

QUIET CHAOS

Directed by Antonello Grimaldi

Screenplay Nanni Moretti, Laura Paolucci, Francesco Piccolo



Starring Nanni Moretti

Italy 2008 / 112 minutes Certificate: 15

Official Selection Berlin Film Festival 2008

OPENS 24TH OCTOBER IN THE WEST END AND SELECTED CINEMAS ACROSS THE
COUNTRY

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new wave films

Director	ANTONELLO GRIMALDI
Screenplay	NANNI MORETTI, LAURA PAOLUCCI, FRANCESCO PICCOLO
Casting	LAURA MUCCINO, ANNAMARIA SAMBUCCO
Assistant Director	LOREDANA CONTE
Costume Designer	ALEXANDRA TOESCA
Production Designer	GIADA CALABRIA
Sound Director	GAETANO CARITO
Music	PAOLO BUONVINO
Director of Photography	ALESSANDRO PESCI
Editing	ANGELO NICOLINI
Make-up	GIANFRANCO MECACCI
Production Manager	ROBERTO LEONE
Production Supervisor	CLAUDIO ZAMPETTI
Line Producer	GIANLUCA LEURINI
Creative Producer	LAURA PAOLUCCI
Executive Producer	ERIC ABRAHAM
Produced by	DOMENICO PROCACCI

A **Fandango** production in collaboration with **RAI Cinema**

in association with **Portobello Pictures** and **Phoenix Film Investment**

Produced with the support of the Ministry for Cultural Heritage and Activities

(Ministero per I Beni Culturali e Ambientali – Dipartimento Spettacolo)

Italy, 2008, Colour, 112 mins

CAST

Pietro Paladini	NANNI MORETTI
Marta	VALERIA GOLINO
Eleonora Simoncini	ISABELLA FERRARI
Carlo	ALESSANDRO GASSMAN
Claudia	BLU YOSHIMI
Jean Claude	HIPPOLYTE GIRARDOT
Jolanda	KASIA SMUTNIAK
Thierry	DENIS PODALYDÈS
Boesson	CHARLES BERLING
Samuele	SILVIO ORLANDO
Annalisa	ALBA ROHRWACHER
Maria Grazia	MANUELA MORABITO
Taramanni	ROBERTO NOBILE
Mario	BABAK KARIM
Benedetta	BEATRICE BRUSCHI
Teacher Gloria	ANTONELLA ATTILI
Francesca	SARA D'AMARIO
Psychotherapist	CLORIS BROSCA
Matteo's mother	TATIANA LEPORE
Matteo	STEFANO GUGLIELMI
Maria Grazia's friend	ANNA GIGANTE
Maria Grazia's friend	VALENTINA CARNELUTTI
Simoncini's husband	NESTOR SAIED
Lady at dinner party	DINA BRASCHI
Man at dinner party	UGO DE CESARE

SYNOPSIS

Quiet Chaos is what Pietro Paladini has felt in his heart ever since his wife's sudden death.

Pietro is a successful executive, happily married and father of a 10-year old daughter, Claudia.

One day, after having saved the lives of two women who were drowning, he arrives home only to discover his wife has suddenly died.

From that moment on his life changes radically.

Pietro takes Claudia to school on her first day back and decides spontaneously to wait for her until classes are over. He sits in his car, wanders in the park and has coffee at a nearby cafe.

He decides to do the same the following day and the days after that.

Pietro waits each day for the pain to arrive. His bosses, fellow workers and relatives all come to console him but end up confiding their own pain and difficulties, surrendering to his incomprehensible calm.

Gradually, Pietro begins to look at the world through new eyes. In the end, it is through his love for his daughter that Pietro finds the key to a kind of spiritual rebirth and emerges from this journey with a newfound love of life.

DIRECTOR'S NOTES

The challenge on this film was to stick with the lead actor for most of the time in the same place and yet try to not to transmit the feeling of a lack of mobility. I took this suggestion from Veronesi's novel: Pietro stays outside the school not just to watch out for his daughter's reaction, but above all to watch over the story of his life, to keep a tight hold on it.

We will agree with Carlo, Pietro's brother, when he tells him that perhaps because Claudia doesn't see her father suffer, she doesn't think she should feel pain either.

For these reasons I don't think it's ever necessary to abandon Pietro: every scene revolves around him, in a figurative sense and in a physical sense. The whole story is narrated from his point of view. Technically, I used camera movements that allowed me to describe his emotions, respecting his reluctance to demonstrate his sorrow and his attempt to keep it at bay.

I hope I succeeded in portraying this long wait, properly rendering what was so well-described in the novel: the confusion that "modern" people face before the impossibility of dealing with the mourning process, without being able to confide in either a religious or lay tradition.

THE BOOK

“My name is Pietro Paladini, I’m forty-three and I’m a widower.”

This is how the lead character of Sandro Veronesi’s new novel introduces himself. A man apparently fulfilled, with an excellent job, a woman who loves him, a daughter ten years old.

Then one day, as he saves the life of an unknown woman, the unpredictable happens and everything changes. Lara suddenly dies.

Pietro takes refuge in his car, parked in front of the school his daughter, Claudia attends, and the period of awakening begins, as insane in its premise as it is productive in its results. Wise, brilliant, sceptical, cordial, unpredictable, Pietro Paladini is the man who fumbles his way towards recovery, and as he does so he chemically dissolves “today”, he extracts spaces from it with intelligence: he advances, experiments, concludes.

Veronesi’s fascinating writing, his uninterrupted dance between intellect and word is the cord with which Pietro pulls up the bucket from the bottom of the well, little by little, without alternatives, setting the conditions for an unparalleled finale, yet completely natural, in which the limits of what is possible are overstepped and one arrives at the simplest of truths: accepting human nature in its banal, heroic confusion of strength and weakness.

In 2006 Sandro Veronesi won the 60th Strega Prize.

For many weeks the book was in first place and in Italy sold more than 300,000 copies.

Caos calmo was bought in many foreign countries. In France the book was published by Grasset & Fasquelle. During 2007 *Caos Calmo* was released in Spain with Anagrama and in Germany it was published by Knaus (Bertelsmann Group).

In all English-speaking countries it will be published by Ecco Press.

THE AUTHOR

Sandro Veronesi was born in Florence in 1959 and lives in Prato.

In 1985 he received his degree in architecture. His debut as a novelist was in 1988, the grotesque and visionary *Per dove parte questo treno allegro*. In 1990, Mondadori published *Gli Sfiutati* which had excellent success from critics and public. In 1995 Feltrinelli published *Venite venite B52*. In 2000 he published *The Force of the Past*, winner of the Campiello Prize and the Viareggio Prize. This novel was translated in 15 languages and a film was made from it directed by Piergiorgio Gay with Sergio Rubini in competition at the 59th Venice Film Festival.

Veronesi is also the author of three non-fiction books: the collections of interviews *Italian Chronicles* (1992), *Live* (1996) and *An Eye for an Eye* (1992), an inquiry on the death penalty throughout the world, reprinted in 2006 by Bompiani Pub.

In 2003 he published the theatre adaptation of *No Man’s Land*.

His latest book, released in 2007, is titled *Brucia Troia*.

For many years he has collaborated with numerous daily papers and literary magazines.

THE MUSIC IN QUIET CHAOS

Interview with Antonello Grimaldi

Q: What is the role of music in your films?

A: The real difference between American and Italian cinema is in the music: in American films the songs create empathy with the story. Music accompanies us every day and each song is linked to an emotion and a memory, therefore a special piece creates an immediate connection with the scene, making it more intimate.

Yet in Italy we often have to limit the budget for music rights and we have to use new emotions, generated by an original sound track, created for those images.

If I were an Italian producer, I might choose an actor who didn't cost too much, but I would invest a lot on the music rights!

Q: What songs did you choose for Quiet Chaos?

A: In Veronesi's novel the Radiohead songs were fundamental on the narrative level, but this aspect couldn't be transferred onto film. Nevertheless I wanted to pay homage to a book, inserting their *Pyramid Song*.

The choice of the other two pieces, *Cigarettes and Chocolate Milk* by Rufus Wainwright and *Your Ex-lover Is Dead* by the Stars, depended only on my personal taste: I gave importance to the melodic aspect and to the atmospheres they created, rather than the texts that had no bearing with the story.

Q: How was your work with Paolo Buonvino?

A: The rarefied, suspended atmosphere that characterised most of the film was particularly difficult to express in music. The need for a discreet accompaniment, that didn't invade the scene but supported it, made me choose for the first time a musician who was young but already expert in sound tracks.

We handled the narration music like a puzzle that only in the last scene on the snow explodes the film theme in all its entirety. First we had the same theme, fragmented and interrupted, almost urging the spectator to finally hear all of it.

I preferred to eliminate any sound element in the sex scene that takes place in the villa at the sea, between the lead role and the woman he saved, to make it more real, more violent, eliminating any romantic aspect.

Q: What is your musical taste?

A: Even though I appreciate nearly all kinds of music and I keep up to date on new trends, I must say that my formation was with the American and English rock of the 1970s, a period that produced numerous milestones not only in music, but also in the cinema and in other arts.

And if I hadn't become a director I would have liked to "do radio", but the radio of the 1970s, where you could talk about how songs originated and about their authors.

ANTONELLO GRIMALDI

Director

CINEMA

AN IMPOSSIBLE CRIME, 2001

with Carlo Cecchi and Angela Molina.

Winner of the special jury prize of the Noir in Festival, Courmayeur 2000.

ASINI, 1999

with Claudio Bisio, Giovanna Mezzogiorno and Fabio De Luigi

BITS AND PIECES, 1996

Berlin Film Festival 1996, London Film Festival 1997

NULLA CI PUO' FERMARE, 1988

with Roberto De Francesco, Maurizio Donadoni, Margherita Buy

JUKE BOX, 1983

directed the episode "La Ricerca"

Feature film with episodes directed by Daniele Luchetti, Carlo Carlei and Valerio Lalongo

Venice Film Festival

NANNI MORETTI

Director, screenwriter and main character

2007 **DIARO DI UNO SPETTATORE** (short) part of Chacun son Cinéma
Directed and interpreted by Nanni Moretti.

2006 **THE CAIMAN** Directed and interpreted by Nanni Moretti. Story: Nanni Moretti, Heidrun Schlee. Screenplay: Nanni Moretti, Francesco Piccolo, Federica Pontremoli.

In competition at the Cannes Festival 2006

2003 **THE LAST CUSTOMER** (short) Director: Nanni Moretti.
Out of competition at the Cannes Festival 2003.

2002 **IL GRIDO D'ANGOSCIA DELL'UCCELLO PREDATORE** (short) Directed and interpreted by Nanni Moretti.

Out of competition at the Cannes Festival 2003.

2001 **THE SON'S ROOM** Directed and interpreted by Nanni Moretti. Story: Nanni Moretti.

Screenplay: Linda Ferri, Nanni Moretti, Heidrun Schlee.

Golden Palm at the Cannes Festival 2001

1998 **APRIL** Directed and interpreted by Nanni Moretti. Story and screenplay: Nanni Moretti.

In competition at the Cannes Festival 1998.

1995 **IL GIORNO DELLA PRIMA DI CLOSE-UP** (short) Directed and interpreted by Nanni Moretti.

1994 **L'UNICO PAESE AL MONDO** Collectively directed and interpreted.
Episodes by Daniele Luchetti (artists Silvio Orlando, Nanni Moretti), Francesca Archibugi, Antonio Capuano, Marco Tullio Giordana, Mario Martone, Carlo Mazzacurati, Marco Risi, Stefano Rulli, Nanni Moretti

1993 **DEAR DIARY** Directed and interpreted by Nanni Moretti. Story and screenplay: Nanni Moretti.

Best Director award at the Cannes Festival 1994.

1990 **THE THING** Director: Nanni Moretti. (Documentary)
Berlin Festival 1991, Forum section.

1989 **PALOMBELLA ROSSA** Directed and interpreted by Nanni Moretti. Story and screenplay: Nanni Moretti. . Special event Settimana della Critica, Venice Film Festival 1989.

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1985 **THE MASS IS ENDED** Directed and interpreted by Nanni Moretti. Story and screenplay: Nanni Moretti, Sandro Petraglia.
Silver Bear at the Berlin Festival 1986.

1984 **BIANCA** Directed and interpreted by Nanni Moretti. Story: Nanni Moretti.
Screenplay: Nanni Moretti, Sandro Petraglia.
In competition at the Montreal Festival 1984.

1981 **SWEET DREAMS** Directed and interpreted by Nanni Moretti. Story and screenplay: Nanni Moretti.
Special Jury Prize at the Venice Film Festival 1981.

1978 **ECCE BOMBO** Directed and interpreted by Nanni Moretti. Story and screenplay: Nanni Moretti.
In competition at the Cannes Festival 1978.

1976 **I AM SELF SUFFICIENT** Directed and interpreted by Nanni Moretti. Story and screenplay: Nanni Moretti. Editing: Nanni Moretti. Production: Nanni Moretti.
Berlin Festival 1978, Forum section.

1974 **COME PARLI FRATE?** Directed and interpreted by Nanni Moretti. Story (freely adapted from *The Betrothed* by Alessandro Manzoni) and screenplay: Nanni Moretti.
Production: Nanni Moretti.

1973 **LA SCONFITTA** Directed and interpreted by Nanni Moretti. (short)

PATÉ DE BOURGEOIS Directed and interpreted by Nanni Moretti. (short)

Nanni Moretti also appears as actor in Padre Padrone (1977) by Paolo and Vittorio Taviani.

VALERIA GOLINO

Selected Filmography

- 2007 **THE GIRL BY THE LAKE** directed by Andrea Molaioli
- 2006 **OUR COUNTRY** directed by Francesca Comencini
- 2005 **MARIO'S WAR** directed by A. Capuano - David di Donatello for Best Actress
- 2004 **36 QUAI DES ORFEVRES** directed by Olivier Marchal
- 2001 **HOTEL** directed by Mike Figgis
- RESPIRO** directed by Emmanuele Crialesi
- FRIDA** directed by Julie Taymar
- 1999 **HAREM SUARE** directed by Ferzan Ozpetek
- AGAINST THE WIND** directed by Peter Del Monte
- 1997 **SHOOTING THE MOON** directed by Francesca Archibugi
- 1996 **ESCAPE FROM L.A.** directed by John Carpenter
- LEAVING LAS VEGAS** directed by Mike Figgis
- FOUR ROOMS** episode directed by Allison Anders
- 1995 **IMMORTAL BELOVED** directed by Bernard Rose
- 1993 **PUERTO ESCONDIDO** directed by Gabriele Salvatores
- 1992 **THE INDIAN RUNNER** directed by Sean Penn
- 1990 **THE YEAR OF THE GUN** directed by John Frankeneimer
- 1988 **RAIN MAN** directed by Barry Levinson
- TORRENTS OF SPRING** directed by Jerzy Skolimowski

ISABELLA FERRARI

Selected Filmography

- 2008 **A PERFECT DAY** directed by Ferzan Ozpetek
- 2006 **SATURNO CONTRO** directed by Ferzan Ozpetek
- 2005 **THE GOODBYE KISS** directed by Michele Soavi
- 2005 **L'ANNIVERSAIRE** directed by Diane Kurys
- 2004 **AMATEMI** directed by Renato De Maria
- 1999 **HOLY TONGUE** directed by Carlo Mazzacurati
- 1997 **MARE LARGO** directed by F. Vicentini Orgnani
- 1997 **SWEET IDLENESS** directed by Nae Caransil
- 1996 **K** directed by Alexandre Arcady
- 1995 **ROMANZO DI UN GIOVANE POVERO** directed by Ettore Scola- *Volpi Cup – Best Supporting Actress*
- 1995 **HOTEL PAURA** directed by Renato De Maria
- 1993 **A MAN AT SEA** directed by Jacques Doillon
- 1993 **IMPASSE MEURTRIERE** directed by Ivan Buttler
- 1990 **OOSTENDE** directed by Eric Woreth
- 1988 **APPUNTAMENTO A LIVERPOOL** directed by Marco Tullio Giordana

ALESSANDRO GASSMAN

Selected filmography

- 2007 **PINOCCHIO** directed by Alberto Sironi
- 2005 **NON PRENDERE IMPEGNI STASERA** directed by Luigi Tavarelli
- 2003 **I GUARDIANI DEL CIELO** directed by Luciano Odorisi
- 2002 **THE BANKERS OF GOD** directed by Giuseppe Ferrara
- 1998 **I MIEI PIÙ CARI AMICI** directed by Alessandro Benvenuti
- 1997 **UN MESE AL LAGO** directed by John Irvin
- 1997 **HAMAM: THE TURKISH BATH** directed by Ferzan Ozpetek
- 1995 **UOMINI SENZA DONNE** directed by Angelo Longoni
- 1993 **GOLDEN BALLS** directed by Bigas Luna
- 1991 **WHEN WE WERE REPRESSED** directed by Pino Quartullo
- 1982 **DI PADRE IN FIGLIO** directed by Vittorio Gassman

HYPPOLITE GIRARDOT

Selected filmography

- 2007 **UN CONTE DE NOËL** directed by Arnaud Desplechin
- 2006 **MADE IN PARIS** directed by Pascal Bonitzer
- 2006 **LADY CHATTERLEY** directed by Pascale Ferran
- 2005 **PREMONITION** directed by Jean-Pierre Darroussin
- 2003 **KINGS AND QUEEN** directed by Arnaud Desplechin
- 1997 **LONG LIVE THE REPUBLIC** directed by Eric Rochant
- 1993 **THE PATRIOTS** directed by Eric Rochant
- 1993 **LA PARFUM D'YVONNE** directed by Patrice Leconte
- 1992 **THE GIRL IN THE AIR** directed by Maroun Bagdadi
- 1991 **AFTER LOVE** directed by Diane Kurys
- 1990 **OUT OF LIFE** directed by Maroun Bagdadi
- 1988 **A WORLD WITHOUT PITY** directed by Eric Rochant
- 1986 **MANON DES SOURCES** directed by Claude Berri
- 1984 **FORT SAGANNE** directed by Alain Corneau
- 1983 **FIRST NAME: CARMEN** directed by Anne Marie Mieville
- 1983 **LE BON PLAISIR** directed by Francis Girod
- 1982 **THE DESTINY OF JULIETTE** directed by Aline Isserman

CHARLES BERLING

Selected filmography

- 2007 **SUMMER HOURS** directed by Olivier Assayas
2006 **MADE IN PARIS** directed by Pascal Bonitzer
2004 **I SAW BEN BARKA GET KILLED** directed by Serge Le Peron
2004 **GRABUGE** directed by Jean-Pierre Mocky
2002 **I'M STAYING!** directed by Diane Kurys
2002 **SECRET AGENTS** directed by Frédéric Schoendoerffer
2001 **DEMONLOVER** directed by Olivier Assayas
2000 **STARDOM** directed by Denys ARCAND
2000 **LES DESTINÉES SENTIMENTALES** directed by Olivier Assayas
2000 **THE COMEDY OF INNOCENCE** directed by Raoul Ruiz
2000 **SAVAGE SOULS** directed by Raoul Ruiz
1999 **FAIT D'HIVER** directed by Robert Enrico
1999 **L'ENNUI** directed by Cédric Kahn
1998 **THOSE WHO LOVE ME CAN TAKE THE TRAIN** directed by Patrice Chereau
1998 **L'INCONNU DE STRASBOURG** directed by Valéria Sarmiento
1997 **OBSESSION** directed by Peter Sehr
1997 **LES PALMES DE MONSIEUR SCHULTZ** directed by Claude Pinoteau
1997 **NETTOYAGE À SEC** directed by Anne Fontaine
1996 **RIDICULE** directed by Patrice Leconte
1995 **NELLY AND MR. ARNAUD** directed by Claude Sautet
1994 **COMING TO TERMS WITH THE DEAD** directed by Pascal Ferran

DENIS PODALYDÉS

Selected filmography

2008 **COLUCHE** directed by Antoine de Caunes

2007 **BANCS PUBLICS** directed by Bruno Podalydès

2005 **THE DA VINCI CODE** directed by Ron Howard

2004 **HIDDEN** directed by Michael Haneke

PALAIS ROYAL! directed by Valérie Lemerrier

THE PERFUME OF THE LADY IN BLACK directed by Bruno Podalydès

LE PONT DES ARTS directed by Eugène Green

2002 **IT'S EASIER FOR A CAMEL** directed by Valeria Bruni-Tedeschi

2002 **THE MYSTERY OF THE YELLOW ROOM** directed by Bruno Podalydès

2000 **COMEDY OF INNOCENCE** directed by Raoul Ruiz

OFFICER'S WARD directed by François Dupeyron

LAISSEZ-PASSER directed by Bertrand Tavernier

1998 **RIEN SUR ROBERT** directed by Pascal Bonitzer

LES ENFANTS DU SIECLE directed by Diane Kurys

1995 **ONLY GOD SEES ME** directed by Bruno Podalydès

1994 **MY SEX LIFE... OR HOW I GOT INTO AN ARGUMENT** directed by Arnaud Desplechin

1993 **VOILÀ** directed by Bruno Podalydes

1992 **VERSAILLES RIVE-GAUCHE** directed by Bruno Podalydès

SILVIO ORLANDO

Selected filmography

- 2007 **IL PAPA' DI GIOVANNA** directed by Pupi Avati
- 2006 **THE CAIMAN** directed by Nanni Moretti “David di Donatello” for best leading actor
- 2003 **THE SOUL'S PLACE** directed by Riccardo Milani – Award for best leading actor at the Montreal Festival
- 2001 **BEAR'S KISS** directed by Sergei Bodrov
- 2000 **THE SON'S ROOM** directed by Nanni Moretti
- 1999 **NOT OF THIS WORLD** directed by Giuseppe Piccioni
- I PREFER THE SOUND OF THE SEA** directed by Mimmo Calopresti “Nastro D'argento” for best leading actor
- 1998 **APRIL** directed by Nanni Moretti
- 1997 **NIRVANA** directed by Gabriele Salvatores
- 1993 **SOUTH** directed by Gabriele Salvatores “Golden Globe” for best actor
- 1992 **ANOTHER LIFE** directed by Carlo Mazzacurati
- 1990 **LA SETTIMANA DELLA SFINGE** directed by Daniele Luchetti
- 1988 **PALOMBELLA ROSSA** directed by Nanni Moretti

LAURA PAOLUCCI
Screenplay

Co-screenwriter with Carlo Lucarelli on the screenplay **LUPO MANNARO** taken from the novel.(1997/1998)

Co-screenwriter for **V-MAX** by Daniele Vicari in competition at the 59th Venice Festival. (2001)

Co-screenwriter for **THE HORIZON OF EVENTS** by Daniele Vicari in competition at the 44th Critics Week at the Cannes Festival. (2005).

FRANCESCO PICCOLO

Screenplay

2007 DAYS AND CLOUDS by Silvio Soldini

2006 L'ORCHESTRA DI PIAZZA VITTORIO by Agostino Ferrente

THE CAIMAN by Nanni Moretti

OVUNQUE SEI by Michele Placido

AMATEMI by Renato De Maria

AGATHA AND THE STORM by Silvio Soldini.

NEMMENO IN UN SOGNO by Gianluca Greco.

MY NAME IS TANINO by Paolo Virzì.

PAZ by Renato De Maria.