

LUXVIDE RAI FICTION SAN PAOLO FILMS RAI TRADE  
present



OMAR SHARIFF IN **PETER**

DIRECTED BY GIULIO BASE



THE STORY OF THE MAN  
WHO MANAGED TO UNITE ALL THAT WAS DIVIDED

# PETER

He had staked everything on Him. He had left his family, his job, the village where he was born. He had lived by His side for three long years. He suffered hunger, insults and found himself in danger. He loved Him. He trusted Him. He was convinced he was His favourite. But Jesus allowed Himself to be captured and killed. Peter deeply shocked and in despair, swore that he did not know Him to avoid being killed like Him. He now feels oppressed by remorse crashing him down like the stone closing Jesus' sepulchre.

But an unprecedented event takes place. Jesus is alive and entrusts Peter and the other apostles with the mission that will mark their lives: announce my Word to the furthest corners of the earth. But Saul, a rabbi with Roman citizenship, an astute, learned and uncompromising man is already after them. He believes that Peter and his companions are dangerous fanatics abusing popular credulity to foment uprisings and revolts. He persecutes them town by town, house by house.

But a mysterious encounter on the way to Damascus, where he was heading to persecute a Christian Community, determines a sudden change in Saul. The ruthless persecutor converts. He has himself baptised with the name Paul. He presents himself to Peter to become his humble disciple.

Soon the Romans arrest Paul and take him to Rome, where he is sentenced to death. Peter, who is now old and tired, reaches Rome with a clear idea in his mind: get Paul out of prison and return home as quickly as possible, to his lake and his community. Nero's Rome, a multiethnic city, the new Babylon, terrifies Peter, an illiterate fisherman with too many moons behind him. But Peter is no longer the man he used to be. In Rome he becomes the guide of all the Christians, but the most devastating fire in its history almost wipes Rome off the face of the earth.

Blame falls on those no one is interested in defending: the Christians are rounded-up and massacred. Paul is executed. Peter manages to flee the city, where the community, under pressure due to the persecutions, has once again started to divide into conflicting factions.

Now safe, as he walks along the Appian Way, Peter recognises Jesus in a passer-by walking towards Rome. I am going to let them crucify me again, he tells Peter. The apostle understands: he must follow the Messiah's to the very bitter end. He returns to Rome, where he is crucified. His sacrifice puts an end to the persecutions and once and for all eliminates the tension dividing the Christian community. For Rome, for the Empire, for history, it is the beginning of a new era.



FORMAT: **MINISERIES 2x100'**

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AND **MONASTIR**

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