

Dear Director Sorensen, dear Professor Capuzzo, dear Ambassador, dear Mr. Grandesso, dear guests,

What has Switzerland to do with Fellini?

I am sure that many of you know that Switzerland and Singapore have excellent bilateral ties. Around 5000 CH live and work in Singapore, over 300 Swiss Companies have their quarters here. Many Swiss Students come for their studies to Singapore, also to NTU.

But we are not here to speak about Switzerland and Singapore. Today, we celebrate that the Fondation Fellini is transferring part of the digital archive to NTU and thus opening the world of Fellini to Students and cinema-lovers in Singapore and Southeast Asia. So, what does Switzerland have to do with Fellini and the Fondation? The story is as follows

- **A young Swiss film producer - Gérald Morin (born in 1943 in Lausanne) - travelled to Rome to interview Fellini in 1971. He ended up staying in Rome and working for Fellini as his secretary and assistant '71-'77. Started collecting material, over 30 years.**
- **Returning to Switzerland 1994 after Fellini's death, Morin decided to make his archive available so that Fellini can continue to live.
"I don't want it to stay in a bunker but want to make it available to students to get them interested in cinema," he explained.**
- **Fondation Fellini was founded in Sion in 2001 with the support of the Lotterie Romande, the Canton of Valais and the City of Sion. 13'500 artifacts like films, film scripts, photographs, posters and costumes are part of it. To date, the collection represents the world's first private archive on Fellini.**
- **Since 2001, the collection has been completed with new acquisitions, thanks to the support of Loterie Romande / Valais.**
- **The mission of the Foundation is to open its archive to a broad audience. Today, we fulfill the collector's aim, as the pieces will now be available to Singapore's students, researchers and the general public.**
- **Thank NTU for hosting the archive. We look forward to the upcoming activities and wish you success, joy and pleasure in your endeavors.**