



THE
IMAGO

NOTHING IS AS IT SEEMS

A METROPOLIS PICTURES PRODUCTION

WRITTEN AND DIRECTED BY EMILIANO GALIGANI

SET DESIGNER RAICA DULICI

WITH DOUGLAS DEAN MANUELA PARODI

COSTUME DESIGNER SANDRA CIANCI

JAMES LEE BUTTERFIELD MICKY MARTIN

SOUND ENGINEER ALBERTO ABI BATTOCCHI

PRODUCED BY EDOARDO MARAZITA & EMILIANO GALIGANI

VISUALEFX SUPERVISOR STEFANO BELLANDI

DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY ALESSANDRO CASALINI

PRODUCTION DESIGN FEDERICA MORETTI

ORIGINAL SOUNDTRACK JACOB CARTWRIGHT

EXECUTIVE PRODUCER ANDREA BANDONI

GUY DOWSETT

The Imago



Look around and think. What do you see? Sad people. They don't laugh anymore. Why? It's experience.

The Imago

Nothing is as it seems

Screenplay: **Emiliano Galigani**
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Production: **Metropolis Production**

Subject

London, 1892. A man is on trial. For what? Discovering why will bring him to a unexpected truth.

Synopsis

London, 1892.

Defendant 47 is on Trial. His judge and lawyers are asking him questions he apparently cannot answer. He only can remember a few details, where he's been lately, and glimpses of the past. He may have lost his memory. He also suffers from narcolepsy, so he tends to fall asleep right in the middle of the hearing. Despite all this Defendant 47 slowly starts remembering. His name is Charles Dee. He's a scientist, a mathematician, teaching his students numbers and rules. One day, for the first time, he enters a photographer's studio. He comes into contact with photography, the new science and art, and gets immediately involved in this new tool of human understanding. He befriends Mr.Niepce, the ow-

ner of the studio. Their friendship grows to the point where Mr. Niepce, having come down with an ailment, asks Defendant 47 to run the studio.

Now Defendant 47 earnestly begins to get the hang for photography and meets a new friend, Mr. Lewis Cellar, also interested in the subject.

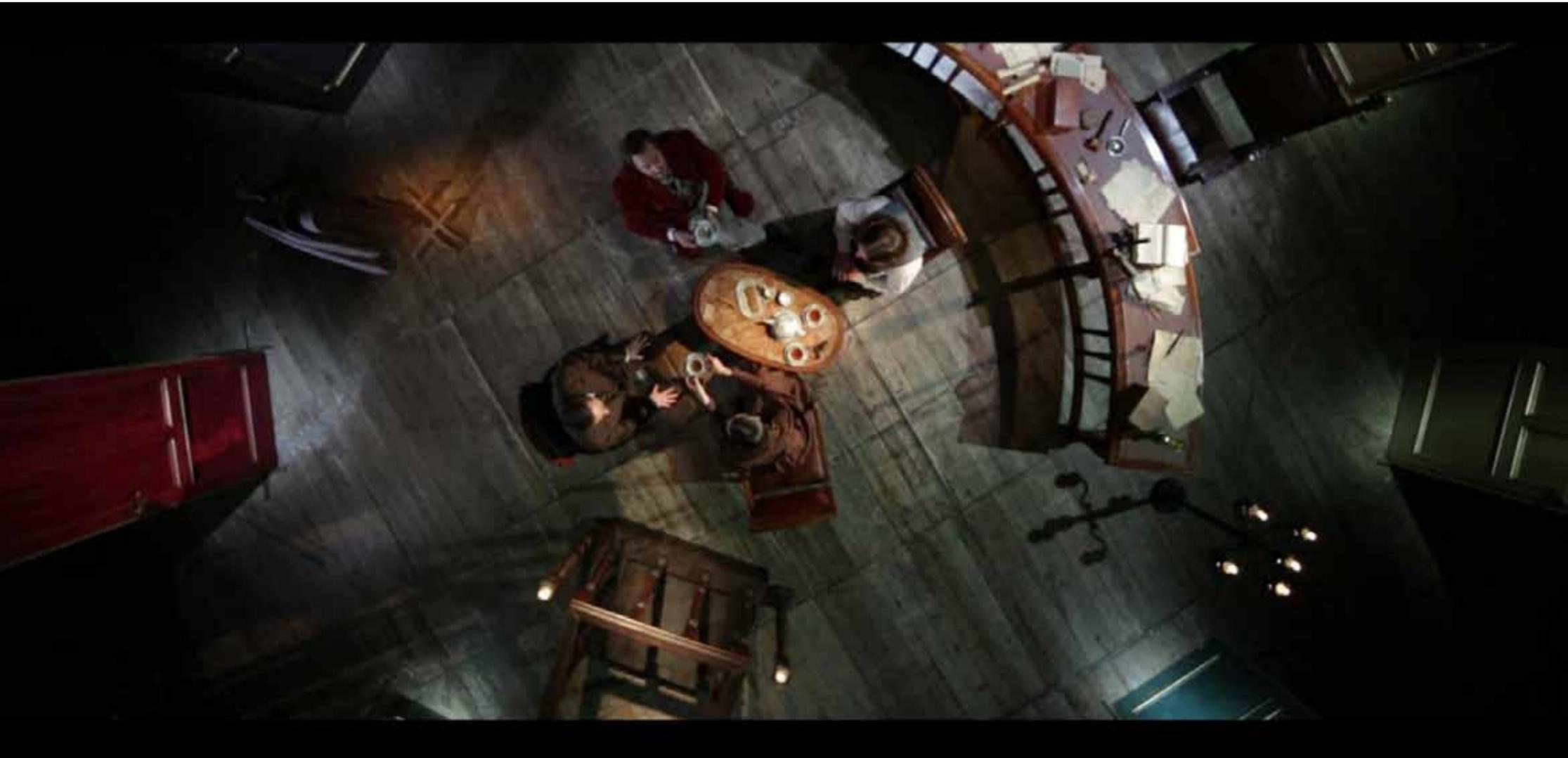
Together they develop new methods to take stills, to freeze a frame forever. Their preferred subject is childhood, the human being caught at a time of perfection. So they start to take photographs of children. That's how Dee meets Ellen Rhodes, the mother of one of his preferred subjects. And this meeting brings everything to a head, and a dark end.

Tech sheet

Format / HD2K

Original Language / English
Captions / French, Italian, Spanish
Ratio / 1:2,33 (21/9)
System / Color
Length/ 92 min.
Shooting days / 30 (5 wk)
Principal Photography / Nov 2013
Post and editing/ Nov 2014
Premiere / Apr 2015

The Imago



...I feel intrigued, attracted by this strange man. His inability to live is surprising...

1. Photography: a drug

This is the story of a journey. It's the journey undertaken by a criminal as he recalls his own life and a journey through photography in its early days. Photography at the time seemed to show reality beyond imagination, captured forever on a piece of paper. This brought me to imagine the revolution that happened in late 1880, when this art became reality for a wide audience. Still photography suddenly transformed the entire concept of truth and beauty.

2. The spotless mind

The main theme of the story is Purity and Wonder. The ability to see the world with curiosity, to see without prejudice. Childhood is perfection, and Photography is the perfect media to freeze perfection forever. The gaze of a camera is clear, uncorrupted by experience and time, much like the gaze of a child.

That's why children see things in a way nobody else can. They can see inside people, beyond their outer representation. This allows them to dream, to constantly merge dreams and reality. That's what the main character is looking for.

...everyone wanted a plate taken, everyone wanted immortality! I was taken by that need too. I had to be captured on film.

3. The trilogy

The Imago, is the first chapter of the "trilogy of sight": three movies whose main concept focuses on the mechanisms of vision. If it is true that all Cinema is a great reasoning around the princess of senses, however, in these three movies, through these three stories, I am trying to analyze how the sight entered into our veins, like a dope, with the advent of photography at the end the eighteenth century (Imago), as a pure look that can save, showing us the beauty and joy we're not able to see anymore (Homewards) and - at last - how the eye, this voyeuristic pleasure, returns a partial reality, framing, editing the world around us (Entomo). Basically the first movie is about the origin of the contemporary sight, the second of the primitive, natural sight and the third of the adult sight.,



.....everyone wanted a plate taken, everyone wanted immortality! I was taken by that need too. I had to be captured.

Film crew

Director Emiliano Galigani
Subject and screenplay Emiliano Galigani, Edoardo Marazita
DoP Alessandro Casalini
Set design Emilia Rosi, Lisa Orsi
Costume design Sandra Cianci
Sound engineer Stefano Bellandi

Original Soundtrack Federico De Robertis
Production manager Edoardo Marazita
Produced by: Metropolis Production,
Associate Producers:
130 Elektra films, Prismanet, AfeCinema



Bio/Director

Emiliano Galigani

Born in 1973, Studied Cinema & Production in Bologna, and after working in the movie industry and theatre as lighting engineer, stage manager and production assistant, he got involved in TV production, (executive producer for two television series) and film production (production assistant for films such as “The triumph of love”, produced by Bernardo Bertolucci, directed by Claire Peploe, with Mira Sorvino and Ben Kingsley). In 2001, he set up a Theatrical and Cinematographic Production Company, Metropolis. From 2002 to 2009, he wrote and directed a number of subjects, screenplays, plays and musicals, including “Faber Circus” (2003), “The strange case of Mr. D” (2005) and “Welcome To The Machine” (2005/2010). In 2010 he directed his first feature movie, “The seventh AD” . In 2012 he produced and directed “The Wall live Orchestra” on an international tour in Switzerland and Germany. Also in 2012 he directed a tv serial, “Mayor Town”. In 2013, back into theatre production, he directed Jesus Christ Superstar. “The Imago” is his second feature movie.

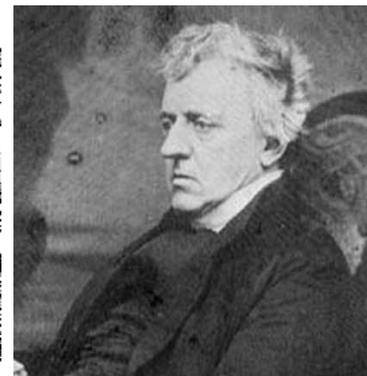
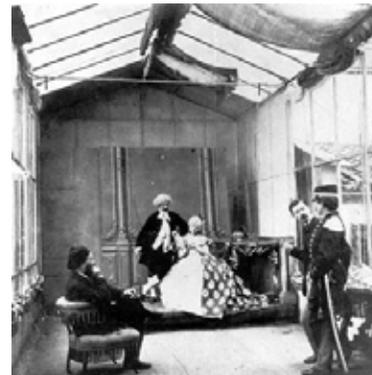
The Imago



...We are inside your memories, Mr. Dee. You had fallen asleep...

Locations

The movie is shot almost entirely in interiors, therefore most of the filming takes place on a constructed set. The locations where the movie takes place have a strong bearing on the development of the story and in describing the characters state of mind. All the sets are built in a theatre, while a few exteriors are filmed on location around Tuscany. The court room where this bemused character gradually retrieves his past is entirely built on stage.



The Imago



The man is a tyrant and at the same time a parasite: he spreads his influence over the entire globe subjugating, killing and exploiting everything.

Characters



47 / Mr. Charles Dee - Douglas Dean

47 years old. Forgetful. Shy. Suffers from narcolepsy. He doesn't know exactly why he's in a court, what he's on trial for. Recollecting his past will bring him to understand his fears and discover who he really is.



Lewis Cellar / the defense attorney - James Lee Butterfield

47 years old. Evil. Crazy. Very sharp and clever. Hooked on photography. His main aim is to make the perfect shot, to capture beauty for all eternity. He apparently thinks he owns everything or everyone around him. As the Defence Attorney, he really doesn't mind what happens.



Ellen Rhodes / the public prosecutor - Manuela Parodi

28 years old. Widowed. She's charming, sweet. The public prosecutor tries to help Mr. Dee recall his past. Her thirst for the truth is honest. Like Mrs. Ellen Rhodes, she needs a man beside her, but at the same time she's concerned about her child. As a widow she's trying to guarantee a future to her child.



Niecepore Niepce / The Judge - Micky Martin

60 years old the photographer is a loner, and lives entirely for his own studio. No relatives, no friends, he's completely engrossed in this new science. He's become a photography addict, and he thinks he may be able to change the world thanks to his photographic images. All of a sudden, he gets ill and dies. As the Judge, he represents the rules, so he sticks very closely to the procedure. Everything has to be on time.

The Imago



Maths takes away all certainties; it teaches to ask questions about life.

The Imago



The warmer it is the cooler it gets: What's that?

The Imago

Nothing is as it seems

METROPOLIS
produzioni

