

PULSE MEDIA

presents

PiomboFuso

CastLead

Gaza, 12/27/08 – 01/18/09

a film by **Stefano Savona**

produced by **Roberto Ruini** and **Fausto Rizzi**

Direction	Stefano Savona
Photography and Sound Editing	Stefano Savona Marzia Mete
Music Sound Editing	Massimo Zamboni Jean Mallet
Color Correction	Eric Salleron
Production Produced by	Pulsemedia Roberto Ruini and Fausto Rizzi
Country	Italy
Year of production	2009
Languages	Arabic and English
Subtitles	Italian
Duration	82' Colour
Stereo	RTLT 5.1
Format	Sony HDV 1080i
Format master screening	DCP JPEG 2000
Press Agency	Lionella Bianca Fiorillo / Storyfinders Via Nomentana 126, 00161 Roma +39.06.45436244 +39.340.7364203 press.agency@storyfinders.it
Official Web Site	www.pulsemedia.it/piombofuso www.pulsemedia.it/castlead
Festival	 <p>62° Festival del film Locarno 5-15 8 2009</p> <p>Film Festival Locarno Official Selection</p> <p>Giury Special Prize Ciné Cinéma Cineasti del Presente</p>
	 <p>in Competition Torino Film Festival 2009 <small>27 TORINO FILM FESTIVAL</small></p>

■ synopsis

One can't get in or out of Gaza. It's January 6, 2009, the eleventh day of the Israeli attack on the Gaza Strip. Air-raid bombings and intensifying land attacks are taking place behind the insurmountable wall which separates Gaza from the rest of the world, but witnesses have been unable to penetrate the Strip to date. It's been impossible to force the airtight block to the international press imposed by occupying forces. Only the dead, the wounded, and some trucks bringing medication pass the Egyptian frontier. Those come to describe the war have to make do with the odd phrase snatched from first-aid helpers, as all lenses point towards the dense columns of black smoke rising in the distance from between the houses on the other side. All of a sudden, as if by chance, a tiny crack in the impermeable defence system occurs, and a very small number of people manage to get in. Amongst them, a director with a TV camera. This film is about what that camera was able to film across the border, the simple tale, using those images, of daily life in Gaza during the last tragic days of 'operation Cast Lead'.

■ director's notes

As I neared Gaza for my 'war filming' I started to think about the frames television had shown since the beginning of the attacks. Rubble, people dead and wounded, the same pictures, endlessly out of context, spread over news broadcasts illustrating daily news from the front, reflecting a mute, dull, incomprehensible horror. As it sometimes happens when waking up from a nightmare, what was left of these images, devoid of time and place, was a sense of heavy malaise, similar to claustrophobia. A sense of amplified helplessness, of forced unawareness of an ambiguous, remote, indescribable reality. Myriads of screens had been incapable of domesticating it, making it only banal. I then crossed the border. That feeling of bewilderment disappeared at once, as I began to get my bearings, taking one look at a time, amongst the places, the tempos, the faces of a country at war.

Stefano Savona

■ director

Stefano Savona was born in Palermo in 1969. He studied archaeology and anthropology in Rome and took part in various digs in Sudan, Egypt, Turkey and Israel. He started to work as an independent photographer in 1995. Since 1999, he has been mainly working as director and producer of documentaries. His works include numerous video installations such as the ones for the collective exhibition Mutations (2000) at Bordeaux's Arc-en-Rêve, *La Città infinita* (2003) and *Dreams* (2004) at Milan's Triennale, *D-Day* (2005) in Paris at the Centre Pompidou, Bombay-Maximum City (2006) in Lille at the Espace Tri-Postal, and the following documentaries; *Roshbash Badolato* (1999), *A Border of Mirrors* (2002), *Notes from a Kurdish Rebel* (2006) International Prize from SCAM at the Festival International du Réel in Paris, nomination for Davide di Donatello, Genziana d'oro at the Trento Film Festival 2007, Premio Casa Rossa at the 25th Bellaria Film Festival. In 2008 he realizes *Il tuffo della rondine* produced by Pulsemedia, Vivo Film and Castagneda. The film continues the journey of Massimo Zamboni in Mostar and is included in the new DVD collection of Zamboni titled *L'inferno è l'imbattibile*.

Filmography

2008 *Il tuffo della rondine*, digital, colour, 46'; produced by Pulsemedia, Vivo film and Castagneda
2006 *Notes from a Kurdish Rebel*, digital, colour, 76'; produced by Minimum Fax and JBA Production
2002 *A Border of Mirrors*, colour, 76'; produced by Maat-Típotá in collaboration with Tele+
2001 *Alfabe*, colour, 20'; produced by Maat
2000 *Siciliatunisia*, video installation
1999 *Roshbash Badolato*, 57'; produced by Maat

■ production company

Pulsemedia is a multimedia publishing and production house with offices in Barco di Bibbiano (R.E.), Italy. From the production of film and documentaries to the creation of web sites, Pulsemedia operates as a publishing house that organises its products in different series. Today the Pulsemedia series are. film/doc, video, web tools, web tv, streaming live. Among the more recent Pulsemedia cinematographic productions are various documentaries in Italy and abroad, among which the work of the film director Stefano Savona: *Piombo Fuso – Cast Lead* and *Il tuffo della rondine*. www.pulsemedia.it.