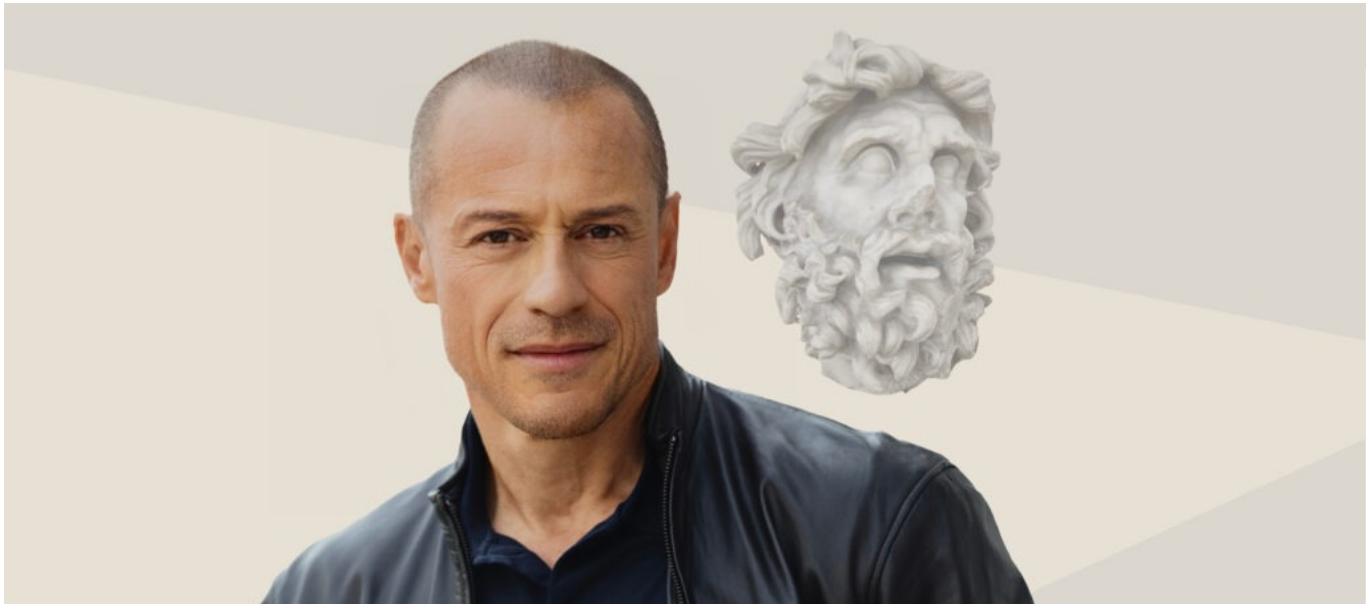


Stefano Accorsi strips Homer back to the human

Posted on May 26, 2026 by Angelica Peruzzi

ROME — Stefano Accorsi has spent three decades refusing to stand still. The Bologna-born actor has moved between Italian arthouse cinema and international co-productions, directed his own short films, and created the landmark Sky Italia series *1992*, *1993*, and *1994*. Off screen, he has served as artistic director of the Fondazione Teatro della Toscana and built *Planetaria*, a festival dedicated to the intersection of science, art, and climate. This spring, he was back on stage in Rome.

Nessuno – Le avventure di Ulisse ran at the Teatro Ambra Jovinelli from 18 to 29 March 2026, the final stop on a national tour that had already taken in Trieste, Catania, and Naples. Written by Emanuele Aldrovandi and directed by Daniele Finzi Pasca, the production made a deliberate choice: set aside the battles, the gods, and the glory, and tell the story of a man who wants to go home.

“Ulisse is a human being, not a hero,” Accorsi told Radio 24 in an interview on 14 March 2026. “He didn’t even want to fight the Trojan War. He feigned madness to avoid it, like someone dodging military service, was found out, and was forced to go.” That tension between mythic scale and ordinary human grief is what the production holds.

The production is built, Accorsi has said, around a deliberate process of humanisation: in Aldrovandi’s writing, in Finzi Pasca’s direction, and in the staging itself.

“On stage there are two of us,” Accorsi explained. “I carry the acting. Then there is a brilliant musician, Francesca Del Duca, who also plays Penelope, so dialogue is exchanged with her. She is an exceptional percussionist, and what begins as accompaniment becomes a dialogue between words and music.”

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Aldrovandi's script dismantles the *Odyssey* rather than adapting it. Finzi Pasca added what Accorsi calls "a touch of clown" to the character. "The clown," he said, "captures something essential about being human."



Stefano Accorsi and Francesca del Duca in *Nessuno – Le avventure di Ulisse* (*Credits: Viviana Cangialosi Compagnia Finzia Pasca*)

Accorsi's history with the Teatro Ambra Jovinelli

The Teatro Ambra Jovinelli, on Via Guglielmo Pepe in the Esquilino neighbourhood of Rome, occupies a specific and valuable niche in that landscape. Founded in the early 20th century as a popular variety theatre, it has maintained a commitment to work that is formally ambitious but broadly accessible; contemporary comedy, physical theatre, and productions built around strong performer-audience relationships rather than institutional prestige.

Accorsi's relationship with the venue predates this production. Earlier runs of *Giocando con Orlando*, *Decamerone,* and *Azul – Gioia, Furia, Fede y Eterno Amor,* written and directed by Finzi Pasca himself*,* packed the house night after night. That history carries weight. Accorsi has held the loyalty of Roman audiences across multiple productions.

Career highlights

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The stage run marks one of the most productive periods of Accorsi's career. His film *Le cose non dette*, directed by Gabriele Muccino, reached cinemas in January 2026. *La lezione*, directed by Stefano Mordini and co-starring Matilda De Angelis, followed in March. Lastly, a Paolo Genovese production, *Il rumore delle cose nuove*, completed shooting with a cast including Emanuela Fanelli, Claudia Pandolfi, and Lino Musella.

At the end of this month Accorsi will begin filming his latest project, *Linea di Difesa – Gaza* (Line of Defence – Gaza). The action film, inspired by real events, explores the sensitive work of Italian intelligence operatives.

At 55, he is producing some of his most interesting work. *Nessuno – Le avventure di Ulisse* was one reason to believe that.

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