



Maksimovic. The story of Bruno Pontecorvo



The Italian première of the docufilm dedicated to the physicist

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The Italian première of the film "Maksimovic. La storia di Bruno Pontecorvo" will be held on 11 September, in the dean's offices (Aula Magna) of Università La Sapienza. Conceived by Giuseppe Mussardo, a professor of the International School for Advanced Studies (SISSA) of Trieste, the film retraces the life of the scientist and the man who embodied the contradictions and the spirit of a tormented century.

Bruno Pontecorvo was one of the most brilliant scientists born in Italy in the last century, involved, against his will, in the Cold War tensions in the 1950s, so much that he chose to cross the iron curtain in September 1950 and settle in the Soviet Union.

"Maksimovic. La storia di Bruno Pontecorvo" is a docufilm that reconstructs in detail the life of the scientist and of the man, following his traces in Italy, France, the United States, Canada, England and Russia. Written by Giuseppe Mussardo, a theoretical physicist at SISSA of Trieste, assisted by Luisa Bonolis, who carried out the historical research, and directed by Diego Cenetiempo, the film will be presented for the first time in Italy on 11 September in Rome, in the dean's offices (Aula Magna) of Università La Sapienza.

"The film retraces the story of an extraordinary figure of the 20th century who experienced all the lacerations of that time with his timid nature and gentle eyes," explains Mussardo. "The film



revolves around both the man and the extraordinary pages on physics he wrote.”

The story begins in Pisa and ends in Dubna, in Russia, embracing almost all the continents, and is an opportunity to address also the History of the Twentieth Century, from Fascism to WW2, from the nuclear bomb to the Cold War.

Many scientists, friends and former collaborators of Pontecorvo have taken part in the movie Helen Curie, Luciano Maiani and more. In the film the role of Pontecorvo is played by actor Adriano Giraldi, who plays a few excerpts of an interview to the physicist taken by Miriam Mafai at the time.

The international première of the film was held on 22 August in Moscow, on the same day of the hundredth anniversary of the scientist’s birth.

Thanks to his activities for science dissemination, Giuseppe Mussardo will receive receive SIF's Outreach Prize 2013. The award will be given on the occasion of the Annual Congress of the Italian Physical Society (Società Italiana di Fisica, SIF), which will be held on 23 September 2013, in Trieste.

The picture: *the actor Adriano Giraldi, performing the part of Bruno Pontecorvo*

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