

FILM: TERRAFERMA



Film Title: **TERRAFERMA**

Director: **Emanuele Crialese**

Writers: **Emanuele Crialese, Vittorio Moroni**

Year of Production: **2011**

Original language: **Italian**

Subtitles: **English, Greek**

FILM SYNOPSIS

Terraferma is a 2011 Italian drama film directed by Emanuele Crialese. On Linosa, fishermen are punished for saving illegal immigrants (boat people) from the sea and, back on shore, letting them go, because this amounts to facilitating illegal immigration. Therefore, young local Filippo does not allow them on his boat. Several die, and Filippo changes his mind about the matter: he helps a family consisting of a mother, a little boy and a newborn baby, to leave to the Italian mainland.

DISCUSSION/COMMENTS

GREEK FOCUS GROUP FEEDBACK ON TERRAFERMA

"Terraferma touches upon the tragedies of thousands of refugees and migrants trying to cross the Mediterranean sea on overloaded little boats, through the story of an Italian, Sicilian family of fishermen, who rescue a few one from a shipwreck and out of altruism they hide a pregnant woman with her child from the authorities. Altruism, solidarity, moral and ethical dilemmas, west wealth versus poverty of the developing countries, traditional ways (practices and thinking) versus modern, humanism of the simple people versus the rigidity of the authorities, seem to be the core matters the film tries to develop. It becomes unclear however at some points and loses its focus in some scenes with the tourists and the 20 year old Filippo's unthinkable action when one night out of fear (or confusion?) acts violently against a group of Africans swimming in the night after a shipwreck. When afterwards he remains in a kind of limbo, looking indecisive and in confusion, we see his sudden transformation to a Deus De Machine in the very last scene of the film taking the initiative to risk his grandfather's boat and his own legal status, in order to help the Ethiopian refugee and her children.

I considered three role models in this film (Filippo, his grandfather and his mother) which made it a bit complicated to evaluate"

FILM TRAILER LINK

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jeip5gtEZIM>

Film available to buy on DVD