

Matteo Castelli

Director of Photography · Camera Operator

Florence, Italy · working across Italy and worldwide
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Profile

Award-winning Director of Photography with thirty years on set, based in Florence and working across Italy for international productions. My cinematography won Best Cinematography at the 54th Festival Internacional de Cine de Cartagena in 2025. I have shot for Dior, Netflix, PBS, WDR, BBC, Vice, the Washington Post and Economist Impact.

On small and medium productions I also build the shoot itself: crew, equipment, schedule and locations. On larger jobs I come in as Director of Photography or camera operator alongside the production company carrying it. I work in English on set with British and American crews.

Awards

- **Premio Submarino Peral, Best Cinematography** · 54th Festival Internacional de Cine de Cartagena, 2025 · The Screenwriter
- **Best Foreign Short** · GTX Film Festival, 2025 · The Screenwriter
- **Honourable Mention** · Spello International Film Festival, 2025 · The Screenwriter
- **Fabrique du Cinema Award, Best Italian Short Film** · 2025 · La Femmina
- **European Cinematography Awards, Best Comedy** · Come Se Non Ci Fosse Un Domani
- **Global Short Film Awards, Best Documentary** · 2016, USA · Il Sole Sulla Pelle

Selected Credits

2026 Live Broadcast from Altezza Winery, San Gimignano · Live streaming

Director of Photography and camera operator · Perillo Tours, USA, booked through Go To Team · Sony FX9 *Seven hours continuous, one camera and one operator, directed from a control room in the United States.*

2025 Fileni Benessere Biologico · Documentary

Director of Photography · FrameOut for RCS Studio / Corriere della Sera · Dir. Paolo Baccolo · Canon C40

2025 Jelly Blox, Farm Friends · Commercial

Director of Photography · Mark Tv & Communication · Dir. Nicola Zanobi · Red Gemini

2025 The Screenwriter (Lo Sceneggiatore) · Short film

Director of Photography · Produced and directed by Mark Petrasso · Sony FX3 *Best Cinematography, Cartagena.*

2025 Corporate Convention, Rome · Four-day event

Director of Photography and local production lead, booked through 8Feet Fixer · Sony FX6, FX9, FX30 *Crews up to twelve people, three interview units in parallel.*

2024 Mario Draghi, live interview at the Bank of Italy, Rome · Live interview

Director of Photography and camera operator, booked through 8Feet Fixer · Sony FX30, Samyang primes *Interviewer connected from California, eye contact held down the lens through a prompter.*

2024 The World of Olive Oil · Documentary

Director of Photography · South Florida PBS, USA · Dir. Frank Licari · Sony FX30

2024 The Faces of Carmen · Documentary

Director of Photography · Overtone Films, New York, in co-production with WDR · Dir. Hilan Warshaw · Sony FX30

2024 La Femmina · Short film

Director of Photography · Pink Weapon, Italy · Dir. Nuanda Sheridan · Sony FX3 *Fabrique du Cinema Award.*

2023 Experience Dior Spa at Taormina · Branded content

Director of Photography · Pan Pan Productions, France · Dir. Melinda Triana · Sony FX9

2022 Doppia Coppia · Feature film

Director of Photography · Firenze Produzioni Cinematografiche · Dir. Igor Biddau · Panasonic EVA1

2020 Home Game · Documentary series for Netflix

Cinematographer · Calcio Storico episode

2020 Chiara Ferragni's Lady Dior Bag · Branded content

Director of Photography · Mercenary Production, Paris · Dir. Melinda Triana · Panasonic EVA1

2020 Come Se Non Ci Fosse Un Domani · Feature film

Director of Photography · Firenze Produzioni Cinematografiche · Dir. Igor Biddau · Panasonic EVA1 *European Cinematography Awards*.

2019 Donne Senza Uomini · Feature film

Director of Photography · Blend, Italy · Dir. Lorenzo Giacinti · Canon C500

2019 Il Terzo Atto · Short film

Director of Photography · Produced and directed by Mark Petrasso · Panasonic EVA1

2018 Il Sole Sulla Pelle · Documentary

Director of Photography · Caravanserraglio Film Factory · Dir. Massimo Bondielli *Global Short Film Awards, Best Documentary*.

2018 After Porn Ends 3 · Documentary for Netflix

Director of Photography · Pirates Ent. / Webros / Karbonshark, USA · Dir. Brittany Andrews · Canon C300 MkII

2018 The One and the Many · Documentary

Director of Photography · Slow Your Roll Films, USA · Dir. Inaya Yusuf

2017 Dirty Old Town · TV pilot

Director of Photography · Firenze Produzioni Cinematografiche · Dir. Tim Daish · Canon C500

2016 Smile Factor · Feature film

Director of Photography · Firenze Produzioni Cinematografiche · Dir. Igor Biddau · Canon C500

2016 Ottoman Social Complex · Documentary

Director of Photography · Kotava / NCSA, Turkey · Dir. Fatih Akdeniz · Canon C500

2016 Don Matteo 10 · TV series

Drone camera operator · Lux Vide, Italy · Dir. Monica Vullo · Panasonic GH4

2008 to 2015 · Earlier work includes feature films, commercials and documentaries in Italy and abroad, among them *Il Bianco di Babbudoiu* (second unit, 3Zero2), *Florenza* (Michael Curylo Production, USA), the Nishat campaign for Pakistan, and *Cuore Eritrea*, Chatwin Award 2009.

Remote Interviews and Live Streaming

I film interviews in Italy directed live from another country. The camera and audio feed goes into a Zoom or Meet call while the footage records in camera at full quality, and the interviewer's face sits on the optical axis of the lens through a prompter, on the same principle as an Interrotron, so the subject looks into the camera and sees a person looking back. I have shot dozens of interviews directed from abroad.

Equipment

I arrive with my own camera, lighting, audio and streaming kit, enough to shoot most jobs without renting anything: Sony Cinema Line bodies, Samyang prime lenses, LED lighting, field monitors, boom and lavalier microphones, a teleprompter and a streaming kit. Anything beyond that comes from rental houses I work with in Rome and Florence.

Languages, Coverage and References

Languages. Italian, native. English, working level on set with British and American crews.

Coverage. Based in Florence, working across Tuscany, Rome, Milan, Venice and the rest of Italy, and abroad when a production travels.

References. Available on request.