



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL

### TLA RELEASING GOES ON THE LAM IN SUNNY ITALY WITH THE LIVELY ROAD COMEDY **CHILDREN OF HANNIBAL**

(Philadelphia, November 18) A popular Italian comedy about a bank robbery gone wrong, an unexpected gay romance, and a madcap escape to Egypt reaches American home audiences with the DVD/VHS release of Davide Ferrario's *Children of Hannibal* (*Figli di Annibale*), on TLA Releasing's International Film Festival label.

**THE FILM:** *Children of Hannibal* (Italy, 1998, 93 minutes, Italian with English subtitles) was praised by *Variety* as a "warm-hearted tale (that) has a spontaneity and wit all too rare in Italian comedies." Hapless Domenico (**Silvio Orlando**) decides to start a new life by robbing a Turin bank and fleeing to Switzerland. But things go wrong, and he finds himself with a hostage who is as eager to leave Italy as he is, businessman Tommaso (**Diego Abatantuono**).

Tommaso convinces Domenico to head south, where a friend will help them sail to Egypt, but the friend (**Flavio Insinna**) turns out to be a policeman – and Tommaso's secret gay lover. To complicate matters even more, Tommaso's adult daughter (**Valentina Cervi**) suddenly appears, determined to join them. New mishaps befall the gang with each passing mile, creating a lively road comedy that revels in the changing Italian landscape and offers some of the best and most unusual gay characters ever seen in an Italian film.

**FILMMAKER/CAST:** A graduate in English literature, **Davide Ferrario** began his film career as a festival manager and film writer, authoring the first book in Italian on Fassbinder. He co-founded a distribution company that brought American independent film to Italy, earning him a small role in John Sayles film *Matewan*. Equally comfortable in all genres, his films include a documentary on anti-fascism (*Materiale resistente*), a drama about a young man's struggle for independence (*Tutti giù per terra*) and a docudrama on the Italian porn industry (*Guardami*).

Leading the cast are the popular Italian actors **Diego Abatantuono** (*Io non ho paura, Mediterraneo*) and **Silvio Orlando** (*Fuori dal mondo, Il Portaborse*). The granddaughter of actor Gino Cervi, **Valentina Cervi** appeared in Jane Campion's *The Portrait of a Lady*, before achieving international recognition in the title role of *Artemisia*. Rounding out the cast is **Flavio Insinna**, in his feature film debut, who now alternates between film and television.

**DVD/VHS RELEASE:** The retail price for *Children of Hannibal* is \$24.99 for DVD and VHS. It can be purchased at the TLA Video Web site at a discount – [www.tlavideo.com](http://www.tlavideo.com) – or through such major retailers as amazon.com, Borders Books and Music, Transworld, Musicland, Tower Records and Virgin Megastores.

*Children of Hannibal* is not rated, in Italian with English subtitles, in stereo and in letterbox format. DVD extras include chapter selection and TLA Releasing trailers. Street date is November 18, 2003.

The International Film Festival series is a division of TLA Releasing, the film distribution label of TLA Entertainment Group. The series brings noteworthy films from the international film festival circuit out on DVD/VHS in pairs every few months, with special attention given to diversity of nationalities and genres. **Davide Ferrario's** *Children of Hannibal* is paired with the Japanese horror/mystery *Suicide Club*, by **Sion Sono**. For more information, visit [www.tlareleasing.com](http://www.tlareleasing.com).

**NOTE TO PRESS:**

To request a review copy of *Children of Hannibal* on DVD or VHS, please contact Andrew Preis. For high-resolution images, go to [ftp.tlavideo.com](http://ftp.tlavideo.com) and click on the "Children of Hannibal" folder.

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