

VISION DISTRIBUTION, WILDSIDE AND RAI CINEMA present

Locarno Official Selection  
Concorso internazionale

# PATAGONIA

a film by  
SIMONE BOZZELLI



VD VISION  
DISTRIBUTION

credits not contractual



# Locarno Film Festival

76. Locarno Film Festival – In Competition

**Vision Distribution, Wildside and Rai Cinema**

present

# PATAGONIA

a film by  
**SIMONE BOZZELLI**

**ANDREA FUORTO  
AUGUSTO MARIO RUSSI  
ELETTRA DALLIMORE MALLABY  
ALEXANDER BENIGNI**

Produced by  
**MARIO GIANANI e LORENZO GANGAROSSA**  
for **Wildside/Fremantle Group**

**WILDSIDE, VISION DISTRIBUTION with RAI CINEMA**

A collaboration with  
**SKY**



Distributed by  
**VD VISION  
DISTRIBUTION**

**Film Press Office**

Arianna Monteverdi | +39 338 6182078 | [arianna.monteverdi@gmail.com](mailto:arianna.monteverdi@gmail.com)

Olimpia De meo | +39 320 040 4080 | [press.olimpiademeo@gmail.com](mailto:press.olimpiademeo@gmail.com)

**VISION DISTRIBUTION Press Office**

Marinella Di Rosa | +39 335 7612295 | [marinella.dirosa@visiondistribution.it](mailto:marinella.dirosa@visiondistribution.it)

**WILDSIDE Press Office**

Daniela D'Antonio | [daniela.dantonio@fremantle.com](mailto:daniela.dantonio@fremantle.com)

Federica Ceraolo | [federica.ceraolo@fremantle.com](mailto:federica.ceraolo@fremantle.com)

*credits not contractual*

## CAST

Yuri	ANDREA FUORTO
Agostino	AUGUSTO MARIO RUSSI
Alma	ELETTRA DALLIMORE MALLABY
Morgan	ALEXANDER BENIGNI

## CREDITS

Directed by	SIMONE BOZZELLI
Story and Screenplay	TOMMASO FAVAGROSSA SIMONE BOZZELLI
Cinematography	LEONARDO MIRABILIA
Editing	CHRISTIAN MARSIGLIA
Music	LEONE CIOCCHETTI DANIELE GUERRINI
Set Design	MAURO VANZATI
Costume Design	ANDREA CAVALLETTO
Boom Operator	FILIPPO PORCARI (A.I.T.S.) FEDERICA RIPANI
Casting	DAVIDE ZUROLO (UICD)
Assistant Director	ANDREA VELLUCCI (AIARSE)
Sound Editing	ALESSANDRO FELETTI
Sound Effects Editing	THOMAS GIORGI
Sound Mixer	RICCARDO GRUPPUSO
Line Producer	ANDREA VEROLO
Executive Producer	LUDOVICA RAPISARDA
Executive Producer	SAVERIO GUARASCIO
Executive Producer	MANDELLA QUILICI
Executive Producer	GIANLUCA MIZZI
Produced by	MARIO GIANANI and LORENZO GANGAROSSA
Produced by a collaboration with	WILDSIDE, VISION DISTRIBUTION with RAI CINEMA SKY
International Distribution	VISION DISTRIBUTION
Year	2023
Running Time	110'

## SHORT SYNOPSIS

20-year-old Yuri lives a padded life with an elderly aunt in a small Italian town which is all he has ever known. One day, he meets itinerant entertainer and kids charmer Agostino who promises him the independence he never realized he was looking for. Dreaming of Patagonia's freedom, the two embark on a journey of self-affirmation that will turn into a nightmare of captivity.

## SYNOPSIS

A boy trapped in a sparkless life with an aunt who coddles him like a little kid, finds in a juvenile wanderer the drive to leave behind his boring town on the Italian coast. Yuri joins Agostino as his assistant and starts a new life as a nomad entertainer at children's parties.

On the road around the country, between a joint and a broken CD player, Agostino and Yuri create an ambiguous bond based on a carrot and stick system with one goal in mind: Patagonia.

But first, we need to work and make some money, claims Agostino, or how will we make it that far?

But it feels to Yuri that the load is all on himself, especially when Agostino decides to stop in a town running techno parties all night long.

So, for Yuri, Patagonia gets farther and farther, and the relationship with Agostino becomes ever more claustrophobic, just like the walls of their hideous camper van.

**DIRECTOR'S NOTES**

*«All children, except one, grow up.»*

This is the opening to Peter Pan by James Matthew Barrie, a story about a boy who can fly on the wings of his happy thoughts and refuses to grow up. When Wendy meets Peter and asks where he lives, he poetically replies: "Second star to the right and straight on 'til morning." An answer meant to impress. Peter Pan is a typical literary character: adventurous, seductive, and cocky with an overwhelming personality.

But this story is not just about Agostino and his Peter Pan Syndrome but also about Yuri, a boy with a sparkless life, coddled by an overly affectionate aunt, who finds the drive to leave behind the dull existence of a small town in the Italian coast. Yuri is pure as a clear river where the narcissistic entertainer Agostino can see his own reflection. He embraces the man's dreams and makes them his own, working hard to find the money to make them happen, up to the point of accepting small but repetitive moral harassment in a game of delight and discontent, carrot and stick.

When they get to the rave site, Agostino finds his kind: dazed youths who are sexually fluid and psychologically confused, who are not moved by ambition but by a sunken dream that has dragged them into a state of routinely getting by, where each day is just like the next. They chase freedom, or the illusion of it, at 160 bpm speed. Just like Agostino and his promise of Patagonia, a dream that translates into a game of strength and dependency, leaving Yuri no option but to learn to make choices, aware that each implies loss. Also of freedom, too.

Simone Bozzelli

## THE CHARACTERS

### YURI

23-year-old Yuri is boyish and beardless. He looks at the world wide-eyed, smiling innocently and amazed, like a kid who's just discovered something new. He lives with his aunt in a small town on the coast of Italy, where he is pampered and indulged in a cage-like house that shields him from the loudness of life. But that's precisely what Yuri is staring at, fascinated: the music, the bonfires, the body-pierced tattooed boys and girls having fun outside. Anything that remotely recalls a rebellion against repressed adolescence.

One day, at his little cousin's birthday party, he sits among the kids watching a young, charismatic entertainer who starts picking on him.

Meeting Agostino puts Yuri before his true dream: run away, far, far, away, perhaps towards a different cage.

**Yuri** is played by **Andrea Fuorto**.

Filmography:

#### Cinema

- 2022 PATAGONIA directed by S. Bozzelli
- 2021 LA PRIMA REGOLA directed by M. D'Epiro
- 2021 WAR – LA GUERRA DESIDERATA directed by G. Zanasi
- 2020 A GIRL RETURNED directed by G. Bonito

#### Television

- 2023 GERRI directed by G. Bonito
- 2020 MONDO CANE directed by A. Celli
- 2019 SUBURRA - BLOOD ON ROME (season 3) directed by A. Catinari

#### Theatre

- 2016 SOLI directed by G. Mancini
- 2016 DRACULA directed by G. Mancini
- 2015 QUANDO IL FIUME È TRAMONTATO IN ROSSO directed by G. Mancini
- 2014 BRIGANTI directed by G. Mancini

### AGOSTINO

29-year-old Agostino has deep black eyes sunk in a hollow face and wears his red-dyed hair very short. He is a man who carries himself as a boy, avoiding any responsibility and, if at all possible, any work. When he has to work for money, he has fun doing it. «Any parent would spend money on their child! Children are easy to manipulate and easy to charm».

As a children's party entertainer, he is even better with words than magic tricks. He needs the money to survive, so he has no choice. Besides, he has fun wandering in his camper van while dreaming of places where he can live completely free. A freedom that he talks a lot about but that, in the end, he earns by taking advantage of the people around him. Yuri is perfect for this: a narcissistic mirror where Agostino can see his reflection and, maybe, his weaknesses, too.

**Agostino** is played by **Augusto Mario Russi**. This is debut as an actor.

## SIMONE BOZZELLI

Simone Bozzelli was born in Silvi (TE) in 1994. After graduating in 2017 in Media Design and Multimedia Arts from NABA - Italian Academy of Fine Arts in Rome, he got a diploma in Directing from the Centro Sperimentale di Cinematografia (Experimental Film Centre) in Rome in 2020. His first two short movies, *My Brother* and *Loris is Fine*, were screened at many international festivals. His third short, *Amateur*, was selected for competition at the 34th Settimana della Critica at Venice Film Festival, while his fourth, *J'ador*, won First Prize at the 35th Settimana della Critica. In 2021, he directed the music video for *I Wanna Be Your Slave* by Måneskin and won an MTV Music Award for Best Alternative Video in 2022. His fifth short, *Playtime*, was screened at the 74th Locarno Film Festival. *Patagonia* is his first feature film.

### CINEMA

- 2023 PATAGONIA – Director and writer
- 2021 PLAYTIME - Director and writer (short - CSC Production)
- 2020 J'ADOR - Director and writer (short - CSC Production)
- 2019 AMATEUR - Director and writer (short - CSC Production)
- 2017 LORIS IS FINE - Director and writer (short – The Open Reel)
- 2015 MIY BROTHER - Director and writer (short– The Open Reel)

### MUSIC VIDEOS

- 2021 Måneskin: I Wanna Be Your Slave - Director
- 2021 Bartolini: Forever - Director

## SOUNDTRACK

SIMARIK

(F.Yildirim) Universal Music Publishing Int. Ltd.

Italian Publisher: Universal Music Publishing Ricordi Sri

SIMARIK COVER VERSION

(O.Colakoglu / S.Aksu)

® Countdown under license from Machiavelli Music

PRIMO TRENO PER MARTE

Gianluca Grignani

(G. Grignani)

© 1999 Warner Chappell Music Italiana S.r.l. / Universal Music Publishing Ricordi S.r.l.

® 1995 Universal Music Italia S.r.l.

Courtesy of

Universal Music Italia S.r.l.

BUCKET

Written by

Otto Marozik Benson

Performed by

Memo Boy

Courtesy of

PLZ Make It Ruins.

Courtesy of

PLZ Make It Ruins,

by arrangement with Warp Records

PATAGONIA

Written by José Larralde

Performed by Osvaldo Behrens (guitar - vocals)

© SADAIC

HUHUILU

Cucina Povera

Composed and performed by

Maria Ulrilka Rossi

From the album

Hilja, originally released on Night School