

Venice Film Festival Pays Tribute To Giorgio Armani After His Passing At 91

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For decades, the **Venice Film Festival red carpet** was as much a runway for **Giorgio Armani** as it was a celebration of cinema. Stars from Hollywood to Europe donned his creations, turning the sandy Lido into one of his most glamorous catwalks.

On Thursday, Armani — affectionately known as “**King Giorgio**” — passed away at the age of 91, leaving behind an irreplaceable void in both fashion and film.

Festival organisers hailed him as an “**Italian genius of fashion and style**”, noting his deep-rooted relationship with cinema. “*Cinema was Giorgio Armani’s first love, a passion that began in childhood and never left him,*” the festival said in a statement.

? Armani & Cinema: A Timeless Bond

Armani was the first designer to fully recognise the power of cinema in shaping fashion. His groundbreaking collaboration with **Richard Gere in *American Gigolo* (1980)**, where he created the iconic linen wardrobe for Gere’s playboy character, propelled both actor and designer into superstardom.

From **Don Johnson’s pastel jackets in *Miami Vice*** to **Leonardo DiCaprio’s razor-sharp suits in *The Wolf of Wall Street***, Armani’s creations became synonymous with visual storytelling. His work dressed Hollywood legends in films like *The Untouchables* (1987) and *Goodfellas* (1990), cementing his role as cinema’s designer of choice.

Legendary director **Martin Scorsese**, a long-time friend, once wrote: “*Like all great designers, Giorgio isn’t thinking of just outward appearance on a red carpet but also comfort in everyday life.*” He praised Armani’s “*timeless elegance, detached from the fads and trivia of the moment.*”

? A Farewell at Venice

Just three days before his passing, Armani Group hosted a **50th anniversary celebration in Venice**, unveiling **Armani/Archivio**, a digital archive of his most iconic looks. Stars including **Cate Blanchett** attended the event, embodying the designer’s legacy.

At this year’s opening ceremony, Blanchett — a long-time Armani muse and the face of Armani Beauty — wore a daring **Armani Privé black gown** with a plunging neckline, accessorised with bold black jewels. Paying tribute after his passing, she said:

“Armani leaves a void that is impossible to fill. Not just in the worlds of fashion, art, cinema, theatre, architecture and design, but in the hearts of millions of people whose lives he influenced.”

? **The Eternal “King Giorgio”**

From his meticulously cut power suits to his soft tailoring that redefined modern elegance, Giorgio Armani built a **multi-billion-dollar fashion empire** and forever changed the way the world dresses for both the screen and real life.

As the Venice Film Festival closes its 81st edition, the memory of Armani’s **red carpet reign** will linger — an eternal reminder that style, when crafted with vision and soul, transcends time.

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