



**ROMOLO + GIULY.
THE ITALIAN WORLD WAR**
The new Italian comedy series from Fox

with

**Alessandro D'Ambrosi, Beatrice Arnera, Fortunato Cerlino, Massimo Ciavarro, Federico Pacifici,
Nunzia Schiano, Giorgio Mastrota, Michela Andreozzi, Lidia Vitale, Umberto Smaila, and with
Francesco Pannofino**

and with cameo appearances from
Paolo Bonolis and Giorgio Panariello

A host of web stars
Federica Cacciola *alias* Martina dall'Ombra, the Actual and Le Coliche

Soundtrack by
Lo Stato Sociale

**Every Monday at 21.15 on FOX (channel 112 on Sky)
World premiere 17 September**

ROMOLO + GIULY. THE ITALIAN WORLD WAR, the new comedy series from Fox Networks Group Italy, produced by **Mario Gianani** and **Lorenzo Mieli Wildside** from **Wildside** with **Lorenzo Gangarossa** and **Zerosix Productions**, will be premiering on **17 September**, and will be airing every Monday from **21.15 on FOX** (channel 112 on Sky).

It is an offbeat comedy for **FOX**, which is once again investing in Italian series with an innovative project that rewards the quality and creativity of young talents. The series is the brainchild of **Michele Bertini Malgarini** (also the director), **Giulio Carrieri** and **Alessandro D'Ambrosi**. They were also behind the multi-award-winning short film made for the Web in 2016 entitled *Romolo + Giuly*, which spawned this series. The film is a tongue-in-cheek look at the ideological, social, linguistic and anthropological differences between North Rome and South Rome, and has proven to be a runaway success: in just three weeks it notched up 1.6 million views, reaching over 3 million people – convincing **Fox and Wildside** to use it as the springboard for a TV series of eight 30-minute episodes.

The story of ***ROMOLO + GIULY. THE ITALIAN WORLD WAR*** focuses on the troubled love affair between Romolo and Giuly, each the heir of Rome's powerful Montacchi and Copulati families. It is an ironic reference to the Shakespearian origins of the most famous and tragic love story ever written. When the two youngsters



come together, the ancestral conflict between opulent, well-heeled North Rome and the down-to-earth, chavvy South Rome is reignited. A conflict into which all of Italy, from Milan to Naples, is quickly yet unexpectedly dragged.

PLOT AND CAST

The unpredictable sequence of events that change the face of the Eternal City forever is triggered by the chance encounter between Romolo Montacchi (**Alessandro D'Ambrosi**, *Un medico in famiglia – A Doctor in the Family*) and Giuly Copulati (**Beatrice Arnera**, *Addio fottuti musi verdi, Puoi baciare lo sposo - My Big Gay Italian Wedding*). Giuly, as is customary in her neck of the woods, is destined for a marriage of convenience. But the unplanned spark of love which ignites when she meets Romolo changes her destiny.

Yet whilst Rome is embroiled in battle, the rest of Italy doesn't remain on the side lines. A terrible hidden threat hangs over the Capital. Naples and Milan – respectively captained by Don Alfonso (**Fortunato Cerlino**, *Gomorra*) and **Giorgio Mastrola** (as himself) – are united in their hatred of Rome and join forces to create the most unlikely of alliances. The two cities are in fact tired of the cultural bullying of the Romans, who have long poked fun at the Milanese for being dull, fog-enshrouded workaholics, and at the Neapolitans as being a city of scoundrels mired in rubbish and chaos.

Milan has even been deprived of its fashion week, moved lock, stock and barrel to North Rome by request of mafia boss Massimo Copulati (**Massimo Ciavarro**, *Sapore di mare 2 – un anno dopo, Celluloide*), whilst Arfio Montacchi (**Federico Pacifici**, *Non uccidere, La linea verticale – The Vertical Line*) has turned Vesuvius into an enormous “natural” incinerator following the closure of Rome's overflowing city dumps.

The aim of this unthinkable alliance between Naples and Milan is quite straightforward: once they have taken Rome, the two cities intend to split Italy in two. The north will become a highly efficient joint-stock company run by a masonic Milanese BoD; the south will be turned into a renewed monarchy of Bourbon inspiration.

But how will they manage to conquer the Eternal City? The much-opposed love affair between Romolo and Giuly, and the ramping up of the conflict between the Montacchi and Copulati families as they struggle to secure the mayorship of Rome, offer the perfect opportunity. The political rivalry between the parties has turned into a furious battle in which every neighbourhood of the city is embroiled in a no-holds-barred clash combining the epic and the grotesque. At last, the time comes for the keenly-awaited invasion of the Capital by the Naples-Milan axis. The “Italian World War” has begun.

A host of characters features in this many and varied cast. It sees the extraordinary participation of **Francesco Pannofino**, once again appearing in a Fox series but this time in the role of Edoardo Pederzoli, President of the Lombardy Region, a fanatical Lazio supporter and offshoot of the Copulati clan whose aim is to Romanise Milan. Then there are the two queens of Rome: one is **Michela Andreozzi**, in the role of Olimpia Copulati – Giuly's mother, bored-stiff Botox junky and wife of Massimo Copulati – and **Lidia Vitale**, who plays the part



of Anna Montacchi, South Rome’s “she-wolf”, wife of Arfio and mother of Romolo. The cast is rounded off by **Niccolò Senni** (Giangi Pederzoli, Giuly’s fiancé); **Matteo Nicoletta** (Dario) and **David Pietroni** (Manuel), Romolo’s loyal friends; **Stefano Fregni** (Teodorico Fumagalli, leader of the Nordic Northern Movement of the North); **Marco Gambino** (Don Calogero, head of the Sicilian Mafia); **Lucio Patané** (Dr Brambilla); **Umberto Smaila** as himself, a member of Milan’s masonic lodge; **Ludovica Martini** (Deborah, Romolo’s fiancée); **Andrea Trovato** (voice and movements of the puppet named **Tciù**, an evil, resentful furry character who founded Milan’s masons together with Mastrotta) and **Nunzia Schiano** (Donna Assunta, loving and ambitious mother of Don Alfonso)..

CAMEOS, WEB STARS AND THE SOUNDTRACK

Two exceptional cameo appearances by **Giorgio Panariello** and **Paolo Bonolis**, both starring as themselves, enhance the performance still further.

Many Web stars have also put their faces to the unlikely characters in the series. They include **Federica Cacciola**, alias *Martina dell’Ombra*, who plays the part of Martina, Don Calogero’s daughter, a provocative girl betrothed to Don Alfonso; **Le Coliche** as the inflexible guards of the Ponte Milvio check point dividing North and South Rome; and the duo known as **Actual** playing the part of minstrels in the pay of the Copulati family.

Lo Stato Sociale, winners of the last Festival of Sanremo (the Italian song festival) have also taken part in the project: their new single *Il Paese dell’Amore* (Garrincha Dischi/ Island Records) is the official sound track of the series. In the eponymous video clip – a parody of an infamous scene in Quentin Tarantino’s film *Reservoir Dogs* – alongside the protagonist Lodo (Lodovico Guenzi), as Mr Blond torturing the poor puppet Tciù, we find two other actors from the Fox series, Fortunato Cerlino and Giorgio Mastrotta.

The worldwide premiere of **ROMOLO + GIULY. THE ITALIAN WORLD WAR** – eight 30-minute episodes – will be aired on 17 September on FOX (channel 112 on Sky).

FACEBOOK: www.facebook.com/RomoloGiulyFOX

WEBSITE: www.mondofox.it/romolo-e-giuly-la-guerra-mondiale-italiana/

HASHTAG: #RomoloGiuly



For further information:

MN Italia for Fox Networks Group Italy
Chiara Friggi – +39 3402416277 chiara.friggi@mnitalia.com
Tatum Bartoli Tatum.bartoli@mnitalia.com

Press office for Fox Networks Group Italy
Andrea Palazzo andrea.palazzo@fox.com

Press office for Wildside
Daniela D'Antonio dantonio@wildside.it
Federica Ceraolo federica.ceraolo@gmail.com



ROMOLO + GIULY- THE ITALIAN WORLD WAR

DIRECTOR'S NOTES

The idea behind the series is to provide a glimpse of life in Italy today as it's never been told before. We will have four narrative lines (Milan, Naples, South Rome and North Rome) in eight 30-minute episodes. There will be satire on the politics and way of life of our society, fantastical and dystopian inserts which will leave viewers open-mouthed, a cocaine-fuelled puppet at the helm of a secret society, two young people fighting for a love affair that seems truly impossible, and much more besides.

Romolo+Giuly- The Italian World War will be a brilliant comedy with a pop and visual style. The cinematographic genres have been adopted and mixed together according to the narrative timeframes. There are many cinematographic references which I challenge viewers to identify. In order to portray such a varied, multifaceted universe, I have opted for a stand-alone visual look and directing approach for each geographical location I was filming. I wanted the spectator to make an instant connection between each narrative and a specific type of directing and photography.

As a result, the loud but genuine South Rome will have a warmer photography, with the camera on the shoulder and unpolished movements, whilst the more sensible, formal North Rome will feature a colder light, and slicker machine movements. The aristocratic, Bourbonic Naples, on the other hand, will have carefully contrived, elegant dolly shots and wide-angle shots to portray the majestic interiors of Don Alfonso's villa, and a production approach which, on occasion, is deliberately over-the-top.

The series is enhanced by the performance and technique of high-profile actors such as Fortunato Cerlino, Alessandro D'Ambrosi, Beatrice Arnera, Nunzia Schiano, Michela Andreozzi, Lidia Vitale, Federico Pacifici, Massimo Ciavarro, Giorgio Mastrota, Giorgio Panariello and Umberto Smaila, to name but a few. I uncovered an unexpected comic verve in some of them, who are perhaps better known for more dramatic roles. All demonstrated great flexibility, as well as providing countless useful tips, allowing me to add humorous timing and quips which cropped up on set to the series.

Michele Bertini Malgarini



ROMOLO + GIULY- THE ITALIAN WORLD WAR

NOTES ON THE SCREENPLAY

The script of *Romolo + Giuly- The Italian World War* was written to be fast-pace. One of the main objectives while writing the screenplay was to ensure not a single moment was wasted. This involved colouring, enhancing and working hard on every single scene.

I set out to achieve humour that works on various levels of the series.

The more immediate level of the one-liner or quip which can prompt a laugh-out-loud reaction works alongside the quest for intellectual simulation, also prompting reflection on topics concerning current affairs.

Compared with the pilot which aired on the Web and won the RomaWebFest, we have broadened events to include Naples and Milan, expanding the culture clash mechanism to other cities. This offers us new elements and greater comic potential, as well as opening up to a broader audience base.

On a style level, the main reference points include Monty Python, modern American comedy series, adult cartoons such as *The Griffins* and *Bojack Horseman*, as well as tones and themes that reflect traditional Italian comedy.

The series also includes a host of cinematographic references and quotes taken from *Star Wars* and *Jurassic Park*, not to mention *Titanic*, Baz Luhrmann's *Romeo + Juliet*, *Jerry Maguire*, *Indiana Jones* and many more. They are mostly films from the '80s and '90s, the decades I grew up in, which represent a common source of references and quotes for the audiences our series is aimed at.

Giulio Carrieri



ROMOLO + GIULY - THE ITALIAN WORLD WAR

THE CHARACTERS AND THE ACTORS

The biographies of the whole cast and crew are available at:

www.mondofox.it/romolo-e-giuly-la-guerra-mondiale-italiana

ROMOLO MONTACCHI (Alessandro D'Ambrosi)

Romolo Montacchi is the only son of Arfio, the ultra-powerful protector of South Rome and consul of Ostia. In his area of the Eternal City, Romolo is loved and adored. Perhaps it is for this very reason that his stomping ground is starting to stifle him. Romolo wants to discover the world outside those close-knit confines, and above all, after all the incredible stories he's heard, he wants to see North Rome. There, at the end of a long and dangerous journey, he meets Giuly Copulati. And the rest, as they say, is history.

GIULY COPULATI (Beatrice Arnera)

Giuly Copulati has lived the life every girl in North Rome wants to live: incredible parties, drinks at Ponte Milvio and a fiancé who will maintain her for life. Yet Giuly is in no way happy with this existence, which she feels is empty. Meeting Romolo when he gate-crashes one of the parties held by the Copulati family unexpectedly changes her life. In no time at all, she starts to realise how comfortable tracksuits are, and the bling of gold jewellery catches her eye. She discovers the forbidden flavour of Amatriciana sauce, and the even more forbidden flavour of love.

DON ALFONSO (Fortunato Cerlino)

Forty-ninth in line to the throne of what was once the Kingdom of the Two Sicilies, part prince, part mafia boss, Don Alfonso has decided he wants to be king again and is determined to take control of the whole of the South. To do so, he is willing to forge an alliance with his sworn enemies, the Milanese.

MASSIMO COPULATI (Massimo Ciavarro)

A former star of '80s photonovels and today the heir of a flourishing dynasty of construction moguls, Massimo Copulati is the man who controls North Rome, and a large part of the rest of Italy as a result. His long hand actually reaches all the way to Milan, where he has placed his acolyte Edoardo Pederzoli in the post of President of the Lombardy Region. Charming but cold-blooded, Massimo Copulati will stop at nothing to keep his daughter Giuly firmly out of Romolo Montacchi's reach, and to ensure his North Rome dominates the Capital as a whole.

ARFIO MONTACCHI (Federico Pacifici)

Once a hard-working garbage man, Arfio Montacchi is now the Protector of South Rome and head of the numerous Montacchi clan, as well as being the greatest garbage entrepreneur Rome has ever seen. He has



drawn up an agreement with the Mayor of Naples to tip all of Rome's waste into Vesuvius. He dreams of avenging himself for the gash Massimo Copulati inflicted on him long ago, and of seeing Rome united under the southern flag. To do so, he's going to make sure his son Romolo lays his hands on the Mayor's seat.

DONNA ASSUNTA (Nunzia Schiano)

She is the mother of Don Alfonso, and like all southern Italian mothers, she metes out affection in the vast amounts of food she cooks and makes her son eat. She is very ambitious, and has decided the time has finally come to reconquer the aristocratic legacy she once lost. She is the brains behind Don Alfonso's rise in politics.

GIORGIO MASTROTA (Giorgio Mastrotta)

Behind the smiling mask of innocuous TV salesman, Giorgio Mastrotta has for decades concealed his great powers and diabolical intelligence. Today he is at the helm of a Milanese masonic lodge which unites once-great showbiz men plotting to destroy Rome and turn it into a theme park for rich foreign tourists.

OLIMPIA COPULATI (Michela Andreozzi)

Olimpia is the wife of Massimo Copulati and the mother of Giuly. Bored rigid, her facial expressions have been reduced to the bare minimum by Botox and the drink she is never without. She believes emotions damage the complexion, and that there isn't a problem in the world that can't be solved with a Botox injection and half a Lexotan dissolved in a Margarita. She is also convinced that her best friend is Lorena, the Filipino housemaid of the Copulati household. Lorena, however, is constantly victim to her verbal attacks and, in all likelihood, does not agree. Deep, deep down, Olimpia loves her daughter Giuly very much.

ANNA MONTACCHI (Lidia Vitale)

Anna Montacchi is wife of Arfio, mother of Romolo and his three sisters. Like a she-wolf mother, she would do anything to defend her litter of pups. She is a tough, salt-of-the-earth type, but she is also wise and determined. She is the only person who can stand up to her husband, and often manages to set him back on the right path.

GIANGI PEDERZOLI (Niccolò Senni)

The stinking rich owner of the Vigna Clara cocaine "mines" in Rome, Gianni Pederzoli is the mayoral candidate for the North Rome Alliance, and is Giuly Copulati's fiancé. In short, he is Romolo Montacchi's rival in every respect, be it politics or love, in a battle to the last blood fought on more than one front. Because Gianni Pederzoli isn't one to give up easily.

TEODORICO FUMAGALLI (Stefano Fregni)

Teodorico Fumagalli is the leader of the Nordic Northern Movement of the North, a small party garnering a certain amount of success amongst farmers from the plains. With the help of Mastrotta, he manages to clean up his act and make it big on the national stage. What Fumagalli doesn't know, however, is that the astute telesales presenter is only taking advantage of him for his own fiendish ends.



DARIO & MANUEL (Matteo Nicoletta and David Pietroni)

Dario and Manuel are Romolo Montacchi's best friends. As loyal as a pair of Labrador puppies and about as intelligent, they would follow their friend to the ends of the world, and would never dream of abandoning him when faced with danger.

MARTINA (Federica Cacciola *alias* Martina Dell'Ombra)

She is Don Calogero's daughter, and is used as a bargaining chip for her father's power games. Martina is promised to Don Alfonso to unite Naples and Palermo in the forthcoming neo-kingdom of the Two Sicilies.

DON CALOGERO (Marco Gambino)

A major Sicilian Mafia boss, his name has never popped up in the headlines because he works better in the shadows. When he finds out that Don Alfonso is attempting to reunite the Kingdom of the Two Sicilies without first having consulted him, he flies into a rage because nothing in the south of Italy is done without his say so.

UMBERTO SMAILA (Umberto Smaila)

In Milan, an influential Masonic group has taken shape. It is made up of men from showbiz who have revolutionised TV. It is led by Mastrota and Tciù, but the group's lieutenant is Umberto Smaila. He is an Italian actor, cabaret performer, musician, composer, television presenter and entrepreneur whose charisma has helped him become a living symbol of the archetypal Italian from the '80s.

DR BRAMBILLA (Lucio Patané)

Dr Brambilla is one of the most cunning men in the pay of Massimo Copulati. He is the one in charge of rehabilitating Giuly using a special "Ludovico Cure" to eliminate any image of South Rome from her mind. Brambilla, however, is blackmailed by Tciù into sabotaging the cure in favour of the Milanese...

DEBORAH (Ludovica Martini)

Curvy, down-to-earth and fiery, as far as Arfio Montacchi is concerned she is the perfect candidate to become the First Lady of his son Romolo, aspiring Mayor of the Capital. Deborah lost her head over Montacchi Jr. long ago. Now she finally has the opportunity to capture him, regardless of Romolo's evident interest in Giuly Copulati, daughter of North Rome's most important family.

TCIÙ (Andrea Trovato voice and movements of the puppet)

Tciù is a cute, furry character with a mild cocaine habit. He used to dream of becoming a television star and then a politician. All his dreams have come to nothing, and now Tciù wants revenge. For this reason, he has founded the Milanese Masons with Giorgio Mastrota and is plotting the downfall of Rome. Woe betide anyone who calls him a puppet, or worse still mistakes him for the pink long-eared dog made famous by a TV programme many years ago.



LE COLICHE (Claudio and Fabrizio Colica)

Gian and Gian Paolo Ripà are the guards at the North Rome border. Their work is quite simple: they have to prevent any citizen from South Rome from entering their territory. Unfortunately, they are hopeless at their jobs. As a result, they are sentenced to exile in a distant, mysterious land many doubt even exists: the Italian region of Molise.

ACTUAL (Leonardo Bocci and Lorenzo Tiberia)

The minstrels of the Copulati court, every year at the annual family party they stage the Shakespearian-style drama reproducing the moment when Massimo Copulati disfigured Arfio Montacchi with his razor-sharp Cortina Express.

With the extraordinary participation of:

EDOARDO PEDERZOLI (Francesco Pannofino)

President of the Lombardy Region, although in actual fact he is Roman to the core and a die-hard Lazio fan. Edoardo has been put there by Massimo Copulati to do his bidding, and tries to promote the Romanisation of Milan. He is the father of Giangi, Giuly Copulati's fiancé.

PAOLO BONOLIS (as himself)

GIORGIO PANARIELLO (as himself)



ROMOLO + GIULY - THE ITALIAN WORLD WAR

CREW

Directed by **Michele Bertini Malgarini**

Created by **Giulio Carrieri, Alessandro D'Ambrosi e Michele Bertini Malgarini**

Screenplay **Giulio Carrieri**

Director of Cinematography **Simone Mogliè**

Sound **Paolo Giuliani**

Set design **Daniele Frabetti**

Costumes **Sabrina Beretta**

Editing **Valentina Grossi**

Executive Producer **Olivia Sleiter**

Produced by **Mario Gianani, Lorenzo Mieli and Lorenzo Gangarossa** for **Wildside**

With **Zerosix Productions**

Comedy Series from **Fox Networks Group Italy**

Eight 30-minute episodes



ROMOLO + GIULY - THE ITALIAN WORLD WAR

CAST

Alessandro D'Ambrosi (Romolo)

Beatrice Arnera (Giuly)

Fortunato Cerlino (Don Alfonso)

Massimo Ciavarro (Massimo Capulati)

Federico Pacifici (Arfio Montacchi)

Nunzia Schiano (Donna Assunta)

Giorgio Mastrota (Giorgio Mastrota)

Michela Andreozzi (Olimpia Copulati)

Lidia Vitale (Anna Montacchi)

Niccolò Senni (Giangi Pederzoli)

Stefano Fregni (Fumagalli)

Matteo Nicoletta (Dario)

David Pietroni (Manuel)

Federica Cacciola (Martina)

Marco Gambino (Don Calogero)

Umberto Smaila (as himself)

Lucio Patané (Dr Brambilla)

Ludovica Martini (Deborah)

Andrea Trovato as Tciù (voice and movements of the puppet)



Le Coliche (Guards at check point)

Actual (Minstrels)

And with the extraordinary participation of

Paolo Bonolis (as himself)

Giorgio Panariello (as himself)

Francesco Pannofino (Edoardo Pederzoli)