

FABRIZIO GIFUNI

Fabrizio Gifuni is one of the most successful actors on the Italian film and theatre scene. For more than twenty years, his work has followed an original cultural and creative path marked by an unsparing expressive urgency.

After completing his studies with Orazio Costa at the *Accademia Nazionale d'Arte Drammatica "Silvio d'Amico"* in 1992, Gifuni made his stage debut in 1993 in the role of Orestes, in Euripides' *Electra* directed by Massimo Castri – who subsequently directed him in Goldoni's *The Holiday Trilogy*. In '95 he began a rewarding collaboration with the Greek company directed by Theodoros Terzopoulos, with which he performed in two different versions of Sophocles' "Antigone" at the Greek Theater of Epidaurus and in three Asian countries (China, Japan and Korea).

During the early 2000's, he created and performed a number of theater pieces. Together with Giuseppe Bertoluci, he developed the multiple award-winning *Gadda e Pasolini, antibiografia di una nazione (Gadda and Pasolini, the anti-biography of a nation)*, which includes the shows 'Na specie de cadavere lunghissimo (*Something Like a Very Long Cadaver*) (**Premio Istriano 2006**) and *L'Ingegnere Gadda va alla guerra o della tragica storia di Amleto Pirobutirro (Gadda Goes to War, or the Tragic History of Amleto Pirobutirro)* (**2010 Ubu Prize for Best Show and Best Actor of the year**). Gifuni has devoted numerous other projects to these two writers, including the lesson/performance *Gadda e il teatro, un atto sacrale di conoscenza (Gadda and the theater, a sacred act of consciousness)* and unabridged readings of both *Quer pasticciaccio brutto di Via Merulana (That Awful Mess in the Via Merulana)* (2012) *Ragazzi di vita (Hustlers)* (2014), published by Emons Audiolibri.

Through the years, Gifuni has always focused on the idea of a 'living relationship' with language, giving particular attention to great Italian and foreign literature. Authors such as Gadda, Pasolini, Testori, Pavese and Caproni, as well as Dante, Manzoni, Camus and Cortazar have provided some of his test beds over time.

His latest performance – of which he created the dramaturgy, direction and interpretation - include "*Con il vostro irridente silenzio. Studio in forma di lettura dalle lettere dalla prigionia e dal memoriale di Aldo Moro*" ("*With your mocking silence". Study in the form of a reading, from letters written in captivity and from the Testament by Aldo Moro*).

He has performed leading roles in recent seasons at Milan's Piccolo Teatro, in the *Lehman Trilogy* – the last great stage production directed by Luca Ronconi – and in *Freud, ovvero l'interpretazione dei sogni (Freud, or the Interpretation of Dreams)*, directed by Federico Tiezzi.

Gifuni has acted in some forty films and TV movies, working with directors including: Gianni Amelio (*Così ridevano / The Way We Laughed*), Marco Tullio Giordana (*La meglio gioventù / The Best of Youth and Romanzo di una strage / Piazza Fontana: the Italian Conspiracy*), Giuseppe Bertolucci (*L'amore probabilmente / Probably Love*), Gianluca Tavarelli (*Un amore / An Affair of Love and Qui non è il paradiso / This Is Not Paradise*), Liliana Cavani (*De Gasperi*), Ridley Scott (*Hannibal*), Edoardo Winspeare (*Galantuomini / Brave Men*), Marco Turco (*C'era una volta la città dei matti / Once Upon a Time - the City of Fools*, winning multiple awards in the role of Franco Basaglia), Davide Manuli (*Beket and La leggenda di Kaspar Hauser / The Legend of Kaspar Hauser*), Francesco Bruni (*Noi 4 / We 4*), Paolo Virzì (*Il Capitale umano / Human Capital*), Marco Bellocchio (*Fai bei sogni / Sweet Dreams*), Daniele Vicari (*Prima che la notte / Before Night*) and Ludovico di Martino (*La belva / The Beast*).

Dubbed the European Revelation at the 2002 **Berlin Film Festival**, Gifuni also received the **Golden Globe Foreign Press Award** and the **De Sica Prize** that same year. He was awarded the **Nastro d'Argento in 2003** for *La meglio gioventù (The Best of Youth)*, the **Fellini Prize** for artistic excellence in 2010, and the **Gianmaria Volontè Prize** in 2012. For his role in *Il Capitale umano (Human Capital)* he won all the major awards for the 2014 season: a **David di Donatello**, a **Nastro d'Argento** and the **Vittorio Gassman Prize**.

In 2018 the **Nastro d'Argento della Legalità** went to the film *Prima che la notte* (*Before Night*) and to Gifuni for his performance.

For the work he has carried out over the past fifteen years, exploring the theatrical potential of texts by major Italian and foreign authors, Gifuni was awarded the 2014 **Naples Award for Italian Culture**; and in 2018, he received an **Honorary Degree in Italian Literature, Modern Philology and Linguistics** from the University of Rome "Tor Vergata".