



MICHELANGELO FILM

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PRESENT

Dacia Vita mia

JAPANESE DIALOGUES

A documentary film by

Izumi Chiaraluce

with

Dacia Maraini

A production by

Michelangelo Film, Luce Cinecittà, Rai Documentari

in co-production with **Aura Film**

with the support of **AAMOD** (Archivio Audiovisivo del Movimento Operaio e Democratico)

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DACIA, VITA MIA - JAPANESE DIALOGUES - Credits

Director and script

Izumi Chiaraluce

Editing

Silvia Di Domenico

Director of Photography

Vassili Spiropoulos

Set Designer

Massimo Spano

Original Soundtrack

Andrea Guerra e Kyung Mi Lee

With

Dacia Maraini

and, in alphabetical order:

Tetsuro Akanegakubo, Giorgio Amitrano, Francesco Paolo Campione, Matteo Casari, Liliana Cavani, Alvin Curran, Donatella Di Pietrantonio, Hideyuki Doi, Elda Ferri, Roberto Faenza, Giuseppe Garrera, Giustina Laurenzi, Luigi Ontani, Mauro Pierconti, Paola Raguzzi, Igiaba Scego, Giuseppe Tornatore, Paolo Di Paolo.

Genre: documentary

Nationality: Italy/Switzerland

Durata: 85'

Language: italian

Year of Production: 2025

Format: Color and B/W (live action and archival footage)

DACIA, VITA MIA – JAPANESE DIALOGUES - Synopsis

An intimate journey between Italy and Japan in search of memory: It intertwines the voice of Dacia Maraini with archival images, dissolving drawings, and encounters that illuminate a destiny woven between two cultures. Director Izumi Chiaraluce, a silent and empathetic witness, gathers the threads of a personal and collective tale. Dacia's words become a bridge between distant worlds, between past and present. A new and profound portrait, paced by the time of memory and the vibrant rhythm of curiosity. A tribute to the gentle strength of a woman who has made writing, photography, and dialogue her true home.

Director's notes

Our shared love for art and books—and my own Italian-Japanese roots—created fertile ground for a beautiful dialogue with Dacia Maraini. I realized how profoundly Japanese she is in many ways: in her gentle and measured gestures, and above all in her sense of 'We'. Dacia devotes much of her time to others—promoting books and culture, and maintaining a heartfelt dialogue with students. I was deeply moved by the curiosity and questions of students about Dacia's extraordinary childhood in Japan. For this reason, I wanted to explore and share how this journey between Italy and Japan has shaped Dacia and her work. Through Dacia's evocative voice, her memories become ours too—enriched by extraordinary photos from her personal archive. All this is 'Dacia, Vita Mia – Japanese Dialogues,' my first feature-length film.

Izumi Chiaraluce

Biografia di Izumi Chiaraluce

Izumi Chiaraluce is a visual artist and film director of Italian-Japanese origin who has lived between Italy, Japan, the United States, and France. Her projects span across art, architecture, cinema, and science. Her works have been shown at film festivals, solo and group exhibitions in international galleries and museums. In 2025 she wrote and directed her first feature-length documentary 'Dacia, Vita Mia – Japanese Dialogues'.