph of their lives, told from the place where they are serving their sentence, the Judicial Psychiatric Hospital, and at the same time seeking to «cure themselves» with the support of psychiatrists. We thought it also extremely interesting to highlight that Rina, Vincenza, Eloisa and Clara live "suspended" in limbo from the thin walls which separate them, but at the same time protect them from the real world. A state of limbo which it is hard to overcome also due to those prejudices and that superficiality which the media have accustomed us to.

The doctors at Castiglione delle Stiviere, renamed J.P.H., where these women are often admitted, also talk of *contributory fault*: "*many women undertake this unnatural act also as a result of absent or violent husbands, or due to difficult, sometimes brutal, childhoods*".

If you look closely at the pain-filled or extremely grey lives of the protagonists, you can't help but feel *PIETAS* (PITY) for them, that feeling which occurs when we stop judging and start trying to understand.

Professional experience includes:

Author and director of the 35 mm B/W short film entitled: **“L’ABITO”** finalist in the GOLDEN GLOBE AWARDS.

Author and director of the short film **“MATTINA”**, Critics Prize at the Viareggio Europa Cinema Festival.

Author and director of the feature film **“IL RABDOMANTE” (THE DOWSER)** Awards winner:

COLOROFILLA FILM FESTIVAL (FESTIVAL NAZ. LEGAMBIENTE) BEST FILM - BEST ACTOR;
TEMECULA FILM FESTIVAL (SAN DIEGO-CALIFORNIA) BEST ACTOR; FOODFILMINFESTIVAL
(CUNEO) 1° PRIZE JURY; FESTIVAL SOLO CINEMA ITALIANO (NUORO) BEST FILM; FESTIVAL DEL
CINEMA DI SALERNO PRIZE JURY; FESTIVAL DEL CINEMA INDIPENDENTE DI FOGGIA BEST FILM
FESTIVAL DEL CINEMA DI TROPEA BEST FILM-BEST ACTOR –BEST SOUNDTRACK. FESTIVAL
FILMSPRAY FIRENZE BEST FILM –BEST ACTOR – BEST ACTRESS. FESTIVAL DEL CINEMA DI
AJACCIO (Corsica) BEST FILM.

Completing the drawing up of the Screenplay entitled **“UOMINI E CANI”**

Author and director of the feature film **“MATERNITY BLUES”**

FILMOGRAPHY

- 2009 LA FINE È IL MIO INIZIO by Oliver Hirschbiegel
THRILLER X "L'INTRUSO" by Nicolaj Pennestri
2008 DUPLICITY by Tony Gilroy
OVER THE BRIDGE by Mihály Győrik
2007 SOUNDTRACK by Francesca Marra
ITALIA 2061 by Carlo Vanzina
2006 UNA PICCOLA STORIA by Stefano Chiantini
TWO TIGERS by Sandro Cecca
IL RABDOMANTE by Fabrizio Cattani
SARA MAY by Marianna Sciveres
MARE NERO by Roberta Torre
2005 THE CLAN by Christian De Sica
2003 KISTESTVÉR by Lengyel
2001 SPY GAME by Tony Scott
2000 THE CONTAMINATED MAN by Antony Hickox

MONICA BIRLADEANU . *Eloisa*

FILMOGRAPHY

- 2011 OUT OF THE NIGHT by Claudio Macor
DIAZ by Daniele Vicari
2010 VALLANZASCA - GLI ANGELI DEL MALE by Michele Placido
2009 FRANCESCA by Bobby Paunescu
2007 LIVING AND DYING by Jon Keeyes
FALL DOWN DEAD by Jon Keeyes
2006 INCUBUS by Anya Camilleri
SECOND IN COMMAND by Simon Fellows
2005 MOARTEA DOMNULUI LAZARESCU by Cristi Puiu
2004 BUDS FOR LIFE by Gabriel Bologna

CHIARA MARTEGIANI . *Rina*

FILMOGRAPHY

- 2008 MENO MALE CHE CI SEI by Luis Prieto
2007 UN GIOCO DA RAGAZZE by Matteo Rovere
SONO VIVA by Dino e Filippo Gentili
AL DI LÀ DELLE FRONTIERE by Maurizio Zaccaro

MARINA PENNAFINA . *Vincenza*

FILMOGRAPHY

- 2009 LA BELLA SOCIETÀ by Giampaolo Cugno
2007 GRANDE GROSSO E VERDONE by Carlo Verdone
NELLE TUE MANI by Peter Del Monte
2000 TOBIA AL CAFFÈ by Gianfranco Mingozzi
1992 DOVE SIETE? IO SONO QUI by di Liliana Cavani

DANIELE PECCI . *Luigi*

FILMOGRAPHY

- 2010 THE TOURIST by Florian Henckel
MANUALE D'AMORE 3 by Giovanni Veronesi
2009 MINE VAGANTI by Ferzan Ozpetek
2008 FORTAPASC by Marco Risi

Original music by

Paolo Vivaldi

produced by

Warner Chappell Music Italiana S.r.l.



coordinamento editoriale

Warner Chappell Music Italiana S.r.l.

a cura di **Luigi Bartolotta** e **Giovanni Marolla**

colonna sonora registrata e missata presso

HOUSE RECORDING STUDIO (Roma)

da **Simone Ciammarughi** e **Fabio Ferri**

orchestra **CONCERTISSIMO** (Roma)

organizzazione orchestra, **Laura Lungu**

maestro collaboratore, **Alessandro Sartini**

programmazione e preproduzione, **Fabrizio Pigliucci**

pianoforte, **Gilda Buttà**

"FORGET AND FORGIVE"

(P. VIVALDI – F. CASSIO)

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cantata da **Kashillaka**

arrangiamento **Paolo Vivaldi, Fabrizio Pigliucci e Filippo De Laura**

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Repertorio Musicale

"Would you"

di MENARINISERE-A.BRANCA

INTERPRETATA DA SERENA MENARINI

(P) e © SILVIUS s.a.s

"I promess"

di MENARINISERE-A.BRANCA

INTERPRETATA DA SERENA MENARINI

(P) e © SILVIUS s.a.s

"Da qui"

di MENARINISERE-A.BRANCA

INTERPRETATA DA SERENA MENARINI

(P) e © SILVIUS s.a.s

"Don't Leave Me Now"

di MATTIA DE LUCA, RADIOSA ROMANI (P) e ©

è interpretata da MATTIA DE LUCA

"Auld lang syne"

(ROSS JOHN HARDY)

(P) e © Westar Music Publishing

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THE COPRODUCERS

This is a production system which makes audiovisual products in co-production among all the participants. In exchange for their financial, professional or artistic contribution, they become owners of a share in the film rights. The essential difference consists above all in eliminating the figure of the producer in the sense of the sole owner of the work. It is a production principle which enables the merging of quality and independence, providing a driver for production which increases the free products on over and, moreover, introduces new writers and professionals to the entertainment market. Through The Coproducers professionals in the sector can use their sensitivity, dynamism, experience and talent to develop a new range of films which are more innovative, daring and free-spirited.

FASO FILM Srl

This came into being in the '80s, created by the film producer Achille Manzotti, and is responsible for more than 34 films for the cinema and television. Initially it focussed on producing the comedies by Castellano and Pipolo with R. Pozzetto, such as *Il ragazzo di campagna* (1984) and *È arrivato mio fratello* (1985). Conscious of the quality of its films, the company wished to move on: the meeting with Nanni Moretti gave rise to *Bianca* and *La messa è finita*, and subsequently the production of *Voltati Eugenio* and *Cercasi Gesù* by Comencini, *La visione del Sabba* by Marco Bellocchio, *Una spina nel cuore* by Lattuada and two films by Marco Ferreri *Il futuro è donna* and *Storia di Piera*.

IPOTESI CINEMA Srl

This is a successful company which was started by the writer and director Ermanno Olmi and mainly deals with high quality, socially committed projects, while not disdaining elegantly made and stylish comedies such as the recent production "*Basilicata coast to coast*" by Rocco Papaleo. Since starting business Ipotesi Cinema has produced, among others: *In coda alla coda* by Maurizio Zaccaro, *Maicol* by Mario Brenta, *Case* by Rodolfo Bisatti, *Tre storie* by Piergiorgio Gay and Roberto Sanpietro, *Il derviscio* by Alberto Rondalli. *Il Giorno del Falco* by Rodolfo Bisatti, and all the most recent films by Ermanno Olmi: *Centochiodi*, *Cantando dietro i paraventi* and *Il Mestiere delle armi*. There are also numerous film shorts and documentaries including: *Terra Madre* in cooperation with Carlin Petrini's Slow Food directed by Ermanno Olmi, and *Le Rupi del Vino* in cooperation with the Valtellina region for UNESCO, again directed by Ermanno Olmi, and "*La Gara*" by Ermanno Olmi which is currently being edited.