



The thin Match-Man

a film by Marco Chiarini

with

Francesco Pannofino

and Marco Leonzi *first time on screen*

Press

Carlo Dutto - carlodutto@hotmail.it

The thin Match-Man

(a movie for adults only if accompanied by children)

Italy 2009 – 81' (first feature film)

Produced by CINEFORUM TERAMO - **Distribution** socialdistribution.org

NOMINATION DAVID DI DONATELLO

prize 2010 (the 7th of May 2010 the winners) for BEST FIRST-TIME DIRECTOR - Marco Chiarini

NOMINATION DAVID DI DONATELLO

prize 2010 (the 7th of May 2010 the winners) for BEST VISUAL EFFECTS - Ermanno Di Nicola

WINNER

INTERNATIONAL JURY PRIZE

Cairo International Film Festival for Children 2010 (Egypt)

WINNER

PREMIO LUIGI BIANCHI FOR THE BEST FIRST-TIME DIRECTOR

Busto Arsizio Film Festival 2010 (Italy)

WINNER

BEST FILM AWARD

IX Festival del Cinema Indipendente – Foggia 2009 (Italy)

WINNER

BEST FILM AWARD

IV Festival del Cinema dello Stretto – Messina 2010 (Italy)

WINNER

BEST SOUNDTRACK AWARD (E. Melozzi)

- SPECIAL EVENT - Giffoni Film Festival 2009 (Italy)
- SPECIAL EVENT Warsaw European Forum of Cinema for Youth March 2010 (Poland)
- OFFICIAL COMPETITION for Low Budget Films - Fantasy Horror Award di Orvieto March 2010 (Italy)
- OFFICIAL COMPETITION Italian Cinema LONDON April 2010 (UK)
- OFFICIAL COMPETITION Bangladesh Children Festival

official web site - www.uomofiammifero.it

Facebook film page - www.facebook.com/group.php?v=wall&ref=ts&gid=99260137694

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PLOT

Simone, a 11 years old boy, is forced to stay home all the summer time under his angry father's sight. Outside: the sweet adventure wind; inside: the terrible boredom. Until Lorenza, 13 years old girl and green eyed, coming from the city, arrives in the country for holiday time. For Simone it's the beginning of the most unforgettable summer of his life: looking for The Thin Match-Man Simone introduces Lorenza to his strange crazy world made of some friends: PatTheFAT, Appear-Daisy, Mark theDARK, Uncle Disk and Big Hands. But Rubin, number one Simone's enemy is on their traces...

CREW

Director	Marco Chiarini
Produced by	Cineforum Teramo
Producers	Dimitri Bosi, Fabrizio Cico Diaz
Screenplay	Marco Chiarini, Giovanni De Feo, Pietro Albino Di Pasquale
Cinematography	Pierluigi Piredda
Original music	Enrico Melozzi
Editor	Lorenzo Loi, Marco Chiarini
Production design	Michele Modafferri
Costumes	Chiara Ferrantini
3D, 2d special effects	Ermanno Di Nicola
Stop motion animation	Marco Chiarini
Line producer	Fabrizio Cico Diaz
Esecutive producer	Cic Produzioni Cine Televisive
Post production	Dimitri Bosi
Shooted in	Teramo (Abruzzi – Italy)

official web site www.uomofiammifero.it

CAST

Francesco Pannofino (Father)	Marco Leonzi (Simone)
Greta Castagna (Lorenza)	Davide Curioso (Rubin)
Tania Innamorati (Mother)	Matteo Lupi (Mark The Dark)
Anastasia Di Giuseppe (Appear Daisy)	Daniele De Fabiis (Pat the Fat)
Armando Castagna (Kram)	Giuseppe Mattu (Oncle Disk)
Franco Di Sante (Big Hands)	Daniele Irto (The Thin Match-Man).

Shot with: Full HD 1920x1080 - 35mm

Marco Chiarini's film direction notes

Since the time I made marble trails in the sand, when I looked for the tracks of a shrew or the Matchman or flying ants along the river, when I could feel like in a cave under my bed sheets and see a secret passage to the past in my wardrobe, I have always liked to watch stories whose main character was a child's creative happiness (like in *The Neverending Story*, *Alice in Wonderland* and *Time Bandits*). When I grew up, I saw that I felt truly happy working as a film director and, after various film experiments, I realized how beautiful it was to tell the imaginary stories of my childhood. This is what I did in *The Thin Match-man*.

PRODUCTION NOTES

Production of *The Thin Match-Man* started with the sale of a book containing drawings, photos, notes and watercolours that director Marco Chiarini created while envisioning the movie and the idea was to finance the movie with proceeds from book sales.

The book follows the traces that Simone finds of *The Thin Match-Man* and well describes the overall visual concept of the movie. Additionally, the director sold the original illustrated boards used for the book. With the help of enthusiastic friends and supporters, over 3000 copies of the book were sold and nearly all of the 20 original illustrated boards. From a small town in Abruzzo in the center of Italy, relying on an extremely low budget and thousands of supporters, Cineforum (Film Club) Teramo was able to attract professionals to the project and eventually start principal cinematography. After some years of post production, *THE THIN MATCH-MAN* had its premiere at the GIFFONI FILM FESTIVAL in July 2009 and from February 2010 starts its new life..

CHARACTER PROFILES

SIMONE

Simone is 11 years old. His dream is to meet The Thin Match-man, take a picture of him and show it to Pietro, his father.

MISTER PETER

Mister Peter, Simone's father, is a small farmer. He does not believe in the Match-man. He wants Simone to stay home while he takes a nap in the afternoon and to prevent his son from running away in search of the Match-man, he fastens him to his own finger while he sleeps.

THE MOTHER

Simone's mother is gone. It is her who first told him the story of the Match-man and taught him how to look for his tracks in the wood. She, Simone and Mister Peter used to ride around on their motorbike all together.

LORENZA

Lorenza is 12 years old and lives in Switzerland. She comes to Abruzzo every Summer to visit her paternal grandparents. She will help Simone in his search of the Match-man. She is Rubin's cousin.

RUBIN

Rubin is Simone's worst enemy. He owns all the land with the clearest tracks of the Match-man. His secret weapon is spit in the mouth. His best friend is a fighting cock.

THE RUBIN'S COCK

He is a fighting cock that Rubin bought from a Russian stall at Saint Joseph's farming fair. Rubin takes him to illegal cock-fightings arranged by the gypsies. His roost is exactly where the Match-man shows up every year.

ONCLE DISK

Uncle Disk can only speak through a record player. He has all you need to track the Match-man. He is called this way because he can only speak through records. He had his tonsils removed when he was a child and that is when he lost his voice.

NINO THE LITTLE PIG

Nino is the piglet that Simone trained to scent the Matchman. Simone uses him as a bait to attract the Matchman to the house, so that he can take a picture of him. Rubino threatens to eat him if Simone's father doesn't buy him.

BIG HANDS

With his quicksilvered hands, he can make you live through memories again. He lives on sunflower seeds that Simone has to bring for him every week, otherwise he dies.

MARK THE DARK

Mark The Dark lives in Simone's room, under his bed. He hides in the darkness all the time and his face is always in the dark. He fears nothing but to meet again with his mother, who abandoned him in

Simone's room when he was a little baby. He is Dina Lampa's brother.

APPEAR DEASY

Appear Deasy is a girl that disappears whenever she is enjoying herself and reappears in Simone's father's boring films. She is PatTheFat's girlfriend. Nobody can see her, so she checks the courtyard to make sure that Rubin is not around.

PAT THE FAT

PatTheFat is a dwarf giant. His parents are giants but he was born a dwarf and he is as tall as Simone. He is happy only when he can guard Simone's room when he is away in search of the Match-man.

KRAM

Kram is Simone's oldest friend: he is 87 years old but looks like a child, because he lives his life just like a record played backwards. He talks backwards and climbs slopes upside down. He always gives Simone the best advice on how to track the Match-man.

Marco Chiarini - Director's biography

Marco Chiarini was born in 1974 in Teramo, Italy.

He took a degree as production designer from the Academy of Fine Arts in Urbino.

Then attended the directing programme at the Centro Sperimentale di Cinematografia in Rome (degree in 2002).

He directed several shorts and documentaries.

He taught audiovisual language in several Italian schools and in 2003 he won the Torino Under18 Film Festival, dedicated to school audiovisual productions.

In 2005 he created and he's the artistic director, of the festival "Cineramnia shot in Teramo" (this year at the 6th edition).

Marco Chiarini - Director's Filmography

Magic exercises – 2003, 35mm, 17' (Molodist Film Festival Kiev)

Mon "amur" – 2004, dvcam, 12'

Normanno e Denisio – 2004, dvcam, 18' (1st price Under18 Film Festival Torino)

Basilio D'Amico – 2009, dvcam, 42' (Giury special price Arcipelago Film Festival)

The Thin Match-Man – 2009, HD, 81' (Giffoni Film Festival)

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