

## Italian-American Film Directors

### Umberto E

Friday, September 7, 2012 at 7:00pm

Directed by Anton Evangelista (2012)

Anton Evangelista is a New York City-based filmmaker. After graduation, he found a niche as a storyboard artist for advertising agencies, while landing acting roles in a variety of renowned films. He also worked as an Italian translator for Martin Scorsese and Dante Ferretti on *The Age of Innocence*. His first short film, *Beyond Reason* (1995), went on to play at many international film festivals, as did his film *Intervention* (2004), an award-winning, character-driven love story, taking place in 1968. *Umberto E* is the epic story of Umberto Evangelista, a dynamic and charming ninety-year-old Italian immigrant living in New York City. The movie depicts his real life Cinderella tale, in which he chooses love and forgiveness as his weapons of revenge. (45 minutes)

Q & A with Director Anton Evangelista will follow.

Must register in advance and prepay.

Members \$10, Non-Members \$20



Director Anton Evangelista

### Yonkers Joe

Thursday, November 29, 2012 at 6:30pm

Directed by Robert Celestino (2008)

Robert Celestino is an American film producer, screenwriter, editor and award-winning film director. He is best known for his films, *Mr. Vincent* and *Yonkers Joe*. *Mr. Vincent* premiered at the 1997 Sundance Film Festival. The film then made its mark at festivals around the world. It won the Critics' Award for best film at the Scermi di Amore Film Festival in Italy and the Best Dramatic Feature Award at the Long Island Film Festival. In 2008, Celestino wrote and directed *Yonkers Joe*, starring Chazz Palminteri and Christine Lahti. An ode to old time gamblers, now outdated in an age of powerful upscale casinos, the film tells the story of a dice hustler whose determination to make one last grab for a big score in Vegas is complicated by the reappearance of his estranged, mentally challenged son into his life. *Yonkers Joe* premiered at the 2008 Tribeca Film Festival. Mr. Celestino currently resides in Yonkers, New York with his wife and son. (102 minutes)

Q & A with Director Robert Celestino will follow.

Must register in advance and prepay.

Members \$10, Non-Members \$20

### 5,000 Miles From Home

Friday, December 7, 2012 at 6:30pm

Directed by Jim Distasio and Mark McCutcheon (2009)

*5,000 Miles From Home* tells the riveting tale of a generation of Italian kids from the streets of Chicago who proudly answered the call to serve their country during World War II. *Fra Noi*, the Italian American newspaper in Chicago played a pivotal role in the creation of the film. Many of the veterans interviewed for the documentary were initially the subjects of *War Stories*, a feature of *Fra Noi*. One of the driving forces behind the project was Jim Distasio, who interned at *Fra Noi* throughout college. From the start, Distasio and his fellow producer/director, Mark McCutcheon, made the decision to waive all compensation, devoting every penny raised to the project itself. Their devotion to the film is evident throughout the final product, a documentary that is both rich in history and deeply personal. As a filmmaker, Distasio has produced and directed several music videos, local commercials and corporate videos. *5,000 Miles From Home* marks his feature film debut. (65 minutes)

Q & A with Music Director JoAnne Robertozzi will follow.

Must register in advance and prepay.

Members \$10, Non-Members \$20

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