

Astrology Essays

Ciro Discepolo

I HAVE SEEN BETTER TORNATORE



Ricerca '90 Publisher

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Viale Gramsci, 16
80122 Napoli - ITALY
info@cirodiscepolo.it
www.solarreturns.com
www.cirodiscepolo.it

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His best movie, for me, is still *Cinema Paradiso* (New Cinema Paradise), a true and great exercise in cinema which has been rightly awarded an Oscar. The worst, again in my opinion, is the little appealing and much obsequious - in the political sense-, *Baaria*. The talent of our national glory has shone since his first movies like *Il Camorrista*, for instance. As regards this movie, I must share a tidbit with you: every evening, one or more private broadcasting channels of the Campania region broadcast this cinematographic story of Raffaele Cutolo, on request of many convicts in the Neapolitan prison of Poggioreale. This phenomenon should not to be underestimated, also from a sociological perspective.

But let's go back to the première of *La migliore offerta* [The best offer] I watched yesterday, featuring an excellent Geoffrey Rush. It happens to cinephiles who watch thousands and thousands of films, again and again, that they catch a glimpse, a quotation, that in a second gives them the gist of the whole movie they are watching, explaining its entire story. This is what happened to me when, after a few minutes from the beginning of the film, I caught a similarity with parts of the film *L'amico di famiglia*, by the great Paolo Sorrentino. From that moment the whole story became clear to me, a story that – as you will all know by now – is a huge fraud to the most esteemed auctioneer in the world, Mr Oldman, who is *old* in all respects: in his clothes, in his refusal to own a mobile phone, in his dyed hair, in his obsession for constantly wearing his gloves and using a handkerchief to touch anything ...

All in all, the story of the fraud and its details, in my opinion, have very little importance in the film directed and screenplayed by the excellent Giuseppe Tornatore, who has also written the subject.

In this movie he offers us his umpteenth and very personal vision of the torment afflicting many well-thinking minds, possibly since Luigi

Pirandello: that of appearing, of playing the role of people or characters, reality, virtual reality, fiction...

Paintings are fiction, as well, just like literature, music, and every other manifestation of human thought and talent.

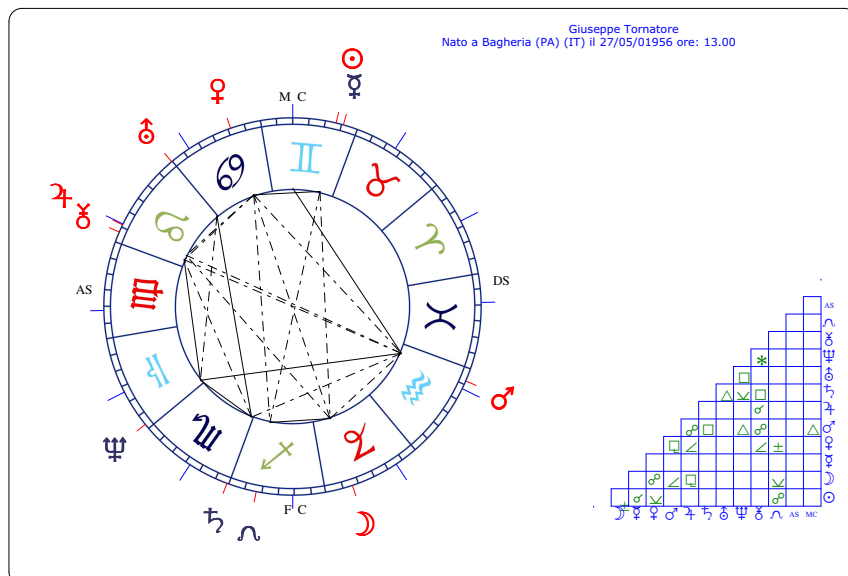
I do not think we can interpret Oldman's phobia of approaching women as a sublimation of love through art: his secret room with some of the most beautiful paintings in the story of humanity depicting that wonderful creature which is the woman in all her possible manifestations.

Is the copy - or the "replica" - of a painting a fake or is it also an original work of art? And is the "original" of that copy really such? What is the objective value of a painting if compared to that, incredibly greater, of our eyes multiplying the visions it suggests to us? In sum, I believe that the great Tornatore wanted to offer us an intelligent example of watching and seeing.

As the reviewer of Repubblica has written, "...sometimes, *La migliore offerta* that life apparently makes to you, is the worst fake of an existence spent among original works of art."

Ciro Discepolo,
January 3rd, 2013







An astrologer, journalist and writer, **Ciro Discepolo** was born in Naples in 1948 (on the 17th of July, at 5:40 am). He worked for twenty years for the most popular daily of Naples, *Il Mattino*, writing articles on science, medicine, informatics, literature and astrology. He has always refused to cast the so-called 'horoscopes of the solar signs' for that newspaper, as well as for any other newspaper or magazine. He worked (at the age of 20) for five years at the *CNR (National Research Council)* as Research Helper and, for two years, as Electronic Measures Laboratory's head in the *Istituto Motori* of Naples, *CNR*. He has been dealing with astrology since 1970. He has written over 70 books, most of them best-sellers in Italy as well as abroad (France, the United States of America, Spain, Germany, Hungary, Slovenia and Russia) and he has published over 1,000 astrological lessons on *YouTube* and about 250 short *Astrology Essays* on *Google Books*. In 1990 he founded the quarterly *Ricerca '90*, which he has been editing and publishing since then. He has been doing statistical researches from the very beginning of his interest in astrology. During the early '90s, he obtained brilliant results with researches on astral heredity on a sample of over 75,000 subjects, in different years and always under the control of different experts of statistics among which also teachers of the University of Naples. The astrological rules #1 and #2, published in his *Transits and Solar Returns* but already described decades earlier in other publications of his, have been statistically demonstrated by **Didier Castille** – the greatest astrological statistic researcher in the world – on the entire French population, and this is probably the most convincing evidence in Astrology of the possibility to statistically demonstrate some astrological items. These rules were also demonstrated in over 40 years of studies by some researchers of Zurich University and they are the only statements of an astrologer, of every time, demonstrated by Official Science. He has been holding seminars, courses and lectures in different universities and cultural centres in Italy and abroad. He particularly deals with Predictive Astrology, Aimed Solar Returns and Aimed Lunar Returns. According to many colleagues, he may be considered the greatest living expert of this area of study. Not only has he written many texts on this specific segment of the art of Urania – he can also rely on the experience of more than 25,000 aimed birthdays (covering the years 1970 to 2012). The outcomes of these aimed birthdays have been recorded and analyzed by his consultants and himself at the end of each year after the consultant's departure for the aimed birthday. He has developed extremely advanced software packages for the study of Predictive Astrology, also projecting an innovative algorithm which is particularly useful for the dating of events within one year, for individuals or groups of people. He is deeply interested in informatics. Astrologically speaking, he followed the school of **André Barbault**. He founded the school of the *Active Astrology*.