ATHENS INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL

23.09 — 04.10

2020

UNDER THE AUSPICES
AND WITH THE FINANCIAL SUPPORT

HELLENIC REPUBLIC
Ministry of Culture and Sports

ORGANISED BY

IN COOPERATION WITH
ANESIS

19:30 TWILIGHT’S KISS / SUK SUK (2019, Hong Kong, 92’)
Director: Pak, a taxi driver about to retire and married with two children, meets Hoi in the park, a divorced father of one. The former is cruising the latter is looking for companionship. What they share is the fact that no one in their immediate surroundings knows the truth about them. A few key film, a melancholic yet sweet elegy from Hong Kong which looks into the grey zones in the daily life of two gay men who decide to claim their share of happiness even at this late stage in their lives.

CINEMA IS DREAMING

Directors: Coen, Ethan Coen
A top metaphor about the greedy world of Hollywood. A trippy satire of a struggling scriptwriter at a creative impasse with John Turturro in the role of his life supported by the equally skilled John Goodman and Judy Davis. A never-ending neo-noir mindfuck featuring headless bod-

ATHINAIA

19:30 GREEK SHORT STORIES - IN COMPETITION I (2020, 74’)
HOUHOU by Zoie Sgiourou
MILKYWAY by Lefteris Giannakoudakis
ALL YOU CAN EAT by Dimitris Armenakis
UTOPIA by Kosta Nikas
THE HARVESTER GENERATION by Minos Papas
SOUMLATES by Vassilis Loules & team of pupils of the Greek School Stuttgart-Vaihingen

AEGLI ZAPPIOU

19:30 SONGS OF REPRESSION (2020, Denmark, 90’)
Directors: Marianne Hougen-Moraga, Estefan Wagner
Behind the folklore of an idyllic German community on the Chilean foothills of the Andes hides a story of a fanatic religious sect and Nazi extremism embraced by the Pinochet regime, which committed systematic child abuse, torture, executions and dreadful medical experiments. This shocking documentary, which won the award at CPH:DOX , will make you wonder what is more chilling: the mass crimes committed there or the persistence of the remaining residents to keep quiet about them?

22:15 NOMADLAND (2020, USA, 107’)
Director: Chloe Zhao
One of the Festival’s favorite director discoveries, the rapidly emerging Chloe Zhao (Golden Globe for “The Rider”) returns with a road movie which is already des-
tined for the grand awards of the cinematic season. In the lead is Frances McDormand, in her first role following the legendary Oscar success of “Three Billboards Outside Ebbing, Missouri”. A personal journey of self-denial and female empowerment set against the emotive landscape of the modern-day West, during the time of the great de-

GREEK DOCUMENTARIES

19:45 TIED (2020, Greece, 53’)
Director: Tasos Morfis
Greece, 2015. The struggle of 320 unpaid sailors of the Maritime Company of Lesvos, taking place at a critical juncture for the country, is captured through the narra-
tion of the financial officer, Nikos Pantelis, who led the protests and revealed the scandal. With many trapped in the company’s docked ships at Neos Molos Drapetsonas, away from the prying eyes of the public, the camera records the 7-month long desperate attempt of the work-
ers to claim their earnings.

BADLAND (2020, Greece, 6’)
Director: Christos Pitharas
In July 2018, a fire broke out around the villages of Mati and Neos Voutzas, in Attica, Greece. People lost their lives. What remains are memories of sounds and sights of a black land.
The film will be shown prior to the main screening

22:15 ASSASSINS (2020, USA, 104’)
Director: Ryan White
When the step-brother of the infamous North Korean dictator is murdered at Kuala Lumpur’s airport in Febru-
ary 2017, two young women are arrested at once for the murder and await to be sentenced to death. In an aston-
ishing way, however, it emerges that the accused women unwittingly played a pivotal part in the execution of a diabolical assassination plan. With a plot that appears to be the result of a twisted imagination, this highly-talked about documentary is watched with bated breath while the narrative is worthy of the most suspenseful conspir-

GREEK FILING ARCHIVE

21:00 MARTIN EDEN (2019, Italy / France, 129’)
Director: Pieter Marcello
During an unspecified period of recent Italian history a destitute sailor reinvents himself as a political writer. He becomes famous and marries into the higher echelons of society only to find himself ideologically opposed to this world where he does not belong. The similarly titled novel by Jack London is revamped with tasteful visuals and given an epic feel with the added bonus of the ad-

21:00 LAST YEAR AT MARIENBAD / L’ANNÉE DERNIÈRE À MARIENBAD (1961, France / Italy, 94’)
Director: Alain Resnais
In a stately hotel, a married woman is ruthlessly pursued by a man trying to convince her to run away with him, claiming they had a passionate love affair in the same place a year ago. A milestone in world cinema, the magn-
ificent riddle by Resnais can be viewed as a Gothic dream, a mind game or a ghost story. Through its haunt-
ing geometry and its indomitable imagery the film offers the most unforgettable journey down the entangled paths of memory, the subconscious and the human mind. Winner of the Golden Lion at the Venice Film Festival, an Oscar nomination for Best Screenplay and a massive influence on the cinema of Bergman, Fellini and Rivette.

RIVIERA

CINEMA IS DREAMING

19:45 THE COLOR OF POMEGRANATES / SAYAT NOVA (1969, Soviet Union, 78’)
Director: Sergei Parajanov
Scorsese undertook its restoration with utmost reverence while Antonioni found it in absolute beauty. Parajanov’s masterpiece has prevailed as an exotic creature of cine-
ma which speaks its own language. A dialect which translates poetry and tradition into a tableau vivant in order to tell the story of the most original biography ever seen in film. A memorable film and a breakthrough in the contem-
porary art movement, as it developed through visual arts to cinema, to video clips. This film is a superior, tortured and unique creation similar to its creator.

SAVE YOURSELVES! (2020, USA, 93’)
Director: Alex Huston Fischer, Eleanor Wilson
A couple of hipsters from Brooklyn disconnect their mo-
biles phones and laptops to travel to an isolated house in the woods where they hope to reconnect with each other. Cut off from their gadgets, they never learn that the planet is under attack. A hilarious plot, a leading duo with great chemistry and the cutest aliens you’d ever wish to meet transform a low budget sci-fi film about the end of the world into a slapstick survival comedy dedicated to a generation utterly hooked on the internet.
who left a permanent mark on the indigenous cultural group of people motivated by their love of the 9th art, artists, musicians and authors it introduced to them. A not just for children but also affected, from the start of legendary “Babel” teach the Greek public that comics are much more than a magazine or festival, not only did the Meletis Moiras Director: (2020, Greece, 79’) EXPLOSION by Nikos Gkoulios}

22:15 MAKE UP (2019, UK, 86’) I.C. Director: Claire Oakley. On a winter’s night, the young protagonist arrives at a haunted-looking windswept seaside Cornwall resort to visit her boyfriend who works there. Signs of his infidelity become the starting point of a journey full of mystery, during which uncharted aspects of the self and sexuality are examined. A psychological thriller, an unexpected gift of puberty, which usually starts with an explosion within. Director in attendance

22:30 I CARRY YOU WITH ME (2020, USA / Mexico, 111’) I.C. Director: Heidi Ewing. One of the most important directors of contemporary American cinema, having received an Oscar nomination for “Jesus Camp” (2006), transitions over to fiction in an epic love story. Heidi Ewing tells the story of an aspiring chef and young university professor from the moment they meet in 80s Mexico all the way to modern-day New York, portraying their relationship like a night whisper, a charming fairy tale. That is, up to the moment when reality bombards the plot and destroys everything in an unpredictably redeeming finale. Winner of the Sundance Audience Award for the queer film of the year. Introduction by a representative of the Greek section of Amnesty International

21:00 ENTER THE VOID (2009, France / Germany / Italy, 161’) Director: Gaspar Noé. Motivated by an uncontrollable urge to push the cinematic experience to its limits, the boy wonder of contemporary French cinema orchestrates an attack on the senses with an audiovisual bashing, which himself considered as a “pschedelic melodrama”. A young American’s spectacular journey of life and death around Tokyo’s nightclub scene, a blatant show of directorial skills, primarily influenced by Kubrick’s ‘2001’, a cinematic hallucinogenic trip; any way you see it, it’s an achievement.

22:00 THE CAPOTE TAPES (2019, UK, 91’) Director: Ebbs Burnough. Recently discovered tapes featuring interviews with friends of Truman Capote, originally meant for a biography that was never written, shed light on one of the most enigmatic periods of an iconic 20th century author; a larger-than-life persona who fully immersed himself into the grand New York lifestyle with all of its frenzied pleasures. At the epicentre of all this, is his explosive unfinished book “Answered Prayers”, which was meant to expose Manhattan’s aristocracy and which became the cause of Capote’s expulsion from it.

19:30 KUBRICK BY KUBRICK (2020, France / Poland, 73’) Director: Grégory Monro. Aside from an unsurpassed filmography, which could easily be deemed part of the cultural heritage of the 20th century, Stanley Kubrick, the archetypal introvert, is considered by most to be the sacred legend of cinema and simultaneously an enigma of a director. So far, that is, as this revelatory documentary brings to light twenty years of conversations between the director and the only film critic he trusted, the legendary Michel Ciment of the French magazine Positif. And so the man who always hated to talk about his films, for once, does just that.

19:45 SEVEN MINUTES OF SOUL (2020, Greece, 75’) Director: Panos Vlachos. In the first modern Olympic Games which took place in Athens in 1896, Spyros Louis came first in the race at Marathon, marking one of the most legendary achievements in world sports. But how did an unknown water carrier from Marousi, without any prior participation in athletic races, achieve such an unimaginable feat? The documentary follows Panos Vlachos as he attempts to find out the exact conditions which lead to Spyros Louis’ success. At the same time he tries to re-enact the whole affair thus shedding light on one of the most controversial marathon races to date. Filmmakers in attendance

19:30 GREEK SHORT STORIES - IN COMPETITION II (2020, 98’) TAKE IT AND END IT by Kirinios Papadimitos I.C.

19:30 GREEK HISTORICAL DOCUMENTARIES - ICONS

19:30 GREEK DOCUMENTARIES - ICONS

19:30 GREEK SHORT STORIES - ICONS

19:30 GREEK SHORT STORIES - TRANSFER (2020, Greece, 115’) D.C. Director: Elias Giannakakis. On the occasion of its move from the imposing Valianeo building on Panepistimiou Street to the Stavros Niarchos Foundation Cultural Center, the National Library is given a voice with which to narrate its troubled journey. The narration reflects every historical landmark from the formation of the Hellenic Republic to the present day. A priceless psychological portrait of an Athens which often resembles a battlefield, a multi-layered journey through time with the aid of the priceless treasures of this country’s most significant intellectual body, but above all current commentary on the importance of preserving memory, directed by one of the top contemporary Greek filmmakers. Filmmakers in attendance

19:30 GREEK DOCUMENTARIES - ICONS

19:30 GREEK SHORT STORIES - ICONS

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**Athinaia**

**Greek Documentaries**

- **The Fourth Character** (2020, Greece, 85')
  - Director: Katerina Patrini
  - Pavlos crosses the town by bus as he contemplates his past and all that he’s done. Tina wanders around streets thinking again and again about the phone call that changed her life. Young Paul picks up rubbish while singing psalms having found the meaning of life in God. A city mirroring the stories of its residents in a revealing documentary about loss, guilt, faith and the search for redemption.

  **Filmmakers in attendance**

- **There Is No Evil / Sheytn Vojud Nadarad** (2020, Germany / Czech Republic / Iran, 150')
  - Director: Mohammad Rasoulof
  - He made the film in secret hiding from a regime that forbade him to direct. He won the Golden Bear at the Berlin Film Festival without being able to accept it because of a ban prohibiting him from leaving Iran. More than any other director, Rasoulof has faced the nonnegotiable need for free artistic expression, through four riveting vignettes but mainly with a cinematic ability to break limits and tear down walls.

  **Screening dedicated to Max von Sydow**

**Greek Short Stories**

- **Are We Lost Forever** (2020, Sweden, 104')
  - Director: David Färdmar
  - Three years of a passionate relationship are cast away when Adrian and Hampus decide they no longer wish to share a house, a bed or a life. What happens when two people decide to take different routes while their lives continue to orbit around the love and passion that brought them together in the first place? The answers are found in this disarmingly candid debut which adroitly keeps the audience guessing how the initially recognisable love story will turn out.

  **Filmmakers in attendance**

**Greek Film Archive**

- **Cicada** (2020, France, 95')
  - Director: Fanny Liatard, Jérémy Trouilh
  - During a hot New York summer, a bisexual young man puts a stop to his rampant sex life when he meets and falls in love with a charming African American man. Will they be able to escape the forest, in unexpected ways, draws out all of her demons. Artists in need of muses, actors in need of roles, writers suffering from writer’s block and people in need of love all stand out in a Russian-nesting-doll type of film, darkly titillating and with an unprecedented plot which topples everything midway. Aubrey Plaza and Christopher Abbott’s performances elevate this to the greatest meta film to come out of American cinema in recent years.

**Cinema Is Dreaming**

- **Black Bear** (2020, USA, 104')
  - Director: Lawrence Michael Levine
  - A filmmaker at a creative impasse seeks refuge from her turbulent past at a mountain retreat only to discover that the forest, in unexpected ways, draws out all of her demons. Artists in need of muses, actors in need of roles, writers suffering from writer’s block and people in need of love all stand out in a Russian-nesting-doll type of film, darkly titillating and with an unprecedented plot which topples everything midway. Aubrey Plaza and Christopher Abbott’s performances elevate this to the greatest meta film to come out of American cinema in recent years.
AEGLI ZAPPIOU

**CINEMA IS DREAMING**

**HEART OF GLASS / HERZ AUS GLAS**

(1976, West Germany, 94’)

Director: Werner Herzog

A haunting atmosphere, scenes which resemble German expressionist paintings and a combination of fairy tale elements with Gothic horror films add cabalistic notes to this paradoxical chronicle of an ominous prophecy about the end of the world and of the story of an entire village which suffers the weight of a secret which is never revealed. One of Werner Herzog’s most enchanting films for which the German director had a cast of 35 actors perform their roles under hypnosis! The film’s metaphysical plot is elevated to an allegory of cosmic dimensions.

**CINEMA IS DREAMING**

**RAPTURE / ARREBATO**

(1979, Spain, 105’)

Director: Iván Zulueta

The most legendary film of Spanish underground cinema, and a favourite of Almodóvar’s, it became a curse and the swan song of its outrageously talented creator with later generations proclaiming it a modern classic. As a second-class director tries to solve the enigmatic disappearance of an old acquaintance, who believed film had the magical ability to secure a person passage to another reality, “Arrebató” is a horror film and a marvellous commentary on the ultra hallucinogenic power, the stupefying effect and the vampire-like dimension of cinema. A digitally restored version will be screened for the first time in this country. Screened for the first time in Greece in its digital restoration.

**THE EVENING HOUR**

(2020, USA, 115’)

Director: Braden King

An isolated community in the Appalachian Mountains experience their own distinctive reality through the economy of coal mines and drugs. Trapped in this suffocating environment, the kind-hearted Cole maintains his own morals, in a paradoxical manner, by selling illegal substances for worthy causes. However, the fragile order of things in his life is about to be overturned by the arrival of a friend from his past, who is also a criminal. The film is defined by its old-style solid narrative, the magnetic lead found in Philip Ettinger and the performances of Lili Taylor, Stacy Martin and Tess Harper - three actors from three different generations - who manage to pierce through the tough male dominance of the film with the use of emotion and temperament.

**THE FOUNDATION PIT / KOTLOVAN**

(2020, Russia, 71’)

Director: Andrei Gryazev

A bizarre crazed has recently taken over many Russians, who dig massive foundation pits where they plan to build in the future. In most cases the pits remain empty for years resulting in many comic yet tragic newsworthy incidents. Composed of dozens of YouTube videos and on-camera complaints by citizens who are looking for any reason to criticise Vladimir Putin, Andrei Gryazev’s documentary offers up a psychological portrait of a tormented society that knows it is being dragged through the dirt, while also proving that you don’t need much of a budget to tell an important and true story well.
AEGLI ZAPPIOU

19:30 ROCKFIELD: THE STUDIO IN THE FARM (2020, UK, 90')
Director: Hannah Berryman
Two Welsh farm kids crazy about Rock'n'Roll, having been rejected by George Martin - the Beatles' manager - decide to turn the family farm into the first hotel-music studio in the world. And for those who wonder which serious musician would ever record music next to cows and horses, listen to Ozzy, Robert Plant, Simple Minds, The Stone Roses, Oasis, Hawkwind, Coldplay, Manic Street Preachers, The Charlatans and others tell the story of the incredible journey of a music studio which over the course of fifty years has been linked to emblematic songs and albums of contemporary music.

TRIANON

19:30 MARKOS: THE STUDIO IN THE FARM (2019, Greece / Serbia / Italy, 93')
Director: Nikos Skarentzos
A group of musicians travel to Syros to participate in a tribute to Markos Vamvakaris. In parallel to this journey, a documentary on Marko's influence on the contemporary world highlight the musician's legacy in the 21st century. In it, lonely seafarers are eternally in search of their lost love, a seaside town in 1951, UK, 122')
Director: Albert Lewin
The ticket to technicolor heaven. In it, lonely seafarers are eternally in search of their lost love, a seaside town in Catalonia becomes the gateway to eternity for two lovers and two people defeat time and death in one of the greatest romances of Hollywood's golden age. Jack Cardiff's scintillating cinematography is a masterpiece, Ava Gardner is more beautiful than ever, finding the perfect acting partner in James Mason, with an imaginative direction for the tapestry behind the shiny exterior of blissful family-makers.

GREEK FILM ARCHIVE

19:30 GREEK SHORT STORIES - IN COMPETITION V (2020, 96')
HANSEL by Vivian Papageorgiou
IRO /JE.RO/ by Alexis Koukiadis-Pantelis
HARMONICA MAN by Alexandros Skouras
OTRANTO by Jonian Bisai, Sotiris Tsiganos
DEAR JOEL by Thanasis Trouboukis
Director: Heidi Ewing
One of the most important directors of contemporary American cinema, having received an Oscar nomination for “Jesus Camp” (2006), transitions over to fiction in an epic love story. Heidi Ewing tells the story of an aspiring chef and young university professor from the moment they meet in 80s Mexico all the way to modern-day New York, portraying their relationship like a night whisper, a charming fairy tale. That is, up to the moment when reality bombardsonad the plot and destroys everything in an unpredictably redeeming finale. Winner of the Sundance Audience Award for the queer film of the year.
**AEGLI ZAPPIOU**

**9:30 GREEK SHORT STORIES - ANTHOLOGY OF A BUTTERFLY**

*Director: Kostis Chara-mountain*

54 / **THE BLIND TURTLE AND THE ENDLESS DESERT**

by Isabella Margara

**FIAT LUX**

by Yorgos Korakianitis

**ANAPAFSIDIS** by Dimitris Papagiannopoulos

**THE MOUSE STORY** by Miltiadis Christides

**MARE NOSTRUM** by Dimitris Anagnostou

**22:30 INSTINCT**

(2019, Netherlands, 98’)

*Director: Halina Reijn*

A psychotherapist, whose methods are questionable, is hired at a correctional facility, where she gradually allows herself to be seduced by a serial rapist. Or is the exact opposite the case? Destined to divide audiences and with Carice van Houten (Melisandre in “Game of Thrones”) giving an electric performance, the directorial debut by Halina Reijn develops as an erotic thriller which examines the shady aspects of sexual fantasies, the limits of political correctness and the basic - and beyond- human instincts.

Recipient of two awards at the Locarno film festival and one at the Nederlands Film Festival, the directoral debut by Halina Reijn is a multi-layered, multi-faceted and multi-dimensional experience, which is sure to divide opinion. A film which offers up a psychological portrait of a tormented society questioning not only itself, but also the very idea of freeing oneself from the shackles of conventional morality.

**CINEMA IS DREAMING**

**19:45 LAST YEAR AT MARIENBAD / L’ANNÉE DERNIÈRE À MARIENBAD**

(1961, France / Italy, 94’) (R)

*Director: Alain Resnais*

In a stately hotel, a married woman is ruthlessly pursued by a man trying to convince her to run away with him, claiming they had a passionate love affair in the same place a year ago. A milestone in world cinema, the magnificent riddle by Resnais can be viewed as a Gothic dream, a mind game or a ghost story. Through its haunting geometry and its indomitable imagery the film offers the most unforgettable journey down the entangled paths of memory, the subconscious and the human mind. Winner of the Golden Lion at the Venice Film Festival, an Oscar nomination for Best Screenplay and a massive influence on the cinema of Bergman, Fellini and Rivette.

**22:30 AUGUST / AGOSTO**

(2019, Cuba / Costa Rica / France, 85’) I.C. (R)

*Director: Armando Capó*

In the summer of 1994, in a Cuba full of major social unrest, a young man experiences first-time love, sexual awakening, the burden of loss and the daily anxiety of the adult world. Featuring summer hues and a juxtaposition of personal stories against the inevitability of history, this beautiful debut perfectly conceives the end of innocence and showcases those little moments which can leave a lasting effect on human lives.

**GREEK FILM ARCHIVE**

**19:45 THE FOUNDATION PIT / KOTLOVAN**

(2020, Russia, 71’) D.C. (R)

*Director: Andrey Gryazev*

A bizarre craze has recently taken over many Russians, who dig massive foundation pits where they plan to build in the future. In most cases the pits remain empty for years resulting in many comic yet tragic newsworthy incidents. Composed of dozens of YouTube videos and on-camera complaints by citizens who are looking for any reason to criticise Vladimir Putin, Andrei Gryazev’s documentary offers up a psychological portrait of a tormented society that knows it is being dragged through the dirt, while also proving that you don’t need much of a budget to tell an important and true story well.

**STELLA**

**21:00 MARKOS**

(2019, Greece / Serbia / Italy, 93’) (R)

*Director: Nikos Skarlatos*

A group of musicians travel to Syros to participate in a tribute to Markos Vamvakaris. In parallel to this journey, composers, musicologists and artists from around the world highlight the musician’s legacy in the 21st century. A documentary on Marko’s influence on the contemporary soundscape both in Greece and the whole of Europe.

**FILMMAKERS IN ATTENDANCE**

**ATHINAIA**

**CARTE BLANCHE TO BABEL MAGAZINE**

19:15 *WHO ARE YOU, POLLY MAGGOO? / QUI ÊTES-VOUS, POLLY MAGGOO?*

(1966, France, 101’)

*Director: William Klein*

Using his own experience as a photographer, William Klein gives the most timeless and insightful critique on the world of fashion with “Who Are You, Polly Maggoo?”. Combining Cinéma vérité, comedy and ironic satire against the backdrop of the 60s, he disguises his highly derisive perspective with the use of playful pop references and scenes from the life of a supermodel who remains apathetic to the supposed excitement that surrounds her. Undoubtedly a cult film, this quintessential pseudo-documentary opens its middle finger to the self-proclaimed intellectuals who define lifestyle through stereotypes.

**Introduction by Christos Xanthakis who selected the film**
Filmmakers in attendance

AEGLI ZAPPIOU

19:30 FAREWELL AMOR
(2020, USA, 101')
Director: Ekwa Msangi
One of the most promising female directors of American independent cinema, to appear in recent years, is introduced to us through this heartfelt debut, which takes place in multi-racial modern-day New York. There, a migrant from Angola is reunited with his wife and teenage daughter both of whom he has not seen in 17 years. However, the gap between them, created with the passing of time, can not easily be bridged, especially when each member of the family carries their own secret. A tender directorial approach, a script which embraces every single character and subtle nuanced performances in one of the greatest cinematic finds of 2020.

22:30 SOUND OF METAL
(2019, USA, 130') I.C. ©
Director: Darius Marder
A former drug-addicted drummer tours US states as part of a sludge metal duo he and his girlfriend have formed. Their nomadic lifestyle is cut short when he suddenly realises that he is losing a big part of his hearing. The screenwriter of “Place Beyond the Pines” uses the initial intensity, the gradual distortion and eventual silencing of the music band to portray the heartbreaking transition of a musician from the world of sound to that of silence, delivering a visceral study on the narrow line between self-destruction and self-acceptance. Riz Ahmed (“Rogue One: A Star Wars Story”, and “The Night Of”) in the leading role gives the best performance of his career.

TRIANON

GREK DOCUMENTARIES
19:15 DAYS AND NIGHTS OF DIMITRA K.
(2020, Greece, 66')
Director: Eva Stefani
Dimitra is a sex worker and for years president of her union. She loves her job and was once the owner of one of the oldest houses in Athens, known as “Elli’s Bordello”. The film offers a portrait of Dimitra, as the camera follows her during her daily routine, before and after the closure of her brothel, in 2014. By learning about her we are confronted with questions about desire, exploitation, the right to be different and political correctness. The film will be screened as a work in progress.

Filmmakers in attendance

Prior to the film screening, a Q&A session will take place titled: “Sex workers: the Greek reality”. The main participants will be the director of NGO Red Umbrella Athens, Ms. Anna Kouroupou and the National Law School lecturer/lawyer, Mr. Vaggelis Mallios. The discussion will be coordinated by the journalist Ms. Katerina Oikonomakou.

22:15 THIS IS NOT A BURIAL, IT’S A RESURRECTION
(2019, Lesotho / South Africa / Italy, 120') I.C. ©
Director: Lemohang Jeremiah Mosese
In a settlement in the South African highlands, an elderly widow, who is alone in the world, fights to the end to protect her birthplace when plans to build a dam threaten to destroy the area and result in the uprooting of the local inhabitants. The clash between old and new, the sense of identity and of community as a necessary compass in an ever-changing universe and human will as a force of nature, infuse this stunningly directed and marvelously poetic film which elevates a simple parable to a true masterpiece.

22:30 IF IT WERE LOVE / SI C’ETAIT DE L’AMOUR
(2020, France, 82’) B.C. ©
Director: Patric Chiba
Patric Chiba films “Croud”, Gisèle Vienne’s dance piece, as a Renaissance-style fresco which vibrates on a neon screen against the beat of techno music. In this timeless setting, fifteen figures who have surrendered to ecstasy, invariably change substance until the point where fantasy and reality clash. Intensity and eroticism penetrate the body and are released into the atmosphere. And when the lights come on once more everyone is left to assess what the dance left within them. The film won the Teddy award at the recent Berlin Film Festival for a dionysian documentary about rave, togetherness and the transformational power of art.

GREEK FILM ARCHIVE

19:30 SPRING BLOSSOM / SEIZE SPRING
(2020, France, 73') I.C. (R) ©
Director: Suzanne Lindon
Sixteen-year old Susan who is nothing like her peers and is bored stiff, meets a 35-year old actor (Arnaud Valois from “120 Beats Per Minute”) and falls in love with him. But even love isn’t the answer to everything. The 20-year old daughter of the great Vincent Lindon is introduced to us as a multi-talented individual, who will be much discussed, as she directs and stars in a postmodern reversal of the norms which we are used to seeing in romantic and coming-of-age films. This year’s official selection of both the Cannes and San Sebastián Film Festivals is a fresh debut on the enigma of puberty, which usually starts with an explosion within.

ATHINAIA

GREK DOCUMENTARIES
19:15 NIKOS KAROUZOS - POEMS ON THE TAPE RECORDER
(2020, Greece, 101')
Director: Yannis Karpouzis
A leftist and a christian, a hermit and an alcoholic, the cursed poet Nikos Karouzos is the central figure in this documentary about rave, togetherness and the transformational power of art.

22:00 SPRING BLOSSOM / SEIZE SPRING
(2020, France, 73’) I.C. (R) ©
Director: Suzanne Lindon
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RIVIERA

20:00 SHIRLEY
(2020, USA, 107’) ©
Director: Josephine Decker
A famous and psychologically vulnerable horror writer finds the much-needed inspiration for her next book when she and her husband invite a young couple to stay at their elegant house. Josephine Decker offers up a skilfully directed dream-like and magnificently non-conformist biopic. The great Elisabeth Moss impresses the audience with her broad range of acting in the role of Shirley Jackson with the support of Odessa Young, Logan Lerman and Michael Stuhlbarg, in this psychological thriller, a bold journey into the unexplored sides of the mind. Recipient of the Special Jury Award at Sundance for an innovative director who has now secured her place as one of the most important auteurs of American cinema.

22:30 I.C.

20:30 THE SARAGOSSA MANUSCRIPT / REKOPIS ZNALEZIONY W SARAGOSSIE
(1965, Poland, 182')
Director: Wojciech Has
During a battle of the Napoleonic wars, on Spanish turf, two soldiers from opposing sides discover a mysterious book through the pages of which a maze of stories unfold somewhere on the spectrum between imagination and reality. A favourite with David Lynch, Martin Scorsese, Francis Ford Coppola and Luis Buñuel, this marvellous adaption of Jan Potocki’s novel impressively unfolds on the screen in an unparalleled pinnacle of direction and elaborated narration. One of the masterpieces of Polish cinema and of the fantasy genre.

STELLA

20:00 ASSASSINS
(2020, USA, 104’) (R)
Director: Ryan White
When the step-brother of the infamous North Korean dictator is murdered at Kuala Lumpur’s airport in February 2017, two young women are arrested at once for the murder and await to be sentenced to death. In an astonishing way, however, it emerges that the accused women unwittingly played a pivotal part in the execution of a diabolical assassination plan. With a plot that appears to be the result of a twisted imagination, this highly-talked about documentary is watched with bated breath while the narrative is worthy of the most suspenseful conspiracy thriller at the same time offering chilling proof of the inconceivable dark mechanisms that threaten to destroy lives at any given moment.
question: who in the world is Banksy?

The ideal unofficial companion to the Oscar-nominated "Exit Through the Gift Shop", a thorough portrait of the most enigmatic yet established figure of street art, a playful combination of a road movie with comedy which questions the strict rules of the Russian-Jewish community he belongs to. In this much-promising debut, Eric Steel sketches a portrait of a young man caught between two minorities, charting with care the deeply personal journey of an Athens which often resembles a battlefield, a multi-layered journey through time with the aid of the priceless treasures of this country's most significant intellectual body, but above all current commentary on the importance of preserving memory, directed by one of the top contemporary Greek filmmakers. Filmmakers in attendance

ATHINAIA

19:30 BILLIE (2019, UK, 96')
Director: James Erskine
A lot has been written about the fame and tremendous importance of Billie Holiday in the history of music. To this day, however, an abundance of questions remain about her turbulent and tragic life. This precious documentary tries to find answers to these questions throughout hours of recorded interviews with close friends and great collaborators (such as Count Basie and Tony Bennett), which are seen here for the first time, through confessions by Lady Day herself and through a magnificent archive bound to cause chills, capturing something of the grandeur of her exceptional performances.

2:00 BILLIE (2019, UK, 96')

GREEK SHORT STORIES - IN COMPETITION VIII (2020, 84')
ROUTE-3 by Thanasis Neofotistos

PRIME AMOUR by Haris Raftogiannis
MELATONIN by Nikos Pastras
WHEN I SMILE MY EYES CLOSE by Daniel Bolda
SEVARAMBES by George Kontos
THE END OF SUFFERING (A PROPOSAL) by Jacqueline Lentzou

ANESIS

19:30 PETIT SAMEDI (2020, Belgium, 75') D.C. (R)
Director: Paloma Sermon-Dai

This is the story of the small triumphs and inevitable defeats of Damien Samedi, a 45-year-old drug addict who lives with his mother in the heart of a small village of Wallonia. Traversing the daily distance between euphoria and utter emptiness, "little" Samedi struggles to return to normality as his sister's camera records every turn of his addiction and every moment their mother lovingly tries to ensure her son has time and a place to continue to dream. A surprisingly funny, deeply insightful and humbly tender portrait of a man and his battle against all that haunts him, which stood out at the Berlin Film Festival Forum.

AEGLI ZAPPIOU

19:15 YIORGOS OF KEDROS (2020, Greece, 82')
Director: Yiannis Kolozis, Yorgos Kolozis

A personal journey in time, through the eyes of two generations of filmmakers, to the island of Donousa from the 70s to the present day. Yorgos Kolozis went to Donousa for the first time in 1972, at a time when there was no tourism or electricity on the island. He lived alone on the beach of Kedros and so the locals gave him the nickname “Yiorgos of Kedros”. His death in 2009 resulted in his son, Yiannis, continuing his father’s work, completing a story in which time is looked upon as the process of reevaluating the present.

FILMMAKERS IN ATTENDANCE

19:00 CARTE BLANCHE TO BABEL MAGAZINE
Director: Halina Reijn

Recipient of two awards at the Locarno film festival and with a similar nomination at the Oscars, the documentary tries to find answers to these questions through the lens of reality, the emerging director Nightcrawler, his home, a workers' housing estate bearing the name of the famous Soviet astronaut Gagarin, from being demolished to rise again. Combining bold fiction and reality, the emerging director Nightcrawler, his home, a workers' housing estate bearing the name of the famous Soviet astronaut Gagarin, from being demolished to rise again.

23:15 JOSEP (2019, Netherlands, 98') (R)
Director: Aurel

In 1939, the Spanish civil war comes to an end, and 50,000 defeated Republicans are sent into French concentration camps where they are tortured. Under such adverse conditions, a friendship is unexpectedly formed between a French guard and Josep, a Catalan prisoner who records, through the medium of his sketches, all the terrible things that happen there. After 10 years of grueling preparation, Le Monde’s cartoonist switches over to animation, illustrating a visually stunning and emotionally generous lesson in resistance and history, based on true events from the life of the famous anti-fascist artist and lover of Frida Kahlo, Joseph Bartoli. Official selection at this year’s Cannes Film Festival.

21:15 TRANSFER (2020, Greece, 115') D.C. (R)
Director: Elias Giannakakis

On the occasion of its move from the imposing Valianeio building on Panepistimiou Street to the Stavros Niarchos Foundation Cultural Center, the National Library is given a voice with which to narrate its troubled journey. The narration reflects every historical landmark from the formation of the Hellenic Republic to the present day. A priceless psychological portrait of an Athens which often resembles a battlefield, a multi-layered journey through time with the aid of the priceless treasures of this country’s most significant intellectual body, but above all current commentary on the importance of preserving memory, directed by one of the top contemporary Greek filmmakers. Filmmakers in attendance

TRIANON

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GREEK FILM ARCHIVE

19:30 INSTINCT (2019, Netherlands, 98') (R)
Director: Halina Reijn

A psychotherapist, whose methods are questionable, is hired at a correctional facility, where she gradually allows herself to be seduced by a serial rapist. Or is this exactly opposite the case? Destined to divide audiences and with Carice van Houten (Melisandre in "Game of Thrones") giving an electric performance, the directorial debut by Halina Reijn develops as an erotic thriller which examines the shady aspects of sexual fantasies, the limits of political correctness and the basic - and beyond-human instincts. Recipient of two awards at the Locarno film festival and the Netherlands’ selection for the Oscars international feature film category.

19:45 WISDOM TOOTH (2019, China, 104’) I.C. (R)
Director: Liang Ming

Two step-siblings trying to make their way in a seaside area of northern China, an ambiguous love triangle, a toothache, a pocket recorder left in the wrong place at the right time and a murder result in one of the most impressive Chinese cinema debuts in recent years. A script featuring many intriguing mysteries, an impressive director’s gaze, an atmospheric soundtrack and dream-like elements transform a disguised coming-of-age and sexual awakening story into a thematically and stylistically worthy successor of the amazing “Burning”.

RIVIERA

19:45 MINYAN (2020, USA, 118’) I.C. (R)
Director: Eric Steel
New York in the 80s. 17-year-old David discovers his sexuality on the queer scene of the East Village while starting to question the strict rules of the Russian-Jewish community he belongs to. In this much-promising debut, Eric Steel sketches a portrait of a young man caught between two minorities, charting with care the deeply personal search for identity in a diverse world, set against the backdrop of the unspeakable terror of AIDS. James Baldwin’s writings and the irresistible attraction of the “forbidden”.

21:15 MULHOLLAND DRIVE (2001, USA / France, 147')
Director: David Lynch
Winner of the Best Director award at the Cannes Film Festival and with a similar nomination at the Oscars, the masterpiece that is “Mulholland Drive” wanders in the shadows of Hollywood, in a nighttime Los Angeles, along with two women who are trying to solve a mystery. Identities change, characters are deconstructed, the plot falls apart and is reconstructed to reveal hell itself in a world where people exist solely as puppets, truth is made up and love is just another orchestrated lie. The dream suddenly turns into a nightmare. And the rest become silent. Silencio!

19:30 STRIDING INTO THE WIND / YE MA FEN ZONG (2020, China, 156’ I.C. (R)
Director: Shujun Wei
A young film student with the rare talent of getting everything wrong, try as he might, buys a second-hand jeep. He rides through town with Hip Hop music blasting out loud, and while others see a_ja, he sees the key to making his wildest dream come true. More of a self-aware unfilled coming-of-age story, this autobiographical debut by the 29-year old Chinese director is a great urban poem, a playful combination of a road movie with comedy which bridges the gap between Hisao-Hsien Hou and Woody Allen. Official selection at the 2020 Cannes Film Festival.

22:15 CRÉPUSCULE (2019, France, 115') (R)
Director: Jean-Pierre Améris

This is the story of the small triumphs and inevitable defeats of Damien Samedi, a 45-year-old drug addict who lives with his mother in the heart of a small village of Wallonia. Traversing the daily distance between euphoria and utter emptiness, "little" Samedi struggles to return to normality as his sister’s camera records every turn of his addiction and every moment their mother lovingly tries to ensure her son has time and a place to continue to dream. A surprisingly funny, deeply insightful and humbly tender portrait of a man and his battle against all that haunts him, which stood out at the Berlin Film Festival Forum.

STELLA

19:45 GAGARINE (2020, France, 95’) I.C. (R)
Director: Fanny Liardat, Jérémy Trouilh
Young Yuri is determined to do everything it takes to stop his home, a workers’ housing estate bearing the name of the famous Soviet astronaut Gagarin, from being demolished. Combining bold fiction and reality, the emerging directors worthwhile pick up where LadY Ly’s “Les Misérables” left off, to illustrate the hardship of living in the Parisian suburbs through the sphere of magical realism. Official selection at the Cannes Film Festival, the film stood out with the Festival’s director singing its praises.
19:30 GREEK SHORT STORIES - IN COMPETITION IX (2020, 86')
Dakar by Stelios Moultidis
Bourn by Dimitris Moustiakas
Goads by Iris Baglanee
Iskiona by Kostas Geramnispis
The Meaning of August by Manos Papadakis

Icons 22:30 ANDREY TARKOVSKY. A CINEMA PRAYER (2019, Italy / Russia / Sweden, 97')
Director: Andrey A. Tarkovsky
Never-before released photographs, scenes from filming, poetry and accounts from the personal diary of Andrey Tarkovsky relate the experiences and ideas of the leading Russian director to his films. The most brilliant pages from “The Diaries” come to life in a prayer for cinema and art. Through references to his life, reactions to his unparalleled work and through his favourite artists, Tarkovsky formulates (though he himself denies this) a cinematic equivalent of Kazantzakis’ “Ascess”, thus elevating a deeply personal documentary (which is lovingly put together by his namesake son) to a compelling visual supplement of the director’s career. Producer in attendance

Athinaia

19:30 OTHER, LIKE ME (2020, UK / USA, 80')
Directors: Marcus Werner Hed, Dan Fox
In this second short film festival, an anarchist collective of British artists turned into pioneers of industrial music and destroyers of conservative values. Terrorising with their music along with their nihilistic stance they disregarded every taboo to do with sex, violence, pornography and exceeding limits resulting in their being described as “Wreckers of Civilization” by a shocked politician of the time. This is the tempestuous story of Throbbing Gristle, told for the first time, on camera, by the members of the group including the recently deceased Genesis P O’Ridge.

22:15 DINNER IN AMERICA (2020, USA, 106')
Director: Adam Carter Rehmeyer
An unspoken punk band singer, who hides his identity behind a mask and is persecuted by the police for his drug dealing, meets a naive young woman who is crazy about him. Together they embark on a journey of personal insurrection, set against the backdrop of the utterly stagnant American suburbia. Heartfelt tribute to the cinema of Alex Cox and Todd Solondz, with an explosive starring duo, and musical throttles combined in a pure punk romance that puts every other remake of the genre to shame.

Greece Film Archive

Special Screenings - Greek Premieres

19:30 IN THE STRANGE PURSUIT OF LAURA DURAND (2019, Greece, 98') (R)
Director: Dimitris Bavelas
Antonis (Makis Papadimitriou) and Christos (Michalis Sarantis) are two unemployed friends who share a small apartment in Athens. Aside from the house, the two also share a reverence for Laura Durant, a legendary 90s porn star who has mysteriously disappeared. When things get really bad, they decide to try their chances and set off in pursuit of Laura, in a Rock’n’Roll odyssey (with Lotus-eaters, Cyclopes and Penelope) where the occurrences of cinematic Chéche’s gradually increase to the point where they become the protagonists of the plot. Enjoyable supporting roles by Alexandros Logothetis, Danis Katranidis and Ionnis Maltezou. Filmmakers in attendance

22:45 BAD TALES / FAVOLACCE (2020, Italy / Switzerland, 98') I.C. (R)
Directors: Fabio & Damiano D’Innocenzo
One hot and fateful summer, in a suburb of Rome, four kids succumb to mania as they try to weather the torpor of their parents’ world. But when adults are proven to be susceptible to violent outbreaks and uncontrollable impulses you can’t expect anything different from their children. There is nothing inward about this new film by the D’Innocenzo brothers who through a genuine explosion of talent compose grotesque vignettes which showcase the moral decline behind the shiny exterior of blissful family-makers. Winner of the Silver Bear for Best Screenplay at the Berlinale.

American Rapstar (2020, USA, 79') (R)
Director: Justin Staple
The ultimate documentary on SoundCloud Rap is a provocative look into the lives of underage millionaires. Kids that manage to combine an aggressive punk attitude with a blind allegiance to the dollar, who are compelled to share their life on social media, purchase their drugs from pharmacies, dirty their faces with tattoos and dye their hair all the colours of the rainbow. At the edge of the rainbow, however, there is a portrait of a cynical generation who no longer believe in the old-fashioned American dream.

Stella

19:30 SOUND OF METAL (2019, USA, 130') I.C. (R)
Director: Darius Marder
A former drug-addicted drummer tours US states as part of a sludge metal duo he and his girlfriend have formed. Their nomadic lifestyle is cut short when he suddenly realises that he is losing a big part of his hearing. The screenwriter of “Place Beyond the Pines” uses the initial intensity, the gradual distortion and eventual silencing of the music band to portray the heartbreaking transition of a musician from the world of sound to that of silence, delivering a visceral study on the paradoxical manner, by selling illegal substances for personal profit. A top metaphor about the greedy world of Hollywood. A trippy satire of a struggling scriptwriter at a creative impasse with John Turturro in the role of his life supported by the equally skilled John Goodman and Judy Davis. A never-ending neo-noir mindfuck featuring headless bodies, mysterious boxes and a myriad of other enigmas. Written and directed by the Coen brothers at the peak of their creativity, this film swept the board at the Cannes Film Festival receiving, for the first time in the festival's history, all the big awards (Palme d’Or, Best Director, Best Actor), only to be followed by three Oscar nominations (Best Actor in a Supporting Role, Best Art Direction-Set Decoration, Best Costume Design). Screening dedicated to Giorgos Tziotzios

Special Screenings - Greek Premieres

19:15 CAN'TO SI TU CANTAS (2020, Greece, 108')
Director: Nikos Komilios
Giannis and Paris are celebrating Day of the Dead, as well as their anniversary, at the Latin-American themed café-teatral: a crossroads where loved ones meet with solitary souls and strange travellers. All the stories become entangled, the past meets the present, music and dance transform reality and as night falls and the celebration reaches its rapturous peak, the café becomes a small Ark, filled with memories, desires and revelations. With the participation of 50 actors, musicians and dancers, Nikos Komilios presents this year’s dark horse of Greek cinema: a Dionysian celebration of community and life as a never-ending dance of joy and sorrow.

22:30 THE EVENING HOUR (2020, USA, 115') (R)
Director: Braden King
An isolated community in the Appalachian Mountains experience their own distinctive reality through the economy of coal mines and drugs. Trapped in this suffocating environment, the kind-hearted Cole maintains his own morals, in a paradoxical manner, by selling illegal substances for personal profit. However, the fragile order of things in his life is about to be overturned by the arrival of a friend from his past, who is also a criminal.
The film is defined by its old-style solid narrative, the magnetic lead found in Philip Ettinger and the performances of Lili Taylor, Stacy Martin and Tess Harper - three actors from different generations who manage to pierce through the tough male dominance of the film with the use of emotion and temperament.

In a Silent Way (2020, Belgium, 87')
Director: Hal Ashby
In 1971, the not yet established director of “Shampoo” and “Being There”, believed so much in the crazy love between a depressed young man and a kooky 80-year old woman that he decided to capture it in one of the most controversial films of that decade. However, “Harold and Maude” is not just a dark comedy or a brave love story but a nonconformist and ultimately refreshing tribute to moral laxity and the joie de vivre. A timeless cult movie, an alternative love story for those who hate romances and a film with the power to stir emotions to this day. Introduction by Niki Tsouda who selected the film

19:15 A CINEMA PRAYER

PRAYER

AEGLI ZAPPIOU

Silver Bear for Best Screenplay at the Berlinale.

Dinner in America

Director: Adam Carter Rehmeyer

Barton Fink

Director: Joel Coen, Ethan Coen

A top metaphor about the greedy world of Hollywood. A trippy satire of a struggling scriptwriter at a creative impasse with John Turturro in the role of his life supported by the equally skilled John Goodman and Judy Davis. A never-ending neo-noir mindfuck featuring headless bodies, mysterious boxes and a myriad of other enigmas. Written and directed by the Coen brothers at the peak of their creativity, this film swept the board at the Cannes Film Festival receiving, for the first time in the festival's history, all the big awards (Palme d’Or, Best Director, Best Actor), only to be followed by three Oscar nominations (Best Actor in a Supporting Role, Best Art Direction-Set Decoration, Best Costume Design). Screening dedicated to Giorgos Tziotzios
The longtime relationship between a couple of artists is tried when the woman has to confront the inevitability of an incurable disease which results in both of them having to set their differences aside in order to face an unfaithful-omission together. With a sincerity and authenticity which seem to stem from real experience, as indeed they do, since the script draws from real-life events, this wondrously dramatic performance by Max von Sydow and Liv Ullmann, end of the ceremony.

Undine is a charming historian who lives in Berlin. When she is abandoned by the man she loves, an ancient legend awakens and orders her to kill the one who betrayed her and then to return to water. Directing this most fairytale-like of his films, the award-winning filmmaker of “Phoenix” and “Transit” over-turns the foundations of melodrama with a romantic story in his own “Shape of Water”, telling a supernatural love story, as elusive as it is doomed. Winner of the Silver Bear at the Berlinale for the enchanting Paula Beer who along with Franz Rogowski give elevating performances in this dark tale of love.

A rare occasion of a film adaptation of a book where the author and the director seem to reside on the same plane, supplementing each other’s vision. The notorious “Crash” takes place in a cold modern-day metropolis where a small group of people become sexually aroused by the sight and experience of car crashes. This much-discussed and bold creation by Cronenberg created a scandal at the Cannes Film Festival (despite winning the Jury Special Prize) and suffered a series of censorship issues around the world. The film will be screened in the 4K digital restoration recently completed by the director himself.

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ANESIS

19:30 THE CAPOTE TAPES
(2019, UK, 91’) (R)
Director: Ebbs Burnough
Recently discovered tapes featuring interviews with friends of Truman Capote, originally meant for a biography that was never written, shed light on one of the most enigmatic periods of an iconic 20th century author: a larger-than-life persona who fully immersed himself into the grand New York lifestyle with all of its frenzied pleasures. At the epicentre of all this, is his explosive unfinished book. “Answered Prayers”, which was meant to expose Manhattan’s aristocracy and which became the cause of Capote’s expulsion from it.

22:15 HOPE / HAP
(2020, Norway / Sweden, 125’)
Director: Maria Sødahl
The longterm relationship between a couple of artists is tried when the woman has to confront the inevitability of an incurable disease which results in both of them having to set their differences aside in order to face an unfaithful-omission together. With a sincerity and authenticity which seem to stem from real experience, as indeed they do, since the script draws from real-life events, this wondrously dramatic performance by Max von Sydow and Liv Ullmann, end of the ceremony.

23:00 CRASH
(1996, Canada, 100’)
Director: David Cronenberg
A rare occasion of a film adaptation of a book where the author and the director seem to reside on the same plane, supplementing each other’s vision. The notorious “Crash” takes place in a cold modern-day metropolis where a small group of people become sexually aroused by the sight and experience of car crashes. This much-discussed and bold creation by Cronenberg created a scandal at the Cannes Film Festival (despite winning the Jury Special Prize) and suffered a series of censorship issues around the world. The film will be screened in the 4K digital restoration recently completed by the director himself.

ATHINAIA

19:30 MINAMATA
(2020, Serbia / Montenegro / Japan, 115’)
Director: Andrew Levitas
Japan in the 70s. A factory’s toxic waste pollutes the coastal community of Minamata with mercury, resulting in a large number of the population suffering from serious neurological diseases. A young woman travels to New York, to convince a number of the population suffering from serious neurological diseases. A young woman travels to New York, to convince a number of the population suffering from serious neurological diseases. A young woman travels to New York, to convince a number of the population suffering from serious neurological diseases.

22:30 THE HOLY MOUNTAIN / LA MONTAÑA SAGRADA
(1973, Mexico, 114’) (R)
Director: Alejandro Jodorowsky
There is no easy way to describe thedelicous magnus opus of the unorthodox Chilean director (“Santa Sangre”). There is the allegory of a Messianic figure crossing a totally corrupt modern-day world in the quest of enlightenment. And then there is the spectacular and utterly sac- rilegious vision of a director-saboteur who bombards re- ligion, power, society and cinema itself with some of the most inconceivable images, filming in an ecstatic state, wrecking taboo after taboo all of which results not in a film but a cultural shock in the guise of a film. With John Lennon’s blessings, in his secret capacity as producer.

GREEK FILM ARCHIVE

19:45 SONGS OF REPRESSION
(2020, Denmark, 90’) D.C. (R)
Directors: Marianne Hougé-Moraga, Esteban Wagner
Behind the folklore of an idyllic German community on the Chilean foothills of the Andes hides a story of a fanatic religious sect and Nazi extremism embraced by the Pinoc- het regime, which committed systematic child abuse, tor- ture, executions and dreadful medical experiments. This shocking documentary, which won the award at CPH:DOX, will make you wonder what is more chilling: the mass crimes committed there or the persistence of the remaining residents to keep quiet about them?

22:30 IF IT WERE LOVE / SI C’ÉTAIT DE L’AMOUR
(2020, France, 82’) D.C. (R)
Director: Patric Chiva
Patric Chiva films “Crowd”, Gisèle Vienne’s dance piece, as a Renaissance-style fresco which vibrates on a neon screen against the beat of techno music. In this timeless setting, fifteen figures who have surrendered to ecstasy, invariably change substance until the point where fantasy and reality clash. Intensity and eroticism penetrate the body and are released into the atmosphere. And when the lights come on once more everyone is left to assess what the dance left within them. The film won the Teddy award at the recent Berlin Film Festival for a dionysian documentary about rave, togetherness and the transform-ational power of art.

STELLA

19:45 FAREWELL AMOR
(2020, USA, 101’) (R)
Director: Ekwa Msangi
One of the most promising female directors of American independent cinema, to appear in recent years, is intro- duced to us through this heartfelt debut, which takes place in multi-racial modern-day New York. There, a migrant from Angola is reunited with his wife and teen- age daughter both of whom he hasn’t seen in 17 years. However, the gap between them, created with the passing of time, can not easily be bridged, especially when each member of the family carries their own secret. A tender directional approach, a script which embraces every single character and subtle nuanced performances in one of the greatest cinematic finds of 2020.

22:30 BILLIE
(2019, UK, 96’) (R)
Director: James Erskine
A lot has been written about the fame and tremendous importance of Billie Holiday in the history of music. To this day, however, an abundance of questions remain about her turbulent and tragic life. This precious document- ary tries to find answers to these questions through countless hours of recorded interviews with close friends and great collaborators (such as Count Basie and Tony Bennett), which are seen here for the first time, through confessions by Lady Day herself and through a magnifi- cent archive bound to cause chills, capturing something of the grandeur of her exceptional performances.
STELLA

Ford Coppola took on, in the capacity of producer, and ed to an audiovisual poem, a unique film which Francis montage and sensational photography the film is elevat-
elic kaleidoscope of images, filmed with never-before extraordinary achievement by Godfrey Reggio. A psych-
man and nature, technology and the self, then it is this

In the language of the native American Hopi tribe

Director: Godfrey Reggio

(1982, USA, 86') (R)

A filmmaker at a creative impasse seeks refuge from her turbulent past at a mountain retreat only to discover that the forest, in unexpected ways, draws out all of her demons. Artists in need of muses, actors in need of roles, writers suffering from writer’s block and people in need of love all stand out in a Russian-nesting-doll type of film, darkly tillitulating and with an unprecedented plot twist which topples everything midway. Aubrey Plaza and Christopher Abbott’s performances elevate this to the greatest meta film to come out of American cinema in recent years.

Director: Lawrence Michael Levine

(2020, USA, 104') (R)

ANESIS AEGLI ZAPPIOU

19:30 AMMONITE
(2020, UK, 117')

Director: Francis Lee

In 19th century rural England, paleontologist Mary Anning unwillingly takes on a wealthy young woman as her assistant, and soon the involuntary coexistence between them results in an attraction that will change their lives forever. In his second highly-anticipated feature film, the award-winning director of “God’s Own Country” has Kate Winslet and Saoirse Ronan as protagonists in a powerful love story which was an official selection at the 2020 Cannes Film Festival, will be screened in our country following its recent triumph at the Toronto festival and is already considered a frontrunner for the coming Oscars.

Producer in attendance

22:15 AWARD-WINNING FILM SCREENING

Watch one of the award-winning films of the Festival’s International Competition section!

ATHINAIA

19:30 KOVANISQATSI
(1982, USA, 86') (R)

Director: Godfrey Reggio

In the language of the native American Hopi tribe “Kovanisqatsi” means life out of balance, moral decline, chaos. If ever there was a film to record the clash between man and nature, technology and the self, then it is this extraordinary achievement by Godfrey Reggio. A psych- edelic kaleidoscope of images, filmed with never-before used technical means, enchantingly adorned with the minimalist sounds of Phillip Glass, featuring an evocative montage and sensational photography the film is elevat- ed to an audiovisual poem, a unique film which Francis Ford Coppola took on, in the capacity of producer, and successfully introduced to the whole world.

22:15 AWARD-WINNING FILM SCREENING

Watch one of the award-winning films of the Festival’s International Competition section!

GREEK FILM ARCHIVE

19:45 SAVE YOURSELVES!
(2020, USA, 93') (R)

Directors: Alex Huston Fischer, Eleanor Wilson

A couple of hipsters from Brooklyn disconnect their mobiles phones and laptops to travel to an isolated house in the woods where they hope to reconnect with each other. Cut off from their gadgets, they never learn that the planet is under attack. A hilarious plot, a leading duo with great chemistry and the cutest aliens you’d ever wish to meet transform a low budget sci-fi film about the end of the world into a slapstick survival comedy dedicated to a generation utterly hooked on the internet.

22:30 AWARD-WINNING GREEK SHORT FILMS

A collection of award-winning films from the Greek short film competition section.

RIVIERA

19:45 DINNER IN AMERICA
(2020, USA, 106') (R)

Director: Adam Carter Rehmeier

An outspoken punk band singer, who hides his identity behind a mask and is persecuted by the police for his drug dealing, meets a naive young woman who is crazy about him. Together they embark on a journey of personal insur- gence, set against the backdrop of the utterly stagnant American suburbia. Heartfelt tribute to the cinema of Alex Cox and Todd Solondz, with an explosive starring duo, and musical throttles combined in a pure punk romance that puts every other remake of the genre to shame.

22:45 SHIRLEY
(2020, USA, 107') (R)

Director: Josephine Decker

A famous and psychologically vulnerable horror writer finds the much-needed inspiration for her next book when she and her husband invite a young couple to stay at their elegant house. Josephine Decker offers up a skillfully directed dream-like and magnificently non-conformist bi-opic. The great Elisabeth Moss impresses the audience with her broad range of acting in the role of Shirley Jack- son with the support of Odessa Young, Logan Lerman and Michael Stuhlbarg, in this psychological thriller, a bold journey into the unexplored sides of the mind. Recipient of the Special Jury Award at Sundance for an innovative director who has now secured her place as one of the most important auteurs of American cinema.
ATHENS INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL
SAFETY PRECAUTIONS
Instructions for members of the audience based on legal health protocols

ARRIVAL
Please arrive no later than 30’ prior to the screening start time listed on the Festival programme.

USE OF MASK
The use of a mask is mandatory in all queues (entrance, exit, toilets, concession stand) and throughout the duration of the screening at all cinemas.

ENTRY INTO THE CINEMA SCREEN
To gain access into a cinema screen your body temperature will be taken by Festival representatives. If it is found to be above 37,2 degrees Celsius, you will be denied entry for safety reasons. In such an event your ticket will be refunded.

Entry into the cinema screen will not be allowed once the screening has commenced (including during the preliminary advertisements or other presentation).

SCREENING
There will be no intermission during the screening. If you wish to purchase items from the concession stand please do so before the screening commences.

SEATS
In the open-air cinemas AEGLI ZAPPIOU, ATHINAIA, ANESIS, ARTEMIS, LAIS - the Greek Film Archive, RIVIERA & STELLA seats are not numbered, whereas in TRIANON and they are, and, based on current health protocols requiring limited capacity, certain seats will be voided with the use of special signage by the Festival. We kindly request that you respect this signage and refrain from using these seats. Festival ushers will welcome you and lead you to your seats.

EXIT
In the event that you wish to leave the venue during the screening we ask that you alert a Festival representative by raising your hand so that they may facilitate your departure with safety.

Following the completion of the end credits, it is mandatory that audience members observe the instructions given by ushers for their departure, as one row at a time will be allowed to depart. We kindly request you to quickly vacate the premises of the cinema.

DISTANCING
We ask that you observe social distancing. Every cinema will have special signage for your convenience (stickers etc.).

TICKETS

TICKET PURCHASING:
You can purchase your tickets online through www.viva.gr, in person at all physical points of sale or you can make a reservation by calling 11876*
*Cost per call to 11876: €0,96/ minute (from a landline), €1,09/ minute (from a mobile)

We urge you to purchase your tickets prior to your arrival at the cinema. Ideally, you will either have your ticket in electronic format on your phone or a printout of your ticket so as to facilitate the safe and unobstructed entry of audience members into the cinema screen.

PURCHASING TICKETS AT THE CINEMA:
- Each open air theater issues tickets ONLY for the screenings hosted in this particular theater.
- Theater ticket booths are open 60 minutes before the start of their first screening and close 30 minutes after the start of their last screening.
- N.B.: An hour prior to each screening and only up to its commencement will cinema box offices be able to issue tickets and only for same-day screenings.
- Each cinema will only be able to issue tickets for screenings taking place on its premises.
- Tickets cannot be transferred to other screenings.
- Tickets can be cancelled online through viva.gr any time up to an hour prior to the screening start time shown on the ticket.
- Tickets can be cancelled at cinema box offices up to an hour prior to the screening start time shown on the ticket. The ticket holder will have to return the ticket to the cinema box office where it was issued.
ATHENS INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL ONLINE

For viewers who would not otherwise be able to attend screenings in person (medically vulnerable, caretakers or other people who work in close proximity to medically vulnerable people, people living outside of Athens etc.) the Athens International Film Festival has arranged for part of its programme to be available on a purpose-built digital platform which will offer a certain number of geo-blocked screenings to the whole of Greece, adhering to all safety standards and to a high level of digital interaction.

Visit online.aiff.gr to purchase your digital screening ticket.

From the moment you start streaming the film you will have 24 hours to complete its viewing.

PRICES

Tickets
Cinema screening: 6 Euros
Online screenings via platform: 3 Euros

Film Passes
5 screenings: 25 Euros
10 screenings: 45 Euros
20 screenings: 70 Euros

Film Pass holders CANNOT attend a screening simply by showing their Film Pass. A zero-fee ticket must first be issued by purchasing a ticket online or at a physical sales point using the number on the Film Pass. The same Film Pass can be used to issue as many tickets as the holder wishes for the same screening (up to the maximum number of tickets remaining on the Film Pass).

Film Passes cannot be used to purchase tickets for films to be screened digitally on the Festival's platform (see above Athens International Film Festival Online)

For any issues relating to tickets or film passes (for in-person screenings) you can contact the customer service team of viva.gr via live chat or by emailing them on support@viva.gr.

For issues relating to tickets for the Festival's online screenings (online.aiff.gr) you can contact us on 210 6018565

FESTIVAL HELPDESK

Due to the special circumstances of this year's event, the Press Office will not have a physical presence.

For information relating to the programme and events of the 26th AIFF (NOT for issues relating to tickets or film passes), you can contact us through:

The Festival's Contact Centre
210 3389455

Online chat through the Festival's official social media pages:
Facebook Page (facebook.com/AthensFilmFestival)
Instagram (instagram.com/cinemagazine.gr)

INFORMATION

FESTIVAL SECTIONS

○ INTERNATIONAL COMPETITION
○ INTERNATIONAL DOCUMENTARY COMPETITION
● ICONS / GREEK DOCUMENTARIES
● GREEK SHORT FILM COMPETITION
● MUSIC & FILM
● FESTIVAL DARLINGS
● SPECIAL SCREENINGS / TRIBUTES

I.C.: International Competition
D.C.: Documentary Competition

Press screening
Journalists accredited by the Festival can have a free ticket issued up to 15 minutes prior to the start time of the screening.

www.aiff.gr | www.cinemagazine.gr

MEMO FOR PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES

Disabled access points
Toilets for all
Handicapped parking spots
Greek subtitles based on dialogue
3D Screening

ADDRESSES

Zappeion Garden, Athens 105 57
tel.: 210 3369300

50 Chantos str., Kolonaki
tel.: 211 4130430

4 Iera Odos Ave.
& 134-136
Meg. Alexandrou str.
tel.: 210 3609695

TRIANON
21 Kodringtonos str.
(Patision 101)
(Victoria Metro Station)
tel.: 210 8215469

48 Iera Odos Ave.
& 134-136
Meg. Alexandrou str.
tel.: 210 3609695

Riviera
46 Valtetsiou str.
tel.: 210 3844827

ARTEMIS
(Papagou Municipal Cinema) 2-4 Nevrokopiou str.
Papagou (next to Youth Center), Papagou
tel.: 210 6528173

STELLA
34 Tenedou str. (Fokionos Negri), Kipseli
tel.: 210 8657200

GRISSE
34 Tenedou str. (Fokionos Negri), Kipseli
tel.: 210 8657200

CINE Adrava
50 Chantos str., Kolonaki
tel.: 211 4130430

CINE AFAI
14 Kifissias Ave., Ampelokipoi
tel.: 210 7487912

CINE AVIS OPINO
14 Kifissias Ave., Ampelokipoi
tel.: 210 7487912

CINE BOSS
4 Iera Odos Ave.
& 134-136
Meg. Alexandrou str.
tel.: 210 3609695

CINE ESPINO
46 Valtetsiou str.
tel.: 210 3844827

CINE RIVIERA
46 Valtetsiou str.
tel.: 210 3844827

CINE TELLE
34 Tenedou str. (Fokionos Negri), Kipseli
tel.: 210 8657200

CINE TRIONON
21 Kodringtonos str.
(Patision 101)
(Victoria Metro Station)
tel.: 210 8215469

CINE ZAPPEION
Zappeion Garden, Athens 105 57
tel.: 210 3369300

CINE I.N.A.
34 Tenedou str. (Fokionos Negri), Kipseli
tel.: 210 8657200
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