

**The Postman** (DVD-foreign-ITA-P)

Michael Radford, Director, Italy, 1994

The postman, Mario, enlists the aid of the poet Pablo Neruda to conquer the heart of the beautiful Beatrice.

**Respiro** (DVD-foreign-ITA-R)

Emanuele Crialesi, Director, Italy, 2002

In this Sicilian fable, a beautiful young mother living on a small island excites the disapproval of her fellow villagers with her carefree behavior. When her relatives suggest she needs psychiatric treatment, her son must help her escape the condemnation of the town.

**Seven Beauties** (DVD-foreign-ITA-S)

Lina Wertmuller, Director, Italy, 1975

Pasqualino is a petty crook and lady's man living off his sisters' money until he is arrested. Drafted into the army as punishment, he is subsequently captured by the Germans and taken to a concentration camp where he begins to plot his escape.

**The Son's Room** (DVD-foreign-ITA-S)

Nanni Moretti, Director, Italy, 2001

The calm security of a psychoanalyst's life is turned upside-down when an unthinkable tragedy occurs within his family. Now he must summon up the courage to continue to provide assistance to his patients while dealing with his own grief.

**Seduced and Abandoned** (DVD-foreign-ITA-S)

Pietro Germi, Director, Italy, 1964

An Italian girl is seduced by her sister's boyfriend, setting in motion a chain of events which explore the Sicilian code of honor.

**The Unknown Woman** (DVD-foreign-ITA-U)

Giuseppe Tornatore, Director, Italy, 2006

A mysterious Ukrainian woman with a secret works her way into the lives of an affluent, young Italian family. She stops at nothing to become the couple's trusted maid and nanny to their fragile young daughter. But deep cracks underneath Irena's dedication soon become apparent as her horrific past and chilling obsession are revealed.

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# COMMON GROUND: Italian Cinema

**Russell Library**  
Middletown, Connecticut

**L'avventura** (DVD-foreign-ITA-A)

Michelangelo Antonioni, Director, Italy, 1960

A woman disappears during a Mediterranean boating trip. During the search, her lover and her best friend become attracted to each other.

**Amarcord** (DVD-foreign-ITA-A)

Federico Fellini, Director, Italy, 1973

A year in the life of a small Italian coastal town in the nineteen-thirties, as recalled by a director with a superstar's access to the resources of the Italian film industry.

**The Bicycle Thief** (DVD-foreign-ITA-B)

Vittoria de Sica, Director, Italy, 1949

An unemployed man in Rome finds a job as a bill poster for which he needs a bicycle. When the bicycle is stolen, he and his son search for the thief and finally end up stealing another bicycle.

**The Best of Youth** (DVD-foreign-ITA-B)

Marco Tullio Giordana, Director, Italy, 2003

The story of two brothers in Rome, and the significant events between 1966 and 2003. The film explores love, family, friendship, politics, tragedy, and how to forgive and to heal.

**Bread and Tulips** (DVD-foreign-ITA-B)

Silvio Soldini, Director, Italy, 2000

When a housewife is left behind while on vacation with her family, she decides to take a holiday of her own in Venice. She decides to extend her stay, finds a job, and rents a room. But her solo journey does not sit well with her tyrannical husband, who hires an amateur detective to bring her back home.

**Christ Stopped at Eboli** (DVD-foreign-ITA-C)

Francesco Rosi, Director, Italy, 1979

Levi, an intellectual exiled to a mountain village in southern Italy by the Fascist government during World War II discovers the resilience and dignity of people who live close to the land.

**The Conformist** (DVD-foreign-ITA-C)

Bernardo Bertolucci, Director, Italy, 1970

A rising young follower of Mussolini must assassinate his former professor, now in political exile, to demonstrate his loyalty to the Fascist state.

**Don't Move** (DVD-foreign-ITA-D)

Sergio Castellitto, Director, Italy, 2004

While waiting for his daughter's brain surgery, the surgeon recalls his torrid affair with, and passion for, a simple woman from the slums in the periphery of the big city where he lives.

**Don't Tell** (DVD-foreign-ITA-D)

Cristina Comencini, Director, Italy, 2005

When Sabina's father dies, she is left haunted by a terrible dream that becomes a living nightmare. She seeks out her only sibling, hoping to find an answer—while keeping her daunting journey a secret to those she loves most.

**8½** (DVD-foreign-ITA-E)

Federico Fellini, Director, Italy, 1963

Fellini's autobiographical film about a famous film director who loses his inspiration in the midst of making a film.

**Outcry** (DVD-foreign-ITA-O)

Michelangelo Antonioni, Director, Italy, 1957

A man is bereft when his married lover of seven years decides suddenly to leave him when her husband dies. He takes their child and wanders for a year, but realizes he can love only her.

**Good Morning, Night** (DVD-foreign-ITA-G)

Marco Bellocchio, Director, Italy, 2003

A young woman, Chiara, moves into a new apartment with her husband. She conceals her true identity as member of the Red Brigades, Italy's terrorist underground, which is currently planning to kidnap the Prime Minister.

**Golden Door** (DVD-foreign-ITA-G)

Emanuele Crialesi, Director, Italy, 2006

A poor widowed farmer decides to emigrate to the U.S. with all his family, including his old mother. Before they embark, they meet a British woman who wants to go back to the States; but must marry someone before she arrives at Ellis Island. The film relates their arrival and subsequent examinations with custom officers.

**Generale Della Rovere** (DVD-foreign-ITA-G)

Roberto Rossellini, Director, Italy, 1959

When Nazi officers force an Italian swindler to impersonate a recently-executed underground resistance leader to gain information from fellow prison inmates, his conscience stirs him for the first time.

**I'm Not Scared** (DVD-foreign-ITA-I)

Gabriele Salvatores, Director, Italy, 2003

During a record summer heatwave in 1978, a 9-year-old boy, Michele, living in a remote village in Sicily, discovers that another boy, Filippo, is being held captive in a hole underneath an abandoned house.

**Lamerica** (DVD-foreign-ITA-L)

Gianni Amelio, Director, Italy, 1994

Two Italian racketeers come to Albania after the fall of the communists to set up a fictitious firm and pocket the grants. When they need a stooge, they choose an old one in a jail. But the youngest racketeer, once alone with the stooge, encounters a few problems.

**Life is Beautiful** (DVD-foreign-ITA-L)

Roberto Benigni, Director, Italy, 1997

A charming but bumbling waiter who's gifted with a colorful imagination and an irresistible sense of humor has won the heart of the woman he loves and has created a beautiful life for his young family. Then that life is threatened by World War II.

**My Mother's Smile** (DVD-foreign-ITA-M)

Marco Bellocchio, Director, Italy, 2002

A celebrated painter receives a visit from a cardinal's assistant, who informs him that his mother could become a saint.

**My Brother is an Only Child** (DVD-foreign-ITA-M)

Daniele Luchetti, Director, Italy, 2007

Two feuding brothers in politically turbulent 1960's Italy are in love with the same woman.

**Il Posto** (DVD-foreign-ITA-P)

Ermanno Olmi, Director, Italy, 1961

Two suburban Italian youths meet while seeking "a job for life" from a big city corporation. After a bizarre screening process, they land menial jobs in the "Technical Division" and "Typing Services", respectively. The film goes on to chronicle their lives in the corporate world.