

Los Angeles Greek Film Festival Wraps Up for 2026 Discovery Days Winners Announced

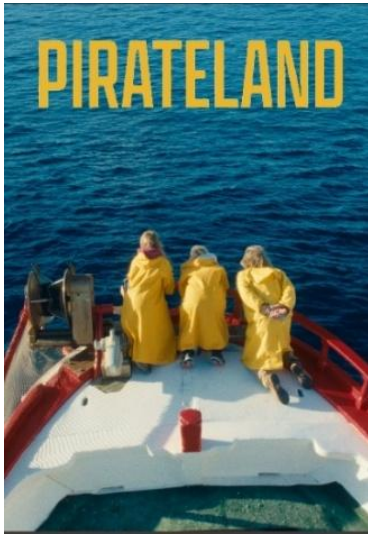


Discovery Days Filmmakers & Team – Photog UrbaniteLA

LOS ANGELES, CA, (June 3, 2026)- The 2026 **Discovery Days Awards** were presented by Discovery Days Director **Araceli Lemos** and Producer **Karina Logothetis**. This year's jury included **Giulia Caruso**, Director of Catalyst and Industry at Sundance; filmmaker **Myrsini Aristidou**; Film Independent's Director of International Programs and filmmaker **Louay Khraish**; and award-winning producer **Sarah Winshall**.

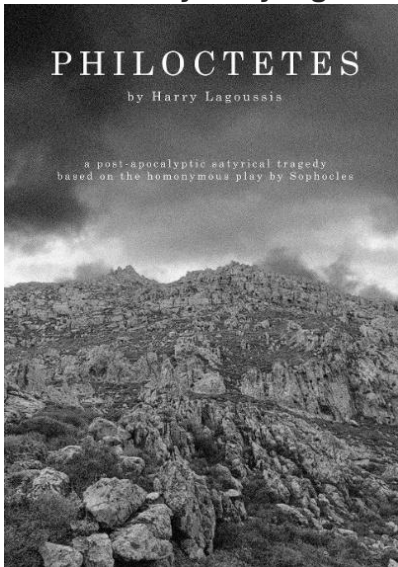
Discovery Days is the industry section of the Los Angeles Greek Film Festival and serves as an intensive four-day lab for films in development in Los Angeles during the festival. The program brings selected filmmakers together for workshops, pitch preparation, and one-on-one feedback sessions with industry professionals before culminating in the final project presentations before a jury. It is designed to support projects at different stages of development and to connect filmmakers with producers, distributors, sales agents, and programmers who can help move the work forward.

Pirateland by Stavros Petropoulos // Jury Prize



We were deeply impressed by the filmmaker’s clear and sophisticated vision in crafting a story that is both highly specific and universally resonant. Through a distinctive blend of dark comedy and social observation, *Pirateland* explores the increasingly complex relationship between authenticity, performance, and the stories communities tell about themselves. The film raises timely and thought-provoking questions about tourism, identity, and belonging, while never losing sight of the humanity at its center. We believe its themes have the potential to resonate with audiences around the world.

Philoctetes by Harry Lagoussis // Honorable Mention



For its daring reinterpretation of a classical masterpiece, its sophisticated blend of genres, and its distinctive cinematic voice, we are delighted to award an Honorable Mention to *Philoctetes*. The project demonstrates remarkable artistic ambition and a thoughtful engagement with enduring

questions of ethics, history, and human behavior, revealing the continued relevance of ancient stories in an increasingly uncertain world.

Beyond the jury, the lab is supported by a wider network of mentors and experts contributing through screenplay feedback, round-robin meetings, workshops, and group sessions, including **Chiara Atik, Ilana Coleman, Ersi Danou, Joel Garber, Pavel Jech, Prashanth Kamalakantan, Ki Jin Kim, Jesse Knight, Jane Casey Modderno, Terrie Samundra, Artemis Shaw, Elia Urquiza,** and **Colin West**. Together, these artists and industry professionals reaffirm Discovery Days' commitment to championing emerging international voices and fostering meaningful creative exchange.



About LAGFF: The Los Angeles Greek Film Festival is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization. Since its inception, LAGFF has screened over 800 films, hosted more than 700 filmmakers, and reached an audience of over 50,000. For more information, please visit: www.lagff.org

Media Contact: 310-272-4225
Manos Public Relations melinda@manospr.com