Istituto Luce - Cinecittà (Rome)

A operational arm of the Ministry of Culture for the Italian film industry. It is the result of the merger between Cinecittà Holding and Istituto Luce, the latter being the first public film company in Europe, founded in 1924. Cinecittà Luce's activities range from the production of Italian films and documentaries to the cultural and commercial promotion of Italian films at festivals and events around the world, as well as other film-related activities.

One of the most important pillars of Cinecittà Luce's heritage and activities is the Istituto Luce Historical Film and Photographic Archive, which consists of numerous collections of newsreels and documentaries with more than 150,000 titles, from the beginnings of cinema to the present day, and about three million photographs covering various events from the 1920s to the 1970s. The archive is constantly being catalogued and digitised, and hundreds of thousands of films and photos are available online free of charge at www.archivioluce.com.

For the exceptional cultural and historical value of its film heritage, the Italian UNESCO Committee has nominated the Istituto Luce Historical Archive as the only Italian candidate for the prestigious UNESCO Memory of the World Register 2011.

>> www.cinecitta.com