



# PRESS-BOOK

# THE STATE OF INSANITY

*Judicial Psychiatric Hospitals in Italy  
(OPG)*

a documentary film by

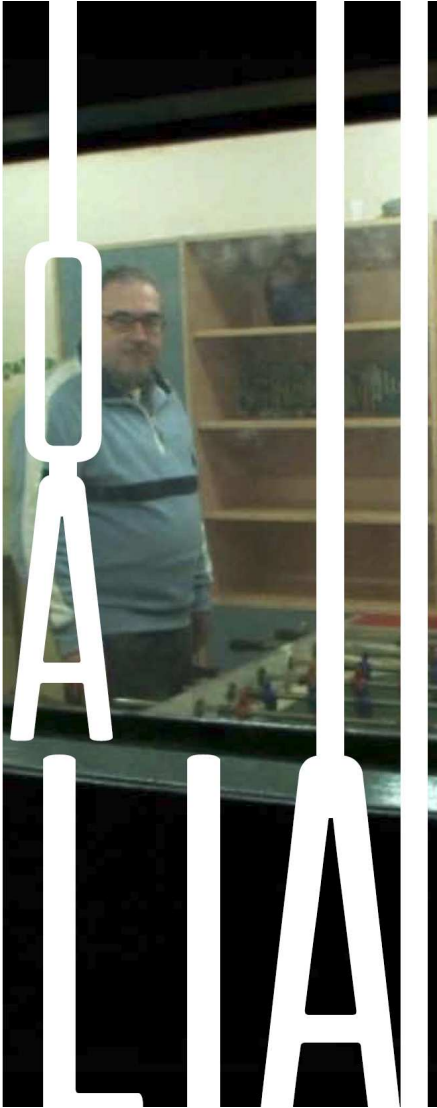
**Francesco Cordio**

## THE STATE OF INSANITY • THE CREW

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Written by	Francesco Cordio, Leonardo Angelini, Diego Galli
Director	Francesco Cordio
With	Luigi Rigoni
Photography	Mario Pantoni
Editing	Giacobbe Gamberini e Michele Castelli
Music	Gianluca Misiti
Sound	Paolo Fontana
Song/End Titles	Daniele Silvestri
Produced by	Francesco Cordio Teatri di Nina and Independent Zoo Troupe
Nationality	Italy
Year of production	2013
Location	O.P.G of Filippo Saporito, in Aversa, Barcellona Pozzo di Gotto in Messina, Castiglione delle Stiviere in Mantova, Villa Ambrogiana in Montelupo Fiorentino, Secondigliano in Napoli, Reggio Emilia Teatro comunale di Todì
Running Time	70'
Format	HDV
Press Office	Lionella Bianca Fiorillo Storyfinders Via A. Allegri da Correggio 11 Roma Italy +39.06.88972779 +39.340.7364203 press.agency@storyfinders.it info@storyfinders.it

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In Italy there are 6 OPG, commonly called criminal asylums, in which about 1500 people are locked up.

The first-person account of an actor, ex-inmate in one of these hospitals, is intertwined with scenes filmed, without prior notice, in these places that have been "forgotten" about even by the State.

These facilities have remained substantially extraneous and impermeable to the reformed psychiatric culture, and the mechanism of detention has not been effected by the law passed in 1978 that called for the closure of psychiatric hospitals.

Many lawyers, psychiatrists, politicians, columnists and citizens who are active in humanitarian associations recognize that the persistence of the OPGs and of the same procedures for admittance are unconstitutional.

A Parliamentary Board of Inquiry has brought to light the state of abandon, degradation and neglect of the inmates and has enabled a law to pass that requires the closure of these institutions.

The film intends to accompany, and to let the spectator experience, these places where people, since the beginning of the 1900s, have been exiled and dehumanized by pharmacological treatment, by the degradation of solitary confinement cells and by restraint beds.

This documentary brings to light the state of abandon of these psychiatric facilities and their privation of the most elementary constitutional rights to health, medical treatment, life of many of the mental ill.

## THE STATE OF INSANITY • THE DIRECTOR

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Independent filmmaker and certified actor from the Silvio d'Amico National Academy for Dramatic Arts of Rome, **Francesco Cordio** also attended the European School for The Art of the Actor in San Miniato and audited the Directing class at the Silvio d'Amico National Academy for Dramatic Arts of Rome.

Since 2002 he has directed numerous theatrical shows, has written, directed and edited documentaries and music videos (he has been collaborating with Sony Music and singer-songwriter Daniele Silvestri for a long time). From 1995 to today, he has acted in theater and cinema directed by Lorenzo Salvetti, Ugo Gregoretti, Giuseppe Ferrara, Salvatore Maira, among others.

In 2007, he directed a documentary called "Inti-llimani, donde las nubes cantan", about the Chilean musical group. The film was selected to

participate in numerous international festivals (Habana film festival, Viña del Mar - Chile, Rio de Janeiro, Toronto, Istanbul, Mar del Plata), and published by Mellenium Storm.

In 2009, he directed the docu-film, "Tutti giù per aria" about the Alitalia case with Dario Fo and Ascanio Celestini, published by Editori Riuniti.

In 2010 on behalf of the Board of Inquiry on the National Health Service, he directed a documentary about Italian Judicial Psychiatric Hospitals, filming scenes and gathering previously unpublished exclusive testimonies.

This film earned him a special mention at the 2011 Ilaria Alpi Awards. In 2010, with editor Infinito Edizioni he published "L'occhio di Cordio," which he edited (the book contains comments from Leonardo Sciascia, Andrea Camilleri, Enzo Siciliano, Daniele Silvestri, et al).