



**The TAICHI project is proud to present "The Mysterious Cook" short film**

**The TAICHI project is proud to present "The Mysterious Cook", a short film with a culinary-romantic twist, starring Esmeralda Spadea (卫艾达) and Yoon C. Joyce. The film by celebrated Italian director Giacomo Arrigoni is set in Puglia, Italy, and is available on all OurOliveOil social media platforms.**

"The Mysterious Cook" was directed by Giacomo Arrigoni, one of the most exciting emerging European directors, the winner of 15 international film festival awards, who was also selected at the International Scriptwriters' Pavilion (Maison Des Scénaristes) at Cannes Film Festival in 2018.

"The Mysterious Cook" is a story of a humble and reserved Chinese journalist named Ma, who has lost his inspiration. Ma's boss sends him on his first-ever work trip abroad, to Italy, with a secret mission. Ma must meet a respected Italian chef, whose unparalleled gourmet creations have earned international fame, and discover the secret ingredient that makes his dishes so mouth-watering.

However, meeting the ever-busy chef seems like a "mission impossible". While trying to find the cook's secret ingredient Ma gets to taste his most delicious dishes, as well as discover the local architecture, culture and nature. To his own surprise, Ma rediscovers his own passion and taste for life. His boring work trip turns into an adventure of a lifetime.

It is no coincidence that the film takes place in beautiful Puglia, Italy's top olive oil producing region. Some experts believe that the olive oil from Puglia is one of the healthiest and most palatable in the world.

For the leading actress Esmeralda Spadea (卫艾达), shooting the movie was an eye-opening experience: "I learnt that producing a single bottle of extra virgin olive oil requires lots of hard work by a team of professionals – from harvesting the olives to processing them. After seeing the whole process, I now appreciate the fantastic taste of the Mediterranean cuisine even more".

"Being Italian, I do use olive oil in my daily cooking," smiles Esmeralda. "I try to follow a healthy diet and olive oil is a big part of that. Moreover, food tastes much better with a few drops of olive oil."

The cast: Esmeralda Spadea (卫艾达) and Yoon C. Joyce played the leading parts. In addition, the presidents of Italy's three main olive oil producing consortia, Gennaro Siculo (CNO), Tommaso Lojodice (UNAPOL) and Luigi Canino (UNASCO), also appeared in the supporting cast of the movie.

[Watch "The Mysterious Cook" now!](#)

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ESMERALDA SPADEA

YOON C. JOYCE

# THE MYSTERIOUS COOK

a film by Giacomo Arrigoni

Cooking is like loving: you can't do it without passion!

COMING SOON!

gptimes | PRESENTS

A FILM BY GIACOMO ARRIGONI "THE MYSTERIOUS COOK" ESMERALDA SPADEA, YOON C. JOYCE, LIYU JIN  
MUSIC BY LUCA SPAGNOLETTI, GIUSEPPE CUBEDDU SERIES BY GIACOMO ARRIGONI PRODUCTION ROSA LORUSSO DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY STEFANO VENOSTA ASSOCIATE PRODUCER JUHA LEINO  
VISUAL EFFECTS BY MAGESTIC FILM LINE PRODUCED BY ESMERALDA SPADEA DESIGNER ZHAO YINONG WRITER AND DIRECTOR BY GIACOMO ARRIGONI

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