Document Citation

Title	**Angela**
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Source	*San Francisco International Film Festival*
Date	2003 Apr 18
Type	program note
Language	English
Pagination	
No. of Pages	1
Subjects	Torre, Roberta
Film Subjects	Angela, Torre, Roberta, 2002

Angela

ITALY 2002, 87 min.

SFIFF; APR. 17, 2003
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DIR Roberta Torre **PROD** Lierka Rusic, Rita Rusic **SCR** Roberta Torre **CAM** Daniele Cipri **ED** Roberto Missirol **MUS** Andrea Guerra **CAST** Donatella Finocchiaro, Andrea di Stefano, Mario Pupella

The cut-and-dried rules of the criminal world collide with the messy realities of human emotion in Roberta Torre's romantic tragedy of adultery and crime set in 1984 Palermo. Angela is the classic moll—beautiful, streetwise, loyal and possessing more than a touch of avarice. She manages the shoe store her husband Soro uses as a front, and makes deliveries to local drug dealers with a swaggering high-heeled strut. After a hit, she mops up the blood with the wary, dubious expression of a woman navigating a male-dominated world. Her face relaxes into a real smile only when Soro spreads jewelry before her—and when his protégé, Masino, drives her home, trading banter while her teenage daughter watches uneasily from the back seat. This is not a typical story of a bored young wife rebelling against a controlling older husband, or even of a woman trapped in a world she detests. Angela and Soro share a genuine tenderness, and there is little evidence that she's troubled by the crimes that provide her with luxuries. Angela's moral dilemma is based on her love for both men and her allegiance to the Sicilian Mafia. There are few clear-cut villains in *Angela*, its underworld setting notwithstanding, just a set of circumstances and choices that move the characters, inevitably, towards disaster.

—*Pamela Troy*

<div style="writing-mode: vertical-rl">WORLD CINEMA</div>

Roberta Torre (b. Milan, Italy, 1964) Filmography: *South Side Story* (2000), *To Die for Tano* (1997), *Le Anime Corte* (1994), *Senti Amor Mio?* (1994)

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4/19 KAB 6:30 ANGE19K

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