

ALIEN PRODUZIONI AND MEDUSA FILM  
PRESENT

a film by **SERGIO CASTELLITTO**

**PENÉLOPE CRUZ**      **EMILE HIRSCH**

# TWICE BORN

**tiff.** toronto  
international  
film festival®

OFFICIAL SELECTION 2012

VENUTO AL MONDO

from the novel by  
**MARGARET MAZZANTINI**



**ADNAN HASKOVIC SAADET AKSOY PIETRO CASTELLITTO** with **LUCA DE FILIPPO** and **JANE BIRKIN**

ALIEN PRODUZIONI AND MEDUSA FILM PRESENT A FILM BY MARGARET MAZZANTINI STYLING BY YVING PANGNOM COSTUME DESIGNER SERGIO CASTELLITTO TWICE BORN WITH PENÉLOPE CRUZ EMILE HIRSCH ADNAN HASKOVIC SAADET AKSOY PIETRO CASTELLITTO WITH LUCA DE FILIPPO AND WITH JANE BIRKIN MUSIC BY MASSIMO PICOMEDA ALIEN PRODUZIONI MEDUSA FILM TELEVISION CINEMA

MAI PRODUZIONE S.p.A. IN ASSOCIAZIONE WITH D&A - B&P PAROLAS GROUP IN COLLABORATION WITH IFF - FILM INVESTIMENTI PERMANENTI PRODUZIONE E DISTRIBUZIONE PICOMEDA MUSIC BY LEONARDO SOUL MUSIC BY PERFORMERS GIOVANNI LUPPI CORICELLI SIMONE PALOTTO MARINO PRODUZIONE E DISTRIBUZIONE FRANCESCO FREGI DI CANTIERE E DISTRIBUZIONE BONI MISTRA IN PRODUZIONE GONELLA BERNARDI

GIUDIZIO DI LAURENCE DE FRANCE ALVARO AUGUSTIN FERNANDO OLIVARÁ CAROLAN BARROS PAMELA SULLI MARIJA MAZZANTINI MUSIC BY SERGIO CASTELLITTO - BOB DYLAN PIZZOLI EDITOR MARGARET MAZZANTINI DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY SERGIO CASTELLITTO



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**ALIEN PRODUZIONI & MEDUSA FILM**

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A film by

**SERGIO CASTELLITTO**

# TWICE BORN

*(VENUTO AL MONDO)*

starring

**PENELOPE CRUZ EMILE HIRSCH**

Based on the novel TWICE BORN (VENUTO AL MONDO)  
by **MARGARET MAZZANTINI**, published by Viking Penguin

2012 • ITALY • 2H06M • 5.1 DOLBY STEREO • COLOR

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# SYNOPSIS

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Gemma visits Sarajevo with her son, Pietro. 16 years earlier, they escaped the war-torn city while Diego, the boy's father, remained behind and later died. As she tries to repair her difficult relationship with Pietro, she also confronts her past.

Gemma first met and fell in love with Diego in Sarajevo. They desperately wanted children but she could not conceive. Amidst the siege of 1992, they found a possible surrogate, and Gemma pushed her into Diego's arms, only to be overwhelmed by guilt and jealousy.

Now, a revelation awaits her – one that will force her to face the full extent of her loss, the true horror of war and the redemptive power of love.

# DIRECTOR'S NOTES

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This is a fictitious story, created by a writer's imagination and subsequently elaborated into a screenplay for film. The characters, their conflicts, what drives and frustrates them and what they desire, are all fictitious factors. Yet, it's a true story. Because the war in Yugoslavia was so damn real, as was the siege in Sarajevo, the rapes and the memory of all of it which even today, we can read in the eyes of many who lived through those years. The film, or its "make-believe", can't ignore these truths. Thus it's a "real" film, not necessarily realistic, but still, an ethical story, a touching document and a psychological reportage. The journey of the main character, Gemma, who lives through the horrific drama of her missed motherhood and then in the dark belly of war and of the siege in Sarajevo, turns into a journey in search for the most important answer of all: why all this violence? And most importantly, can this violence give birth to light, to a new possibility? This is the answer that we are looking for. It's the "idiotic" utopia of the artist, which we must follow if we don't want to succumb to darkness. The child, who will be born out of that darkness, will have a future with hopes and dreams. And most of all will be better than those who preceded him.

- Sergio Castellitto.

# **SERGIO CASTELLITTO**

## **(Director and Screenwriter)**

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Sergio Castellitto - actor, screenwriter and director - was born and lives in Rome.  
His work with some of the most important and prestigious Italian and foreign directors includes:

- 2011 **LOVE & SLAPS (La bellezza del Somaro)** by *Sergio Castellitto*
- 2006 **THE WEDDING DIRECTOR (Il regista di matrimoni)** by *Marco Bellocchio*
- 2006 **THE MISSING STAR (La stella che non c'è)** by *Gianni Amelio*
- 2002 **MY MOTHER'S SMILE (L'ora di religione)** by *Marco Bellocchio*
- 2001 **VA SAVOIR! (Chi lo sa)** by *Jacques Rivette*
- 2001 **MOSTLY MARTHA (Ricette d'amore)** by *Sandra Nettlebeck*
- 1995 **THE STARMAKER (L'uomo delle stelle)** by *Giuseppe Tornatore*
- 1993 **THE GREAT PUMPKIN (Il grande cocomero)** by *Francesca Archibugi*
- 1988 **THE BIG BLUE (Le grand bleu)** by *Luc Besson*
- 1987 **THE FAMILY (La Famiglia)** by *Ettore Scola*

The adaptation of his wife Margaret Mazzantini's bestseller "NON TI MUOVERE" ("DON'T MOVE") was his second film as director, screenwriter and actor. Shot with Penélope Cruz, in 2004 the film was presented in the *Un Certain Regard* section of the Cannes Film Festival where it met with great international critical success.

# MARGARET MAZZANTINI

## (Author and Screenwriter)

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Margaret Mazzantini was born in Dublin and graduated from the Accademia D'Arte Drammatica "Silvio D'Amico" in Rome.

After a precocious and brilliant theatrical career that led her to work with some of the most important Italian and European theatre directors (Aldo Trionfo, Otomar Krejca, Walter Pagliaro, Marco Sciaccaluga, Giancarlo Sbragia), she published her first novel "IL CATINO DI ZINCO" in 1994 and won the *Selezione Campiello* and the *Rapallo Carige* awards.

In 1995, her comedy for two actresses "MANOLA" was directed by husband Sergio Castellitto, and interpreted by herself and Nancy Brilli. A huge public and critical success, the play ran for two years.

In 1998, her second novel "MANOLA" was published by Mondadori.

In 2001, Mondadori published "NON TI MUOVERE" ("DON'T MOVE"). An immediate bestseller, it won the *Strega Award 2003*, the *Grinzane Cavour Prize* and the *Zepter Prize* in Paris. The novel has sold over one and a half million copies to date and has been published in more than 30 countries.

In 2002, Margaret Mazzantini's theatrical monologue "ZORRO" was performed by Sergio Castellitto and published by Mondadori.

In 2004, she worked on the script of **NON TI MUOVERE (DON'T MOVE)**, written and directed by Sergio Castellitto, and starring Penélope Cruz and the director. Number one at the Italian box office, the film won the *Nastro d'Argento* for best script and the *Biglietto d'Oro 2004*. Penélope Cruz was awarded a *David di Donatello* for her performance.

"VENUTO AL MONDO", Mazzantini's third novel, was published in 2008 and won the *Premio Campiello* the following year.

Recent works include "NESSUNO SI SALVA DA SOLO" (Mondadori, 2011) and "MARE AL MATTINO" (Einaudi, 2011)

# **PENELOPE CRUZ** - *Gemma*

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- 2012 **TWICE BORN** by Sergio Castellitto  
**TO ROME WITH LOVE** by Woody Allen
- 2011 **PIRATES OF THE CARIBBEAN: ON STRANGER TIDES** by Rob Marshall
- 2010 **SEX AND THE CITY 2** by Michael Patrick King
- 2009 **BROKEN EMBRACES** by Pedro Almodóvar  
**NINE** by Rob Marshall
- 2008 **VICKY CRISTINA BARCELONA** by Woody Allen  
**ELEGY** by Isabel Coixet
- 2007 **THE GOOD NIGHT** by Jake Paltrow  
**MANOLETE** by Menno Meyjes
- 2006 **VOLVER** by Pedro Almodóvar  
**BANDIDAS** by J. Rønning, E. Sandberg
- 2005 **SAHARA** by Breck Eisner  
**CHROMOPHOBIA** by Martha Fiennes
- 2004 **DON'T MOVE** by Sergio Castellitto  
**HEAD IN THE CLOUDS** by John Duigan  
**NOEL** by Chazz Palminteri
- 2003 **MASKED AND ANONYMOUS** by Larry Charles  
**FANFAN LA TULIPE** by Gérard Krawczyk  
**GOTHIKA** by Mathieu Kassovitz
- 2002 **WAKING UP IN RENO** by Jordan Brady
- 2001 **BLOW** by Ted Demme  
**CAPTAIN CORELLI'S MANDOLIN** by John Madden  
**DON'T TEMPT ME** by Agustín Díaz Yanes  
**VANILLA SKY** by Cameron Crowe
- 2000 **WOMAN ON TOP** by Fina Torres  
**ALL THE PRETTY HORSES** by Billy Bob Thornton
- 1999 **ALL ABOUT MY MOTHER** by Pedro Almodóvar  
**THE GIRL OF YOUR DREAMS** by Fernando Trueba  
**VOLAVERUNT** by Bigas Luna
- 1998 **DON JUAN** by Jacques Weber  
**TWICE UPON A YESTERDAY** by Maria Ripoll  
**TALK OF ANGELS** by Nick Hamm  
**THE HI-LO COUNTRY** by Stephen Frears
- 1997 **A CORNER OF PARADISE** by Peter Ringgaard  
**LIVE FLESH** by Pedro Almodóvar

- OPEN YOUR EYES** by *Alejandro Amenábar*
- 1996 **LA CELESTINA** by *Gerardo Vera*
- MAS QUE AMOR, FRENESÍ** by *A.Albacete, M.Bardem, D.Menkes*
- BRUJAS** by *Álvaro Fernández Armero*
- LOVE CAN SERIOUSLY DAMAGE YOUR HEALTH** by *Manuel Gómez Pereira*
- 1995 **ENTRE ROJAS** by *Álvaro Fernández Armero*
- 1994 **ALLEGRE MA NON TROPPO** by *Ferdinando Colomo*
- TODO ES MENTIRA** by *Álvaro Fernández Armero*
- 1993 **PER AMORE, SOLO PER AMORE** by *Giovanni Veronesi*
- THE GREEK LABYRINTH** by *Rafael Alcázar*
- LA RIBELLE** by *Aurelio Grimaldi*
- 1992 **JAMON JAMON** by *Bigas Luna*
- THE AGE OF BEAUTY** by *Fernando Trueba*
- FRAMED (TV)** by *Geoffrey Sax*



# EMILE HIRSCH - *Diego*

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- 2012 **TWICE BORN** by Sergio Castellitto  
**SAVAGES** by Oliver Stone  
**KILLER JOE** by William Friedkin
- 2011 **THE DARKEST HOUR** by Chris Gorak
- 2009 **TAKING WOODSTOCK** by Ang Lee
- 2008 **SPEED RACER** by Wachowski  
**MILK** by Gus Van Sant
- 2007 **INTO THE WILD** by Sean Penn  
**ALPHA DOG** by Nick Cassavetes  
**THE AIR I BREATHE** by Jieho Lee
- 2005 **IMAGINARY HEROES** by Dan Harris  
**LORDS OF DOGTOWN** by Catherine Hardwicke
- 2004 **THE GIRL NEXT DOOR** by Luke Greenfield  
**THE MUDGE BOY** by Michael Burke
- 2002 **THE DANGEROUS LIVES OF ALTAR BOYS** by Peter Care  
**THE EMPEROR'S CLUB** by Michael Hoffman
- 1998 **GARGANTUA** by Bradford May

## **ADNAN HASKOVIC** - *Gojko*

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- 2012 **TWICE BORN** *by Sergio Castellitto*  
**BODY COMPLETE** *by Lukas Sturm*  
**PUT KESTENA** *by Jasmin Durakovic*

## **PIETRO CASTELLITTO** - *Pietro*

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- 2012 **TWICE BORN** *by Sergio Castellitto*  
**È NATA UNA STAR?** *by Lucio Pellegrini*  
2010 **LA BELLEZZA DEL SOMARO** *by Sergio Castellitto*  
2004 **NON TI MUOVERE** *by Sergio Castellitto*

## **SAADET AKSOY** - *Aska*

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- 2012 **TWICE BORN** *by Sergio Castellitto*  
2009 **BASKA DILDE ASK** *by Ilksen Basarir*  
**IZTOCHNI PIESI** *by Kamen Kalev*  
**THE REBOUND** *by Bart Freundlich*  
2008 **SÛT** *by Semih Kaplanoglu*  
**A BEAUTIFUL LIFE** *by Alejandro Chomski*

# CREW

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Directed by

**SERGIO CASTELLITTO**

Screenplay by

**MARGARET MAZZANTINI**  
**SERGIO CASTELLITTO**

Based on the novel TWICE BORN (*VENUTO AL MONDO*)

by **MARGARET MAZZANTINI**

Published by Viking Penguin

DP

**GIANFILIPPO CORTICELLI**

Editor

**PATRIZIO MARONE**

Original Music

**EDUARDO CRUZ**

Art Director

**FRANCESCO FRIGERI**

Costume Designer

**SONU MISHRA**

Sound

**MAURIZIO ARGENTIERI**

Producers

**SERGIO CASTELLITTO**  
**ROBERTO SESSA**

Co-production

**PICOMEDIA**  
**ALIEN PRODUZIONI**  
**MEDUSA FILM**  
**TELECINCO CINEMA**  
**MOD PRODUCCIONES**

In collaboration with  
**FIP – FILM INVESTIMENTI PIEMONTE**  
**REGIONE LAZIO**

In association with  
**BNL GRUPPO BNP PARIBAS**  
**SKY CINEMA**  
**MEDIASET PREMIUM**

Distributed in Italy by  
**MEDUSA FILM**

## **CAST**

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*Gemma* - **PENELOPE CRUZ**  
*Diego* - **EMILE HIRSCH**  
*Gojko* - **ADNAN HASKOVIC**  
*Aska* - **SAADET AKSOY**  
*Pietro* - **PIETRO CASTELLITTO**  
*Armando* - **LUCA DE FILIPPO**  
*Psychologist* - **JANE BIRKIN**  
*Giuliano* - **SERGIO CASTELLITTO**  
*Velida* - **MIRA FURLAN**  
*Jovan* - **JOVAN DIVIAK**

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