

Casanova Multimedia and Rai Cinema
present

Something Good

a film by
Luca Barbareschi

an adaptation of the book I trust you by Francesco Abate and Massimo Carlotto
published by Einaudi Stile Libero

with
Luca Barbareschi and **Zhang Jingchu**

a **Casanova Multimedia** production
in collaboration with **Rai Cinema**

Length: 111'
Italian release the 7th of November 2013

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Information is available on the following websites www.somethinggoodmovie.com
Media partner: Rai Cinema Channel (www.raicinemachannel.it)

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Cast

Matteo	Luca Barbareschi
Xiwen	Zhang Jingchu
Mr. Feng	Kenneth Tsang
Gregory Poulson	Gary Lewis
Commissioner Xi Chan	Michael Wong
Xhao	Carl Long Ng
Tomas Hodek	Frank Crudele
Mirko	Branko Djuric
Mr. Lao	Eddy Ko
Monique	Ankie Beilke
Captain Poloni	Alessandro Haber
Olga	Daria Baykalova
Fan	Lucy Sheen

Film Crew

Subject and script	Francesco Arlanch Luca Barbareschi Anna Pavignano
Sound	Maurizio Di Coste
Production design	Francesco Frigeri
Costume design	Milena Canonero
Director of Photography	Arnaldo Catinari
Editing	Walter Fasano
Original Sound Track	Marco Zurzolo
Casting	Loredana Scaramella e Stefano Oddi – Italy Chan Dee Kam Pui – China
Creative Producer	Saverio D’Ercole
Executive Producer	Claudio Gaeta e Giulio Cestari
Produced and Directed by	Luca Barbareschi

Synopsis

A small village in the Yunnan region, in China

A young woman called Xiwen loses her only child, Shitou, poisoned by adulterated food.

At that same moment, the other side of the world, Matteo is working for the Feng multinational whose seat is in Hong Kong and which among many business affairs is also trafficking in counterfeit food around the world. To avoid being arrested by the Italian and Chinese authorities that are chasing after him, Matteo escapes from Italy. He also manages to save a cargo of adulterated food that belongs to the Feng group.

In Hong Kong a few weeks later, the founder and president of the group, Mr Feng, appoints Matteo responsible for the international trafficking of food: leaving aside all scruples it is the beginning of his climb to success.

Hong Kong, some time later

Following a long series of successes Matteo is about to be nominated CEO (Chief Executive Officer) of the Feng group.

It is precisely at this moment, at the height of success, that Matteo meets Xiwen. The man who deals in adulterated food and the woman who has lost her son because of it. They meet by chance in a restaurant which she has opened in memory of her child, as her personal battle for authentic food. They both ignore the truth that the other hides and they have no idea how this meeting will completely change their lives

That same evening, someone who is tired of living in his shadow, sets his plan in motion to have him framed. Matteo is accused of a triple murder and Xiwen is the only one who can give him an alibi. Convinced that he is innocent she lies for him. Meanwhile, impressed by the woman, Matteo pays off all the small restaurant's debts without her knowing.

As Matteo tries to ward off police suspicion and understand who is behind the conspiracy, his relationship with Xiwen deepens. The two of them who should have been destined to hate each other fall deeply in love, a love greater than the chaos that surrounds them.

When the truth is revealed they both have to decide whether to defend their past or choose a new path together...

Director's notes

There are two main themes that I wished to illustrate in this film: food adulteration and love in the most absolute and highest sense of the word, the kind of love that changes the lives of those living it and completely upsetting every logical criteria.

Food adulteration is a very up to date theme. Every day there are newspaper articles that deal with the tragic consequences of this problem, both in Europe and around the world, where suspicious deaths or virus' are only too often the result of adulterated food.

The storyline is represented by the clash between East and West. On one side there is the West that feels the weight of its role, sustained by history which has allowed it make progress over centuries and on the other there is the East which has only apparently been dormant under the cinders of an absolute dictatorship but which instead is powerful and really wants redemption and growth.

A human tale that develops into what the Americans would define as a *redemption story*, and rests within a social structure of great depth and emotional involvement. With twists and animated sequences we reach a turning point, which is both one of redemption and of revenge. The path the main character takes is a complicated one; he combines innocence with wickedness and he is convinced that he will come through no matter what. Matteo is a character that has a moment of grim heroism in its contemptible existence but then shines in its final redemption.

Xiwen, however, is a woman who has had to endure great suffering in her life, with the loss of her child from which she has managed to draw a strength out of the ordinary.

These are two characters that are in open contrast who instead are captured by their great love, stronger than all the evil that surrounds them.

I have given particular attention to the setting of each scene. The choice of locations was researched carefully between Italy and Hong Kong to be able to make the most of the phenomenon of food adulteration and the myth of China. China, a large modern country where the impetuous economic development, which has taken place over the last few decades, has apparently overturned the rules of civilized progress in favour of illegal practices aimed at the deterioration and falsification of quality.

Counterfeit food has reached impressive business volumes, and has been declared as the most highly profitable activity of the mafia, who are incrementing illegal trafficking around the world. According to the central offices of the Ministry of Economic Development in Italy has declared that currently the damaged caused by counterfeit food in the world can be estimated at about 1.700 billion U.S. dollars, an impressive figure which makes us conscious of the gravity of the situation.

Food adulteration

Food frauds are a chemical strain on food products, which “knock out” offers on traditionally prominent products with counterfeited flavours artfully created in a laboratory. In an economy where numbers make the difference, food that has been chemically studied is administered with a contempt for its taste and territory of origin but above all with regard to health and with an eye only and exclusively to the impressive gains that can originate from such commerce.

The theme of “food security” was first defined in the World Food Summit in 1996, which took place in Italy, precisely in Rome, with delegations from 180 countries present. The objective is to guarantee that “all people, at all times, have physical and economic access to sufficient, safe and nutritious food to meet their dietary needs and food preferences for an active and healthy life”.

The growth rate of our global population is estimated at almost 9 billion people by 2040 as against the 7 today which determines the growing demand in food products. This demand risks not being satisfied due to the reduction of agricultural land to the advantage of urbanization. The climate changes and the lack of sufficient water supplies create limits that today have yet to be resolved. This is why it is feared that to guarantee sufficient food for everyone we run the risk of going against safety and health.

Those dealing in international food trafficking move in this grey area.

Precisely for this reason, it has been universally recognised today that there is still a lot to do, to the point that the G20 defined food safety as one of the greatest goals to pursue in the 21st century.

The characters

Matteo is a man who has made a compromise with his conscience, a compromise, which has spread out over the years. He has accepted the rules of the game, those same rules which his father had fought against and had paid with his life. He does not like the rules but he is a good player.

For this reason Matteo, as he commits crimes and breaks the law in so many countries, does so in as many places in his conscience, and yet he still maintains a sort of nostalgia, a form of regret for that which could be different.

His distaste, his sense of intimate extraneity and secret aspiration to belong to another world from the corrupt society in which he lives and works, comes out in the extreme, almost manic care with which he eats (only highly controlled food). It also shows in the way he dresses (elegant and English in style, similar to the way the fathers of his high school companions dressed) and his sense of hygiene (he always carries disinfectant swipes with him, to protect himself from any contamination from the places in which he works, with the life he has resigned himself to. He has also developed a refined form of self absolution, nurtured by a cynical view of the world, one which nourishes his caustic irony.

Matteo longs to be surprised, to meet someone who has not bowed to the rules of the game. But his hopes are promptly disappointed. So in spite of himself he is a cynic. When Tomas, his assistant and only friend is killed, Matteo is truly alone and forced to look over his shoulder at everything and everyone.

His meeting with Xiwen will change his life. After all the faceless women that have skimmed his existence without leaving a trace, this woman Xiwen stares at him with her bright and pure eyes daring him to trust her.

Against all logic and all he is accustomed to, Matteo does just that. *He trusts* her and from then on his life will never be the same.

Xiwen represents his last possibility for salvation, a chance to change, that Matteo no longer thought possible, and for which he is capable of risking everything and sacrificing himself.

Xiwen is a woman who has been hurt by the biggest loss that any human being can suffer: the death of her child. Deranged by the pain she feels she desperately seeks something for which to live for; the restaurant and the use of totally genuine food is her attempt at keeping her son's memory alive.

Xiwen is a woman who does not accept compromise, she has become hard and uncompromising, unrelenting in her fight for integrity and purity and yet she is still annihilated by her pain. When her bank announces that it is about to take possession of the restaurant to pay off her debts, Xiwen loses all hope in the last thing that gives meaning to her life.

But when Matteo comes into her life this mysterious man seems to be able to see right through her and challenges her in what she holds dearest, the purity of food, even managing to get her to smile for the first time in years.

When Matteo returns and asks her to lie for him as he needs an alibi. At first Xiwen hesitates, she profoundly disapproves of any kind of lie but then she decides to trust him: as she realizes that she is still capable of love, something inside her says that this man is innocent and that it is worth taking the risk for him.

But just as she surrenders to this passion she discovers that the man she loves is involved in the business that killed her son and that is when she has to decide her destiny...

The director

Luca Barbareschi was born in Montevideo on the 28th of July, 1956. Once he finished his studies in Italy, he left for Chicago to follow Puecher. There he continued his work as assistant director for the opera by Offenbach "The Tales of Hoffmann". He then moves to New York where he collaborates with the Chicago Lyric Opera Theatre. He studied for four years with Lee Strasberg, Nicholas Ray and Stella Adler. In 1983 produced, wrote and acted in his first film, "Summertime", which won at the Venice, Sydney, London, Annecy and Nice film festivals. During his thirty-year career, his intense and uninterrupted work has ranged from theatre, cinema and television as an actor, producer, director, script writer and TV host. Luca Barbareschi is the founder and a shareholder of Four Point Entertainment, a production company based in Los Angeles, for which during the 1990's he was the host for one hundred and ten episodes of the enormously successful TV show "That's amore" in the 1990's" and he was also the first Italian to sell an *unscripted format* abroad. He produced more than 500 hours for Fox America and for Think Entertainment in London. His theatre career includes over thirty shows which have the great merit of having represented such authors as D. Mamet, E. Bogosian, D. Hare, B. Elton and N. Williams for the first time in Italy. The apex of his theatrical career came with "Amadeus" by P. Shaffer, one of the greatest successes of the last few years, directed by Roman Polanski and with the costumes designed by the Oscar winner Milena Canonero. He is the director of the Teatro Eliseo, one of the most prestigious theatres in Rome. In 2004, he played the role of Billy Flinn in the Italian version of the famous musical "Chicago" and he was subsequently chosen for the same role in the London production where he was highly acclaimed by both the public and the critics. In television he has taken part in over eighty serials and twenty variety shows. He has been called by various international productions regarding television projects and worked in France in "Les Rois Maudits" and in Germany in "Donna Roma". For the cinema he had the leading role in thirty films, has shot five films as producer and has worked in many feature length films next to such actors as Meryl Streep, Clive Owen and Naomi Watts.

He holds office for numerous prestigious institutions in both the theatre and cinema worlds and is always very attentive to everything that has to do with art and culture. Luca Barbareschi also has a particular interest in social welfare and created the "Luca Barbareschi Foundation Onlus – on behalf of children" to fight against paedophilia. His latest theatrical work came about thanks to the relationship of respect and friendship that binds him with David Seidler and he has therefore been able to bring the beautiful text written by the Academy Award winning script writer of the film: The Kings Speech.

The play has been an enormous success in Italy both by the public and critics and has been defined the theatrical event of the past few years.

With his production company, Casanova Multimedia operates within a multimedia context always managing to be flexible and responsive to attentive to market needs. The productive structure of Casanova Multimedia comprises non only the cinema and fiction sectors but also to entertainment formats and theatre and each project created has always been characterized by its very high quality. An example of this is one of the latest miniseries produced which recounts the lives of the "Trio Lescano".

It has won at the Monte Carlo and Shanghai International Television Festivals. In the last few years Casanova Multimedia has entered the market of both scripted and unscripted formats with a new catalogue of the highest level. Among the scripted formats created and produced for Rai Uno, the most important state broadcaster there are: "Nero Wolfe", the miniseries "Walter Chiari", the miniseries "The Hidden Olympiad", the TV movie "Edda Ciano and the Communist" and the miniseries on the life of "Adriano Olivetti".

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Barbareschi shows great versatility in knowing how to adapt successful international formats such as the French programme “*Le grand bluff*” which he hosted and adapted in Italy for Mediaset. Furthermore his international vision and research for new formats, including those with cross-media applications, have always been one of his objectives as well as an accurate and refined care for all those projects which he successfully produced in the case of plays as well as TV series or reality shows. Within Casanova Multimedia he has created a team of high level writers that are capable of conceiving and producing original formats that can be exported around the world.

Filmography

Son of a Bitch	Director: N. Marino Male lead 1976
Da Corleone a Brooklyn (From Corleone to Brooklyn)	Director: U. Lenzi Assistant Director and Actor 1976
Bugie Bianche (Little White Lies)	Director: S. Rolla Assistant Director and Actor 1977
Summertime	Director: M. Mazzucco Co-script writer e Male lead Festivals in Venice, London, Nice and Sydney. Premio De Sica for Best Young Director. 1983
Hanna K.	Director: Costa Gravas Actor 1983
Popcorn	Director: R. Deodato Actor 1984
Chi mi aiuta? (Who Will Help Me?)	Director: V. Zecca Male lead Winner of the Premio Ischia 1984
Il lungo inverno (The Long Winter)	Director: I. Micheli Co-Male lead 1984

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Impiegati (Employees)	Director: P. Avati (Cannes Film Festival) Co-Male lead. Luca Barbareschi 1984
Romance	Director: M. Mazzucco Co-script writer and Male lead Best Actor Award – Golden Globe Foreign Press 1986
Via Montenapoleone	Director: C. Vanzina Male lead 1986
Onora tuo padre (Honour Your Father)	Director: S. Ferrari Male lead 1987
Teresa	Director: Dino Risi Male lead 1987
Ti presento un'amica (Meet a Friend of Mine)	Director: F. Massaro Actor 1987
Bye Bye Baby	Director: E. Oldoini Male lead 1987
Things Change	Director: D. Mamet Actor 1987
L'amico arabo (The Arab Friend)	Director: C. Fornari Male lead Producer: Casanova 1990
La Bionda (The Blonde)	Director: S. Rubini Actor 1990
In nome del popolo sovrano (In the Name Of The Sovereign People)	Director: G. Magni Male lead 1990

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Obiettivo indiscreto (Indiscreet Lens)	Director: M: Mazzucco Male lead - Co-set designer Producer: Casanova 1990
La Delegazione (The Delegation)	Director: Alexandr Galin Male lead With Inna Churikova Producer: Casanova/Mos Film Prize for Best Actress Europa Cinema 93' 1992
The River Wild	Director: Curtis Hanson Actor with Meryl Streep 1994
Il cielo è sempre più blu (The Sky Is Ever More Blue)	Director: A. Grimaldi Actor 1995
Ardena	Director (first film) and Male lead Producer: Casanova 1997
Intolerance	Director G. Treves Actor
Le fils du français (The Frenchman's Son)	Director: Gérard Lauzier Actor with Fanny Ardant 1999
Con gli occhi del cuore (With The Eyes Of The Heart)	Director: Alessandro Bettero Producer: Film & Art Direction. I.DEA Actor 2000
On N'a Qu'une Vie (We Have But One Life)	Director: Jacques Deray Producer: Andromeda S.r.l. Actor 2000
Terzo° e mondo (Third and World)	Short Film by Daniele Pignatelli Production: Synthesis Film Luca Barbareschi Associate Producer 2001

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Il Trasformista
(The Chameleon)

By G. Manfredi – L. Barbareschi
Producer: Casanova
Director and Male lead
2002

The International

Director: Tom Twyker
Producer: Siebente Babelsberg Film
with Clive Owen and Naomi Watts
Actor
2007

Noi credevamo
(We believed)

Director: Mario Martone
Producer: Palomar
with Toni Servillo, Luca Zingaretti,
Luigi Lo Cascio
Actor
2010

Something good

Director: Luca Barbareschi
Producer: Casanova Multimedia and Rai Cinema
with Luca Barbareschi and
Zhang Jingchu

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Zhang Jingchu

Film:

OLD CINDERELLA (2014)	
SOMETHING GOOD (2013)	Dir. Luca Barbareschi
SWITCH (2013) (aka Dwelling in Fuchun Mountains)	Dir. Jay Sun
THE THIEVES	Dir. Choi Dong-Hoon
LACUNA	Dir. Derek Tsang
AFTERSHOCK	Dir. Xiaogang Feng
THE LAW OF ATTRACTION	Dir. Jiarui Zhang
THE MAN BEHIND THE COURTYARD HOUSE	Dir. Xing Fei
CITY UNDER SIEGE	Dir. Benny Chan
JOHN RABE	Dir. Florian Gallenberger
RUSH HOUR 3	Dir. Brett Ratner
JADE WARRIOR	Dir. Antti-Jussi Annila
PEACOCK	Dir. Changwei Gu
THE ROAD	Dir. Jiarui Zhang
SEVEN SWORDS	Dir. Hark Tsui
PROTÉGÉ	Dir. Derek Yee
THE DOUBLE LIFE	Dir. Ying Ning
OVERHEARD	Dir. Felix Chong
RED RIVER	Dir. Jiarui Zhang
NIGHT AND FOG	Dir. Ann Hui
THE BEAST STALKER	Dir. Dante Lam
SEVEN NIGHTS	Dir. Qing Zhang
HUAYAO BRIDE IN SHANGRILA	Dir. Jiaru Zhang

Current Endorsements: Bausch & Lomb, Shiseido Opal Lay, Rado Watches, Hankook Tires, Samsung, Wacoal

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Awards:

Year	Movie	Festival	Award
2005	Bride from Shangri-La	Hua Biao Award Golden Rooster Award	Best New Actress Best Actress Nom.
2005	Time Magazine Asia's Hero		
2006	Peacock	Chinese Film Media Awards	Best Actress
2006	Seven Swords	Hong Kong Film Awards	Best Sup. Actress Nom.
2007	The Road	Cairo International Film Festival Pune International Film Festival	Best Actress Best Actress
2008	Protégé	Hong Kong Film Awards	Best Actress Nom.
2009	The Road	Golden Horse Awards	Best Sup. Actress
2010	Night and Fog	Hong Kong Film Award	Best Actress
2011	City Under Siege	Hong Kong Film Awards	Best Sup. Actress