



Presents

PADRE PIO



Directed by Abel Ferrara

Starring Shia LaBeouf, Cristina Chiriac, Marco Leonardi, Asia Argento, Vincenzo Crea,
Luca Lionello and Salvatore Ruocco

IN THEATERS JULY 18

RS Productions is pleased to announce the Italian theater release on **July 18** of **PADRE PIO** by **Abel Ferrara** (*Go Go Tales, Mary, Siberia, Pasolini, Zero and ones*), who also co-wrote the screenplay with **Maurizio Braucci**.

Filmed in Puglia, **PADRE PIO** is set in 1920, right after World War I, marking the beginning of the story of the religious figure portrayed by Shia LaBeouf. Upon arriving at a remote Capuchin convent in San Giovanni Rotondo, in the Gargano mountains, Padre Pio begins his ministry and personal religious journey—where the mysterious appearance of the stigmata coincides with a tragic event that changes the course of world history.

The movie is a free interpretation and a faithful portrayal of the early years of the renowned Capuchin Friar's spiritual journey and his ministry in San Giovanni Rotondo, along with the events that tied him to the local inhabitants. Amid poverty, diseases, and political unrest, the arrival of the friar is pivotal in bringing the seemingly God-forsaken place and its inhabitants back to religion. In assisting the poor and the downtrodden with love and empathy after the devastation of the first industrial war, Padre Pio finds his vocation but also faces disturbing visions, personal torments, and his weaknesses as a human being.



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International star **Shia LaBeouf** (known for his recent films Pieces of a Woman, Blood Calls Blood, Honey Boy, Borg McEnroe) delivers an intense performance as the Saint of Pietralcina, alongside Italian actors **Marco Leonardi** (Il mio posto è qui), **Asia Argento**, **Vincenzo Crea** (Gloria!).

PADRE PIO is an Italy-Germany co-production, produced by **Maze Pictures**, **Interlinea Film**, and **Rimsky Productions**, in association with Carte Blanche, with the contribution of the **Apulia Film Fund** by the **Apulia Film Commission** and the **Puglia Region**, utilizing resources from the POR Puglia FESR-FSE 2014/2020, with the sponsorship and contribution of the **Directorate General Cinema and Audiovisual**, and with the support of the **Lazio Region – Regional Fund for Cinema and Audiovisual**.

PADRE PIO by director **Abel Ferrara** will be released in Italian theaters on **July 18**, distributed by **RS Productions**.

Synopsis: *It is the end of World War I, and young Italian soldiers return to San Giovanni Rotondo, a land of poverty, historical violence, and the firm control of the Church and its wealthy landowners. Families are desperate, men are broken but victorious. Padre Pio also arrives at a remote Capuchin convent to start his ministry, evoking an aura of irresistible charisma, sanctity, and visions of Jesus, Mary, and the Devil himself. The eve of Italy's first free elections serves as the backdrop to a historic massacre, a tragic event that will change the course of the world.*

Images – <https://echogroup.drive.fastcloud.it/invitations?share=c531c875872bd0569ff8>

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About RS Productions

RS Productions, founded in Milan in 2019 by an entrepreneurial group with a broad experience in the media and publishing sectors, is an independent movie production and distribution company. The company, along with Portobello SpA, owns Web Magazine Makers, a publishing house that holds the license for the iconic magazine Rolling Stone in Italy, and holds stakes in Pepito Produzioni and Maestro Distribution.

RS Productions has realized several successful productions, including Enigma Rol (Nastro d'Argento 2024), presented at the 18th edition of the Rome Film Festival; Franco Battiato – La Voce del Padrone (Nastro d'Argento 2023), one of the most viewed Italian docufilms in 2022; I Fratelli De Filippo (a David di Donatello, a Nastro d'Argento, two Globo d'Oro, and two Ciak d'oro in 2022); Franco Zeffirelli, Conformista Ribelle, presented at the 79th edition of the Venice International Film Festival; and Aiuto! È Natale!, featuring Academy Award winner Richard Dreyfuss in the cast. Additionally, the Company has distributed several international productions in Italy, such as The Book of Vision, Fabian – Going to the Dogs, In The Fire, and Muti, featuring the award-winning Morgan Freeman.

Attentive to the constantly evolving market, emerging trends, and new entertainment technologies, the Company launched IMMEDIATE in 2020, the first vertical business accelerator in the media and entertainment industry in Europe; a creative and technological hub that supports the development of startups and innovative projects.