

SAINT BRIDGET OF SWEDEN

the movie and the docu-drama



Saint Bridget of Sweden, the movie

Getting to know st. Bridget leaves an indelible sign on the soul. It is something which immediately transforms itself from will to action: the action to introduce her to the largest number of people possible. This is what inspired the idea of a movie on the life st. Bridget of Sweden.

A movie produced for movie theaters, because it is a story that deserves the big screen, but also a movie for the large audience of the small screen.

The script imagines the movie flow in flashbacks, told by an elderly Bridgettine nun to a community of young nuns. While the story develops, it becomes clear that the narrator is Bridget's actual daughter, saint Catherine.

The story begins with the dramatic images of a shipwreck, during which Bridget's mother Ingeborg, pregnant, on the way back from a pilgrimage to Ireland, is miraculously saved. In that moment she is revealed the vocation of the child she is bearing. The story then follows the developing of Bridget's life: her childhood, her marriage with Ulf, their children, her most intimate spiritual dimension and her charity commitment, involving her family as well.

And then at the court of king Magnus and his wife Blanche of Namour, the work of Bridget in order to guide them. Her pilgrimage to Santiago of Compostela, crossing a Europe devastated by war. Ulf's death and her stay in Alvastra Monastery. The Order of the Most Holy Saviour. Again her pilgrimage through Europe, this time ravaged by the Black Plague, to reach Rome, the city where the streets are paved with the blood of Martyrs and the bones of Saints.

But Rome is now a dangerous place to live in, destroyed by an earthquake, abandoned by the Pope and dominated by violence and poverty, which Bridget experiences as well. Nevertheless she carries out her mission to exhort all kinds of people, Popes and Kings included, to a true conversion and to fulfill God's will without compromises. At the same time she never leaves the poor and suffering ones without help. In the last scene we see Bridget, 70 years old, leaving Rome on a pilgrimage to the Holy Land.

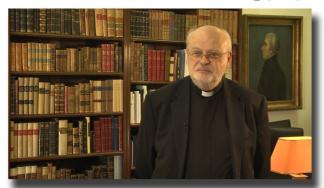
In the movie, all these passages in Bridget's life are interwoven with her mystic relationship with Christ and His Passion, and the painful motherhood of Mary, as we can read them in the Revelations she received.

Not least, Bridget is considered the patron saint of the Jubilee Years, since she was the one to exhort pope Clement VI to proclaim 1350 a Jubilee year for the conversion of the hearts in suffering Europe. This is also why the year before the 2000 Jubilee she was proclaimed co-patron of Europe by pope John Paul II. Today, after the decision of pope Francis to dedicate a Jubilee year to Mercy, to make Bridget be known assumes, if possible, a more complete and deep meaning.

Saint Bridget of Sweden, the docu-drama

The completion of the movie on st. Bridget will give us the chance to realize a docu-drama as well. A choice of the most meaningful and intense scenes of the movie will be edited intermingling them with the interviews of some experts on her figure and on the period she lived in, which we have already recorded.

In particular we interviewed the following people:



Bishop Anders Arborelius, Diocese of Stockholm The interview was realized in Stockholm, at the Bishop's residence.



Sr.Beata Rohdin, Bridgettine sister
She was interviewed in Djursholm, where the Bridgettines convent is located,



Alessandra Bartolomei, professor in History of Religious Life at the Pontifical Gregorian University, Rome. She is one of the maximum Italian experts in medieval women mystics.



Saint Bridget of Sweden, the docu-drama



Denis Searby, professor in Ancient Greek at Stockholm University He has translated the Revelations of Saint Bridget, with introduction and notes, from Latin to English. The interview was conducted at Stockholm University.



Historiska Museet of Stockholm

The docudrama will be enriched with the video images of the Historiska Museet of Stockholm, which holds an extraordinary collection of Swedish Medieval religious art, including many polichrome sculptures where st.Bridget is also represented. In a brief interview realized in the museum, Elisabet Regner, expert in medieval art, introduces the Museum and its collection.



Who is CRISTIANA Video

CRISTIANA Video is an audiovisual production company, founded some years ago by Fabio Carini and Daniela Gurrieri, a married couple with four children engaged in a missionary group, to support the work in the missions through documentaries and advertising for RAI and Mediaset national tv channels.

A "chance" meeting with fr. Franco Azzalli, of the Servants of Mary, at that time professor of Church History at the Urbanian University of Rome helped to make Roma Caput Fidei (www.romacaputfidei.it) become a reality. It is a series of five documentaries which starting from some churches of Rome, famous and less famous, narrate the history of the Roman Catholic Church through the eyes of Faith. The series was broadcast in Italy and abroad by catholic televisions and proposed by CEI (Italian Bishops' Conference) to teachers of catholic religion as a valid teaching tool.

Inspired by mons. Antonio Interguglielmi, rector of the House of Santa Francesca Romana in Ponte Rotto, CRISTIANA Video has continued the series starting to realize docu-fictions about the lives of saints, contextualized in the history of Church. Thus the lives of saint Frances of Rome and saint Camillus de Lellis were told. Both works, dubbed in different languages, appreciated by catholic television audiences around the world, were shown at the Isola del Cinema in Rome. In November 2014, the docu-fiction on saint Camillus was among the winners of the '' International film festival for Spirituality, Religion and Visionary "in Jakarta, Indonesia.

Inspired by the attention given by His Holiness Benedict XVI to the medieval women mystics, CRISTIANA Video is now working on three different such figures: Blessed Julian of Norwich (in co-production with EWTN, is on the way to be completed), St. Bridget of Sweden and Saint Catherine of Siena.



Fabio Carini Author and Director

Fabio has worked for RAI, the Italian national television broadcast station, since 1986. In 1985, he joined the catholic missionary group "Bishop Mazzoldi", founded by fr. Angelo Benolli, which is now the widely known global missionary association "Italia Solidale" spread worldwide. Within this missionary context he began his activity as a documentary filmmaker. He has made documentaries in Africa, as well as fundraising promotional videos for "Rai per il Sociale", "Mediaset per il Sociale" and "Pubblicità Progresso" for the 'end hunger' fundraising campaign "Contro la Fame cambia la Vita" for Comitato Collegamento Cattolici, as well as dozens of tv reports for RAI.

His experience of faith within Italia Solidale was so strong and true that it healed him from a chronic illness, which had afflicted him for many years, since the teenage. At this point, he and his wife Daniela Gurrieri with whom he shared the same faith path, they decided to found CRISTIANA Video with the mission to promote the Catholic Faith through mass media.

From 2008 to 2010, in collaboration with fr.Franco Azzalli, professor of the History of the Church at the Urbaniana University in Rome, and director of photography Roberto Verdirosi, he wrote and directed "Roma Caput Fidei" a series of 5 documentaries which, starting from some churches in Rome, present the two thousand years of history of the Church, connecting faith, history, culture and art. The series, with the Imprimatur from the Vicariate in Rome, was adopted by CEI (Italian Bishops' Conference) as an instrument of promotion for catholic religion teachers and broadcast by Catholic television stations all over the world.

As a followup to this series, he realized the docu-drama "St.Frances of Rome", broadcast by Catholic television stations in Italy and abroad. In 2014 he wrote and directed the docu-drama "I shall serve you", on the life of st. Camillus, which was screened at Isola del Cinema in Rome, and in various movie theaters throughout Italy. Dubbed in English, Spanish and French, it was broadcast by Catholic television stations abroad.

Presently he is working on the new docu-drama on Julian of Norwich. Fabio holds a University degree in Electrotechnical Engineering from the La Sapienza-Rome.



Daniela Gurrieri Author and Producer

Born in Ragusa (Sicily) on 26th December 1969, Daniela pursues liberal studies, getting a degree in foreign languages and literature at Università La Sapienza of Rome. From 1997 to 2010 she works for Italia Solidale onlus, focusing on development projects in various countries throughout the world, such as the Sudan and Uganda, but also Kenya, Tanzania, Rwanda, Brazil, Colombia and India. Among other activities, she is in charge of the press office, public relations with RAI and media, projects financed by the Italian Ministry of Social Affairs and training courses for young people on the theme "Person and Mass Media".

In 2002 she establishes CRISTIANA Video, with her husband Fabio Carini, but continues to dedicate herself to the mission with Italia Solidale, until 2010, when she feels the call to completely dedicate herself to CRISTIANA Video, for the cultural mission to bring Faith in mass media.

From March to June 2012 she attends the course in "Development and distribution of the cinematographic product" promoted by ASFOR Cinema, Anica and The Business Street of Rome Film Festival.

She is co-author and producer of docu-films since 2012, among which "St. Frances of Rome", with the Patronage of Comune di Roma, "I shall serve you - the life of St.Camillus of Lellis", screened at the Isola del Cinema in Rome and in other cinemas in Italy, broadcasted by different catholic tv networks all over the world. She is presently working on a new docu-film on Julian of Norwich, in co-production with EWTN.



Roberto Verdirosi Director of photography

He was born in Rome on 4 August 1968. He has worked in television as a cameraman since 1990, and in RAI since 1996. He started collaborating with CRISTIANA Video in 2008, as Director of Photography, and continues to collaborate in that role. In 2010 he received his university degree in "History of Art", from La Sapienza in Rome.



Sara Binelli
Author and Director

She was born in Naples on 2nd May 1975.

She received a degree in "History and Cinema Criticism" from Siena University. Listening to professor Moneti speak of the cinematographic language through the analysis, scene by scene, of "Ossessione" by Luchino Visconti, made her fall in love with cinema. From Siena she moved to Rome to realize her dream and learn the necessary skills of cinema, focusing on the art of directing films. She attended a course in direction and production (Accademia Griffith, November 2002-May 2003), and had her first experience on the set, as an author-producer and director of 2 short films: "L'attesa", against death penalty (winner at Strade del Cinema festival of Aosta, 2004) and "Andrea", (several festivals in 2005).

In 2006 she had the opportunity of taking part in a professional set as assistant director. The project was "I Borgia", an important Italian-Spanish coproduction. After that she has been working in different fields, the most recent one is television (Sky Italia).

In 2012 she started collaborating with CRISTIANA video as assistant director and just recently as director and author of the docu-drama script on Julian of Norwich, which she has just finished directing (May 2015).



The movie and docu-drama project will be realized in collaboration with:

The Foundation "Centro internazionale di Farfa dell'Ordine del SS. Salvatore di S.Brigida".

Founded in 1993, its aim is the promotion of cultural activities for the integral formation of the individual in the christian tradition. It favors the ecumenical encounter, by deepening cultural, religious and social themes relevant to the history and the development of European unity, in collaboration with public and private institutions. Since its inception, the Foundation has promoted several events, whose records have been translated in different languages.

The Order of the Most Holy Saviour of St. Bridget

Bridget of Sweden (1303-1373), though she lived in the fourteenth century, is a modern saint, a strong-willed and courageous woman who was wife, mother and lady-in-waiting, consulted by rulers and clergymen.

As a widow, she founded a religious order and was a tireless and authoritative advocate of the need of renewal in the Church and the ecumenical and interreligious dialogue.

A learned person, gifted with common sense, a great traveler, a pilgrim to holy sites (from the tomb of the martyr King Olaf II in Norway to Santiago de Compostela in Spain, from Rome to the Holy Land), Bridget had a very rich and complex personality, and was truly a European woman many centuries ahead of her time. The message of Saint Bridget and the bridgettine monasteries spread throughout Europe starting in 1378 with the approval of the Rule by Pope Urban VI. The fame of the Order continued for almost two centuries, undergoing a setback and a decline in the period of the Reformation. A decisive return to the spirit of the Rule of St. Bridget was implemented at the beginning of last century, by Blessed Mother M. Elizabeth Hesselblad, a Swedish Lutheran, who converted to the Catholic faith in America on August 15, 1902.

It was Elizabeth Hesselblad who began to restore the Order, which although updated according to the demands of modern times, continued the bridgettine tradition of contemplative experience and constant commitment to work for the unity of the Church and the dialogue between different religions.

This new movement, well rooted on the ancient bridgettine stock, began on 8 September 1911 and was finally approved by the Holy See on December 2, 1940.

PRODUCTION COSTS

COMPANY: CRISTIANA VIDEO

PRODUCTION: SAINT BRIDGET OF SWEDEN MOVIE + DOCUFICTION

RUNNING TIME: MOVIE 90 MINUTES / DOCUFICTION 2 x 60'

Based on a 20 day shooting schedule and a 5 week editing schedule.

CURRENCY: EURO

Code	ITEM	BUDGET		
		LOW	MEDIUM	HIGH
A.1	SCRIPT, TRANSLATION AND RIGHTS	€ 2.200,00	€ 2.300,00	€ 2.300,00
A.2	DIRECTOR	€ 6.000,00	€ 6.000,00	€ 6.000,00
A.3	MAIN ACTORS	€ 14.700,00	€ 14.700,00	€ 14.700,00
A.4	PRODUCER UNIT	€ 14.995,00	€ 17.095,00	€ 22.040,00
A.5	DIRECTOR UNIT	€ 5.600,00	€ 5.600,00	€ 13.400,00
A.6	EDITING UNIT	€ 3.500,00	€ 6.100,00	€ 17.000,00
A.7	TECHNICAL UNIT (DOP, SOUND, LIGHTING, SET DESIGN, COSTUME DESIGN, MAKE UP AND HAIR)	€ 32.100,00	€ 40.550,00	€ 80.227,00
A.8	SKILLED WORKERS (ELECTRICIANS, STAGEHAND, ETC)	€ 22.910,00	€ 23.200,00	€ 32.800,00
A.9	MINOR ARTISTS AND EXTRAS	€ 39.025,00	€ 43.025,00	€ 52.825,00
A.10	COSTUMES	€ 14.300,00	€ 20.100,00	€ 43.900,00
A.11	SET DRESSING	€ 10.000,00	€ 14.300,00	€ 20.300,00
A.12	STUDIO	€ 0,00	€ 3.650,00	€ 17.250,00
A.13	LOCATIONS	€ 7.800,00	€ 15.000,00	€ 20.000,00
A.14	TECHNICAL EQUIPMENT	€ 14.300,00	€ 19.100,00	€ 38.500,00
A.15	EXTERIORS	€ 29.000,00	€ 33.000,00	€ 42.500,00
A.16	TRASPORTATIONS	€ 3.600,00	€ 11.300,00	€ 11.300,00
A.17	FILM	€ 0,00	€ 2.000,00	€ 5.000,00
A.18	FILM (SPECIAL EFFECTS AND COLOR CORRECTION)	€ 0,00	€ 1.500,00	€ 5.000,00
A.19	EDITING	€ 10.200,00	€ 10.200,00	€ 14.000,00
A.20	MUSIC	€ 3.000,00	€ 5.000,00	€ 9.500,00
A.21	PREORGANIZATION	€ 7.900,00	€ 9.900,00	€ 13.900,00
A.23	INSURANCE	€ 2.000,00	€ 2.000,00	€ 3.000,00
A.24	OTHER EXPENSES	€ 9.900,00	€ 9.900,00	€ 11.400,00
A.25	OFFICE COSTS	€ 0,00	€ 0,00	€ 0,00
A.26	TAXES	€ 30.300,00	€ 33.350,00	€ 45.400,00
A.27	PRODUCER FEE	€ 5.600,00	€ 5.600,00	€ 5.600,00
TOT	GRAND TOTAL	€ 288.930,00	€ 354.470,00	€ 547.842,00