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Reflections of Light (Riflessi di luce)

Written by: Michael Den Boer on May 5th, 2009



Theatrical Release Date: Italy, 1988

Director: Mario Bianchi **Writer:** Francesco Valitutti

Cast: Pamela Prati, Gabriele Tinti, Loredana Romito, Gabriele Gori, Laura Gemser, Jessica Moore

DVD Released: May 19th, 2009

Approximate Running Time: 88 minutes

Aspect Ratio: 1.33:1 Full Frame

Rating: NR

Sound: Dolby Digital Stereo Italian

Subtitles: English

DVD Release: Sinful Mermaid **Region Coding:** Region 0 NTSC

Retail Price: \$24.95



Synopsis: A crippled pianist has isolated himself away from the rest of the world since the death of his wife.

Reflections of Light, was directed by Mario Bianchi whose other notable film's include Satan's Baby Doll and The Murder Secret. Mario Bianchi is the son of director Roberto Bianchi Montero, whose directing credits include So Sweet, So Dead, a Woman for Seven Bastards and The Hot Nights of Caligula. The score for Reflections of Light was composed by Gianni Sposito who also composed the score for Mario Bianchi's The Murder Secret. The main piano motif is the most effect piece of music in the film while the rest of the score for Reflections of Light has that disco vibe that is prominent in so many Italian films from this era.

The plot revolves around a pianist named Federico Brandi and his disintegrating relationships with those closest to him like his son and second wife Marta. To spice things up the story uses two secondary characters Giorgia, a lesbian with an overactive imagination who works

as Federico's secretary and a young woman named Gaia who falls in love with Federico's son Marcello. Despite the drama conflicting

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the film's main character Federico, this film is clearly a soft core romp and the story is at times almost secondary. Visually the film features a few stylish moments, especially a scene that is early on in the film where Giorgia playfully sprays Marta with hose and then proceeds to caress her drenched body. Another naughty moment is a scene where Marcello and his step mother Marta get to know each other better.

The two most recognizable names in the cast are Gabriele Tinti in the role of Federico Brandi and Laura Gemser cast in the role of Federico's first wife Chiara. Performance wise Gabriele Tinti once again portrays a character that doesn't stray too far away from the role he often gets cast in. Laura Gemser role is limited to a series of flashback's (which include some nudity). The standout performance in the film comes from Loredana Romito in the role of Giorgia. Some of Loredana Romito film credits include *You'll Die at Midnight* and *Snack Bar Budapest*. Ultimately outside of a few memorable moments *Reflections of Light* is nothing more than a by the numbers slice of erotica.

The DVD:

Reflections of Light, is presented in its original 1.33:1 full frame aspect ratio. Colors, flesh tones and black levels fare well. There are some instances of softness and mild edge enhancement. Also this transfer has not been flagged for progressive playback. Even though the transfer is interlaced there are no excessive problems with ghosting / blurring.

This release comes with one audio option a Dolby Digital stereo mix in Italian. Outside of a few minor instances of background noise the audio while not dynamic it is a more than adequate presentation. Removable English subtitles that are easy to follow and error free have been included.

The only extra for this release is an image gallery that plays like a featurette with music from the film playing in the background. Overall *Reflections of Light* gets an average DVD release.



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