

19

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MAY 27 - JUNE 1, 2025

Program Book 2025



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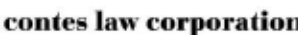
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The festival is held under the auspices of General Secretariat for Greeks Abroad and Public Diplomacy of the Greek Ministry of Foreign Affairs. We wish to express our gratitude to Secretary General for Greeks Abroad and Public Diplomacy, Prof. John Chrysoulakis, for his continued effort to unite the Hellenes abroad and support all efforts for culture, arts, and issues that Hellenes face away from the homeland.



We also wish to express our gratitude to Honorable Christina Valassopoulou, Consul General of Greece in Los Angeles, for her support and promotion of Hellenism.



We are grateful to Honorable Andreas Kyprianides, Consul General of Cyprus, for his continued support and tireless efforts to promote Hellenic and Cypriot issues and interests in Los Angeles.

Special thanks go to ELMA, an organization dedicated to the promotion of European Cinema in America.



CELEBRATING THE ART OF STORYTELLING
-- MARIANNE METROPOULOS

It is with great pleasure that I welcome the organization of the "19th Los Angeles Greek Film Festival" – LAGFF held once again under the auspices of the General Secretariat for Greeks Abroad and Public Diplomacy.

The Los Angeles Greek Film Festival has developed, thanks to the tireless and systematic efforts of its organizers, to a major cultural organization presenting and promoting contemporary Greek audiovisual production in the USA and more broadly on the American continent.

However, its most important contribution is the development of cultural ties and exchanges between Greece and the United States and the promotion of Modern Greek culture in the hugely important American audiovisual market.

I would like to congratulate the organizers of the LAGFF, especially its Artistic Director, Mr. Aristotelis Katopodis, and wish the festival every success!

–Maira Myrogianni

Secretary General for Greeks Abroad and Public Diplomacy



**Message by Secretary General for
Greeks Abroad and Public Diplomacy,
Ms. Maira Myrogianni, on the occasion
of the 19th Los Angeles Greek Film
Festival**

Congratulations to the Los Angeles Greek Film Festival!

We are grateful for the incredible work and dedication that the festival team, its founders, volunteers and filmmakers have shown throughout the years. They are true champions of the Hellenic arts and culture.

The enthusiasm and financial support of people that love film and the arts in the Greek and greater Los Angeles community is essential for the festival to continue to flourish and build a beautiful, enduring legacy.

May the LAGFF forever continue to be a light of Hellenic culture in Los Angeles and throughout the world!

With best wishes from the George and Tina Kolovos family

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CONSULATE GENERAL OF GREECE IN LOS ANGELES

Dear LAGFF Team, Movie-Lovers and Friends of the Entertainment Industry,

It is indeed an incredible achievement to celebrate, in the heart of Hollywood, the 19th Los Angeles Greek Film Festival! A unique institution that was put together by a small team of believers and that is still going strong! We are very proud and we salute each and every one that has contributed to this goal throughout the years.

The world of LAGFF is a world of movies, directors, creators, producers, premieres, workshops and screenings with a common underlying principle: a profound Love and Dedication to entertainment and the desire to boost Greek productions and movies in the demanding capital of the Industry. This year's multievent tribute to the world-renown film director and screenwriter Costa-Gavras is a testament to this desire.

The Consulate General of Greece in Los Angeles supports every noteworthy effort to promote Greece, its Culture and Vision and, together with other sponsors, we commit to assisting this year's Festival bring to the wider LA Community a memorable experience of Greek productions and more. We call on others to stand by the Festival and help it grow.

See you at the movies!

-Christina Valassopoulou
Consul General of Greece in Los Angeles



**Greeting message by the Consul
General of Greece in Los Angeles,
the Honorable Christina Valassopoulou,
on the occasion of the 19th Los Angeles
Greek Film Festival**

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On behalf of the government of the Republic of Cyprus, I am honored to convey warmest congratulations to the Los Angeles Greek Film Festival on its nineteenth anniversary.

I can bear witness to its beneficial impact on the local Greek American community because I have been closely associated with the festival from the beginning. By promoting interesting new Greek and Greek-Cypriot films, the festival brings us together and keeps us informed about contemporary life and the state of contemporary cinematic art in both countries.

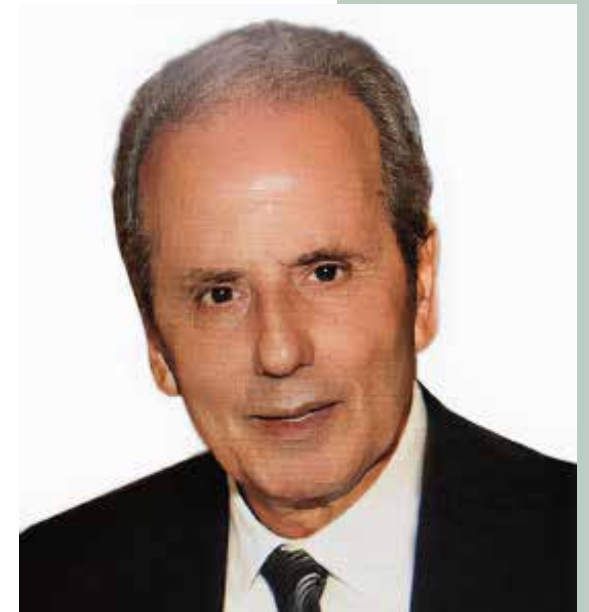
Furthermore, the festival invigorates our connection with our Hellenic cultural heritage. All Hellenes have an obligation to study, preserve, and pass on to future generations this heritage, one of the most important in the history of humanity. This obligation weighs heavily on us, the Hellenes of the diaspora, because Greek culture is less potent in surroundings so far from the homeland. Film is one of the most effective ways to accomplish this goal.

On a more personal note, I would like to commend the organizers of the Los Angeles Greek Film Festival. Several of them are my longtime friends and I appreciate their dedication and hard work. They deserve our admiration and strong support. I wish them continued success in the years to come.

Finally, I would be remiss if I did not express my gratitude that this year, as it has been the case in the past, several films that are going to be shown are from Cyprus, the beautiful island of Aphrodite, and my birthplace. The Greek Cypriots have inhabited Cyprus for more than three thousand years and today constitute approximately eighty percent of the island's total population. Since 1960, the island has been governed as the Independent Republic of Cyprus. Sadly, for the past fifty-one years since 1974, more than one-third of the island has been occupied as a result of the illegal and brutal invasion by Turkey. This injustice must end. In our struggle to put an end to the occupation and reach a just and viable solution to the Cyprus problem, we need the help of all Hellenes and all the fair-minded people of the world, including the artists of the film industry and the festivals that celebrate their films.

-Andreas Kyprianides

Honorary Consul General of Cyprus in Los Angeles



**Greeting message by the Honorary
Consul General of Cyprus in Los
Angeles the Honorable Andreas
Kyprianides**

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Brighter, smarter, stronger, all-encompassing was last year's quintessence. This year, we must add world-renowned filmmakers and the return to the emblematic Egyptian Theatre. With over 62 films in our program and 50 international and US premieres, the selection of films is all encompassing, with Fiction Feature Films, Short Films, Documentaries, and Animation showcasing the full spectrum of Greek film production. Over 40 filmmakers from Greece, Europe, and the US attend the festival to expand their networks and support their films. Our engaging Masterclasses and Workshops make it unique. The Oscar and BAFTA award-winning Gareth Ellis-Unwin Masterclass, the SKY presentation, and the celebration of the 11th Discovery Days lab, directed by Karina Logothetis, usher in the most exciting projects and experts into the festival.

We are honored and proud to award the great Mr. Costa-Gavras the Life Achievement Orpheus Award. A highlight in the 19 years of the Los Angeles Greek Film Festival. The company of filmmakers such as Michele Ray-Gavras, John Landis, Deborah Nadoolman Landis, the presence of Ted Sarandos, elevate this festival to a higher level.

Collaborating with educational institutions is a strategic goal for this festival. To our existing strong relationship with UCLA Stavros Niarchos Foundation Center, Loyola Marymount Bellarmine College, Loyola Marymount Basil P. Caloyeras Modern Greek Studies Center, USC, Los Angeles City College, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, and University of West Attica, we are proud to welcome new friends, California State University at Los Angeles.

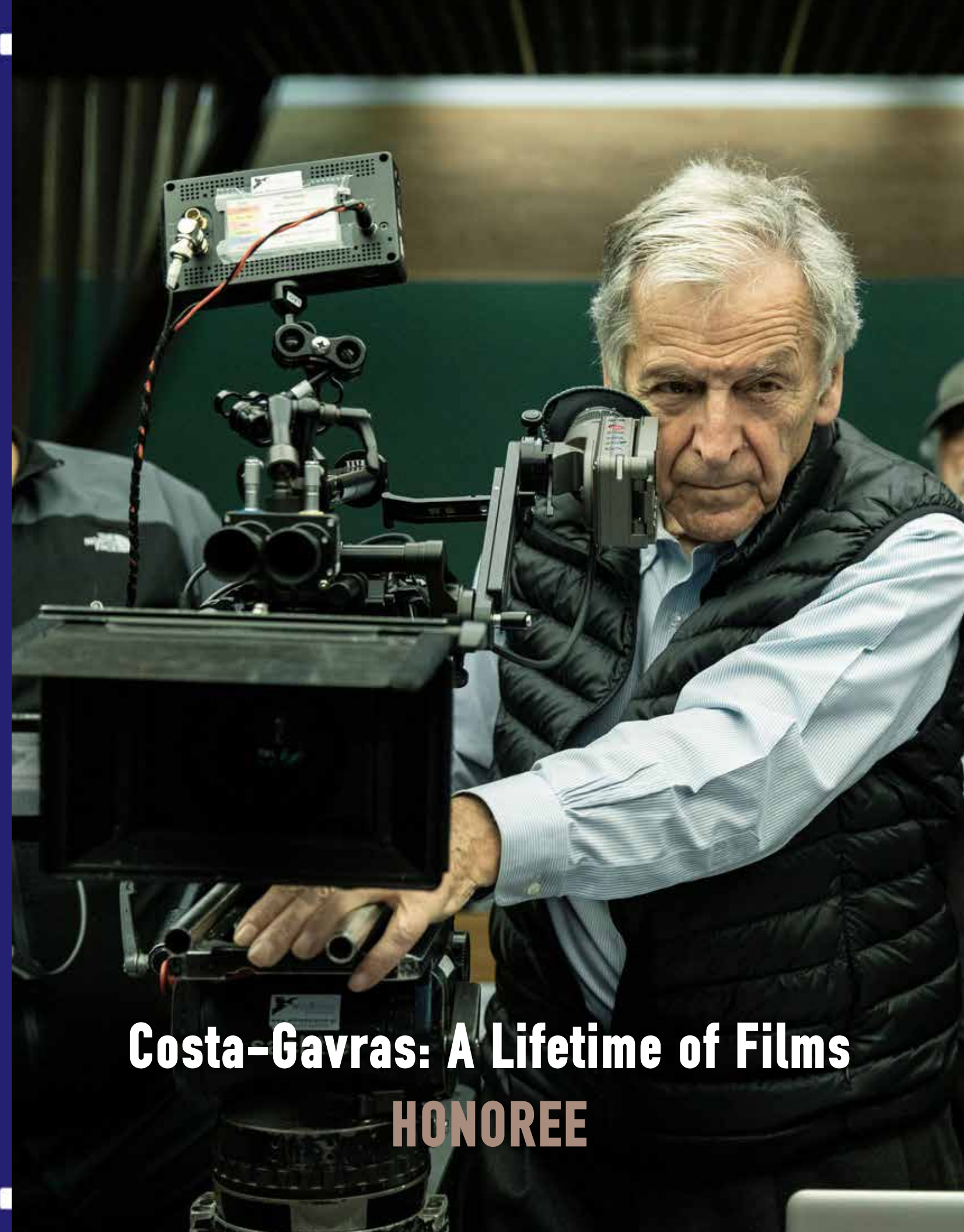
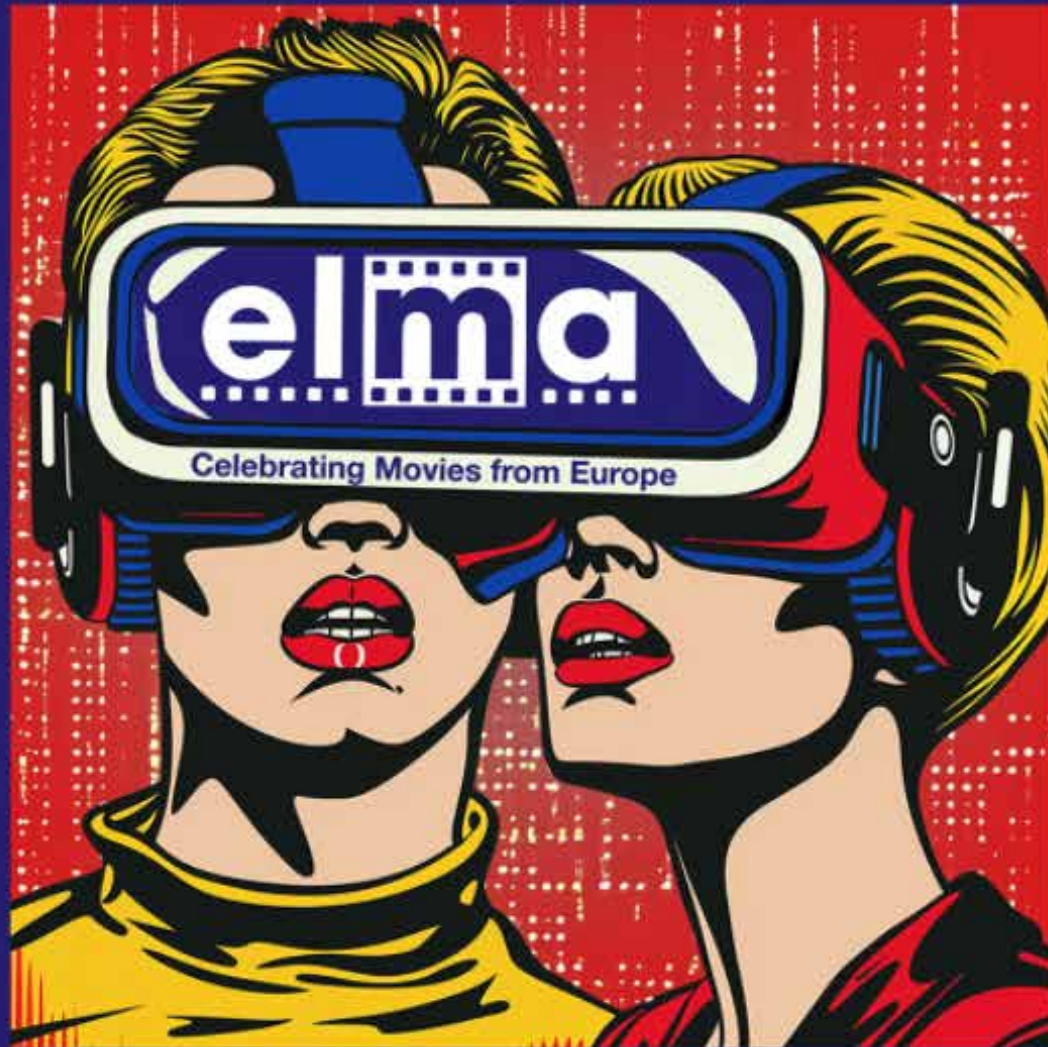
A heartfelt thank you to our amazing staff, volunteers, and sponsors. We could not exist without their efforts and support.

We are excited to bring you another year of celebrating the art of Greek cinema and Greek filmmakers from around the world. Let's all watch the films as they are intended, back in the theaters.

-Aris Katopodis
LAGFF Artistic Director



**A Message from
LAGFF Artistic Director,
Aris Katopodis**



Costa-Gavras: A Lifetime of Films
HONOREE



Z

1969, FRANCE, ALGERIA, 127 MINS.

The 1969 film Z, directed by Costa-Gavras, is a political thriller that offers a thinly fictionalized account of the assassination of Greek politician Grigoris Lambrakis in 1963. The film portrays the events surrounding his murder and the subsequent investigation, highlighting themes of political corruption and repression.

- 
- OSCAR - Best Foreign Language Film, Best Film Editing
 - CANNES Film Festival - Best Actor Jean-Louis Trintignant, Jury Prize Costa-Gavras

DIRECTOR(S): Costa-Gavras
PRODUCER: Jacques Perrin, Ahmed Rachedi, Philippe d'Argila, Eric Schlumberger
PRODUCTION DESIGNER: Françoise Bonnot
WRITER(S): Vassilis Vassilikos, Costa-Gavras
CAST: Yves Montand, Irene Papas, Jean-Louis Trintignant, François Périer, Jacques Perrin
CINEMATOGRAPHER: Raoul Coutard
EDITOR: Françoise Bonnot
MUSIC: Mikis Theodorakis

Costa-Gavras was born in Loutra Heraias, Greece, on February 13, 1933. He left Greece, at the age of 22, coming to Paris as an economic migrant. He enrolled at the Sorbonne University before being admitted to the Institut des Hautes Etudes Cinématographiques (IDHEC). After graduating, he worked as an assistant director for great directors such as René Clair, René Clément, Henri Verneuil, Jacques Demy, Marcel Ophuls, Jean Giono and Jean Becker. In 1965 he directed his first feature film, The Sleeping Car Murders — Edgar Poe prize and among best 10 films of the year by the New York film critics society. He then carried on with Shock Troops. His subsequent films were highly acclaimed: Z got 5 Academy Awards nominations and won Best Foreign Film and Best Editing, Special Jury prize and interpretation prize for Jean-Louis Trintignant at the Cannes Film Festival and dozens of others. Through his political films, Costa-Gavras tackled the burning issues of his time. He has made 20 films, including The Confession, State of siege — Louis Delluc Prize- Special Section, Woman light, Missing (Oscar for Best Adapted Screenplay, Palme d'Or and Best Actor Award for Jack Lemmon at the 1982 Cannes Film Festival), Hanna K, Family Business,

Betrayed, Music Box (Golden Bear in Berlin), The Little Apocalypse, Mad City, Amen, The Ax, Eden is West, Capital, Adults in the Room. His latest film, Last Breath, was released in France on February 12, 2025 and has been selected in numerous festivals, such as the 2024 San Sebastian Film Festival and the 2025 International Film Festival Rotterdam. Since 1968 Costa-Gavras has been married to Michèle Ray, journalist then film producer. They have three children together: Alexandre, producer, and Julie and Romain, film directors. In 2018, Costa-Gavras published his autobiography Va où il est impossible d'aller (Go Where It Is Impossible to Go). President of the Cinémathèque Française since 2007. Commander of National Order of Legion honour, commander of Arts and Letters and of the National Order of Merit. In 2025, he received the Honorary Cesar at the 50th edition of the Cesar Ceremony.



Last Breath

2024, FRANCE, 100 MINS, WEST COAST

In a kind of philosophical dialogue, Doctor Augustin Masset and renowned writer Fabrice Toussaint discuss life and death... A whirlwind of encounters in which the doctor is the guide and the writer, his passenger led to confront his own fears and anxieties... A poetic ballet, where each patient is a tome of emotions, laughter and tears... A journey to the throbbing heart of our lives.

DIRECTOR(S): Costa-Gavras
PRODUCER: Costa-Gavras, Alexandre Gavras, Michèle Ray-Gavras
PRODUCTION DESIGNER: Catherine Werner Schmit
WRITER(S): Costa-Gavras, Régis Debrey, Claude Grange
CAST: Hiam Abbass, Denis Podalydès, Charlotte Rampling
CINEMATOGRAPHER: Nathalie Durand
MUSIC: Armand Amar

- 
- 2025, International Film Festival Rotterdam, Official Selection
 - 2025, The Alliance Française French Film Festival, Have it in your way
 - 2024, San Sebastian International Film Festival, Official Competition
 - 2024, Rio de Janeiro International film festival, World Panorama
 - 2024, International Film Festival Stockholm, Masters



Costa-Gavras Century | Episode 1: All films are political — Z

2024, France, 50 mins, North American Premiere

By situating Costa-Gavras’s filmography within its context of creation, interweaving excerpts from his films, historical archives, and an exclusive interview with the filmmaker —the only one interviewed— The Costa-Gavras Century tells us what cinema reveals about our history, our hopes, and our acts of resistance.

DIRECTOR(S): Yannick Kergoat (EP1 and 3), Marie-Pierre Camus (EP2)
PRODUCER: Michèle Ray-Gavras
CO-PRODUCER(S): Edwy Plenel & Yannick Kergoat (all episodes)
WRITER(S): Edwy Plenel, Yannick Kergoat
MUSIC: Éric Neveux

- 📅 2024, Cannes Film Festival, Cannes Classics: Episode 3
- 📅 2024, Il Cinema Ritrovato Festival, Bologna: Episodes 1 & 3
- 📅 2024, Lumière Film Festival, Lyon: Episodes 1 to 3 / High School Students’ Award for Episode 3
- 📅 2024, Cinemed Festival, Montpellier: Episodes 1 to 3
- 📅 2024, Athens Avant Garde Film Festival: Episodes 1 to 3
- 📅 2025, Series Mania Festival, Special Screenings, Lille: Episodes 1 & 3



Costa-Gavras Century | Episode 2: Origins. Giving misfortune the boot — The Sleeping Car Murders — Shock Troops

2024, France, 50 mins, North American Premiere

By situating Costa-Gavras’s filmography within its context of creation, interweaving excerpts from his films, historical archives, and an exclusive interview with the filmmaker —the only one interviewed— The Costa-Gavras Century tells us what cinema reveals about our history, our hopes, and our acts of resistance.

DIRECTOR(S): Yannick Kergoat (EP1 and 3), Marie-Pierre Camus (EP2)
PRODUCER: Michèle Ray-Gavras
WRITER(S): Edwy Plenel & Yannick Kergoat
CAST: Cast: Documentary — interviews of Costa-Gavras, Created by: Edwy Plenel & Yannick Kergoat (all episodes)
MUSIC: Éric Neveux

- 📅 2024, Cannes Film Festival, Cannes Classics: Episode 3
- 📅 2024, Il Cinema Ritrovato Festival, Bologna: Episodes 1 & 3
- 📅 2024, Lumière Film Festival, Lyon: Episodes 1 to 3 / High School Students’ Award for Episode 3
- 📅 2024, Cinemed Festival, Montpellier: Episodes 1 to 3
- 📅 2024, Athens Avant Garde Film Festival: Episodes 1 to 3
- 📅 2025, Series Mania Festival, Special Screenings, Lille: Episodes 1 & 3



Costa-Gavras Century | Episode 3: Truth is revolutionary — The Confession

2024, FRANCE, 50 MINS, NORTH AMERICAN PREMIERE

By situating Costa-Gavras’s filmography within its context of creation, interweaving excerpts from his films, historical archives, and an exclusive interview with the filmmaker —the only one interviewed— The Costa-Gavras Century tells us what cinema reveals about our history, our hopes, and our acts of resistance.

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- 2024, Lumière Film Festival, Lyon: Episodes 1 to 3 / High School Students’ Award for Episode 3
- 2024, Cinemed Festival, Montpellier: Episodes 1 to 3
- 2024, Athens Avant Garde Film Festival: Episodes 1 to 3
- 2025, Series Mania Festival, Special Screenings, Lille: Episodes 1 & 3

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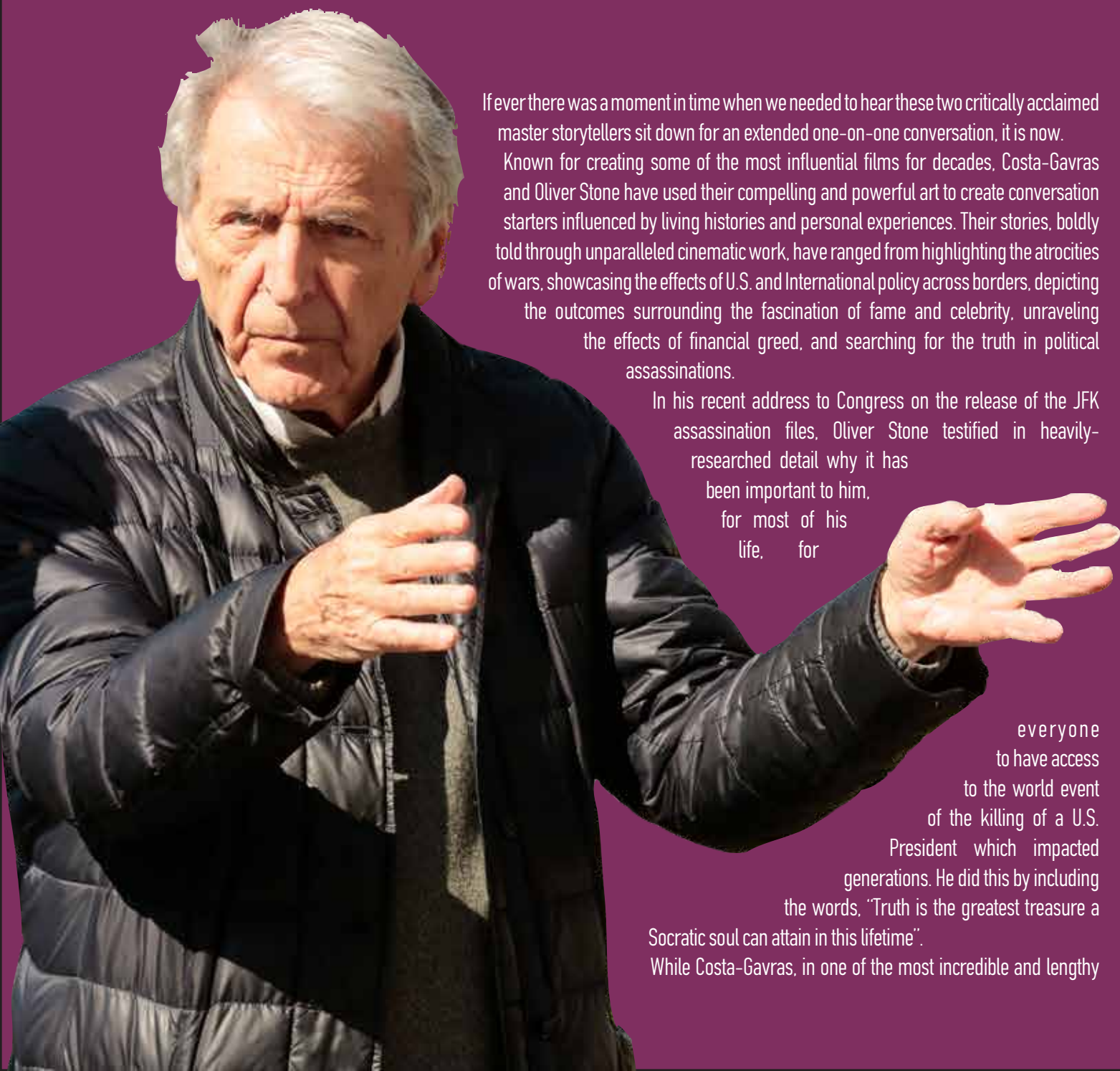


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COSTA-GAVRAS and OLIVER STONE, in conversation...



If ever there was a moment in time when we needed to hear these two critically acclaimed master storytellers sit down for an extended one-on-one conversation, it is now.

Known for creating some of the most influential films for decades, Costa-Gavras and Oliver Stone have used their compelling and powerful art to create conversation starters influenced by living histories and personal experiences. Their stories, boldly told through unparalleled cinematic work, have ranged from highlighting the atrocities of wars, showcasing the effects of U.S. and International policy across borders, depicting the outcomes surrounding the fascination of fame and celebrity, unraveling the effects of financial greed, and searching for the truth in political assassinations.

In his recent address to Congress on the release of the JFK assassination files, Oliver Stone testified in heavily-researched detail why it has been important to him, for most of his life, for

everyone to have access to the world event of the killing of a U.S. President which impacted generations. He did this by including the words, "Truth is the greatest treasure a Socratic soul can attain in this lifetime".

While Costa-Gavras, in one of the most incredible and lengthy

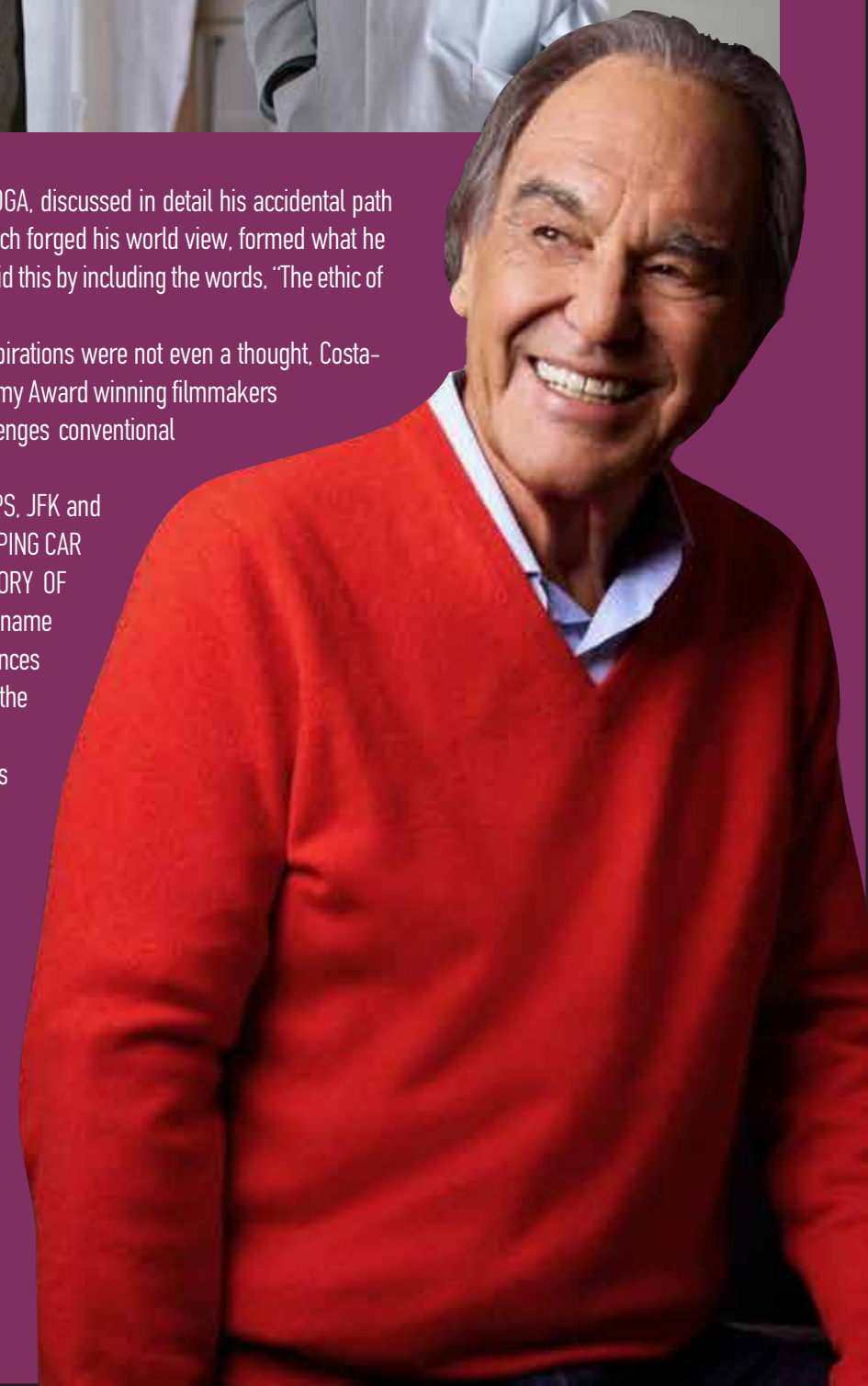


interviews conducted by Director John Landis held at the DGA, discussed in detail his accidental path stemming from a series of life events out of his control which forged his world view, formed what he wanted to say, and influenced how he wanted to say it. He did this by including the words, "The ethic of truthfulness is something very precise."

Both born into families and at a time when filmmaking aspirations were not even a thought, Costa-Gavras and Oliver Stone would both go on to become Academy Award winning filmmakers that continue to inspire generations with work that challenges conventional narrative and impacts us culturally.

From SALVADOR and MISSING, PLATOON and SHOCK TROOPS, JFK and Z, NATURAL BORN KILLERS and MAD CITY, U-TURN and SLEEPING CAR MURDERS, WALL STREET and CAPITAL, THE UNTOLD HISTORY OF THE UNITED STATES and THE COSTA-GAVRAS CENTURY, to name a very few, Costa-Gavras and Oliver Stone have led audiences on daring visual journeys to witness humanity, question the narrative, and search for a sense of independent truth.

Held in collaboration with UCLA Stavros Niarchos Foundation Center for the Study of Hellenic Culture, and part of the 2025 Los Angeles Greek Film Festival's Costa-Gavras multi-event Tribute, the LAGFF is extremely honored to be able to present this historical moment to our passionate festival community; to gather together after the screening of the latest exceptional Costa-Gavras film, LAST BREATH, and to engage in what will be a highly thought-provoking discussion between two of our most iconic social, political and daring filmmakers, Costa-Gavras and Oliver Stone.



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Features



Features



Arcadia

2023, Greece, 99 mins, LA Premiere

Radiant neurologist Katerina has to confront her worst suspicions as she accompanies Yannis, a former well-respected doctor, to identify the victim of a tragic car accident at an off-season seaside resort. Together, but also on her own nightly excursions to a mysterious rustic beach bar, they unravel a haunting tale of love, loss, acceptance and letting go.

DIRECTOR(S):	Yorgos Zois
PRODUCER:	Antigoni Rota, Maria Drandaki, Stelios Cotionis
WRITER(S):	Konstantina Kotzamani, Yorgos Zois
CAST:	Vaggelis Mourikis, Angeliki Papoulia, Nikolas Papagiannis, Elena Topalidou
CINEMATOGRAPHER:	Konstantinos Koukoulis GSC
EDITOR:	Yannis Halkiadakis
MUSIC:	Petar Dundakov



- 69th Cork International Film Festival (Ireland), Best Screenplay Award
- 30th Sarajevo Film Festival, Best Director Award
- 22nd San Francisco Greek Film Festival, Best Fiction Film Award
- International Federation of Film Critics, FIPRESCI Award
- 65th Thessaloniki International Film Festival, Ioannis F. Costopoulos Foundation Award
- Golden Rose Bulgarian Feature Film Festival, Best Original Score Award, Vasil Gendovich Award from the Union of Bulgarian Filmmakers for composer Petar Dundakov
- Hong Kong International Film Festival, Best Actor Award for Vangelis Mourikis
- Bari International Film Festival, Best Actress Award for Angeliki Papoulia

Yorgos Zois is a Greek director born in 1982 and based in Athens. He studied applied Math & Nuclear Physics at the NTUA and film direction in UdK Berlin. He started his career working as an assistant director to Theo Angelopoulos and with a scholarship by Costa Gavras. His body of work, four shorts and two feature films, has been selected at A-festivals worldwide (Cannes - Semaine de La Critique, Berlinale — Encounters, Venice - Orizzonti, Rotterdam, Telluride etc.) and has been acknowledged with numerous awards and distinctions worldwide including a European Film Academy nomination. In Greece he won best short film director and best newcomer feature film director from the Greek Film Academy. His films have raised internationally acclaimed reviews about their meta-aesthetics and daring narration and have been broadcasted by ARTE, Canal plus etc and prestigious platforms like Criterion. Last he was also a member of the official Jury "Lion of the Future" at the 74th Venice IFF. His second feature film Arcadia premiered in Berlinale 2024, won the best male actor award in Hong Kong IFF, the Best Director award in Sarajevo IFF and was included in the final list of the EFA nominations, while the festival tour goes on.

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Riviera

2024, GREECE, 83 MINS, NONE

A dying palm tree, a doomed romance, and a mother who wants to move on. This will be Alkistis' last summer on the Athenian Riviera.

DIRECTOR(S): Orfeas Peretzis
CAST: Eva Samioti, Mihalís Syriopoulos, Maria Apostolakea, Kostas Koronaíos, Myrto Meitani-Kastrinaki
CINEMATOGRAPHER: Giorgos Valsamis
EDITOR: Yorgos Zafeiris



- Sao Paulo International Film Festival 2024, Brazil - World Premiere
- Thessaloniki International Film Festival 2024, Greece - Prize from the Jury of the International Federation of Film Critics (FIPRESCI), "FOS" Award (Best Debut Actress in a Greek Feature Film) for Eva Samioti and Myrto Meitani-Kastrinaki, Hellenic Broadcasting Corporation (ERT) Award
- FilmFestival Cottbus 2024, Germany - Outstanding Individual Performance Award for Eva Samioti
- Festival De Cine Global Santo Domingo 2025
- KINO Athens - Independent Film Festival of Athens 2025, Greece
- The Greek Film Festival in Berlin 2025, Germany
- San Francisco Greek Film Festival 2025, USA
- Istanbul Film Festival 2025, Turkey
- RIVIERA participated at the 6th Discovery Days lab (formerly known as IPDF).

Orfeas Peretzis studied Psychology at Stirling University (Scotland), Film & Video Directing at UCA (UK), and Screenwriting at the London Film School. Recently he completed the essay film IODINE: Greece on the ruins of Missolonghi, which won the Audience Award at the International Competition FILM FORWARD of Thessaloniki Documentary Festival (2022). He has directed & written 6 short films, a feature documentary, docudramas and doc-series for the television. He has won Best Film from the Hellenic Film Critics Association (2014), a 1st Prize from the Royal Television Society (UK), and a 1st Prize at the Drama International Film Festival in Greece. He is a 2019 Berlinale Talent Alumni and Artworks Scholar (Stavros Niarchos Foundation).



Meat

2024, Greece, 104 mins, LA Premiere

In a village in the Greek countryside, Takis prepares the opening of his new butcher shop. One day before the inauguration, his son Pavlos kills the neighbor who claims part of their land. The only witness is Christos, a young man from Albania whom Takis has had with him since childhood. The two young men hide the murder from Takis. But when the line gets tight, Takis has to decide who will take responsibility. A family drama with roots in ancient Greek tragedy.

DIRECTOR(S):	Dimitris Nakos
PRODUCER:	Thanos Anastopoulos
EWRIter(S):	Dimitris Nakos
CAST:	Akylas Karazisis, Kostas Nikouli, Pavlos Iordanopoulos, Maria Kallimani, Yorgos Simeonidis
CINEMATOGRAPHER:	Giorgos Valsamis, Gsc
EDITOR:	Lambis Haralambidis
MUSIC:	Kostantis Pistiolis



- 2024, Thessaloniki International Film Festival: Greek Critics Award, Crew United Award, Jouth Jury Special Mention
- 2024, Montpellier Cinemed: Best Music Award
- 2025, Berlin Greek Film Festival: Best Feature Film Official Selections
- 2024, Toronto International Film Festival
- 2024, Brussels
- 2025, Glasgow International Film Festival
- 2025, San Francisco Greek Film Festival, Berlin Greek Film Festival, Smart7 Competition

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Cafe 404

2024, Greece, 90 mins, US PREMIERE

A rundown establishment, a retro diner, lies in the middle of nowhere on the MOTORWAY. It's our hero's, Jimmy, only legacy and connection to his deceased parents. It's where he lived his whole life. Even when the new MOTORWAY blocked access to the diner, Jimmy preferred to stay, holding on to the memories of his family and providing a job to three incompetent but deep-down good-hearted employees. Mara, the rebellious till girl, Nicko, the grumpy handyman who struggles to complete his pension plan, and Abi, a Nigerian immigrant who works there as the cook. Jimmy's biggest fear becomes a reality: the bank forecloses his beloved diner. As the night progresses, distrust and greed rear their heads, relationships are shaken, characters are tested and deep buried secrets are revealed. Jimmy and all three employees, alongside their internal rivalry, will encounter the local police, surreal travelers, and drug barons.

DIRECTOR(S):	Alexandros Tsilifonis
PRODUCER:	Katerina Kaskanioti
WRITER(S):	Alexandros Tsilifonis
CINEMATOGRAPHER:	Andri Haraldsson
EDITOR:	Konstantinos Adraktas
MUSIC:	Stefano Fasce



Thessaloniki International Film Festival
London Independent Film Festival

Originally from Athens, Greece, Alex is a London-based writer/director. His first short film, "The T3st," was funded by the Greek Film Center and The National Greek Broadcaster ERT. It stars Matthew Stagg ("Marrowbone" and "Macbeth") and Killian Coyle ("Normal People" and "Call the Midwife"). Alex made his TV comedy debut with "Luv's Story," starring Niki Vakali (known for "Worlds Apart"). He is recently completed his debut feature film "CAFE 404," which stars Dimitri Gripari ("Dangerous Liaisons"), Maria Nafpliotou, and Antonis Tsiotsiopoulos ("Magnetic Fields"). In addition to his debut feature, he is developing two TV series: "Ben and The End," a dark comedy about Charon, the mythical Greek ferryman, trying to keep suicidal Ben alive produced by David Barron ("Harry Potter and The Deathly Hallows"), and "Antiparos," a whodunit murder mystery series based on the novel "Crimes in Antiparos" by Nikos Faroupos. In recent years, Alex has been mentored by Fred Fuchs (known for "The Godfather Part III" and "Dracula"). He is the recipient of the 1st National Prize of the Nespresso Talents at the Cannes Film Festival. Alex also recently directed "The Cellist," an advertisement for McDonald's, Porsche Awards, 2022.

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Kyuka – Before Summer’s End

2024, GREECE, 101 MINS, LA PREMIERE

A summer holiday turns into a bittersweet coming-of age for two siblings, when they unknowingly meet their birth mother, who abandoned them when they were babies.

DIRECTOR(S):	Kostis Charamountanis
PRODUCER:	Heretic
CO-PRODUCER(S):	List Production
WRITER(S):	Kostis Charamountanis
CAST:	Simeon Tsakiris (Babis), Elsa Lekakou (Elsa), Konstantinos Georgopoulos (Konstantinos), Elena Topalidou (Anna)
CINEMATOGRAPHER:	Konstantinos Koukoulis
EDITOR:	Kostis Charamountanis, Lambis Haralambidis
MUSIC:	Kostis Charamountanis
COSTUMES:	Konstantinos Georgopoulos, Vassilina Kouliou



Greek and Cypriot Film Festival Barcelona – Best Film
REC Tarragona – Special Mention of the Young Jury

Kostis Charamountanis is a young and promising Greek director. The fact that he is self-taught and has worked as an actor, music composer, sound designer, editor, second assistant director and production assistant in theatre, television and film only partly account for his originality. His films (six shorts and three video clips) are refreshingly experimental and while attempting to playfully re-engage with cinematic narrative. With a few awards already under his belt—at the Athens International Film Festival and Drama International Short Film Festival—the SNF ARTWORKS Fellow (2020) has already completed his first feature film entitled: Kyuka—Before Summer’s End, which was produced by Heretic.



Killerwood

2024, Greece, 84 mins, North America Premiere

Fiction, reality and delusion gradually merge during the making of 'Killerwood', a thriller investigating a series of unsolved murders in modern-day Athens.

DIRECTOR(S): Christos Massalas
PRODUCER: Christos Massalas
WRITER(S): Christos Massalas
CAST: Vaggelis Daousis, Elsa Lekakou, Joyce Evidi, Roula Pateraki, Foivos Papadopoulos, Michalis Pitidis, Eva Koumarianou, Aphroditi Katerinopoulou, Rafael Papad, Yorgos Katsoulas, Gabriel Yared
CINEMATOGRAPHER: Dimitris Lambridis
EDITOR: Christos Massalas
MUSIC: Christos Massalas

Born in 1986, Greece. Graduate of the London Film School, LFS. Alumnus of the Sundance Lab, Cannes Cinefondation and Locarno Academy. His films have received prizes and have screened in over 300 film festivals, including Cannes, Rotterdam, AFI Fest, New Directors/New Films, Sarajevo and Clermont-Ferrand. His feature debut "Broadway" was released in the USA, France and Greece, among other territories and was nominated for 15 Greek Academy Awards. "Killerwood" is his sophomore feature.



Giannis In The Cities

2024, Greece, 90 mins, North America Premiere

In 1949, Giannis, the son of a rebel, is six years old when he is torn from his natural environment and deported to the Childcare Cities, educational camps set up during the Greek Civil War, a world where ideas and desires are manipulated. His dreams turn into nightmares, and a dark feeling for his father slowly inhabits his heart. It's only as an adult that he manages to redefine his existence and decides to go and meet his father... The true story of writer Giannis Atzakas.

DIRECTOR(S): Eleni Alexandrakis
PRODUCER: Eleni Alexandrakis
WRITER(S): Eleni Alexandrakis
CAST: Aineias Tsamatis, Filippos Milikas, Marios Konstantinos Galetzas, Konstantinos Athanassakis
CINEMATOGRAPHER: Dionysis Efthymiopoulos
EDITOR: Christos Giannakopoulos
MUSIC: Nikos Xydakis



- 2024 Thessaloniki Film Festival
- 2025 Sofia Film Festival
- 2025 In Cinemas in Greece since 20 Feb till now.



- 2024 Thessaloniki Film Festival, Special Mention (Best Ensemble Cast)
- 2024 Cyprus Film Days, Honorary Distinction

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Los Angeles Greek Film Festival

Features



Greek Mothers Never Die

2024, UNITED STATES, 120 MINS, NONE

A comic fantasy inspired by the true story of my mother and her maddening affections: Ella’s odyssey begins in Greece 25 years ago. The only daughter of Jack, a Greek-American artist, and Despina, a protective Greek mother, Ella is a musically talented child. Her only friend is Nick, a nerdy 10-year-old deemed harmless by Despina. Their friendship turns to love, but darkness follows. Nick disappears, the Greek economy collapses, and Jack’s sudden death devastates the family. Despina and Ella, losing everything, move to Florida. Ella, living under Despina’s strict rules, becomes a late-bloomer with no love life. After a fierce argument about her future, Despina dies from a heart attack, but returns as a ghost, giving Ella unsolicited advice and guidance. This happens as Nick, now a doctor and playboy, re-enters Ella’s life. In this tragicomic and heartfelt journey, Ella learns to take charge of her life, understand true love, and cope with her mother’s passing.

DIRECTOR(S): Rachel Suissa
PRODUCER: Eloïse Desclèves, Eleonore Dailly, Rachel Suissa
EXECUTIVE PRODUCER: Rad Pictures
PRODUCTION DESIGNER: Yosa Whitney
WRITER(S): Rachel Suissa
CAST: Abby Miner, Simon Rérolle, Rachel Suissa, Carter Sirianni, Wade Hunt Williams, Asia Suissa-Fuller
CINEMATOGRAPHER: Angelica Perez Castro
EDITOR: Justin West
MUSIC: Abraham Gomez Rosales

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- 2024 Lafemme international - best director of feature movie
- 2024 Central Florida film festival - Best comedic feature
- 2024 Greece international film festival -Best Fiction
- 2024 LA independent women film awards- honorable mention
- 2024 Culver City film festival - best supporting actress feature film
- 2024 World Fest Houston -winner of Remy Gold
- 2024 New York independent cinema award -winner best feature
- 2025 San Fransisco Greek Film Festival - nominated for audience favorite narrative feature- jury award for best narrative feature -best performance in narrative feature

As an actress, writer and director, Rachel has lived a thousand lives. Through her varied experience in theater and filmmaking, she has cultivated a deep knowledge of narrative production for stage and screen. In addition to authoring and staging theatrical works in Paris, she has starred in French television shows and worked in major feature films alongside the likes of superstars Vincent Cassell. For Netflix, she wrote and directed the worldwide hit film Dangerous Liaisons, a large production with a budget of six million Euros. And she has recently completed her first American Independent feature film, Greek Mothers Never Die, which she wrote, directed and produced on Amelia Island, Florida, where she lives with her husband and two children.

UCLA

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COSTA GAVRAS

on receiving

the Honorary Orpheus Lifetime Achievement Award



Wishbone

2024, GREECE, 123 MINS, LA PREMIERE

Kostas has recently become a security guard in a public hospital. After the sudden death of his older brother, he is forced to take care of his little niece Niki, and also to find the money to save their family house. The moment, he's lost all hope, a hospital porter will offer an aiding hand; but the price to pay is going to be high.

DIRECTOR(S):	Penny Panayotopoulou
PRODUCER:	Thanassis Karathanos, Birgit Kemner, Penny Panayotopoulou
WRITER(S):	Kallia Papadaki
CAST:	Giannis Karampampas, Alexandra Sakelaropoulou, Konsatandinos A man at the sea Avarikiotis, Elena Mavridou Mavridou, Garoufalina kontozou, Myrto Alikaki
CINEMATOGRAPHER:	Dimitris Katsaitis
EDITOR:	Petar Markovic
MUSIC:	Nickolas Anadolis



Festival del cinema Europeo - Golden Olive tree competition - Best Photography Award
Thessaloniki International Film Festival - Audience Award - Best debut actor award
Galway film Fleadh - World Competition - World Premiere
Cottbus Film Festival - Eastern European Film Fest
Arras Film Festival - France
Sofia International Film Festival - Balkan Competition
D'A Barcelona film Festival
Greek Film Festival San Francisco

Penny Panayotopoulou is a Greek filmmaker, screenwriter, and producer. She holds a LLB in law from University of Athens and a degree in film and photo arts from the Polytechnic of Central London. Her debut short film Eldorado won the Best Film Award in the Thessaloniki Film Festival, the State Quality Award by the Ministry of Culture, and an honourable mention from the CNC. It was part of the competition at the international section of the Clermont Ferrand film festival. Her debut feature film Hard Goodbyes: My Father (2002) premiered in the 55th Locarno Film Festival where it was awarded the Bronze Leopard for Best Actor, and the ecumenical jury prize. In the Thessaloniki International Film Festival the film won the FIPRESCI prize and the award for Best Actor. Among numerous international festivals, the film participated in the Toronto International film Festival in the Discovery Section, and set out for an acclaimed international career followed by many awards at many festivals worldwide. September (2013), premiered in the official competition of the 48th Karlovy Vary International Film Festival to critical acclaim, was nominated for six Hellenic Film Academy Awards and won the award for best leading actress. Wishbone (2024) is her third feature film.



The Cinematic Arts continuous evolution provides one of the most creative experiences available today. The life of Aris Anagnos was filled with tremendous challenges that he embraced and overcame. Aris instilled his passion for the arts and the Greek Community in our hearts. We celebrate his legacy by supporting the LAGFF. CONGRATULATIONS LAGFF!

The Anagnos Family



Lula Leblanc

2024, Greece, 95 mins, LA PREMIERE

The 26th of September 1999 Alekos is dead. His teenage granddaughter, Margarita, is stubbornly refusing to go to his funeral and takes advantage of her parents' absence to throw a party at her place. At the end of the night she loses her virginity. Three days before, without knowing that this is his last night alive, Alekos attends a reunion of old friends, where he gets to see, after many years, his first love, Lula Leblanc, who is now suffering of dementia. In a moment of clarity, Lula remembers him and makes him confront their past.

DIRECTOR(S): Stergios Paschos
PRODUCER: Nicholas Alavanos, Stergios Paschos, Christina Stavropoulou
WRITER(S): Stergios Paschos
CAST: Thanasis Papageorgiou, Michele Valley, Elena Topalidou, Danai Nilsen, Maria Korachai
CINEMATOGRAPHER: Yiorgos Koutsaliaris
EDITOR: Stamos Dimitropoulos
MUSIC: Yiannis Veslemes



- 64th Thessaloniki International film Festival
- Cyprus Film Days International Festival
- Grove Film Festival
- 10th Indian World Film Festival

Stergios Paschos works as a screenwriter and director in Film and Television. He has written and directed seven short films. His latest Film, THE LAST TAXI DRIVER, was premiered at the International competition section of 64th THESSALONIKI INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL winning two prizes (GREEK ASSOCIATION CRITICS AWARD & BEST ACTOR AWARD). In 2016 his debut Feature Film AFTERLOV premiered in Locarno Film Festival at the Concorso Cineasti del Presente and won the youth jury prize for Best picture. Also the film won the artistic achievement award at Thessaloniki international film festival, youth jury award at the Festival International du Film d' Amour de Mons and the Fipresci award at the Transylvania Film festival. So far, the film has been screened in many festivals, like Sao Paulo International Film Festival, Istanbul International Film Festival, Raindance and Cairo International Film Festival. Filmography 2023 THE LAST TAXI DRIVER (feature) 2016 AFTERLOV (feature) 2013 ELVIS IS DEAD (short) 2012 LARGO (short) 2011 HELEN (short) 2010 KNOCKS (short)

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Congratulations

to LAGFF for all your years of showcasing the very best of Greek and Cypriot filmmaking and to the wonderful filmmakers who use their limitless creativity to tell the important stories we need to hear.

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Features



Sgt. Fruit Fly

2023, CANADA, GREECE, 90 MINS, US PREMIERE

A young boy who is a victim of bullying hopes his mother's magic potion will make him a war hero like his father, but in the end discovers that all he needed was to believe in himself. Not your typical coming of age story. Sgt. Fruit Fly shows what happens when a boy can just be a boy.

DIRECTOR(S): Tommy King
PRODUCER: Juliette Hagopian
EXECUTIVE PRODUCER: Julijette Inc
PRODUCTION DESIGNER: Jesse Peterson
WRITER(S): Tommy King
CAST: Jamie Mayers, Mara Marini, Makis Papadimitriou
CINEMATOGRAPHER: Stephen Whitehead
EDITOR: Lambis Haralambidis, John Gurdebeke
MUSIC: Manos Antoniadis



- 2024 - Greek International Film Festival Tour of Canada: Winner - Best Canadian Feature Film Tommy King
- 2024 - Cyprus International Film Festival: Afrodite Award Winner - Best First Feature Film Tommy King Winner - Best Supporting Actress - Niki Skiadaresi
- 2024 - Bridges International Film Festival: Winner - Nostiman Imar Award - Best International Filmmaker with Greek Origin Tommy King
- 2025 - Greece International Film Festival: Winner - Best Director - Tommy King Winner - Best Supporting Actress - Bessy Malfa Winner - Best Supporting Actor - Dimitris Alexandris

Having been in the entertainment industry for over 20 years, Athanassios Pavlis (aka Tommy King), brings a wealth of real life experience to the film business. Having written and directed the award winning short, Forbidden Fruit, in 2010. It played at 8 worldwide film festivals and won the International Film Festival in Johannesburg South Africa, and the Gold Kahuna Award at the Honolulu International Film Festival. He was an associate producer with the film Escaping the Madhouse: The Nellie Bly Story, starring Christina Ricci and Judith Light, which won the WIN award for Best Made-For-TV Movie in 2019. He recently served as associate producer on the Lifetime Film The Girl Who Escaped: The Kara Robinson Story which was #1 on Apple TV on its debut weekend. Tommy has now shot his feature film debut, Sgt. Fruit Fly, a coming of age film about a young boy who is a victim of bullying and with his mother's secret potion becomes a national hero. The film was shot in Athens, Greece in 2023 with an eclectic mix of established Canadian and Greek talent.

Congratulations to Ersi and all the LAGFF team on the launch of another fantastic festival! Your long and continuous commitment to showcasing Greek cinema is a gift to both the Greek community and film lovers everywhere. Bravo.

– Jim Gianopoulos

19 LOS ANGELES
GREEK FILM
FESTIVAL
MAY 27 - JUNE 1, 2025



The River

2024, GREECE, ITALY, KOSOVO, 100 MINS, WORLD PREMIERE

What is so called 'progress' for him, is a threat for her. A car accident brings them close. The orgasmic taste of Nuggets even closer. But it takes much more for them to be together.

DIRECTOR(S):	Haris Raftogiannis
PRODUCER:	Effie Skrobola, George Kyriakos, Luca Cabriolu, Vassilis Tzanidis, Andrea Di Blasio, Eshref Durmishi, Eleni Kossyfidou
WRITER(S):	Haris Raftogiannis, Nikos Leros
CAST:	Makis Papadimitriou, Stefania Sotiropoulou
CINEMATOGRAPHER:	Christina Moumouri
EDITOR:	Nikos Vavouris
COSTUMES:	Georgia Boura



Thessaloniki IFF, 2024
RIVER participated at the 4th Discovery Days lab (formerly known as IPDF)

Born in Athens, Greece. Studied Sociology (BA) and History & Theory of Cinema (MA). His films and documentaries were selected for numerous film festivals (Clermont Ferrand, Visions du Réel, Angers), art venues (Museum Europäischer Kulturen) and awarded in Greece and internationally. He also works as cinematographer and editor for Cinema and TV. He is a co-founder of the indie music band Sweet Sixteen.



Documentaries

Documentaries



Dourgouti Town

2024, Greece, 88 mins, LA Premiere

A real estate agent who is interested in investing wanders around the area of Neos Kosmos in Athens, formerly known as Dourgouti. Through his eyes unfolds the past, present, and uncertain future of this once degraded district. A district resembling a deserted island, right next to Acropolis, following the fate of similar areas around the globe.

DIRECTOR(S):	Dimitris Bavellas
CAST:	Ivonne Maltezou, Stathis Kokkoris, Vasilis Yakoumaros
CINEMATOGRAPHER:	Giannis Fotou
EDITOR:	Chronis Theocharis, Giorgos Georgopoulos, Nikos Kallipolitis
MUSIC:	Agis Papapanagiotou



- Thessaloniki Documentary International Film Festival - 2024
- Berkeley Video and Film Festival - 2024 (Best Foreign Documentary Award)
- 14th Panorama of Contemporary Greek and Cypriot Cinema - 2025 (Paris, France)

My warmest wishes to Costa-Gavras for both his extraordinary filmmaker career and his contribution to film preservation. My thanks also to the LAGFF leadership and staff for so many years of promoting Greek cinema — you do God’s work, if there is a God.

– Alexander Payne

19 LOS ANGELES
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The Return That Never Was. Cyprus 1974-2024

2024, CYPRUS, 88 MINS, NORTH AMERICA PREMIERE

The documentary narrates the personal experience and memories of the displaced refugees and interned people, and how they experienced and felt the Turkish invasion in July 1974. Traumatic experiences of children, adolescents, and adults were imprinted and remain in their memories and souls 50 years later. The 88-minute documentary is a narrative from 18 people who lived in Cyprus before the Turkish invasion in 1974.

DIRECTOR(S):

PRODUCER:

CAST:

Athanasios Gioumpasis
Athanasios Gioumpasis
Kostakis Andreou, Katina Arabi
Skorda, Nikos Basilas, Kikis
Filipou, George Foradaris,
Michalis Hadjirosos, Antonis Ilia
Dimitris Kotsiekkas, Valentinos
Koumettou Dimitris K. Matolis,
Ioanna Mouzourou, Andreas
Petrou, Kiriakou Polidorou, Kostas
Polidorou, Iosif Skordis Kiriakos
Stavri, Michalis Tziortas, Aleem
Siddique

CINEMATOGRAPHER:

Athanasios Gioumpasis



2025, 27th Thessaloniki International Documentary Festival, Official Selection

I have been working as a Photographer since 2002 and as a Videographer since 2014 where I have collaborated with the most popular magazines, newspapers and broadcasters in Greece and worldwide (BBC, National Geographic, DW, Sport Illustrated, The Guardian, LA Times, New York Times, Lonely Planet, Mashable, The Telegraph, HuffPost, ZEIT Online, BBC, Rai News, Mashable, ARTE). My work covers a wide range of the film and photography industry, from documentaries and aerial videos, current affairs and entertainment.



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Takis.

2025, Greece, 62 mins, International Premiere

TAKIS, a former nightclub owner, shares his inspiring journey of giving up everything to rescue stray dogs in Crete. Beginning with a few abandoned dogs, his sanctuary now cares for over 400. Despite challenges, Takis has transformed local attitudes and inspired global support in tackling Greece's stray dog crisis.

DIRECTOR(S):	Michael Roubis, Nikolas Pottakis
PRODUCER:	Eleni Alafouzou, Christos Katsikas
WRITER(S):	Anna Podara
CAST:	Takis Proestakis
EDITOR:	Michael Roubis
MUSIC:	Ermis



2025 Thessaloniki International Documentary Festival

Michael Roubis, born in Athens in 1986, began his career directing television shows and series. In recent years, he shifted his focus to television documentaries, captivated by their distinctive creative process. "Takis" is his first cinematic project.

Always believe in the power of film!

– Dr. Stephen & Dr. Anna Yallourakis

19 LOS ANGELES
GREEK FILM
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MAY 27 - JUNE 1, 2025

Documentaries



The Charcoal Makers of Ikaria Island

2024, GREECE, 79 MINS, INTERNATIONAL PREMIERE

The story of the renowned charcoal makers from Ikaria island, who traveled throughout Greece and Asia Minor to make charcoal. Elderly charcoal burners, aged between 70 and 104, describe the era and its hardships. Simultaneously, the women who stayed behind on the island, recount the events from their perspective. Descendants in Chalkida and Alonissos islands share the memories of their generation and the relocation of their ancestors. We speak with historian Themistocles Katsaros and convey the true sense of the charcoal sites with excerpts from the 1977 film "The Charcoal Burners" by Alinda Dimitriou. Finally, we observe the entire process of charcoal production by constructing a traditional kiln. These are testimonies from a bygone era when charcoal was the driving force of industry—and not just industry—against the backdrop of the history of Greece through the years.

DIRECTOR(S):	Manos Arvanitakis
PRODUCER:	hyke productions, Cultural Association "Antilaloï"
EXECUTIVE PRODUCER:	hyke productions
WRITER(S):	Manos Arvanitakis
CAST:	Giorgos Kalampogias
CINEMATOGRAPHER:	Alexandros Vilaras
EDITOR:	Xenofon Vardaros
MUSIC:	George Melesanakis, Stavros Nikolaidis

Manos Arvanitakis is a graduate of the Leica Academy photography school. He has attended seminars at the Film School of the Czech Republic (FAMU Academy), film seminars within the CinemaDaMare festival in Italy, participated in a Master Class with Theo Angelopoulos, and a workshop at the National Theatre on 'Technology in Theatre.' He has made short films and video art, with participations and distinctions at Greek and international film festivals. In 2010, his short film "Sea Happens" participated in the Cannes Film Festival, at the Short Film Corner, receiving great reviews and invitations to international festivals. Since 2001, he has worked as a cinematographer, director, and assistant director alongside well-known Greek directors. He has also participated in numerous theatrical, dance, and musical performances, using new media (projection mapping) to present works at the Athens and Epidaurus Festival, the Onassis Cultural Centre, the Herodes Atticus Theatre, and other venues. After completing his latest short film "Pasa Anasa," he is in the process of shooting the documentary "The Charcoal Makers of Ikaria Island". At the same time, he is working on the script for his first feature film.



DocFest, Thessaloniki International Documentary Festival

Masterclass with Gareth Ellis-Unwin
Presented by the Antenna Group & Village Cinemas



Gareth Ellis-Unwin is an Academy and BAFTA award winning producer, best known for the film THE KINGS SPEECH, for which he picked up a Best Picture Oscar in 2011. Now living and working in Greece, Gareth is bringing his 30 plus years of international filmmaking experience to a new venture within the Antenna Group and Village Cinemas, the market leading Greek cinema operator. During his 60 minute masterclass Gareth will reflect on his career to date, a journey that saw him go from being an assistant director all the way to picking up his Oscar and BAFTA Award, and discuss practical advice on pitching, developing and producing movies. He will also share detail on the new venture in Greece, the values and ambitions of the new company in shaping Greek filmmaking, and most importantly how they will be looking to work with Greek talent from around the world.

The Masterclass with Gareth Ellis-Unwin will be on Saturday, May 31, 3 pm at Landmark Theatres Sunset. Free and open to the public.



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Super Paradise

2024, Greece, Germany, 87 mins, International Premiere

In the 1970s, a small Greek island emerges as a symbol of hope, freedom, and self-expression. Mykonos was “paradise on earth” and for some, it still is.

DIRECTOR(S):	Steve Krikris
WRITER(S):	Steve Krikris, Dafni Kalafati, Paul Typaldos
CINEMATOGRAPHER:	Stelios Pissas
EDITOR:	Marios Kleftakis
MUSIC:	Coti K



Thessaloniki Documentary Festival 2025



*Motu Nao Nao,
a pristine private
paradise where
one steps into the
rhythm of nature*



Welcome to Motu Nao Nao.
**Without a doubt, the island of all
your dreams. Motu Nao Nao is part of
the lagoon of Raiatea.**
**Both attached to the sacred island,
but also ready to set sail towards
the open sea like an explorer's
ship...**

Location

Motu Nao Nao is located 1.5 km (0,93 miles) away from the island of Raiatea, 40 minutes from the airport and the town of Uturoa.

Raiatea, the administrative center of the Leeward Islands, offers all the services available in the region. At Motu Nao Nao, you can experience a deserted island while remaining close to civilization.

The motu has two beaches, one of which is over 800 meters (0,5 miles) long, and 25 hectares (61,7 acres) of lush nature with a wide array of flora and fauna and maintains attention towards sustainability and a small ecological footprint.



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Villas & facilities

The property offers 3 two-person villas designed and decorated by local designer Alain Fleurot.



VILLA MIRI
72m2 - 775sq ft

- One king size bed.
- Bathroom with panoramic shower, dressing table, day bed, outdoor bathtub.
- Living room with sofa, desk, deck chairs, umbrellas.
- Deck of 57 m2 (613 sq ft).
- Sonos WIFI speaker controlled by your Smartphone.
- Mini bar.
- Nespresso machine.
- Air conditioning, fan.
- 1 Ipad, WIFI.



VILLA MANA
103m2 - 1 108 sq ft

- A queen size bed in the mezzanine.
- Fully equipped kitchen.
- Bathroom with shower.
- Wine cellar, mini bar and ice machine.
- Nespresso machine.
- Dining room.
- Deck of 130 m2 (1399 sq ft), outdoor dining area.
- Outdoor lounge with fire pit, deckchairs, umbrellas, poufs.
- Air-conditioning, remote-controlled fans.
- Sonos WIFI sound system inside and outside controlled by Smartphone.
- 1 Ipad, WIFI.
-



VILLA MITI
61m2 - 656 sq ft

- One king size bed.
- Bathroom with shower and bathtub.
- Living room with sofa, desk, deckchairs, parasols.
- Deck of 40 m2 (430 sq ft).
- Sonos WIFI speaker controlled by your Smartphone.
- Mini bar.
- Nespresso machine.
- Air conditioning, fan.
- 1 Ipad, WIFI



Ongoing activities:

Stand up paddle, snorkeling, kayaking, biking, pearl farm tour, outdoor movie night on giant screen, karaoke, fitness equipment.

Activities of your choice (one per day included):

Scuba diving, Jet Ski, lagoon boat tour, 4x4 safari, Va'a Holopuni, massage, nature and culture tour, Yoga, Pilates.

Activities

Food & beverage

Your private chef's refined dishes are made with local and seasonal ingredients, including fish, organic vegetables and plants grown on the Motu. You enjoy full board and a selection of wines, beers, spirits, soft drinks and snacks that are restocked every morning. Consumption out of the selection (premium brands) will be charged.



Discovery Days Story & Pitch Lab



KATERINA MAVROGEORGI
(ANCHORED, Director / Co-Writer)



RINIO DRAGASAKI
(SUMMER SPELL, Director / Writer)



ARTEMIS ANASTASIADOU
(THE CASE OF M.K., Director / Co-Writer)



EMMA DOXIADI (THE DISAPPEARANCE,
Director / Writer / Producer)



GIORGOS ATHANASIOU
(THE SON, Director / Co-Writer)



GIORGOS ZAFEIROPOULOS
(THE SON, Co-Writer)



SANTIAGO PALADINES
(WAKRA, Director / Writer / Producer)

Our Los Angeles pioneer story & pitch lab, Discovery Days, turns 11 this year and is going strong! The 5-day program runs parallel to the film festival and focuses on developing feature-film projects whose stories and/or creators originate from Greece, Cyprus and other countries in the Mediterranean Basin and the Balkan Peninsula. This year the lab is Greek-centric! Five projects are from Greece and one from Spain/Ecuador. The attending filmmakers will be consulted and coached by 15 experts through an intensive schedule which includes both group and one-on-one sessions, culminating in live audiovisual presentations of the projects by the creators to a professional jury.

Discovery Days receives support from EKKOMED.



**Hellenic Film &
Audiovisual Center**
Creative Greece



Arctic Odyssey

2025, Greece, 74 mins, International Premiere

An epic cinematic journey filled with breathtaking landscapes and unforgettable moments. Andreas and Alexandros embark on a bikepacking adventure in Norway, overcoming physical and mental challenges, conquering obstacles, and discovering the best version of themselves. Their journey allows viewers to live each moment as if they were there.

DIRECTOR(S):	Evangelos Rassias
PRODUCER:	Evangelos Rassias
CAST:	Andreas Grivas, Sampanis Alexandros
CINEMATOGRAPHER:	Rassias Evangelos
EDITOR:	Rassias Evangelos

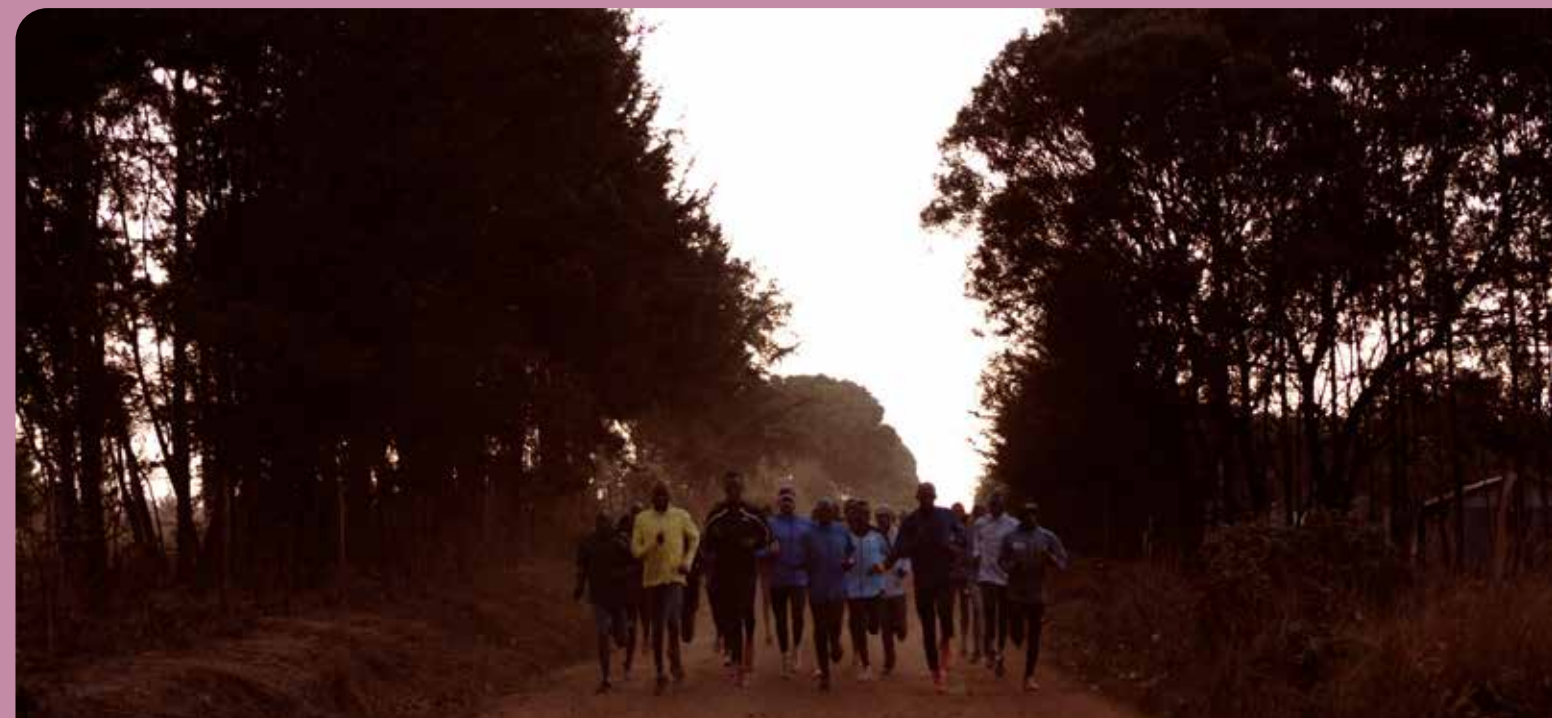


- 2025, TiDF27 Thessaloniki Documentary Film Festival, Thessaloniki Greece, Official Selection
- 2025 Fischer Audience Award for Platform, 2025 TiDF27 Thessaloniki Greece, Greece Premiere Audience Award
- Athens International Monthly Art Film Festival | Debut Documentary Award, Athens
- Stockholm City Film Festival, Stockholm Sweden, Official Selection
- Lule International Film Festival, Sweden, Semi Finalist - Best Debut Documentary



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KARIBU: Giorgos Stamoulis

2024, GREECE, 63 MINS, INTERNATIONAL PREMIERE

Long-distance runner Giorgos Stamoulis greets us with “Karibu”—meaning “Welcome” in Swahili, the language of Kenya! The documentary “KARIBU: Giorgos Stamoulis” follows him to Iten, Kenya, where he trains alongside some of the world’s top athletes. The film invites us into the dream of an athlete striving for distinction, while also unveiling Kenyan culture and the network of people supporting him along the way. With the Swahili welcome “Karibu,” Giorgos invites us on his own journey, navigating between his studies in the Department of Physiotherapy at the University of Thessaly in Lamia, his training sessions with Panellinos Gymnastics Association in Athens, and his training in Iten, at an altitude of about 2,500 meters in north-central Kenya, where Olympic and World Champions train. The distance between everyday life and the dream is bridged through the support of a “chain” of people—family, coaches, professors, friends and fellow athletes, who stand by him every step of the way. From Lamia to Athens, and from there to the mountains of Kenya and Evrytania, “KARIBU: Giorgos Stamoulis” is not a journey into the “industry” of sports, but into the personal journey of a young man fighting to make his dream a reality. Karibu! Welcome to his pursuit of a dream!



2025 Thessaloniki International Documentary Festival

Graduate of the School of Fine Arts, member of the Union of Editors of Greece and of the International Federation of Journalists, he has been activated in his own media since 2009. In 2006 and 2007 he had the position of the artistic director of the Panhellenic Exhibition of Modern Art Belle Arte Lamia and since 2008 he has been the artistic director of the Oitis Festival. He directed the performances “Annabel”, “Frida: My life” and “Llorona” under the auspices of the Greek National Museum of Contemporary Art. He is the scriptwriter and producer of the short film: 2022, “Satonella”, short film, 10.54 He is the scriptwriter

DIRECTOR(S):	George Papastamoulos
PRODUCER:	Belle Arte Lamia, Cultural Organization of Central Greece, George Papastamoulos
WRITER(S):	George Papastamoulos
CAST:	Giorgos Stamoulis, Giorgos Parras, Savvas Spanos, Stamelaki Magdalini, Chrysa Ksanthi, Pavlos Kitixis, Stavros Karres, Dimitra Theodoraki, Konstantinos Stamoulis, Mama Jeremy, Joyce Kimaiyo, Giorgos Minos, Arthur Vekiarrellis, Fidelis Chebet, Chesire Psirat, Yudah Eleni Stamouli, Zoe Stamouli, Christos Stamoulis, Nikos Stribakos
CINEMATOGRAPHER:	Akis Loukas
EDITOR:	Panagiotis Paparoupas
MUSIC:	Stavroula Mpoti

and producer of the mini-docs: 2019, In the Steps of the City — The Cobbler of Lamia, documentary short. 2023, George Papanikolaou: Tribute to the man who won the cancer, documentary short 2024, Stavroula Peleki: The “mother” who gave birth to nothing but Love, documentary short He is the Director and Producer of the Documentary: 2025, Movimentos: Six days in the neighborhoods of the Mediterranean (currently on post-production), Documentary

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Documentaries

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MIA TAINIA TOY MEΛETH MOIPA

Worship – (My) Greek Cult Movies

2024, GREECE, 104 MINS, INTERNATIONAL PREMIERE

How do we perceive cult, and which are the movies that shaped this term for the Greek standards? What is worship? Is cult subjective? Objective? Or does it become so, through a group of faithful? How does someone acquire faith towards a film and what standards must a movie fulfil to be worshipped?

DIRECTOR(S):	Meletis Miras
PRODUCER:	Meletis Miras
WRITER(S):	Meletis Miras
CAST:	Antonis Tsiotsiopoulos
CINEMATOGRAPHER:	Christos Tolis
EDITOR:	Meletis Miras, Chronis Theocharis
MUSIC:	Panu Manuilidis
COSTUMES:	Production Designer: Maria Koufopoulou



2024, 30th AIFF
2024, 12th Chania Film Festival
2024, 10th Int. Doc Peloponnese

Meletis Miras started making movies almost 20 years after his graduation from the film academy. Currently he attends the 4th year on European Culture at H.O.U. He loves Documentaries and flirts with fiction movies as well.



Best wishes for a great festival!

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A River Called Vakirtzis

2024, GREECE, 43 MINS, INTERNATIONAL PREMIERE

A tribute to a master creative in the "art of the seven days" From the façades of the capital's main cinemas in the 1950s and 1960s, inviting passer-by into the dark theaters, George Vakirtzis's gigantic, original and bold visual creations today adorn public and private collections and are internationally acclaimed.



27th Thessaloniki International Documentary Festival, Official Selection

Director, Producer and Writer, cofounder of PATH Ltd., an independent production company based in Athens, Greece. Over the last 35 years he has worked extensively in film, television and commercial production in Greece and the USA for national and multinational clients and has directed numerous documentaries, shorts, fiction for episodic TV, as well as commercials, corporate, educational and social awareness videos. A graduate of the American Film Institute in Hollywood (AFI Center for Advanced Film & Television Studies), he holds an MFA in Film Directing from the Art Center College of Design in Pasadena, California and an MBA from Athens Laboratory of Business Administration (ALBA). His documentary directorial credits include: IMEROLOGIA ERGASIAS (LABOR LOG), a 13-episode

historical documentary series on the evolution of labor in the modern Greek State produced for ERT, the National Greek Broadcaster. IMAGE THIEF, a documentary on photographer Spyros Staveris, produced by PATH in association with the Thessaloniki Museum of Photography WE ARE ALL CITIZENS, a series of documentaries on the action of EEA Grants' funded NGOs in Greece during the years of economic crisis produced for the Bodossaki Foundation. SPETSES '21 – Crossroads of History, feature length documentary. Fragments of history in the narrative of modern Spetsiotes. A RIVER CALLED VAKIRTZIS, a 43 min documentary, tribute to a master creative in the "art of the seven days", as the giant hand made cinema posters were called. panos.thomaidis@path.com.gr

DIRECTOR(S):
PRODUCER:
WRITER(S):
CAST:

Panos A. Thomaidis
Panos A. Thomaidis
Panos A. Thomaidis
Syrago Tsiara – Art Historian
Director of National Gallery –
Alexandros Soutsos Museum,
Christos Ph. Margaritis –
Production Engineer Coordinator
of Publications and Art Exhibitions,
Marios Chondrogiannis – Painter,
Antonis Ricos, Photographer /
Visual Artist / Cinematographer
– Lia Chalkia, Theodoridou –
Professor Emeritus NKUA, Eleni
Konstantopoulou – Representative
of G. Vakirtzis Family, Irene Orati
– Arti Historian / Artistic Director
of J. F. Costopoulos Foundation,
Takis Liarmakopoulos – Advertising
Executive / Vice President at FCB
Gnomi S.A., Christina Hohlakidis –
Advertising Executive / CEO at FCB
GNOMI S.A.,

CINEMATOGRAPHER:
EDITOR:
MUSIC:

Zaphiris Epameinondas, GSC
Dimosthenis Raptis
George Hatzinasios



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The Last Nomad

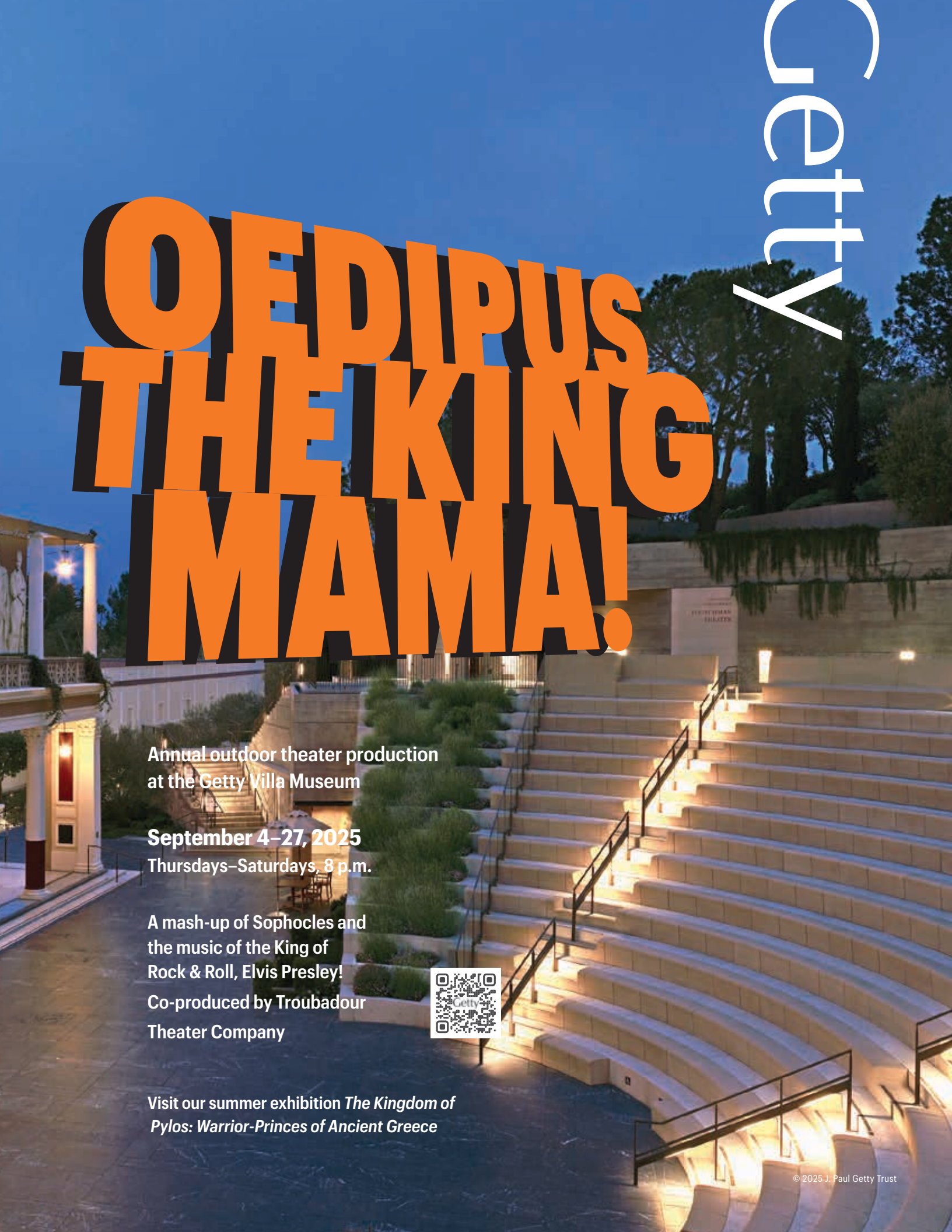
2024, Greece, 22 mins, International Premiere

Greek Sarakatsani community members, a former group of nomadic animal breeders, share personal experiences and discuss the concept of identity today. The balance between the intangible cultural heritage and the personal experience raises questions about the community’s survival and the possible cultural death. A tribute to collective memory through an experiential journey that sets out from the past, progresses into the present, and contemplates the future.

DIRECTOR(S): Filippos Ferentinos
PRODUCER: Filippos Ferentinos
WRITER(S): Filippos Ferentinos

-  2024, Drama International Short Film Festival
-  2024, Ethnofest

Filippos Ferentinos is a photographer and a director based in Athens, Greece. He holds a diploma in the Art of Photography and graduated with his master’s at the University of the Aegean in 2023, specializing in Culture and Documentary Film Production. Through visual storytelling and documentary language, he focuses on issues of individual and collective identity, memory, and trauma, among others. The short documentary ‘The Last Nomad’, created as part of his thesis, premiered at the Drama International Short Film Festival in September 2024 as his directorial debut.



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Panellinion

2024, GREECE, 81 MINS, NORTH AMERICA PREMIERE

A ghost story of obsession, solitude and madness, in a chess coffeehouse out of place and time, in the center of Athens. The story of “Panellinion”, a refuge for people who suffocate in everyday life, who despise and fail to adapt in the conditions of modern life.

DIRECTOR(S):	Spyros Mantzavinos, Kostas Antarachas
PRODUCER:	Leonidas Konstantarakos
WRITER(S):	Spyros Mantzavinos, Kostas Antarachas
CINEMATOGRAPHER:	Giorgos Koutsaliaris
EDITOR:	Dimitris Polyzos
MUSIC:	Giorgos Kottaridis



- 2024, Thessaloniki International Documentary Festival – BEST GREEK FILM – GREEK ASSOCIATION OF FILM CRITICS AWARD
- 2024, Thessaloniki International Documentary Festival – NEWCOMER DIRECTOR – GFC AWARD TO GREEK PROGRAM
- 2024, Thessaloniki International Documentary Festival – YOUTH JURY AWARD BY THE STUDENTS OF THESSALONIKI UNIVERSITIES OFFD
- 2024, PriMed Documentary Film Festival – International Premiere
- 2024, Chania International Film Festival
- 2024, Peloponnisos International Documentary Festival
- 2025, Berlin Greek Film Festival

Spyros Mantzavinos has a diploma in Film Directing from Stavrakos Film School. In 2019 he published his book *Mnistirofonia and Other Stories* which was nominated for the prize of the first-time writer by Klepsydra magazine. His short film *Analoulouda* was nominated for best student film. *Analoulouda*, short film, 2018, Moscow International Shorts 2019 – nomination for best student film



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Documentaries



All that devouring beauty

2024, GREECE, 66 MINS, NORTH AMERICA PREMIERE

The Athonite ritual of the Epitaph is observed only in Skiathos, except for Mount Athos. It is a spiritual experience that lights up the human soul just like the lit candles do when they escort the 'holy Epitaph'. The vernal season co-celebrates and the whole island uniquely witnesses 'all that devouring beauty' of the Holy Suffering.

DIRECTOR(S):	Panagiotis Kountouras
PRODUCER:	Kostas Ganotis
WRITER(S):	Panagiotis Kountouras
CINEMATOGRAPHER:	Panagiotis Kountouras
EDITOR:	Panagiotis Kountouras
MUSIC:	Kostas Ganotis



- 2024, Kalakari Film Festival, India
- 2024, Greek International Film Festival Tour of Canada
- 2024, SACRAE SCENAE Film Festival dedicated to popular devotions, Italy
- 2024, Chania Film Festival, Greece
- 2025, Orion IFF, Australia
- 2025, Los Angeles Greek Film Festival

Panagiotis Kountouras is an awarded director, writer & Talents Sarajevo alumni, know for his short film IVAN and the documentary feature film MAUTHAUSEN. He graduated with honors from Film Studies Department (AUTH) and UOWM Med in Script Writing for Film & Television. His work mainly focuses on human behavior and reveals ubiquitous absence, diversity and solitude. He has directed more than 100 documentary episodes for Public Television of Greece.



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Short Films



11:01

2024, GREECE, 28 MINS, LA PREMIERE

A former dancer returns to her hometown, encountering an unexpected heartwarming connection with a girl who has Down syndrome.



2024 Indy Shorts Film Festival
2024 Iris Prize LGBTQ+ Film Festival
2025 Tampere Film Festival
2025 T-Port Lighthouse Selections



2025 Crystal Palace International Film Festival
2025 San Francisco Greek Film Festival, Winner: Jury Award for Best

Narrative Short, Best Performance in a Short Film (Loxandra Maria Loukas)

Shorts

DIRECTOR(S): Jimi Drosinos
PRODUCER: Christos Harakolgou
WRITER(S): Elpida Stathatou
CAST: Elpida Stathatou, Loxandra Maria Loukas, Laura Hamisultane, Akillas Karazisis, Nikos Mourkas



Driving Me Crazy

2024, GREECE, 18 MINS, INTERNATIONAL PREMIERE

Nina knows why her grandfather hates her — obviously because she’s a lesbian. Time to come clean. In the weirdest car ride of their lives, Nina and Stathis will have to finally talk to each other whether they like it or not.



2024, Drama International Short Film Festival, Student Competition - Best Director, Best Lead Actor, Best Lead Actress

Shorts

DIRECTOR(S): Meni Tsilianidou
PRODUCER: Antonia Halavazi
PRODUCTION DESIGNER: Manolis Psomatakis
WRITER(S): Dimitra Kapsala, Anna Maria Lagortsi
CAST: Iro Tsamoglou, Dimitris Naziris, Elena Papazachou
CINEMATOGRAPHER: Dimitris Kossivas
EDITOR: Evdoxia Chasapi

“Film is a perfect way to communicate with the audience; you can tell them something you want to share. And if they want, they will respond... In all the great films..., you see what society is like, and what happens in the world; you see characters and what happens in their lives.”

– Costa-Gavras Film Talk, April 1, 2023

Courtesy of The Antholis Family

19 **LOS ANGELES**
GREEK FILM
FESTIVAL
MAY 27 - JUNE 1, 2025



A 10 Minute Swim

2024, GREECE, 24 MINS, INTERNATIONAL PREMIERE

In 1970s Albania, two star-crossed lovers decide to go against the grip of an oppressive regime that forbids their union—only to spark a chain of betrayal, resistance, and tragedy that consumes everyone around them.



2024, Drama International Film Festival,
2024, Athens International Film Festival

2024, Spicy Indie International Film Festival - Best Short Film & Best Film Audience Award

2025 Athens Monthly International Film Festival - Best Film of the Year

2025 Greek International Film Festival - Best Short Film

2025, Muses Film Awards - Best Short Film

Shorts

DIRECTOR(S): Achilles Tsoutsis
PRODUCER: Achilles Tsoutsis, Alexandros Moustas
WRITER(S): Achilles Tsoutsis, Alexandros Moustas
CAST: Alexandros Moustas, Popi Fragkakou, Anastasia Ntaliani, Mikaela Kodra, Giorgos Tzouvelekis, Maria Syrigou



Golden Fingers

2023, GREECE, 15 MINS, LA PREMIERE

In 1960s rural Greece, a 6-year-old gypsy boy battles school bullies, an abusive father, and a deeply racist society. As an outcast from a destitute family, his dream of becoming a musician seems impossible. Yet, this young boy will stop at nothing to overcome the obstacles and fulfill his dream of becoming one of the world's finest clarinet soloists. Based on a true story.



2024, Drama - Special Mention
2024, Olympia - Best short fiction film
2025, Greece International Film Festival - Best production

DIRECTOR(S): Fivos Kontogiannis
PRODUCER: Grigoris Sarantis
WRITER(S): Stefanos Koutsardakis
CAST: Sarantis Karagiannis

Shorts

**Congratulations to all the filmmakers,
participants and the entire team of the
Los Angeles Greek Film Festival for their
dedication and commitment!**

Wishing continued success to all!

— Gene & Vikki George

19 **LOS ANGELES
GREEK FILM
FESTIVAL**
MAY 27 - JUNE 1, 2025

Shorts



Shared Vessel

2022, UNITED STATES, 11 MINS.

Winifred, a ghost, is constantly being channeled by obnoxious teenager, Cher. Irritated by being controlled spiritually, and sympathetic with Cher's parents' frustrations, Winifred finds an unexpected solution to bring peace to the house.



Los Angeles Horror Film Festival
Los Angeles Queer Film Festival
Pharos BI Short Film Festival (Greece)

Bay of Blood International Film Festival
(Canada)
Fishnets & Film (San Francisco)

Shorts



We regret to inform you

2025, UNITED STATES, 13 MINS, WORLD PREMIERE

In a dystopian society, Mariam, like all citizens, receives a government call precisely 24 hours before her predetermined death informing her of her final day.



2025, World Premiere - Hellenic Film
Society, New York, NY

DIRECTOR(S): Daniel Carsenty
PRODUCER: Katerina Hoyo-Frederickson
WRITER(S): Katerina Hoyo-Frederickson
CAST: Alyssa Aiello, Betty Blanco-Gomez,
Navaris Darson, John Sobrack

DIRECTOR(S): Michelle Bossy
PRODUCER: Thalia Mavros, David M. Night Maire
WRITER(S): Zina Wilde
CAST: Zina Wilde, Kai Lennox



BETWEEN
GREECE
& THE WORLD
THERE'S
ATHENS
INTERNATIONAL
AIRPORT.



EVERY MINUTE
A NEW JOURNEY BEGINS!



Wishing the filmmakers continued
success!

- James & Angela Ananias

19 LOS ANGELES
GREEK FILM
FESTIVAL
MAY 27 - JUNE 1, 2025

**Congratulations to the amazing staff
and filmmakers for another successful
festival!**

– Corinna Tsopei-Fields

19 **LOS ANGELES
GREEK FILM
FESTIVAL**
MAY 27 - JUNE 1, 2025



Operation Museum

2024, CYPRUS, 15 MINS, NORTH AMERICAN PREMIERE

As the absurdity of the war unfolds, Vassos Karagiorgis, Director of the Department of Antiquities of the Republic of Cyprus, and his colleagues, try to save all the important exhibits of the Archaeological Museum along with the identity and the history of the country.



Neues Museum, Berlin 2024

Cypriot Embassy in Athens, 2024

Shorts

DIRECTOR(S):
PRODUCER:
WRITER(S):
CAST:

Petros Charalambous
Alikis Stylianos, Erotokritos Fahmi
Petros Charalambous
Andreas Tselepos, Anna Yiagkiozi,
Ntóra Makriyianni, Helena
Olymbiou, Elías Andreou, Andreas
Koutsoftas, Theodora Andreou
CINEMATOGRAPHER:
EDITOR: Sofronis Sofroniou
George Cj Spyris



The T3st

2024, GREECE, 12 MINS, US PREMIERE

An imaginative ten-year-old boy must confront his fears and navigate the complexities of the world when his father takes him for a “special” examination.



Bolton International Film Festival

Carmathen Bay Film Festival

Shorts

DIRECTOR(S):
PRODUCER:
WRITER(S):
CAST:

Alexandros Tsilifonis
Katerina Kaskanioti, Katie Cooper,
Tibo Travers
Alexandros Tsilifonis
Matthew Stagg, Killian Coyle

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Alexia

2025, UNITED STATES, 12 MINS, WORLD

A dark comedy-satire about the dangers of artificial intelligence. When Paul is gifted an “Alexia” home device from his loving grandmother from Greece, he feels a connection to his home country and beloved grandmother. The device has his grandmothers voice programmed into it, and like his sometimes invasive grandparent, is helpful and a comfort to have around, that is, until Paul starts to date a girl who isn’t Greek, where he begins to wonder: Does the AI device have a mind of its own?

Shorts

DIRECTOR(S): Frank Manos Most
PRODUCER: Anne Manos Most, Frank Manos Most
WRITER(S): Anne Manos Most, Frank Manos Most
CAST: Kevin Medlin, McKensie Rummel, Effie Noifelt



Ultimately Cleansed

2025, UNITED STATES, 15 MINS, WORLD

Eve is a romantic, a lush, and a good writer. Gabe is, charming, a bit dense, and a great chiropractor. When they meet, sparks fly. When it ends, words fly... onto paper. A delightful retelling of an award winning authors letter to the man who gave her the world... actually it was a juice cleanse book.

Shorts

DIRECTOR(S): Andrew Tippie
PRODUCER: Jahna Frantziskonis, Andrew Tippie
WRITER(S): Andrew Tippie, Jahna Frantziskonis
CAST: Jahna Frantziskonis, Michelle Lukes, Mark Ferrando

Congratulations
to the Filmmakers
&
to all those who work to make the
Los Angeles Greek Film Festival a Success
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My First Wedding

2024, GREECE, 11 MINS, US PREMIERE

Summer of '92 in a typical Greek village. Armed with only imaginations, and rocks, pre-pubescent wallflower Pericles, 8, is on the front lines of a "rock war" with the village's other children between eternal enemies — boys vs girls. Unfortunately, his fight is ended by a well placed rock to the noggin. He comes to only to find, Phaedra, 12, towering above him like an Amazonian warrior princess. It's love at first concussion for young Pericles. Now he's just got to win her over, and if he's lucky, we'll get a first kiss neither will forget.



2024 Dram International Film Festival
2024 Olympia International Film
Festival for Children and Young People
2024 Spicy Indie International Film
Festival (best national director award)

2024 Leiden International Film Festival
2025 The Greek Film Festival in Berlin

Shorts

DIRECTOR(S): Andreas Chalikias
PRODUCER: Kostis Katsaros
WRITER(S): Nikolas Kouloglou
CAST: Alkis Michailidis, Athena Moschidou



Zange

2024, GREECE, 16 MINS, US PREMIERE

A family of four, isolated to guard a salt marsh next to a lighthouse, enjoys the pros and cons of life in a wetland. The children play alone with whatever nature itself can provide as a game, ignorant of what fear is: they chase on the shore, search for crabs, and use the iridescence from the light of the nearby lighthouse. As they discover the workings of the surrounding nature, their psychic habitat struggles to process the unfamiliar concepts of impending death (father) and impending life (mother), seemingly squeezed by a pair of pliers (the German word 'zange' of the title, which also applies to the crab's claw) that tightens and tightens to take away their innocence. Death and life in close succession lead the young siblings to early adolescence, which in turn will bring about early adulthood. Childhood dreams can easily become horrible nightmares, dealt with only by the comfort of another.



2024, Drama International Short Film
Festival — for Best Sound, Sound
Design, and Special Effects

2024, Women in Film and TV, Athens,
Greece - Best Film
2025, Trieste, Italy - Official Selection

2025, GoShort, Nijmegen, The
Netherlands - Official Selection

2025, The Greek Film Festival in Berlin,
Germany - Official Selection

2025, In the Palace, Bulgaria - Official
Selection

Shorts

DIRECTOR(S): Iris Baglanea
PRODUCER: Annabelle Aronis, Helene
Stergiopoulou
WRITER(S): Iris Baglanea
CAST: Roza Prodromou, Thodoris Korozis,
Eleni Trigka, Ektoras Mammasis

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Concrete Rodents

2024, GREECE, 12 MINS, NORTH AMERICA PREMIERE

"Moving chaotically through the urban maze, searching for a glimmer of hope." As the shadows of social injustices rise over modern Athens, the friendship of the three, Petros, Aris and George blossoms into a daring alliance. In an attempt at social and economic liberation, facing an establishment that with insecurity and violence dries up any form of hope for the future, they dance on the edge of moral irregularity and walk on the fine line between legality and illegality. Will the perceptions of their choices light their path or lead to their downfall? Concrete Rodents is an exploration of paranoia, friendship and the blurred boundaries between personal justice and wrongdoing. In the narrow streets of Athens, where desperation collides with determination, these friends will either emerge as protagonists of their own narrative or succumb to the chilling collusion of the city's underworld.



2024, Drama International Film Festival, GSC Photography Special Award



2024 Spicy International Film Festival
2024 Panorama Film Festival (Greek Directors Union), Director Award



2025 The Greek Film Festival in Berlin,
2025 London Film Festival Club, Best Student Film

Shorts

DIRECTOR(S): Apostolis Gkanatsios
PRODUCER: Apostolis Gkanatsios
WRITER(S): Apostolis Gkanatsios
CAST: Dimitris Kapouranis, Giorgos Katsis, Dimitris Gkotsis, Vasilis Anastasiou



Halcyon Days

2024, GREECE, 15 MINS, INTERNATIONAL PREMIERE

In a mountainous village, a young country girl is getting ready for her wedding at the local town hall. It will be a day unlike all the rest. However, her future husband does not seem to share the same longing. When the wedding is postponed for the next day, everything is up in the air.



2024, Drama International Short Film Festival - Best Editing

Shorts

DIRECTOR(S): Alexandros Skouras
PRODUCER: Alexandros Skouras
WRITER(S): Alexandros Skouras
CAST: Mariam Rukhadze, Pavlos Iordanopoulos, Giannis Papadopoulos
EDITOR: Dimitris Polyzos
MUSIC: George Arkomanis

Congratulations to the filmmakers,
honorees and LAGFF for your 19th year
of presenting the best of Greek cinema!

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The Song of the Witch

2022, CYPRUS, 13 MINS, NONE

On a cold Christmas eve in nineteenth Century Cyprus, an old woman tells a tale of death, myth and magic.



American Cinematheque PROOF FILM
FESTIVAL 2023

Hellenic Film Society 2025

Shorts

DIRECTOR(S):
PRODUCER:
WRITER(S):
CAST:

Minos Papas
Constantinos Nikiforou
Minos Papas
Kika Georgiou, Evaggelia Onoufriou



20 Euros

2024, CYPRUS, 14 MINS, NORTH AMERICA PREMIERE

A couple's night out is interrupted by a man in a parking lot, who challenges their perceptions on modern-day masculinity



2024 - International Short Film Festival
Cyprus- Official Selection

2025 - Liverpool Indie Awards - BEST
SHORT FILM

2025 - Carmarthen Bay Film Festival -
OFFICIAL SELECTION

2025 - Cyprus Horror Society - BEST
NATIONAL SHORT

2025 - SHORT to the POINT - BEST
THRILLER

2025 - London Frames International
Film Festival - BEST CRIME FILM

2025 - Absurd Film Festival - BEST
CRIME/THRILLER

2024 - SHORTED - NOMINEE

2024 - CYPRUS INTERNATIONAL FILM
FESTIVAL - HONOURABLE MENTION

2025 - Greece International Film
Festival - HONOURABLE MENTION

2025 - Photopolis festival - FINALIST

Shorts

DIRECTOR(S):
PRODUCER:
WRITER(S):
CAST:

Alexander Machlouzarides-Shalit
Andros Achilleos
Alexander Machlouzarides-Shalit
Anthi Kasinou, Constantinos Tsitsios,
George Avraam, Stavros Patsias

Congratulations on a successful festival!

-Gerry Ranglas

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Honeymoon

2023, GREECE, 25 MINS, LA PREMIERE

After a traumatising event involving the cops, Fay is leaving Greece for good. Sandra accompanies her to the bus station, taking this time as a chance to say goodbye. As they are travelling by bus across the country, a transphobic attack by two co-passengers leaves them stranded on a highway in the middle of nowhere.



FNC Montréal | 2023
Winterthur | 2023
Glasgow SFF | 2024
Pink Apple FF | 2024
Lovers LGBTQ+ FF | 2024
Sicilia Queer New Visions | Special
Mention – International Jury +
Audience Award | 2024

Inside Out LGBTQ+ FF | 2024
Leiden Shorts | 2024
Palm Springs Shorfest | Best LGBTQ+
Short Award | 2024
Nuits Méditerranéennes | 2024
Rio LGBT FF | 2024
Ivano-Frankivsk ISFF 4:3 | 2024

FeKK – Ljubjana | 2024
Melbourne IFF | 2024
Drama SFF | Queer Award + Best
Actress Award + Onassis Award
+ Special Jury Award | 2024
Queer Wave | 2024
Cut to : Gent | 2024
Helsinki FF | 2024

Everybody's Perfect | 2024
Iris Prize | 2024
NewFest LGBTQ NY | 2024
Chania FF | 2024
Athens IFF | 2024
Chicago IFF | 2024
QUEER Filmfest Weiterstadt | 2024

Shorts

DIRECTOR(S): Alkis Papastathopoulos
PRODUCER: Maria Hatzakou
WRITER(S): Alkis Papastathopoulos
CAST: Mary Petrouliou, Nasia Sydeta,
Theofilos Manoglou



Roger

2024, GREECE, 19 MINS, US PREMIERE

Heavy dark clouds covering the sky. Kostis comes back from the grocery store when he gets attacked by a bunch of local kids who rule the area. Following his father's indifferent stance about him having troubles and not standing up for himself, Kostis attempts to approach the local gang in search of a new family where he will feel accepted and strong while at the same time will try and prove to his father that he is the son he always wanted him to be. Will he make it this far or will he cross the line in need of becoming someone he is not?



2024, Athens International Film
Festival- Best Cinematography Special
Mention

2024, Drama International Short Film
Festival - National Premiere
2025, Aimaff - Best Short Film Winner

2025, Oxford Shorts Film Festival -
Best Online Film Winner

2025, Mexico City Short Film Festival
Mirada Corta - Semifinalist

Shorts

DIRECTOR(S): Thanos Mitsios
PRODUCER: Nicholas Alavanos, Christina
Stavropoulou, Thanos Mitsios
WRITER(S): Thanos Mitsios
CAST: Yannis Dalamagkas, Takis
Sakellariou, Ilias Valasis, Teo
Papadakis



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Shorts



Phoebe

2023, GREECE, CYPRUS, 15 MINS, WEST COAST

Having been recently discharged from rehab, 26-year-old Phoebe takes her young son on a road trip that will determine their future.



2024, Sundance (US Premiere)
2024 Hong Kong IFF (Asian Premiere)
Drama ISFF (European Premiere)

Shorts



Abel

2023, GREECE, 16 MINS, LA PREMIERE

A priest, who lives in the countryside with his family, is about to receive an unexpected call from a woman that is going to upset him. A journey to the capital city, a Holy Communion and one last football match.



International Chania Film Festival, Best
award short film
International Chania Film Festival, Best
Screenplay

San Francisco Greek film festival,
Second best short film



Animation



The Three Sisters

2024, Cyprus, 15 mins.

Three sisters live a lonely life on an isolated island, each in their own small house. One day, circumstances develop in such a way that they are forced to rent out one of their houses.



2024, Almaty - Best Film
2024, Forty, Italy - Best Film
2024, Animest Romania - Audience Award

2024, Bordeaux, France - Special Prize
2025, Blow-Up fest, Chicago, USA - Best of Fest

Animation

DIRECTOR(S): Timur Kognov
PRODUCER: Alexander Perishev, Dave Henderson
MUSIC: Michael Serensky, Efraim Bartanov
ANIMATION: Sveta Zamostyan, Sheldon Graswood



Agapi

2025, Greece, mins, International Premiere

AGAPI is a 10-minute hand-drawn animated short based on a true story. Set in 1921 during the Genocide of the Greeks of the Black Sea by the Young Turks, it follows 13-year-old Agapi and her family, forced on a brutal 40-day "white death march" through the snowy forest in Ordu, Black Sea, Turkey. A powerful historical drama, AGAPI sheds light on a forgotten atrocity, ensuring history is remembered-and never repeated.



2025 at MOMI (Museum of Moving Image), It's Greek to me by the Hellenic Film Society

2025, Nominated for the Animation Award (awaiting award ceremony) at Kinematara Film Festival in Sweden (No screening).

Animation

DIRECTOR(S): Julia Speropoulos



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Siren Song

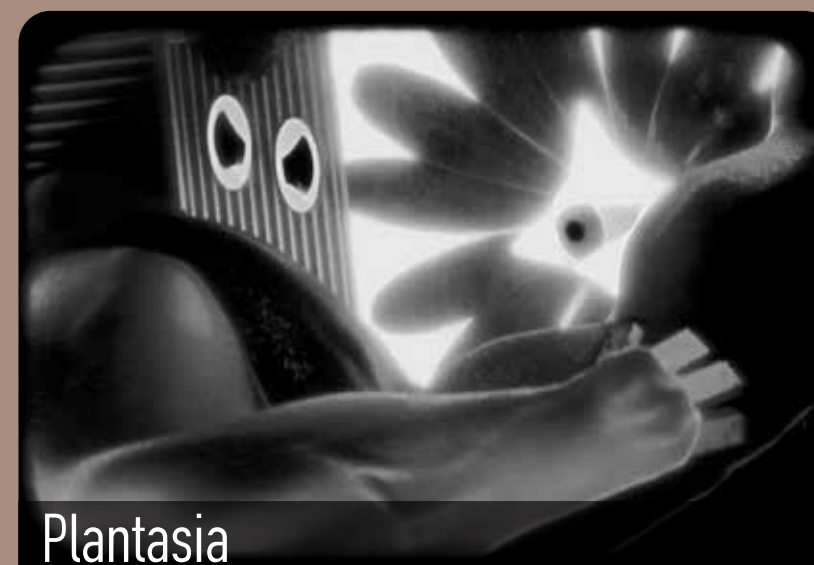
2023, GREECE, MINS,

'Siren Song' is the animated Music Video for Mutoid Man's same-titled track, from their latest album 'Mutants' (2023) which was released through Sargent House (LA). The theme of the music video is inspired by Greek Mythology and specifically the story of Odysseus, where they appear in a scene in which Odysseus saves his crew's lives.

 Animasyros International Animation Festival
 Beirut Animation Nights

Animation

DIRECTOR(S): Dimitris Armenakis
PRODUCER: Dimitris Armenakis
WRITER(S): Dimitris Armenakis
CAST: Simona Mehandzhieva, Kostas Firinidis, Konstantinos Vasilakis, Laura Pires
MUSIC: Mutoid Man



Plantasia

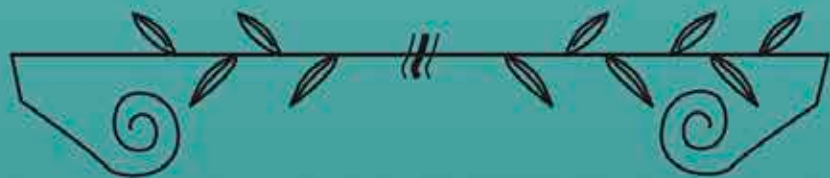
2023, GREECE, USA, MINS,

Small human-like creatures devour nature's flora, thus defecating the building blocks for creating a human-controlled super-tower. The super-tower, with its ignorant eyes, destroys nature. In response, nature gives birth to a mega-flower to enter a boss fight with the super-tower.

 Animasyros International Animation Festival
 Beirut Animation Nights

Animation

DIRECTOR(S): Angelos Gourzis



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IS, or: A beautiful, tiny, reddish hair, as thin as fiber

2023, GREECE, MINS,

Once upon a . . . hair, there was IS. With the narrative structure of a fairy tale, the story of her life, from the moments she sprouts on a baby's head till the moment she "dies" falling off from there, while she has to fight against beastie scissors and dictatorial combs, is a metaphor about the circle of life, about the fulfillment of our dreams and about the need to preserve diversity without becoming extinct. But, anyhow, life goes on . . .

Animation

DIRECTOR(S): Kostas Bakouris
PRODUCER: Vassilis Karamitsanis, Athina Kalkopoulou
WRITER(S): Kostas Bakouris



Salty

2025, GREECE, MINS, WORLD

In a visually surreal zoo, Salty — an odd little duck with a rainbow tuft — narrates his own coming-of-age tale. From a young age, he feels out of place, until a flamboyant pair of outcast birds arrive with a shy gosling and settle in the punk side of the garden. A tender friendship and first love blossom between the two outcasts, despite bullying, prejudice, and parental doubts. But when gentrification threatens to erase their world, the animals must unite to defend their home and their chosen family. Blending pop culture, humor, and emotion, Salty is a vibrant animated story about identity, love without labels, and the beauty of belonging.

Animation

DIRECTOR(S): Andreas Raptis
PRODUCER: Vassilis Karamitsanis
WRITER(S): Andreas Raptis
MUSIC: Theodore
ANIMATION: Charalambos Margaritis

The woman responsible for the downfall of the Roman Empire was Greek.
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The Mushroom Man

2024, GREECE, 4 MINS, LA PREMIERE

The film is about the life of a boy, childbirth, school, friendships, love, everyday life, and death. Everything seems to be predestined. Will he finally be able to discover his true self?



2024-Winner London Greek Film Festival

Winner London Greek Film Festival

Official Selection Cannes Independent Shorts

Finalist Prague Film Awards

Official Selection Drama Interanational Short Film Festival

Animation

DIRECTOR(S): Petros Niamonitakis
WRITER(S): Petros Niamonitakis
CAST: Foula Anastasopoulou, Dimitris Poriotis, Nikos Poriotis, Ilias Tsimpidis, Helen Scope, Christina Tsirtsoni, Stelios Tsimpidis, Konstantinos Vaclas
EDITOR: Stelios Tsimpidis
MUSIC: Petros Niamonitakis
ANIMATION: Petros Niamonitakis



Poplars

2023, GREECE, 9 MINS, WORLD PREMIERE

On a winter morning in 1997, a father, struggling with his addictions, unintentionally leads his two children on an unnatural journey into the future.

Animation

DIRECTOR(S): Alexandros Vounatsos
PRODUCER: Tasos koronakis, Marina Danezi
WRITER(S): Yorgos Softas

**Congratulations to the filmmakers and
the festival team!**

-James & Carolyn Kolokotrones

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P

2024, GREECE, 9 MINS, LA PREMIERE

A brave mouse in a cinema packed with cats is trying to twist a seemingly repetitive film, where a cat is chasing another mouse in hamster wheels.



Tirana IFF 2024 - Albania (best new
world award, best script award -2022)

Drama International Shorts Film
Festival - Greece- official selection,
Spark Animation 2024

Canada - official selection, In the
Palace - Bulgaria 2025- official
Selection

Athens International Film Festival 2025

USA, Cinema on the Bayou - 2025 (USA)
ASIFA - Stratos Stasinou Awards -
Greece 2025 - best script award

Animation

DIRECTOR(S): Stelios Koupetoris
PRODUCER: Vassilis C. Karamitsanis
WRITER(S): Stelios Koupetoris
CAST: Dionisakios Kavakieratos, Lia Tsalta,
Yannis Kanakis
ANIMATION: Kleopatra Korai, Elena Pavlaki



Open Wings

2024, GREECE, 8 MINS.

A small, bewildered finch saves the life of the injured leader of the wild pigeons and manages to earn his respect.



2024 Nύκτες Πρεμιέρας Athens
International Film Festival
2024 Animasyros International
Animation festival
2024, Olympia International Film
festival for Children and Young People

2024 Chania IFF, Βραβείο Κοινού
animation Ελληνικής Παραγωγής
2024 Icona Animation Festival
2024 Petit Plan Europa
2024 Thessaloniki Animation festival
TAF

2024 No words International Film
festival
2024 Balkan Beyond Borders
2024 Croatia International Sound and
Film music Festival

2024 Marseille Festival Music and
Cinema
2025 Aigio International Film Festival
Theodoros Aggelopoulos
2025 Athens AnimFest

Animation

DIRECTOR(S): Taxiarchis Deligiannis, Vasilis
Tsiouvaras
PRODUCER: Dimitris Spyrou
WRITER(S): Taxiarchis Deligiannis, Vasilis
Tsiouvaras
CAST: Christos Stergioglou
MUSIC: Vangelis Fampas

George and Bettina Kallins congratulate the LA Greek Film Festival for their dedicaton and commitment to supporting Hellenism in the film industry.

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Invitation For Return

2024, CYPRUS, 5 MINS, INTERNATIONAL PREMIERE

The film puts the protagonist, a descendant of refugees living by the buffer zone, to an opposition with the occupation of his country Cyprus, by Turkish troops and his reaction to the lifting of this weight, lasting half a century. The film concludes with the return of the protagonist to his roots by riding a battering ram.



Stockholm City Film Festival - January
2025 - Award - Best Animated Film

Animation

DIRECTOR(S): Panayiotis K Christophorou
PRODUCER: Panayiotis K Christophorou, The
Cyprus Film Board
WRITER(S): Panayiotis K Christophorou
CINEMATOGRAPHER: Panayiotis Christophorou
EDITOR: Panayiotis Christophorou
MUSIC: Stephanos Yiasemides
ANIMATION: Panayiotis Christophorou



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Angeliki Giannakopoulos

CO-FOUNDERS

Ersi Danou
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Aris Katopodis

FESTIVAL/PROGRAMS MANAGER

Dimitra Kasdagli

PRODUCTION

Producer: Eleni Kafetzi
Co-Producer: Georgia Tripodes
Production Manager: Ayushi Khurana, Mahek Shah

PROGRAMMING

Director: Aris Katopodis
Manager & Filmmaker Liaison: Dimitra Kasdagli
Programers: Christina Diamantara, Christina Bogdanou, Stephanie Grant, Michael Grant, Dimitra Kasdagli, Aris Katopodis, Nasos Gatzoulis
Jury and Industry Coordinator: Dimitra Kasdagli, Christina Diamantara

DISCOVERY DAYS (previously IPDF)

Director: Karina Logothetis
Production team: Katerina Kiagia, Nasos Gatzoulis, Christina Diamantara
Thanks to: Ersi Danou

DEVELOPMENT

Director: Katerina Hoyo Frederickson
Supervisor: Ersi Danou
Consultants: Ersi Danou, Georgia Tripodes, Aris Katopodis
Coordinator: Trina Renee

OPERATIONS

Technical Coordinator: Nasos Gatzoulis
Print Traffic: Dimitra Kasdagli
Website Designer & Manager: MojoLab
Platform Manager: Dimitra Kasdagli
Volunteer Coordinators: Sophia Thomopoulos

COSTA-GAVRAS TRIBUTE

Producer: Fay Efrosini Lellios
Video: Nasos Gatzoulis, Fay Efrosini Lellios

AWARDS CEREMONY

Director/Producer: Christina Diamantara

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Publicist: Manos PR Melinda Manos, Sophie Anastas
Newsletter Editors: Ersi Danou, Aris Katopodis
Social Media: Georgia Tripodes, Ersi Danou, Katerina Hoyo Frederickson
Program Book Editors: Manos Krokos, Aris Katopodis

PHOTOGRAPHY, VIDEOGRAPHY

Photography: Urbanite Media, Srinu Rajan, Vanessa Skopeo, Steven Sasaki, and interns
Videography: Urbanite Media, Srinu Rajan, Vanessa Skopeo, and interns

ART

Main Theme Graphic Artist: Manos Krokos, MojoLab
Main Theme Photograph: Georgia Tripodes
Media Graphic Artist: Manos Krokos
Orpheus Award Sculptor: Miltos Papastergiou

TRAILERS

Festival Promo Trailer: Nasos Gatzoulis
Trailers, Orpheus Award Clips, Sponsors Reel: Nasos Gatzoulis

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congratulate you for your hard work,
enthusiasm and dedication to sharing
this event with the Greek Community.

-Stavros and Anne Marie Olympios

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Juror Bios



Mia Calderone

Mia Calderone is a seasoned story artist in Feature Animation based in Los Angeles, but raised between Brazil, Puerto Rico and the United States. She's worked across many studios including The Walt Disney Animation Studios, Netflix, and Warner Brothers. Mia began her career in live action studio operations and made the decision to transition to animation as she realised her passion for the craft was too overwhelming to ignore. She has since accrued credits on many Features including The Sea Beast by oscar winning director Chris Williams. She hopes through animation, other people can fall in love with storytelling just like she did.



Julian Cautherley

Julian Cautherley is an Emmy-award winning British/Chinese TV and film producer. He won the Sundance Grand Jury Prize in 2019 for his film Clemency. His projects have been nominated for BAFTAS, Independent Spirit Awards, Emmys, Gotham Awards, DGA awards, PGA awards and have been twice shortlisted for the Oscars. He has been a showrunner on documentary series and produced a wide range of fiction and non-fiction features, series, VR and commercials, which have participated at Sundance, Berlin, Toronto, SXSW, Tribeca Film Festivals amongst others.



Chantal Chauzy

Chantal Chauzy is the head of global sales and acquisitions for the international sales agent All Rights Entertainment, based in Hong Kong, Paris, and Los Angeles, and specialized in high-quality animation films. She attends international film festivals and markets year-round. Before joining All Rights Entertainment, Chauzy worked for 10 years at Strand Releasing, one of the leading independent film distributors in the U.S., eventually serving as Vice President of Acquisitions and Homevideo. Chauzy has a Master's degree in Film Studies and a Bachelor's degree in English from the Sorbonne University in Paris. She also attended the Producers Program at the University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA) and the Film School ESEC in Paris. Earlier in her career, she worked in film production for various French production companies.



Mercedes Chavez

Mercedes Chavez is Assistant Professor of Media Studies at California State University, Los Angeles. Her research focuses on transnational production, history, and aesthetic theory of independent US cinema and Latin American cinemas with attention to women and queer filmmakers. Her work explores the intersections and overlaps of race, gender, sexuality, class, and geopolitical location in cinematic narratives. She has written about director Natalia Almada's filmography for The Wexner Center for the Arts Read, Watch, Listen blog, and a published article on director Kelly Reichardt's slow aesthetics may be read in Afterimage (Univ. of California Press). A forthcoming publication on Lucrecia Martel's 2017 film Zama will appear in the Journal of Cinema and Media Studies (Univ. of Michigan Press).



Maria Cominis

Maria Cominis is a first-generation Greek American actor, writer and published author (Kendall Hunt and Rutledge). She creates in LA, OC and NYC. She approaches writing from over 40 years' experience as an actor, acting teacher and director. She's the recipient of a National Endowment of the Arts grant for her play, WOMEN OF ZALONGO (O'Neil Semi-finalist, BAPF Semi-finalist and HB Playwrights Residency). Monologues from her play are published in Smith and Kraus BEST MONOLOGUES OF 2024. Her second play, OWL PEOPLE is the recipient of an Intramural grant and recently presented a development reading at LMU co-hosted by The Caloyeras Center and HAWC. HB Studio, NYC was her artistic home for a decade as an acting teacher and mentee of renowned acting teacher, Uta Hagen. Television Credits: Hacks, New Girl, Desperate Housewives, All My Children, One Life to Live. Theatre: Bernarda Alba, The Diviners, The Sea Gull, Ivanov. She's a Professor at California State University Fullerton where she teaches acting, directs and serves as the area head in the BFA Acting Program. She's a force of Hellenic pride and a proud member of AEA, SAG-AFTRA, National Alliance of Acting Teachers, Michael Chekhov Association and the Dramatists Guild.



Hugh O'Gorman

Hugh O'Gorman is an actor, director, author, and teaching artist active in professional theatre for nearly 40 years. Since 2002, he has been the Head of Acting at California State University Long Beach where he oversees the BA, BFA, and MFA actor training programs. He also teaches at USC. Hugh is the author of "Acting Action: A Primer For Actors" and "The Keys To Acting," and the upcoming "The Art of Teaching the Art of Acting." He is a faculty member of MICHA: the Michael Chekhov Association, MCE Michael Chekhov Europe, Actyn Hollywood, and runs his own acting studio in Los Angeles, The PraXis Studio. He is a Co-Executive Director of the National Alliance of Acting Teachers. Hugh has appeared on Broadway, Off-Broadway, Off-Off-Broadway, and at over a dozen of the nation's most respected Regional Theatres and Shakespeare Festivals. He is a founding member of New York City's Mint Theatre Company (2002 Drama Desk Award). Hugh portrayed Jeff Singer on AMC's critically acclaimed, Emmy and CableAce award-winning show, Remember WENN (SAG Award nomination). Other television: HBO's Golden Globe and Emmy Award-winning John Adams, for CBS Still Standing, That's Life, and for NBC The 10th Kingdom, Law & Order, and ER. Film: Killers, Upstate, The Bend.



Harrison James

Harrison James is a writer and director, born in Chicago and living and working in Los Angeles. Recent directing credits include: *Cowboy Mouth*, *Savage Love*, and *Fool for Love*, a series of Sam Shepard plays, and *The Dreamer Examines His Pillow* by John Patrick Shanley. Currently writing and directing *Big Girls*, a television series, and *Shooting Star*, a feature film, she has written for producers (Heather Graham) and directors (Julian Goldberger, Autumn DeWilde, and Melodie McDaniel). Her spots for *Spies Travel* directed by Nicolas Winding Refn won the Bronze Lion at Cannes. She founded *Girl Trip*, a production company, panel series and film festival to advance emerging women and nonbinary filmmakers. She was a Creative Thesis Mentor and on the Directing faculty at the AFI Conservatory for 8 years, is a Directing Advisor at Sundance Co//ab, and is a Screenwriting Mentor for feature film and television at CineStory. Harrison studied directing at Boston University, where she received the Dean's Grant for Filmmaking, and attended the AFI Conservatory as both a Screenwriting and Directing Fellow. Devoted to being an actor's director, Harrison has been studying with Nancy Banks for over 10 years.



Malin Kan

Malin Kan is a Los Angeles-based film curator with a decade of experience in festival programming. Most recently, she served as Senior Programmer of Feature Films at AFI FEST, where she helped define the voice of the festival from 2016 to 2025. Malin's curatorial approach is rooted in her academic background in film history and archival preservation. She holds a BA in Film and Media Studies from UC Berkeley and an MA in Moving Image Archive Studies from UCLA. She's served on juries and selection committees for festivals and granting bodies nationwide and is committed to inclusive programming that broadens the canon and strengthens cultural dialogue.



Mischa Livingstone

Director Mischa Livingstone's award-winning films have screened at festivals worldwide and been added to the Smithsonian permanent collection. Festival screenings include the Berlin Intl. Film Festival, Montreal World Film Festival, Ann Arbor Film Festival, Seattle Intl. Film Festival, Jerusalem Intl. Film Festival, Cinequest (Viewers' Voice Award winner), and many others. Born in Glasgow, Scotland and immigrating to Israel as a child, Mischa studied at the Thelma Yellin School of the Arts before moving to the United States. Attending UCLA, he earned his BA in Film Production (summa cum laude) and an MFA in Screenwriting. He is also an alumnus of the Berlinale Talent Campus. He is the co-author of the forthcoming "No-Nonsense Guide to Filmmaking", an open education textbook that will be freely available online, its goal being to reduce/eliminate financial costs for students and make information and learning available to all. In addition to filmmaking, Mischa is an Assistant Professor in film production at Loyola Marymount University in Los Angeles.

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Abby Sun

Abby Sun (she/her) is the International Documentary Association’s director of programs and editor of Documentary, a quarterly print and digital magazine. In 2024, she co-founded the Future Film Coalition, safeguarding the future of U.S. independent film through research and advocacy, and researched media policy to support documentary films in the public interest as a Shorenstein Documentary Film Fellow at Harvard Kennedy School. Abby has bylines in Film Comment, Filmmaker, Film Quarterly, Notebook, and Sight & Sound; served on festival juries for Hot Docs, Dokufest, Palm Springs, New Orleans, and CAAMfest, as well as nominating committees for the Gotham Awards and Cinema Eye; and received a fall 2022 Warhol Foundation Curatorial Research Fellowship. Her hometown is Columbia, Missouri, US.



Nassos Vakalis

Nassos Vakalis is a Greek-American animator, storyboard artist, and animation director with an extensive international career. He studied character animation at the California Institute of the Arts (CalArts) in the United States. Nassos has worked as an animator, animation supervisor, and storyboard artist for major studios including DreamWorks Animation, Gaumont Animation, Warner Bros. Pictures Animation, WAG, Rovio, Sony, Paramount, Sullivan-Bluth, and Universal/Illumination. In addition to his studio work, he founded Time Lapse Pictures in Greece, a production company recognized for its award-winning animated films and television content, and later launched Bleach Animation in the United States, which delivers high-quality animation and visual effects for film and TV. His independent projects have earned widespread recognition, including two EMMY Award nominations and one EMMY win. His acclaimed short film Dinner for Few garnered 89 international festival awards, won the M  li  s d’Argent (Silver M  li  s), earned a BAFTA nomination, and qualified for the Academy Awards.



Rechna Varma

Rechna Varma produces under her banner Rechna Varma Productions, creating notable works like “DO NOT DISTURB” (2023), which won multiple festival awards and was released by Dark Star and Shudder. Other features include “CATCH AND RELEASE” (2019) and “MARGARITA” (2012), which earned Best Feature at Inside Out Toronto. Her development experience spans scripted television at Sphere Media Plus including International Emmy-nominated production “19-2”, “THIS LIFE” and “BAD BLOOD.” She served as executive in charge of production & post at the Canadian Film Centre, managing 60+ annual short productions. As a writer/creator her original pilot “LOVE RULES” was a Content London semi-finalist and earned Netflix-Banff recognition. Rechna expanded into directing with the short film “Goodbye” (2022), music video “Worth It” (2023), and more recently she’s completed her feature directorial debut “HELLO DARLING.”. As an Associate Professor of Professional Practice at University of Miami’s Cinematic Arts department, she teaches courses at the intersection of art and business.



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LAGFF INTERNSHIP PROGRAM 2025

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Now in its tenth year, the “Representations of Greece: Ancient and Modern” course offers LMU students opportunities to learn, engage with film and cultural theories, and integrate classroom study with internships at the Los Angeles Greek Film Festival (LAGFF), led by Prof. Katerina Zacharia in her role as the LAGFF Director of Education.

“Representations of Greece: Ancient and Modern” is a unique course that offers students the opportunity to study complex issues of representation through an interdisciplinary approach that highlights four areas of study: (i) politics and economics; (ii) food, travel, sports, music; (iii) theater and art-house films; (iv) family, religion, and state. Students look at features attributed to ‘the other’ in the contact between cultures of asymmetrical power, explore how stereotypes are linked to contextual negotiations of identity, and consider how such identities may have originated in representations of Greece from antiquity to the modern era.

During the 2025 spring semester, and for the second consecutive year, Prof. Zacharia curated the [LMU Greek Cinema Week](#) as a scholarly inquiry into Greek Cinema with an emphasis on contemporary issues and the discipline of Classics, and consulted with Greek filmmaker [Nikos Nikolopoulos](#). The selected Greek fiction feature films and documentaries offer an *Homage to Xenios Zeus*, as they encourage us to explore our common humanity, identify with those on the margins of society, and develop a sense of responsibility, combating the rise of xenophobia in the contemporary world, by promoting and embodying meaningful social action. Prof. Zacharia secured funds from the LMU Bellarmine College of Liberal Arts and the LMU College of Communication and Fine Arts Deans, the Classics and Archaeology Department, and the Film, Television & Media Studies Department, and in collaboration with our community partner, the [Los Angeles Greek Film Festival](#).

The LMU Classics & Archaeology Department values our 10-year LMU-LAGFF community partnership, which offers supervised internships administered by Prof. Zacharia, LAGFF



Loyola Marymount University students in Prof. Katerina Zacharia’s 2025 spring course “Representations of Greece: Ancient and Modern,” created research blogs inspired by the [LMU Greek Cinema Week: Homage to Xenios Zeus](#), along with selecting new LAGFF features, documentaries, and short film submissions. They also completed internships with the Los Angeles Greek Film Festival, strengthening our successful decade-long community partnership.

From Left, Back Row: Angelos Vamvakas (’26, Economics), Philippe Alexandrov (’26, Entrepreneurship), Gilberto Perez (’26, Business Administration), Cole Chisholm (’25, Political Science, Classics & Archaeology minor), Matthew Wong (’27, Psychology, Health & Human Sciences minor).

From Left, Front Row: Mariana Gómez-Nieves (’26, Finance), Sadie Balling (’26, Animation, Computer Science and Game Design minors), Antonella Borjas (’26, International Relations), Damian Waller (’26, Psychology), Prof. Katerina Zacharia, Karis Song (’25, Film, TV & Media Studies), Landen Strazdas (’27, Psychology, English minor).

Director of Education, to LMU students. Our students gain first-hand experience in several aspects of film festival production, such as programming, industry labs, event production, videography, interviewing filmmakers, film reviewing, and more. Students work directly with the LAGFF Festival Manager, the Discovery Days team, the Development, and Production teams. The student-interns produce blogs that include research essays inspired by the LAGFF film submissions, as well as internship reflections on performance, goals set and met, and skills honed and acquired. For an overview of the course, student blogs and internship reports, visit: <http://zacharia.lmu.build>. This year’s master blog is curated by **Tanya Rasheesa** (’25, Classics & Archaeology and English majors, Jewish Studies minor), and by **Nare Tendjoukian** (’26, English major, Classics & Archaeology minor).

Since the pilot LMU-LAGFF internship in 2014, over 220 LMU students have interned with LAGFF, and at least 135 more have attended the Greek cinema summer courses and written essays on the LAGFF films. The high response rate (80%) of a fall 2020 survey sent to our alumni, in combination with the overwhelmingly positive student responses are spotlighted in an article on « [Connecting the](#)

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LAGFF INTERNSHIP PROGRAM 2025

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Photo from the West Coast premiere for the biopic film [Stelios](#) about the Greek singer Stelios Kazantzidis (1931-2021), presented by the Los Angeles Greek Film Festival (LAGFF) at Harmony Gold Theater in West Hollywood.

Photo credit: Lizeth Ramirez photography @lizethography

From Left, Back Row: Antonella Borjas ('26, International Relations), Landen Strazdas ('27, Psychology, English minor), BCLA Dean and Prof. Richard Fox, LAGFF Artistic & Festival Director Aris Katopodis, LAGFF Director of Production Eleni Kafetzi

From Left, Middle Row: Gilberto Perez ('26, Business Administration), Prof. Katerina Zacharia, Mariana Gómez-Nieves ('26, Finance), LAGFF Co-founder Ersi Danou, LAGFF Director of Development Katerina Hoyo-Frederickson

From Left, Front Row: Angelos Vamvakas ('26, Economics), Karis Song ('25, Film, TV & Media Studies), Zachariah Michelena ('28, Political Science, and Classics & Archaeology majors), Philippe Alexandrov ('26, Entrepreneurship), Matthew Wong ('27, Psychology, Health & Human Sciences minor).

[Liberal Arts, Classics and Film](#) » published in the LMU Newsroom (3/4/21). The reason for the success of this course is that it provides a good background on Greek history, culture, and ethnic identity, integrating cultural and film theories to better equip the students for reviewing the new LAGFF Greek film submissions, hence the high quality of the student reviews and research blogs. The [Representations of Greece digital booklet](#) includes over 80 student alumni testimonials and aims to publicize the course and the program and attract donors and new collaborations.

The LMU students and LAGFF team leaders partnered with the LMU Career and Professional Development (CPD) office, which provided guidelines for the spring semester and secured some training for the summer. **Nare Tendjoukian** ('26, English major, Classics & Archaeology minor), **Antonella Borjas** ('27, International Relations), and **Zachariah Michelena** ('28, Classics & Archaeology and Political Science majors and Asian and Pacific Studies and History minors) are interning at the film festival this summer.

[Katerina Zacharia](#) is a Professor of Classics at Loyola Marymount University in Los Angeles. Her publications include *Converging Truths: Euripides' Ion and the Athenian Quest for Self-Definition* (2003), *Hellenisms: Culture, Identity and Ethnicity from*

Antiquity to Modernity (2008), and articles on classical antiquity in visual culture, Greek cinema, tourism, and cultural politics. She wrote, directed, and produced the award-winning short documentary *Blessings and Vows* (2018), which has screened at 36 film festivals and garnered nine international awards, and she published "*Into the Light: Making Blessings and Vows*" (*Ergon* 2021). Prof. Zacharia co-created *Enthralled*, a new conversation game for higher education, drawing on classical drama. Her work has been supported with fellowships from the A.S. Onassis Foundation, A.G. Leventis Foundation, Heritage Management Organization, Stanford University, and innovative teaching awards, including the 2023 Society of Classical Studies Excellence in Teaching at the University level; the LMU inaugural 2024

Bellarmino College of Liberal Arts Excellence in Teaching award; the 2018 LMU President's Fritz B. Burns Distinguished Teaching Award, and the 2019 LAX Chamber of Commerce Eddy Award. Prof. Zacharia is an experienced dramaturge and has produced theatrical performances and workshops including the U.S. tour for Oscar-winning Michael Cacoyannis' cabaret adaptation of Aristophanes' *Lysistrata* (2006), and Stanford Repertory Theater's productions of the *Wanderings of Odysseus* (2012) and *Hecuba* (2018) at the Michael Cacoyannis Foundation in Athens. She served as LAGFF juror (2014) and programmer (2015-18). As the Director of Education for the Los Angeles Greek Film Festival, she has created a vibrant student internship program with Loyola Marymount University since 2014.



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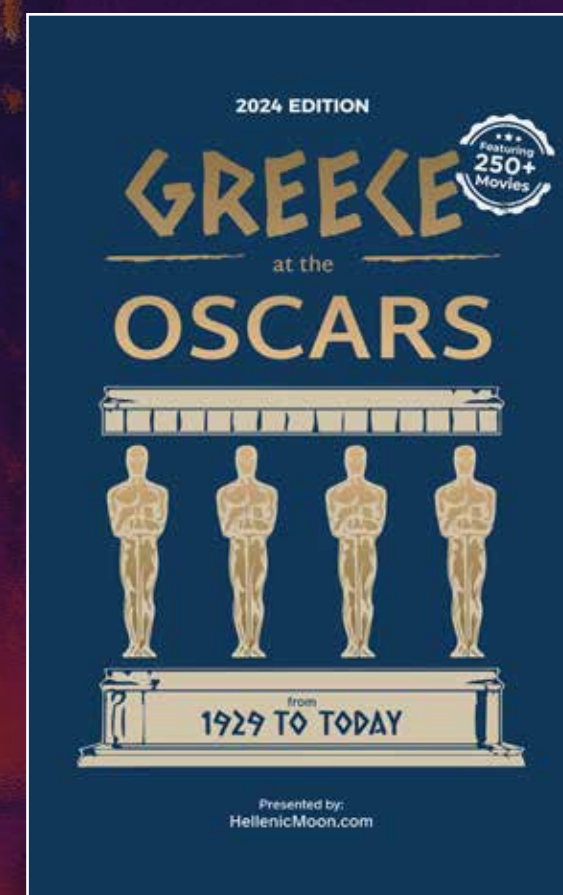


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