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# Hong Kong Arts Centre Moving Images – Magnetic Disorder: Film Retrospective of Lina Wertmüller

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Rouven Linnarz

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The **Hong Kong Arts Centre** co-presents with the Italian Institute Hong Kong & Macau, **Magnetic Disorder: Film Retrospective of Lina Wertmüller** at the Louis Koo Cinema of the **Hong Kong Arts Centre** for the screenings of *The Basilisks*, *The Belle Starr Story*, *The Seduction of Mimi*, *Love and Anarchy*, *Swept Away*, *Seven Beauties*, etc. This programme is part of the annual Italia Mia Festival.



Lina Wertmüller was the first female filmmaker to be nominated for Best Director at the Oscars, but Wertmüller was far from part of the filmmaking establishment. After all, her films were too provocative, too crass, too politically incorrect, and too outspoken. Often blending gender dynamics, sex, class and political ideologies in a volatile mix, Wertmüller's films burst at the seams with explosive passion, wit and melancholy, refusing to be pigeonholed into genre and ideological borders. Her films were always uniquely her own, without taking any side in political and gender debate. Though she was daring enough to tackle sensitive issues, she had much preferred seeing opposites clash than advocating for a single ideal.

Wertmüller was a celebrated, but divisive figure who had an equal share of fervent supporters – notoriously harsh film critic John Simon once called Wertmüller "the most important film director since Bergman" – and detractors who hated her bombastic filmmaking style, but it was clear that the maestra would not have had it any other way.

To commemorate Lina Wertmüller's passing in 2021, this programme is screening a selection of her works and a documentary about her life and artistic achievements. The films will be accompanied by after-screening talks.

**Program**

- The Basilisks
- Let's Talk About Men
- The Belle Starr Story
- The Seduction of Mimi
- Love and Anarchy
- All Screwed Up
- Swept Away
- Seven Beauties
- A Night Full of Rain
- Ciao, Professore!
- Behind the White Glasses

Individual tickets and a tickets package (one ticket each for all 11 programmes) are available at [www.popticket.hk](http://www.popticket.hk) now. Further discounts are available for group bookings of over 20 tickets, please visit the **Hong Kong Arts Centre** website for further details. [Group booking form is attached.](#)

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**Rouven Linnarz**

Ever since I watched Takeshi Kitano's "Hana-Bi" for the first time (and many times after that) I have been a cinephile. While much can be said about the technical aspects of film, coming from a small town in Germany, I cherish the notion of art showing its audience something which one does normally avoid, neglect or is unable to see for many different reasons. Often the stories told in films have helped me understand, discover and connect to something new which is a concept I would like to convey in the way I talk and write about films. Thus, I try to include some info on the background of each film as well as a short analysis (without spoilers, of course), an approach which should reflect the context of a work of art no matter what genre, director or cast. In the end, I hope to pass on my joy of watching film and talking about it.

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