

*Gomorra*- viewing guide

**PART I: BEFORE VIEWING**

*Gomorra/Gomorrah* (look up missing info on IMDb)

Director:

Year: 2008

**Cast**

| <u>Character</u> | <u>Actor</u> |
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Salvatore Abbruzzese

Simone Sacchettino

Salvatore Ruocco

Vincenzo Fabricino

Vincenzo Altamura

Italo Renda

Francesco Pirozzi

Antonio Aiello

Vincenzo Caso

Anna Sarnelli

Salvatore Russo

Antonio Spina

Francesco Paesano

1) Previous class readings/discussions provided an introduction to Roberto Saviano and the Camorra. What impact do you think Saviano's experiences will have on a film about organized crime in Italy? Reflect, specifically, on his upbringing (i.e. Is his account subjective/objective?) Write a minimum of 8 sentences.

2) Read Cliento's "Saviano, Garrone, Gomorrah: Neorealism and Noir in the Land of the Camorra." Why does Cliento claim that *Gomorrah*'s link with the "noir imaginary" is a key factor in the book's (commercial) success? Write a minimum of 5 sentences.

*Gomorra*- viewing guide

**PART II: WHILE VIEWING**

- 1) Pick one technique/element to focus on: music/sound, camerawork, symbolism/iconography. Describe how this technique/element is used in one scene. Be sure to jot down the minutes so you can re-view it and expand upon this response after viewing the film in its entirety. Write a minimum of 10 sentences.

**PART III: After Viewing**

- 1) Do you agree with Cliento's claim “[t]he elliptical and episodic cinematic adaptation of *Gomorrah* is the most significant step in its metamorphosis into a trans-media text” (article on course website)? How does *Gomorrah* differ from other Italian films on organized crime/the mafia? Include your observations in addition to Cliento's. Write 8-10 sentences.

- 2) Which vignette did you like best? Why? Comment on technical aspects of filmmaking as well as narrative content. Write a minimum of 10 sentences.

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3) Which of the three “types” of Italian cinema described by O’Leary does *Gomorrah* represent (course website, “What is Italian Cinema?”)? Why? Explain your response in a minimum of 8 sentences.

4) Do the locations (especially the housing complex) in *Gomorrah* accurately reflect the description of Scampia presented in “The Camorra Ever Sleeps” (on course website)? Write a minimum of 5 sentences, citing from this *Vanity Fair* piece.

5) How has *Gomorrah* modified your understanding of organized crime in Italy? What did you find most surprising about the Camorra? Write a minimum of 5 sentences.