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## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

### **Italian Cinema Day (Giornata del Cinema Italiano); May 7 at Main Street Landing Performing Arts Center**

VTIFF and VICA (Vermont Italian Cultural Association) are delighted to announce a special day of Italian films, Sunday, May 7 from 2 - 9 PM. The films will be screened at Main Street Landing Performing Arts Center at 60 Lake Street in Burlington.

The day's program consists of three films including *The Truffle Hunters* released in 2020 and Stanley Tucci's 1996 film *Big Night* both of which have a distinct food connection. The final film, *L'immensità*, starring Penélope Cruz, made its world premiere at the 79th Venice International Film Festival in September 2022. All the films will have English subtitles.

"Our partnership with VTIFF has allowed VICA to bring Italian film to a large audience," says Lisa DeNatale, President of the Vermont Italian Cultural Association. "These three films bring Italian culture to the screen through stories of food and family. There is something for everyone to enjoy."

Between screenings, there will be a bar selling wine and beer from Skinny Pancake, as well as a range of Italian food prepared by Anna May's Old World Desserts, Cooking with Stephanie and Dedalus.

VTIFF and the Vermont Italian Cultural Association are grateful to our event and film sponsors including Peter Ciardelli and David Arms Jr., Karma Bird House, Nedde Real Estate and Stephens Family Dentistry.

**The schedule is available online at VTIFF for viewing and booking.**

**2 PM - THE TRUFFLE HUNTERS by Michael Dweck and Gregory Kershaw**

[Trailer](#)

Set amid the hilly woodlands of the Piedmont region of Italy, this entrancingly low-key affair (whose numerous executive producers include *Call Me By Your Name* director Luca Guadagnino) leads us into a secretive world far removed from the globalized bustle of modern technology. Here, we meet a disparate group of men whose closest relationships seem to be with their dogs ("If my dog dies I would die too," says one) as they search for the rare and tasty white truffles that embody their disappearing way of life. Read more [HERE](#)

**4 PM - BIG NIGHT by Stanley Tucci and Campbell Scott**

[Trailer](#)

*Big Night* focuses on the volatile relationship between two immigrant restaurateurs, the uncompromising chef Primo (Tony Shalhoub) and his younger sibling, Secondo (Stanley Tucci), who runs the dining room and is trying desperately to keep the business afloat. That's a particular challenge because *Big Night* is set in the late 1950s, when American customers in Italian restaurants demanded spaghetti and meatballs, not delicate Venetian rice dishes. **Read more** [HERE](#)

**7 PM - L'IMMENSITA by Emanuele Crialese**

[Trailer](#)

Crialese's largely autobiographical work (he came out as trans during the première of the film at the Venice Film Festival), is a portrait of a dysfunctional

family in 1970s Rome. Penélope Cruz stars as Clara, Spanish ex-pat, an unhappily married mother of three coping with mental health issues. The core of the story involves her eldest child, Adriana/Andrea (played by newcomer Luana Giuliani), a trans boy who lacks the language to describe his gender dysphoria and simply tells adults that he's an alien from another galaxy. **Read more [HERE](#)**

**The full schedule is available online for viewing and booking.**

**Tickets are \$12 or \$6 for students for individual films or \$30 for a full day's pass. VTIFF and VICA members get a discount - \$10 or \$25 respectively.**

**Visit <https://vtiff.org/> for more information.**

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The Vermont International Film Foundation (VTIFF) is a cultural non-profit organization whose mission is to enrich the community and bring the world to Vermont through film. VTIFF operates year-round with 3 festivals - the Vermont International Film Festival, the Global Roots Film Festival, the Made Here Film Festival, as well as monthly screenings. VTIFF celebrated its 37th anniversary in 2021.

More information at **[VTIFF.ORG](https://vtiff.org/)**

High-res film stills at **[VTIFF.ORG/PRESS](https://vtiff.org/press)**

### **About the Vermont Italian Cultural Association**

The Vermont Italian Cultural Association is dedicated to preserving and promoting Italian culture in Vermont. Anyone interested in Italian culture, arts, language, history, travel and other aspects of Italian civilization is invited to join. In 2023 the organization celebrates its 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. To learn more or to become a member visit **[vermontitalianculturalassociation.org](https://vermontitalianculturalassociation.org)**

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