















The Last VICTORY

'We do not play at II Palio; we live it'

A film about the passionate struggle of a small Italian community in Siena to win the town's annual event: Il Palio. The honour and respect of the district are at stake, as they have not won for years. The young need to feel the glory of a new victory coursing through their veins in order to be truly proud of their roots.

All the year round we follow a few members of the Civetta 'clan' closely. They have dedicated their lives to their district from the day they were born. From Egidio, the 92-year-old sage of the Civetta to 21-year-old Paolo, who grooms the horse and is totally committed to the cause. Only four days before the race, a lottery decides which horse is selected for the district. This horse is then paraded through the city as if it were a god. It symbolises Fate that will decide the future of the district.

The Last Victory is a moving film about the hopes, the moral convictions, the intrigues and the fluctuating fortunes of a small but passionate Italian community. It reflects the different layers of Italian society: its traditions, its religion, its politics and its love of sport.

Written and directed by John Appel

Produced by Carmen Cobos

Commissioning editor Wessel van der Hammen, IKON TV

Photography Erik van Empel | Sound Mark Wessner | Editor Mario Steenbergen Music Wouter van Bemmel | Sound Design Hugo Dijkstal | Research & idea Yoeri Albrecht Associate producer Judith Vreriks | Written & directed by John Appel

Made with the participation of The Dutch Cultural Broadcasting Promotion Fund | CoBO Fund | The Dutch Film Fund

In association with YLE Teema | SBS-TV Australia | Televisió de Catalunya

Duration

88' / 52' | colour | stereo soundtrack | Italian with English / Dutch subtitles

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