



i fiori persi

l o s t f l o w e r s

luxembourg city film festival
screenings

cinémathèque – 04/03/22 – 21h15
VO IT st FR

utopia – 05/03/22 – 16h00
VO IT st FR

utopia – 09/03/22 – 18h30
VO IT st ENG

a film by
fabrizio maltese

written by
fabrizio maltese & stephan roelants

edited by
qutaiba barhamji

luxembourg theatrical realease date
april 20, 2022



FESTIVALS

thessaloniki documentary festival
official selection - competition
transilvania international film festival
official selection
morelia international film festival
official selection
luxembourg city film festival
official selection - documentary competition

SPECS

running time: 72'
language: italian
subtitles: fr, en
color, mixed media, iPhone
aspect ratio: 2,35:1
projection format: DCP
production country: luxembourg
world premiere: june 2021

SYNOPSIS

March 2020. Fabrizio, a photographer and filmmaker who lives in Luxembourg, returns to his family in central Italy after his father has suffered a heart attack.

It's the beginning of the pandemic, the country is in lockdown. Fabrizio is not aware that one of the toughest trials of his life has just begun and he will be plunged into three months of isolation and hardship.

A poignant but essential document about the devastatingly personal consequences of a global scourge.



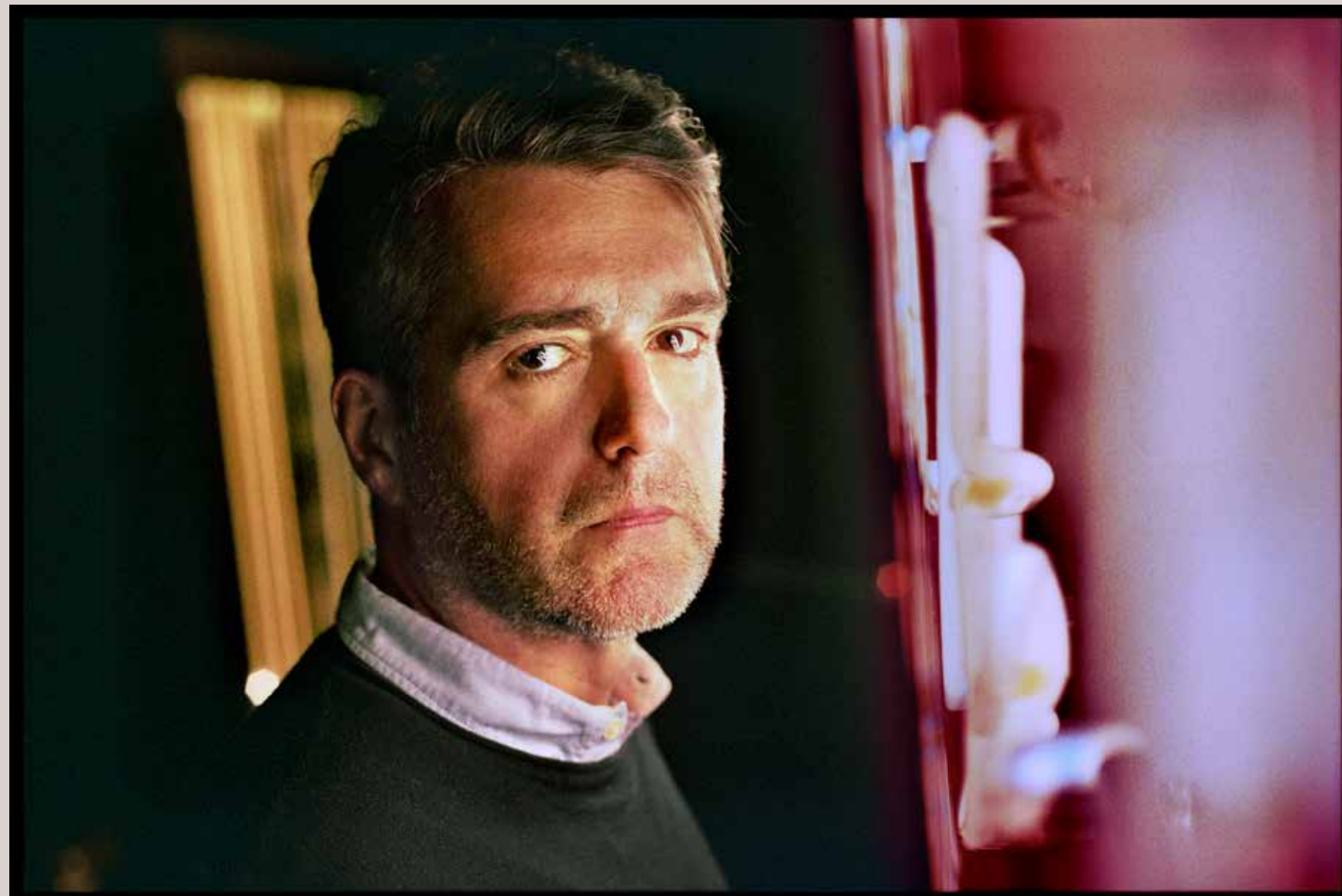
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F A B R I Z I O M A L T E S E

DIRECTOR AND PRODUCER



© photo credit: Kris Dewitte

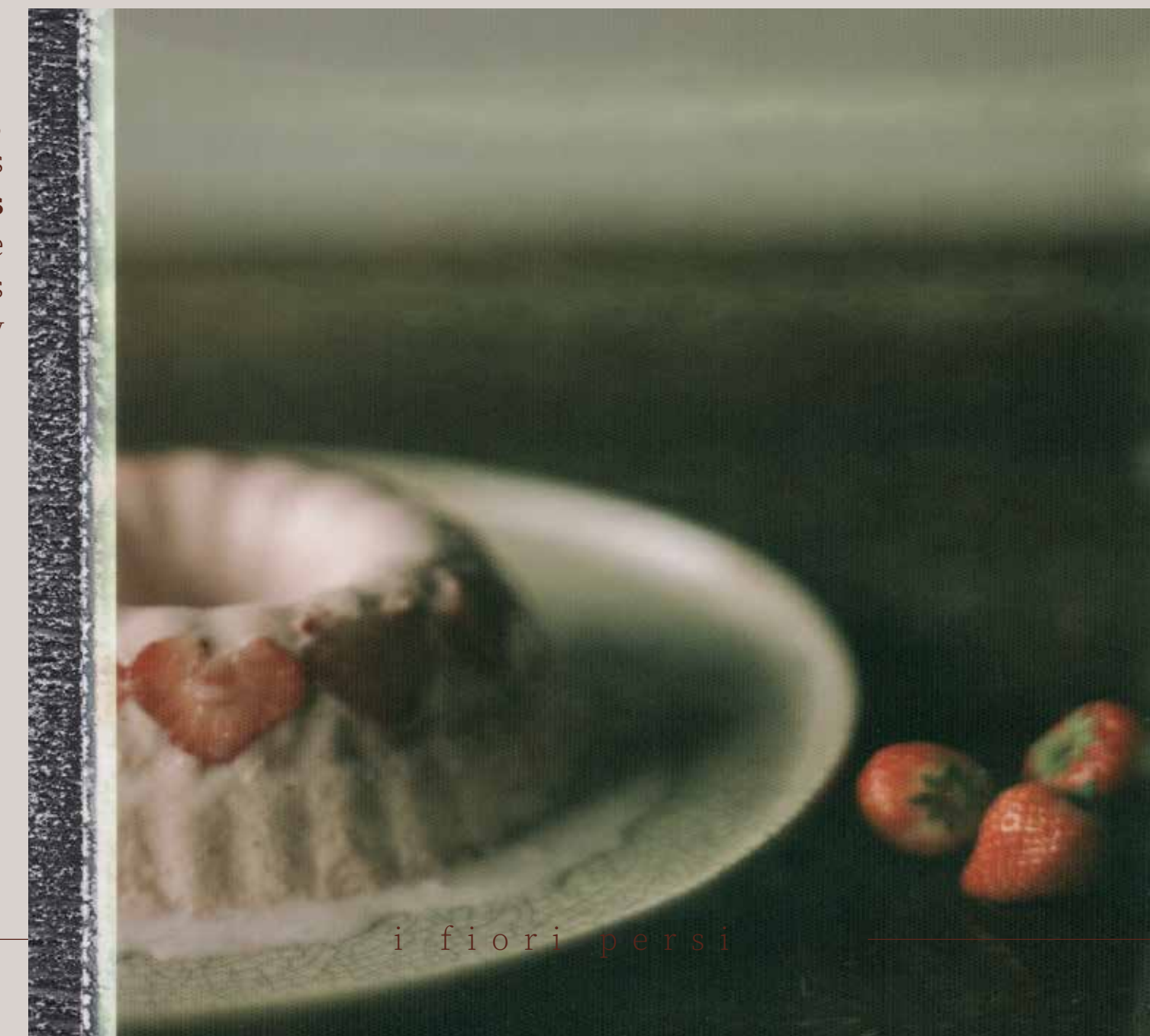
Italian-born, Paris- and Luxembourg-based Fabrizio Maltese is a photographer and documentary filmmaker. His celebrity portraits have graced the covers of magazines including The Hollywood Reporter, GQ, Sight & Sound, Rolling Stone, Studio Ciné Live, Filmkrant and many others. He's the only photographer to have won the Venice Movie Stars Photography Award twice (in 2005 for a portrait of Isabelle Huppert and again in 2012 for a portrait of Nicolas Cage). He was nominated in 2015 for a National Arts & Entertainment Journalism Award for his portraits of Quentin Tarantino, Uma Thurman and John Travolta, reunited for the 20th anniversary of Pulp Fiction and shot for The Hollywood Reporter. His distinctive portraits have been showcased in numerous solo exhibitions around the world. They include Faces of French Cinema (2008, Sao Paulo, Edinburgh, Lisbon), Role/Play (2012, Luxembourg, Sydney) and V.I.P. Area (2013, Galway). As a stills photographer, he has worked on some twenty European arthouse films.

As a director, cinematographer and producer, he made the documentary features **Twenty-Five Palms** (2015) and **50 Days in the Desert** (2016). Both films premiered at the Palm Springs International Film Festival. 50 Days in the Desert also screened at Luxembourg City

and Transylvania International Film Festival. **California Dreaming** (2019), a portrait of a small community in the High Mojave Desert, premiered at the Thessaloniki Documentary Film Festival in 2019 and also played at festivals including Reykjavik, Tallinn Black Nights, Cleveland, Transylvania and Galway. It was released in Luxembourg cinemas and VOD in September 2019.

In 2021 Maltese released the intimate **I fiori persi** (Lost Flowers), set in his home town of Viterbo, Italy, during the first wave of the pandemic, followed by the epic **L'Invitation**, a cinematic portrait of Mauritania, the home country of renowned African filmmaker Abderrahmane Sissako.

In 2022 the Macau's Cinematheque dedicated to his work the first retrospective exhibition, showing his portraits, stills and documentaries.



STEPHAN ROELANTS

STEPHAN ROELANTS, CO-WRITER AND
CO-PRODUCER.

QUTAIBA BARHAMJI, EDITOR

QUTAIBA BARHAMJI

Belgian born and Luxembourg based, Stephan Roelants is a four-time Academy Award nominated producer for Best animated feature film (Wolfwalkers, The Breadwinner, Song of the Sea, Ernest and Celestine), founder and CEO of Melusine Productions and Studio 352. Member of the Producers Guild of America, he has been nominated for Outstanding producer of the year (2021) for an animated feature (Wolfwalkers).

Stephan Roelants has produced dozens of animation, documentary and fiction features and short films as well as TV series. As screenwriter and filmmaker, he worked on several fiction and non-fiction feature films. Roelants has also published six fiction novels and short stories. Lost Flowers is the third collaboration with Fabrizio Maltese after his California Dreaming as co-producer (2019) and L'Invitation as co-writer (2022).

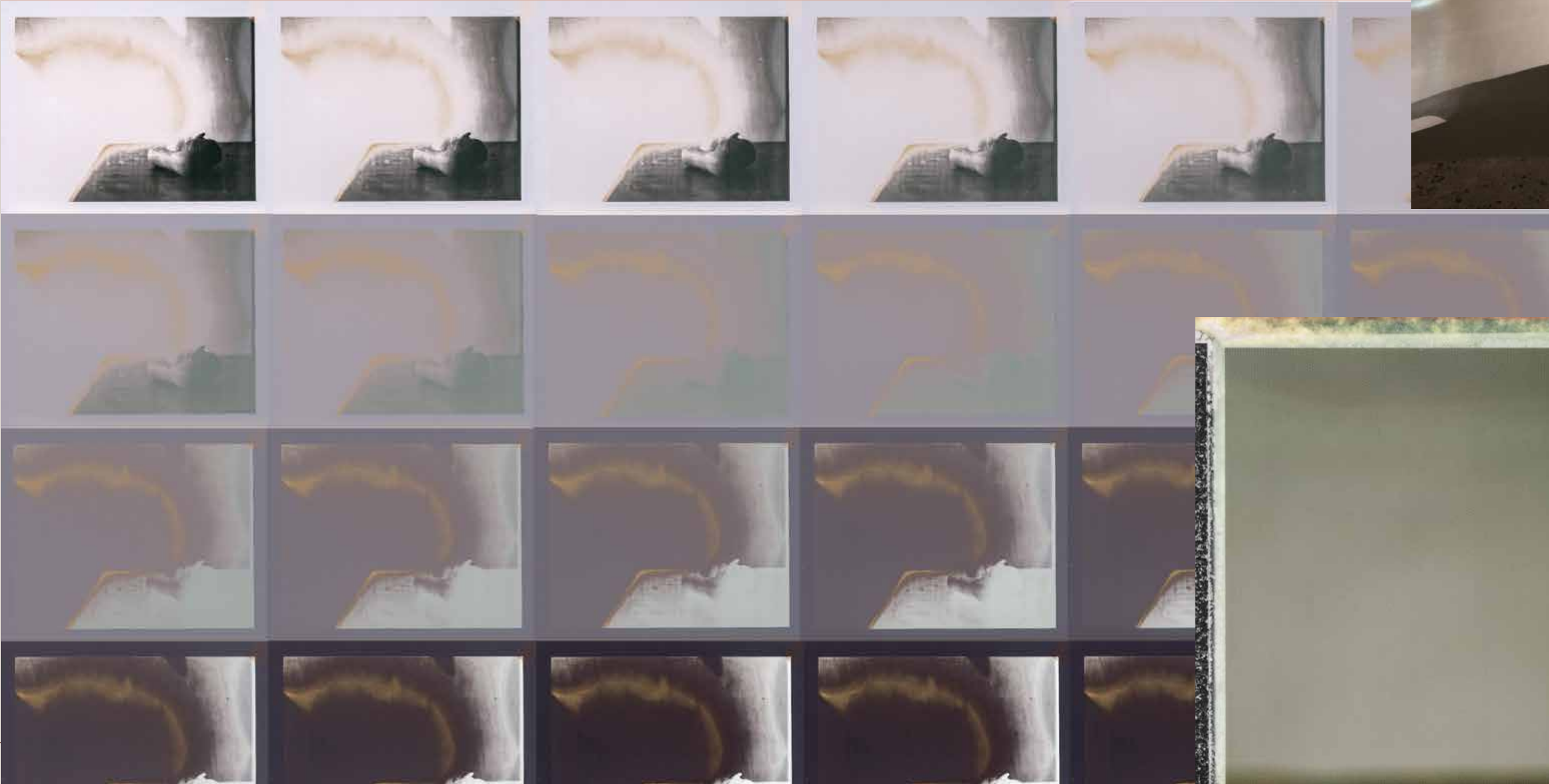
Born in Damascus, Qutaiba Barhamji is an award-winning film director and editor currently based in France. He has edited more than 50 films in 15 different languages, including both feature documentaries and fiction films. His works have been shown around the world at festivals including Venice, Berlin, IDFA, Rotterdam, Paris, Nyon, and many others. Among them are Venice film festival multi-award-winning documentary film Still Recording (2018) dir. Ghiath Ayoub and Saeed Al Batal and the feature film representing Egypt at the Oscars Poisonous Roses (2018) dir. by Ahmed Fawzi.

Qutaiba also works as an editing consultant and trainer for several organizations and universities in Europe and the Middle East. As a juror, he has participated in numerous festivals and funds, including Sundance Documentary Fund, Docudays UA, Minsk International Film Festival Listapad, among others. Lost Flowers is the second collaboration with Fabrizio Maltese after L'Invitation (2022)



"Full of universal poignancy...
builds into a deeply affecting portrayal of familial love"

THE FILM
VERDICT



CREDITS

A film by:
Fabrizio Maltese

with:
Maurizio Maltese
Fabrizio Maltese

Editing:
Qutaiba Barhamji

Written by:
Stephan Roelants
Fabrizio Maltese

Produced by:
Fabrizio Maltese - Joli Rideau Media - Luxembourg
Stephan Roelants (P.G.A.) - Melusine Productions - Luxembourg

Cinematography and artworks:
Fabrizio Maltese

Original score:
Emre Sevindik

Artistic direction voice recording (prologue):
Donato Rotunno

Line producer:
Fabien Renelli

With the support of the:
Film Fund Luxembourg

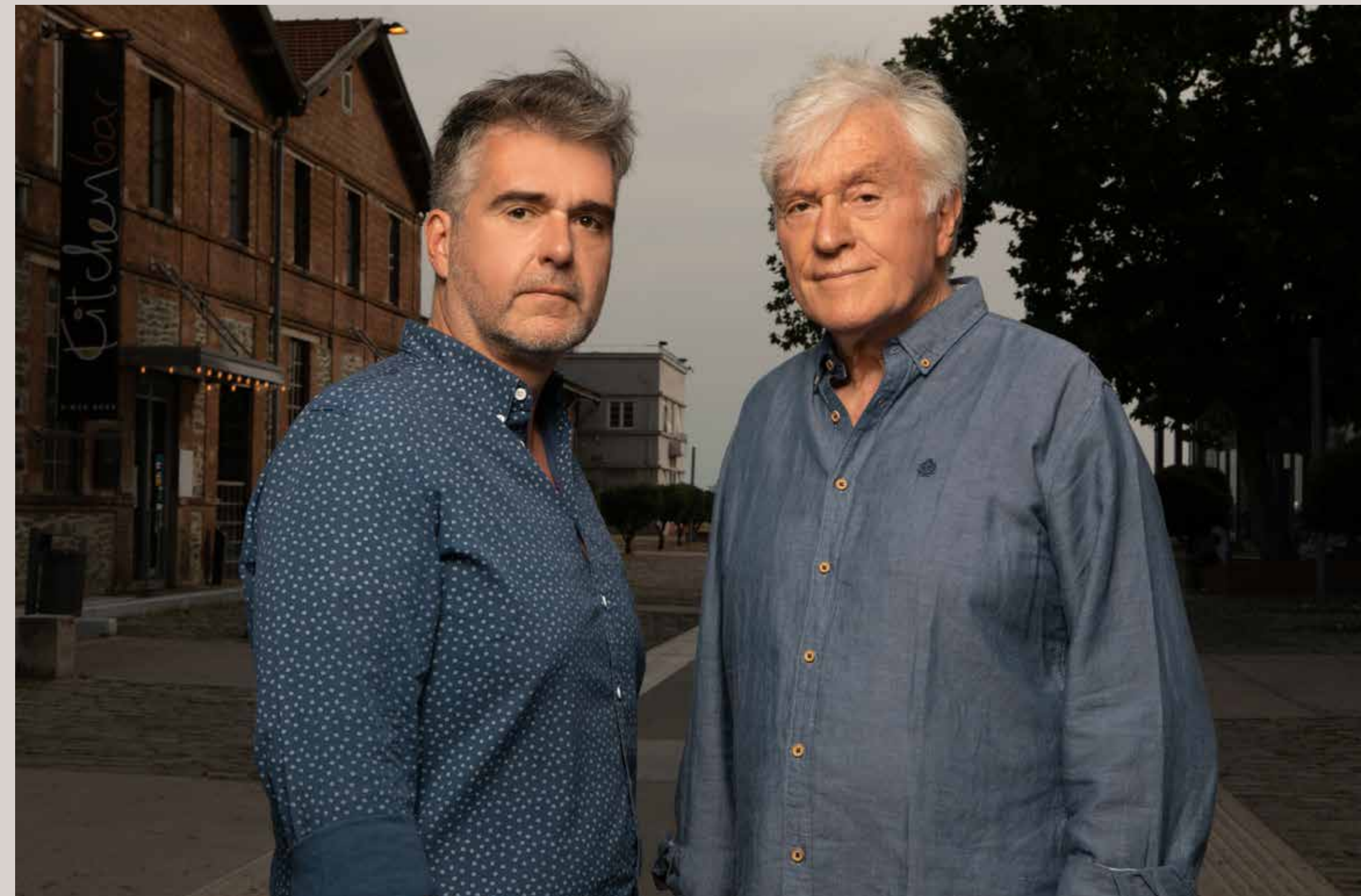
Sound editing and mix:
Manuel Vidal

Color grading:
Kim El Ouardi

MEDIA

trailer can be watched [here](#)

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(L to R) Fabrizio & Maurizio Maltese © photo credit: Aris Rammos/Thessaloniki Documentary Festival