

Made In Italy. A Story in Montalcino



This summer, take a trip to Tuscany. Starring Liam Neeson and son Micheál Richardson, **MADE IN ITALY** is a heartwarming comedy following an estranged father & son whose attempts to repair a crumbling Tuscan villa may help them mend the cracks in their relationship — In Select Theaters, Drive-Ins, and Digital/VOD from August 7, 2020

It's a great story about family and love... And compassion and loss - and humour... I found it very cathartic in dealing with my own grief.... And to do that through one's art, i.e. making film, was very, very unique and special. Sometimes when you're acting scenes and stuff of course you're surrounded by crew and sometimes it's 40-50 people but I always felt they were holding us up, you know, I mean like really supporting us because they were into the story and they wanted to tell the story. They weren't just clocking in for another job, I just felt that real camaraderie.

LIAM NEESON LIAM NEESON

At the start when I read it, it was so close to us and just kind of weird how it came into our lives at the time it did. It's been 10 years since Mum passed and I think coming from somebody who's lost a parent at a young age... There is a line in the film where dad says, "Nobody knows how to do this". I



don't think anybody does but when you experience something like that a lot of the time you shut down, stuff it in, which isn't the way I think you should grieve. You have to let it out, you have to cry, you can't push them out of your memory in any way and that's kind of what I had done as I'm sure many people have done. So this process I hope and I feel it has been chipping away at parts of me that I kind of locked down.

MICHEÁL RICHARDSON

James D'Arcy's directorial debut, *Made In Italy*, is a heart-warming father son story set in glorious Tuscany about bohemian London artist Robert (Liam Neeson), who returns to Italy with his estranged son Jack (Micheál Richardson) to make a quick sale of the house they inherited from his late wife. Neither expects to find the once beautiful villa in such a state of disrepair...

Renovations go badly, with father and son soon finding themselves at odds. Robert's comical lack of DIY experience leads him to seek help from some colourful locals including the no nonsense Kate (Lindsay Duncan), an ex-pat making her living selling villas who quickly captures his attention. For Jack, the state of the house seems to mirror his search for memories of happier times with his mother. He soon falls for Natalia (Valeria Bilello), a vivacious young Italian chef, who restores both body and soul with delights from her local trattoria - until the pair find their developing relationship in jeopardy from Natalia's jealous and threatening ex-husband.

As Robert and Jack painstakingly restore the villa to its previous glory, they also start to mend their relationship. The future may now look quite different and surprise them both.

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