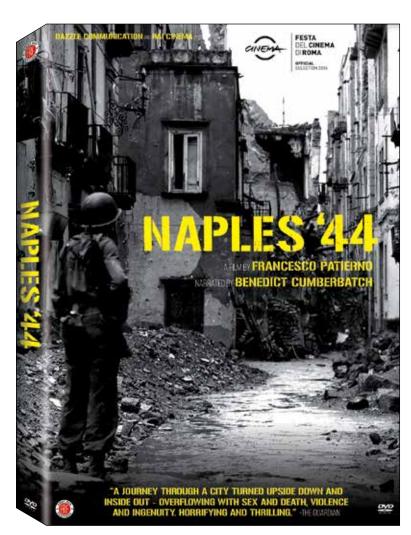


## FIRST RUN FEATURES PRESENTS



## "A JOURNEY THROUGH A CITY TURNED UPSIDE DOWN AND INSIDE OUT - OVERFLOWING WITH SEX AND DEATH, VIOLENCE AND INGENUITY. HORRIFYING AND THRILLING." -THE GUARDIAN



In 1943 a young British officer, Norman Lewis, entered a war-torn Naples with the American Fifth Army. Lewis began writing in his notepad everything that happened to him during his one-year stay, observing the complex social cauldron of a city that contrived every day the most incredible ways of fighting to survive. These notes turned into his masterpiece, a memoir titled NAPLES '44.

Narrated by Benedict Cumberbatch, this new documentary imagines Lewis returning many years later to the city that charmed and seduced him. Combining archival war footage with clips from movies set in Naples from the 1950s and 60s (featuring Marcello Mastroianni, Alan Arkin and Ernest Borgnine) we see a thrilling and unpredictable parade of unforgettable stories and characters: women in feather hats milking cows in the rubble, statues of saints carried by hysterical crowds attempting to stop Vesuvius erupting and impoverished citizens surviving by impersonating aristocratic uncles from Rome at funerals and weddings. But this unusual and riveting evocation of a timeless city is also a powerful condemnation of the horrors of war, whether just or unjust.



"ATMOSPHERIC, INVOLVING. READING THE AUTHOR'S WORDS BEAUTIFULLY, BENEDICT CUMBERBATCH GIVES THIS THOUGHTFUL BUT UNCONVENTIONAL DOC MOST OF ITS COMMERCIAL APPEAL."

-THE HOLLYWOOD REPORTER

"A FEAT OF EDITING AND RESEARCH. LEWIS SERVED AS A REMARKABLE CHRONICLER OF LIFE IN THE OCCUPIED CITY. HIS PLAIN-SPOKEN YET POETIC SENTENCES ARE READ IN VOICE-OVER BY BENEDICT CUMBERBATCH, AND THE FLUID EDITING SKILLFULLY ILLUSTRATES HIS WORDS."

-THE NEW YORK TIMES





"A RIVETING FILM, A COMPLEX PORTRAIT OF THE MYSTERY OF NAPLES."

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