

## WILD BUNCH INTERNATIONAL • URANIA PICTURES • GETAWAY FILM • CANAL+

**Vision Distribution** 

Conchita Airoldi and Laurentina Guidotti Present



# A film by Dario Argento

an Italian-French coproduction URANIA PICTURES E GETAWAY FILMS

> in collaboration with RAI CINEMA

> in collaboration with CANAL+ CINE +

> in collaboration with SKY

Delivered by VISION DISTRIBUTION IN CINEMAS 24 FEBRUARY

Italy - France - 87' - 2022 - Scope - Dolby 5.1

INTERNATIONAL PR

PREMIER

INTERNATIONAL SALES

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PHOTOS AND PRESS KIT CAN BE DOWNLOADED FROM: https://www.wildbunch.biz/movie/dark-glasses/

## **SYNOPSIS**

Rome. An eclipse blocks out the sun, blackening the skies on a hot summer day - harbinger of the darkness that will envelop Diana when a serial killer chooses her as prey. Fleeing her predator, the young escort crashes her car and loses her sight. She emerges from the initial shock determined to fight for her life, but she is no longer alone. Defending her and acting as her eyes is a little boy, Chin, who survived the car accident. But the killer won't give up his victim. Who will be saved?

## **DIRECTOR'S NOTE**

**DARK GLASSES** is a film that I imagined a few years ago and was unable to make, but that I never stopped thinking about. The difficulty was linked to the demands of the market, which was looking for violent and meaningless stories, while I was at last experiencing a phase of reconciliation with my nightmares. I had therefore decided to open the door of terror and to go through and beyond it. For me, **DARK GLASSES** represents the culmination of a journey as an author that was engraved in my destiny, one that has, since childhood, been influenced by the literature of Edgar Allan Poe. Now that times have changed, I don't want to betray the essence of the story, nor the style that interprets it.

Everything pivots on the fulcrum of the solar eclipse that opens the film by superimposing the blinding light of day on the shadows formed on the ground by the people watching. Gradually, the shadows transform as the sun is darkened and yellow changes to midnight blue. It's an omen that foreshadows the blindness that will overwhelm Diana, the protagonist.

Blindness is a theme that I have already visited. I'm fascinated by the idea (when I am filming) of communicating that feeling of fragility and panic that dominates the beating heart of a character.

I was captivated by Ilenia Pastorelli's beauty, but also by the fragility of her appearance, which exists in stark contrast to the power of her gaze – a gaze that changes when she has to wear dark glasses in the film. Alternating close-ups with intense long shots, I narrated the sequence of murders that, as a necessary element, lead mercilessly to the final catharsis. I have once again paid scrupulous attention to detail – a useful tool to offer a vision of the "other" relative to observed reality, and always going beyond the surface of things. And with the use of subjective point-of-view camera shots, I amplified the anguish of the characters in order to render their fear even more palpable.

There is not a great deal of dialogue, but scenes are supported by a powerful soundtrack created by Arnaud Rebotini, that emphasizes the disturbing atmosphere, alluding to the threat of a killer as an indefinite and phantasmagoric hovering presence. I see music as a protagonist on a par with the performance of the actors, one that makes the story of this chase even more tangible.

As for the photography: from exteriors to interiors, from light to dark, I emphasized in any way possible the claustrophobia that oppresses Diana, despite the many open and isolated spaces. I revealed the countryside, the forest, the river and the night, as no less hostile than the monster haunting her. I wanted to make the viewer truly feel the wind, thus all the amplified and reverberated sound.

Speaking of the main characters I asked myself, as I do in all my films: "Who are they, and how do they move?" In this case, they are two special people. She is an adult and she is

blind; he is a child who is too young to get by on his own. And they come from two different cultures: she's Italian, while the boy is Chinese. This combination is the driving force behind **DARK GLASSES**, the axis on which the main story revolves. The pace and tone of the film go hand in hand with tension and suspense. **DARK GLASSES** is what it's meant to be: a very intense *giallo* thriller, with however a new added element, compared to my previous films – sentiment and tenderness.

Dario Argento

# **DIRECTOR BIOGRAPHY**

## DARIO ARGENTO | Director, screenwriter

For cinema lovers Dario Argento is a legend, and to his filmmaking contemporaries he is an inspiration and an icon.

Argento made his directorial debut in 1970 with *The Bird with the Crystal Plumage* (*L'uccello dalle piume di cristallo*), a *giallo* film which was a major hit in Italy. He continued to concentrate largely on the giallo genre, directing two more successful thrillers, The Cat o' Nine Tails (II gatto a nove code, 1971) and Four Flies on Grey Velvet (4 mosche di velluto grigio, 1972). He returned to thrillers with Deep Red (1975), frequently mentioned by many critics as the finest giallo ever made. The film brought Argento international renown and inspired many other directors to work in the genre. John Carpenter, for example, has frequently referred to the influence of Argento's early work on *Halloween* (1978).

Argento's next film was *Suspiria* (1977), a supernatural horror. The director planned for *Suspiria* to be the first of a trilogy about The Three Mothers: three ancient witches residing in three different modern cities. The trilogy continued with 1980's *Inferno*, and concluded with *The Mother of Tears* in 2007.

After *Inferno*, Argento returned to the more conventional *giallo* style with *Tenebrae* (1982). He then attempted to combine *giallo* and supernatural fantasy in 1985's *Phenomena*, also known as *Creepers*, which featured one of Jennifer Connelly's earliest movie appearances. Argento subsequently took a break from directing to write two screenplays for Mario Bava's son, Lamberto Bava - *Dèmoni* (1985) and *Dèmoni 2* (1986) - before returning behind the camera for *Opera* in 1987. Set in Parma's Regio Theatre during a production of Verdi's *Macbeth*, the production was beset by real-life misfortunes that Argento suspected were caused by the supposed traditional "curse" on Shakespeare's 'Scottish play'.

In 1992, Argento directed *Trauma*, starring his daughter Asia Argento, in Minneapolis, MN: a largely traditional *giallo*, but in an American setting. His 1996 film *The Stendhal Syndrome*, in which a policewoman (Asia Argento again) who suffers from Stendhal syndrome is trapped by a serial killer in an abandoned warehouse, was the first Italian film to use CGI. Moreover, the film's opening scene was shot in Florence at the legendary Uffizi Gallery, and Argento remains the only director ever granted permission to shoot there. Subsequent works include 1998's *The Phantom of the Opera (II fantasma dell'Opera*), 2001's *Sleepless (Non ho sonno*), and 2004's *The Card Player (II Cartaio*). In 2007, Argento finished the final film of his Three Mothers trilogy, *Mother of Tears (La Terza Madre*). *Dracula 3D*, shot in Budapest, was released on 19 May 2012.

### Filmography

#### DIRECTOR AND SCREENWRITER

2022 DARK GLASSES 2012 DRACULA 3D 2009 GIALLO 2007 MOTHER OF TEARS 2005 DO YOU LIKE HITCHCOCK? 2003 THE CARD PLAYER 2000 SLEEPLESS 1998 THE PHANTOM OF THE OPERA **1996 THE STENDHAL SYNDROME 1992 TRAUMA** 1991 DARIO ARGENTO: MASTER OF HORROR **1990 TWO EVIL EYES 1987 OPERA 1985 PHENOMENA** 1985 DARIO ARGENTO'S WORLD OF HORROR - Director only **1982 TENEBRAE 1980 INFERNO 1977 SUSPIRIA** 1975 DEEP RED **1974 THE FIVE DAYS 1971 FOUR FLIES ON GREY VELVET** 1971 THE CAT O' NINE TAILS 1970 THE BIRD WITH THE CRYSTAL PLUMAGE

#### **SCREENWRITER**

1997 WAX MASK directed by Sergio Stivaletti 1991 THE SECT directed by Michele Soavi 1989 THE CHURCH directed by Michele Soavi 1986 DEMONS 2... L'INCUBO RITORNA directed by Lamberto Bava 1985 DEMONS directed by Lamberto Bava 1978 DAWN OF THE DEAD directed by George A. Romero 1972 COSI' SIA directed by Alfio Caltabiano 1969 BATTLE OF THE COMMANDOS directed by Umberto Lenzi 1969 THE FIVE MAN ARMY directed by Italo Zingarelli 1969 SEASON OF THE SENSES directed by Massimo Franciosa 1969 PROBABILITY ZERO directed by Maurizio Lucidi 1968 ONCE UPON A TIME IN THE WEST directed by Sergio Leone 1968 LOVE CIRCLE directed by Giuseppe Patroni Griffi 1968 CEMETERY WITHOUT CROSSES directed by Robert Hossein 1968 THE SEXUAL REVOLUTION directed by Riccardo Ghione 1968 COMMANDOS directed by Armando Crispino 1968 HELL BEFORE DEATH directed by Alfio Caltabiano 1968 TODAY WE KILL ... TOMORROW WE DIE! directed by Tonino Cervi 1967 QUALCUNO HA TRADITO directed by Franco Prosperi

### <u>ACTOR</u>

2021 VORTEX directed by Gaspar Noé 1996 BITS AND PIECES directed by Antonello Grimaldi 1992 INNOCENT BLOOD Directed by John Landis 1966 SCUSI LEI È FAVOREVOLE O CONTRARIO directed by Alberto Sordi

### <u>AWARDS</u>

2021 LOCARNO INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL – Lifetime Achievement Award 2019 CINEUPHORIA AWARDS – Career Honorary Award 2019 DAVID DI DONATELLO – David Speciale 2017 GOLDEN GLOBES- PRIZE for Lifetime Achievement 2013 CHICAGO INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL – Nomination for Dracula 3D 2011 CINEMANILA INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL – Lifetime Achievement Award 2010 CAPRI, HOLLYWOOD – Capri Legend Award 2009 PUSAN INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL – Hand Printing 2007 FLAIANO PRIZE - Lifetime Achievement Award 2006 BARCELONA FILM AWARDS – Best Feature Nominee Tv for Do You Like Hitchcock? 2001 AMSTERDAM FANTASTIC FILM FESTIVAL - Lifetime Achievement Award 2000 CINEQUEST SAN JOSE FILM FESTIVAL – Maverick Tribute Award 1999 SITGES - CATALONIAN INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL – Time Machine Honorary Award 1991 AVORIAZ FANTASTIC FILM FESTIVAL – Nomination for Two Evil Eyes 1990 FANTASPORTO – Best Feature Nominee for Opera 1987 FARO ISLAND FILM FESTIVAL – Best Feature Nominee for Opera 1986 FANTASPORTO – Best Feature Nominee for Phenomena 1985 FANTAFESTIVAL – Speciale 'Fantaitaly' PRIZE 1976 SITGES - CATALONIAN INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL – Gold Medal Sitges Best Director for Deep Red 1975 FARO ISLAND FILM FESTIVAL – Best Feature Nominee for Deep Red 1971 EDGAR ALLAN POE AWARDS - Best Screenplay Nominee for The Bird With the Crystal Plumage

1970 GOLDEN GLOBES – Best First Feature for *The Bird With the Crystal Plumage* 

1970 GROLLA D'ORO – Best First-time Director for The Bird With the Crystal Plumage

# ILENIA PASTORELLI | Diana

## **Biography**

Ilenia Pastorelli grew up combining a passion for dance with a love of music, before attending the Accademia Nazionale di Danza in Rome.

In 2015 she was cast as the female lead in Gabriele Mainetti's *They Call Me Jeeg*. Her performance as Alessia earned her the David di Donatello award for best actress in 2016. The same year, she appeared alongside Raoul Bova in Biagio Antonacci's videoclip *One Day* and was one of the presenters of the summer tv show *Stracult*.

In 2017 she played Luna in Carlo Verdone's *Blessed Madness*, and the following year took major roles in movies including *Cosa fai a Capodanno?* directed by Filippo Bologna, the all-women comedy *Good Gals* (2019), directed by Michela Andreozzi, and Massimiliano Bruno's *All You Need is Crime*, in which she worked alongside Marco Giallini, Gian Marco Tognazzi, Edoardo Leo and Alessandro Gassman. More recently, she starred in Pif's *E noi come stronzi rimanemmo a quardare*, *Io e angela*, directed by

Simone Paragnani, and *Four to Dinner*, directed by Alessio Maria Federici, and made a cameo appearance in the third chapter of Massimiliano Bruno's *Finché c'è crimine c'è speranza*.

In 2021 she took the lead in *giallo* maestro Dario Argento's **Dark Glasses**.

## Filmography

2022 DARK GLASSES directed by Dario Argento 2022 C'ERA UNA VOLTA IL CRIMINE directed by Massimiliano Bruno 2022 IO E ANGELA directed by Herbert Simone Paragnani 2022 FOUR TO DINER directed by Alessio Maria Federici 2021 ON OUR WATCH directed by Pierfrancesco Diliberto AKA Pif 2019 GOOD GALS directed by Michela Andreozzi 2019 ALL YOU NEED IS CRIME directed by Massimiliano Bruno 2018 COSA FAI A CAPAODANNO? directed by Filippo Bologna 2018 BLESSED MADNESS directed by Carlo Verdone 2015 THEY CALL ME JEEG Directed by Gabriele Mainetti

### <u>AWARDS</u>

2019 ANNA MAGNANI PRIZE
2019 FEMALE PERSONALITY OF THE YEAR, Ostia International Film Festival
2018 KINÉO PRIZE as Best Actress for *Blessed Madness*2018 NASTRI D'ARGENTO Best Actress Nominee di Commedia for *Blessed Madness*2018 GIOVANI VIRNA LISI PRIZE, Fondazione Cinema For Roma
2018 GIFFONI EXPERIENCE, Giffoni Film Festival
2018 SABAUDIA FILM FESTIVAL PRIZE for Best Actress for *Blessed Madness*,
2018 BRACCO PRIZE AS BEST REVELATION ACTRESS for *Blessed Madness*, Figari Film Festival
2018 GIULIANO GEMMA PRIZE
2016 DAVID DI DONATELLO Best Actress for *They Call Me Jeeg*2016 PELLICOLA D'ORO Best Actress Nominee for *They Call Me Jeeg*2016 MONICA SCATTINI PRIZE for *They Call Me Jeeg*, Magna, Graecia Film Festival
2016 TARGA ANEC "CLAUDIO ZANCHI" GIOVANI TALENTI Best Actress *They Call Me Jeeg*

# ASIA ARGENTO | Rita

### Biography

The daughter of director Dario Argento and actress Daria Nicolodi, Asia Argento was born in Rome in 1975. She began her acting career at the age of 9 on television, then turned to the cinema. Asia's career quickly moved into the international arena during the 2000s, notably with roles in George A. Romero's *Land of the Dead* and Sofia Coppola's *Marie Antoinette*. She also appeared in Tony Gatlif's *Transylvania*, which premiered at the Cannes Film Festival in 2006, and in 3 feature films in the official selection the following year, before becoming a Cannes festival jury member in 2009. Alongside her acting career, Asia is an internationally feted writer/director, her works including most notably *Scarlet Diva* (2000), *The Heart Is Deceitful Above All Things* (2004), and *Misunderstood*, which screened in the Un Certain Regard section of the Cannes Film Festival in 2014. Active in the music world as a DJ, she also directed the video promo for French band Indochine's *La vie est belle* (2017) and, as a singersongwriter, has collaborated with many artists around the world, including Placebo, Tricky, and The Brian Jonestown Massacre). Asia has also released two solo albums, Total Entropy (2013) and Music From My Bed (2020). In 2019, she became the first female president of the Gérardmer International Fantastic Film Festival for its 27th edition, and served as Jury President at CINEMED: Montpellier International Film Festival in 2020.

Her autobiography, Anatomia di un cuore selvaggio (Anatomy of a Wild Heart), was published in 2021.

### Filmography

### <u>ACTRESS</u>

2022 INTERSTATE directed by Jean Luc Herbulot 2022 DARK GLASSES directed by Dario Argento 2021 SEULE directed by Jérôme Dassier 2021 SANS SOLEIL directed by Banu Akseki 2020 AGONY directed by Michele Civetta 2018 ALIEN CRYSTAL PALACE directed by Arielle Dombasle 2014 SHONGRAM directed by Munsur Ali 2013 OBSESSIVE RHYTHMS directed by Fanny Ardant 2012 DO NOT DISTURB directed by Yvan Attal 2012 DRACULA 3D directed by Dario Argento 2011 ISLANDS directed by Stefano Chiantini 2011 BACIATO DALLA FORTUNA directed by Paolo Costella 2009 DIAMOND 13 directed by Gilles Béhat 2008 ON WAR directed by Bertrand Bonello 2007 GO GO TALES directed by Abel Ferrara 2007 MOTHER OF TEARS directed by Dario Argento 2007 THE LAST MISTRESS directed by Catherine Breillat 2007 BOARDING GATE directed by Olivier Assayas 2006 TRANSYLVANIA directed by Tony Gatlif 2006 MARIE ANTOINETTE directed by Sofia Coppola 2005 LAND OF THE DEAD directed by George A. Romero

2005 LAST DAYS directed by Gus Van Sant 2004 THE KEEPER directed by Paul Lynch 2002 THE SUN SHINES ON GINOSTRA directed by Manuel Pradal 2002 XXX directed by Rob Cohen 2002 RED SIREN directed by Olivier Megaton 2001 LOVE BITES directed by Antoine De Caunes 1998 THE PHANTOM OF THE OPERA directed by Dario Argento 1998 B. MONKEY directed by Michael Radford 1998 NEW ROSE HOTEL directed by Abel Ferrara 1997 VIOLA KISSES EVERYBODY directed by Giovanni Veronesi 1996 TRAVELING COMPANION directed by Peter Del Monte 1996 IL CIELO È SEMPRE PIÙ BLU directed by Antonello Grimaldi 1996 THE STENDHAL SYNDROME directed by Dario Argento 1994 LA REINE MARGOT directed by Patrice Chéreau 1994 PERDIAMOCI DI VISTA directed by Carlo Verdone 1993 CONDANNATO A NOZZE directed by Giuseppe Piccioni 1993 TRAUMA directed by Dario Argento 1992 CLOSE FRIENDS directed by Michele Placido 1989 PALOMBELLA ROSSA – Regia di Nanni Moretti 1989 LA CHIESA – Regia di Michele Soavi 1988 ZOO – Regia di Cristina Comencini 1986 DÈMONI 2...L'INCUBO RITORNA – Regia di Lamberto Bava

#### DIRECTOR

2014 MISUNDERSTOOD 2004 THE HEART IS DECEITFUL ABOVE ALL 2000 SCARLET DIVA 1994 DE GENERAZIONE – PROSPETTIVE episode

#### <u>AWARDS</u>

2014 NASTRI D'ARGENTO, NASTRO EUROPEO BULGARI for *Misunderstood* 2014 NASTRI D'ARGENTO Best Screenplay Nominee for *Misunderstood* 2012 GOLDEN GLOBES Best Actress for *Islands* 2009 CAPRI, HOLLYWOOD Capri Art Award for *Diamond 13* 2007 GOLDEN GLOBES EUROPEAN GOLDEN GLOBE 2007 INDIEWIRE CRITICS' POLL Best Lead Performance Nominee for *Boarding Gate, Mother of Tears, The Last Mistress* 2006 NASTRI D'ARGENTO Best Actress Nominee for *The Heart is Deceitful Above All Things* 2006 SCREAM AWARDS Nominee for *Land of the Dead* 2003 MELBOURNE UNDERGROUND FILM FESTIVAL Best Actress for *Scarlet Diva* 2003 LOS ANGELES ITALIAN FILM AWARDS Outstanding Achievement Award 2001 WILLIAMSBURG BROOKLYN FILM FESTIVAL Best Debut Director for *Scarlet Diva* 2000 FANGORIA CHAINSAW AWARDS Best Actress Nominee for *The Stendhal Syndrome*  1999 OLDENBURG FILM FESTIVAL German Independence Honorary Award 1997 DAVID DI DONATELLO Best Actress for *Traveling Companion* 1997 NASTRI D'ARGENTO Best Actress Nominee for Traveling Companion 1996 GOLDEN GLOBES Best Actress Nominee for Traveling Companion 1996 GROLLA D'ORO Best Actress for Traveling Companion 1996 CIAK D'ORO Best Actress for Stendhal Syndrome 1995 NASTRI D'ARGENTO Best Actress Nominee for Perdiamoci di Vista 1995 FANTASPORTO Best Picture Nominee for *De Generazione* 1994 DAVID DI DONATELLO Best Actress for Perdiamoci di Vista 1994 NASTRI D'ARGENTO Best Supporting Actress Nominee for Condannato a Nozze 1994 PRIZE FLAIANO Best Actress for Perdiamoci di Vista 1994 CIAK D'ORO Best Actress for Perdiamoci di Vista 1994 MYFEST PUBLIC AWARD for De Generazione 1993 NASTRI D'ARGENTO Best Leading Actress Nominee for Close Friends 1989 GOLDEN GLOBES Migliore Attrice per Zoo 1988 GIFFONI FILM FESTIVAL Migliore Attrice per Zoo

### ANDREA GHERPELLI | MATTEO

### Filmography

CINEMA

2020 SI MUORE SOLO DA VIVI directed by Alberto Rizzi 2020 HIDDEN AWAY directed by Giorgio Diritti 2009 AMALFI – REWARDS OF THE GODDESS FIFTY SECONDS directed by Hiroshi Nishitani 2009 QUESTO PICCOLO GRANDE AMORE directed by Riccardo Donna

ΤV

2021 CUORI directed by Riccardo Donna 2020 L'ALLIGATORE directed by Daniele Vicari 2018 DON MATTEO 11 directed by Alexis Sweet 2014 QUALUNQUE COSA SUCCEDA directed by Alberto Negrin 2014 VALENTINO. LA LEGGENDA directed by Alessio Inturri 2012 UN PASSO DAL CIELO directed by Riccardo Donna 2012 FACCIA D'ANGELO directed by Andrea Porporati 2012 NERO WOLFE directed by Riccardo Donna 2005 LA PROF directed by Tiziana Aristarco 2011 STORIA DI LAURA directed by Andrea Porporati 2007 SIMON SCHAMA'S POWER OF ART directed by Clare Beavan 2008 LE ALI directed by Andrea Porporati 2008 DETECTIVE DE LUCA directed by Antonio Frazzi 2008 RACCONTAMI 2 directed by Riccardo Donna 2006 BLACK ARROW directed by Fabrizio Costa

## CAST

DIANA	ILENIA PASTORELLI
RITA	ASIA ARGENTO
MATTEO	ANDREA GHERPELLI
INSPECTOR CAPO ALEARDI	MARIO PIRRELLO
INSPECTOR BAJANI	MARIA ROSARIA RUSSO
INSPECTOR BALDACCI	GENNARO IACCARINO
CHIN	XINYU ZHANG
ESCORT	VIKTORIE IGNOTO

## CREW

DIRECTOR	DARIO ARGENTO
SCREENPLAY	DARIO ARGENTO, FRANCO FERRINI
DP	ΜΑΤΤΕΟ COCCO
EDITOR	FLORA VOLPELIERE
PRODUCTION DESIGNER	MARCELLO DI CARLO
WARDROBE	LUIGI BONANNO
ASSISTANT DIRECTOR	DAVID MARIA PUTORTÌ
SPECIAL MAKE UP, PROSTHETICS AND ANIMATRONICS	SERGIO STIVALETTI STUDIO
SOUND ENGINEER	DANIELE MARIANELLO

SOUND DESIGN	BRUNO VENTURA
MIX	DAMIANO SILVA
ORIGINAL MUSIC	ARNAUD REBOTINI
ASSOCIATE PRODUCER	ASIA ARGENTO
PRODUCERS	NOËMIE DEVIDE, BRAHIM CHIOUA, VINCENT MARAVAL, LAURENCE CLERC
PRODUCERS	CONCHITA AIROLDI E LAURENTINA GUIDOTTI
A URANIA PICTURES and GETAWAY FILMS WILD BUNCH INTERNATIONAL, CANAL + COPRODUCTION	
IN COLLABORATION WITH	RAI CINEMA
IN COLLABORATION WITH	CANAL +, CINE +
IN COLLABORATION WITH	SKY
ITALIAN DISTRIBUTOR	VISION DISTRIBUTION
RUNNING TIME	87′

Made with the support of the MiC, Ministry of Culture, General Direction Cinema and Audiovisual and the Lazio Region. Co-financed by the European Union

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