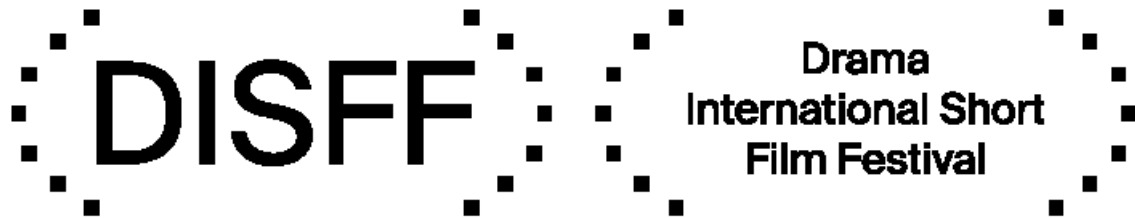


BOOKLET OF PROJECTS



DRAMA PITCHING LAB 2023
6-10 SEPTEMBER

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INTRODUCTION

We are very pleased that the Pitching Lab received numerous projects (fiction, animation and doc) this year, and, as has been the case in recent years, the rapporteurs had a very difficult time choosing the final projects that will participate in the three-day Workshop and the Pitching Forum.

This year, the main features of all the projects from all corners of the world that has suffered after two years of pandemic, are the anxiety for survival, the spread of an implicit violence, identity and gender issues, the rights of excluded groups, living with an illness or disability, tolerance of diversity, and the coming of age, in a colourful and unpredictable planet.

From Peru and Nepal, to Kazakhstan, Taiwan, the Philippines, Portugal and Finland, our souls were filled with the images that young filmmakers want to narrate. All these unknown original subjects that we never realized that exist in different corners of the Earth, have made us richer. Unfortunately, among this explosion of colours and ideas, we could only choose 16 of the 117 proposals that were sent to us, yearning for communication and creation.

The Greek creators, with their plurality of projects, ambitious productions and a wide variety of themes, won a special place this year.

The Pitching Forum, in response to the Greek market needs, will try through the shortlisted projects to assist the selected Greek projects that will participate in the Lab this year to communicate with other festivals and forums abroad, contributing to the extroversion and the encouragement of co-producers.

For this reason, in addition to the projects that will come to Drama, the Forum will choose 5 more Greek projects that will be able to participate in a development workshop, which will take place within the framework of the two-day "Drama Festival in Athens" September 17-18, in the Greek Film Archive. We will announce details soon as well as the schedule of our new workshop, which we hope will become a small institution- "landmark in Athens" for the Pitching Lab and Forum.

BARBARA DUKAS

DISFF Head of Educational Program

THE PROJECTS

Hero

by **Alexandros Rellos**
Modern Western/**Greece**

Tagline:

Do heroes have an expiration date?



Synopsis:

Angelos and Michael -two bailiffs- arrive at a village to unbury and execute a hero of the 1821 Greek Revolution as it has been proven after 200 years that he was a traitor.

Little after the villagers get what these two came for, they attack them. Just before things get out of hand Maria Boura, one of the descendants of the hero, stops the mob and invites them in her house. If this execution takes place, her family will be financially ruined because they will have to reimburse the State and the supposed victims of their ancestor.

Angelos is forced to admit that Maria had made him and his previous partner an offer to drop out of the case but Angelos wanted to keep the money for himself and shot his partner.

The mob is more and more aggressive as it follows Angelos at the cemetery along with Bouras family and stunned Michael.

After having a difficulty finding the hero's tomb and the mob actually mocking him, Angelos puts the hero's remains in a pot. The mob is ready to rush him and urge him to fall back. Angelos shoots the hero with an 1821 era pistol and the remains fall on the ground. He quickly tries to reload the pistol and kill himself but the mob gets him as we cut to black.

Alexandros Rellos – **Writer/Director**

Alexandros Rellos graduated from the Faculty of Film of Aristotle University with a commendation of excellency. He has produced, written and directed, six short films which have participated in National and International Festivals.

In 2018, he wrote, directed and produced the documentary TV Series, "Ti Fasi?", which aired on Hellenic Parliament TV and two episodes were also screened at the 21st Thessaloniki Documentary Festival.

His short film script, "TolisLive or (Toronto)" was awarded by the Hellenic Film Academy and was co-produced by COSMOTE TV. The completed film received a Best Newcomer Director Award at the 44th DISFF, a Best Director Award from the Greek Directors' Guild, a Best Student Film Award and an Audience Award at Aigio International Film Festival whilst it participated also in more than 20 International Festivals.

The director is a Sarajevo Talents 2020 alumnus and his TV Script titled "Cherry & Zucchini" is selected at this year's CineKid Lab for Berlinale. His last short film "Summer Breeze" supported by the Ministry of Culture premiered at Athens International Film Festival while his short film script "hero" was awarded by Greek Writers' Guild.



Beneath Her Shroud



by **Hyash Tanmoy**

REALITY ADAPTIVE SPECULATIVE FICTION/DRAMA / **India**

Tagline:

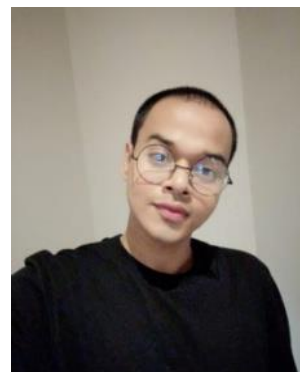
Imagine a world without women!

Synopsis:

In rural India, an elderly woman endures unspeakable torment in her own home. Through a nocturnal collision, she glimpses a girl praying for her life in a dream. The next day, she surrenders her forbidden dream by the river, trading it for a meagre coin. That night, she shares the dream with her granddaughter, sensing an ethereal presence. Their quest to hear the melancholic hymns within echoes their bond on wintry nights. The granddaughter's elation prompts her to share the tale, leading to the grandmother's expulsion from the family by her own grandson. Given a heartbreaking ultimatum, she chooses to seek her own identity and a sanctuary for her remaining years. During her arduous journey, she finds solace among anonymous women from diverse backgrounds. Ultimately, she encounters profound self-discovery at the grave of a girl child.

Hyash Tanmoy

In the midst of measuring pitfalls and menaces, Hyash Tanmoy looks for meditative resilience through curation, moving images and undefined art forms at the intersection of culture, media art and technology. Their practice is an endangered combination of silhouettes that traverses from hieroglyphs to Python. At the intersection of undiagnosed panic attacks and personal traumas, they are searching for a language of translation and reciprocation to make the experience inclusive of everyone in the show- the archive is under construction (mentally and physically).



Heaven On Earth

by **Martin Vallejos**

Drama / **Chile, Bolivia, Holland, and Germany**

Tagline:

Two young brothers embark on a life-altering odyssey in a trashland, where one learns a pivotal lesson that forever changes their path.



Synopsis:

In a vast garbage dump, young brothers Tomás (7) and Simón (10) spend their days laboring amidst towering piles of discarded waste. Tomás admires his older brother Simón immensely, as they meticulously comb through the refuse, searching for hidden treasures.

One day, Simón proposes they split up to cover more ground. Tomás ventures deeper into the maze of discarded objects, where an astonishing discovery awaits—a weathered box holding a priceless golden medal. Filled with excitement, Tomás yearns to share his 1nd with Simón. Yet, despite his relentless elorts, Simón remains elusive, leaving Tomás disheartened and with a lingering sense of unease. Returning to their modest dwelling, he 1nds solace in the comforting sight of

his sleeping family. Clutching the gold medal, Tomás joins them, holding onto hope while grappling with the unanswered question of Simón's whereabouts.

Martin Vallejos, **director**

Filmmaker and actor born in Chile, and half dutch. Studied 1lm in Santiago de Chile, London andBerlin and Theater in New York. Martin is a writer and also a producer of his own project and rightnow is also making a documentary that follows three trans women from afghanistan that's titled "Transghanistan"

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EfGpTRh9NYU&feature=youtu.be>



Lucas Choque, **producer**.

Filmmaker and producer born and raised in Germany and half bolivian. Studied international business and 1lmmaking in Germany. Lucas currently works for a production company in which he edits and shots interviews and music videos.



The Station

By **Dimitris Kotselis**

Drama / **Greece**

Tagline: The station never waits.



Synopsis: The 70-year-old Diamanto lives in an abandoned village on the borderland of the country. The construction of the fence in Evros, the degradation of the area, the passing of her fellow elders and the abandonment of her family have condemned her to a lonely life. She vehemently refuses to leave the village where she grew up and still stays at to this day. She constantly struggles with the difficult living conditions, the multiplied departure (or death) of her fellow villagers, but most of all with her loneliness. As the only inhabitant of the village, she will be called upon – after given a letter from the rural doctor about her deteriorating health – to make an important decision. Should she leave the village and move with her family in the capital in consideration of her health, or should she “go down” with her land? While searching for the ideal “gravedigger” for herself, she’ll run into an unaccompanied refugee boy.

Dimitris Kotselis **Director**

Dimitris Kotselis is a writer/director. He studied Film and English at the University of the West of England, Bristol. He earned an M.A. degree in Directing & Screenwriting at Sheffield Hallam University. His short film “The Mechanic” participated in various international film festivals. He has written and directed documentaries, short films, music videos and commercials. Dimitris teaches film at Hellenic Cinema and Television School Stavrakos.



Isidoros Rostadakis **Scriptwriter**

Isidoros Rostadakis was born in Athens in 1997. He is a graduate of the Screenwriting School of ANT1. He works as a screenwriter in the Greek TV SERIES “Pagidevmenoi” (ANT1 TV). He is chosen by Sarajevo Film Festival as a “Talent Sarajevo”. He co-operates with the advertising company EOSNET in the field of Copywriting and Creative Development, having created several commercials. At the same time, he participates in the script development team of the



feature film "Man of the People". In 2021 he published his first poetry collection entitled "Κατάματα" (Artemis Publishing).

Dimitris Fakinos **Producer**

Dimitris Fakinos is a graduate of the German School of Athens and the Department of Communication, Media and Culture of the Panteion University of Athens. He has been active in the media field since 2001, having worked with some of the most important media groups in positions of responsibility in the fields of communication and management.



In 2015 he co-founded Pangolin entertainment, which is active in the production of entertainment programs and fiction for television, cinema and the internet, as well as in the creation of original formats and scripts.

In 2020, Dimitris Fakinos took over the majority share of the company, in which he has since been active as Managing Director.

When Saints Turn Machine

By **Svenja Heinrichs**

Dystopian science-Fiction satire

/Germany

Tagline:

Would we be happier, if we could literally pay off our mistakes and bad feelings, our modern sins?



Synopsis:

Lars, a business man in his forties, is driving on a highway. He is talking to someone on the phone via earbuds, when suddenly he runs over something.

Shocked he leaves the scene of the accident without taking a closer look. After a short drive he arrives at a service area. Next to a petrol station and an amusement arcade, there is a church. It is a branch of 'Salvation on Demand', a fully automatic forgiveness service, a so-called drive-in church. With the help of these facilities, people no longer have to share their problems and misdeeds with each other and can thus maintain their flawless appearance in society.

Slowly, Lars drives up to one of the digital intercoms built in front of it. He starts going through the menu: Murder - Accident - Animal - Miscellaneous. But then, by manipulating the system, he finally gets through to Jonas, a young worker, sitting inside the church building.

His job is it to look after the maintenance of the machines and the church façade, but he never actually comes into human contact.

Jonas then tries to keep their conversation under control. So much so, that he almost becomes a machine himself. Lars gets angry and confronts Jonas with his repressive system and the norms of society around them.

Svenja Heinrichs / Director

Born 1991 in Mainz/Germany. After graduating from high school, she did an internship in the dramaturgy department of the Staatstheater Mainz and came in first contact with productions. After a diversion to Berlin, she began working in theatre and film in the summer of 2014. She was an assistant director to German directors, such as Helene Hegemann and Franz Müller and worked as a dramaturgy assistance for the Burgtheater Vienna. In October of 2022 she graduated with a BFA in directing from Filmuniversität Babelsberg KONRAD WOLF. Since then she has been working as a freelance director, author and radio presenter.



Wild Streets

by **Dimitra Mitsaki**

Wild Streets / **Greece**

Tagline:

Unveiling Greece's driving culture through the stories of Yannis Argiriou, a veteran driving instructor who documented the impact of reckless driving and road hazards.



Synopsis:

"Wild Streets" is a documentary that delves into the driving culture in Greece. The main protagonist is the driving instructor, Yannis Argiriou (67), with extensive experience in teaching people how to navigate in the challenging environment of Athenian roads, but also with a decade experience working as roadside assistance. Yannis has witnessed multiple car accidents and has a peculiar habit to photograph the sites, creating a unique photograph archive that serves as a visual record of the impact of reckless driving, road hazards, and other factors that contribute to car accidents. Yannis provides insights into the history and evolution of Greek driving culture, his experiences and as well as his motivations for becoming a driving instructor. Through interviews and on-the-road footage, the documentary highlights the complexities of Greek drivers, who in recent researches have been declared "the worst drivers in Europe".

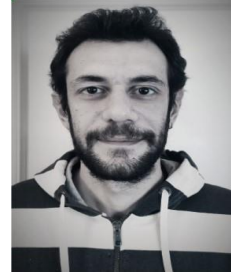
Dimitra Mitsaki **Author/ Director**

Dimitra Mitsaki is a writer, director, editor and producer. Her filmography includes several short films and her latest is the hybrid documentary "Is the City dead?". Recently, she was awarded by Onassis Culture for her script "The Animals in the Forest". Dimitra studied Filmmaking in Berlin's filmArche, playwriting at the National Theatre of Greece and she's an alumni of Talents Sarajevo. During the workshop Peripheral Vision. Repurposing the Archive, organised by Syros International Film Festival, she created the film "The Other Moon". Dimitra is a founding member of Balkan Can Kino, a pop up film festival, symposium and lab.



Panos Ydraios **Producer**

Panos Ydraios is a filmmaker based in Athens who works in the directing department in Filand Television (Ta Noumera, Zaketa na pareis, Helios, Ou foneuseis, Aufzug, Ola tha pane kala, etc). As a producer he has worked in short films (Is the city dead?, The Brother, Finisheç, a.o.), music and corporate videos and he has co-founded the creative media company FLP Athens. Panos studied film in England and then continued to work in Berlin, mainly on film projects, for five years.



The Reverse Side of Asphalt

by **Esratur Güler**

Drama/ **Türkiye**

Tagline:

Thoughts push us to the reverse side.

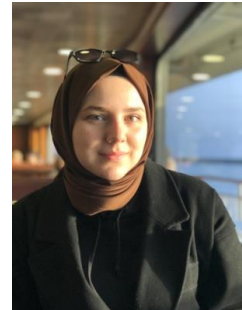
Synopsis:

It has been months since Aslı got her driving license, but she is not allowed to drive without the accompaniment of her father or brother. When she can't convince her father to drive alone, she takes the keys by stealth. Aslı goes on a tour with her friends in the side streets of the neighborhood. While escaping from the car that follows them during their drive, she unwittingly enters the highway. Aslı tries to complete the road while she is caught between her friends, the phone ringing and the wide highway road.



Esratur Güler Director / Author

Esratur Güler was born in 1998 and raised in İstanbul. She graduated from Marmara University, Faculty of Communication. She studied cinema at HBS Cinema Academy for two years. She took part in various short films and promotional films. Sourdough is the first short film written and directed by her. Nowadays She is working her new short movie 'The Reverse Side of Asphalt'.



My Tears, A Sea for Jakarta to Sink

By **Andrea Nirmala Widjajanto**

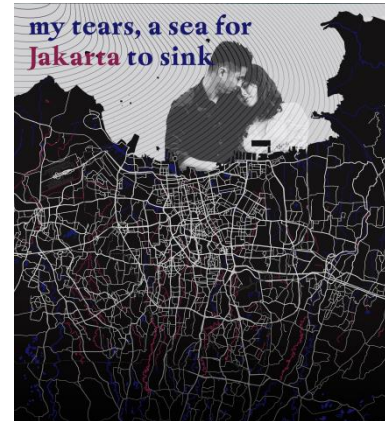
Science fiction, Romance/**Indonesia**

Tagline:

It's 2052. By request of the archival museum commemorating Jakarta, 37-year-old Ara returns to her native Indonesia to submit memories of her first loves: the sunken capital, and Hae.

Synopsis:

Five years after Jakarta sank and its habitants fled to Nusantara, a new museum initiated a collective installation for past citizens to submit their memories and commemorate the ex-capital. Living in the diaspora, Ara was handpicked as a prime candidate, she returns home. When Ara arrives, Ida, the curator welcomes her to the museum filled with displays of major events that shaped Jakarta. They then go through the processes of extraction, curation, and editing her memories. This is then intercut by her relationship with Hae which spans over 3 decades. These events are all postmarked by the sinking rate and against the backdrop of the vulnerable climate Jakarta was in. When she leaves the museum, she "bumps" into Hae, his wife, and his kid.



Andrea Nirmala Widjajanto Writer/Director

Andrea Nirmala Widjajanto (b. 1999) is an Indonesian writer/director who splits her time between Toronto and Jakarta. Her works utilize genre films as a medium to dissect sociopolitical, cultural, and environmental grievances through a female gaze. Her first short, Srikandi is a fantasy drama that premiered at the 2021 TIFF, VIFF, and Sundance Film Festival: Asia amongst other international festivals. Following her debut, she wrote and directed Bawang Merah Bawang Putih, a body horror food film produced as a 2022 Get Reel Filmmakers Scholarship recipient and premiered at Sundance Asia 2022. More recently, she completed Sawo Matang, a political futurism short as one of the 2021 NFFTY Pitch Competition winners and premiering at the 48th Toronto International Film Festival. Other than fiction, she co-directed a short documentary called Brown Enough, now available in TELUS Optik. She is an alumna of the 2020 Experimental Forest Writing is Rewriting Workshop, 2021 VIFF Catalyst Mentorship Program, 2023 BIFAN NAFF Fantastic Film School, and the 2023 Objectifs Short Film Incubator. In 2022, she co-founded Pidgin Productions in commitment to



bridging gaps through our shared pidgin of art and cinema. Andrea is currently in development for her first feature film among other shorts.

Annisa Adjam Producer

Annisa Adjam (b.1993) is a film producer and CEO of SINEMA 5, an Indonesian independent creative company that elevates genre elements in filmmaking to champion authentic voices on important issues. She is also the chairperson of Inteamates, an Indonesian creative storyteller community for social impact that highlights minority perspectives to enact change. Both entities are established in Jakarta from 2019 and previously co-produced "SAWO MATANG", Andrea Nirmala's latest short film with Pidgin Production.

Annisa is an alumna of Kyoto Filmmakers Lab Masters, BIFAN NAFF Fantastic Film School South Korea, Objectifs's Short Film Incubator Singapore, IF/Then SEA Lab by Tribeca, and Full Circle's Producer Lab Philippines who earned a master's degree in Filmmaking from Kingston University London.



The Heaviness of Absence

by Jalal Maghout

Psychodrama/ Germany



Tagline:

In the midst of war-torn Damascus, a young man tries to discover the fate of his arrested father, but his attempts will change his life forever.

Synopsis:

Zakaria, a 21-year-old student of English literature in war-torn Damascus, struggles to survive in the midst of a devastating economic situation. He battles each day just to keep his spirits up, but his mind is consumed by the horrors of the war and the uncertainty of his future. When his father, a prominent journalist named Youssef, is suddenly arrested by the secret police, Zakaria's world is turned upside down. Desperate to discover his father's fate, Zakaria embarks on a dangerous journey that introduces him to a corrupt network of individuals who can help him secure his father's release. Along the way, he meets a taxi driver who offers his assistance, but at a steep price. Zakaria is left alone with his fate. The thought that he too could be arrested torments him and he gradually sinks into his fear and loneliness.

Jalal Maghout Author/Director

Jalal Maghout, a Syrian animation filmmaker, began his career in 2010 with "Creatures of Inexistence," his bachelor's project at the University of Damascus. After moving to Berlin, he created "Suleima," an animadoc premiered at DOK Leipzig 2014. His film "Up Here, with the White Gods" debuted at ITFS 2020, while "Have a Nice Dog!", his master's graduation film, premiered at Filmfest Dresden, and has since screened at numerous festivals, winning multiple awards. Most notably, the film qualified for the Animation Short Film Oscar 2020 by winning the Grand Prix in Uppsala. Jalal also served as a jury member at ITFS, Annecy, and other festivals.



Karsten Matern Producer

Karsten Matern is an animation film producer who started his animation career as a production manager for international co-productions such as "Fritzi" and "La Traversée". He has produced various animation shorts, including award-winning "HAVE A NICE DOG!" and "A GOAT'S SPELL." He currently produces several animation projects and recently founded a small animation production company in Berlin. He is also the vice chairman of AG-Animationsfilm.



The Blind Man at the End of the World

by **JAKE MUNOZ CONSING**

Apocalyptic Drama / **Philippines**

Tagline:

Today is a good day to die.

Synopsis:

A comet is set to destroy the Earth in three days. ELMER (35), an escaped convict, flees to the countryside in search of his parents. He stumbles across the house of an old blind man, TALES (65), who he reluctantly brings with him after Tales asks Elmer if he can help him spread the ashes of his son over the peak. The two make their way up the mountain and reach Elmer's parents' house, finding them dead by suicide. They reach the peak. Doomsday. Tales spreads the ashes of his son over the cliff and the two wait. Tales, terrified, asks Elmer to describe the comet. Elmer begins to describe the comet in all its terrifying beauty. He tells Tales he's glad he got to know him. Tales says to himself, "Today is a good day to die." The comet hits.



Jake Muñoz Consing Director/Author

Jake Muñoz Consing is a 22-year old Filipino filmmaker based in Cavite. He is an alumnus of the Ricky Lee Screenwriting Workshop and a Summa Cum Laude Communication graduate from the Ateneo De Manila University. His recent short film, Write Here (2022), was selected for BFI Flare and nominated for the Iris Prize in the UK. His short Dildo (2021), was selected for Outfest LA and won Jury Prize at Outfest Fusion's one-minute movie competition. The short he wrote and produced, Lingkis (2021), was included in the Official Selection of Interfilm Berlin. He is currently developing his first feature film.



Sita Valenzuela Producer

Sita Valenzuela is a student director and producer from Ateneo De Manila University. Currently, she is a graduating senior majoring in Legal Management. She serves as the Chief of Operations at Seiga Productions, a Philippine-based production house for advertisements and films. Her directorial debut titled *Lingkis*, an alternative documentary that presents the history of impunity in Philippine politics through Filipino mythology, won top prizes at local collegiate festivals, Honorable Mention at the 34th Gawad Alternatibo, and was included in the Official Selection for INTERFILM Berlin. Presently, Valenzuela aims to pursue a career in law, while engaging in the media industry.



Carlo Valenzona Producer

CARLO VALENZONA is a Filipino filmmaker who took up Associate in Arts and Multimedia Studies in University of the Philippines and International Film Business at Busan Asian Film School. He produced Raymund Ribay Gutierrez's short films "*Imago*" and "*Judgement*" both competed in Cannes Shorts Main Competition. He produced the feature film "*Underground*" (San Sebastian Film Festival 2017); "*Alpha, The Right to Kill*" (Grand Prize Winner - San Sebastian Film Festival 2018); Netflix series *AMO* in 2018; and "*Verdict*" (Jury Prize-76th Venice Film Festival). His recently produced short film "*Tarang (Life's Pedal)*" by Arvin Belarmino won the 36th Interfilm Berlin-Brandenburg Best Film Award.



by **Zorana Mušikić**

Drama/ **Germany, Nigeria**



Tagline:

In his race to find urgent money for a medical treatment of his wife, 35 year old Bamidele encounters the world of the aid organization Lifescore through their admission process, just to find out that the apparent generous help comes at a steep price: he has to trade his own life in exchange for the donation.

Synopsis:

We follow Bamidele, a 35-year-old wood worker from Lagos, Nigeria, who is desperate to find money for his wife's urgent medical treatment – an amount that he could never reach although hard working. He approaches the aid organization "Lifescore" that promises quick and easy help. There the program consultant Mr. Iwunna (45) comforts him with great empathy, assuring him that "Lifescore" has already helped hundreds of thousands of people worldwide. He begins with a standard questionnaire, checking on Bamidele's life situation, but very soon starts changing into an ambiguous behavior that rises Bamidele's discomfort. Benevolently, Mr. Iwunna acknowledges Bamidele's lack of social status as well as pressuring him into a questionable police record. The interview turns into a nightmarish grotesque, as Bamidele realizes that the financial help offered by "Lifescore" comes at a steep price - he must trade his own life in exchange for the donation. Overwhelmed with anger and humiliation, Bamidele leaves, but soon he has to realize that he must accept the harsh reality of social injustice in order to save his family.

Zorana Mušikić Director/Author

Zorana Mušikić was born in Germany as a child of Yugoslavian immigrants in 1976. She holds an M.A. in Literature, Arts & Philosophy and a Diploma in Photography. Zorana has directed the award winning short „The Pheasant“ as well as numerous music videos, commercials and commissioned editorials. She has worked in West Africa for different NGOs directing case study films and teaching film classes. She works as a freelance author, director, editor, producer, copywriter & creative director in countless projects. She lives in Berlin where she has founded the film production company Mayana Films together with renown Palestinian producer May Odeh.



May Odeh producer

May Odeh is a Palestinian producer and filmmaker. In 2022 she co-founded MAYANA FILMS together with Zorana Mušikić in Germany. Her recent feature as a producer is HANGING GARDENS, which premiered in 2022 in Venice Film Festival. Odeh is also known for producing 200 METERS by Ameen Nayfeh, which received 27 awards worldwide and was Jordan's official submission for the Academy Awards for Best Foreign Language Film. Aside from that she has co-produced NOTES ON DISPLACEMENT (2022), 1000 FIRES (2021), THE PRESENT (2020), MARADONA'S LEGS (2019), and many more. In 2020, Odeh was named by Variety as MENA Talent of the Year. May holds a Master's Degree in film from Lillehammer University in Norway, and graduated from EAVE 2016, she is a member at The European Film Academy and The Asia Pacific Academy.



All Flowers In Time Bend Towards The Sun

by Michalis Kimonas

ROM COMEDY/**GREECE**

Tagline:

Two middle aged women meet for the first time, although they know each other since forever.

Synopsis:

A nice sophisticated restaurant. Frannie- a middle aged trans woman sits alone, waiting for someone. Galinie - a middle aged woman, her ex-wife and mother of their teenage child, Aris - appears. They hug each other tightly. It seems like IT'S BEIGN a long time since they last saw each other. Frannie has been on the run and this is their first ENCOUNTER AFRER HER TRANSITIONING. In the bustling atmosphere of the restaurant, memories intertwine with the sounds of the OUTSIDE WORLD, WHILE the two women find each other in a STATE of absolute love and trust. Balancing between a romantic first date COMEDY and a therapy session, the film explores the power of love and the multiplicity Of identity.



Michalis kimonos Writer/ Director

Michalis kimonos was born in Athens in 1992. He has graduated for Drama School of National Theatre of Greece and from SAE Athens Filmmaking Diploma. As an actor he has collaborated with some of the most distinguished greek directors, both in cinema and in theatre. His short film "KIDDO" (2022) won three awards at DISFF (Best director, Best Set Design, Best Make Up & Special Effect). In 2022, he directed the Diotima Centre's video campaign against gender-based violence.



Romanna Lobach

Graduated with a BA in acting from Athens Conservatoire Drama School in 2013, Romanna has performed in over 25 shorts and features that premiered in festivals such as Cannes, Venice and New York. She has been awarded in Greece and abroad for her performances. In 2018, she founded the creative company AKRAN. Currently she is producing multiple projects. Romanna is a Berlinale & Sarajevo Talent, a Locarno Industry Days alumna, a member of Hellenic Film Academy and Hellenic Producers Association. Her last short film, (as a producer and lead actress) «Midnight Skin» by Manolis Mavris premiered in 62nd Semaine de La Critique.



THE TUTORS

Pitching Lab conductor



Barbara Dukas is director and trainer. She is Artistic Director of Municipal and Regional Theater of Corfu Island (Greece). She is head of the Educational Program and Pitching Lab / Forum of the International Short Film Festival of the City of Drama (DISFF).



Georgina Kakoudaki is a theatre theorist and director. Since 2009, she has been directing youth theatre performances and collaborated with over 30 theatre and dance companies as a dramaturg. She is teaching in numerous public and international organizations specializing in educating adults through theatre and film. She has taught film dramaturgy and aesthetics at the AKMI IEKschool (2006-2011). She was head of the National Theatre of Greece Library and Archive (1997-2004). She co-wrote the books: Theatre education for adults (IDEKE 2007) and Paths of Experiential Learning (Kedros publications 2011). She is the author of the Arts Schools Students' Course book specializing in Theatre Directing and Film Directing / Film Aesthetics (IEΠ 2015) and organized large number of New Artists festivals alongside a series of organizations and theatres in Greece. From 2016 to 2019 she was the cocurator of the Educational Programs of the Athens and Epidaurus Festival and Director of the Epidaurus Lyceum, an international school for actors focusing on ancient drama. She collaborates with Olympia International Festival for Children and Young People and with Athens International Children Film Festival. In 2021 she was the Artistic Director of the summer school for ancient drama Summer Oracle (Municipal Theatre of Ioannina/ Dodona)



John Stephens is a Script Editor and Script Consultant who has advised on many short films and feature projects. In addition to running workshops on script development and story theory, he has been a teacher of English Literature and Language for several years. He has also been a Reader, Script Doctor and Film Selection Coordinator for KineNova International Film Festival. As a self-confessed 'Story Geek', he is passionate about narrative theory and helping others write better scripts



Stathis Paraskevopoulos † (1963 – 2023) was the co-founder of Drama Educational Program since 2009. He was script editor, consultant and Reader/Reviewer to aspiring script writers as well as head of Programming Strategy and Acquisitions Director for several TV channels in Greece and abroad.
