



## Los Angeles Greek Film Festival 2020 Announces Film Slate The 14<sup>th</sup> Annual Festival Goes Virtual On October 1-15



After reviewing a record breaking 230 film submissions, the 14th Annual Los Angeles Greek Film Festival (LAGFF) programming team revealed its 53-film slate and 9 curated “Collections”.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Festival will run online and on-demand for 15 days (October 1-15), allowing for a global audience reach, for most films. The LAGFF 2020 slate includes 12 Features, 15 documentaries, 22 Shorts and 4 animated films. There are 43 premieres, including 4 World Premieres, 13 North American Premieres, and 5 US premieres, many others making their West Coast premiere.

“Diving head-first into the virtual universe, LAGFF continues to encourage and showcase new filmmakers as we embark on our 14th year”, explains Artistic Director **Aristotle Katopodis**.

“Until we meet at the theaters again, join us online, watch films with your friends and family at home and get to know our filmmakers from all corners of the world right there, on your screen, in close-up!” **Festival Trailer** - <https://bit.ly/3iyVxRT>

**All-Access Pass (\$70) makes all films and virtual events available Oct. 1-15 - [www.lagff.org](http://www.lagff.org)**

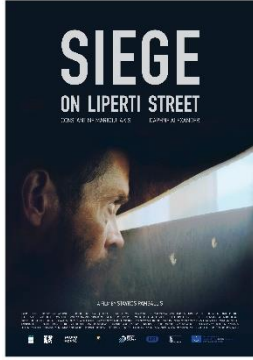
The curated Collections include features, documentaries, and shorts that are relatable through common threads and/or artistic treatment:

### **Realities and Fictions**

MY NAME IS EFTIHIA a film about the legendary poet and lyricist Papagiannopoulou and touches the life of Eftihia but also the life of a nation; similarly, SIEGE ON LIPERTI STREET takes a peek in the financial crisis in Cyprus, while millions of other "sieges" are also occurring around us. Never have reality and fiction been blurred to such a degree, as today.

**EYTYXIA – My Name is EFTIHIA** by Angelos Frantzis – North American Premiere





**SIEGE ON LIPERTI STREET** by Stavros Pambalis – LA Premiere  
**THE MIRACLE OF THE SARGASSO STREET** by Syllas Tzoumerkas – West Coast Premiere  
**NOT TO BE UNPLEASANT BUT WE NEED TO HAVE A SERIOUS TALK** by Giorgos Georgopoulos – West Coast Premiere  
**FANTASIA** by Alexis Kardaras – West Coast Premiere  
**AS FAR AS THE SEA** by Marco Gastine – North American Premiere  
**AGORA II – CHAINED** by Yorgos Avgeropoulos, North American Premiere  
**DEFUNCT (Apostratos)** by Zacharias Mavroeidis - West Coast Premiere

**TIED** by Tassos Morfis - US Premiere

**ROMANIOTES, THE GREEK JEWS OF IOANNINA** by Stylianos Tatakis, Agnes Sklavou - West Coast Premiere

### Like a Fairytale

Forest spirits, Mountain spirits, Cosmic Candy, Rockets Flying in the Air, and Echoes from another era are all entwined in a symphony of shadows.

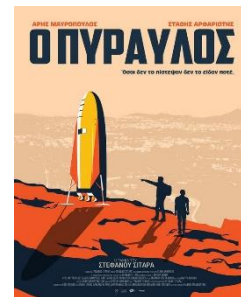
**THE ROCKET** by Stefanos Sitaras – North American Premiere

**ENTWINED** by Minos Nikolakakis

**ZIZOTEK** by Vardis Marinakis – West Coast Premiere

**COSMIC CANDY** by Rinio Dragasaki – West Coast Premiere

**LABYRINTH** by Dimitris Athanitis – North American Premiere



### Pushing the Envelope

Cutting edge, trying to describe the indescribable, taking risks - WINONA and EXILE are two very different films that take such risks.

**WINONA** by Alexander Voulgaris (The Boy) – North American Premiere

**EXILE** by Vasilis Mazomenos – North American Premiere



### In the Aegean Sea

Yes, there are dolphins and ancient shipwrecks and islands to explore, and submarines to prowl the depths from 80 years ago, and a single swimmer to make it to Castellorizo. All Blue, all Aegean.

**AEGEAN MARINE LIFE SANCTUARY, LIPSI ISLAND** by Anton Leach, Jasmine Duthie – West Coast Premiere



**MY GREEK ODYSSEY** by Alexander Begetis  
**Y1 - SILENCE OF THE DEEP** by Philippos Vardakas – US Premiere  
**AKRA** by Dimitra Babadima – LA Premiere



### Supporting Local Filmmakers

Local, yet global, people we know, yet people of the world, people from our distant past but also people eons ahead.

**KEFI, THE STORY OF FDF, THE GREEK ORTHODOX FOLK DANCE FESTIVAL** by Patti Testerman – North American Premiere

**THE NEW GREEK AMERICANS** by Anna Giannotis  
**THE WOODEN HEART** by Chris Emmanouilides – World Premiere  
**BLESSINGS AND VOWS** by Katerina Zacharia  
**THE DARKNESS BEFORE ME** by Rachael Quinn - World Premiere  
**KALIOPE** by Derek Matarangas – World Premiere



### Film Festival Darlings

Low budget, limited resources, tons of challenges, no problem; here are six young filmmakers with hundreds of international awards under their belt from the most prominent film festivals - creativity is not in short supply.

**POSTCARDS FROM THE END OF THE WORLD** by Konstantinos Antonopoulos  
**ELECTRIC SWAN** by Konstantina Kotzamani – LA Premiere  
**ALL THE FIRES THE FIRE** by Efthimis Kosemund Sanidis – US Premiere  
**THE DISTANCE BETWEEN US AND THE SKY** by Vasilis Kekatos  
**INDEX** by Nicolas Kolovos – North American Premiere  
**ROUTE 3** by Thanasis Neofotistos – LA Premiere



### Young and Restless

Young or restless, or young and restless or just restless, you pick, they are all here, the young at heart as well.

**JAR OF NUTS** by Savvas Stavrou – North American Premiere  
**THE DUDE** by Alexandros Kakaniaris  
**BIRDS WITH NO LEGS** by Pavlos Stamatis – West Coast Premiere  
**MILA** by Andreas Vakalios – West Coast Premiere

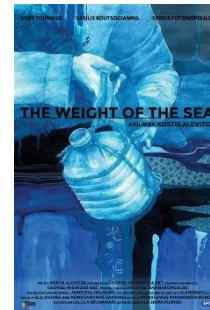
**CHOPPER** by Giorgos Kapsanakis – West Coast Premiere  
**SAD GIRL WEEKEND** by Dimitris Tsakaleas, Lida Vartzioti – LA Premiere  
**MOM'S MOVIE** by Stella Kyriakopoulou – North American Premiere  
**I, TONY** by Argyro Nicolaou, Margaux Fitoussi – West Coast Premiere  
**THE CALL** by Marios Psaras – North American Premiere



## Liquid Visions

Sea, water, sand, characters, clouds, feathers, space, intentions; they are all fluid, they all flow; some in color, some in black and white, all in sync.

**THE WEIGHT OF THE SEA** by Kostis Alevizos – World Premiere  
**MARE NOSTRUM** by Dimitris Anagnostou – US Premiere  
**WAX AND FEATHERS** by Marios Lizides – North American Premiere  
**IN THE ROOM** by Yeorgia M. Sotirchou – North American Premiere  
**ONE** by Stella Serefoglou - North American Premiere  
**UTOPIA** by Kosta Nikas  
**DARK SAND** by Thanasis Trouboukis – US Premiere



## Animation

Take your pick, they are all memorable!

**GOOD INTENTIONS** by Anna Mantzaris – LA Premiere  
**VIOLENT EQUATION** by Antonis Doussias – LA Premiere  
**ONE DAY ONE FLY** by Correct Creative Productions IKE  
**HEATWAVE** by Fokion Xenos – LA Premiere



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Elios Charitable Foundation, ELMA, Hollywood Foreign Press Association (HFPA), and GETTY Los Angeles Country Arts & Culture (*Los Angeles Greek Film Festival (Balkan Cultural Center) is supported, in part, by the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors through Los Angeles County Arts & Culture*). Greek National Tourism Organization (GNTO) – *The Greek National Tourism Organization is a public entity functioning under the supervision of the Ministry of Tourism. GNTO North America is aiming to the promotion of Greece as a 365-day destination, increasing awareness for Greece’s tourism product among the travelers from the United States and Canada.*

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**ABOUT:** LAGFF showcases new films from Greece and Cyprus and includes works by international filmmakers of Greek descent. The Festival promotes Greek cinema, cultural exchange and helps to bridge the gap between filmmakers and Hollywood. LAGFF is a 501© (3) non-profit organization and open to all filmgoers and patrons of the arts.

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**MEDIA CONTACT:** Melinda Manos, Manos Public Relations (310) 272-4225