

UNFORGIVABLE

A FILM BY GIOSUÈ PETRONE IN COLLABORATION WITH MARY BETH MINNIS



la Repubblica

"A true story that leaves you breathless"



WRITTEN AND DIRECTED BY GIOSUÈ PETRONE PRODUCED BY GIOSUÈ PETRONE AND MARY BETH MINNIS EDITED BY GIOSUÈ PETRONE
MUSIC BY DAVID SHIPPS

SUMMARY

UNFORGIVABLE is the story of Alice and Emmanuel, two people on opposing sides during the Genocide Against the Tutsi. The film reveals what happens when the person who nearly destroyed your life confronts you and asks for forgiveness.

PRESS RELEASE

UNFORGIVABLE recounts the story of the 1994 Genocide Against the Tutsi through the eyes of the film's two protagonists: Alice and Emmanuel. Alice's life was changed forever when she tragically lost her daughter and her hand by the stroke of a machete. Emmanuel who was drawn into the genocide by fear, wielded the machete and has suffered with the guilt over his actions. Many years later Emmanuel returns and confesses to Alice that he was the man wielding the machete.

Shot entirely in Rwanda, the documentary collects images and testimonies from a dark chapter of human history and it reveals the souls internal journey for both the victim and the attacker.

This is the first documentary conceived, shot, and produced by director Giosuè Petrone in collaboration with Mary Beth Minnis, executive producer of TOWER. TOWER was the 2016 SXSW Grand Jury Prize Winner, was shortlisted for an Academy Award, and nominated for a Producers Guild Award and the Peabody Prize. The film explores how feelings of unbearable guilt are managed, how one finds the courage to face their victims and why Alice should forgive the man who caused her so much harm.

In March of 2018, UNFORGIVABLE had its world premiere in Florence, Italy, and since then it has been privately screened in theaters across Italy and in film festivals around the world. Our New York premiere was at The Museum of Modern Art.

UNFORGIVABLE was an official selection for the 2018 Hot Springs Documentary Film Festival, the Cleveland International Film Festival, the deadCenter Film Festival, the Buffalo International Film Festival, the Lone Star Film Festival, the Hill Country Film Festival, the Durango Independent Film Festival and Filmfestival Kitzbuehel.

The film won "Best Documentary Short Film" at deadCenter, Hill Country and Filmfestival Kitzbuehel.

The film received the "Honorable mention" at the 43rd Cleveland International Film Festival.

UNFORGIVABLE has also aired on The Rai, an Italian public television station.

SYNOPSIS

UNFORGIVABLE explores the relationship between Alice, a Tutsi woman who lost her child and her hand in the Genocide Against the Tutsi of 1994, and Emmanuel, the Hutu man who attacked her and her family. After serving his prison term, Emmanuel seeks out Alice and confesses to being the one who killed her child. Alice extends him forgiveness and together, they run the Ukuri Kuganze Association, providing housing and counseling for genocide survivors and facilitating reconciliation between them and their former attackers.

FILMMAKERS



Giosuè Petrone

Giosuè Petrone hails from Atena Lucana, a small town in the south of Italy. At the age of 21, he had the opportunity to use a digital camera for the first time and he immediately became interested in filmmaking. Giosuè moved to Florence where he earned a bachelors degree in multimedia from Libera accademia di belle arti di Firenze. While getting his degree, Giosuè worked as a commercial director on advertising campaigns for Saks Fifth Avenue and Nike, but it failed to satisfy his desire to tell meaningful stories through the medium of film. After directing a few narrative short films, Giosue was captured by a story he heard about Rwanda and decided to pursue filmmaking full time. UNFORGIVABLE is his directorial documentary debut.

FILMMAKERS



Mary Beth Minnis

A friend's story brought Mary Beth into the world of documentary filmmaking. What started with a desire to tell that story, became a true passion for her. Striving to bring stories of hope to the world, Mary Beth has produced a number of documentary and narrative-style films.

Though an Oklahoma native and proud graduate of the University of Oklahoma, she made her way to Texas in 2000 and has called Austin home since 2007.

In 2016, Mary Beth associate produced MAMA RWANDA, which chronicles two Rwandan women entrepreneurs who prevailed over extreme poverty in the shadow of genocide, and executive produced TOWER, which uses a unique combination of archival footage and rotoscopic animation to present the story of the heroes that emerged from the 1966 sniper shooting at the University of Texas. Mary Beth's films have received numerous awards, but she is particularly proud that the Department of Film at the Museum of Modern Art recognized TOWER as one of "The Contenders" in 2016 as well as for the films nomination for a 2018 Peabody Award and for a 2018 Emmy for "Best Historical Documentary."

Mary Beth previously associate produced IMBA MEANS SING, and produced RETURN TO MOGADISHU: Remembering Black Hawk Down. Most recently Mary Beth produced UNFORGIVABLE (Imperdonabile) and JUMP SHOT: The Kenny Sailors Story which features National Basketball Association stars Stephen Curry, Kevin Durant and Dirk Nowitzki. Her next project is executive producing CLARKSTON: Mother of Exiles (working title).

Mary Beth is thrilled to have presented her films to audiences around the world. While she appreciates the glowing receptions of the films and the international attention they have received, it is the sparking of hope and the beginning of important conversations with life-changing consequences that keeps Mary Beth in the documentary film world.

IMPERDONABILE

UNA MANO TAGLIATA. UNA RICHIESTA DI PERDONO.

UN FILM DI GIOSUE PETRONE IN COLLABORAZIONE CON MARY BETH MINNIS



SCRITTO E DIRITTO DA GIOSUE PETRONE. PRODOTTO DA GIOSUE PETRONE, MARY BETH MINNIS. PROTAGONISTI DA GIOSUE PETRONE.
MONTAGNA PRESENTATA DA DAVID SHIPPS
IMPERDONABILE.IT

PRESS REVIEWS

WORLD PREMIERE PHOTOS

March 3rd 2018, Florence - Cinema theater "La Compagnia" - Italy

NEW YORK PREMIERE PHOTOS

New York, July 25, 2018 The Museum of Modern Art, New York City



AFRICAN PREMIERE PHOTOS

February 24, 2019 Kigali Convention Center, Kigali, Rwanda



"We must wonder, how can such love and generosity come from so much suffering – the unbearable pain of the wounded, the tormented conscience of the persecutor? You cannot see this beautiful, haunting documentary of reconciliation without desiring to be a better person, to live up to the example of Alice and Emmanuel, to be able to forgive the unforgivable."



~ Dr. David Konstan

Professor of Classics, New York University and Author of "Before Forgiveness"

"What a beautiful masterpiece you have created! I can't wait for the whole world to see Unforgivable. It is a true depiction of the raw nature of the journey to forgiveness, the depth human compassion, and the resilience of the Rwandan people."



~ Elodie Shami

Communications and Education Officer, The Embassy of the Republic of Rwanda, Washington DC

"UNFORGIVABLE/Imperdonabile is the most powerful short documentary I have ever seen. It made a lasting impression on me."



~ Chad Matthews

Executive Director Hill Country Film Festival

"My heart is absolutely brimming with emotion after seeing UNFORGIVABLE/Imperdonabile and really feeling the power of this story. There is so much humanity to this piece that I fully expect any audience that is exposed to this will feel the same way and will want to do more to prevent tragedies like this from happening in the future. Making the world aware is the most important step. I do not want to forget moments in history like this because we need to learn from them and understand the better path forward as a society. We are so lucky in our country to enjoy our freedoms and I wish a life of peace for all of our brothers and sisters around the world. I so look forward to supporting this project and am really grateful that I took the time to watch it. But beyond this, I am grateful for the impact that this story will have on the world around us, which makes it far more meaningful than most other films I have seen."



~ Brenda Robinson

International Documentary Association (IDA) Board Member, equity investor on the Academy Award®-winning documentary Icarus as well as Won't You Be My Neighbor, executive producer United Skates, alongside executive producer John Legend; The Great American Lie, by director Jennifer Siebel Newsom; Jump Shot: The Kenny Sailors Story, alongside executive producer Steph Curry; and Clarkston: Mother of Exiles, alongside executive producer Katie Couric.

"I think Mary Beth Minnis and Giosue Petrone did a brilliant job of distilling the process of reconciliation and forgiveness into a powerful and emotional film in UNFORGIVABLE/Imperdonabile.....the style was so beneficial to the storytelling and never put itself in the way of Alice and Emmanuel.



~ Sandy Lieberman

Commander of the British Empire, Producer of The Mighty Quinn, Jabberwocky, The Pied Piper, Rita Sue and Bob Too, Lisztomania, Swastika, Performance and many others.

PRODUCTION PHOTOS



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