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MULTI AWARD WINNERS "LITTLE ENGLAND"

AND "XENIA"

BOOKEND THE NINTH ANNUAL LOS ANGELES GREEK FILM FESTIVAL

THIRD ANNUAL INTERNATIONAL PROJECT DISCOVERY FORUM SIGNS NEW KEY COLLABORATORS

Ninth Annual Los Angeles Greek Film Festival June 3-7, Egyptian Theatre, Hollywood

(Los Angeles – May 6, 2015) In an unprecedented programming move the 2014 and 2015 winners of the Hellenic Film Academy Best Film Award will bookend the ninth annual Los Angeles Greek Film Festival (lagff.org). The almost decade-old festival opens Wednesday, June 3, with **Pantelis Voulgaris'** award-winning period drama "**Little England**." **Panos H. Koutras'** wry and emotional road trip and this year's Hellenic Film Academy Award winner "**Xenia**" will conclude the Festival's five days of screenings, red carpet events, receptions and industry panels at the Closing Night Gala on Sunday, June 7, at the Egyptian Theatre in Hollywood.

This year's LAGFF welcomes a record 35 features, documentaries and short films to the program, including three World premieres, 14 US premieres and 10 Los Angeles premieres. Alongside Greece, countries represented in this year's festival include Australia, Belgium, Canada, Cyprus, France, Israel, Germany, Qatar, United Kingdom and the United States.

"Our program, more than ever before, is an exciting amalgamation of social, satirical and political statements from a rejuvenated Greek film industry", states Festival topper **Aristotle Katopodis**. "While the economic and social crisis in Greece, and Southern European region, continues to hold Greece and the world markets in limbo, the Greek filmmakers are responding with what one could call "Through The Lens Darkly" to paraphrase the title of Philip K. Dick's novel. Neonoir and classic noir films are taking hold as a favorite genre, we have at least four such offerings in this festival. The hope is there, but you need to work through layers of reflection, self-evaluation and breath-taking images. Remembering, contemplating, and creating take center stage."

Winner of 2014 Hellenic Film Academy's awards - Best Film, Best Cinematography, Best Scenography, Best Costume Design, Best Sound and Best Make-up, Pantelis Voulgaris' drama "Little England" is a turbulent tale of a secret love shared between two sisters and one man, set in the seafaring community of Andros, Greece, during the 1930's. Suppressed feelings are later rekindled and cruel games of fate reveal secrets, leading to devastation.

Red Carpet **Opening Night Gala** on **Wednesday, June 3.** The Opening Night event also includes an exquisite Greek wine tasting, a dinner reception, dj music and dancing outside under the stars.

Earth Friendly Products and **G.P. Kolovos and Associates** will co-present the Opening Night gala with **West Coast Investors** presenting the Opening Night after-party.

Hot off winning Best Film, Best Director, Best Supporting Actor, Best Screenplay, Best Editing and Best Costume Design at the 2015 Hellenic Film Academy Awards, Panos H. Koutras' poignant drama "Xenia" will cap the Closing Night Gala on

Sunday, June 7. "Xenia" takes up the story of two brothers after the death of their mother and follows their odyssey from Athens to Thessaloniki in search of the father they never met.

The Closing Night Gala includes the festival Orpheus Awards with special honors, as well as Jury and Audience Awards and dinner reception.

Hostess Brands will present the Closing Night gala.

LAGFF 2015 will offer more **Premieres** than ever before. Films making their American debuts include **Athanasios Karanikolas** melodramatic feature "**At Home**" (**Sto Spiti**), winner of the 2014 Berlin International Film Festival, Prize of the Ecumenical Jury – Forum. "Home" follows the decline of a domestic servant's status within the family she works for as the economic crisis takes center stage in all their lives; **Yorgos Avgeropoulos**' documentary "**Agora**", which contrasts the center of the city's transformation from heart of democracy to modern day commercialism; Australian filmmakers **Carol Gordon & Natalie Cunningham's** documentary "**Following Shira's Journey: A Greek Jewish Odyssey**, "the untold story of the Greek Holocaust. History records an 87% loss of Greece's Jewish population as a result of the Nazi atrocities of the Second World War, and yet the experiences of these once dynamic communities are not widely known; "**Medea: Louder Than My Thoughts"(Medea: Kreisson Ton Emon Vouleumaton) - Nikos Grammatikos**' documentary exploring the mystical meaning within the pages of the Euripides play; **Yannis Vamvakas** documentary "**Panayiotis Tetsis: Playing With Colors"** explores the life and work of a patrician artist, Panagiotis Tetsis, who marked contemporary Greek painting of the 20th Century.

Alexis Alexiou's explosive neo-noir film, "Wednesday 04:45" (TETARTI 04:45), is this year's evening Centerpiece Premiere selection and will screen on Saturday, June 6. "Wednesday" follows 32 hours in the life of Stelios Dimitrakopoulos, a small time night-club owner in Athens, who struggles to salvage his bankrupt business from loan-sharks, while the city and the whole country go up in flames. The screening marks the film's West Coast premiere. Alexiou and the film's producer Thanassis Karathanos will be on hand after the screening for a Q&A.

Other Premieres include Canadian Filmmaker George Tsioutsioulas' documentary" A Night in Athens." starring world renowned funnyman Angelo Tsarouchas. Shot in Athens Greece before a sold-out audience "Athens" takes you on a hilarious ride as Tsarouchas shares many of the challenges he faced growing up Greek in the diaspora; U.S. writer/directors Andreas Ignatiou, Josh Maddox's "Narcissa", a short film offering a modern take on the Greek myth of Narcissus set in the fashion industry; and U.S. director Jon L. Milano's drama "Straw Dolls" takes a look at the Armenian genocide through the lens of a father desperately trying to protect his daughter from the deportation being forced upon them by Turkish soldiers.

As the third annual International Project Discovery Forum (IPDF) continues to strengthen its relationships with established institutions in the US and Greece, such as the Sundance Institute and the MFI Script2Film Workshop, it is pleased to announce its newest outreach collaborators in the Balkan Region – Sofia Meetings, Thessaloniki IFF's Crossroads, Torino Script&Pitch.

"IPDF received a record number of submissions this year from 7 different Balkan countries and the US. The quality of the projects that we receive increases every year, making our selection process really difficult and really exciting! We can't wait to share their stories and introduce you to our bold, inspiring filmmakers. This year, IPDF will also present a series of industry events that will be open to the public where seasoned professionals will share their insights on independent filmmaking, new platforms and international distribution. "IPDF's director **Araceli Lemos** adds.

For a complete list of films, screening times and more about the IPDF visit http://lagff.org

The BOXOFFICE for LAGFF is now open for Gold Pass Membership purchases online at http://www.itsmyseat.com/LAGFF.html through June 4.

ABOUT LAGFF

The Los Angeles Greek Film Festival showcases new films from Greek filmmakers worldwide. Our foremost goal is to promote Greek cinema and cultural exchange while bridging the gap between Greek filmmakers and Hollywood. Orpheus Awards are given to the most outstanding new films in the dramatic, documentary and short film categories.

ABOUT LAGFF SPONSORS

The 2015 Los Angeles Greek Film Festival is grateful for the support of numerous key sponsors.

LAGFF is proud to receive the support of Greek National Tourism Organization.

<u>Visitgreece.gr</u> is the official tourism web site for Greece, run by the Greek National Tourism Organization, where you'll find information on the main tourist destinations, such as cities, beaches, as well as activities, events and much more! (Link: http://www.visitgreece.gr/)

Platinum Patron

Hostess Brands and the Metropoulos Family

We are very proud to once again welcome Hostess Brands and the Metropoulos Family Platinum Patrons of Los Angeles Greek Film Festival 2015.

Today, Hostess Brands, LLC, continues to delight snack fans everywhere with a variety of new and classic treats like Ding Dongs[®], Ho Hos[®], Donettes[®] and Fruit Pies. They make the original creme-filled cakes that so many consider an irreplaceable part of American life.

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Earth Friendly Products is the leader in the development and production of environmentally friendly cleaning supplies for household and commercial use, with over 150 products manufactured, distributed, and sold in the USA, Canada, Europe, South America, and Asia. All Earth Friendly Products are created with only replenish able and sustainable plant-based ingredients that are safe for people, pets, and the planet. The Company proudly adheres to its strict "Freedom Code", avoiding a list of harmful and toxic ingredients that are not found in any its products.

Earth Friendly Products has proudly received the 2010 GEELA Award for Sustainable Business Practices, 2009 Green PatriotTM Green 100TM Designation and the Champion level recognition from the US EPA, through the Design for the Environment (DfE) Program's Safer Detergents Stewardship Initiative. The company's solar division, Progressive Power Group, is just another example of how Earth Friendly Products is a sustainable business leader.

The G.P. Kolovos & Associates

With a history of success in the real estate world and philanthropy, the Kolovos Family have been with LAGFF since its inception, and have been instrumental in its growth.

Bronze Patrons: Aris Anagnos, Cinemax, Hollywood Foreign Press Association, West Coast Investors, ELMA

BOX OFFICE

A limited number of All-Access Gold Passes for the discounted rate of \$180 are currently on sale, so reserve your Gold Pass now. For Gold Pass details, visit www.lagff.org.

Ninth Annual Los Angeles Greek Film Festival Program

LITTLE ENGLAND (MIKRA AGGLIA) Greece, 2014, 132 min

Opening Night Presentation

Director/Writer: Pantelis Voulgaris

Writer: Ioanna Karystiani
Producer: Katerina Helioti

Cast: Penelope Tsilika, Andreas Konstantinou, Sofia Kokkali, Anneza Papadopoulou, Maximos Moumouris

A turbulent tale of a secret love shared between two sisters and one man set in the seafaring community of Andros, Greece, during the 1930's. Suppressed feelings are later rekindled and cruel games of fate reveal secrets, leading to devastation.

- * 2014 Shanghai International Film Festival Golden Goblet Award
- * 2014 Palm Springs International Film Festival
- * 2014 Hellenic Film Academy Award Best Film, Best Cinematography, Best Scenography, Best Costume Design, Best Sound, Best Make up

XENIA

Greece/France/Belgium, 2014, 128 min, LA Premiere

Closing Night Gala Presentation

Director/Writer: Panos H. Koutras

Writers: Panos H. Koutras, Panagiotis Evangelidis

Producers: Eleni Kossyfidou, Panos H. Koutras, Alexandra Boussiou, Juliette Lepoutre, Sébastien Delloye, Diana Elbaum,

Marie-Pierre Macia

Cast: Kostas Nikouli, Nikos Gelia, Aggelos Papadimitriou, Romanna Lobach, Marissa Triandafyllidou, Yannis Stankoglou,

Patty Bravo

Following the death of their mother, two brothers undertake an odyssey from Athens to Thessaloniki in search of the father they have never met, in this wry and moving road movie from Greek director Panos Koutras

- * 2014 Un Certain Regard, Festival de Cannes
- * 2014 Toronto International Film Festival
- * 2014 Rio de Janeiro International Film Festival
- * 2015 Hellenic Film Academy Award -Best Film, Best Director, Best Supporting Actor, Best Screenplay, Best Editing, Best Costume Design

FEATURES

AT HOME (STO SPITI)

Greece, 2014, 103 min, US Premiere

Director/Writer: Athanasios Karanikolas

Producers: Argyris Papadimitropoulos, Lasse Scharpen

Cast: Maria Kallimani, Alexandros Logothetis, Marisha Triantafyllidou, Zoi Asimaki, Giannis Tsortekis

For many years, Nadja has worked as a housekeeper for an upper class Greek couple and their daughter. She's allowed to feel like part of the family. When she's diagnosed with a serious illness, and the man of the house runs into financial difficulties due to the economic crisis, Nadja loses her job. Yet she shows no external sign of how these two traumatic events have affected her.

- * 2014 Berlin International Film Festival, Prize of the Ecumenical Jury Forum
- *2014 Karlovy Vary International Film Festival
- * 2015 Hellenic Academy Awards Best Actress

STRATOS (LITTLE FISH)

Greece, Germany, Cyprus, 2014, 138 min, LA Premiere

Director: Yannis Economides

Writers: Yannis Economides, Thanos Xiros, Vangelis Mourikis, Harry Lagoussis, Christos V. Konstantakopoulos

Producers: Christos V. Konstantakopoulos, Panos Papahadzis, Michael Weber,

Cast: Vangelis Mourikis, Yannis Anastasakis, Petros Zervos, Vicky Papadopoulou, Yannis Tsortekis, Yorgos Yannopoulos

Stratos is a man trying to find redemption in a decadent world, where morals and personal boundaries have been replaced by money as the only value. After years in prison, he now works in a bread factory - and as a contract killer. With the money, he wants to help his friend who once saved his life. He always pays his debts, but he must learn that the price is higher than expected.

- * 2014 Berlin International Film Festival,
- * 2014 Thessaloniki Film Festival, Best Film
- * 2015 Hellenic Film Academy Awards, Best Actor, Best Supporting Actress

FOEREVER (GIA PANTA)

Greece, 2014, 76 min, US Premiere

Director: Margarita Manda **Writer:** Margarita Manda

Producers: Kostas Kefalas, Konstantinos Kontovrakis, Costas Lambropoulos, Margarita Manda, Christos V.

Konstantakopoulos

Cast: Anna Mascha, Kostas Filippoglou

Two people alone in a desolate city: Costas and Anna in Athens. Costas is an engine driver. The trains that he drives travel from one end of the city to the other, following the traces of the ancient rivers that were paved over and made into roads. Anna sells ferry boat tickets at Piraeus, the place where the rivers once flowed into the sea. These two people will meet, on the dawn of a bright new day.

*2014 Cairo International Film Festival – Best Director Award

NORWAY (NORVIYIA) Greece, 2014, 74 min

Director: Yiannis Veslemes **Writer:** Yiannis Veslemes

Producers: Christos V. Konstantakopoulos, Yorgos Tsourgiannis

Cast: Vangelis Mourikis, Daniel Bolda, Yannis Bostantzoglou, Alexia Kalsiki, Vasilis Kamitsis, Markos Lezes

Zano arrives in the big city for the very first time. The year is 1984, and Athens beckons. A vampire and a fine dancer, all Zano wants is a "warm girl". Lured into their shady shenanigans, Zano, a prostitute, and a Norwegian drug dealer traverse mountains and descend into the core of the earth, finding the Kingdom of Mathousalas.

- * 2014 Thessaloniki International Film Festival Fipresci Prize
- * 2014 Karlovy Vary International Film Festival
- * 2014 Stockholm International Film Festival
- * 2015 Hellenic Film Academy Awards -Best First Feature Direction, Best Music, Best Art Direction, Best Make Up, Best Special FX

THE FIRST LINE (PROMAKHOS) USA, 2014, 86 min, LA Premiere

Director/Writer: Coerte Voorhees, John Voorhees

Writer: Coerte Voorhees, John Voorhees **Producers**: Coerte Voorhees, John Voorhees

Cast: Pantelis Kodogiannis, Kassandra Voyagis, Paul Freeman, Giancarlo Giannini, Georges Corraface

Two Athenian attorneys pursue litigation for the return of the Parthenon Marbles. Just as the bronze statue of Athena Promakhos used to stand guard in front of the Parthenon, they both must find the courage to stand in defense of what they love

- * 2014 Thessaloniki Film Festival
- * 2014 Australian Greek Film Festival

WEDNESDAY 04:45 (TETARTI 04:45)

Greece/Germany/Israel, 2015, 116 min, LA Premiere

Director/Writer: Alexis Alexiou **Producer**: Thanassis Karathanos

Cast: Stelios Mainas, Dimitris Tzoumakis, Adam Bousdoukos, Giorgos Symeonidis, Mimi Branescou, Maria Nafpliotou

Athens, Greece, today: 32 hours in the life of Stelios Dimitrakopoulos, a small time night-club owner in Athens, who struggles to salvage his bankrupt business from loan-sharks, while the city and the whole country go up in flames.

- * 2015 Tribeca Film Festival
- * 2015 Jeonju Film Festival

DOCUMENTARIES

A FAMILY AFFAIR (MIA OIKOGENEIAKI YPOTHESI) Greece, 2014, 87 min, LA Premiere

Director/Writer: Angeliki Aristomenopoulou **Producers:** Rea Apostolides, Yuri Averof

Co-Producers: Greek Film Center, OTE TV, ABC TV

A Family Affair is an intimate portrait of the famous Xylouris family and their sacred bonds with the musical tradition of Crete. The film follows three generations of family musicians who uphold and pass on the vibrant tradition of Cretan music, performing ceaselessly to followers across the world.

- * 2014 Thessaloniki Documentary Film Festival
- * 2015 FIPA Gold Award
- * 2015 Hellenic Greek Academy Award Best Documentary Award

AGORA

Greece/Germany/Qatar, 2015, 117 min, US Premiere

Director/Writer: Yorgos Avgeropoulos

Producers: Yorgos Avgeropoulos, Anastasia Skoubri

The *Agorá* was a central area in Ancient Greece city-states. It was a gathering place, an assembly of active citizens, and the City centre for political, economic, athletic, artistic and spiritual life. It was the heart of democracy. In modern Greece the word *Agorá* has lost its initial sense and it has come to denote solely the place and act of commercial transactions. It is a dominant word in the reality experienced today by Greeks, as the country goes through an economical vortex that devours human lives in its path.

- * 2015 Dok. Fest, 30th International Documentary Film Festival
- * 2015 Thessaloniki Documentary Film Festival
- * 2014 FIPA Industry Best Pitched Project Award

A NIGHT IN ATHENS

Canada, 2014, 60 min, World Premiere

Director: George Tsioutsioulas **Writer**: Angelo Tsarouchas **Producers**: Robert Cordileone,

Co-Producers: Angelo Tsarouchas, George Tsioutsioulas

Cast: Angelo Tsarouchas

A Night in Athens, takes you on a hilarious ride as Angelo shares many of the challenges he faced growing up Greek in the diaspora. Those experiences have shaped who Angelo is as a man and as a comic. Angelo is shown in a memorable performance in Athens Greece, before a sold-out audience.

BENEATH THE OLIVE TREE US, 2015, 76 min, LA Premiere

Director: Stavroula Toska

Writers: Stavroula Toska, Sophia Antonini Producers: Stavroula Toska, Sophia Antonini

Cast: Olympia Dukakis (Narrator)

Secret journals document the atrocities and the true life stories of the women caught up in Greece's tumultuous Civil War, fought in the mid 1940's.

^{*} First Time Film Festival – Outstanding Achievement in Editing

^{*} Julien Dubuque International Film Festival

FOLLOWING SHIRA'S JOURNEY: A GREEK JEWISH ODYSSEY Australia, 2014, 50 min, US Premiere

Director/Writer: Carol Gordon & Natalie Cunningham

Producers: Carol Gordon

Music Composer: John Koudounis

The untold story of the Greek Holocaust. History records an 87% loss of Greece's Jewish population as a result of the Nazi atrocities of the Second World War, and yet the experiences of these once dynamic communities are not widely known.

* 2015 Thessaloniki Documentary Film Festival

MEDEA: LOUDER THAN MY THOUGHTS (MEDEA: KREISSON TON EMON VOULEUMATON)

Greece, 2014, 94 min, US Premiere

Director/Writer: Nikos Grammatikos

Writer: Nikos Panayiotopoulos, Vangelis Mourikis

Producers: Katerina Oikonomou, Eirini Vougioukalou, Vangelis Mourikis **Cast**: Yukiko Krontira, Vangelis Mourikis, Tasos Nousias, Adoniou

In "MEDEA: LOUDER THAN MY THOUGHTS," the text of the play *Medea*, by Euripides, is the project's raison d'être. In a magical way, it becomes the discovering climax of the focus for the film. The story of Medea, with its unique force, acts as a channel through which we enter into a thrilling and unpredictable quest, trying to find lost signs and meanings.

PANAYIOTIS TETSIS: PLAYING WITH COLORS

Greece, 2014, 100 min, US Premiere

Director/Producer: Yannis Vamvakas **Writers:** Yannis Vamvakas, Liberty Polyzou

The life and work of the patrician artist Panagiotis Tetsis, who helped establish contemporary Greek painting of the 20th century, is highlighted and celebrated in this colorful documentary.

- * 2014 London Greek Film Festival Best Documentary Award
- * 2014 International Thessaloniki Film Festival

RECYCLING MEDEA Germany, 2014, 75 min, LA premiere

Director: Asteris Kutulas **Writer:** Asteris & Ina Kutulas

Producer: Asteris Kutulas, Klaus Salge

Cast: Maria Kousouni, Danilo Zeka, Bella Oelmann, Renato Zanella, Mikis Theodorakis

Medea kills her kids. Despite being recycled through a myriad of versions since antiquity, this subject has lost none of its everyday and brutal topicality. Script, sound, and dance join forces in a powerful film that reflects the desperation of a society that spent all past efforts turning its children into those who have become today's lost generation.

- * 2014 Cinema for Peace Most Valuable Documentary Award
- * 2014 The International Art Film Festival Tel Aviv EPOS
- * 2014 Premiere at Anthology Film Archives

SHORTS

A PORTRAIT

Greece, 2014, 2 min, US Premiere

Director/Writer/Producer: Aristotelis Maragkos

Through a fluid storyline, etching out the shaky outline of his grandfather's unconventional life and unexpected death in rural Greece, the artist is also discovering parts of himself and sharing his reflections on both their identities.

- * 2014 Leeds International Film Festival
- * 2014 Encounters Short Film and Animation Festival
- * 2015 Brussels Animation Film Festival
- * 2015 Amnesty International Animated Film Festival

BLUE TRAIN

United Kingdom, 2014, 15 min, US Premiere

Director/Writer: Manolis Mavris **Producer**: Mando Stathi, Myrto Stathi

Cast: Jordan Mallory Skinner, Samuel Glassborow, Catherine McDonough, Melissanthi Mahut, Andrew McDonald

Thirty-year-old Liam, pervaded by a feeling of childhood nostalgia, takes a trip in time, through his phobias and memories, to find his true identity and his Utopian past.

* 2014 Leeds International Film Festival

BUTTERFLY

Greece, 2014, 20 min, US Premiere

Director/Writer: Yianna Dellatolla **Producer**: Zoe Kanellopoyloy

Cast: Marianna Panagidou, Yiannis Kyrilis, Pavlos Emmanouilidis, Marianna Pouloutiadou, Alexandra Poulou, Rosamalia

Kyriou

A young love between a boy and a girl in elementary school turns into a heartbreak when their family dramas end up affecting their sensitive interaction.

^{* 2014} Athens International Film Festival

^{* 2015} Film Festival International London – Best Story Nomination, Best Director of a Foreign Film Nomination, Best Lead Actress Nomination

^{*} Hollywood Foreign Press Association Award

CINEASTES USA, 2014, 20 minutes

Director: Alexander Vo

Writers: Peter Mackie, Alexander Vo

Producer: Peter Mackie

Cast: Yorgos Karamihos, Lydia Muijen, Scarlett Redmond

A lonely, obsessive moviegoer develops complicated feelings for a female stranger who he feels to be a kindred spirit.

CITIZEN DAY (JOURNÉE D'APPEL) France, 2014, 21 min, US Premiere

Director/Writer: Basile Doganis **Producer:** Jean-Christophe Reymond

Cast: Christopher Bécherot, Mohamed Ghanem, Malamine Sissoko, Rabah Naït Oufella, Lamine Cissokho

A crew of teenagers from a Parisian suburb have to attend their Citizen Day at the military base in Versailles, but one of them, Chris, is turned away for arriving too late. Chris wants to go straight back home, but Momo, the hood's "loser", convinces him to spend the day with him at the Château de Versailles.

- * 2015 Aubange International Film Festival Special Prize of the Jury
- * 2015 Rencontres Ciné en Herbe Montluçon City Prize

DINNER FOR FEW Greece, 2014, 10 min

Director/Writer: Nassos Vakalis

Producers: Nassos Vakalis, Katerinai Stergiopoulou

- * 2014 SITGES, Festival International de Cinema Fantastic, Spain Special Mention
- * 2014 Curtacinema, Rio de Janeiro ISFF, Brazil Audience Award
- * 2015 Medina del Campo Film Festival, Argentina Best International short film
- * 2015 Rio de Janeiro International Short Film Festival Audience Award

Those who eat their fill speak to the hungry of wonderful times to come.

* 2015 Unicipar Film Festival, Argentina – Best International Short Film

FOREVER YOUNG (DEN THA GERASOUME POTE)

Greece, 2014, 21 min, LA Premiere

Director: Spiros Charalambous **Writer:** Dimitris Papanastasiou

Producer: Alexantra Mpousiou, Spiros Charalambous

Cast: Vana Pefany, Costas Nikoyli, Giorgos Tsialos, Nansy Mpoukli, Chistina Hela Fameli, Maria Kaliba

On the last night of August, Nikos will make love for the first time. When September dawns, Maria will start her new life.

^{* 2014 20}th International Film Festival of Athens

^{* 2015} Cannes Short Film Corner

GREEK SCHOOL PRAYER (PROSEFHI) Greece, 2014, 20 min, US Premiere

Director: Thanasis Neofotistos

Writers: Thanasis Neofotistos, Grigoris Skarakis

Producers: Kyriakos Hatzimichailidis, Thanasis Neofotistos

Cast: Christos Karavevas, Stelios Karambinas

While seeking their identity, two high school students will inevitably test each other's boundaries through violence.

- * 2014 Drama Film Festival Golden Dionysus Award, Best Sound Award
- * 2014 Athens Film Festival Honorable Mention
- * 2014 Greek Film Academy Awards Best Short Film Nomination

KILLING MY GIRL

United Kingdom/Greece, 2014, 12 min

Director/Writer: Tasos Giapoutzis

Producers: Michael Carter, Tasos Giapoutzis

Cast: Samila Kularatne, Kanchan Raval, Ludovic Moktary, Vinod Ghei

A young South Asian woman living in London is forced to undergo sex-selective abortion against her will.

- * 34th Black Maria Film Festival Director's Choice Award
- * International Euro Film Festival Art, Human Rights, Drama, Woman, Social Category Winner
- * 2015 Learning On Screen Awards Best Student Film Nomination
- * 2015 London Short Film Festival

LULLABY OF THE BUTTERFLY Cyprus, 2014, 20 min, US Premiere

Director/Writer/Producer: Tonia Mishiali **Cast:** Alexia Charalambidou, Yiannia Kokkinos

Following a mysterious phone call, a woman grabs a kitchen knife and sets out on a journey to an unknown destination, leaving 'her life' behind.

- * 2015 Berlin Feminist Film Week
- * 2015 Leiden International Film Experience
- * 2014 ISFFC International Short Film Festival of Cyprus Best National Film Award, Best Cinematography Special Mention
- * 2014 20th Athens International Film Festival

NARCISSA

USA, 2015, 7 min, World Premiere

Director/Writer: Andreas Ignatiou, Josh Maddox

Producers: Jared Jacovich, Michael Ignatiou, Mary Joannow **Cast:** Paulina Cerrilla, Gus Renaud, Lola Kelly, Ben Hicks

A modern take on the Greek myth of Narcissus set in the fashion industry.

THE NOIR PROJECT

Greece, 2014, 27 min, US Premiere

Director: Gregory Vardarinos **Writer:** Anastasia Bartzoulianou **Producer:** Gregory Vardarinos

Cast: Vaggelis Kosteas, Dimitris Tsilinikos, Maria Xatzhioanidou

On the eve of an escape from his abusive father, Jacob enters the world of "The Noir Project." The comic story that he designed in his spare time, and the characters, which reflect the morbid reality in which he lives, predict, in a strange way, the events that will follow that night.

- * 2014 20th International Film Festival of Athens Best Screenplay Award
- * 2014 8th International Short Film Festival of Thessaloniki Cinematic Achievement Award

NOTICED

USA, 2015, 15 Min

Director: Limor Diamant

Writer: Limor Diamant, Sigal Diamant

Producer: Nikos Karamigios

Cast: Sigal Diamant, Tomas Andren

Olga is a postal worker who lives in her imaginative reclusive world of *Spaghetti Westerns* and the whimsical life of bugs. Her self-created universe is interrupted one night when she discovers that a suspicious "peeping Tom" lives across from her.

* 2015 Festival de Cannes – Short Film Corner Official Selection

PIECE OF SKY

Greece, 2014, 24 min, US Premiere

Director/Writer/Producer: Nikolas Makris

Cast: Danny Giannakopoulou, Nikolas Makris, Orestis Tziovas, Lazaros Zois

When a star falls from Orestis' bedroom ceiling, he makes a wish for what he misses the most: That his parents lose their jobs and stay home with him. But the stars keep on falling. Can this story last?

- * 2014 Athens International Film Festival
- * 2014 Thessaloniki International Short Film

STRAW DOLLS US, 2014, 18 min, World Premiere

Director: Jon L. Milano **Writer:** Caitlin Riblett **Producer:** Chris Naughton

Cast: Marco Khan, Anthony Skordi, Mary Apick, Michelle Yolyan, Celine Talia, Sy Ozcan, Bahram Khosraviani

A look at the Armenian genocide through the lens of a father desperately trying to protect his daughter from the deportation being forced upon them by Turkish soldiers.

UNDESIRABLE (ANEPITHIMITOS) Greece, 2014, 6 min, US Premiere

Director: Fivos Kontogiannis

Writers: Stephanos Koutsardakis, Sotiris Tsafoulias

Producer: Aris J. Xylas

Cast: Vaggelis Mourikis, Vaggelis Romnios, Chryssa Markata

A Stelios Kazantides song becomes a short film.

- * 2014 Athens International Film Festival Special Mention
- * Hellenic Film Academy Awards Best Short Film Nomination

VOLTA

Greece, 2014, 11 min, LA Premiere

Director/Writer: Stella Kyriakopoulos

Producers: Valerie Kontakos, Despina Pavlaki, Stella Kyriakopoulos **Cast:** Marisha Triantafyllidou, Katerina Douka, Yiorgos Valais

A mother and daughter start out from downtown Athens and head to the northern suburbs of the city. Nina thinks she's just going on a walk...

- * 37th Drama International Short Film Festival, Best Actress
- * 2014 Sundance Women in Film Award
- * 2015 Aspen Short Fest
- * 2015 Hellenic Film Academy Awards Best Short Film

WASHINGTONIA

Greece, 2014, 24 min, LA Premiere

Director/Writer: Konstantina Kotzamani

Producer: Artemis Pattakou

Cast: Mamadou Diallo, Eutychia Stefanidou

In the heart of the summer, in the midst of the tropical heat, the giraffe's heartbeat is no longer heard, and the animals are thrown into confusion. As they search for this beat, it is then —when the strangest things happen

- * 2014 Berlin International Film Festival
- * 2014 Hellenic Film Academy Award Best Short Film
- * 2014 Gent International Film Festival European Film Academy Award

II

Greece, 2014, 17 min, US Premiere

Director/Writer: Efthimis Kosemund Sanidis

Producer: Yorgos Tsourgiannis

Cast: Kostas Laskos, Fani Apostolidou, Yannis Tsortekism, Nikos Flessas, Koula Spyropoulou

"II" symbolizes parallel lines struggling to meet. Sometimes they do, but this only happens without awareness. "II" is desire drawing the line upon which the characters are trying to balance, treading in a world that is not.

- * 2014 Festival Del Film Locarno
- * 2014 International Short Film Festival In Drama Special Award, Best Cinematography Award
- * 2014 Athens International Film Festival
- * 2014 Leeds International Film Festival