

FILMING WITH A EUROPEAN REGARD IN TURIN

Dear Friends,

Help us save the first Italian Cinecittà for the sake of European independent cinema!

The FERT studios were founded in 1919 as an independent alternative to the grandiosity of the existing studio-system. In the post-world war Two period they were the site of many European co-productions, namely Italian-French, realised outside of the constraints imposed by the biggest producers.

The studios offered a complete range of facilities for production & post-production, and were organised in such a way as to permit the simultaneous production of two or three films of medium and medium-small budgets. Included were three sound-stages respectively of 500, 750, and 1,000 square metres; pools for water scenes; a power plant; labs and offices; carpentry and prop shops; 65 dressing rooms; a restaurant seating 115 people.

With the decline of Italian cinema industry, the FERT studios closed down and they became the property of the City of Turin. The current urban planning calls for their demolition.

A group of technicians, organisers, and artists of Italian independent cinema are trying to preserve these studios - not only because of their unique role in film history; but especially to push forward the process of re-industrialisation of independent film-making.

Because of Turin's easy communications with many European regions, the FERT studios could once again be the site of independent European co-productions.

Our first step is to encourage the City to conserve its artistic property and not to give it up to real estate interests.

Our ultimate goal is to re-create for all European film-makers a workplace big enough to offer complete facilities, and small enough to ensure co-operative independent management. All of this, at the lowest possible cost: a standard that, in FERT's history, has mostly been associated with high quality.

We ask you to join the Association "Let's save the first Italian Cinecittà for the sake of European independent cinema". We welcome your suggestions and we commit ourselves to keeping you informed of the progress. Thank you.

fill out and insert in the designated box at the cinema Massimo

Let's save the FERT studios

I'd like to become a member of the Association "Let's save the first Italian Cinecittà for the sake of European independent cinema".

I will participate at the meeting on SATURDAY 21 NOVEMBER, 9.30 a.m., at Famija Turinèisa, via Po 43 - Turin

I would like a guided tour of the premises

Name _____ Profession _____

Address _____

Postal code _____ Tel. _____ Fax _____