















DANAOS 1

TRIBUTE: AKINA KUNDSAWA

19:00 SEVEN SAMURAI / SHICHININ NO

(1954. Japan. 207')

Director: Akira Kurosawa

The heroic story of a group of Ronin hired by the farmers of a small village to defend it from bandits. Enviably authentic in its portrayal of a turbulent period, influenced as much by the American Western as by the Japanese theatre, Japan's most expensive film production till then is definitive epic cinema: from the unsurpassed battle scenes to the masterful handling of numerous characters, often based on historical figures exhaustively studied by the director himself. A hymn to human endurance, self-sacrifice and solidarity that has defined action cinema worldwide like few other films, Kurosawa's effort was awarded the Silver Lion at the Venice Film Festival for his unparalleled direction and earned two Oscar nominations (costume and set design).

The film will be screened for the first time in Greece for its entire duration, in its recent 4k restoration that premieres globally



CINOBO OPERA 1

TRIBUTE: THIS IS ENGLAND 21:00 BAD TIMING

(1980, UK, 122') Director: Nicolas Roeg

An American couple engages in a vampiric, and ultimately

destructive, passion in Vienna. What on paper seems rather commonplace, in Roeg's hands turns into an unforgettable narrative labyrinth. Through an elaborate editing, the director of "Don't Look Now" goes back and forth between past and present in a way that lets events of yesterday cast their shadows on the present and seemingly insignificant details make unexpected connections. Through this masterful mosaic, "Bad Timing" becomes a gripping drama about the violent conflict between desires and denials, about the complex affairs of the human heart and the inability of science to decipher them.

ASTOR

GREEK SHORT STORIES COMPETITION OPENING FILM

20:00 WHAT MARY DIDN'T KNOW

(2024, France / Greece / Sweden, 54') Director: Konstantina Kotzamani

A cruise ship, NEOROMANTICA, crosses the Mediterranean. Among pensioners who yearn for Marriage Margaritas, Mary, a teenage girl wanders the casino and hits her own jackpot in love. Under the whimsical Aegean moon, Greek myths meet Arabian Nights.

Filmmakers in attendance. Invitation only



MUSEUM OF CYCLADIC ART

CYCLADIC SCREENINGS As part of the exhibition **Cindy Sherman at Cycladic: Early works**, screening at the Museum of Cycladic Art of two films **chosen by Cindy Sherman herself** as the inspiration for a series of her photographic works. On the same day, viewers will have the opportunity to see one or both films as well as tour the exhibition.

CYCLADIC SCREENINGS 20:00 THE NAKED KISS

(1964, USA, 90')

Director: Samuel Fuller

A prostitute tries to change her ways, but the small American town, its authorities (and men) won't let her. She will respond. Samuel Fuller was never a «good boy», but when he went independent he really exploded. And everyone must have felt it, as the film, even from the typically "disreputable" b circuit, beams ahead of its time by telling it like it is. You see, prostitution, abuse, abortion were absent even from the Kennedy-era agenda, just as the complete subversion of women, here almost unprecedentedly empowered. Trashy, camp, constantly aggressive and provocative, here is the cinema Hollywood would understand years later. And David Lynch was taking notes.

Introduction by film critic, Thodoris Koutsogiannopoulos

CYCLADIC SCREENINGS

22:00 BEYOND THE VALLEY OF THE DOLLS (1970, USA, 119')

Director: Russ Meyer

An independent exploitation director and a totally inexperienced screenwriter (later beloved film critic Roger Ebert!) were approached in 1970 by a major studio to deliver a satire of Hollywood dramas, acting as an informal follow-up to the box-office success of "The Valley of the Dolls". The result was one of the most outrageous cult creations of all time. Moralistic melodrama, musical, violent soap opera and rabid parody, the film sees a girl band enter a showbiz world of corruption and decadence. Meyer bombards his sex, drugs & rock 'n' roll odyssey with flashy colors and dizzying editing, fueling the plot with outrageous developments, and culminating in an unforgettable psychedelic orgy starring sexy females, demented crossdressers, scheming porn stars, crazed hippies and neo-Nazis! Introduction by film critic and founder of Midnight Express, Akis Kapranos



4 FRIDAY OCTOBER 4TH 2024

DANAOS 1

TRIBUTE: AKIRA KURDSAWA

19:30 THRONE OF BLOOD / KUMONOSU-JŌ (1957, Japan, 110')

Director: Akira Kurosawa

One of the greatest Shakespeare adaptations the cinema has ever known, "Throne of Blood" takes "Macbeth" to the erie, foggy world of medieval Japan to tell the story of the rise to power of an overambitious usurper samurai seduced by a dark prophecy and his ruthless wife. Stripping the plot of "the Scottish play" to its essentials and incorporating elements from traditional Japanese Noh theatre, Kurosawa transforms the familiar story about the terrifying consequences of power-hunger into a riveting masterpiece where the narrative is primarily motivated by a shocking iconography, and natural elements create a sense of inevitable doom, right up to the unsurpassed, transcendent finale worthy of an ancient Greek tragedy.

22:30 THE SUBSTANCE (2024, USA / UK / France, 140')

Director: Coralie Fargeat

In her most outrageously gutsy performance, Demi Moore plays an Oscar winner-star, now a washed-up TV fitness show host. When the network replaces her with a younger woman, she resorts to a mysterious substance that promises to bring out -literally- her best, youngest and most beautiful self. Not without a price. Nothing prepares you for the film that made Cannes resound with howls of disgust and excitement, as Coralie Fargeat puts the most generous doses of body horror of the last decade into her feminist blender to deliver a delightful satire of the entertainment industry's attitude towards women. Unapologetically camp and indescribably gory, the brazen film won Best Screenplay at Cannes, giving new meaning to the term midnight movie.

ASTY

TRIBUTE: THIS IS ENGLAND 19:30 RITA, SUE AND BOB TOO (1987. UK. 93')

Director: Alan Clarke

«Thatcher's Britain with her knickers down» was the tagline of the film and its radical creator intended exactly that: a mocking, bitter satire of (loose) morals and class inequalities that cannibalized any notion of romance and political correctness, through the story of two schoolgirls who lose their virginity to a slimy married man and then enter into an affair with him, thus trying to amuse their boredom in their little town. A merciless chronicler of British reality, Alan Clarke turns sex into a political act, makes his heroines respond with insolence to the collective apathy, and draws from their entic antics perhaps the most suitable joke of the entire film: If the whole country is getting f**ked, why not us?

21:30 IN THE SUMMERS (2024, USA, 99') I.C.

Director: Alessandra Lacorazza Samudio

Spanning two decades, and focusing on four pivotal summers in the lives of two girls who spend their annual vacation in New Mexico alongside their divorced father, this autobiographical debut, which triumphed at this year's Sundance Film Festival (Best Film and Best Director awards), is an elegiac coming-of-age story. It begins in adolescence, builds up to adulthood and bittersweetly captures what it means to grow up, to love despite adversity and to gradually heal the wounds of a dysfunctional family, finding your identity and place in the world.

23:30 THE VISITOR (2024, UK, 101')

Director: Bruce LaBruce

The most unruly representative of queercore cinema strikes again, adapting Pier Paolo Pasolini's «Theorem» into a liberating porn manifesto. Out of a suitcase washed up of the river Thames emerges a naked black man, an anonymous refugee, who ends up in the mansion of a wealthy family and sexually defiles it, seducing every member, regardless of gender or sexual preference. Provocative, ironic and deliciously immoral, "The Visitor" is a literal and metaphorical orgy that lays sex and politics on the same sweaty bed. **Unsuitable for underage viewers Actor Macklin Kowal in attendance**

CINOBO OPERA 1

19:30 WORSHIP - (MY) GREEK CULT MOVIES

(2024, Greece, 104')

Director: Meletis Miras

How do we understand 'cult' and which films have shaped the term for the Greek audience? Is cult something subjective? Objective? Is it introduced through a group of fanatic believers? How is this blind following to a cinematic work cultivated, and what qualifies a film 'worthy' to be loved unconditionally? «Worship» explores the cult phenomenon mainly through the Greek films «Tsiou...» by Makis Papadimitratos, «Spirtokouto» by Yannis Economides, «As Perimenoun oi Gynaikes!» by Stavros Tsiolis and the episode «Vietnam» from Pantelis Voulgaris' «Ola Einai Dromos», gathering testimonies of filmmakers and contributors, as well as people from the media and art world, and along with other references and citations completing an enthusiastic journey to the meaning of this misunderstood term. **Director in attendance**

TRIBUTE: THIS IS ENGLAND

22:30 MY BEAUTIFUL LAUNDRETTE (1985, UK, 97')

Director: Stephen Frears

An unconventional love story between an upstart young Pakistani and a vagrant Londoner, and a poignant political commentary on Thatcher's England, this landmark film introduced us to the then undiscovered talent of Daniel Day Lewis, the insightful pen of Hanif Kureishi and one of the most important English filmmakers. Neither overtly political nor militantly queer, the film recreated an authentic picture of English society in the 1980s. Nominated for an Academy Award for Best Original Screenplay, Frears' work reignited global interest for British social realist cinema, and in its quiet way pushed the envelope of a queer culture that until then was sending its love notes from the fringes.

ASTOR

17:00 GREEK SHORT STORIES -IN COMPETITION I (2024, 86') SIX MINUTES FROM A CENTURY by Meletis Miras (out of competition)

WHAT WE ASK OF A STATUE IS THAT IT DOESN'T MOVE by Daphné Hérétakis POP by Lina Kountoura NO FUTURE KIDS by Eleni Poulopoulou

19:30 RUSSIANS AT WAR (2024, Canada / France, 129') **D.C.**

Director: Anastasia Trofimova

The director follows a Russian battalion in Ukraine. One of the soldiers asks about the footage she is shooting and another one instantly replies that she is filming the truth, not media news truth, *their* truth. And this truth, filmed with an absolute sense of responsibility towards the protagonists, is neither for those who view the soldiers as bloodthirsty war criminals nor for those who see them as national heroes. It is a risky, though dispassionate, record of men struggling to exist in the futility of yet another war. In the ideal world, it could bring the two sides closer together. In the current one, it's doorned to provoke reactions similar to the truth it preaches. *Director in attendance*

22:30 GRIFFIN IN SUMMER (2024, USA, 90') Director: Nicholas Colia

A smart but unsociable 14-year-old boy living with his divorced mother decides to spend the summer not on vacation but in his room. He aims to finish writing and rehearsing his new play. However, he will fall in love at first sight with the 25-year-old man who repairs their house. As he tries to deal with his sudden sexual awakening, he receives his first emotional slap in the process, finally realizing something way more important in life. A queer romantic comedy that doesn't want to be cute or take the easy road to the audience's heart, this courageous debut triumphed at the Tribeca Film Festival this year, winning Best Film, Best Screenplay and Best Director awards.

DANAOS 2

20:00 MOGWAI: IF THE STARS HAD A SOUND (2024, UK, 90')

Director: Anthony Crook

Guiding us through the history, city, ideas and production process of Mogwai, the documentary takes the viewer on an all-inclusive journey from the band's musical roots to the recording of their tenth album, during the pandemic. The soundscapes alongside the rich archival footage make for an interstellar journey. It is not long before the protagonists themselves take the driver's seat, as the band members have the opportunity to tell for first time the story as they lived it. Anthony Crook, one of their steady collaborators, lets equal parts of roughness and sensitivity seep into the picture, ultimately crafting a competent musical portrait, capable of satiating hardcore fans and first-timers alike of the Mogwai phenomenon.

22:30 THE SUBSTANCE (2024, USA / UK / France, 140')

Director: Coralie Fargeat

In her most outrageously gutsy performance, Demi Moore plays an Oscar winner-star, now a washed-up TV fitness show host. When the network replaces her with a younger woman, she resorts to a mysterious substance that promises to bring out -literally- her best, youngest and most beautiful self. Not without a price. Nothing prepares you for the film that made Cannes resound with howls of disgust and excitement, as Coralie Fargeat puts the most generous doses of body horror of the last decade into her feminist blender to deliver a delightful satire of the entertainment industry's attitude towards women. Unapologetically camp and indescribably gory, the brazen film won Best Screenplay at Cannes, giving new meaning to the term midnight movie.

CINOBO OPERA 2

22:00 LOVE ALONE CAN'T MAKE A CHILD / DER WUNSCH (2024, Germany / Norway, 105') D.C.

Director: Judith Beuth

To some, the idea that a child completes a relationship means nothing. For others, there will always be Maria and Christiane. The director, a personal friend, follows them through the last ten years of their relationship. During this time, they are fiercely trying to have a child. Around them, a society until recently unable to put the words 'rights' and 'same-sex couples' in the same sentence, tests them with formalities and rigidity. The film, however, does not stop there, as through inventive cinematography, interspersed with animation and moments of incredible emotional intensity, it focuses on the relationship. A deep love that tries to survive in the face of adversity and culminates in a heartbreaking essay poem, the kind that only life can make. Introduction by members of Women in Film and Television (WIFT.gr)

6 SATURDAY OCTOBER 5TH 2024

DANAOS 1

17:30 A SUDDEN GLIMPSE TO DEEPER THINGS (2024, UK, 88') D.C.

Director: Mark Cousins

The starting point for Cousins' new film is the paintings of Wilhelmina Barnes-Graham. Through his idiosyncratic style, the director narrates the life and work of the important, though relatively unknown, British artist, reading (enter Tilda Swinton) pages from her personal diary and drawing on testimonials from the women who stood close to her. Amidst all this, there is a central event, an incident on a glacier in Switzerland that reveals the heart of the documentary. Cousins centers on the moment that changes everything, the one that gives birth to art or unlocks our ability to understand it. To the sudden awareness of beauty around us waiting to be discovered. Crystal Globe for Best Film at Karlovy Vary.

TRIBUTE: #KIR# KURD5### 19:30 DREAMS / YUME (1990, Japan / USA, 119')

Director: Akira Kurosawa

Inspired by Kurosawa's own recurring dreams, the film dives into the subconscious, a world where reality and fantasy, past, present and future, coexist in phantasmagorical landscapes that take shape through the rare visual empathy of the great filmmaker. From the innocent figments of a child's imagination to the ghosts of war and the apocalyptic images of a nuclear disaster, Kurosawa shares his deep concerns about the human condition, the role of art, our relationship with nature and the consequences of our actions, through eight visually dazzling episodes. Plagued with funding problems, "Dreams" was completed thanks to the help of four... fans: Lucas, Coppola, Spielberg and Scorsese who appeared as Vincent van Gogh.

22:00 GHOST TRAIL / LES FANTÔMES (2024, France / Germany / Belgium, 90') I.C. Director: Jonathan Millet

A former university professor, Hamid, leads a double life as a member of a secret organization trying to track down war criminals of the Syrian authoritarian regime. His latest mission brings him to Strasbourg, confronted by the man he believes to be his former torturer. Caught between justice, personal revenge and obsession, he will inevitably follow dangerous paths. With an underground, breathtaking and insidious suspense as well as a magnetic performance by star Adam Bessa, the opening film of the Cannes Film Festival's Critics' Week is a gripping political thriller strongly echoing 1970s American cinema, a spirit which the director surgically transplants into a realistic depiction of life in exile.

DANAOS 2

20:00 RUSSIANS AT WAR (2024, Canada / France, 129') D.C. (R) Director: Anastasia Trofimova

The director follows a Russian battalion in Ukraine. One of the soldiers asks about the footage she is shooting and another one instantly replies that she is filming the truth, not media news truth, *their* truth. And this truth, filmed with an absolute sense of responsibility towards the protagonists, is neither for those who view the soldiers as bloodthirsty war criminals nor for those who see them as national

ASTY

TRIBUTE: THIS IS ENGLAND 19:00 WISH YOU WERE HERE (1987, UK, 92')

Director: David Leland

A minor box-office and artistic wonder in its day, one that justifiably caused a sensation and introduced one of the finest acting debuts (Emily Lloyd), David Leland's first (and finest) directorial effort feels like an allergic reaction to the sedition and hypocrisy of mainstream British cinema at the time. At its heart, however, the story of an outspoken and sexually restless young woman growing up in a 1950s lethargic seaside town in England, hides the lonely and desperate rebellion of a girl struggling with her youthful urges, while seeking from the suffocating world around her what she was most deprived of: love. One of the worthiest lost gems of '80s cinema.

21:00 SMALL THINGS LIKE THESE (2024, Ireland / Belgium, 96') Director: Tim Mielants

Oscar-winner Cillian Murphy («Oppenheimer») stars in and co-produces one of the year's finest dramas: an atmospheric and subdued adaptation of Claire Keegan's homonymous best-selling novel, set in a small town in mid-1980s Ireland. There, just before Christmas, a hard-working and humble family man is confronted by his conscience and, more importantly, by the complicit silence of his fellow countrymen, who he discovers are covering up the corrupt and inhuman methods of the Catholic Church. Portraying an extraordinarily compassionate character, Murphy becomes the emotional soul of a wonderful (and Christmassy) parable about the potential of kindness and solidarity to illuminate the vast darkness of humanity.

23:00 ODDITY (2024, Ireland, 98')

Director: Damian McCarthy

In a remote country estate in Ireland, a woman is found mysteriously murdered. On the night that marks one year since her unsolved death, her twin sister, a blind psychic who claims to know who committed the murder, visits the mansion. She is accompanied by a creepy ceremonial wooden doll... Coming out of nowhere, without any hype but practicing a demonic use of the devices that can freeze and terrify a theater audience, "Oddity" is an instant classic: A horror film that takes the genre's clichés, abrupt jolts and minor shock-inducing tactics, and serves them up so masterfully and effectively that no viewer can be prepared for what's about to happen.

CINOBO OPERA 1

ТRIBUTE: ЯКІЛЯ КЦЛОБЯШЯ 17:30 RASHOMON (1950, Japan, 88')

Director: Akira Kurosawa

In his first international success, Kurosawa unfolds skillfully and innovatively through the use of flashbacks the fateful encounter between a samurai, his wife and a notorious bandit - an encounter that will end in murder and rape. But when the unreliable testimonies of the witnesses in court present dramatically different versions of events, the film becomes a chimerical search for truth, a tale about our inherent tendency to interpret it as we see fit, and an ode to the subjectivity of cinematic storytelling. Golden Lion at the Venice Film Festival for a title that not only led to the establishment of the Foreign Language Film Oscar, but became synonymous in cinematic lexicons with conflicting accounts of an event.

19:30 BLUR: TO THE END (2024, UK, 104')

Director: Toby L.

The story of four friends who happened to form one of the most important bands on the planet and now reunite for a recording and concert comeback, which may be their farewell, this emotional documentary is like psychotherapy. Not only for the now middle-aged members of Blur, more vulnerable and bonded than ever, but also for viewers, fans or non-fans, who behind the songs, anecdotal accounts from the past and tender moments in the present will discern a bittersweet look at the passing of time and the beneficial signs it leaves.

22:00 TRAINSPOTTING (1996, UK, 94') Director: Danny Boyle

"Choose life. Choose a job. Choose a starter home. Choose dental insurance, leisure wear and matching luggage. Choose your future." The legendary "Trainspotting" returns to the Athens International Film Festival three decades after its triumphant premiere screening.

PARTIES



19:00 DEVO (2024, USA / UK, 94')

Director: Chris Smith

One of the most anarchic and avant-garde bands of the American new wave - a favorite of David Bowie and several other acclaimed artists - gets the documentary it deserves. Intensely directed, featuring plenty of archival footage and delightful interviews with the band members, this frenetic chronicle follows Devo's meteoric rise during a defining period for America. It begins with the political and social turmoil of the 1970s, out of which the band emerged ideologically and musically, moves through the conflict with the neo-conservative and fully commercialized 1980s, and reaches up to the present day, translating the band's cultural legacy into a non-stop entertaining cinematic journey.

MUSEUM OF CYCLADIC ART

CYCLADIC SCREENINGS (see p. 5) 20:00 THE NAKED KISS Introduction by director, Jacqueline Lentzou

ASTOR

| | / / /

17:00 GREEK SHORT STORIES -IN COMPETITION II (2024, 86') OPEN WINCS by Vasilis Tsiouvaras, Taxiarchis Deligiannis PAKISTANI by Christos Zeniou STILL CYPRESS TREE by Andreas Kontopoulos ROGER by Thanos Mitsios GEKAS by Dimitris Moutsiakas

19:30 PORCELAIN WAR (2024, Australia / USA / Ukraine, 87') D.C.

Directors: Brendan Bellomo, Slava Leontyev Under the roar of fighter planes and the constant threat of bombing, three Ukrainian artists choose to stay in their country and defend it in any way they can, while continuing to create so as not to lose themselves completely. Less a film about the Russian invasion of Ukraine and more a film about the innate human need to persistently seek out nuggets of beauty even in the midst of destruction, «Porcelain War» proves conclusively that it is easy to spread terror among people but extremely difficult to take away their passion for life. Best Documentary Award at the Sundance Film Festival.

22:00 SONS / VOGTER (2024, Denmark / Sweden, 100') Director: Gustav Möller

An exemplary employee at a mer's prison puts her professional and personal ethics in jeopardy when she becomes a pawn in a sadomasochistic game that defies rules and logic. All this happens after the arrival of a tough young prisoner traumatically linked to her past. And this is where a seemingly cool drama turns into a nerve-cracking and relentlessly suspenseful psychological thriller that gives one of Europe's finest actresses (the multi-award-winning Sidse Babett Knudsen of the TV series «Borgen») the chance to play one of the finest roles of her career.

TRIBUTE: THIS IS ENGLAND 21:00 THE LONG GOOD FRIDAY (1980, UK, 114') Director: John Mackenzie

Little-known masterwork by an unappreciated Scottish director. Through the story of a gangster who wants to cross over into legitimacy by collaborating with American mobsters, but gets involved with the IRA and a series of misunderstandings and betrayals, Mackenzie delivers three films: A perfect gangster film of wild climax and carnage, a commentary on the Island's tumultuous post-war era and an elaborate satirical-tragic record of a confused past Empire desperately clinging to the chariot of the ruling one in a desperate bid to regain some past glory. Great Bob Hoskins, period imagery of the early days of Thatcher's England, sustained mood, 21st place on BFI's list of the best British films of all time. Rightly so.

22:00 BEYOND THE VALLEY OF THE DOLLS Introduction by director and composer, Alexandros Voulgaris (The Boy)

struggling to exist in the futility of yet another war. In the ideal world, it could bring the two sides closer together. In the current one, it's doomed to provoke reactions similar to the truth it preaches. **Director in attendance**

heroes. It is a risky, though dispassionate, record of men

SUNDAY OCTOBER 6TH 2024

DANAOS 1

17:00 MIYAZAKI, SPIRIT OF NATURE / MIYAZAKI, L'ESPRIT DE LA NATURE (2024, France, 82')

Director: Léo Favier

An elegant tribute to the life and work of Hayao Miyazaki, an artist who emerged from stormy events of the 20th century, to gain absolute recognition. Alongside rare personal archival footage and interviews with collaborators and prominent fans, the documentary offers rich excerpts from his films to highlight the straight lines between them and the «spirit of nature» that informs his filmography. That is, all that surrounds us and, according to him, defines the human condition. A journey from the darkness to the light for an auteur inspired by the tension between them. A revealing portrait of a unique artist who discovered the elixir of eternal youth by transforming his dreams into animation.

TRIBUTE: AKINA KURDSAMA 19:00 RAN (1985, Japan / France, 162')

Director: Akira Kurosawa Kurosawa's most famous film and one that unites genera-

tions of cinephiles over (and beyond) a six-decade career. It seems incredible, even today, that a filmmaker at 75, after a life of such emotional turmoil, not only decides on an adaptation of Shakespeare's "King Lear", but realizes it to unimaginably epic (aesthetically and financially) proportions. The result marks one of cinema's most dynamic artistic "comebacks", a film that has captivated audiences and critics by speaking as much about old age, power, revenge and the meaning of life as it does about a Japan perhaps never again cinematically similar. Universal aesthetics, handcrafted in the twilight of a cinema era, a monumental moment in the history of the medium.

22:00 BLACK DOG / GOU ZHEN (2024. China. 110')

Director: Guan Hu

A man just out of prison returns to his hometown, a Chinese border town in the Gobi Desert. But nothing is the same anymore. His town is slowly dying, its inhabitants are abandoning it and an entire old world is crumbling before the demands of a country on a rapid technological urge of development. As he tries in vain to keep up, a dog becomes his closest friend. And just like that, two lonely souls coexist in a journey of self-discovery magnified into an epic drama, stunningly directed and photographed, which won the Best Film in Un Certain Regard at the Cannes Film Festival.

DANAOS 2

19:00 PORCELAIN WAR (2024, Australia / USA / Ukraine, 87') D.C. (R) Directors: Brendan Bellomo, Slava Leontyev

Under the roar of fighter planes and the constant threat of bombing, three Ukrainian artists choose to stay in their country and defend it in any way they can, while continuing to create so as not to lose themselves completely. Less a film about the Russian invasion of Ukraine and more a film about the innate human need to persistently seek out nuggets of beauty even in the midst of destruction, «Porcelain War» proves conclusively that it is easy to spread terror among people but extremely difficult to take away their passion for life. Best Documentary Award at the Sundance Film Festival.

ASTY

18:00 S/HE IS STILL HER/E - THE OFFICIAL **GENESIS P-ORRIDGE DOCUMENTARY** (2024, USA, 99')

Director: David Charles Rodrigues

Combining archival material with a series of personal conversations (and of course the groundbreaking music of Throbbing Gristle and Psychic TV), the creator presents a kaleidoscopic journey into the music, subversive ideas and subconscious of Genesis P-Orridge. This is a documentarv-meditation that constantly revolves around the concepts of experimentation and discovery, but above all the first and last official confession of a mind-blowing personality just before their biological end. An artist who looked bevond the shock and awe that pierced the abyss of conformism and sought to unite their earthly experience with the universe, seeing their passage from Earth as a single recording. An anarchic manifesto for the preservation of the history of the few and the personal freedom of the bold.

20:00 BETWEEN THE TEMPLES (2024, USA, 111')

Director: Nathan Silver

A year after the sudden death of his wife, Ben feels he is losing faith and any appetite for work and life. But when he meets again his eccentric music schoolteacher, their upbeat and tender relationship will prove catalytic. This rather prudent synopsis only inadequately describes a delightfully moody and idiosyncratic comedy that shares eclectic affinities with "Harold and Maude", Elaine May's neurotic cinema and the witty Jewish humor first introduced by Woody Allen. Deliriously directed, with a spirited script and an adorable pair of leads, this is a sweetheart of a film insisting that we face everything serious in this life in the most un-serious manner possible.

22:30 IT DOESN'T GET ANY BETTER THAN THIS (2024, USA, 83')

Directors: Rachel Kempf, Nick Toti

A couple who fancy shooting impromtu horror films buys an abandoned building in a small rural town in the US to use it as a set for their next film. Although they are initially thrilled with what their new home has to offer, one day they will discover something that will change their lives forever. The best-kept secret of recent horror films tends to transcend the label of the next «Blair Witch Project» and has firmly carved out a place among the best found footage films ever made. Haunting, intense and hard to find (the filmmakers have banned screenings unless in a movie theater), the film exhibits micro-budget efficiency and directorial virtuosity perfectly blended with the genre's rules.

22:00 MOGWAI: IF THE STARS HAD A SOUND (2024, UK, 90') (R)

Director: Anthony Crook Guiding us through the history, city, ideas and production process of Mogwai, the documentary takes the viewer on an all-inclusive journey from the band's musical roots to the recording of their tenth album, during the pandemic. The soundscapes alongside the rich archival footage make for an interstellar journey. It is not long before the protagonists themselves take the driver's seat, as the band members have the opportunity to tell for first time the story as they lived it. Anthony Crook, one of their steady collaborators, lets equal parts of roughness and sensitivity seep into the picture, ultimately crafting a competent musical portrait, capable of satiating hardcore fans and first-timers alike of the Mogwai phenomenon.

CINOBO OPERA 1

TRIBUTE: THIS IS ENGLAND I7:00 DISTANT VOICES, STILL LIVES

(1988, UK, 85')

Director: Terence Davies

With semi autobiographical elements, Terence Davis captured in dazzling tableaux vivants episodes from the life of a working-class family in '40s - '50s Liverpool, in the shadow of an oppressive father. Filmed in tones of discolored sepia and interspersed with popular songs of the era, often performed by the characters and exquisitely integrated into the narrative, the British filmmaker's feature debut introduced a rare talent who combined popular melodramas of post-war British cinema with personal experience. With echoes of Technicolor musicals, idiosyncratically realistic, Davis crafted a portrait of a time and place, and at the same time a masterful study in memory - like a faded family album still rekindling ghosts of the past, along with those fleeting moments of pain and joy they inevitably carry. Introduction by Alexandros Papageorgiou, journalist

19:00 FLOW (2024, Belgium / France / Latvia, 85') I.C. Director: Gints Zilbalodis

If there was any doubt that a wordless film - one without even human protagonists - could be so compelling and effortlessly moving, «Flow» dispels it for good. Zilbalodi's film builds a world on the brink of destruction when an inexplicable cataclysm sweeps away almost everything. Losing her shelter, a lonely black cat struggles to stay afloat and survive a new reality, flooded by rapids, deadly dangers but also unexpected allies. With a lasting sense of awe and images brimming with beauty, the best animation of the year is a mesmerizing tale of nature's self-healing power and its ability to transform the end of the world into a new beginning. Latvia's official submission for the International Oscar.

21:30 ANORA (2024, USA, 139') Director: Sean Baker

With this year's Palme d'Or, Sean Baker presents another pariah of the American dream: a sex worker lives her own fairy tale by marrying Prince Charming, a spoiled 20-yearold son of a Russian oligarch. But when his parents find out, they instantly arrange a trip to the US to break up the marriage. Foul-mouthed and unruly combination of «Cinderella» and «Pretty Woman», teasing comedy about social inequalities and shattered dreams, this is a love story that turns into a life-altering, self-discovery experience for a woman who wanted only to believe in something better.

CINOBO OPERA 2

19:30 SAVANNA AND THE MOUNTAIN (2024, Portugal / Uruguay, 77') D.C. Director: Paulo Carneiro

Covas do Barroso is a mountainous village in Portugal where a few years ago the government agreed with the British-owned Savvanah Resources to create Europe's largest lithium mining quarry. They did so with the alibi of ecological development and new jobs. But they reckoned without the locals, whose incredible story is told in the most particular film in this year's selection. A beautiful hybrid documentary-representation of a small revolution, filmed in perfect harmony with the area's refreshing natural beauty, the rituals of the local community, and the fighting spirit of the locals. A pithy, utterly political commentary, delivered with humour through a Brechtian lens looking at the collateral damage of multinational environmentalism and press releases. Director in attendance

ASTOR

17:00 GREEK SHORT STORIES -IN COMPETITION III (2024, 79')

BREATH by Vivian Papageorgiou GRANDPA, GRANDMA, WHAT HAPPENS TO OUR VIDEOS AFTER WE DIE? by Niki Arniakou THE MUSHROOM MAN by Petros Niamonitakis FATBARDHA by Kitty Kentezi FAREWELL: AND SUDDENLY MEMORY BEGAN TO **REMEMBER** by Ada Pitsou

19:30 NO OTHER LAND (2024. Palestine / Norway. 95') D.C.

Directors: Basel Adra, Hamdan Ballal, Yuval Abraham, Rachel Szor

A collective of activists from Israel and Palestine is documenting the methodical uprooting of Arab residents from 19 settlements in Masafer Yatta, an area on the border of the West Bank. During a nightmarish period of Arab-Israeli relations, one of the most talked-about documentaries of recent time stands as a monument to bold investigative iournalism and proves that objectivity lies not in neutrality. but in historical truth. At the same time, "No Other Land" offers an intense and at times devastating look that remains cinematic despite the immediacy of its material. Panorama Audience Award and Best Documentary Award at this year's Berlin Film Festival.

TRIBUTE: THIS IS ENGLAND 💵 22:00 MONA LISA (1986, UK, 104')

Director: Neil Jordan

The British cinematic idiom is its unquestionable ability to infuse social interest into a multitude of genres. Neil Jordan, in his chronologically second historical moment of the '80s, sets up a London underworld using the story of a small-time thug who becomes chauffeur and bodyguard for a high-class call-girl only to quickly become embroiled in a tale of criminal tussle and unrequited love. Jordan soars stylishly documenting a glossy/sleazy night world, Bob Hoskins excels in the role that earned him his sole Oscar nomination, Michael Caine is unforgettably villainous, and the result stamped its generation, announced English cinema overseas and stands tall to this day as a model of «neo-noir» social reflection.

TRIBUTE: THIS IS ENGLAND

22:00 RADIO ON (1979, UK / West Germany, 104') **Director:** Christopher Petit

A DJ goes from London to Bristol to investigate the mysterious death of his brother. Under this simple pretext of a road movie mystery, Petit stages the trail that connects the British '70s and '80s, foregrounding the music and a scrapbook of memorable figures crossing their existential paths. A petite masterpiece, "Radio On" becomes a link between Jarmusch and Wenders. A borderline film, like no other before or since, which through the psychogeography of a disoriented generation wandering on analog waves and urban highways, bridged electronic art rock with new wave and inaugurated post-punk iconography on the big screen.

10 MONDAY OCTOBER 7тн 2024

DANAOS 1

17:45 ARCHITECTON (2024, Germany / France, 98') D.C. Director: Victor Kossakovsky

A dazzling audiovisual symphony, destined to be experienced on the big screen and conditions of absolute cinematic awe, Kossakovsky's achievement is a worthy descendant of «Koyaanisqatsi». Through wondrous, monumental constructions, the film takes a journey that unites the deep past with the present as a meditation on man's relationship with nature, the indelible imprint of the individual on his environment, and humanity's capacity for both the most jaw-dropping achievement and the greatest catastrophe. Highly spectacular, this admirable documentary is an awe-inspiring poem of images and associations.

20:00 THE BRUTALIST (2024, USA / UK / Hungary, 215') Director: Brady Corbet

One of the most ambitious films financed by an American studio in recent decades, «The Brutalist» is a moviemaking event of 2024. In the role that will seal his career, Adrien Brody plays a Hungarian architect, a Holocaust survivor, who arrives in the US shortly after the end of WWII in search of the American Dream. He goes from being a poor laborer to becoming the protégé of an eccentric multi-millionaire undertaking the construction of a monumental building on his behalf. An allegory about immigration, America as the elusive Promised Land and the predatory nature of wealth, but also a film about Art as the only thing capable of defeating time and transcending human drama. Director's Prize at the Venice Film Festival.

ASTY

TRIBUTE: AKIRA KURDSAWA 18:30 RED BEARD / AKAHIGE (1965, Japan, 185')

Director: Akira Kurosawa

In 19th-century Japan, a young doctor aspires to service the Shogun, only to find himself on the staff of a local doctor, nicknamed «Red Beard», who disdains materialism and, despite being authoritarian, adopts a thoroughly humanistic outlook. Kurosawa's last b/w film (and his last with Toshiro Mifune) emerges as a cornerstone of his humanist universe. In his magical, idiosyncratic cinemascope fit successive stories of human beings, while all is grounded in understanding the world exclusively, and at any cost, through patience and compassion. That in this inexhaustible system nests also a deep existentialism and an intimate concern for what constitutes Man, lifts the film into the heavens of filmmaking history.

22:00 BIRDEATER (2023, Australia, 115')

Directors: Jack Clark, Jim Weir

A cunning combination of mystery film and drama where nothing is as it seems. A young couple is about to get married; he is sweet and protective, she is vulnerable and clearly emotionally dependent on him - something resolved most controversially. The girl agrees to attend the bachelor party the boy is planning with his childhood friends in a remote country location, where an evening of abuse will drive everything out of control. The film slowly builds pace only to derail into a paroxysmal trip, a nocturnal nightmare at the end of which nothing will evolve expectedly. A horror film? Assuming the greatest horror is the person standing next to you, most definitely.

CINOBO OPERA 1

19:00 ARMAND

(2024, Norway / Netherlands / Germany / Sweden, 116') I.C.

Director: Halfdan Ullmann Tøndel

When six-year-old Armand is accused of (unspecified) aggressive and inappropriate behavior towards a classmate, the children's parents and school staff meet to compromise. However, the attitude of defiance gradually gives way to poisonous confrontations and the adults prove unable to overcome their prejudices. Thus they are driven to a volcanic eruption that the talented Tøndel deconstructs abstractly with a -literally- choreographed climax. Ingeniously covering the distance between «The Teacher's Lounge» and Polanski's «Carnage», the film won the Camera d'Or for Best Directorial Debut at Cannes, while as the controversial mother Renate Reinsve fulfills triumphantly the promise of «The Worst Person in the World».

TRIBUTE: THIS IS ENGLAND 22:00 SID AND NANCY

22:00 SID AND NANCY (1986, UK, 112')

Director: Alex Cox

On the night of September 12, 1978 at the legendary Chelsea Hotel, Nancy Spungen was stabbed to death, possibly by her lover, Sex Pistols bassist Sid Vicious. Alex Cox returns to the legendary punk era, casts a staggering Gary Oldman as the lead (with an equally awesome Chloe Webb by his side) and transcribes in full volume the mythology of «live fast, die young» into a poisonous romance of abuse and excess. Almost forty years after its premiere, "Sid and Nancy" ranks suitably among the best films ever made about music, established its young protagonist as a rising talent and future star, and continues to enthrall with its raucousness and energy.

ASTOR

17:00 GREEK SHORT STORIES -IN COMPETITION IV (2024, 84') DRIVING ME CRAZY by Meni Tsilianidou SIX by Leoni Xerovasila VIOMA by Angelos Saftoulis / Angel Saft SKELETON TREE by Haris Zalavras CLEANER by Kostas Gerampinis

TRIBUTE: THIS IS ENGLAND

19:30 HIGH HOPES (1988, UK, 108') Director: Mike Leigh

In the extremely interesting and crowded list of British films depicting Margaret Thatcher's premiership in the 1980s, Mike Leigh's film holds a scepter: It's the one that thoroughly dissects class issues, with the filmmaker's trademark humour/bitterness blend, in a way that is thoughtful, authoritative and relatable. The working class front and center, and next to them the bourgeois and the nouveau riche, simmer in the same ominous cauldron. Historical consciousness, tolerance and «quiet desperation», make up a «bipolar» drama of comic undertones that rightly placed Leigh on the map, a man with the authority of a scholar and the gravitas of a humanist artist.

22:00 MY SUNSHINE / BOKU NO OHISAMA (2024, Japan, 100') I.C. Director: Hiroshi Okuyama

On an island in Japan, school life follows the seasons' cycle. The first snowflake means the boys have to swap baseball for hockey, but shy Takuya is more interested in a classmate who claims a career in figure skating. Although lost for words around her, her coach insists on having them practice together. It's impossible to describe the plot without revealing its catalytic twist. It's also impossible to foreshadow verbally how sensual and effortlessly beautiful the film is. In one of this year's more radiant entries, the director's understated gaze invests in the poetry of everyday life while the charming simplicity of the visual compositions vindicates those who see in him the next Kore-eda.

DANAOS 2

TRIBUTE: THIS IS ENGLAND 19:30 RITA, SUE AND BOB TOO (1987, UK, 93')

Director: Alan Clarke

«Thatcher's Britain with her knickers down» was the tagline of the film and its radical creator intended exactly that: a mocking, bitter satire of (loose) morals and class inequalities that cannibalized any notion of romance and political correctness, through the story of two schoolgirls who lose their virginity to a slimy married man and then enter into an affair with him, thus trying to amuse their boredom in their little town. A merciless chronicler of British reality, Alan Clarke turns sex into a political act, makes his heroines respond with insolence to the collective apathy, and draws from their erotic antics perhaps the most suitable joke of the entire film: If the whole country is getting f**ked, why not us?

21:30 SAVANNA AND THE MOUNTAIN (2024, Portugal / Uruguay, 77') D.C. (R)

Director: Paulo Carneiro Covas do Barroso is a mountainous village in Portugal where a few years ago the government agreed with the British-owned Savanna Resources to create Europe's largest lithium mining quary. They did so with the alibi of ecological development and new jobs. But they reckoned without the locals, whose incredible story is told in the most particular film in this year's selection. A beautiful hybrid documentary-representation of a small revolution, filmed in perfect harmony with the area's refreshing natural beauty, the rituals of the local community, and the fighting spirit of the locals. A pithy, utterly political commentary, delivered with humour through a Brechtian lens looking at the collateral damage of multinational environmentalism and press releases.

Director in attendance

CINOBO OPERA 2

19:00 LOVE ALONE CAN'T MAKE A CHILD / DER WUNSCH (2024, Germany / Norway, 105') D.C. (R)

Director: Judith Beuth

To some, the idea that a child completes a relationship means nothing. For others, there will always be Maria and Christiane. The director, a personal friend, follows them through the last ten years of their relationship. During this time, they are fiercely trying to have a child. Around them, a society until recently unable to put the words 'rights' and 'same-sex couples' in the same sentence, tests them with formalities and rigidity. The film, however, does not stop there, as through inventive cinematography, interspersed with animation and moments of incredible emotional intensity, it focuses on the relationship. A deep love that tries to survive in the face of adversity and culminates in a heartbreaking essay poem, the kind that only life can make.

21:30 THE BATTLE FOR LAIKIPIA (2024, Kenya / USA / Greece, 94') D.C.

Director: Daphne Matziaraki, Peter Murimi The cliché saying that the next world war will be over water finds its ultimate application in Laikipia, as the prolonged drought awakens class conflicts silenced for years. One of the best documentaries of the year, and one of the most important ever made on the subject of climate change, comes with the double signature of Oscar nominee Daphne Matziaraki and award-winning Kenyan director and producer Peter Murimi. A model of dialectic, set against the backdrop of stunning illustrations of a vast wildlife refuge, The Battle for Laikipia chronicles the conflict between the rich and the poor, never hesitating to pump up the volume while documenting the irreversible evils of modern colonialism.

Directors in attendance

12 TUESDAY OCTOBER 8TH 2024

DANAOS 1

TRIBUTE: AKINA KUNDSAMA

19:00 THE HIDDEN FORTRESS / KAKUSHI TORIDE NO SAN AKUNIN (1958. Japan. 139')

Director: Akira Kurosawa

Two shabby soldiers decide to help a man and a woman cross the enemy border in exchange for gold, not knowing that he is actually a Samurai and she is a Princess. «Seven Samurai» and «Yojimbo» have the (just) glory, but this is the hidden treasure of a stylistically inexhaustible filmography. Light touch, brilliant, pure action that practically never stops, terrific blocking and a perception of time during the shot, make up a film lexicon on how movement is filmed, how landscape is used and how the cinephile's gaze is meer "Star Wars", but also saw him borrow whole sections of the plot and countless scenes for his own space epic.

22:00 SATURDAY NIGHT (2024, USA, 109')

Director: Jason Reitman

Jason Reitman («Juno,» «Up in the Air») creates a time capsule that transports us to the night of October 11, 1975. In Studio 8H of the main skyscraper in New York's Rockefeller Center, a group of uncompromising comedians prepare, fearlessly and passionately, the first act of a timelessly funny, delightfully unpredictable and slightly outrageous rebellion against the television establishment and political correctness. Marking the 50th anniversary of the first "Saturday Night Live" broadcast, a spine-tingling, dizzying tribute chronicles in real time the chaotic 90 minutes that led to the birth of modern comedy and the emergence of a talent goldmine which proved that revolution may and sometimes *does* play out on live television.

ASTY

19:00 BRIEF HISTORY OF A FAMILY / JIA TING JIAN SHI

(2024, China / France / Denmark / Qatar, 99') I.C. (R) Director: Lin lianije

In a nation whose families were forced to have one child, a minor accident opens the back door of a middle-class family for a new member to enter. A young boy, who initially introduces himself as a «friend», but gradually asserts himself more and more as the only child. But what is his real motive and what will be the biological child's reaction to the intruder? Directing with a surgical precision that effortlessly evokes early Michael Haneke, Lin Jianjie manages to perfectly match paranoia with reality in a commanding thriller which underlines that the most disturbing stories reside in what we take for granted.

TRIBUTE: THIS IS ENGLAND 21:30 BAD TIMING (1980, UK, 122') (R)

Director: Nicolas Roeg

An American couple engages in a vampiric, and ultimately destructive, passion in Vienna. What on paper seems rather commonplace, in Roeg's hands turns into an unforgettable narrative labyrinth. Through an elaborate editing, the director of "Don't Look Now" goes back and forth between past and present in a way that lets events of yesterday cast their shadows on the present and seemingly insignificant details make unexpected connections. Through this masterful mosaic, "Bad Timing" becomes a gripping drama about the violent conflict between desires and denials, about the complex affairs of the human heart and the inability of science to decipher them.

CINOBO OPERA 1

19:30 GOOD ONE (2024, USA, 90') I.C. Director: India Donaldson

Maturity won't come with age. That and several other lessons from the adult world are shall be learned by 17-yearold Sam during a camping trip with two divorced middle-aged adults: her father and his best friend. And while the weekend alternates between relaxed confessions and bitter admissions for two men who realize their personal dead ends, for the girl the road to adulthood opens abruptly and decisively. With its understated power, elegiac tone and careful observation of human behavior, this beautiful and insightful debut is justifiably compared to that of the great Kelly Reichardt. At the same time, it introduces us to 40-year-old India Donaldson, a talented young filmmaker whom we should henceforth await.

22:00 CROSSING

(2024, Sweden / Denmark / France / Turkey / Georgia, 106')

Director: Levan Akin

Few films nowadays possess the rare gift of stealing your heart. "Crossing" is one of them: the moving journey of a retired teacher from Georgia who decides to travel to Istanbul in search of her long-lost trans niece. The generous gaze of Levan Akin («And Then We Danced») and the disarming performance of newcomer Mzia Arabuli tenderly embrace the odyssey of an elderly woman who comes from the old world to bring compassion, acceptance and unquestioning love to a modern age desperately in need of them. Jury Teddy Award at the Berlin Film Festival. **Protagonist Deniz Dumnalı and casting director**

Bulut Sezer in attendance

ASTOR

17:00 GREEK SHORT STORIES -IN COMPETITION V (2024, 88') MS NITSA by Nefeli Rapti

TEKTITE by Śmaragda Nitsopoulou ACHERON by Konstantina Papadopoulou NUMB by Despina Kourti THE LONGEST DAY OF THE WORLD by Dimitris Charalampopoulos

19:30 NIGHT RECEDES / LE SOIR RECULE (2024, Greece / France, 70')

Director: Timon Koulmasis

«Night Recedes» refers to the fascinating career of two important artists: the famous Greek sculptor Memos Makris (1913-1993), creator, among others, of the famous head in the entrance of the Polytechnic School, and the versatile Zizi Makris (1924-2014), who, apart from mosaics and tapestries, successfully worked also in drawing and photography. Wandering between German-occupied Athens, multicultural post-war Paris and Cold War Budapest, their lives reflect the art and history of the 20th century, the hopes and disappointments on both sides of the Iron Curtain. Through their work and memories, the film revisits issues always resonating strongly within us: utopia and ideology, totalitarianism(s), exile and freedom.

Director in attendance. Introduction by Eva Stefani, filmmaker

21:30 KATHLEEN IS HERE (2024, Ireland, 95') Director: Eva Birthistle

An 18-year-old Irish woman who spent her teenage years growing up in foster care returns to the family home she left when her alcoholic mother died. She gets a job, finds companionship and gradually develops a friendship with the ideal family next door. A friendship, however, that gradually becomes a disturbing obsession. In the best tradition of Ken Loach's socially-minded cinema, this promising debut avoids easy judgments in order to draw a sympathetic portrait of a girl trying awkwardly to combat the profound loneliness of her wrecked life. Superbly acted by one of the steadily rising young Irish actresses.

Director and producer Claire McCauley in attendance

DANAOS 2

TRIBUTE: THIS IS ENGLAND 19:00 WISH YOU WERE HERE (1987, UK, 92') (R)

Director: David Leland

A minor box-office and artistic wonder in its day, one that justifiably caused a sensation and introduced one of the finest acting debuts (Emily Lloyd), David Leland's first (and finest) directorial effort feels like an allergic reaction to the sedition and hypocrisy of mainstream British cinema at the time. At its heart, however, the story of an outspoken and sexually restless young woman growing up in a 1950s lethargic seaside town in England, hides the lonely and desperate rebellion of a girl struggling with her youthful urges, while seeking from the suffocating world around her what she was most deprived of: love. One of the worthiest lost gems of '80s cinema.

21:00 A SUDDEN GLIMPSE TO DEEPER THINGS (2024, UK, 88') D.C. (R)

Director: Mark Cousins

The starting point for Cousins' new film is the paintings of Wilhelmina Barnes-Graham. Through his idiosyncratic style, the director narrates the life and work of the important, though relatively unknown, British artist, reading (enter Tilda Swinton) pages from her personal diary and drawing on testimonials from the women who stood close to her. Amidst all this, there is a central event, an incident on a glacier in Switzerland that reveals the heart of the documentary. Cousins centers on the moment that changes everything, the one that gives birth to art or unlocks our ability to understand it. To the sudden awareness of beauty around us waiting to be discovered. Crystal Globe for Best Film at Karlovy Vary.

CINOBO OPERA 2

19:00 THE BATTLE FOR LAIKIPIA (2024, Kenya / USA / Greece, 94') D.C. (R) Director: Daphne Matziaraki, Peter Murimi

The cliché saying that the next world war will be over water finds its ultimate application in Laikipia, as the prolonged drought awakens class conflicts silenced for years. One of the best documentaries of the year, and one of the most important ever made on the subject of climate change, comes with the double signature of Oscar nominee Daphne Matziaraki and award-winning Kenyan director and producer Peter Murimi. A model of dialectic, set against the backdrop of stunning illustrations of a vast wildlife refuge. The Battle for Laikipia chronicles the conflict between the rich and the poor, never hesitating to pump up the volume while documenting the irreversible evils of modern colonialism.

Directors in attendance

21:30 THIS IS A FILM ABOUT THE BLACK KEYS (2024, USA, 90') Director: Jeff Dupre

The Black Keys have been a pop anomaly from the start. An anomaly that became a phenomenon somewhere around 2010, when a four-year period began in which rock once again seemed an invincible weapon of youth and impact. Relentless recording and touring made the dream last as long as their stamina, before they returned, perhaps to save their sanity, to their beginnings and their current status of a band that brought rock back to celebrity status, if only for "15 minutes". Frenetic pacing, sweaty «uncivilized» rock attitude and arena rock stardom, for a film that any fan of the explosive duo can't afford to miss.

WEDNESDAY OCTOBER 9TH 2024

DANAOS 1

ASTY

19:00 APRIL (2024. Georgia / Italy / France, 134') I.C. Director: Déa Kulumbegashvili

One of the cinematic discoveries of 2024. "April" is the story of an obstetrician at a provincial hospital whose job is threatened when the parents of an infant who died in childbirth accuse her of negligence. What most people don't know, however, and are in danger of discovering imminently, is that Nina performs illegal abortions in poor villages where women are still subservient, thus carrying out a defiant individual rebellion. An unforgettable combination of drama and nightmare, a display of great directorial power, "April" rises as an existential thriller in which birth, death, beauty and brutality become stories the human body carries within. Special Jury Prize at the Venice Film Festival.

22:00 THE SHROUDS (2024, France / Canada, 119') Director: David Cronenberg

«How dark are you willing to go?» asks the protagonist, Vincent Cassel, as if addressing the audience. Then, David Cronenberg answers with a genuinely macabre, highly personal film, about a widowed businessman who builds an innovative cemetery in honour of his dead wife. When it is mysteriously vandalized one night, he finds himself in the middle of a dense conspiracy that intertwines environmental activism with privacy violations and international espionage. The great Canadian filmmaker may be exploring again the relationship between the human body, technology and the rapidly changing world around him, but this time he reflects from the perspective of an artist with a clearer than ever awareness of his own mortality.

TRIBUTE: THIS IS ENGLAND I 9:00 WITHNAIL AND I (1987. UK. 107')

Director: Bruce Robinson

Two unemployed and impoverished actors straddle the fine line between the wildly comic and the heartbreakingly tragic. Those fallen dandys live shakily in a cold London apartment-dump, finding no solace either in their desperate alcoholic escapades or in the redemptive boredom of the countryside to which they retreat adventurously. Drawing from his own life, Robinson has concocted perhaps the best dialogues (and a unique finale) in the history of British cinema for these two fascinating characters who find themselves on the brink of nothingness, perpetually stoned. Richard Grant's sardonic lines are one of the main reasons why this unforgettable film is the ultimate cult movie of the modern British screen.

21:00 I'M STILL HERE / AINDA ESTOU AQUI (2024, Brazil / France, 135')

Director: Walter Salles

The acclaimed director of «Central Station» and «The Motorcycle Diaries» makes his big comeback with this disarmingly human and moving drama. Based on a notorious true story, the film recounts the efforts of a courageous and stoic mother of five to keep her family together when her former MP husband is arrested by the country's dictatorial regime and then disappears. The film begins in 1971 and covers 25 years of the struggle of this admirable woman who turns her ordeal into a stirring lesson in love, tenacious optimism and unrelenting preservation of memory. Screenwriting Award at the recent Venice Film Festival and one of the year's finest performances by Fernanda Torres.

CINOBO OPERA 1

19:00 I LOVE YOU FOREVER (2024, USA, 89')

Directors: Cazzie David, Elisa Kalani

lust when she had decided to stop believing in fairy tale princes and perfect love, young Mackenzie meets the disarmingly charming and sexy Finn, who immediately steals her heart. Their courtship soon turns to romance, but behind Finn's dazzling smile, old-fashioned chivalry and constant romancing, could it be that there is a toxic side to him that won't be long before it reveals its sinister side? Skillfully walking the line between playful comedy and psychological thriller, this spirited debut film cleverly captures the anxieties and insecurities of today's (anti)romantic era, while providing a devastating response to the well-known saying of «be careful what you wish for».

TRIBUTE: AKINA KUNDSAMA 21:00 HIGH AND LOW / TENGOKU TO JIGOKU

(1963, Japan, 143') Director: Akira Kurosawa

A voice on the phone informs a wealthy factory owner that his son is kidnapped and an outrageously high price is required for his release. A few minutes later, it is revealed that the kidnapper accidentally got hold of the chauffeur's son, but still demands the same ransom for his release. The industrialist is asked to decide whether or not he is willing to pay in order to save a child's life. In one of the resounding masterpieces of all time, superbly structured and directed, Kurosawa gives a crime novel by Ed McBain the dimensions of a magnum opus, turning it into an agonizing thriller, as well as an outstanding comment on the vast class divide in post-war Japanese society. Unsurpassed!

The film will be screened in its recent 4k digital restoration

ASTOR

17:00 GREEK SHORT STORIES -IN COMPETITION VI (2024, 83') NOTES FROM A SEA VOYAGE by Argyris Germanidis ECHOES by Robinson Drossos THE EGGREGORES' THEORY by Andrea Gatopoulos G3N3SIS by Antonis Doussias **IN ANTICIPATION** by Avrilios Karakostas

19:30 SUJO (2024, Mexico / USA / France, 126') I.C.

Directors: Astrid Rondero, Fernanda Valadez After the murder of his father, the four-year-old son of a hitman is forced to flee to the countryside to escape the punishing grip of the cartels. As the past karmically recurs, the film follows Suio through his adolescence and adulthood as he is forced to choose between accepting his family's bloody legacy or rewriting his destiny by breaking the cycle of violence. A surprising take on a familiar theme, it confronts Mexico's cursed generation with optimism and unbridled lyricism. Divided between a coming-of-age film and a thriller, «Sujo» is at once saga and ancient tragedy, filtered through the poetic gaze of one of the most important new voices/directing duos in contemporary Latin American cinema. Grand Jury Prize -World Cinema Dramatic at Sundance.

22:00 BLOCK PASS / LA PAMPA (2024, France, 104') I.C.

Director: Antoine Chevrollier Willy and Jojo are two teenage friends, inseparable since childhood, who find an escape from the boredom of the French countryside, and the shadow of oppressive or absent fathers, in their passion for motocross racing. As they prepare feverishly for the championship, Jojo's secret life suddenly comes to light, testing their relationship and offering an easy victim at the altar of the conservative small town. Splattered by engine oils and punctuated by bursts of testosterone, Chevrollier's debut sketches with tenderness and raw ferocity the portrait of a true friendship and the rebelliousness of an adolescence frantically trying to find its way in a world of adults who have not yet settled into their own

DANAOS 2

19:30 FLOW (2024, Belgium / France / Latvia, 85') I.C. (R) Director: Gints Zilbalodis

If there was any doubt that a wordless film - one without even human protagonists - could be so compelling and effortlessly moving, «Flow» dispels it for good. Zilbalodi's film builds a world on the brink of destruction when an inexplicable cataclysm sweeps away almost everything. Losing her shelter, a lonely black cat struggles to stay afloat and survive a new reality, flooded by rapids, deadly dangers but also unexpected allies. With a lasting sense of awe and images brimming with beauty, the best animation of the year is a mesmerizing tale of nature's self-healing power and its ability to transform the end of the world into a new beginning. Latvia's official submission for the International Oscar.

21:30 ADRIANNE AND THE CASTLE (2024, Canada, 86') D.C.

Director: Shannon Walsh

The film takes us to Havencrest, an impressive building out of the kitschy tale of the love between Alan and Adrianne, an artist and a female drag performer. Alan watched his inspiration die with the loss of his beloved in 2011, but set about building an otherworldly castle laden with memories of their relationship. A «temple of art and love,» he says, where Adrianne's ghost lurks in every corner. Through archival footage and musical re-enactments of life, a creative documentary brings to life the eccentric universe of a unique love affair. In the half-light defined by arias and moving confessions, the redemptive need to return to what we have loved and been taught to love without restraint is underscored.

CINOBO OPERA 2

19:00 DEVO (2024, USA / UK, 94') (R) Director: Chris Smith

One of the most anarchic and avant-garde bands of the American new wave - a favorite of David Bowie and several other acclaimed artists - gets the documentary it deserves. Intensely directed, featuring plenty of archival footage and delightful interviews with the band members, this frenetic chronicle follows Devo's meteoric rise during a defining period for America. It begins with the political and social turmoil of the 1970s, out of which the band emerged ideologically and musically, moves through the conflict with the neo-conservative and fully commercialized 1980s, and reaches up to the present day, translating the band's cultural legacy into a non-stop entertaining cinematic journey.

21:00 THIS IS A FILM ABOUT THE BLACK KEYS

(2024, USA, 90') (R) Director: Jeff Dupre

The Black Keys have been a pop anomaly from the start. An anomaly that became a phenomenon somewhere around 2010, when a four-year period began in which rock once again seemed an invincible weapon of youth and impact. Relentless recording and touring made the dream last as long as their stamina, before they returned, perhaps to save their sanity, to their beginnings and their current status of a band that brought rock back to celebrity status, if only for "15 minutes". Frenetic pacing, sweaty «uncivilized» rock attitude and arena rock stardom. for a film that any fan of the explosive duo can't afford to miss.

IFG AUDITORIUM

16 THURSDAY OCTOBER 10TH 2024

DANAOS 1

TRIBUTE: THIS IS ENGLAND

19:30 THE DRAUGHTSMAN'S CONTRACT (1982, UK, 104')

Director: Peter Greenaway

In his feature-length narrative debut (and first iconic encounter with composer Michael Nyman), Greenaway invites us to a country manor of 17th-century England where he makes us complicit in an eccentric arrangement between a married aristocrat and an arrogant young artist. She commissions him to produce a series of drawings of her luxurious home and he agrees in return for eight pounds for each painting, accompanied by her sexual services. Inaugurating a decade emblematic of his sui generis contribution to British cinema, the filmmaker delivers a sardonic, erotic and wholly unconventional coupling of period drama and murder mystery, destined to stimulate the senses and the mind in equal measure, haunted by the indefinable feeling that every visually flawless shot hides an enigma.

22:00 CONCLAVE (2024, UK / USA, 120')

Director: Edward Berger

An upcoming Oscar favorite in several categories, the new film by the Oscar-winning director Edward Berger ("All Quiet on the Western Front») is a satisfying conspiracy thriller and a first-rate example of entertaining cinema. Based on the Robert Harris' best-selling novel, the twistfilled plot infiltrates the Vatican to observe the secret papal election process when the previous Pope dies suddenly. Cardinal Lawrence is tasked with carrying out the proceedings, unearthing secrets he must decide whether to leave forever in the dark or bring to light. Masterfully directed, constantly surprising, with a commanding leading performance by Ralph Fiennes and a «heretic» finale that will be talked about.

ASTY

TRIBUTE: #KIR# KURD5### 19:00 DODES'KA-DEN (1970, Japan, 140')

Director: Akira Kurosawa

Neither De Sica's emotion, Rossellini's precision, Fellini's exuberance, nor S. Ray's integrity, could have anticipated this. Kurosawa's first film in colour, made at a critical juncture of his life, when his relevance - even his importance (!) - were uncertain, was met coldly by the world and timidly by the critics. Kurosawa himself attempted suicide a year after its production. Here, however, a series of "stylishly naturalistic" vignettes about the grinding life of poverty-stricken people on the outskirts of Tokyo, betrays equal parts love and despair. A unique film, nominated for Best Film in a Foreign Language.

22:00 IN A VIOLENT NATURE (2024, Canada, 94') Director: Chris Nas

A masked butcher with a hook, a group of friends in an isolated house in the woods. Guess what will happen. If we took all slasher movies and stripped them down to the essentials, giving the audience the bloodthirsty thrills they expect, the result would look like this movie. Only here, paradoxically, lurks a cunning exercise in the mechanisms of horror cinema that asks the audience to admit its bloodthirst and then indulge in it guiltlessly. An unexpected success (a sequel already on the way) filled with rarely seen jaw-dropping moments of carnage, this one is not for the sensitive. It is, however, for those who will recognize behind the spectacular horror a clever study of their instincts.

CINOBO OPERA 1

19:30 WE LIVE IN TIME (2024, France / UK, 107') Director: John Crowley

Florence Pugh and Andrew Garfield are the heart and soul of this tender film, playing a young couple who meet in the most unexpected way, fall in love and decide to explore the prospect of a happy life together. But life and a serious illness have other plans. Spreading a melancholic, romantic story like the scattered pieces of a touching puzzle of memories, the director of the three times Oscar-nominated «Brooklyn» signs a dramatic comedy that moves between the present and the past, gathering the indelible moments left behind by two people who loved each other dearly.

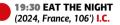
21:45 CLOUD / KURAUDO (2024, Japan, 123')

Director: Kiyoshi Kurosawa

Lured by how easily profitable reselling products online is, a young man starts to follow some not so ethical routes to get rich. As his life changes for the better, deadly threats begin to surround him. Japan's official submission to the next Academy Award for Best International Film, the newest creation from the other (and subsequent) acclaimed Kurosawa starts out as an atmospheric mystery thriller, moves into a violent reckoning, and ends up as something unexpectedly metaphysical. Underneath it all, however, is a darkly ironic warning about man's thoughtless dependence on technology and the dangerous fascinations of the modern internet world.

ASTOR

17:00 GREEK SHORT STORIES -IN COMPETITION VII (2024, 77') PIGEONS ARE DYING, WHEN THE CITY IS ON FIRE by Stavros Markoulakis ANGELO by Helias Doulis HONEYMOON by Alkis Papastathopoulos NAME DAY by Kostas Dimitriadis



Directors: Caroline Poggi, Jonathan Vinel Pablo and Apolline are two siblings with a rare emotional bond - even being far apart they communicate through the world of the online game Darknoon. But when Pablo falls in love with Night, and they become embroiled in a dangerous conflict between drug trafficking gangs, the fragile balance between the three characters is upended. In their second feature film, Poggi and Vinel spectacularly reinvigorate coming-of-age stories and queer romance, constructing from scratch an entire wondrous new world. Through the epic universe of an interactive game, an antidote to the loneliness and mundane everyday life, this erotically charged film reflects a digital reality on the edge of science fiction – a simultaneous trap and escape for a generation.

21:30 THE RYE HORN / O CORNO (2023, Spain / Belgium / Portugal, 105') I.C. Director: Jaione Camborda

In a provincial town in Galicia during the Franco regime, Maria works as a midwife, helping local women both during childbirth and pregnancy. After a tragic event, she finds herself suspected for the sudden death of a young girl. Maria will be forced to flee in pursuit, on an odyssey that will take her beyond the country's borders, on a journey evidently focused on womanhood. The female body becomes a battlefield in a poetic film, which gave its creator the top award at last year's San Sebastian festival.

DANAOS 2

19:00 ARCHITECTON (2024, Germany / France, 98') D.C. (R) Director: Victor Kossakovsky

A dazzling audiovisual symphony, destined to be experienced on the big screen and conditions of absolute cinematic awe, Kossakovsky's achievement is a worthy descendant of «Koyaanisqatsi». Through wondrous, monumental constructions, the film takes a journey that unites the deep past with the present as a meditation on man's relationship with nature, the indelible imprint of the individual on his environment, and humanity's capacity for both the most jaw-dropping achievement and the greatest catastrophe. Highly spectacular, this admirable documentary is an awe-inspiring poem of images and associations.

21:30 GHOST TRAIL / LES FANTÔMES (2024, France / Germany / Belgium, 90') I.C. (R)

Director: Jonathan Millet A former university professor, Hamid, leads a double life as a member of a secret organization trying to track down war criminals of the Syrian authoritarian regime. His latest mission brings him to Strasbourg, confronted by the man he believes to be his former torturer. Caught between justice, personal revenge and obsession, he will inevitably follow dangerous paths. With an underground, breathtaking and insidious suspense as well as a magnetic performance by star Adam Bessa, the opening film of the Cannes Film Festival's Critics' Week is a gripping political thriller strongly echoing 1970s American cinema, a spirit which the director surgically transplants into a realistic depiction

of life in exile.

CINOBO OPERA 2

19:00 KATHLEEN IS HERE (2024, Ireland, 95') (R) Director: Eva Birthistle

An 18-year-old Irish woman who spent her teenage years growing up in foster care returns to the family home she left when her alcoholic mother died. She gets a job, finds companionship and gradually develops a friendship with the ideal family next door. A friendship, however, that gradually becomes a disturbing obsession. In the best tradition of Ken Loach's socially-minded cinema, this promising debut avoids easy judgments in order to draw a sympathetic portrait of a girl trying awkwardly to combat the profound loneliness of her wrecked life. Superbly acted by one of the steadily rising young Irish actresses.

21:45 S/HE IS STILL HER/E - THE OFFICIAL GENESIS P-ORRIDGE DOCUMENTARY (2024, USA, 99') (R)

Director: David Charles Rodrigues

Combining archival material with a series of personal conversations (and of course the groundbreaking music of Throbbing Gristle and Psychic TV), the creator presents a kaleidoscopic journey into the music, subversive ideas and subconscious of Genesis P-Orridge. This is a documentary-meditation that constantly revolves around the concepts of experimentation and discovery, but above all the first and last official confession of a mind-blowing personality just before their biological end. An artist who looked beyond the shock and awe that pierced the abyss of conformism and sought to unite their earthly experience with the universe, seeing their passage from Earth as a single recording. An anarchic manifesto for the preservation of the history of the few and the personal freedom of the bold.



18 FRIDAY OCTOBER 11тн 2024

DANAOS 1

18:00 WINTER IN SOKCHO / HIVER À SOKCHO

(2024, France / South Korea, 104') Director: Koya Kamura

Winter has brought the calmness back to the coastal Sokcho and young Sooha floats through the off-season routine. But when a French artist rents the guesthouse where she works, the strange attraction that develops between them will take her on a journey of self-discovery. At the same time, the atmospheric landscape of a city surrounded by mountains and sea, on the border between South and North Korea, becomes the perfect setting for a melancholy elegy - an exemplary adaptation of the award-winning bestseller of the same name.

20:00 A REAL PAIN (2024, USA / Poland, 90') Director: Jesse Eisenberg

Flying to Poland after the death of their grandmother, two incompatible cousins see the trip as an opportunity to explore their roots. Their tour of the past brings their family's troubled history to the forefront and reignites their tragicomic differences. Without straying from his acting persona, Jesse Eisenberg evolves into one of the most distinctive directorial voices in contemporary American cinema. With the help of a sweeping Kieran Culkin performance, he crafts a bittersweet road movie emphasizing generational trauma, bridging the gap from the collective to the deeply personal, and achieving a multi-layered dramedy that, in addition to positive reviews and Oscar talk, won the Screenwriting Award at the Sundance Film Festival.

ASTY

TRIBUTE: THIS IS ENGLAND 19:00 THE LONG GOOD FRIDAY (1980, UK, 114') (R)

Director: John Mackenzie

Little-known masterwork by an unappreciated Scottish director. Through the story of a gangster who wants to cross over into legitimacy by collaborating with American mobsters, but gets involved with the IRA and a series of misunderstandings and betrayals, Mackenzie delivers three films: A perfect gangster film of wild climax and carnage, a commentary on the Island's tumultuous post-war era and an elaborate satirical-tragic record of a confused past Empire desperately clinging to the chariot of the ruling one in a desperate bid to regain some past glory. Great Bob Hoskins, period imagery of the early days of Thatcher's England, sustained mood, 21st place on BFI's list of the best British films of all time. Rightly so.

21:30 BRIEF HISTORY OF A FAMILY / JIA TING JIAN SHI

(2024, China / France / Denmark / Qatar, 99') I.C. (R) Director: Lin Jianjie

In a nation whose families were forced to have one child, a minor accident opens the back door of a middle-class family for a new member to enter. A young boy, who initially introduces himself as a «friend», but gradually asserts himself more and more as the only child. But what is his real motive and what will be the biological child's reaction to the intruder? Directing with a surgical precision that effortlessly evokes early Michael Haneke, Lin Jianjie manages to perfectly match paranoia with reality in a commanding thriller which underlines that the most disturbing stories reside in what we take for granted.

Director in attendance

00:00 THE VISITOR (2024, UK, 101') (R)

Director: Bruce LaBruce

The most unruly representative of queercore cinema strikes again, adapting Pier Paolo Pasolini's «Theorem» into a liberating porn manifesto. Out of a suitcase washed up of the river Thames emerges a naked black man, an anonymous refugee, who ends up in the mansion of a wealthy family and sexually defiles it, seducing every member, regardless of gender or sexual preference. Provocative, ironic and deliciously immoral, "The Visitor" is a literal and metaphorical orgy that lays sex and politics on the same sweaty bed. **Unsuitable for underage viewers**

DANAOS 2

19:30 NO OTHER LAND (2024, Palestine / Norway, 95') D.C. (R)

Directors: Basel Adra, Hamdan Ballal, Yuval Abraham, Rachel Szor

A collective of activists from Israel and Palestine is documenting the methodical uprooting of Arab residents from 19 settlements in Masafer Yatta, an area on the border of the West Bank. During a nightmarish period of Arab-Israeli relations, one of the most talked-about documentaries of recent time stands as a monument to bold investigative journalism and proves that objectivity lies not in neutrality, but in historical truth. At the same time, "No Other Land" offers an intense and at times devastating look that remains cinematic despite the immediacy of its material. Panorama Audience Award and Best Documentary Award at this year's Berlin Film Festival.

21:30 BEGINNING (2020, Georgia / France, 125')

Director: Déa Kulumbegashvili

In an atmospheric rural Georgian town, a community of Jehovah's Witnesses becomes the target of a terrorist attack. The conflict expands into the inner world of the stoic Yana, who, after meeting the police officer assigned to the case, sees everything she had taken for granted in life slip through her fingers. A few years before «April», Kulumbegashvili had introduced herself to us with the thunderous «Beginning», a film that discovers unimaginable beauty in the stark frames that enclose a devastating internal struggle. A story of Ioneliness in the shadow of faith and patriarchy. Quite simply, and without a hint of exaggeration, a layered, overlooked masterpiece.

CINOBO OPERA 1

TRIBUTE: AKIRA KURDEAMA 19:00 THE BAD SLEEP WELL / WARUI YATSU HODO YOKU NEMURU (1960, Japan, 151') Director: Akira Kurosawa

An up-and-coming employee at a powerful company marries his boss's daughter, but his ultimate goal is to expose those responsible for his father's death. With the ghost of «Hamlet» lingering, the first film for Kurosawa's short-lived production company is the director's most overtly scathing indictment of the corruption of postwar industrial Japan. Steeped in the nihilism of a revenge story that will never find real vindication, and the claustrophobic atmosphere of a political noir, the film builds an inescapable cycle of violence, injustice and manipulation that begins in boardrooms only to close suffocatingly on the backs of the powerless. One of Coppola's favorite films, whose opening scene became a direct inspiration for the opening wedding sequence in "The Godfather".

22:00 ENO (2024, USA / UK, 100') Director: Gary Hustwit

AIFF invites you to discover a new, exclusive component of the Brian Eno phenomenon, through a cinematic mosaic created especially for the festival, one that will cease to exist after the screening. Eno is a mentor of art rock, a tracker of pop avant garde inclinations, an explorer of the far reaches of ambient and electronic music, and undoubtedly a universally recognized genius of contemporary sound. Speaking of a multifaceted artist who identified himself as a «non-musician» and regarded mixing desks as musical instruments, one would not expect anything conventional from his official biography. Still, Gary Hustwit takes the unusual to new heights. It's a *literally* unique experience, a film recreated at every performance through dozens of hours of footage.

CINOBO OPERA 2

19:00 WORSHIP - (MY) GREEK CULT MOVIES (2024, Greece, 104') (R) Director: Meletis Miras

How do we understand 'cult' and which films have shaped the term for the Greek audience? Is cult something subjective? Objective? Is it introduced through a group of fanatic believers? How is this blind following to a cinematic work cultivated, and what qualifies a film 'worthy' to be loved unconditionally? «Worship» explores the cult phenomenon mainly through the Greek films «Tsiou...» by Makis Papadimitratos, «Spirtokouto» by Yannis Economides, «As Perimenoun oi Gynaikes!» by Stavros Tsiolis and the episode «Vietnam» from Pantelis Voulgaris' «Ola Einai Dromos», gathering testimonies of filmmakers and contributors, as well as people from the media and art world, and along with other references and citations completing an enthusiastic journey to the meaning of this misunderstood term.

TRIBUTE: THIS IS ENGLAND 19:30 BABYLON (1980, UK, 95')

Director: Franco Rosso

Partly based on true events, «Babylon» explores the story of a young DJ through the subculture of soundsystems during the early Thatcher days. For reasons of authenticity, Rosso filmed in the impoverished, dangerous south London neighborhoods creating an immeasurably influential film, essential to the British '80s, fuelled by the demand for social justice. A yeasty musical work that remained banned in the US for over 30 years, as it was felt that it would create riots in the stagnant waters of the conservative society.

ASTOR

/////

17:00 GREEK SHORT STORIES -IN COMPETITION VIII (2024, 83') RITE OF PASSAGE, AN IMPROVISED PERFORMANCE ART FILM BY ALEXIA VASSILIOU by Alexia Vassiliou, Valentina Karantoni (out of competition) 74 by Charalambos Margaritis ASSIST by Maria Tsioli 7HZ by Maria Hatzakou HALCYON DAYS by Alexandros Skouras A 10 MINUTE SWIM by Achilles Tsoutsis

19

19:30 SUJO (2024, Mexico / USA / France, 126') I.C. (R) Directors: Astrid Rondero. Fernanda Valadez

After the murder of his father, the four-year-old son of a hitman is forced to flee to the countryside to escape the punishing grip of the cartels. As the past karmically recurs, the film follows Sujo through his adolescence and adulthood as he is forced to choose between accepting his family's bloody legacy or rewriting his destiny by breaking the cycle of violence. A surprising take on a familiar theme, it confronts Mexico's cursed generation with optimism and unbridled lyricism. Divided between a coming-of-age film and a thriller, «Sujo» is at once saga and ancient tragedy, filtered through the poetic gaze of one of the most important new voices/directing duos in contemporary Latin American cinema. Grand Jury Prize –World Cinema Dramatic at Sundance.

22:15 IN THE SUMMERS (2024, USA, 99') I.C. (R)

Director: Alessandra Lacorazza Samudio

Spanning two decades, and focusing on four pivotal summers in the lives of two girls who spend their annual vacation in New Mexico alongside their divorced father, this autobiographical debut, which triumphed at this year's Sundance Film Festival (Best Film and Best Director awards), is an elegiac coming-of-age story. It begins in adolescence, builds up to adulthood and bittersweetly captures what it means to grow up, to love despite adversity and to gradually heal the wounds of a dysfunctional family, finding your identity and place in the world.

ONASSIS STEGI

20:30 MEGALOPOLIS (2024, USA, 138')

Director: Francis Ford Coppola

The very existence of this film provokes elevated emotion. "Megalopolis" is a torrential sci-fi allegory, featuring an architect/scientist pioneer with the ability to regulate time and space, who bases his dream of a utopian metropolis of the future on a miraculous construction material. Coppola draws unexpected parallels between the sociopolitical conditions that led ancient Rome to destruction and the image of a contemporary America undermined by similar dangers and driven by similar passions. A baroque satire of human vanity and a kind of romantic legacy for future generations, this is a magnum opus of such audacity and daring directorial folly, the like of which is rarely seen in cinema anymore.



20 SATURDAY OCTOBER 12TH 2024

DANAOS 1

TRIBUTE: AKINA KUNDSAMA

17:30 IKIRU (1952, Japan, 143') Director: Akira Kurosawa

A rigid bureaucrat in post-war Tokyo learns he has cancer and one year to live. His character will be radically transformed. Rooted in a Kurosawa idea, in conversation with Tolstoy's «Death of Ivan Ilyich» and with exemplary writing by two of the director's key screenwriters, «lkiru» («To Live») is the ultimate «contemporary» Kurosawa, a monument on the importance of being Human. Understated yet emotionally charged, superbly photographed and inimitably performed by the great Takashi Shimura, here is a film, perhaps hopelessly against the contemporary tide, that still brings the focus back not only to the important questions but also to their answer. Core, revolutionary cinema.

20:30 DYING / STERBEN (2024, Germany, 180') Director: Matthias Glasner

For many the film that deserved the Golden Bear at this year's Berlin Film Festival, Matthias Glasner's («The Free Will») three-hour family epic is a contender for perhaps the most anti-commercial title of all time. Still, you wor't find yourself looking at your watch throughout this masterful tragicomedy. Divided into chapters, with a perfect script that recalls an untamed version of a Bergman psychodrama and a terrific performance by Lars Eidinger, a top-notch actor in current German cinema, the film is a rollercoaster of moods relentlessly bombarded by the emotional convulsions of a handful of characters confronted with the idea of the inevitable end. Silver Bear for Screenplay at the Berlin Film Festival. **Protagonist Lars Eidinger in attendance**

DANAOS 2

TRIBUTE: THIS IS ENGLAND 19:00 MONA LISA (1986, UK, 104') (R) Director: Neil Jordan

The British cinematic idiom is its unquestionable ability to infuse social interest into a multitude of genres. Neil Jordan, in his chronologically second historical moment of the '80s, sets up a London underworld using the story of a small-time thug who becomes chauffeur and bodyguard for a high-class call-girl only to quickly become embroiled in a tale of criminal tussle and unrequited love. Jordan soars stylishly documenting a glossy/sleazy night world, Bob Hoskins excels in the role that earned him his sole Oscar nomination, Michael Caine is unforgettably villainous, and the result stamped its generation, announced English cinema overseas and stands tall to this day as a model of «neo-noir» social reflection.

TRIBUTE: THIS IS ENGLAND 21:30 MY BEAUTIFUL LAUNDRETTE (1985, UK, 97') (R)

Director: Stephen Frears

An unconventional love story between an upstart young Pakistani and a vagrant Londoner, and a poignant political commentary on Thatcher's England, this landmark film introduced us to the then undiscovered talent of Daniel Day Lewis, the insightful pen of Hanif Kureishi and one of the most important English filmmakers. Neither overtly political nor militantly queer, the film recreated an authentic picture of English society in the 1980s. Nominated for an Academy Award for Best Original Screenplay, Frears' work reignited global interest for British social realist cinema, and in its quiet way pushed the envelope of a queer culture that until then was sending its love notes from the fringes.

ASTY

17:00 BLOCK PASS / LA PAMPA (2024, France, 104') I.C. (R)

Director: Antoine Chevrollier

Willy and Jojo are two teenage friends, inseparable since childhood, who find an escape from the boredom of the French countryside, and the shadow of oppressive or absent fathers, in their passion for motocross racing. As they prepare feverishly for the championship, Jojo's secret life suddenly comes to light, testing their relationship and offering an easy victim at the altar of the conservative small town. Splattered by engine oils and punctuated by bursts of testosterone, Chevrollier's debut sketches with tenderness and raw ferocity the portrait of a true friendship and the rebelliousness of an adolescence frantically trying to find its way in a world of adults who have not yet settled into their own.

TRIBUTE: THIS IS ENGLAND 19:00 RADIO ON (1979, UK / West Germany, 104') (R)

Director: Christopher Petit

A DJ goes from London to Bristol to investigate the mysterious death of his brother. Under this simple pretext of a road movie mystery, Petit stages the trail that connects the British '70s and '80s, foregrounding the music and a scrapbook of memorable figures crossing their existential paths. A petite masterpiece, "Radio On" becomes a link between Jarmusch and Wenders. A borderline film, like no other before or since, which through the psychogeography of a disoriented generation wandering on analog waves and urban highways, bridged electronic art rock with new wave and inaugurated post-punk iconography on the big screen.

22:00 EMILIA PÉREZ (2024, France, 132') Director: Jacques Audiard

Outrageous, risky, electrifying, passionate, euphoric: a few words that characterize the new film by the great Jacques Audiard, in which a lawyer is recruited by a notorious Mexican cartel baron to organize secretly his transition and then help her retire from the underworld. Boldly marrying the musical, the violent gangster thriller, the extreme melodrama, the dizzying romance, Almodovar's extravagance and a killer female cast (Best Actress Award Ensemble at Cannes), to tell a story about the power of leaving the past behind and reborn from the ashes. One thing remains certain: "Emilia Perez" is unlike anything you're ever seen.

AVANA

22:00 EMILIA PÉREZ (2024, France, 132') Director: Jacques Audiard

Outrageous, risky, electrifying, passionate, euphoric: a few words that characterize the new film by the great Jacques Audiard, in which a lawyer is recruited by a notorious Mexican cartel baron to organize secretly his transition and then help her retire from the underworld. Boldly marying the musical, the violent gangster thriller, the extreme melodrama, the dizzying romance, Almodovar's extravagance and a killer female cast (Best Actress Award Ensemble at Cannes), to tell a story about the power of leaving the past behind and reborn from the ashes. One thing remains certain: "Emilia Perez" is unlike anything you've ever seen.

CINOBO OPERA 1

17:00 GRIFFIN IN SUMMER (2024, USA, 90') (R) Director: Nicholas Colia

A smart but unsociable 14-year-old boy living with his divorced mother decides to spend the summer not on vacation but in his room. He aims to finish writing and rehearsing his new play. However, he will fall in love at first sight with the 25-year-old man who repairs their house. As he tries to deal with his sudden sexual awakening, he receives his first emotional slap in the process, finally realizing something way more important in life. A queer romantic comedy that doesn't want to be cute or take the easy road to the audience's heart, this courageous debut triumphed at the Tribeca Film Festival this year, winning Best Film, Best Screenplay and Best Director awards.

19:00 BRANDO WITH A GLASS EYE (2024, Greece / Australia, 122') Director: Antonis Tsonis

Athens, Greece. Luca resorts to armed robbery to finance his dream of studying Method Acting in New York. But the robbery goes awry when he injures Ilias, an innocent bystander. He later visits him in the hospital to «silence» him forever, but instead they become friends. Together they navigate the blurred lines of friendship and deceit. Two unlikely friends find purpose in each other's company. Luca introduces Ilias to the world of acting, taking him to the brink. As the audition approaches, Luca grapples with the weight of his actions. His pursuit becomes a driving force, leading him to confront his past and the complicated emotions he never thought he would face. **Filmmakers in attendance**

22:00 TATAMI (2023, Georgia / USA, 105') Directors: Guy Nattiv, Zahra Amir Ebrahimi

A young Iranian woman competing in the World Judo Championships faces threats from government officials demanding her withdrawal from the games. The reason is that on her way to the final she will likely face an Israeli athlete, something forbidden by the regime. Her initial hesitation transforms her dream of a gold medal into a claustrophobic nightmare. With a solid directorial eye that places it somewhere between «Raging Bull» and an agonizing political thriller, «Tatami» is one of last year's cinematic events, the result of the secret collaboration between an Israeli and an Iranian woman, who co-sign a protest film just as the situation in the Middle East spirals out of control.

CINOBO OPERA 2

20:00 GOOD ONE (2024, USA, 90') I.C. (R) Director: India Donaldson

Maturity won't come with age. That and several other lessons from the adult world are shall be learned by 17-yearold Sam during a camping trip with two divorced middle-aged adults: her father and his best friend. And while the weekend alternates between relaxed confessions and bitter admissions for two men who realize their personal dead ends, for the girl the road to adulthood opens abruptly and decisively. With its understated power, elegiac tone and careful observation of human behavior, this beautiful and insightful debut is justifiably compared to that of the great Kelly Reichardt. At the same time, it introduces us to 40-year-old India Donaldson, a talented young filmmaker whom we should henceforth await.

ASTOR

/////

17:00 GREEK SHORT STORIES -IN COMPETITION IX (2024, 92') NON-ESSENTIAL MOVEMENT by Nikoleta Leousi THEATER by Anastasia Lola MIRA by Orfeas Peretzis MJ by Yiorgos Fourtounis GOLDEN FINGERS by Fivos Kontogiannis

19:30 MY SUNSHINE / BOKU NO OHISAMA (2024, Japan, 100') I.C. (R)

Director: Hiroshi Okuyama

On an island in Japan, school life follows the seasons' cycle. The first snowflake means the boys have to swap baseball for hockey, but shy Takuya is more interested in a classmate who claims a career in figure skating. Although lost for words around her, her coach insists on having them practice together. It's impossible to describe the plot without revealing its catalytic twist. It's also impossible to foreshadow verbally how sensual and effortlessly beautiful the film is. In one of this year's more radiant entries, the director's understated gaze invests in the poetry of everyday life while the charming simplicity of the visual compositions vindicates those who see in him the next Kore-eda.

22:00 VERMIGLIO (2024, Italy / France / Belgium, 119') I.C. Director: Maura Delpero

In a mountain village in northern Italy, shortly after the end of World War II, a large family resides: The stern father and teacher, the mother who loves all her children equally, the offsprings who translate the adults' universe in their own way, the daughter who falls in love with a deserter. Around them, the seasons leave their beautiful imprints on Nature, the villagers carry on their habits and rituals, lives of ordinary people stoically facing what fate has in store. An entire lost world comes to life in Maura Delpero's exquisite film, a proud cinematic descendant of Italian neorealism that won the Silver Lion at this year's Venice Film Festival.

22:00 IT DOESN'T GET ANY BETTER THAN THIS (2024, USA, 83') (R)

Directors: Rachel Kempf, Nick Toti A couple who fancy shooting impromtu horror films buys an abandoned building in a small rural town in the US to use it as a set for their next film. Although they are initially thrilled with what their new home has to offer, one day they will discover something that will change their lives forever. The best-kept secret of recent horror films tends to transcend the label of the next «Blair Witch Project» and has firmly carved out a place among the best found footage films ever made. Haunting, intense and hard to find (the filmmakers have banned screenings unless in a movie theater), the film

exhibits micro-budget efficiency and directorial virtuosity perfectly blended with the genre's rules.





22 SUNDAY OCTOBER 13TH 2024

DANAOS 1

17:30 MIYAZAKI, SPIRIT OF NATURE / MIYAZAKI, L'ESPRIT DE LA NATURE (2024. France. 82') (R)

Director: Léo Favier

An elegant tribute to the life and work of Hayao Miyazaki, an artist who emerged from stormy events of the 20th century, to gain absolute recognition. Alongside rare personal archival footage and interviews with collaborators and prominent fans, the documentary offers rich excerpts from his films to highlight the straight lines between them and the «spirit of nature» that informs his filmography. That is, all that surrounds us and, according to him, defines the human condition. A journey from the darkness to the light for an auteur inspired by the tension between them. A revealing portrait of a unique artist who discovered the elixir of eternal youth by transforming his dreams into animation.

19:30 THE GOOD TEACHER (2024, France / Belgium, 120')

Director: Teddy Lussi-Modeste

When a beloved Literature teacher is confronted with a teenage student's complaint of inappropriate behavior, he is suddenly called upon to fight to protect his name, his position in the school, and his longtime gay relationship, which no one knows. Similar to last year's wonderful «The Teacher's Lounge», this film, based on true events, uses the incident of a wrongly accused man to draw a poignant and angry commentary on cancel culture and the hidden pitfalls of democratic institutions and societies. In the leading role, François Civil proves that apart from being the currently most sought-after young protagonist of French cinema, he is also an excellent actor.

TV5MONDE

21:30 MOTEL DESTINO (2024, Brazil / France / Germany, 115') Director: Karim Aïnouz

On the run after a failed ambush, a young gangster takes refuge in the «Motel Destino», a seaside hotel whose owners make sure to provide everything necessary for their guests' lusty encounters. He becomes their employee and soon finds himself trapped in a sexually charged triangle soon to go off the rails. Karim Ainouz («The Invisible Life of *Eurídice Gusmão*») returns to his sensual metaphysics with a «tropical» neon-noir, colorful, psychedelic and drenched in heat and sweat. The great Brazilian filmmaker finds common ground between «Body Heat» and «The Postman Always Rings Twice», giving the latter its even more erotic and dangerous version.

DANAOS 2

TRIBUTE: THIS IS ENGLAND 19:00 BABYLON (1980, UK, 95') (R)

Director: Franco Rosso

Partly based on true events, «Babylon» explores the story of a young DJ through the subculture of soundsystems, sharply contrasted to the grey dawn of the Thatcher administration. Rosso had an authentic depiction in mind, so he didn't settle for a cinematic simulation, but instead went to the impoverished, dangerous South London neighborhoods. Thus, an immeasurably influential film emerged, essential to complete the social mosaic of the British '80s, fuelled by the demand for social justice against racism and police brutality. A yeasty musical film that for over 30 years remained banned in the US, as it was felt that its screening

ASTY

TRIBUTE: **AKIRA KURDEAWA 17:00 THE IDIOT / HAKUCHI** (1951, Japan, 166')

Director: Akira Kurosawa

Kurosawa never hid his adoration for Dostoyevsky. This was to be documented in "The Idiot", one of cinema's outstanding «ill masterworks» (to quote Truffaut). The film was slaughtered by the studio in its original almost 4½ hour version, originally 100 (!) minutes left and subsequently only the cut we present to you survives. To the discerning eye the editing interventions are visible, but no less than a stunningly executed cinematic chant that studies the human character and extends it to its tormented infinity. Here lies the other, grim «difficult» Kurosawa, unparalleled in his compositional rigor, masterful in the balance of melodrama and tragedy, eternal believer in the church of man.

20:15 THE SEED OF THE SACRED FIG / ديباع رىجنا ىەن)د (2024, Iran / Germany / France, 168')

Director: Mohammad Rasoulof

Self-exiled in Europe, Rasoulof abandoned Iran with a story that emerged from within contemporary social unrest. That is why the drama of a family ideologically divided soon turns into a thriller of agony. Through the documented reality that intrudes on the action, a genre film becomes lucidly apparent, with Rasoulof building multiple layers, masterfully employing every cinematic trick. «The Seed of the Sacred Fig» is definitely not the subtle average allegory. It is a full on assault on a suffocating regime that kills its children. It is one of the most important moments of political cinema in the 21st century. Jury Special Prize at the Cannes and Germanys official submission to the foreign-language Oscar race.

CINOBO OPERA 1

17:30 MADE IN ENGLAND: THE FILMS OF POWELL AND PRESSBURGER (2024, UK, 131') Director: David Hinton

There's nothing more enthusiastic than Martin Scorsese talking about the cinema he loves. And there is no cinema he loves more than that of Michael Powell and Emeric Pressburger! Featuring interviews with friends and collaborators, hearty excerpts from their filmography and rare archive footage, Scorsese pays a worshipping tribute to the work of the directors who gave British cinema such masterpieces as "Black Narcissus", "The Red Shoes" and "A Matter of Life and Death". At the same time, he traces the profound influence their films had on his own work and recalls the chronicle of his personal acquaintance with Powell, marking with his authentic passion a documentary where loving the movies is all that matters.

20:00 I KNOW WHERE I'M GOING! (1945, UK, 91')

Directors: Michael Powell, Emeric Pressburger

One of the most beautiful films ever made, this enchanting work stars Joan, who is about to leave her frenetic bachelor life and head to the Scottish coast to meet her future husband. But rapidly worsening weather forces her to take temporary refuge in a coastal and windswept hamlet, which will become the catalyst that will free her from the universe of reason and take her into the uncharted land of instincts and heart. By giving the film majestic, almost supernatural dimensions, the filmmakers take the clay of a romantic story and transform it into a mystical fairy tale blown by the wind, scoured by the waves and vibrated by an eternal belief in the power of love.

22:00 BIRD

(2024, UK / France / Germany / USA, 119') Director: Andrea Arnold

12-year-old Bailey struggles in the minefield of her dysfunctional family, torn between a father about to marry his new girlfriend and a mother living under the constant threatening of an abusive partner. Facing a tough adolescence, she will find an unexpected ally in a mysterious stranger. The long-awaited Andrea Arnold feature film return is everything one might expect and more: a coming-ofage story where British harsh realities of the downtrodden meet magical realism and the world of fairy tales. An excellent soundtrack, queer sensibility and three sweeping performances from newcomer Nykiya Adams, Barry Keoghan and Franz Rogowski, lift off a film at once promising and risky as flying low over sharp cliffs.

CINOBO OPERA 2

19:00 ARMAND (2024, Norway / Netherlands / Germany / Sweden, 116') I.C. (R) Director: Halfdan Ullmann Tondel

When 6-year-old Armand is accused of aggressive and inappropriate behavior towards a classmate, the children's parents and the school staff meet to compromise. However, "politeness" gradually gives way to poisonous confrontations and the adults prove unable to overcome their prejudices leading to a volcanic eruption that the talented Tondel deconstructs abstractly with a -literally- choreographed climax. Ingeniously covering the distance between «The Teacher's Lounge» and Polanski's «Carnage», the film won Camera d'Or for Best Directrial Debut at Cannes, while as the controversial mother Renate Reinsve fulfills triumphantly the promise of «The Worst Person in the World».

ASTOR

/////

17:00 GREEK SHORT STORIES -IN COMPETITION X (2024, 74') BORIS & I by Haris Raftogiannis

SPITI by Sofia Sfyri MAUVE by Jo Capralou PAVE PARADISE by Alcaeus Spyrou

19:30 VERMIGLIO

(2024, Italy / France / Belgium, 119') I.C. (R) Director: Maura Delpero

23

In a mountain village in northern Italy, shortly after the end of World War II, a large family resides: The stern father and teacher, the mother who loves all her children equally, the offsprings who translate the adults' universe in their own way, the daughter who falls in love with a deserter. Around them, the seasons leave their beautiful imprints on Nature, the villagers carry on their habits and rituals, lives of ordinary people stoically facing what fate has in store. An entire lost world comes to life in Maura Delpero's exquisite film, a proud cinematic descendant of Italian neorealism that won the Silver Lion at this year's Venice Film Festival.

22:00 EAT THE NIGHT (2024, France, 106') I.C. (R)

Directors: Caroline Poggi, Jonathan Vinel

Pablo and Apolline are two siblings with a rare emotional bond - even being far apart they communicate through the world of the online game Darknoon. But when Pablo falls in love with Night, and they become embroiled in a dangerous conflict between drug trafficking gangs, the fragile balance between the three characters is upended. In their second feature film, Poggi and Vinel spectacularly reinvigorate coming-of-age stories and queer romance, constructing from scratch an entire wondrous new world. Through the epic universe of an interactive game, an antidote to the loneliness and mundane everyday life, this erotically charged film reflects a digital reality on the edge of science fiction – a simultaneous trap and escape for a generation.

TRIBUTE: THIS IS ENGLAND 21:30 WITHNAIL AND I (1987, UK, 107') (R) Director: Bruce Robinson

Two unemployed, impoverished actors straddle like fallen aristocrats the fine line between the wildly comic and the heartbreakingly tragic. They live shakily in a cold London apartment-dump, finding no solace either in their desperate alcoholic escapades or in the redemptive boredom of the countryside to which they adventurously retreat. Drawing from his life, Robinson concocted perhaps the best dialogues in the history of British cinema for these two perpetually stoned, fascinating characters who find themselves on the brink of nothingness. Richard Grant's tour de force makes this unforgettable film the penultimate cult movie of the modern British screen.

21:00 THE RYE HORN / O CORNO (2023, Spain / Belgium / Portugal, 105') I.C. (R) Director: laione Camborda

was enough to create riots in the stagnant waters of any

conservative society.

In a provincial town in Galicia during the Franco regime, Maria works as a midwife, helping local women both during childbirth and pregnancy. After a tragic event, she finds herself suspected for the sudden death of a young girl. Maria will be forced to flee in pursuit, on an odyssey that will take her beyond the country's borders, on a journey evidently focused on womanhood. The female body becomes a battlefield in a poetic film, which gave its creator the top award at last year's San Sebastian festival.

24 MONDAY OCTOBER 14TH 2024

DANAOS 1

TRIBUTE: ЯКІЛЯ КЦЛОБЯШЯ **19:00 YOJIMBO** (1961. Japan. 110')

Director: Akira Kurosawa

At the end of the Samurai era, a Ronin (a masterless Samurai) arrives in a town divided and fallen due to a bloody feud between two families. He decides to exploit the situation, even if it requires the equally bloody demise of both sides. One of the greatest commercial and artistic successes of an astonishing career, «Yojimbo» draws from Western, filmnoir and Wylers work and ends up informing not only the entire subsequent American cinema, but also giving birth to a story that inspired a multitude of remakes (famously Sergio Leones «For a Fistful of Dollars») and imitations. Diabolical tone, epic sarcasm, supreme action choreography and monumental set-pieces, constitute to this day a cinematic syntax of sardonically polysemous cinema.

21:30 AWARD-WINNING FILM SCREENING Watch one of the award-winning films of the Festival's International Competition section!

DANAOS 2

19:00 ADRIANNE AND THE CASTLE (2024, Canada, 86') D.C. (R) Director: Shannon Walsh

The film takes us to Havencrest, an impressive building out of the kitschy tale of the love between Alan and Adrianne, an artist and a female drag performer. Alan watched his inspiration die with the loss of his beloved in 2011, but set about building an otherworldly castle laden with memories of their relationship. A «temple of art and love,» he says, where Adrianness ghost lurks in every corner. Through ar-

where Adrianne's ghost lurks in every corner. Through archival footage and musical re-enactments of life, a creative documentary brings to life the eccentric universe of a unique love affair. In the half-light defined by arias and moving confessions, the redemptive need to return to what we have loved and been taught to love without restraint is underscored.

21:00 BRANDO WITH A GLASS EYE (2024, Greece / Australia, 122') (R)

Director: Antonis Tsonis

Athens, Greece. Luca resorts to armed robbery to finance his dream of studying Method Acting in New York. But the robbery goes awry when he injures Ilias, an innocent bystander. He later visits him in the hospital to «silence» him forever, but instead they become friends. Together they navigate the blurred lines of friendship and deceit. Two unlikely friends find purpose in each others company. Luca introduces Ilias to the world of acting, taking him to the brink. As the audition approaches, Luca grapples with the weight of his actions. His pursuit becomes a driving force, leading him to confront his past and the complicated emotions he never thought he would face.

ASTY

TRIBUTE: THIS IS ENGLAND 18:00 DISTANT VOICES, STILL LIVES (1988, UK, 85') (R)

Director: Terence Davies

With semi autobiographical elements, Terence Davis captured in dazzling tableaux vivants episodes from the life of a working-class family in '40s - '50s Liverpool, in the shadow of an oppressive father. Filmed in tones of discolored sepia and interspersed with popular songs of the era, often performed by the characters and exquisitely integrated into the narrative, the British filmmakers feature debut introduced a rare talent who combined popular melodramas of post-war British cinema with personal experience. With echoes of Technicolor musicals, idiosyncratically realistic, Davis crafted a portrait of a time and place, and at the same time a masterful study in memory - like a faded family album still rekindling ghosts of the past, along with those fleeting moments of pain and joy they inevitably carry.

20:00 BIRDEATER (2023, Australia, 115') (R)

Directors: Jack Clark, Jim Weir

A cunning combination of mystery film and drama where nothing is as it seems. A young couple is about to get married, he is sweet and protective, she is vulnerable and clearly emotionally dependent on him - something resolved most controversially. The girl agrees to attend the bachelor party the boy is planning with his childhood friends in a remote country location, where an evening of abuse will drive everything out of control. The film slowly builds pace only to derail into a paroxysmal trip, a nocturnal nightmare at the end of which nothing will evolve expectedly. A horror film? Assuming the greatest horror is the person standing next to you, most definitely.

22:30 I LOVE YOU FOREVER (2024, USA, 89') (R)

Directors: Cazzie David, Elisa Kalani

Just when she had decided to stop believing in fairy tale princes and perfect love, young Mackenzie meets the disarmingly charming and sexy Finn, who immediately steals her heart. Their courtship soon turns to romance, but behind Finns dazzling smile, old-fashioned chivalry and constant romancing, could it be that there is a toxic side to him that wonst be long before it reveals its sinister side? Skillfully walking the line between playful comedy and psychological thriller, this spirited debut film cleverly captures the anxieties and insecurities of todays (anti)romantic era, while providing a devastating response to the well-known saying of «be careful what you wish for».

CINOBO OPERA 1

19:00 BETWEEN THE TEMPLES (2024, USA, 111') Director: Nathan Silver

Director, Natrian Silve

A year after the sudden death of his wife, Ben feels he is losing faith and any appetite for work and life. But when he meets again his eccentric music schoolteacher, their upbeat and tender relationship will prove catalytic. This rather prudent synopsis only inadequately describes a delightfully moody and idiosyncratic comedy that shares eclectic affinities with "Harold and Maude", Elaine Mays neurotic cinema and the witty Jewish humor first introduced by Woody Allen. Deliriously directed, with a spirited script and an adorable pair of leads, this is a sweetheart of a film insisting that we face everything serious in this life in the most un-serious manner possible.

21:30 AWARD-WINNING GREEK SHORT STORIES

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

CINOBO OPERA 2

TRIBUTE: THIS IS ENGLAND

19:00 HIGH HOPES (1988, UK, 108') (R) Director: Mike Leigh

In the extremely interesting and crowded list of British films depicting Margaret Thatchers premiership in the 1980s, Mike Leigh's film holds a scepter: It's the one that thoroughly dissects class issues, with the filmmakers trademark humour/bitterness blend, in a way that is thoughtful, authoritative and relatable. The working class front and center, and next to them the bourgeois and the nouveau riche, simmer in the same ominous cauldron. Historical consciousness, tolerance and «quiet desperation», make up a «bipolar» drama of comic undertones that rightly placed Leigh on the map, a man with the authority of a scholar and the gravitas of a humanist artist.

PALLAS

CLOSING CEREMONY -PRESENTATION OF AWARDS

19:30 THE ROOM NEXT DOOR / LA HABITACIÓN DE AL LADO (2024, Spain, 106')

Director: Pedro Almodóvar

Director: Peuro Almouovar

Two friends reunite after years. One is a successful author, the other an ex-war correspondent now fighting her biggest battle as she suffers from a terminal illness. Under the shadow of an inevitable end, the two make a secret pact that, though grim, proves to be cathartic. In his first English-language feature film, Almodovar continues to praise women as a mysterious, unstoppable force, full of courage and empathy in the face of adversity. Expertly performed ode to friendship, powerful argument for the individual's right to determine its own destiny, and a statement of faith in companionship as pure hope in a world increasingly devoid of it. Golden Lion at this years Venice Film Festival.

After the start of the ceremony, entry is NOT permitted in the theater. The screening will begin right after the end of the ceremony

ASTOR

19:30 WINTER IN SOKCHO / HIVER À SOKCHO

(2024, France / South Korea, 104') (R) Director: Koya Kamura

Winter has brought the calmness back to the coastal Sokcho and young Sooha floats through the off-season routine. But when a French artist rents the guesthouse where she works, the strange attraction that develops between them will take her on a journey of self-discovery. At the same time, the atmospheric landscape of a city surrounded by mountains and sea, on the border between South and North Korea, becomes the perfect setting for a melancholy elegy - an exemplary adaptation of the award-winning bestseller of the same name.

22:00 ODDITY (2024, Ireland, 98') (R) Director: Damian McCarthy

In a remote country estate in Ireland, a woman is found mysteriously murdered. On the night that marks one year since her unsolved death, her twin sister, a blind psychic who claims to know who committed the murder, visits the mansion. She is accompanied by a creepy ceremonial wooden doll... Coming out of nowhere, without any hype but practicing a demonic use of the devices that can freeze and terrify a theater audience, "Oddity" is an instant classic: A horror film that takes the genres clichés, abrupt jolts and minor shock-inducing tactics, and serves them up so masterfully and effectively that no viewer can be prepared for whats about to happen.

The story of four friends who happened to form one of the

most important bands on the planet and now reunite for a

recording and concert comeback, which may be their fare-

well, this emotional documentary is like psychotherapy. Not

only for the now middle-aged members of Blur, more vul-

nerable and bonded than ever, but also for viewers, fans or

non-fans, who behind the songs, anecdotal accounts from

the past and tender moments in the present will discern a

bittersweet look at the passing of time and the beneficial

21:15 BLUR: TO THE END

(2024, UK, 104') (R)

Director: Toby L.

signs it leaves.

26 SIDE EVENTS

11.00 - 17.00

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 4



Giannis Marinos Hall, "The Friends of Music Society", Megaron The Athens Concert Hall (Vas. Sofias & Kokkali, Athens – Metro: Megaron)

INTIMACY COORDINATION WORKSHOP

with Elle McAlpine FREE ENTRANCE | SEAT RESERVATION Language: English

A fascinating workshop on Intimacy Coordination with the internationally renowned Intimacy Coordinator, Elle McAlpine, who counts among her long list of top collaborations "Poor Things" by Yorgos Lanthimos and the highly successful TV series "Baby Reindeer". The agenda of the workshop includes a theoretical analysis and a practical exercise - a demonstration of the usefulness of on-set intimacy coordination, in which director, Asimina Proedrou and actors Panagiotis Margetis, Michael Edwards, Maria Marangou and Romanna Lobach will participate.

In order to watch the workshop seat reservation is required.

In collaboration with the Athens Film Office of the Municipality of Athens and the Creative Europe Desk MEDIA of the Greek Film Center.



WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 9

Auditorium Athens French Institute (31, Sina St.)

FEEDING HOPE

20.00 Screening of the documentary WINNING BATTLES followed by an Open Discussion.

Gathering for a family meal. Planting seeds for a sustainable life. Bonding over the stove with loved ones. These experiences, which many often take for granted, are mere dreams for millions of people around the world experiencing acute food insecurity.

These millions of people have been deprived of this basic human right by conflicts, recurring and more extreme natural hazards and economic crises.

As the global food crisis remains alarmingly high, the European Union is intensifying its efforts to alleviate the suffering of vulnerable communities.

FREE ENTRANCE

WINNING BATTLES

(2024, Chad / Yemen / Bangladesh, 12') Directors: Olivier Jobard, Julien Pebrel, Olivier Laban-Mattei





FESTIVAL MEETING POINT bar STEPA by JAMESON

From October 2 to October 14, STEPA bar will be the meeting point of the festivalgoers! People who present their day ticket or their screening pass may enjoy their first drink for free, as long as it is a Jameson, or with 20% discount for any other drink. Let's share our movie impressions and experiences!

STEPA (61A, Asklipiou St., Athens)

THURSDAY OCTOBER 3 20:30

Meet & greet party for the Greek Short

Stories Competition section directors.

GREEK SHORT STORIES Competition Section Party

ASTOR Cinema (Stoa Korai)

ATTOP

In cooperation with

Γραφείο Δημιουργική

DAYS OF FUTURE PASSED

Party on the occasion of the 30th anniversary of the popular and beloved MUSIC & FILM section. (Dj Set by Andreas Kyrkos & Loukas Katsikas) **DEATH DISCO** (16, Ogygou St., Athens)

THURSDAY OCTOBER 10 | 24:00

ΣΤΕΠΑ



SATURDAY OCTOBER 5 24:00

Ελληνικό Κέντρο Κι Οπτικοακουστικών

Celebrating the TRAINSPOTTING anniversary screening, we invite you to a revival of the 2nd Athens IFF's legendary party (1996) at Chorostasio bar. (DJ set by Vangelis Kyriakakis) **CHOROSTASIO** (2B, Skouleniou St., Athens)



SATURDAY OCTOBER 12 | 00:00

THE BIRTHDAY PARTY

Athens IFF birthday party and celebration of the EMILIA PEREZ screening. **ROMANTSO** (3, Anaxagora St., Athens)



28 USEFUL INFORMATION



PRICES Venue screenings: 8 Euros

Museum of Cycladic Art: Exhibition visit + 1 screening: 12 Euros Exhibition visit + 2 screenings: 16 Euros*

Closing ceremony + closing film screening PALLAS: **10 Euros** MEGALOPOLIS screening at ONASSIS STEGI: **10 Euros**

*A Cycladic Screenings Card is available allowing a visit of the exhibition and watching 2 (of the 4 available) screenings, whichever the card holder wishes. The card gives two codes for zero ticket redemption. Card holders must redeem their codes at the latest by Wednesday September 25 at 18:00.

FILM PASSES

5 screenings: **35 Euros** 10 screenings: **60 Euros** 20 screenings: **90 Euros**

IMPORTANT NOTES

- You can purchase your ticket from **www.more.com** online and at physical points of sale
- We strongly advise the purchase of your ticket **before** your arrival at the venue. Ideally, tickets should be electronically stored in your mobile phone, or be printed already so that entry is safe and unobstructed.
- Each cinema issues tickets exclusively for screenings on its premises
- Each cinema box office operates 60' before the first screening and 30' after the beginning of the last screening during the days of the festival
- Cancellations and alterations of tickets are **NOT** allowed
- Online ticket sale is completed **15'** prior to the start of the screening of the film. During the last 15' tickets are sold only in the venue of the screening
- Holders of passes must issue tickets of zero value by using the unique code of their pass. Pass demonstration does **NOT** secure entrance
- Accredited visitors must issue tickets of zero value by using the unique code of their pass. Pass demonstration does **NOT** secure entrance

• Holders of passes may use their pass for the same screening and issue as many zero value tickets as they have available in their pass

////

• Holders of passes may use their pass and issue zero value tickets for every **8 Euro** screening

THE FESTIVAL'S PUBLIC SERVICE CALL CENTER operates in the number **210 6084314** from Thursday, September 26, 2024

- Monday to Friday: 11:00-18:00
- Saturday: 11:00-15:00
- Sunday: closed

* For questions regarding your ticket or your pass you may address more.com's customer service live chat or via email at support@ more.com and the social media of the Festival: facebook.com/AthensFilmFestival instagram.com/AthensFilmFestival

* Festival screening schedule and ticket issuing information at www.aiff.gr



30 USEFUL INFORMATION

THE FESTIVAL SECTIONS

INTERNATIONAL COMPETITION

STRANGER THAN FICTION / IN COMPETITION

OPENING NIGHTS

GREEK SHORT STORIES /

MUSIC & FILM

AFTER HOURS

SPECIAL SCREENING / TRIBUTE

TRIBUTE: AKINA KUNDSAWA

👬 TRIBUTE: THIS IS ENGLAND

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

Journalists accredited by the Festival can have a zero-fee ticket issued up to 15 minutes prior to the screening start time

www.aiff.gr | www.cinemagazine.gr

MEMO FOR PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES

් ð Disabled access points

Toilets for all

ốg

Concurrent interpretation in the Greek Sign Language

VENUE ADDRESSES

÷ċ

DANAOS 1 & 2 Kifisias Ave. 109, Athens (METRO STATION Panormou) T: (+30) 210 6922 655

ASTOR Stadiou 28 (entry at Korai Street Arcade), Athens (METRO STATION Panepistimio) T: (+30) 210 3211 950

ASTY Korai 4, Klafthmonos Square, Athens (METRO STATION Panepistimio) T: (+30) 210 3214 775, 210 3221 925

CINOBO OPERA 1 & 2 Akadimias 57, Athens 106 79 (METRO STATION Panepistimio) T: (+30) 210 3638909



PALLAS Voukourestiou 5, Athens 105 64 (METRO STATION Syntagma) T: (+30) 210 3213 100



IFG ATHENS Sina 31, 106 80 (METRO STATION Panepistimio) T: (+30) 210 3398 600



MUSEUM OF CYCLADIC ART Neofitou Douka 4, Athens (METRO STATION Evangelismos) T: (+30) 210 7228 321-3

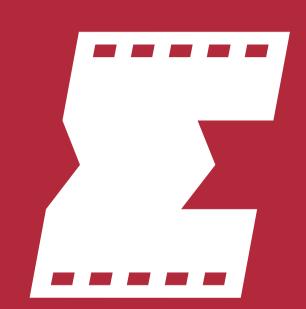


ONASSIS STEGI Leoforos Syggrou 107, Athens 117 45 (METRO STATION Fix) T: (+30) 219 2191 000



AVANA Leoforos Kifisias 234 & Lykourgou 3, Chalandri T: (+30) 210 6773 162

ΤΟ SITE ΤΟΥ ΣΙΝΕΜΑ



CINEMAGAZINE.GR

#CINEMAGAZINE

f CINEMAGAZINE.GR

EVENTS SPONSOR JAMESON AEGEAN 〉 IRISH WHISKEY ΧΟΡΗΓΟΣ ΑΦΙΕΡΩΜΑΤΟΣ "ΑΚΙRA KUROSAWA" SPONSOR OF "AKIRA KUROSAWA" TRIBUTE ME THN YFIOT THPIEH TON | WITH THE SUPPORT OF DK RENTAL Greek Society of Cinematographers ZOLOTAS 🎯 ---0 Taddáş ΣΥΛΛΟΓΟΣ ΟΙ ΦΙΛΟΙ ΤΗΣ ΜΟΥΣΙΚΗΣ ONASSIS CULTURE avance Embessy AMBASSADE DE FRANCE EN GRÈCE FRANCAS Ambasáid na hÉireann Embassy of Ireland BRITISH 85 YEARS IN COUNCIL 85 GREECE Australian Embassy Athens Embassy of Sweden Athens ٩ EUROPA FILM FESTIVALS TV5 MONDE FESTIVAL SCOPE more.com ΧΟΡΗΓΟΙ ΕΠΙΚΟΙΝΩΝΙΑΣ | MEDIA SPONSORS



AIR CARRIER SPONSOR





ΧΟΡΗΓΟΣ ΕΚΔΗΛΩΣΕΩΝ

MAIN SPONSOR

AUDIENCE AWARD SPONSOR

her