



Weaving A Tradition

A documentary by Bill Woolf

Press Kit



Weaving A Tradition

Carrying on the tradition

The Film

Currently being submitted to film festivals

English:

During the week leading up to Palm Sunday the confraternities of Santu Lussurgiu in Sardinia have traditionally played an important role with the weaving of palms and participating in the ritual of Palm Sunday in the village. In the last twenty that role has expanded to the actual cutting and caring for the local palm trees in the village that are now the source of palm leaves that are woven and distributed on Palm Sunday. This film looks at the week before Palm Sunday and the activities of the confraternities in the village and their involving the next generation to insure this tradition does not die.

Italiano:

Fin dalla loro fondazione, le Confraternite di Santu Lussurgiu rivestono un ruolo centrale nei riti che si svolgono in paese durante la Settimana Santa. In particolare, questo breve documentario intende testimoniare la loro attività relativa alla tradizionale "tessitura" delle palme che verranno poi distribuite ai fedeli la Domenica delle Palme, e il loro impegno a garantire il proseguimento di questa tradizione.



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About the Filmmaker

Bill Woolf, is the director, producer, and editor of "Weaving A Tradition." He has been making digital documentary and nature films for over 10 years and was professor and Dean of Students at an art institute in Florence, Italy before moving to Sardinia in 2005. He lives in Santu Lussurgiu, Sardinia, the location of "Weaving A Tradition". You can see some of Bill's short documentaries on his web site www.BillWoolf.com.

Bill is currently in post production on his next documentary about the "Il Chiostro Experience." The film, which completed principal photography last month, is a love story, about a country, joy, art, and food. It chronicles the journey of two Americans of Italian heritage who originally came back to Italy for the joy, the love of the country, and Italian cooking.

In November 2010 he will have a joint Artist-in-Residence with his wife, Angela Ragusa, (the Italian children's book writer and translator) at the Grand Canyon National Park - South Rim in the United States. He will be making a intimate documentary film about the Grand Canyon.

Will Woolf: Technical Consultant

Sometime a filmmaker is so close to his film he gets stuck. He needs help with an edit or shooting a scene that just doesn't feel right. When that happens I turn to Will, a three time Emmy award winning editor and producer, to talk about options and he helps me get back on track.

Ignazio Macchiarella: Ethnographic Consultant

Professor Macchiarella introduced me to Mario Corona, Priore of the Rosario Confraternity and through him I was able to follow and film the confraternities over Palm Sunday and Holy Week. The first screening of an early edit was given at his graduate seminar at the University of Cagliari. Both his and his students questions and reactions to the film had significant impact on my final edit.



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Statement by Director

When I first moved to Santu Lussurgiu and was introduced to the confraternities I heard members talking about the changes in the confraternities over the last several decades. Santu Lussurgiu was famous in Sardinia for its multipart choral tradition that is part of the confraternities. There are many films and television programs documenting that aspect of the tradition. When I heard the stories about the problems they had in the past with having to buy palms for the Palm Sunday ritual, the lack of palm weavers in the confraternities, and the concerns about carrying on their Palm Sunday tradition I realized that this was a little known aspect of the confraternity life and decided to document it. That is how "Weaving A Tradition" came to be made.

Technical Details

Weaving A Tradition

Running Time: 15'19"

Aspect Ratio: 4:3

Cameras Used: Sanyo C6, Sanyo HD1A, Sanyo HD2000

Media Used: SD media

Color: Filmed in color

Edit: Final Cut Studio 3

Language: Italian

Subtitles: English