Enjoy the local premieres of six recent Italian films and two programs of short films at the 2019 Italian Film Festival USA of Phoenix. All films shown on the campus of Arizona State University (ASU) in Tempe, the Scottsdale Civic Center Library and Mustang Library. Sponsored by Volpi Foods and ASU’s School of International Letters and Cultures. In collaboration with the Italian Cultural Institute of Los Angeles, ASU, Scottsdale Civic Center Library and Mustang Library.

**THE VICE OF HOPE • IL VIZIO DELLA SPERANZA** (Director, Edoardo De Angelis, Drama, 2018, 96 min.)
Friday, April 12 • 7:00 p.m. • ASU, Marston Exploration Theatre
Maria lives a hand-to-mouth existence, without dreams or desires, as she ferries pregnant women across the river like a modern day Caronte. But hope will pay her a visit, in its most powerful form, as miraculous as life itself, teaching her that staying human is the greatest of all revolutions.

**MATHERA** (Director, Francesco Invernizzi, Documentary, 2019, 90 min.)
Saturday, April 13 • 10:30 a.m. • Mustang Library Auditorium
A journey to Matera, a troglodyte city once defined as the ‘shame of Italy’ that, today, has become a desired tourist destination, UNESCO World Heritage Site and the 2019 European Capital of Culture.

**RESIN • RESINA** (Director, Renzo Carbonera, Drama, 2017, 92 min.)
Saturday, April 13 • 1:00 p.m. • Mustang Library Auditorium
Young cellist Maria returns to her native Alpine village. Quirino, a member of the local men’s choir, asks Maria to help the choir return to its former glory.

**THE GIRL IN THE FOG • LA RAGAZZA NELLA NEBBIA** (Director, Donato Carrisi, Drama, 2017, 128 min.)
Saturday, April 13 • 3:30 p.m. • Mustang Library Auditorium
In a small Alpine village, sixteen-year-old Anna Lou disappears. Vogel, a police detective who is famous for using mass media to create a chaos, arrives. There are no clues, no tracks to follow.

**CHILDREN’S PROGRAM • PROGRAMMA PER BAMBINI** (Comedy, Drama, Animation, 2018, 60 min.)
Friday, April 26 • 3:30 p.m. • Mustang Library Auditorium
A family-friendly program of thirteen short films is geared toward an audience of children aged 6-12.

**SHORT FILM PROGRAM • PROGRAMMA DI CORTOMETRAGGI** (Comedy, Drama, Animation, 2018, 120 min.)
Saturday, April 27 • 10:30 p.m. • Scottsdale Civic Center Library Auditorium
Seven recent films—Filmesque, Magic Alps, Happy Hour, SugarLove, Day Labor, Elvis and The World Cup in a Square—are in competition for your vote for best short film.

**AS NEEDED • QUANTO BASTA RESIN • RESINA** (Director, Francesco Falaschi, Comedy, 2018, 92 min)
Saturday, April 27 • 1:00 p.m. • Scottsdale Civic Center Library Auditorium
Arturo, a talented chef with a troubled past, is assigned to serve community time as a cooking instructor at a school for teenagers with Asperger’s syndrome. One of the students, Guido, has great talent and passion for cooking. Will the improbable friendship between the two help Arturo change his life?

**THE STOLEN CARAVAGGIO • UNA STORIA SENZA NOME** (Director , Roberto Andò, Drama, 2018, 110 min.)
Saturday, April 27 • 3:30 p.m. • Scottsdale Civic Center Library Auditorium
Valeria pens anonymous scripts for a successful screenwriter. One day, she is approached by a mysterious man who gives her an unusual gift: the plot for her next script. But that plot turns out to be a dangerous one: it is about the mysterious 1969 theft of a famous painting by Caravaggio, The Nativity.

FREE admission. For further information, visit www.italianfilmfests.org