



MUSEO
NAZIONALE
DEL CINEMA
TORINO



TORINO
FILM FESTIVAL

39th Torino Film Festival (November 26 – December 4, 2021)

THE 2021 STELLA DELLA MOLE AWARD GOES TO MONICA BELLUCCI

*The actress will present her new movie **The Girl in the Fountain** at the TFF and will also hold a Masterclass at the National Cinema Museum*

November 30 – December 1, 2021

The **Stella della Mole Award for Artistic Innovation** of the 39th Torino Film Festival will be given to **Monica Bellucci**.

The actress will receive the award on Tuesday, November 30 and the ceremony will be followed by the **world preview** screening of the movie ***The Girl in the Fountain***, directed by Antongiulio Panizzi and starring Monica Bellucci, about the legendary actress Anita Ekberg. The film is produced by Dugong Films with Eagle Pictures, which will distribute it in cinemas. *The Girl in the Fountain* will be released as a film event on December 1, 2, and 3.

*"I am very happy and thrilled to receive the Stella della Mole Award," says **Monica Bellucci**. "I thank the president and the director of Turin's National Cinema Museum, Enzo Ghigo and Domenico De Gaetano. I also thank Stefano Francia di Celle, the director of the Torino Film Festival. I am honored that the movie The Girl in the Fountain will be screened as a world preview in Turin, one of Italy's major film festivals, which opens its doors to a new type of cinema, attentive to innovation and young filmmakers from all over the world and respectful of tradition, thanks to the retrospectives that screen masterpieces of the past. I give you my heartfelt thanks."*

*"The Stella della Mole Award for Artistic Innovation represents our city's entire film history, it is a tribute to tradition that is parsed in the present and with an eye on the future," note **Enzo Ghigo** and **Domenico De Gaetano**, the president and the director of Turin's National Cinema Museum, respectively. "It is a precious symbol, full of meaning, and we hope that it will increasingly represent the new pathway for the Museum and the TFF. We are very happy that it is being conferred on Monica Bellucci, a multifaceted artist, movie star, and global icon of beauty."*

*"To me, it is a great pleasure and an honor to celebrate Monica Bellucci with the Stella della Mole Award," declares **Stefano Francia di Celle**, director of the Torino Film Festival. "Her long career is studded with intuitions, ideas, and characters that are destined to enter the eternal collective memory. This award is a recognition of her artistic versatility, her willingness to promote the works of emerging filmmakers and thereby foster multifaceted projects with new content and languages, and her ability to magnificently master a creative potential that can enormously enrich the cinematographic art."*

On Wednesday, **December 1, 2021** Monica Bellucci will hold a **Masterclass** at the **National Cinema Museum of Turin**, where the actress will dialogue with the director of *The Girl in the Fountain*, Antongiulio Panizzi.

Since 2020, the symbol and protagonist of the TFF's official logo, the **Stella della Mole Award's** spectacular, 12-pointed star is original and universal, a celebration of the festival's commitment to innovation, diversity, and collaboration. The Mole Antonelliana's star links Turin's past with its future, and the "cradle" of Italian cinema with new artists from all over the world whom the festival celebrates.

The Award has a unique technological component and is made in aluminum using advanced Additive Manufacturing technology. It was made in collaboration with Turin's Polytechnic University and **Competence Industry Manufacturing 4.0**, the pole created by Turin's two universities along with 23 important industrial partners to propagate Industry 4.0 competences.

MONICA BELLUCCI – Biography

Monica Bellucci began her career in the world of images as a model, capturing the lens of the foremost photographers: Helmut Newton, Peter Lindbergh, Richard Avedon, Steven Meisel, Michel Comte, Ferdinando Scianna, Oliviero Toscani, and Fabrizio Ferri, to name just a few. But ever since she was a child, her dream had always been cinema and she moved from fashion to the world of film thanks to Dino Risi and Francis Ford Coppola. Over the course of her career in Italy and France, she has worked with Giuseppe Tornatore, Gabriele Muccino, Giovanni Veronesi, Paolo Virzì, Marco Tullio Giordana, Maria Sole Tognazzi, Gaspard Noé, Bertrand Blier, Philippe Garrel, Alain Corneau, Alain Chabat, and Guillaume Nicloux. She received a nomination for a César for her first French movie, *L'Appartement* (1996) by Gilles Mimouni. The film won a BAFTA Award for Best Film Not in the English Language and this award paved the way for Monica's first American movie, *Under Suspicion*, in which she plays Gene Hackman's wife and which brought her to the Cannes Film Festival for the first time. Tornatore called on her for *Malèna*, an Italian movie that found worldwide success. This was the start of a true international career for Monica, who has worked with directors of the caliber of Wachowski, Spike Lee, Terry Gilliam, Antoine Fuqua, Rebecca Miller, and Mel Gibson, among others. In 2004, her first daughter Deva was born and in 2010, her second daughter, Leonie.

Her international career continued between big-budget movies and independent art house films, such as *Rhino Season* by the Iranian filmmaker Bahman Ghobadi and *On the Milky Road* by Emir Kusturica, for which she received a European Silver Ribbon. In 2014, she was in Cannes to present the movie by Alice Rohrwacher *Le Meraviglie*, which received the Grand Prize of the Jury and in 2015 she shot *Spectre* by Sam Mendes, in which she plays Lucia Sciarra and sparked a revolution in the world of cinema: for the first time, a 50-year-old actress found herself in the arms of James Bond. She continued her career acting in American TV series such as *Mozart in the Jungle* alongside Gael García Bernal and in *Twin Peaks* by David Lynch. In 2018, she was in Australia to shoot the film *Necromancer* by the brothers Kiah and Tristan Roche-Turner, in France for the TV series *Dix pour cents*, and, with Sir Ben Kingsley, the spy movie *Spider in the Web*, directed by the Israeli filmmaker Eran Riklis.

Monica Bellucci has been the patroness of the Cannes Film Festival twice, an honor which has only been bestowed before on Jeanne Moreau and Isabelle Huppert. In 2017, she received and accepted the prestigious invitation to become a member of the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences, which assigns the Oscars.

Monica has supported the association AGOP, which helps the parents of children with cancer, and Paroles des femmes, which helps women and children. At present, she is a member of the association S.O.S. Autisme, which helps autistic children.

In 2019, she participated in the feature film directed by Claude Lelouch *Les plus belles années d'une vie* and in 2020, in the movie directed by Kaouther Ben Hania, *The Man Who Sold His Skin*, which was nominated for an Oscar for Best International Feature Film.

In 2021, we will see her on the silver screen in two Italian movies: *Siccità*, the new feature film by the director Paolo Virzì, and *La befana vien di notte 2*, directed by Paola Randi.

In 2021, Monica also won the international Flaiano Award for Lifetime Achievement, and a Special David at the 66th David di Donatello Awards.

Since 2020, she is a producer with Musa, the Paris-based production company with which she participated in the making of the docu-film *The Girl in the Fountain*, directed by Antongiulio Panizzi and in which she also stars, and in the film-opera *Gianni Schicchi*, directed by Damiano Michieletto.

Monica will appear alongside Liam Neeson and Guy Pearce in the action thriller *Memory*, to be released in 2022, and she continues her international stage career in the starring role as Maria Callas in the play directed by Tom Volf, *Maria Callas: lettere e memorie*.

THE GIRL IN THE FOUNTAIN

Synopsis

The year was 1960 when the sinuous curves of a dazzlingly beautiful actress, Anita Ekberg, turned the Trevi Fountain and the whole world topsy-turvy. In that iconic scene in *La Dolce Vita* by Federico Fellini, film history and collective memory crystallized in the Junoesque Swedish diva. But a person and a movie character are not one and the same thing, and Anita fought to prove this her whole life long. *The Girl in the Fountain* tells the story of an actress who was devoured by her own legend, through the voice and the sensitivity of Monica Bellucci, as she carefully and delicately researches that character to redeem the stereotyped figure of the “girl in the fountain.”

A verbal and visual conversation, an impossible dialogue between two women and divas of different eras, that lets Bellucci rediscover the pathway of a free and independent woman who paid a price because she didn't want to submit to anyone.

Cast & Credits

Director: Antongiulio Panizzi

Written by: Paola Jacobbi and Camilla Paternò

With: Monica Bellucci

and special appearances by: Roberto De Francesco, Stefania De Santis, Eric Alexander

Dubbing: Alessandro Chiodo

Editing: Danilo Galli

Music: Max Casacci