

Spotlight

# Cinema: The Dinner, a film on inter-generational degradation

di: Francesco Pensavecchio

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I shall describe a film from the Berlin International Film Festival, the touching “The Dinner”, written and directed by Oren Moverman and starring Richard Gere, Laura Linney, Steve Coogan, Rebecca Hall, and Chloë Sevigny, released for showing in Italian cinemas on May 18<sup>th</sup>.

The script of the film is taken from the novel of contemporary Dutch novelist Herman Koch, “Het Diner”, published in 2009, the work with which the author found international fame. Sold all over Europe, translated into 21 languages, it also inspired Ivano De Matteo’s film “I Nostri Ragazzi” (“Our Kids”).

A family drama in which the psychological instability of the protagonist is the key to the story and explodes in a horrible event: the homicide of a tramp captured on a smart phone and proudly shared with friends.

The finger is pointed at the role of the parents, of the questionable values of the older generation and, in a worried way, at the relation between violence and children. The social media become the witnesses of a moral decay. Doubts and anxiety overwhelm the spectators, crushed by ambiguous emotions.

Above and beyond the plot, the acting, though perhaps a bit too underplayed of Richard Gere, is compensated by a splendid Steve Coogan and an equally impressive Laura Linney. The dinner, which gives the title to the film, is simply the mad pretext for an encounter among family members involved in the tragedy. The table and the exquisite dishes of an elegant gourmet restaurant are transformed into the surreal stage of the film. It is curious how more and more often food has become more or less the metaphysical space in which, in a superficial and unserious way, awkward and embarrassing questions are dealt with.

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### **The Dinner**

Regia: Oren Moverman

Con: Richard Gere, Laura Linney, Steve Coogan, Rebecca Hall, Adepero Oduye, Michael Chernus

Genere: Drammatico – USA, 2017

Durata: 120 minuti

Uscita: giovedì 18 maggio 2017

Distribuzione: VideA – CDE

RICHARD  
GERE

LAURA  
LINNEY

STEVE  
COOGAN

REBECCA  
HALL

E CHLOË  
SEVIGNY



★★★★★  
UN CAST STELLARE  
HOLLYWOOD REPORTER

★★★★★  
PROVOCATORIO  
INDIEWIRE

# THE DINNER

★★★★★  
UN QUARTETTO  
DI PERFORMANCE  
ELETTRIZZANTI  
VARIETY

★★★★★  
TRATTO DAL ROMANZO  
CHE È DIVENTATO  
UN CASO INTERNAZIONALE  
LA REPUBBLICA

★★★★★  
UN FEROCO RITRATTO  
DELL'AMERICA  
CONTEMPORANEA  
SCREENDAILY



**COSA SEI DISPOSTO A FARE PER PROTEGGERE CHI AMI?**

FOXA & COKE FRED PRESENTANO UNA PRODUZIONE CARBONIX & BLACKBOARD IN ASSOCIAZIONE CON PROTEGIST PICTURES THE DINNER RICHARD GERE LAURA LINNEY STEVE COOGAN REBECCA HALL ALEXANDER DOLY e CHLOË SEVIGNY CASTING LAURA FISHERMAN JULIA ANGSTREICH & MARIEBETH FOX  
SUPERVISOR ALI WASSERMAN EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS RAL WALSHER COSTUME DESIGNER GEORGE HANNOCK ALEX HALL SCENEGGIATURA KELLY MCGHEE DIRETTORE DELLA FOTOGRAFIA BOB DYKINSON PRODUTTORE ESECUTIVO LEONID LIBERBY ANGEL LOPEZ OLGA SERRA EVANAROA DOWLES  
PRODOTTO DA COTTY CALVO LAURENCE NOLLE EDUARD VACHAN JULIA LEBRECHT DISTRIBUZIONE ITALIANA DI FERNANDO KUC E CONCESSIONARI ORION MOVIESHOW DIRETTORE DI JORGE MONTESANO

