Thursday, April 6th, 7:30 p.m.
“Fuocoammare” (Fire at Sea)
Gianfranco Rosi (2016) - [108 min]
Insightful and discrete, Gianfranco Rosi’s prize-winning film Fuocoammare chronicles the European migrant crisis on its southern-most frontier—the Sicilian island of Lampedusa, long a fixture of refugee-related media coverage. The documentary oscillates between the island inhabitants’ insular daily lives and the humanitarian tragedy of the migrants who perish just off its shores. With honesty and humanity, Fuocoammare allows Lampedusa, finally, to speak for itself.

Friday, April 7th, 7:30 p.m.
“Piuma” (Feather)
Roan Johnson (2016) - [98 min]
Ferro and Cate are about to finish high school. It’s a big step for everybody, but they are facing an even bigger challenge: the couple is expecting a child which is due just after graduation. Set in contemporary Rome, Piuma is the story of two teenagers who are asked to grow up all too quickly and of their—at times dysfunctional—families. The third feature length of the Italian director Roan Johnson, Piuma (Feather) is a comedy that deals lightly with serious matters.

Saturday, April 8th, 7:30 p.m.
“Fiore” (Flower)
Claudio Giovannesi (2016) - [110 min]
Can romance blossom at a juvenile detention center? Claudio Giovannesi’s Fiore follows the lives of two Italian teenagers behind bars. Arrested for robbery, Daphne struggles to claim space as she navigates chastity, longing and her own fragility with surprising resilience. Her experience with Josh, an inmate in the nearby male ward, will change her perspective on life. Previously imprisoned, non-professional actors, extensive research and engaging storytelling imbue this vibrant film with candor and warmth.

Sunday, April 9th, 1:30 p.m.
“La Stoffa dei Sogni” (The Stuff of Dreams)
Gianfranco Cabiddu (2016) [103 min]
The passengers of a wrecked ship (half theater troupe, half majestes) are washed up on a penal island. They must struggle to verify their identities, find their loved ones, and settle old scores. When the criminals attempt to pass themselves off as an innocent theater troupe, the prison director demands to see a play. What materializes is a metadrama, an improvised rehearsal of Shakespeare’s The Tempest gone hilariously wrong, against the exotic backdrop of filmmaker Gianfranco Cabiddu’s Sardinia.

Sunday, April 9th, 4:00 p.m.
“Veloce come il Vento” (Italian Race)
Matteo Rovere (2016) - [118 min]
This is more than a sports-action movie. Thanks to a masterful balance of drama, action, and emotions, the film tells different stories. The story of a young girl, Giulia, who wants to win an important car race to save her father’s legacy; the story of his older brother, Loris, who tries to redeem himself; the story of a family which develops new ties, thanks to a common passion. Through a fast-paced narrative, Matteo Rovere’s film is able to engage spectators by delivering the same adrenaline as an authentic car race.

All films are in Italian with English subtitles.

The screenings will be FREE and open to the public.
There will be no online registration.
Seating will be on a First-Come-First-Served Basis.

The Italian Film Festival is sponsored by: Yale’s Italian Study Center, Film Study Center, courtesy Paul L. Joskow; FAS Dean’s Office; Office of New Haven and State Affairs; and Whitney Humanities Center.