"The Traitor" at the VII edition of EUFF

The 7th edition of the European Film Festival in South Africa will take place between 12-22 November 2020. This year's Festival goes virtual with an excellent line-up of twelve brand new films, all of which are premiere screenings in South Africa.

Representing Italy will be Marco Bellocchio's award-winning film **The Traitor**, a story that takes us back to the 1980s when a whistleblowing mafia boss-turned-informer triggers the largest prosecution of the Sicilian mafia in Italian history. A riveting insight into the operations of one of the world's most notorious crime syndicates. While brilliantly capturing an epochal event in contemporary Italian history, The Traitor is also a complex portrait of a man who, while believing that he has abided all along by a strict code of honour, can never escape his own misdeeds.

Amongst its illustrious prizes The Traitor swept up 6 awards at Italy's 2020 David di Donatello Awards, including Best Film and Best Director.

EUFF

The 2020 edition of the European Film Festival is virtual and accessible online across South Africa only. The film screenings are <u>free</u>, except for "I am Greta", whose entry fee of R50 serves as a fundraiser for a climate action group who will be awarded screening proceeds after the festival.

Old Worlds and New: Invoking a moment of reflection, and the opportunity to reset our attitude to the world and our 2020 circumstances, this year's 7th edition of the European Film Festival, is about Then and Now, with the films inscribing an arc from Old Worlds to New.

Emphasizing her support for the festival's continuity despite the challenges presented by the coronavirus pandemic, EU Ambassador to South Africa, Dr Riina Kionka, said: "Twelve films in eleven days shows the determination of this European partnership to overcome difficult circumstances. Since my arrival in South Africa this is my second European Film Festival: I can tell you that it is a cultural highlight not to be missed. In addition, I invite you to participate in the various special events lined up during the Festival!"

Bringing the best of European film to South Africa's home screens, the European Film Festival 2020 is a partnership project of the Delegation of the European Union to South Africa and 12 other European embassies and cultural agencies in South Africa: the Embassies of Austria, Belgium, Ireland, Lithuania, the Netherlands, Poland, Spain, Sweden and Wallonie-Bruxelles International, the French Institute in South Africa, the Goethe-Institut, the Italian Cultural Institute, and the British Council. The festival is organised in cooperation with CineEuropa and coordinated by Creative WorkZone.

Look out for the full programme of screenings and special events on http://www.eurofilmfest.co.za/