

PRIXITALIA

*All  
about  
the*

*Copy for*

Idalberto  
Fei

*1999*

*Prix  
Italia*



*The opening in Siena in the presence  
of the President of Italy...*



*... and the closing in Florence with a television show*





DIRECTOR  
**IDALBERTO FEI**  
PRODUCER  
**ANNA ROSA MAVARACCHIO**  
SCRIPT  
**FEDERICO FELLINI**  
SOUND  
**ALFREDO GUERRIERI**  
HISTORICAL CONSULTING  
**PAQUITO DEL BOSCO,**  
**GIANFRANCO ANGELUCCI**  
PRODUCING ORGANISATION  
**RAI - RADIORAI**

FUORI PROGRAMMA N. 7  
HORS PROGRAMME N. 7  
UNSCHEDULED SHOW N. 7

### Prize Motivations

The jury chose this programme from among the competing Italian radio shows for its vitality, zest and humour and its tongue in cheek parody of the making of radio plays. It contains a wonderful central performance and there was a group dynamic between the cast members which gave the production a rich radiophonic quality.

### Biographies

#### *Federico Fellini, script writer (1920-1993)*

Federico Fellini was born in Rimini. Since early childhood, he showed more interest in games of the imagination than in physical games, spending long hours on his own, inventing stories and characters for his puppet-show. But his inexhaustible and precocious passion was design, an art he pursued in every form, especially caricature, from his school days when he drew comical portraits of his friends and teachers. The dream of Federico Fellini, a fanciful and not particularly methodical student, was to become a famous designer. Thus, during secondary school, he sends his drawings and cartoons to the fashionable papers of the time. He receives his first assignment in Florence from the publisher Nerbini who published the Flash Gordon comic strips. At the same time, he builds up his reputation as an author for the radio and the theatre, writing short plays, canons and scripts for variety shows. After the Second World War he enters the world of cinema where he is now considered one of the most important "masters", whose works have inspired many international movie directors. Films as "La Dolce Vita" and "8 1/2" have become legendary.

#### *Idalberto Fei, director*

Author and director, born in Rome. He is a law graduate from the "La Sapienza" University of Rome, but he also studied classical guitar and foreign languages. He joined RAI (Italy's State Radio and TV broadcaster) in the early 70's: he first worked in the TV department under Daniele D'Anza and Franco Zeffirelli; subsequently he moved to the Radio Department at the invitation of the writer Andrea Camilleri.

He was the recipient of the Taormina Prize for his TV and Radio screenplays. He is the author of plays, TV and radio screenplays, songs and children books. His works have been published by important Italian publishers. For 20 years he has been the chairman of "Il Laboratorio", both a company and a school specialised in puppet theatre. "Il Laboratorio" has participated in many festivals both in Italy and abroad. In 1998 he was awarded the critic's prize for the best lyrics at the Italian children's music festival "Lo Zecchino d'oro".

### Summary

The radio comedy that RAI has chosen to offer to the 1999 Prix Italia audience is one of the 100 comedies written during the Second World War by Federico Fellini, one of this century's masters of cinema. In those years Fellini was taking his first steps in the artistic world as a radio author. The protagonist of "Unscheduled show nr. 7", a comedy written in 1943, is a director who, in a bizarre radio game, answers his listeners' questions. The questions are all inspired by the immaterial world of sound. They include: "What do fish say to each other?", "What is the message inscribed in the noise of train wheels?", "What is the destiny of words without concrete meaning?".