



LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD TO MARTIN SCORSESE, FOR THE VERY FIRST TIME AT TAORMINA FILM FESTIVAL

Taormina | June 10 – 14, 2025

Taormina, May 13th 2025 - The **Taormina Film Festival** is deeply honored to announce that **Martin Scorsese**, one of the most celebrated and influential filmmakers in the history of cinema, will attend the **71st edition** of the Festival, taking place **June 10–14, 2025**, for the very first time in his extraordinary career.

To mark this historic occasion, Scorsese will be presented with the **Lifetime Achievement Award** in the breathtaking setting of the Ancient Greek Theatre of Taormina, one of the most iconic and evocative venues in global arts and culture.

A visionary director, masterful storyteller, and an enduring inspiration for generations of filmmakers, Scorsese has created masterpieces that have redefined modern cinema — from *Raging Bull* to *Goodfellas*, *The Age of Innocence* to *Casino*, *Gangs of New York* to *The Wolf of Wall Street*, *Silence* to *Killers of the Flower Moon*, culminating in his Academy Award win for *The Departed*.

In his honor, the festival will host a special screening at the Ancient Theatre of one of the films that forever changed the language of cinema: the 1976 psychological thriller ***Taxi Driver***, starring Robert De Niro, Jodie Foster, and Harvey Keitel — now regarded as a landmark of world cinema.

Tiziana Rocca, Artistic Director of the Taormina Film Festival, shared: “It is with immense pride and deep emotion that we welcome Martin Scorsese to the Taormina Film Festival. His presence is truly a historic event, not only for our festival, but for the entire cultural landscape of Italy.

Scorsese is much more than a filmmaker — he is a living legend, whose unique cinematic voice has explored the human soul, social complexity, and raw emotion with unmatched power and elegance.

With this award, we celebrate not only his unparalleled artistic legacy, but also his tireless commitment to the preservation of cinema’s memory, the promotion of cinematic culture, and the universal power of storytelling.

To have him with us, for the very first time in Taormina, is a dream come true, and one we are thrilled to share with our audience and all who cherish great cinema.”

Elvira Amata, Councilor for Tourism, Sports and Entertainment, said: “Welcoming Martin Scorsese to Sicily, on the occasion of the 71st edition of the Taormina Film Festival, is an honor that transcends the boundaries of the cultural event: it is a tribute to the universal power of cinema and to the central role that our island aspires to play in the international artistic scene. His presence in Taormina represents a historic moment for Sicilian and Italian culture and reinforces the vocation of our land as a crossroads of art, talent and beauty. On behalf of the Department I represent, I express the warmest welcome to Martin Scorsese. Sicily, with its light, history and heart, is proud to celebrate him and share his artistic legacy with the world.”

The **Taormina Film Festival** is an initiative organized by the Fondazione Taormina Arte Sicilia, directly promoted by the Sicily Region's Department of Tourism, Sports and Entertainment, with the support of the MiC, Ministry of Culture - General Directorate for Cinema and Audiovisual.

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