

Italian-American Comedy "Lobster fra Diavolo" Launches on Vimeo

CHICAGO – Testa Dura Media and Trinacria Pictures have released the award-winning short comedy "Lobster fra Diavolo" for rent on Vimeo in time for the holiday season. Viewers can go to **vimeo.com/ondemand/lobsterfradiavolo**.

Set and shot in the Bronx, New York City, "Lobster Fra Diavolo" pits 80-yr-old Nonna ("grandma" in Italian) against a lobster. It's Christmas Eve and Nonna plans to serve the lobster as part of the Feast of the Seven Fishes. Angela, Nonna's granddaughter, is vegan and doesn't approve of Nonna's plans. For that matter, neither does the lobster...

With supporters such as Colavita, famous for its olive oils and Perugina chocolate, and Bronx Little Italy, the film has found a wide audience of viewers looking for something other than mafia tie-ins to Italians and Italian-Americans. "There's so much more to our culture and way of life," notes Sicilian-born director Oriana Oppice. "We are thrilled to finally be able to share this with audiences all over the world, and Vimeo gives us the right platform for that."

Sicilian-American screenwriter Jane Barbara pulled from her memories of her grandmother in the kitchen on Christmas Eve. "If you had an old-school grandma, whether she was Italian or not, you remember the aromas, the aprons, and yes... even the screaming. But it was all love, and we captured that in a way that makes you laugh out loud and want to hug your grandma."

The film has been selected for 14 film festivals in countries and cities around the world, including France, New York, Chicago, LA, Canada, and Italy. It has been invited to screen at organizations such as the Women's National Democratic Club, the Italian Embassy in Washington, DC, and Italian Cultural Clubs around the United States, and has won awards for Best Comedy, Best Editing, and Best Screen Fight.