

NO DOGS OR ITALIANS ALLOWED
INTERDIT AUX CHIENS ET AUX ITALIENS
Original VERSION: French-Italian/ English subtitles



Director: *Alain Ughetto*

Release date (France): *January 23, 2023*

Genre: *Animation*

Countries of origin: *France, Belgium, Switzerland, Italy*

Length: *70 min.*

Première – Anglophone Canada

SYNOPSIS

Early 20th century, Northern Italy. The Ughetto family, living through difficult times, dreams of a better future abroad. The story tells of Luigi Ughetto crossing the Alps to start a new life in France, thus changing the destiny of his beloved family forever. His grandson travels back in time revisiting their history, in an intimate dialogue with his grandmother Cesira.

<https://en.unifrance.org/movie/52016/no-dogs-or-italians-allowed>

REVIEWS

With the lovingly staged stop-motion film, animation filmmaker Alain Ughetto not only creates an impressive monument to the life story of his grandparents. Because the hard life of entire generations of emigrants who tried their luck abroad is reflected in the experiences of the detailed puppet figures. [Interdit aux chiens et aux Italiens](#) takes us through the first half of the 20th century and is touched by the many strokes of fate, but also by the charming and always humorous staging, which comes to life above all with the wonderful love story of the puppet couple at the center of what is being told.

<https://outnow.ch/Movies/2022/InterditAuxChiensEtAuxItaliens/Review/>

Translated from German by Google

The director maintains an innocence in the reconstruction of the heritage by placing decorative elements in broccoli, round squash and sugar. He thus invokes moments of family happiness and the importance of continuing to live despite the misfortunes of history

(...)

No Dogs or Italians Allowed is a film of great generosity that takes you to the heart, but also marked by the deep wounds of history. We come out of it in love with the sweetness of Ariane Ascaride's voice and touched by her family tragedies. With its controlled stop motion co-produced by the teams of Foliascope (Wardi) and Vive Lundi! It can claim a place of choice in the School and Cinema programme... - Muriel Salzard

<https://littlebiganimation.eu/critique-interdit-aux-chiens-et-aux-italiens>

Alain Ughetto's hand regularly intrudes into the field, like a character in its own right, to hand a tool to one of his ancestors, to help him or to question him... Thus, the film becomes a rare testimony to the art of animation itself, the handyman gesture (here inherited from a grandfather) and the intimate relationship between the puppet and its creator. With *No Dogs or Italians Allowed*, a great modeler of filial love has achieved a masterpiece that is authorized to all - Guillemette Odicino

<https://www.telerama.fr/cinema/coup-de-c-ur-au-festival-d-annecy-interdit-aux-chiens-et-italiens-un-film-petri-d-emotions-7010934.php>

DETAILS

LANGUAGE

The film is mainly in French with dialogues in Italian, this is dictated by the subject matter: the personal story of director Alain Ughetto, whose family emigrated from Italy to France.

Cesira, Alain Ughetto's grandmother, describes the life of the families in the village: poverty, famine, hard work. She speaks of the trades of men immigrating into France: chimney sweep, rag picker, shoemaker, stoner...

Children rarely speak utter coarse words, but her hatred of fascism makes Cesira say strong words against soldiers she calls bastards.

In her story, Cesira raises negative aspects:

- the domination of the priest who was never hungry because the peasants had to give him food to avoid being ostracized from the village like the "mascas", women who refused to submit.
- A priest is called a thief by one of the peasants
- Mussolini's dictatorship and fascism are presented as a real nuisance against a bullied population.

With the wars, comes the vocabulary of suffering, fear and premature death of Luigi's 2 brothers: "we are like moles, we were thrown into hell"

The diet according to its abundance or scarcity plays a decisive role in the lives of the characters: spaghetti, polenta, fettuccini, gnocchi.

"Macaroni" becomes a racist slur in expression like "son of a bitch of Macaroni"

VIOLENCE

The violence lies in the harshness of the lives of the peasants and the women. The wars are evoked sporadically by the departures of the 3 brothers in 1911, 1915 and 1939. Antonio and Giuseppe will die in a setting where we see and hear an explosion and we can make out rifle bullets.

When Luigi dragged some Italian compatriots to the French border, Mussolini's soldiers fired in their direction without hitting anyone.

One of the soldiers of fascism who behaves like a thief and villain is killed by the exasperated peasants. No graphic details,

During the construction work, pieces of rock collapsed, and a large block crushed a worker. No graphic detail but a reaction of indifference to his death.

NUDITY

None

SEXUAL ACTIVITY

There really isn't. Cesira gives birth (without her being seen) to a host of children that we see grow up.

The departure of her daughters is inevitable because they have to choose their husbands.

Love stories are evoked without insistence

PSYCHOLOGICAL IMPACT THEMES

♣ The realism of the daily life of the peasants

The Peasants' Labor

The importance of the land: it was the one that made us eat

Children's schooling sacrificed

The house or the dwelling: we lived in one room

The Predatory Priest of Food

Superstition ("Mascas" or witches victims of the priest)

Hunger

Emigration to France

♣ The harms in emigration/immigration

The absence of men who have gone to work

The loss of all the family's belongings in the sinking of the boat

The Prejudice of Dollars Growing on Trees

Discrimination: The sign No dogs and no Italians

♣ War and its tragedies

Peasants always the first to be enlisted to fight

Antonio's death at the age of 19

Giuseppe's death at the age of 20

Disillusionment: Tripoli imagined as a land of love becomes a land of massacres

Fear and suffering

The invasion of 4 departments by the Italian army when the Ughetto family settled on their land – the German soldiers searched the house of Paradise but did not capture Vincent, who had become a resistance fighter.

U.S. planes bomb Paradise House

♣ Death - Illness - Accidents

The Spanish flu and coffins: the death of 17-year-old Marie-Cécile

The accidental fall of one of the peasant women

The Death of a Masca Wanting to Pass on Her Powers

♣ Happiness and accomplishments

Luigi becomes a foreman. He saved compatriots from fascism by hiring them to work in France

The family buys their own land: Paradise – There is no shortage of food

Vincent marries and starts a family in which Cesira plays an important role

PHOTOS

Sign discriminating Italians



The Ughetto brothers



Work on a building site



The priest with food taken from the peasants



Hungry children



Luigi et Cesira get married



The Ughetto family in France



Cesira, the grand-mother



Le Paradis: a property bought by the family



Second World War : American plans bomb “Le Paradis”