

# Tour De France Winner and Italian Sports Hero and Cyclist Marco Pantani biopic in the works as an international movie

Hollywood producer Little Studio Films partners with film maker Domenico Ciolfi, on a film about Tour De France winner, and cycling legend Marco Pantani.

BEVERLY HILLS , CA, USA, December 10, 2017 /EINPresswire.com/ -- Hollywood production and distribution company [Little Studio Films](#) is proud to partner with Italian production company Mr.Arkadin Film and Italian director [Domenico Ciolfi](#) on a theatrical film about the untimely death of Tour De France winner, and cycling legend Marco Pantani.

Pantani was widely considered one of the best climbers of his era in professional road bicycle racing.

Currently in the process of completing the casting, Little Studio Film — a partnership of Italian born producer Alexia Melocchi and Greek born Producer Alexandra Yacovlef — have a slate of films to be produced in 2018, all rooted in historical events, with the first film being THE PANTANI AFFAIR.

After winning the Tour de France in 1998, Marco Pantani, became an Italian hero, known for his unique style, and his engaging, and outgoing personality. Marco Pantani fell from grace after being suspected of using performance drugs (as well as other illicit drugs), and suffering a similar fate to the one of Lance Armstrong, his career was stained by an investigation whereas prosecutors claimed he had fixed results by taking drugs, therefore committing "sporting fraud".

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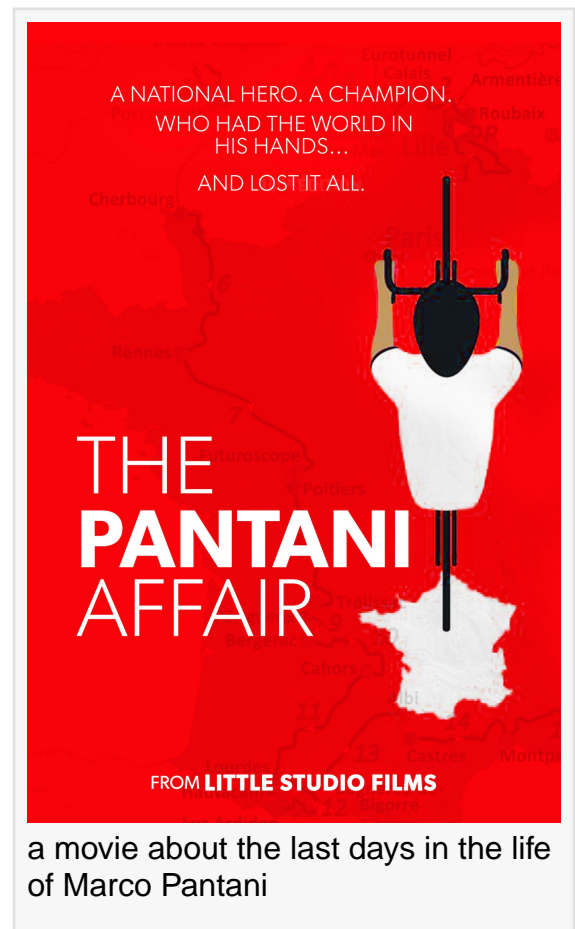
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*Domenico Ciolfi*

The 34-year-old's last race was in the 2003 Giro d'Italia, where he finished 14th. He was refused entry to the centenary Tour de France because the organizers did not think he had trained accordingly, and he spent much of June at a clinic that specializes in depression and drug addiction.

Marco Pantani was found dead in a hotel in the Italian Riviera.

A court case that has gripped the popular imagination of Italy, has been ongoing with the family disputing his cause of death



and suggesting it was a possible murder.

The film will commence shooting in April 2018 in Italy backed by government funds and tax credits, in addition to private investors. Director Domenico Ciolfi, a successful television and commercial director, is producing through his shingle Mr. Arkadin Films together with Monica Camporesi.

Says Ciofli, "The role of Pantani will be played by three different actors, two of them being Italian while the third phase of Pantani's life will be played by an English-speaking actor." A few very well known British, American and Spanish actors are circling the movie for what could be an Award winning role. "Already attached are two Italian movie stars Vinicio Marchioni and Gian Marco Tognazzi as well as supporting roles by Michele Placido and Gigi Proietti." says Melocchi, "and we believe the dramatic life of Marco Pantani, and the mystery surrounding his death, is a human story that will appeal to a wide audience, not just sports fans"

Alexia Melocchi and Alexandra Yacovlef, executive producers on the project and principals of LITTLE STUDIO FILMS are also handling the worldwide rights. Little Studio Films is also producing two other historical films, "The Ball Player " based on the life of legendary baseball player and New York Yankee, Joe Pepitone together with Magic City Pictures, and the Best Selling Book "Camelot's Cousin: The Spy Who Betrayed Kennedy" from pastor and prolific author David R. Stokes.

Little Studio Films is currently in post production of the documentary [Quest for Beauty](#) from Brazilian producer, and director Cris Saur and a co producer on the teen romance film Summer Dance starring Nia Sioux, Adrian Paul, Hunter Doohan, Bonnie Boroughs and Donna Pascow.

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