

WHAT IS SAID ABOUT “ANNA-THE UNTOLD STORY”



“The film is a love letter full of admiration, a real effort to capture the human side rather than focusing on gossip and the star system. Guerritore, as the scriptwriter and director, did a great job of recreating a life as complex and well-known as Anna's, putting together significant fragments of her life. The film moved me. There is so much love for Anna, Dad and all that generation...

I must say that these actresses who become directors are phenomenal, from Valeria Golino to La Guerritore. WELL DONE!”

(Isabella Rossellini)

“It is an incredible performance, a heart-breaking movie.” (Paul Haggis)

"[...] I could say 'I came, I saw, I cried, too.' Guerritore emotionally recreated the stations, from The Rose Tattoo onwards, that make up this evident Via Crucis and the scene she stages (Anna lying in bed) evokes, with silent precision, the magnificent one by Raffaello, rather than the one by Caravaggio. Muted echoes, references to an iconography both Fellinian and Pasolinian, along with the everyday and silent beauty, among other things, of that profoundly Roman River Tiber..."

(J.P. Manganaro)

"Guerritore chooses not to make herself look younger in the flashbacks: it is she, with her wrinkles, who lets time pass through her. The past is not reconstructed, but remembered. It is as if memory itself had its age, and were looking back from that age."

(Alessia de Antoniis, Globalist.it)

“There is something captivating about Monica Guerritore’s performances. It’s as if every filter between the actress and the character disappeared. Writing, direction and acting merge blurring the line between Magnani and Guerritore herself. This approach gives life to an intense film with a personal touch marked by a strong identity. A film that doesn’t follow established patterns, but leaves room for the protagonist’s instinct and energy.”

(filmpost.it)

“Guerritore, with her tense yet lyrical features, her powerful yet measured gestures and her long, confident stride, seizing life, has also brought back to us the Anna Magnani so dear to Fellini: a fragile warrior.”

(formiche.net)

“With such passion and empathy for the character that it’s truly worth the price of admission, Guerritore tells the story of a wounded woman facing the passage of time, sweeping through the history of Italian show business like a whirlwind.”

(Paolo Baldini, Corriere Della Sera)

“The direction is a delicate touch, never intrusive. Watching the film, one gets the impression that Guerritore gently touches the protagonist without ever attempting to dominate her. The camera is a silent companion, almost a guardian following Anna through her memories, amidst moments of anticipation, flashes of passion, and sudden bouts of melancholy. Light plays a decisive role: it does not illuminate, it reveals. It filters like a hesitant thought, casting shadows that seems to be scars, conveying an emotion rather than an image. The photography creates a suspended world, where Rome is not just the real city, but the city that Magnani carried within.”

(Di Stanislao, Archetypical Professor at L’Aquila University)

“A great debut for actress-turned-director Monica Guerritore: Magnani is (like) her: fearless, living life to the fullest. [...] Guerritore is indomitable, genuine, fantastic. She embodies her, truly embodies her, at an age that Magnani never reached, and this is the extreme magic of cinema, of this fragile, passionate, rebellious and moving film.”

(Federico Pontiggia, Cinematografo.it)

“Guerritore possesses the supreme gift of crystal-clear acting: she brings to life not a character but a real person who resembles all of us.

In a slow, seductive pace, she tells of life, when pain and joy chase each other.”

(Il Sole 24ore)

“Guerritore (re)conquers her place in cinema tooth and nails, and she does so with a free and personal film that is full of personality.”

(Pedro Armocida, Il Messaggero)

“Monica Guerritore stars in and directs her first film, dedicating an intense and refined tribute to Anna Magnani. The story unfolds from the night in 1956 when Anna won the Oscar for the film *The Rose Tattoo*. An intimate and powerful tale that conveys all the passion, fragility and strength of a woman, an actress, who was an icon of an unforgettable era of Italian cinema.

The costumes, designed by Nicoletta Ercole, accompany the viewer into the heart of the 1950s, elegantly and sensitively highlighting Anna Magnani’s charisma. The garments are crafted with meticulous care, with close attention to historical and stylistic accuracy, also because of the collaboration with the prestigious *Tirelli Costumi*.

Production designer Lily Pungitore recreated the evocative settings and atmospheres of Magnani’s life. Rome’s historic center, where she lived and which was the stage of her life.”

(Artscenico.eu)