

GREEN LAVA EPK



In Collaboration with



Media Contact: 49Global Media
jessica@49globalmedia.com
 +1-310-920-2569 whatsapp/text

Basic information

Directed by Lia Beltrami and Ali Aksu.

Shot on three cameras: Canon, Sony, Panasonic

H264 file of Green Lava

DCP

Synopsis

In the heart of the Dolomites, 22-year-old Giacomo lives with muscular dystrophy but refuses to be defined by it. Between university lectures, football matches with friends, his small egg-selling enterprise, and precious moments with family he carries forward the memory of his brother Mattia, lost to the same condition. An intimate portrait of Giacomo, who takes unimaginable difficulties in a quest for meaning, wisdom, and love.

About the film

Our inspiration for this film came from a deep desire to explore the resilience of the human spirit in the face of unimaginable challenges and ignite hope in unlikely circumstances. Initially, we set out to tell a story about the power of friendship—how the people around you can provide strength, comfort, and meaning when facing a life-ending disease. We wanted to highlight the beauty of connection and the profound impact of unwavering support and faith.

However, as we delved deeper into the story, it became clear that this film was about much more than friendship. The young man himself—his courage, vulnerability, and unshakable will to live fully in the time he has—became the film's heart. His perspective and how he faced mortality with grace and honesty through his deep and personal relationship with his faith, reshaped our focus. While the power of connection is central to the film, at its core, it is a dedication to Giacomo—his experience, legacy, and the indelible mark he has left on the world.

Director Bios



Lia Beltrami - Award-winning director Lia Beltrami has spent three decades capturing stories of hope and resilience across the globe. Her body of work includes 55 documentaries on human rights, social justice, education, and ecology. She created the platform *Emotions to Generate Change* to promote artistic projects and laboratories, viewing art as an active motor for personal and social change. As part of the

project, she has co-directed the creation of the photo exhibitions *Women's Cry*, *CHANGES* and *Laudato Si'*, as well as the upcoming production of international documentaries. She received the Golden Lion for Peace in Venice (2017) and the Earth Reporter Award from Earth Day (2024). She founded the Women of Faith for Peace movement in Jerusalem and serves as CEO of Aurora Vision. Beyond filmmaking, she is the author of five books and holds advisory roles at the Dhaka Film Festival and Benin City Film Festival, while serving as an honorary member of the House of Wisdom in Granada.



Ali M. Aksu is an award-winning film producer, entrepreneur, and investor. He has nominated for a BAFTA, Emmy and won a Sundance Award for his contributions to the film industry. Ali studied Economics at UCLA, with a minor in Film & TV, later expanding his expertise at Singularity University's Global Startup Program. He is an MBA candidate at Booth School of Business and he holds executive education certificates from MIT and Wharton on blockchain solutions and data analytics. He holds a FINRA license to operate a security token marketplace for private markets, while actively managing the Aksu family office portfolio, focusing on early-stage tech investments. As the founder of Untold.io, Ali is passionate about giving retail investors an unprecedented access to historically

out of reach asset classes via compliant tokenization. He also hosts Tokenize, a global event series educating people on real world asset tokenization and creating meaningful discussions around blockchain technology. Additionally, he serves as a Young Professionals Ambassador to the United Nations Association, where he leads initiatives supporting the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). A lifelong learner, Ali enjoys reading fiction, traveling, and engaging with communities to bring a unique media-oriented perspective to the evolving fintech landscape.

Director's statement

GREEN LAVA takes us on an emotional journey to overcome the stigma of illness and disability through Giacomo's eyes, exploring his infinite inner world, and the beauty of community. We hope this documentary allows viewers to look at the world, and beyond, through Giacomo's ever-attentive eyes, and unleash that lava, filled with living hope, that is often stuck between prejudices and inner walls.

Cast Statement

"For me, the film is an invitation to face life's challenges with enthusiasm and resilience." ~Giacomo Mattivi

"Humans must live like lava, so as to not petrify." ~Giamcomo Mattivi as inspired by Italo Calvino's quote "I suppose the self must undergo intervals of strange and violent change so as not to petrify."

GREEN LAVA Title Meaning

GREEN as the film is set in the Dolomites, a landscape of mountains, forests, rock, and volcanic-looking formations. Green evokes the living landscape: grass, forests, nature.

LAVA suggests something powerful, molten, and unstoppable beneath the surface.

Together, they describe a life that looks serene on the surface and holds tremendous force underneath. On the outside, Giacomo's life can appear ordinary: school, football with friends, time with family. Underneath it is an enormous struggle: his muscular dystrophy, the loss of his brother Mattia to the same condition, and his determination to find meaning and keep living fully.

The title is deliberately poetic rather than descriptive, much like the film itself, which holds the extraordinary beauty of the natural world against the extraordinary difficulty of Giacomo's life.

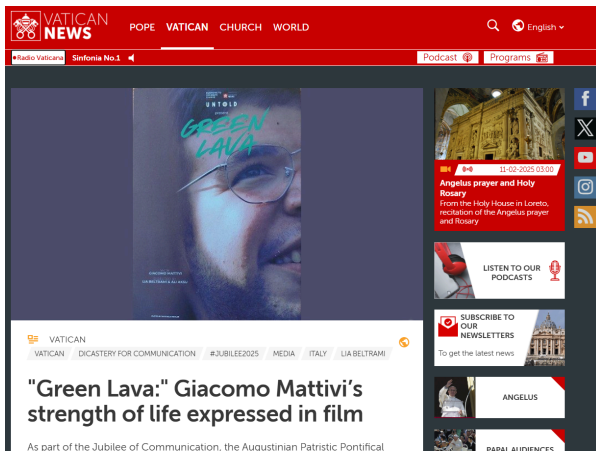
Reviews / Articles / Awards

Vatican to Submit a Film for Oscar Consideration, Making Academy Awards History (EXCLUSIVE)

By Nick Vivarelli ▾



<https://variety.com/2026/film/global/vatican-submit-film-oscar-consideration-1236864011/>



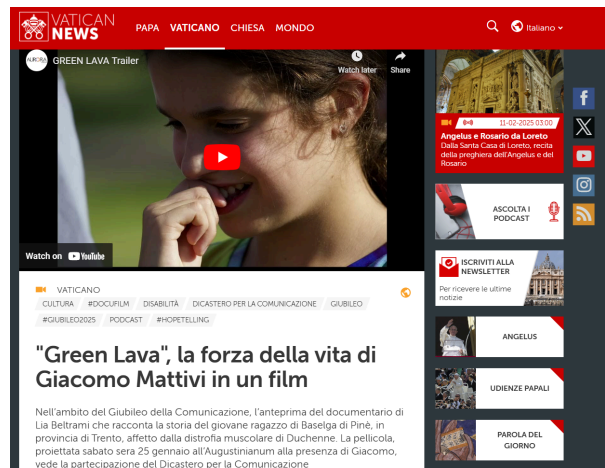
Por Almudena Martínez-Bordiú 29 de enero de 2025

"Giacomo Mattivi es un joven extraordinario, un verdadero misionero de la esperanza". Son las palabras de Lia Beltrami, productora del documental *Green Lava*, que narra la historia de este joven italiano y su lucha contra la distrofia muscular de Duchenne.

Los periodistas que participaron en el **Jubileo de la Comunicación**, recién celebrado en Roma, acudieron al estreno *Green Lava* (Lava

<https://www.vaticannews.va/en/vatican-city/news/2025-01/jubilee-communication-green-lava-giacomo-mattivi.html>

<https://www.aciprensa.com/noticias/110365/green-la-va-la-inspiradora-historia-de-giacomo-mattivi>



<https://www.vaticannews.va/it/vaticano/news/2024-10/podcast-disabilita-poesia-musica-giacomo-mattivi.html>

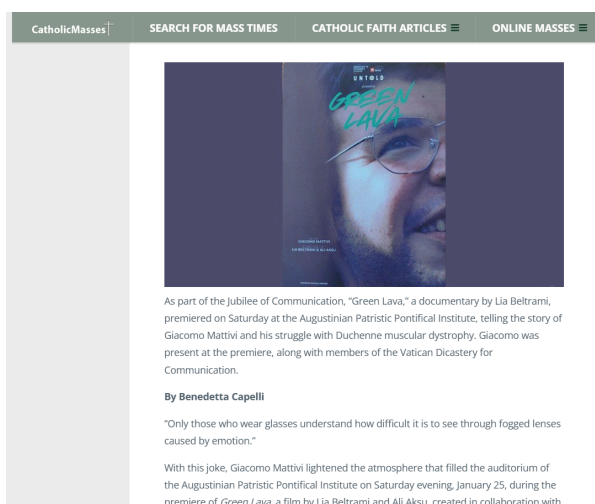
<https://www.vaticannews.va/it/vaticano/news/2025-01/documentario-disabilita-dicastero-comunicazione-giubileo.html>



<https://www.vitatrentina.it/2025/01/25/il-papa-saluta-giacomo-il-giovane-comunicatore-trentino/>



<https://www.agensir.it/quotidiano/2024/10/23/vatican-news-il-podcast-di-giacomo-mattivi-dalla-disabilita-allispirazione/>



<https://catholicmasses.org/green-lava-giacomo-mattivi-strength-of-life-expressed-in-film/>



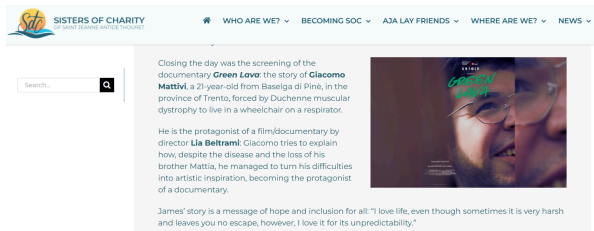
<https://www.osservatoreromano.va/it/news/2025-01-28/tessere-del-puzzle-di-giacomo.html>



<https://www.bamos.com.mx/la-inspiradora-historia-de-giacomo-mattivi-testimonio-de-amor-por-la-vida-y-esperanza-en-el-dolor/>



<https://notasvalkiriaonline.blogspot.com/2025/01/la-inspiradora-historia-de-giacomo.html>



<https://www.suoredellacarita.org/en/jubilee-of-the-world-of-communications-media-workers-from-around-the-world/>

FAQ

1. What inspired this film?

This film was born from a deeply personal and profound moment. After watching another documentary directed by Lia Beltrami, ***Burst of Song***, where one of the young protagonists passed away during the making of the film, Giacomo approached Lia with a request that would change everything. With quiet determination, he asked if Lia would make a documentary about him—so that his story could live on beyond his time on this earth. It was a question that carried immense weight- but also an undeniable purpose. He wanted to be seen, to be remembered, and to share his journey in a way that could inspire and impact others. That moment became the heart of this film—an opportunity to honor his life, his resilience, and the legacy he wanted to leave behind.

2. How did working on this film impact the team?

This experience was life-changing. It challenged our perspectives on mortality, resilience, and what truly matters. It also reinforced the importance, particularly in this digital age where human connection seems fleeting, of telling stories that make people feel deeply—***UNTOLD*** stories that remind us of the fragility of life but also its immense beauty.

3. What do you hope audiences take away from this film?

We hope audiences walk away with a renewed appreciation for life, a deeper understanding of what it means to truly be alive, and a reminder that our time with the people we love is what matters most. We also hope it sparks conversations about the realities of our own mortality and eternity.

Anecdotes

After filming wrapped, Giacomo's health took a downward turn. As he experienced this setback, the urgency to complete the film became even more pressing. Each person on the team, despite their demanding schedules and commitments, made this film their priority. Late nights, long hours, and sacrifices were made without hesitation because we all understood the weight of this moment. This wasn't just about making a film; it was about giving him the chance to witness his own legacy unfold before his ever-attentive eyes.

Credits

EMOTIONS TO
GENERATE
CHANGE

IN COLLABORATION WITH



AND

U N T O L D

Featuring
GIACOMO MATTIVI

directed by
LIA BELTRAMI and ALI AKSU

produced by
ALI AKSU, LIA BELTRAMI

producer
DAVID DUBINSKY

associate producer
PIERA VAN DE WIEL

edited by
SIMONA PAGGI

director of photography
SEBASTIANO ROSSITTO

original music by
ALBERTO BELTRAMI and CARLOS BIONDINI

written by
SIMONA PAGGI, MARIANNA BELTRAMI and DEANA WALKER

On set psychologist
DANIELE MARCHESI

second camera
RAFFAELE MERLER

editor assistant
IOLANDA PINNA

producer assistant
MARIANNA BELTRAMI

post-production supervisor
BRANDO TACCINI

sound editor and re-recording mixer
ALESSANDRO FELETTI

colorist
FILIPPO PANTALEONI

additional post-production
ANDREA FRANCESCHINI

with
GIACOMO MATTIVI
LARA BERTOLDI
STEFANO MATTIVI
LUCA MATTIVI
FEDERICA MATTIVI

LUCA LEONARDELLI
GABRIELE AVI
MATTIA BERNARDI
NICOLA AVI
FRANCESCO OCHNER
STEFANO DEBIASI

with the collaboration of
PAOLO RUFFINI
ANDREA TORNIELLI
ALESSANDRO GISOTTI
MASSIMILIANO MENICHETTI

special thanks
SHEMÁ ASSOCIATION
NATALIA SOBOLEVA
GIULIA MENALLI
LIUBA SHAROVA
AURORA VISION

a production

U N T O L D

**EMOTIONS TO
GENERATE
CHANGE**



Production stills

Please see the full rez approved photos

https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/144EqfF-qkE6rDZ1DYIW2KYaVT4Uw3e6O?usp=drive_link



L-R: Pope Francis with Giacomo Mattivi. Courtesy of Vatican Media.



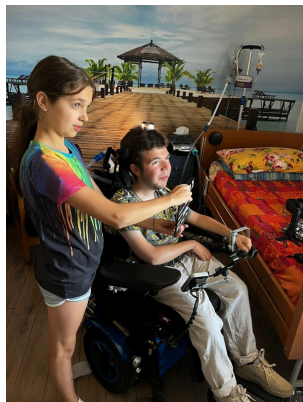
L-R: Filmmakers Lia Beltrami and Ali Aksu with Pope Francis. Courtesy of Vatican Media.



Center: Giacomo Mattivi is uplifted by his friends. Photo by Raffaele Merler. Courtesy of Green Lava.



L-R: Giacomo Mattivi with his mother. Photo by Raffaele Merler. Courtesy of Green Lava.



L-R: Sister Frederica with Giacomo Mattivi. Photo by Liar Beltrami. Courtesy of Green Lava.



Center: Giacomo Mattivi spends time with friends. Photo by Raffaele Merler. Courtesy of Green Lava.

Thank you for your support!

###

For additional information or to book an interview please contact;

Jessica Kill

49GlobalMedia

jessica@49globalmedia.com

+1-310-920-2569