

A man with vibrant red hair and a dark jacket is shown in a state of shock or fear. He is looking upwards and to the right with his hands clasped near his mouth. The background is a dimly lit room with neon lights in shades of red and blue. A sign with the word "INDIAL" is visible in the upper left.

BASED ON

A TRUE LIE

UN FILM DI
RAFFAEL FIANO



ONE SHOT PRODUCTION



SYNOPSIS

Seventy-year-old cotton-candy vendor Angelo Cipriani has always dreamt of being a movie star.

Filmmaker Raffael Fiano, caught in a web of personal lies and a failing engagement, decides to orchestrate a fake rise to stardom for Angelo, who finally seems to achieve his dream when he's cast as the lead in a movie.

Raffael constructs a series of elaborate lies in order to avoid confronting his own problems and to exert control over someone's life when he had lost control of his own.

As the dream unravels when the fake movie halts its production, Angelo's hopes are shattered, and Raffael is forced into a corner, confronting the result of his manipulation. The tension mounts as he must tell Angelo the brutal truth, without fully understanding his own motives.

Can a meaningful bond emerge from something that began as a lie?



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DIRECTOR NOTES

This film was born during a period in which I was struggling. I began the project while avoiding difficult truths about my relationship, my future, and myself.

When I met Angelo, I immersed myself in his dream of becoming a movie star, and I built an elaborate fiction around him. At the time, I convinced myself it was a creative experiment, that I was making a film about ambition, delusion, and the power of filmmaking. In reality, it was just a way that I found to avoid confronting my own issues.

The turning point came when I understood that the film I thought I was making became secondary to something more urgent. I had created an elaborate lie, but the meaning I thought I would derive from it wasn't necessarily there. The second half of the film reflects that shift. It turns toward the consequences: what it means to confront the truth, what remains after the illusion collapses, and whether a genuine bond can be formed after hurting someone.

For me, the film is an exploration of vulnerability on both sides of the camera. It asks whether something honest can emerge from a process that began in dishonesty, and what cinema becomes when the filmmaker stops hiding behind it.

- RAFFAEL FIANO



BASED ON
A TRUE LIE

ANGIELO

SHOES

BAGS



BASED ON
A TRUE LIE



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A TRUE LIE



BASED ON
A TRUE **LIE**



BASED ON
A TRUE LIE

CAST

ANGELO CIPRIANI

GIULIA PERULLI

MARCELLO FONTE

MATTEO DE LIBERATO

GIULIO MARONCELLI

MASSIMO SCOLA

BRANDO PACITTO

CHRISTIAN DEI

GIORGIA FARAONI

GINEVRA COLONNA

ALICE ZANINI

COSIMO DESII

MATTEO ABBOZZI

AILEN PASOS

CARLOTTA PROCINO

SUNA GRITLI

SOFIA LUNA QUATTROCCHI

ALESSANDRO DE FILIPPIS

MARTA PISTILLI

BASED ON
A TRUE LIE



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DIRECTOR'S BIO

Raffael Fiano is an Italian-Brazilian filmmaker from Rome. After studying economics and working in marketing for way longer than he hoped he would, he finally found his way to cinema in 2020, working in production, art department, and as an assistant director on various projects, most recently *Queer* by **Luca Guadagnino**.

In 2022 he directed his first short film, *Akrasia*, shot in North Carolina, USA—a visceral portrait of a man trapped by his own impulses. In 2023 he won the **SIAE Award** of the **Carlo Bixio Prize** for the series project *Barriera*.

He is currently completing post-production on his first feature film, *Based on a True Lie*, produced by **One Shot Production** and **Limbo Film**, a hybrid documentary that follows a seventy-year-old cotton-candy vendor who has spent his life dreaming of becoming an actor. Blending MiniDV, digital, and film, the project explores the ethics of manipulation, the fragility of dreams, and the very cost of storytelling.



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CREW

DIRECTOR **RAFFAEL FIANO**

PRODUCERS **ANDREA TRONO, MATTEO DE LIBERATO,
STEFANO CHIAVARINI, WITH RAFFAEL FIANO**

STORY BY **RAFFAEL FIANO, ANTONIO DAL MAS,
RAQUEL RAPPINI BAULIES**

SCREENPLAY **RAFFAEL FIANO**

CINEMATOGRAPHY **MATHIAS MARCHETTI**

PRODUCTION DESIGN **RAQUEL RAPPINI BAULIES**

EDITING **RAFFAEL FIANO, MARCO CAPOZZI**

ORIGINAL MUSIC **RICCARDO DI FIANDRA, DANIELE DI PENTIMA**

CASTING DIRECTOR **CATERINA MENIN**

SOUND EDITING **GIULIA MARINELLI**

SOUND MIXING **MATTEO DE SIMONE**

COLOR CORRECTION **ALESSIO ZANARDI**



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TECHNICAL DETAILS

COUNTRY OF PRODUCTION **ITALY**

PRODUCTION COMPANIE **ONE SHOT PRODUCTIONS, LIMBO FILM**

GENRE **DOCUMENTARY**

RUNNING TIME **90'**

SHOOTING FORMATS **MINIDV, DIGITAL, 16MM**

ASPECT RATIO **4:3**



ONE SHOT PRODUCTION



BASED ON

A TRUE LIE



**THANK YOU
FOR YOUR ATTENTION**

For further information, please contact:

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