

# VISTA MARE

A FILM BY JULIA GUTWENIGER AND FLORIAN KOFLER

jesolo  
turismo



Locarno Film Festival  
**SEMAINE  
DE LA  
CRITIQUE**

# VISTA MARE

*a Film by* JULIA GUTWENIGER & FLORIAN KOFLER  
*produced by* EUTOPIAFILM (AUSTRIA)  
*coproduced by* ALBOLINA FILM (ITALY)  
*Script & Direction* JULIA GUTWENIGER & FLORIAN KOFLER  
*Dramaturgical advice* TIZZA COVI & RAINER FRIMMEL  
*Cinematography* JULIA GUTWENIGER  
*Sound* FLORIAN KOFLER  
*Editing* JULIA GUTWENIGER & FLORIAN KOFLER  
*Music* GABRIELA GORDILLO  
*Sound Design* FLORIAN KOFLER  
*Sound Mixing* MICHAEL PLÖDERL  
*Color Grading* FRANCO MARCO AVI  
*Producers* BERNHARD HOLZHAMMER  
VICTOR KOESSL  
DEBORA NISCHLER  
WILFRIED GUFLER

80 Min | DCP Flat (1.85:1) | Color | 4K | Dolby 5.1 | Austria, Italy 2023  
OV in Italian – available with English and German Subtitles

## **PRODUCTION AUSTRIA**

**EUTOPIAFILM**

Bernhard Holzhammer  
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## **PRODUCTION ITALY**

**Albolina Film**

Debora Nischler  
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## **WORLD SALES**

**FILMOTOR**

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Newport Bay Club  
RISTORANTE BAR



## **Logline**

Vista Mare: A poetic and surrealist documentary revealing the hidden labor behind 'a holiday in the sun' on Italy's Northern Adriatic Coastal resorts.

## **Short Synopsis**

Vista Mare is a poetic and surrealist documentary revealing the hidden labour behind 'a holiday in the sun' on Italy's Northern Adriatic Coastal resorts. Shot over an entire working season (Feb to Oct), it takes viewers on a journey through an artificial landscape built to amuse vacationers. Vista Mare's camera purposefully watches a multi-national army of seasonal labourers toiling from dawn to dark. Workers test remote-controlled umbrellas, meticulously prepare meals, and most importantly, jolly the patrons into having a good time. Meanwhile on the shoreline, thousands of guests paddle in the waves and enjoy carefully scheduled fun. Little wonder the demands of their jobs drive the workers to chant "Slaves? Never!" in a protest carefully overseen by the Police. In an absurdist loop, Vista Mare watches the workers, who watch other workers play, until the sky turns cloudy, the beaches empty, and the last umbrella closes.

## Long Synopsis

Julia Gutweniger and Florian Kofler's *Vista Mare* is a poetic and surreal look behind "a holiday in the sun" on Italy's Northern Adriatic Coastal resorts. Shot over an entire working season (Feb to Oct) it takes viewers on a journey through an artificial landscape built to amuse vacationers.

*Vista Mare* begins with static images of grey skied empty shorelines at the end of winter. Its camera purposefully watches as massive amounts of sand are pulled from the seabed to shore up winter-damaged beaches, which then have forests of umbrellas planted on them. An army of seasonal labourers pulled from near and very far work from dawn to dark as Euro-disco blares in the background. Grooming the sand, selling iced treats, and haggling over the price of souvenirs under the cloudless blue sky is only the beginning. While one employee tests remote-controlled umbrellas, the kitchen team meticulously prepares meals. Meanwhile, at the front desk veteran staff train shy new hires in the art of answering phones and, most importantly, jollying the patrons into having a good time. Back on the beach, thousands of guests paddle in the waves.

*Vista Mare* captures the contradiction of workers who labour all year so they can recover from their work. Just like their parents and grandparents did at the same hotels. To achieve this, the resort's staff have to work tirelessly. An instructor ceaselessly bounces on a trampoline during exercise classes while an attendant washes sand off the tourist's feet before they slip down water slides. When these sun seekers bypass nearby Venice in favour of a boat ride between the walls of a miniature Venice, we see the prison built for pleasure that entraps both the visitors and the workers. Little wonder their jobs drive the staff to chant "Slaves? Never!" in a protest carefully overseen by the Police.

In an absurdist loop, *Vista Mare* watches the workers, who watch other workers play, until the sky turns cloudy, the beaches empty, and the last umbrella closes.



**JULIA GUTWENIGER  
& FLORIAN KOFLER**  
(DIRECTORS)

Julia Gutweniger, born 1988 in Merano, Italy. Studied Fine Arts at the University of Art and Design Linz.

Florian Kofler, born 1986 in Merano, Italy. Studied Timebased Media at the University of Art and Design Linz.

Since 2011 they are making films and documentaries together in the artists collective Villa Mondeo. They live and work in Linz, Austria.







**BERNHARD HOLZHAMMER**  
**(PRODUCER, AUSTRIA)**

Bernhard Holzhammer, born 1982 in Innsbruck, studied multi media art in Salzburg. In 2008 he co-founded Wildruf, a media collective specializing in short formats, which won several international awards.

In 2021 he co-founded the film production company EUTOPIAFILM together with Victor Kössl. Since then they focus on the production of feature films, documentaries and series.

Current projects are the documentary VISTA MARE (80 min, 2023) and the feature films ECLIPSE and HEIRS (in development). Bernhard is a participant in the ongoing EAVE Producers Workshop 2023.



**DEBORA NISCHLER**  
**(PRODUCER, ITALY)**

Debora Nischler studied Specialized translation in Forlì (University of Bologna) and passed her master's exam with distinction.

Since June 2019 Debora Nischler has been working for Albolina Film as a Creative Producer and is shaping the company profile towards socially engaged films.

Her vision is to produce films that give a voice to people whose stories are usually unheard, films that talk about emancipation and equal rights as well as sustainability.



**ROBERTO CAVALLINI**  
**(PRODUCER, ITALY)**

Roberto Cavallini is a film producer and academic, PhD in Visual Cultures from Goldsmiths, University of London, Emerging Producer 2020 (Jihlava IDFF), EAVE graduate, Rotterdam Producer Lab fellow and member of the European Film.

Since 2019 he works as film producer at Albolina Film (Bolzano, Italy), in charge of feature docs and fiction films for the international market.





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