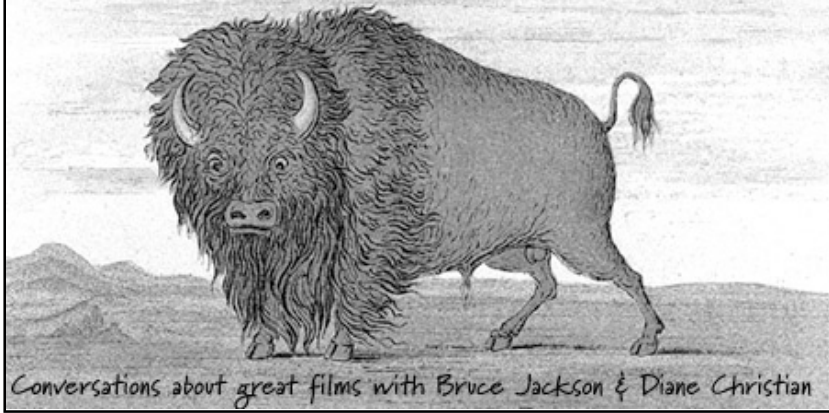


The Buffalo Film Seminars



APRIL 6, 2004 (VIII:12)
ROCCO & HIS BROTHERS

LUCHINO VISCONTI (Count Don Lucino Visconti di Modrone, 2 November 1906, Milan—17 March 1976, Rome) wrote or co-wrote and directed all or part of 19 other films, the best known of which are *L'Innocente* 1976, *Morte a Venezia/Death in Venice* 1971, *La Caduta degli dei/The Damned* 1969, *Lo Straniero/The Stranger* 1967, *Il Gattopardo/The Leopard*, 1963, *Le Notti bianche/White Nights* 1957, and *Ossessione*.

ALAIN DELON (8 November 1935, Sceaux, Hauts-de-Seine, France), once called “the French James Dean,” came to stardom in this film, his seventh screen role. He starred in Visconti’s stage production of *'Tis a Pity She's a Whore* in Paris the following year. He appeared in more than 80 films, among

them *Un amour de Swann/Swann in Love* 1984, *The Concorde: Airport '79* 1979, *Monsieur Klein* 1976, *Zorro* 1974, *Borsalino* 1970, *Is Paris Burning?* 1966, *Texas Across the River* 1966, *Once a Thief* 1965, *The Yellow Rolls-Royce* 1965, *Il Gattopardo/The Leopard*, 1963, *L'Eclisse/The Eclipse* 1962. He also produced 10 and wrote 17 films. Delon was a parachutist with the French army in Indochina in the early 1950s and in 1968 was implicated in a murder, drug and sex scandal that involved several French politicians and show business personalities; unlike most of the others, he was exonerated. He currently stars in the French television series, “Fabio Montale.”

KATINA PAXINOU (17 December 1900, Piraeus, Athens, Greece—22 February 1973, Athens, Greece, cancer) acted in 14 films, beginning with *For Whom the Bell Tolls* 1943, for which she won the best supporting actress Academy Award. Her last film was *The Martlet's Tale* 1970. The others were *Tante Zita* 1968, *The Trial* 1963 (scenes deleted), *Morte di un bandito* 1961, *The Miracle* 1959, *Mr. Arkadin* 1955, *Prince of Foxes* 1949, *The Inheritance* 1951, *Confidential Agent* 1945 and *Hostages* 1943.

ANNIE GIRARDOT (25 October 1931, Paris—) has acted in 142 films, the most recent of which is *Je préfère qu'on reste amis*, which is filming now. She was also in *The Piano Player* 2001, *Préférence* 1998, *Alibi perfetto* 1992, *The Legendary Life of Ernest Hemingway* 1988, *Le Dernier baiser* 1977, *Traitement de choc/Doctor in the Nude* 1973, *Storia di una donna* 1970, *Erotissimo* 1968, *L'Autre femme* 1963, *La Vice et la vertu* 1962, *Maigret tend un piège* 1958, and *Thirteen at the Table* 1956.

CLAUDIA CARDINALE (15 April 1938, Tunis, Tunisia) appeared in more than 100 films, beginning with *I Soliti ignoti/Big Deal On Madonna Street* 1958. Some others: *Un homme amoureux/A Man in Love* 1987, *Princess Daisy* 1983, *Burden of Dreams* 1982, *Fitzcarraldo* 1982, *La Pelle/The Skin* 1981, *Krasnaya palatka/The Red Tent* 1971, *C'era una volta il West/Once Upon a Time in the West* 1969, *The Professionals* 1966, *Il Gattopardo/The Leopard*, 1963, *8 1/2* (1963), *The Pink Panther* (1963).

NINO ROTA (3 December 1911—Milan, 10 April 1979) Rome composed scores for all three *Godfather* films 1972, 1974, 1990, for Fellini’s *Amarcord* 1974, *Roma* 1972, *I Clowns* 1971, *Satyricon* 1969, *Giulietta degli spiriti/Juliet of the Spirits* 1965, *8½* 1963, *La Dolce Vita* 1960, *Le Notti di Cabiria* 1957, and *La Strada* 1954. He also scored *Il Gattopardo/The Leopard*, 1963 and about 150 other films.

GIUSEPPE ROTUNNO [19 March 1923] Rome photographed the sweet biopic of Mastroianni playing on A&E lately, *Marcello Mastroianni: mi ricordo s , io mi ricordo/Marcello Mastroianni: I remember* 1997. He also shot more than 70 other films, among them *Wolf* 1994, *Regarding Henry* 1991, *The Adventures of Baron Munchausen* 1988, *All That Jazz* 1979, *La Fine del mondo nel nostro solito letto in una notte piena di pioggia/The End of the World in Our Usual Bed in a Night Full of Rain* 1978, *Casanova* 1976, *Amarcord* 1974, *Roma* 1972, *Man of La Mancha* 1972, *Carnal Knowledge* 1971, *Satyricon* 1969, *Candy* 1968, *Lo Straniero/The Stranger* 1967, *Il Gattopardo/The Leopard*, 1963, *On the Beach* 1959, and *Le Notti bianche* 1957.

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Visconti’s retreat from naturalism [in *Le notti bianche White Nights*, 1957- a film in poetic realism style] was reversed in his next film, *Rocco e i suoi fratelli (Rocco and his Brothers*, 1960). It may be seen almost as a continuation of *La terra trema*, examining the fate of the widowed Rosaria Parondi and her five sons, a peasant family from the impoverished south trying to make a new life in the northern industrial city of Milan. Each brother in effect illustrated a different approach to the problems they all face: one opts for unobtrusive integration, another (the saintlike Rocco) clings loyally but hopelessly to the traditional peasant values, and one derisively rejects them. Widely regarded as a requiem for these

ROCCO E I SUOI FRATELLI/ ROCCO AND HIS BROTHERS (1960) 177 min.

Alain Delon...Rocco Parondi
Renato Salvatori...Simone Parondi
Annie Girardot...Nadia
Katina Paxinou...Rosaria Parondi
Alessandra Panaro...Ciro's Fiancee
Spiros Focás...Vincenzo Parondi
Max Cartier...Ciro Parondi
Corrado Pani...Ivo
Rocco Vidolazzi...Luca Parondi

Claudia Mori...Laundrey Worker
Adriana Asti...Laundrey Worker
Enzo Fiermonte...Boxer
Nino Castelnuovo...Nino Rossi
Rosario Borelli...Un biscazziere
Renato Terra...Alfredo, Ginetta's brother
Roger Hanin...Morini
Paolo Stoppa...Cecchi
Suzy Delair...Luisa
Claudia Cardinale...Ginetta

Directed by Luchino Visconti
Scenario by Luchino Visconti, Suso Cecchi d'Amico & Vasco Pratolini
Adaptation & dialogue by Suso Cecchi d'Amico, Pasquale Festa Campanile, Massimo Franciosa,
Enrico Medioli & Luchino Visconti
Inspired by an episode from Giovanni Testori's novel *Il ponte della Ghisolfia*
Produced by Goffredo Lombardo
Original Music by Nino Rota
Cinematography by Giuseppe Rotunno