



RAFFAELLA 2000

PRODUCER'S STATEMENT

When I first read *Raffaella2000*, I immediately recognised a project that speaks authentically to the contemporary reality of young Europeans while portraying Albanian identity in a modern, nuanced and stereotype-free way.

The film explores global themes — social media, the construction of public image, the pressure of constant visibility — through a female, cross-cultural perspective that reflects both the present of our country and the experience of its diaspora.

As an Albanian producer, I was particularly drawn to how the film depicts Albania and its new generations: not as a marginal or nostalgic space, but as a dynamic, European and creative reality. A country fully capable of engaging in an equal dialogue with Italy and with the rest of the continent.

This is why I decided to bring A.B. Film into the project as a co-producer: I wanted to ensure that our cultural identity would be represented with accuracy, respect and depth, and that our contribution would stand as an active creative force within the project.

A central element that convinced me of the film's potential is the strong partnership between the director Andree Lucini and the Italian production company Mompracem, a key player in the contemporary Italian and international film landscape.

Founded by the Manetti bros., Mompracem has distinguished itself for its bold stylistic approach and its ability to combine commercial appeal with artistic innovation. Their *Diabolik* trilogy has become a major reference point for modern Italian genre cinema, demonstrating the company's capacity to sustainably produce ambitious projects with wide audience reach.

Within this solid creative environment, Andree has developed a long-standing and evolving artistic relationship. Mompracem identified her talent early on—first entrusting her with backstage work on their major productions, then producing her short film *La ragazza di Praga*, and later her debut documentary *Piena di Grazia*, which premiered successfully at the Rome Film Festival.

Their continuous support is not only a testament to Andree's artistic potential, but also a guarantee of stability, structure, and shared vision. As a co-producer, I deeply value this consistency: it creates the ideal framework within which an international collaboration can thrive.



The work carried out by director Andree Lucini within the Biennale College Cinema programme demonstrated both the artistic solidity of the project and the maturity of her vision. She has built a team of young but already accomplished professionals, many of whom collaborated with her on earlier films, creating a cohesive and highly creative working environment.

The project has already secured funding from the Italian Ministry of Culture (MIC) for first features — an important recognition of its artistic and productive value. Our next step will be to submit the project to the Albanian national fund for minority coproductions, with the aim of further strengthening Albania's presence in the film and expanding opportunities for Albanian talent both on and off screen. We are also working toward assembling a cast that includes recognised actors from both countries, reinforcing the cultural bridge that this story naturally embodies.

In this film, Albania is never a decorative backdrop — it is a living identity, a point of view, an essential cultural contribution to the characters and their world. My goal is precisely this: to bring the sensibility, strength and modernity of Albanian cinema into the project, ensuring that Albania is perceived not as a secondary partner but as a fully engaged creative force.

In *Raffaella2000*, Albania is never treated as a decorative setting; it is a living identity, a narrative engine, and a cultural perspective that enriches the film. My goal is precisely this: to bring the strength, modernity and creative energy of Albanian cinema into the heart of the project, ensuring that our participation is perceived as a fully engaged and equal partnership.

I believe *Raffaella2000* has all the elements to stand out in festivals and in the international market. It is bold, contemporary, emotionally layered, and capable of speaking to diverse audiences. I am proud that A.B. Film is part of this journey, alongside Mompracem and the other partners, and I am confident that this collaboration can become a strong example of cultural synergy between our countries.

Adele Budina, A. B. FILM