



# AMELUK

α Mimmo Mancini film

*pressbook*



 Progetto AMELUK

TEASER: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pMZCqfwr-MI>



RMCONSULTING e Barbara Sperindè

In collaborazione con  
Barani Group Management & Security Services  
presenta



# AMELUK

un film di Mimmo Mancini



Tratto da una storia che potrebbe essere vera

FLAVIA Entertainment, RM Consulting e Barbara Sperindè in collaborazione con Barani Group Management & Security Services presentano AMELUK  
Con la partecipazione di Mehdi Mahdoui, Teodosio Mimmo Mancini, Claudia Leno, Francesca Giocchi, Dante Mannoia, Roberto Rocco, Pascal Zilliox, Taisiya Schvachkin, Nedra Elbul, Michele De  
Virgilio, Holly Kissano, Teodoro Barnesi, Luigi Angeli, Maurizio De La Vigna, Andrea Leonelli, Moud Mouad Bonamara, Massimo Caporaso, Paolo Sassanelli, con la partecipazione straordinaria di  
Cusima Ghilès e con Tom Dreyer e la partecipazione di Rossana Berni. Sceneggiatura e regia di Mimmo Mancini. Con la collaborazione di Carlo De Felice e Mimmo Mancini. La storia è tratta dalla  
racconta di Luciana Pizzardi. Musica originale di Jaki Mirosh. Produzione: Alberto Brusco. Sceneggiatura: Giorgio Ferrini. Diretta da Sabrina Basso. Fotografia: Marco Facciolo. Montaggio: David Ghisà. Con il  
personale del teatro Nazionale di Roma. Regia di Mimmo Mancini.



Il film è distribuito nelle sale cinematografiche a  
impiego totale (solo legge 113/2008 art. 29)



www.ameluk.it



## **“AMELUK”**

**SYNOPSIS:** In Mariotto, a “cultural enclave” in the province of Bari, Muslims, Jews, Christians, Arabs and Mariottans must learn to live side by side. Suspicions and fears are commonplace, and getting to know each other is a complicated and bizarre affair. The conflicts exacerbate on Good Friday: an accident prevents Michele the hairdresser from playing the role of Jesus in the Way of Sorrows, and, due to a strange set of circumstances, a young Muslim takes his place. A Muslim carrying the cross of Christ down the streets of a village of bigots? Clearly, it's the beginning of an ordeal. The news spreads like wildfire around the world, and it splits Mariotto in two, aggravating the already divisive local political elections. Fortunately, after a series of dramatic moments and hilarious situations, peace and common sense are restored.

**TOPICS:** “Ameluk” by the director Mimmo Mancini is an intelligent and touching comedy that draws its subject matter from some of today's most pressing current events. At its centre are the topics of immigration and religious integration that, as the newspapers tell us, often result in prejudice and racism. Yet, everybody's dream is that the feelings of solidarity and brotherhood will prevail and will lead to peaceful coexistence. Even “Ameluk,” using a light and comedic touch, wants to carry a message of hope: in the story, a community of simple people hostile to religious and political confrontation is finally able to open up. And what is achieved is the so-called “conviviality of differences,” as Don Tonino Bello, the Bishop of Molfetta, liked to call it.

The film, produced independently by RM Consulting of Rome, will be released in December.

**CAST:** The poster clearly shows that the film has a choral group of expressive and bizarre characters that seem to belong to one of Andrea Pazienza's comic books. The careful direction is enhanced by the exceptional photography of Marcello Montarsi, by the engaging music of Livio Minafra and the editing of Luciana Pandolfelli. The actors are mostly native Apulians: there are some of the protagonists of “La Capagira” directed by Alessandro Piva, such as Mimmo Mancini, Paolo Sassanelli, Dante Marmone, Tiziana Schiavarelli and Teodosio Barresi, alongside national actors of undeniable talent such as Roberto Nobile, Cosimo Cinieri (from Taranto), Pascal Zullino (from Matera), Michele De Virgilio (from Foggia), Claudia Lerro (from Corato), Ninni Angiuli, Hedy Krissane, Mehdi Madhloo, Miloud Mourad Benamara, Nadia Kibout. In contrast to her previous roles, actress Rosanna Banfi plays a hard and aggressive “southern mother.” Furthermore, the film features the cinematic “baptism” of songwriter Francesca Giaccari (from Gallipoli) and of the young filmmaker Andrea Leonetti di Vagno (from Bari). But the real heart of “Ameluk” is the square, the bar and the whole town. Crucial to the success of the film was the contribution of quirky extras and amazing artists, chosen from among the citizens of Mariotto and throughout the province of Bari. It can be said that Ameluk exudes a strong flavour of Puglia.

THE DIRECTOR'S NOTES: There's a phrase of Pope John XXIII that has always moved me: "When laughter flows from tears, the heavens open." That's why I wanted "Ameluk" to be a "seriously funny" film: in it, dramatic current issues and the protagonists' intense confrontations are effectively mixed in the parody that underlies the whole story.

The idea came to me in 2005, in Bitonto, my town of origin a few kilometers from Bari. I was in the city centre, drinking with some friends an excellent Primitivo. With us, there were two Moroccans who were perfectly integrated – so much that they spoke with a wonderful local accent. I was struck by their desire to be part of the group. The following day, I witnessed a religious procession. Two of the friends met the previous evening were carrying the statue of a saint. A strange idea began to surface in my mind: "What if next to one of the two Catholic Italians, stood one of the Muslim Moroccans I had met the previous night?" Maybe because of an emergency, not as an insult or as a provocation. And how would the church-goers react? From these spontaneous considerations "Ameluk" was born: the story of a Muslim set in a small Catholic town of Southern Italy.

Regarding production, we chose the path of independent cinema, because I've always believed in the importance of addressing major themes with a social relevance using the medium of film. During this period of ethnic-religious conflicts, a film like "Ameluk" is well-timed and has a reason to exist in the world of Italian cinema distribution. Therefore, we confide in the support and hospitality of the more sensitive theatre-owners, particularly those of Puglia.

Mimmo Mancini



photos from the set







INFO

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