

SUPEROTTIMISTI ON THE ROAD
**cinema as a cross-cultural exchange to talk about the climate crisis
between wars and human mobility**

***10/6/23 4 p.m. Cinema Massimo, Turin
CinemAmbiente International Festival
live and streaming projection/debate
on the [YouTube](#) and of Superottimisti***

Superottimisti on the Road is an event to explore and reflect on the issue of displaced people in the context of disasters and climate change from different points of view, starting with a training and film production experience carried out by young university refugee students in Kenya.

In December 2022 *Superottimisti*, Regional Family Film Archive of Piedmont, conducted a training workshop on film language and creative enhancement of archival materials in Nairobi, thanks to the support of the Italian Cultural Institute to Kenya and the collaboration of the international organisation JRS (Jesuit Refugee Service) in Kenya.

The main objective of the workshop was to produce a short film combining archive (Italian) images with footage shot by the participating students, all enrolled in a Communication programme sponsored by Southern New Hampshire University (USA). During an intense week of work, 15 students, from different countries on the African continent, turned into a full-fledged film crew. Thanks to the guidance and coordination of the trainers from *Superottimisti*, a professionalising course was developed, allowing students to experience all stages of audio-visual production, from writing the subject and script to preparing and filming, to editing and finalising the video. The short film *Shine Again* was finally presented in a cinema in Nairobi during a participatory event open to the public.

Shine Again tells the emblematic story of Rozine, one of the girls participating in the workshop, a young refugee from Rwanda, who at an early age had to flee her home country and who today lives and works in Nairobi for the JRS organisation, thanks to which she has been able to find hospitality, access to the world of education and employment.

Starting with contributions from the realities that conceived, coordinated and supported the project and the account of the students who participated in the workshop, connected live from Kenya, the audience of the Turin event will be able to reflect on the potential of audio-visual language, both from the point of view of professional growth, and as an ideal tool for participatory experience and group work, as well as an opportunity for cultural exchange and knowledge of different traditions, thanks especially to the viewing and analysis of archive material.

But the experience in Kenya and the stories of the participating students also allow for a broadening of the debate on one of the effects of climate change on human society: the development of social conflicts, starting with critical environmental issues such as drought or desertification, which force increasing numbers of people to leave their home countries.

To address this complex and delicate issue affecting populations from all over the world, a debate will be developed within the event, aiming to provide the audience with the basic elements to understand its most important aspects, from the point of view of personal, social and law-defining accounts at the international level, thanks to the participation of representatives from UNHCR, the UN Refugee Agency, UNICRI (United Nations Interregional Crime and Justice Research Institute), the City of Turin, JRS and Centro Astalli.

The discussion will begin with a talk by the United Nations Interregional Crime and Justice Research Institute (UNICRI), which, starting from research and projects focused on the African continent, will analyse the impact of climate change on local populations in terms of security, inter-ethnic dialogue and social

cohesion. The talk will also focus on how terrorist and criminal groups exploit vulnerabilities generated by climate change.

Then it will be the turn of UNHCR, the world's leading organization committed at the forefront to save lives, protecting the rights of millions of refugees, displaced and stateless people, focusing its intervention on the climate crisis as a humanitarian emergency. Indeed, its impact is devastating all over the planet, but those who pay the greatest price are especially vulnerable people, including refugees and displaced persons, living in conflict zones and fragile countries. Nouhoum Tahore will also talk about the importance of considering the climate aspect central to international status-setting; he's an expert in Environmental Economics at the University of Turin, who developed a dissertation on the subject.

A talk by JRS and a video contribution by Centro Astalli, who have been engaged in the work of accompanying, serving and protecting refugees for years, will follow to describe the difficulties and daily life of refugees in host countries (in Africa and Italy).

The entire debate will be moderated by the first former political refugee councillor of the City of Turin, Abdullahi Ahmed, who will also present the institutional and third sector projects and initiatives in the city developed to raise awareness of the issues in order to counteract their negative effects, and work on social integration.

Precisely by virtue of the dissemination and spread of knowledge and awareness on the subject, representatives of the Archivio Superottimisti, the Italian Cultural Institute in Nairobi and the CinemAmbiente Festival will close the discussion with an analysis of the educational and formative importance of the language of films, thanks to the presentation of works carried out in some elementary school in the Turin area.

Speakers:

- Giulio Pedretti, President of Archivio Superottimisti (www.superottimisti.it)
- Giulia Carbonero, Vice-president of Archivio Superottimisti, education area manager
- Elena Gallenca, Director of the Italian Cultural Institute in Nairobi (https://iicnairobi.esteri.it/iic_nairobi/it/)
- Angelo Pittaluga (Head of Global Advocacy - JRS/ International Office) (<https://jrs.net/en/home/>)
- Refugee students from the Southern New Hampshire University Communication Programme at JRS in Nairobi
- Elena Atzeni (Integration Associate, UNHCR) (<https://www.unhcr.org/it/>)
- Manuela Brunero (Programme Management Officer UNICRI) (<https://unicri.it/>)
- Marina Mazzini (Public information, Urban Security UNICRI)
- Abdullahi Ahmed (former political refugee and City Councillor of Turin) (<http://www.comune.torino.it/>)
- Nouhoum Traore (expert in Environmental Economics at the University of Turin)

Event sponsored by Associazione Archivio Superottimisti APS, in collaboration with Italian Cultural Institute to Kenya, JRS, with the participation of UNHCR, UNICRI, City of Turin and Centro Astalli (Italian Office of JRS). The event benefits from the sponsorship of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)