## ra di martino, federica illuminati, marcella libonati

## present



# The Show MAS Go On

A film by

Rä di Martino

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#### The Show MAS Go On

ITALY, 2014, durata 30'

Director Rä di Martino

Actors Sandra Ceccarelli, Iaia Forte, Maya Sansa, Filippo Timi

The voice of Iaia Forte is of Chiara Pezone

Cinematography Niccolò Berretta, Filippo Silli

Editing Enrico Giovannone

Sound & Music Enrico Ascoli

Post-production Dario Di Vito per Inhouse

This film has been kindly supported by **Gucci**& **Roma Capitale**, Department of Culture.

Produced by Rä di Martino, Federica Illuminati, Marcella Libonati

Co-produced Think Cattleya

Giovanna Mettifogo

Federica Maria Bianchi per Snaporazverein

Crowdfunders Benedetta Lucherini, Mirella Haggiag, Marco Rastelli

Crowdfunders MAS-cotte james brown, alexandra maria brown, sara casani, cristina cobianchi per albumarte, matteo falcione, francesca figus, ring film, ludovica gioscia, angelica grazi, karolin kassar, maria licata, edoardo natoli, ursula seelenbacher, elisa sighicelli, ruben levi, charles weissmann

MAS, the famous department stores in Rome, Italy opens at the beginning of the last century as the biggest luxury department stores of the city. Of that grandeur now perhaps only remain the chandeliers in mid-air some almost touching the floors now covered with torn carpet. MAS has become the People's stores. Thousands meters square with unimaginable quantities of dust wlecome an amazing varied humanity: homeless, drag queens, young Moldavian brides and nuns looking for bras and underwears in big piles. This cult place becomes a stage where the characters normally found there are observed with documentary style scenes intertwined to scenes with actors trying to bring out the spirit, atmosphere and energy of the place.

#### director's notes

The humanity that normally hosts MAS, sale assistants, clients, owners, is observed and intertwines to performances and re-enactments to create a sort of mirror play that tries to reflect and descibe this cult place. The owner of the Department stores MAS, Chiara Pezone, is played by Iaia Forte who lip-synchs VERBATIM on the owner's real voice, an interview made before starting the shooting. She therefore becomes our guide, describing and narrating the history and her special very genuine view of her stores and her clients and the city itself.

Sandra Ceccarelli and Maya Sansa re-enact parts of the episod "The after hours" from the 50's American TV series "The Twilight Zone", in which a manequine becomes a human forgetting its real nature and wakes up lost in the departments stores at night. On the second floor, where 'uomo classico's clothes are on sale we follow the three sales assistants who have been working there for 37, 25 and 15 years. Filippo Timi sings buried in a pile of bras and underwears in a scene that could slightly recall Beckett's "Happy Days".

"The idea of making a documentary on MAS was born one evening whilst walking in front of it and noticing the closing soon messages on the door we all thought: impossible! That's how three friends, a video artist (rä) and agent (federica) and an assistant director (marcella), decide to start the shooting to stop time in this place/non place transformed in a stage with a very particular company. Initially without any money but helped by friends, actors and professionals the idea became *The show MAS go on*"

Rä di Martino, Federica Illuminati, Marcella Libonati

Rä di Martino (Rome 1975) studied at Chelsea College of Art and the Slade school of Art in London before moving to live in New York between 2005 and 2010. Her film, installations and photos have been shown in many museums and film festivals. In 2002 her 16mm short film Not360, developed with a script award from Film London, is included in competition at the Turin Film Festival, at Pesaro Film Festival and New York Underground Film Festival. In 2003 the video untitled (rambo), a short silent film entirely made digitally manipulating a scene from the movie Rambo II goes to many festivals including the Dallas, Montreal, Rio de Janeiro, St. Petersburg, Torino and Vila Do Conde Film Festival. In 2006 the short film La camera with actor Filippo Timi, is funded and acquired for the collection of Macro, the museum of contemporary art in Rome and is also shown at Center Pompidou and the Locarno Film Festival. With the film work August 2008 with actress Maya Sansa, a tableaux vivant inside a villa Hollywood 50's style participates to the Rotterdam Film Festival and is shown at MCA Chicago and screened at museums in Berlin, Madrid, Rome and Paris. The double channel video installation The Dancing Kid (2005-2008) with actor Stephen Campbell Moore, sees a man abandoned in a desert re-enacting monologues from the Nicholas Ray film Johnny Guitar. This work is invited to the Manifesta Biennial in 2008 and the Turin Triennale in 2005. Rä di Martino has published various photographic projects including the series Untitled (Marilyn) (2004-2012) in which every year she takes a photograph of the actual tomb of Marilyn Monroe and No More Stars (2010-2012) which document the remains of abandoned movie sets in North Africa which seem to become ruins of the imaginary. She has shown in MOMA-PS1, NY; Palazzo Grassi, Venice; MART, Rovereto, HangarBicocca, Milano; NIMK Netherlands Media Arts, Amsterdam; MCA Chicago, Bronx Museum & Artists Space, NY and was included at the Biennal of Mardin, Turkey, at the Busan Biennal in South Korea. In September 2014 she will also open a solo show at Museion in Bozen.

### **Filmography**

The Show MAS Go On 2014 Doc/Art 30 min. 2013 Video/Art 4.22 min. The Picture of Ourselves Petite histoire du plateaux abbandonnée 2012 Short video 6 min. 2010 Short video 5 min. If You See the Object, the Object Sees You August 2008 2009 16mm short 10 min. 2008 Short/art video 12 min. The Nightwalker The Red Shoes 2007 16mm short 4 min. 2006 16mm short 2 min. La Camera The Dancing Kid 2005 Double-channel installation 12 min. 2004 Video 4 min. CanCan! Untitled (rambo) 2003 Video 3 min. 2002 16mm short 8 min. NOT360 Between 2001 16mm short 6 min.

