

**FILUMENA MARTURANO**

**THE COURAGE TO BE A WOMAN**

**Filumena Marturano** is one of the most intense and complex female characters in the post-World War II theater scene. Eduardo De Filippo gives the audience of all times **the profile of a woman and mother**, who struggles with sacrifice for the sacred value of the family, which is able to hold the gaze of men who judge her. A proud and bold woman, Filumena, like those personalities who fought for **female emancipation**, in a world where prejudice has underestimated the practical and intellectual virtues of the fair sex.

**Filumena Marturano, heroine and mother**

Filumena Marturano

[Eduardo De Filippo](http://www.lacooltura.com/2015/09/eduardo-de-filippo-la-commedia-reale/) writes his Filumena in 1946. We are in the immediate post-war period. Woman takes the first steps towards a social, political and economic affirmation. Postwar Italy changes the stereotype of happily housewife or femme fatale; femininity from now on is expressed through the struggle for freedom and equality.

"Filumena Marturano is a social comedy", says Eduardo, "wants to be the rehabilitation of a category of women, wants to be a cry of rebellion in this troubled and turbulent world that left us the War.

It is not by chance that De Filippo chooses a woman to represent Italy tormented and impoverished by conflicts, deprived of dignity, but with a great desire for redemption. And in the Eduardian comedy the Bel Paese has the face of Filumena, marked by the harshness of life and suffering, but with the proud eyes of a woman and a mother, who at all costs is willing to assert the rights of her children. Her past as a prostitute and as a kept woman did not affect her pride.

The heroine Filumena speaks with the voice of the heart, opposing the written law that imposes the male character of Domenico Soriano.

<https://www.bloomsbury.com/uk/filumena-9781408172650/>