

Franco Interlenghi

Titles: 1 Sources: 3 Stills: 5

Born: Italy; October 29th 1930



How authority succeeds in driving a fatal wedge between soulmates Giuseppe (Rinaldo Smordoni, left) and Pasquale (Franco Interlenghi) is the tragedy of "SCIUSCIA"
Source: *The Companion to Italian Cinema*

Excerpt from **The Moving Picture Boy** entry on Smordoni:

"Rinaldo, a carpenter's son, was chosen to play the younger of the two innocent delinquents in De Sica's harrowing "SCIUSCIA". (The 16-year old Franco Interlenghi – born 29 October 1930 – who played his older companion, went on to marry the actress Antonella Lualdi and become a leading man in Italian films of the Fifties and Sixties)..."

Excerpt from **Classics of the Foreign Film** review of "SCIUSCIA":

"...The obvious, tarnished plot comes alive with de Sica's fresh, sympathetic understanding and the extraordinary naturalism he coaxed from boy and adult actors... Franco Interlenghi... grew up to be an internationally known lead in Italian films."



De Sica chose his two stars off the streets of Rome, where they were actually struggling to earn a living from shoeshining. Neither had any prior acting experience.

In the story, Pasquale and Giuseppe share the dream of owning their own horse. To that end they supplement their earnings by dealing on the black market, where Giuseppe's older brother has connections. When he tries to use them in a blackmail scam the two boys are identified and arrested.

Source:

Classics of the Foreign Film





At the reformatory – a juvenile prison in all but name – Pasquale loses his friend Giuseppe to the resident hard case, and even though he later beats the youth in a fight, his miseries are compounded when the youth escapes with Giuseppe. Pasquale knows they will make off with the horse, so he leads the authorities to their hideout. There is an angry confrontation between the two former friends, and Giuseppe is accidentally killed.

Source: Classics of the Foreign Film

Excerpt from **Great Italian Films** review:

“...Young Rinaldo Smordoni and Franco Interlenghi (who went on to pursue a successful film career as an adult) are absolute perfection as the two lads. Never for a moment does either one appear to be acting...”

FILMOGRAPHY

Year	Age	Title	Role
deb 46	16	SCIUSCIA ("Shoeshine") with Rinaldo Smordoni	in central role, Pasquale