

ATHENS
INTERNATIONAL
FILM FESTIVAL

NYXT
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30 SEP — 11 OCT
2026

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V
ATHENS
INTERNATIONAL
FILM FESTIVAL

ORGANISED BY
V
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PRESENTS
CINEMA MAGAZINE GR

POWERED BY
EKKOMEA
HELLENIC FILM & AUDIOVISUAL CENTRE

CO-ORGANISED BY
AMBASSADE
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CINEMA MAGAZINE GR

UNDER THE AUSPICES
HELLENIC REPUBLIC
Ministry of Culture

DANAOS 1

 POETIC JUSTICE: TRIBUTE TO LEE CHANG DONG**19:15 PEPPERMINT CANDY / 박하사탕**
(1999, South Korea, 129')**Director:** Lee Chang-dong

Beginning with the desperate cry of a man who takes his own life, the film travels backwards in time unraveling across seven chapters the twenty-year journey of a man crushed by existential despair. From this point onwards, Lee Chang-dong's string of masterworks begins. In "Peppermint Candy" the director crafts a contemporary, magnificent tragedy, casting his protagonist as both perpetrator and victim of the traumas of modern South Korean history. His collapse arises from the relentless dissection of pivotal events. Through his harrowing journey, the film shockingly addresses how the regime's violence, political turmoil and social upheavals crushed the innocence of an entire generation.

 22:00 NAZA**(2026, UK, 80') D.C.****Director:** Yuval Abraham, Rachel Szor

Two of the four co-creators of the Oscar-winning Best Documentary "No Other Land" (Golden Athena Award at the Stranger than Fiction section of the 30th AIFF) turn the camera on the inner workings of the Israeli military and intelligence apparatus. Through secret, nocturnal conversations on the rooftops of Tel Aviv, 24 Israeli officers and soldiers, all under anonymity, speak about the surveillance, targeting, and remote killing systems used in Gaza. Their voices and images have been digitally altered, as they risk serious consequences by revealing what they know firsthand. While the camera remains in Tel Aviv, Gaza is ever-present through its absence. The creators choose to film a city that continues its daily life, while sixty kilometers away another city is being destroyed. In the darkness of the night interviews, silence becomes as significant as speech, while handwritten representations of the complex technological systems transform the high-tech face of modern warfare into a written line on paper. The very title "NAZA," a military acronym used to denote the estimated "collateral damage" of an attack, becomes the central question of the film: what happens when human lives are reduced to numbers within a system? The much-discussed documentary by Yuval Abraham and Rachel Szor won the Jury Prize at this year's Venice Film Festival.

Screening with English and Greek subtitles

CINOBO OPERA 1

 17:00 GREEK SHORT STORIES -**IN COMPETITION I (2026, 89')****Domino** (Daphne Lambrinou)**Voula** (Yorgos Angelopoulos)**Shift** (Ioanna Skylogianni)**A Hideout** (Flora Ilia)**Dasma '96** (Florida Cenaj) **19:30 THE HISTORY OF CONCRETE****(2026, USA, 101') D.C.****Director:** John Wilson

Following the finale of his award-winning HBO series, the eccentric John Wilson turns his attention to something completely unexpected: concrete. The world's most ubiquitous building material becomes the catalyst for a labyrinthine exploration, not only of contemporary American absurdity, but also of the mysteries of his eccentric mind. Despite the huge success of the HBO series "How To with John Wilson", the producers are hesitant in the face of such a strange idea. Wilson, in his attempt to make concrete fascinating, draws us into yet another off-the-cuff, chaotic journey through his urban obsessions and existential anxieties, with consequences that take on unexpected social and universal dimensions. With sarcastic humour, drawn from his offbeat perspective and insatiable curiosity, he engages with eccentric figures on the pavements and captures the distinctive features of New York's streets and the most unexpected quirks of contemporary America, creating an unconventional documentary comedy that poses the fundamental question: which aspects of our personality are worth harnessing to build something that will stand the test of time?

 22:00 NAZA**(2026, UK, 80') D.C.****Director:** Yuval Abraham, Rachel Szor

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Introduction by Professor of Head and Neck Surgery and author, Christos Georgalas**Screening without English subtitles**

ASTOR

 17:15 REHEARSALS FOR A REVOLUTION /**بالقنا كى يارب يى اهن یریت****(2026, Czech Republic / Spain, 96') D.C.****Director:** Pegah Ahangarani

Winner of the Best Documentary Award at the Cannes Film Festival, this moving cinematic account by the Iranian actress and director Pegah Ahangarani offers a personal reflection on her life and, at the same time, on the contemporary history of Iran. Through five portraits of her relatives, who represent five different forms of resistance, the filmmaker looks back at over 40 turbulent years in her country's history – from the 1979 Islamic Revolution to the recent geopolitical conflict. With an invaluable audiovisual archive, the film masterfully blends the personal with the collective, presenting the bitter disappointments of people who had no choice but to hope and endure, and their tragic fate to never take peace and freedom for granted.

 19:30 THE LAST RESORT / PARADIS**(2026, Denmark / Norway, 98')****Director:** Maria Sodahl

At a Canary Islands luxury resort, a Danish family's sunny holiday is abruptly interrupted when a chance encounter with a desperate refugee tests the limits of their compassion. As the demands for help escalate, good intentions begin to give way to fear, suspicion and the instinct for self-preservation. Maria Sodahl crafts a sardonic psychological thriller centered on the guilt and hypocrisy of the Western middle class, transforming the tourist paradise into a harrowing arena of moral collapse, where the security and terror of 'the Other' hang in the balance on a tightrope.

Director in attendance **22:00 SIX MONTHS IN A PINK AND BLUE****BUILDING / 6 MESES EN EL EDIFICIO ROSA CON AZUL****(2026, Mexico / Brazil / Denmark, 105') I.C.****Director:** Bruno Santamaría Razo

During the years of mass hysteria surrounding AIDS, and whilst Bruno is on the cusp of adolescence, the family happiness in his "Pink and Blue" home is shattered by the news that his father has been diagnosed with the deadly virus. Thirty years later, the director returns to the six months that followed so as to recount the story of his parents, the fluidity of childhood, social stigma and the first, raw awakening of his own erotic desire. Rarely does an autobiographical film manage to resemble at once a poignant 16mm chronicle, a euphoric home movie and a belated confession of a child before the mirror of his own catharsis.

DANAOS 1

19:00 YESTERDAY THE EYE DIDN'T SLEEP /
 شومان ام ن ي غلا حرايلا
 (2026, Belgium / Lebanon / Palestine / Qatar / Saudi
 Arabia, 100') **I.C.**

Director: Rakan Mayasi

In the cloudy Beqaa Valley, on the border between Lebanon and Syria, the search for a missing girl triggers a chain of violence between two families. When revenge threatens the fragile balance, two sisters are offered against their will as a marriage exchange to bring about peace. In a stunning debut—which shares certain affinities with the cinema of Abbas Kiarostami and was created through improvisations with amateur actors (including a real Bedouin family)—Palestinian director Rakan Mayasi employs a neo-realist, almost ritualistic gaze to respond with disarming cinematic poetry to the violence of authoritarian traditions and archaic patriarchal norms.

22:00 PRIMETIME
 (2026, USA, 110')

Director: Lance Oppenheim

In 2006, journalist Chris Hansen believed he had found the ideal television platform to confront evil. No one, however, knew whether his initiative would prove beneficial or whether it would backfire on him and everyone involved. The first fiction by a charismatic documentary filmmaker, "Primetime" ruthlessly examines the moral boundaries of a vengeful reality show that became a phenomenon, featuring a Mephistophelean Robert Pattinson in the lead role and a performance that's already generating a lot of buzz. It all began in 2004, when "Dateline NBC" uncovered a group of volunteers who were luring pedophiles by posing as minors online. Hansen saw an opportunity to bring this operation to television, and thus the controversial "To Catch a Predator" was born. The hidden cameras, the decoy actors, and Hansen's dramatic appearance to confront each predator head-on became addictive for the audience, until a tragic turn of events forced the network to reevaluate its guidelines and question whether "justice"-serving self-righteous TV had crossed every line. A psychological dive into deep and dark waters, Oppenheim's film transforms real events into a thriller brimming with suspense and sarcasm, offering a viewing experience that is both riveting and unsettling.

ONASSIS STEGI

20:30 DO YOU LOVE ME
 (2025, France / Lebanon / Germany / Qatar, 75') **D.C.**

Director: Lana Daher

How do you love a city that dies every dawn and every dusk is reborn from its own ashes? "Do You Love Me" is not merely a documentary; it is a cinematic spell, a love letter to the collective memory of Beirut. Composed entirely of the death rattle of twenty thousand lost archives, the work spans seventy years of an almost otherworldly survival. Home videos, faded films and television static pass into eternity as they guide us from the sun-baked

carefree days of the 1950s to the long winter of the civil war. Here, bombs mingle with laughter on the beaches. Mourning becomes a dance upon mosaics cracking under the weight of nostalgia. A cry and a whisper in unison, for a homeland that wounds you, yet you cannot help but look it in the eye and ask: 'Do you still love me?'

Director in attendance

A Q&A session will follow the screening

**ONASSIS
CULTURE**



CINOBO OPERA 1

17:00 GREEK SHORT STORIES -
IN COMPETITION II (2026, 82')

The Boy Who Fell To Earth (Vasilis Bourantas)

Jasmin and Rose (Spiros Charalambous)

Loutropolis (Anna Papadopoulou)

Free Eliza (Notes on an Anatomical Imperfection)

(Alexandra Matheou)

Wheel to Live (Vicky Anastasiadou)

19:30 THE BEST SUMMER
 (2026, USA, 90')

Director: Tamra Davis

From a forgotten drawer straight onto the big screen, Tamra Davis's digital diaries constitute a rare piece of rock mythology. With a Hi8 camera in hand, the director follows the Beastie Boys (the band of her then-husband, Mike D), documenting the legendary 'Summersault' tour across Australia and South-East Asia in late 1995. With the help of Kathleen Hanna of Bikini Kill in the role of an audacious backstage reporter, she captures a raw chronicle within a musical time capsule. In front of her lens, Sonic Youth and Kim Gordon, a fledgling Dave Grohl with the Foo Fighters, Beck, Pavement, Rancid and Kim Deal with the Amps shed their media personas and recount the heyday of an entire generation in an exceptionally valuable found-footage documentary that exudes a sense of absolute freedom.

22:00 THE ONLY LIVING
PICKPOCKET IN NEW YORK

(2026, USA, 88') **I.C.**

Director: Noah Segan

As if beamed up from the great American cinema of the 1970s, this little cinematic gem features a veteran pickpocket with a big heart and old-fashioned values as its protagonist. A romantically anachronistic figure in a relentless modern world, Harry wanders like a ghost from another era through the streets of a big city to which he seems to belong less and less. When, one night, he unwittingly pickpockets the son of a powerful criminal family, his life is suddenly in immediate danger. A wonderfully old-fashioned film that knows how to tell a simple story in an irresistible way, a love letter to an authentic New York of the past, the film features a superb lead performance by John Turturro in a role that may well earn him his first (and well-deserved) Oscar nomination. Full of small but generous rewards that we have sorely missed on the big screen, this heartfelt 'Pickpocket' is the ultimate cinematic comfort food of 2026.

ASTOR

17:00 SILENT FLOOD / ТИХА ПОБИІВ
 (2025, Ukraine, 90') **D.C.**

Director: Dmytro Sukholytkyy-Sobchuk

On the banks of a river somewhere in the western Ukraine, a religious community with pacifist beliefs is trying to keep its distance from the ongoing war with Russia. Soon, however, harsh reality will come knocking at their door, shattering their illusions. Four years after his magnificent debut in fiction with "Pamfir", Ukrainian director Dmytro Sukholytkyy-Sobchuk returns to documentary filmmaking with one of the finest documentaries of the year. "Silent Flood" highlights the beauty of peaceful life through images of rare elegance, setting it in stark contrast to the horrors of war, which constantly loom as an impending threat, and emphasizing humanity's unfortunate inability to remain indifferent when history comes knocking at one's door. The director's unparalleled directorial eye results in a gripping cinematic experience, but also serves as a stark reminder of the harsh reality.

19:15 ALL OF A SUDDEN / SOUDAIN
 (2026, France / Japan / Germany / Belgium, 196')

Director: Ryusuke Hamaguchi

In the shadow of a grim diagnosis, two women embark on a profound philosophical dialogue about care, time and life itself. With the action split between a care home for the elderly in Paris and a journey to Japan, Hamaguchi drives the dialectical form of "Drive My Car" to its limits, exploring how human connection and empathy can serve as a kind of resistance against alienation, speed and the pressure of contemporary world. With his characteristic, perceptive eye, the Japanese auteur transforms the confessions and the subtle gestures of the two women into an evocative, deeply humane character-driven drama. This is a unique political work on dignity and solidarity that articulates a genuinely philosophical perspective on why it is worth fighting to live. The film won the 'split' Best Actress Award at the Cannes Film Festival for its two magnificent leading ladies, Virginie Efira and Tao Okamoto, and it is Japan's official entry for the forthcoming Oscar for Best International Feature Film.

DANAOS 1

17:00 VIVA CARMEN! / CARMEN, L'OISEAU REBELLE
(2026, France, 90')

Director: Sébastien Laudenbach

In the sun-drenched alleyways of Sevilla, a rebellious gang of street kids decides to take matters into their own hands to save Carmen – a free-spirited and passionate woman – from the tragic fate destiny has in store for her. Sébastien Laudenbach reinvents Georges Bizet's world-famous opera, reworking its legendary motifs with a contemporary perspective and transforming the classic drama into a colorful musical adventure. A visual feast of warm rhythms and disarming innocence, his 'Carmen' deconstructs the dark finale of the original to deliver a luminous fairy tale about friendship, solidarity and the priceless right to freedom.

19:30 WORDS OF LOVE / QUELQUES MOTS D'AMOUR

(2026, France, 95')

Director: Rudi Rosenberg

Raising her own two children in a loving Parisian home, a single mother tries to show as much understanding as she can towards her teenage daughter's longing, as the girl tries in vain to meet the father she has never known. The mother knows however that the man who abandoned them never wanted a family and consciously turned his back on them. Still, the daughter refuses to give up, demanding a fatherly presence which she feels she is entitled to and believes she can secure. Rudi Rosenberg in his tender drama wonders whether one's absence can threaten the fragile balance of a family or, ultimately, bring its members even closer. 'Words of Love' reveals the humor, intimacy and humanity within a family whose emotional trials and sensitive characters one can easily identify with and be moved by. Rosenberg's gentle film unfolds on the big screen like a heartwarming embrace.

Director in attendance

22:00 NEVER AFTER DARK / ネバーアフターダーク

(2026, Japan, 104')

Director: Dave Boyle

A wandering psychic who helps lost souls make the transition to the afterlife comes face to face with an all-powerful, menacing entity in an isolated country house. A gripping example of contemporary Japanese horror, 'Never After Dark' masterfully immerses the viewer in its otherworldly atmosphere, transforming the isolated setting into a living nightmare and imbuing every corner of the frame with a looming sense of menace. Director Dave Boyle skillfully builds a climate of constant tension, combining mystery and humour with supernatural horror, whilst Moeka Hoshi delivers a revelatory performance in the lead role. The result is one of the most spine-chilling experiences of the year, inventive and original, which worthily continues Japan's long-standing tradition in fantasy cinema.

OLYMPIA

POETIC JUSTICE: TRIBUTE TO LEE CHANG DONG
19:00 POETRY / 시

(2010, South Korea / France, 139')

Director: Lee Chang-dong

As her words gradually begin to desert her, a kind-hearted elderly woman in the early stages of Alzheimer's disease decides to enroll in a poetry seminar, seeking meaning and a kind of beauty in the world around her. However, when she discovers that her teenage grandson is implicated in a heinous crime, she is faced with an unbearable moral dilemma. Lee Chang-dong delivers one of the finest films in the history of Asian cinema, contrasting the moral decay of society with the heroine's agonizing struggle to come to terms with overwhelming guilt and seek true atonement. With the support of the great Yoon Jeong-hee in the final role of her career, the film culminates in one of the most beautiful and quietly harrowing finales in contemporary cinema. Winner of Best Screenplay Award at the Cannes Film Festival.

22:00 CLUB KID
(2026, USA, 122')

Director: Jordan Firstman

How does one explain in a simple and direct way what "crowd pleaser" means? Probably by using the example of "Club Kid." Jordan Firstman's dazzling directorial debut received an ecstatic reception at its world premiere at the Cannes Film Festival, was hailed as one of the most beloved films in recent years according to Letterboxd users, and it is gearing up for the Oscars. However, what matters most is what it truly accomplishes: through a spicy blend of humour, tenderness, and emotion, it builds a magical bridge that manages to unite the unapologetically queer with the euphorically mainstream. The young hero of the film is a gay party organizer (played by Firstman himself) who lives out the wildest nights of New York City until a ten-year-old boy (portrayed by the disarming Reggie Absolom) suddenly appears at his door, proving to be the son he didn't know he had and never imagined how much he needed. It is one of those rare occasions when it seems difficult to resist a film you know from the outset that it aims to steal your heart; "Club Kid" is an addictive celebration of alternative families, uplifting communities, and the unexpected ray of sunshine that can brighten a dark room when the party is over.

CINOBO OPERA 1

17:00 GREEK SHORT STORIES - IN COMPETITION III (2026, 92')

As I Am Now, So Shall You Be (Leda Kaberidi)

From 1 to Blue (Sofia Privoloulou)

Desert, She (Ioanna Digenaki)

Surfaces (Melina Loukanidou)

The Great Organ (Roxanne Krimizi, Mihalís Kimonas)

19:30 THE PERVERT'S GUIDE TO UTOPIAS
(2026, Ireland / UK / Slovenia / Netherlands / Norway, 133') **D.C.**

Director: Sophie Fiennes

Governments fall, Žižek remains! Twenty years after their first collaboration on 'The Pervert's Guide to Cinema', which offered us the most devilish blend of film analysis, sociological observation and psychoanalytic theory, and fourteen years after the equally sardonic 'The Pervert's Guide to Ideology', maverick philosopher Slavoj Žižek and director Sophie Fiennes return with the third and final installment of their imaginative trilogy. Through a kaleidoscope of pop-culture references, with Žižek once again taking centre stage in delightful recreations of scenes from famous films and television series, he presents a dizzying panorama of today's sociopolitical reality and elevates cinema as the most effective means of confronting our collective fears. For lovers of cinema, philosophy and psychoanalysis, the conclusion of this trilogy is a rare gift, food for thought and, at the same time, useful advice: As the world around us collapses, let us abandon all hope. For only then will we be able to hope again.

22:15 PULP: WHAT DO YOU DO FOR AN ENCORE?

(2026, UK / USA, 98')

Director: Garth Jennings

How do you handle greatness when the limelight has long since faded and time has already left its mark? Garth Jennings follows Pulp on their triumphant return to live performance and music, crafting an explosive, emotionally charged celebration of one of the most particular bands the British music scene has ever produced. In the frame of Jarvis Cocker's own ironic, beguiling narration and endowed with four decades' worth of previously unseen archive footage, the film transcends the boundaries of a typical concert documentary. It becomes an electrifying paean to the misfits, to the bittersweet nostalgia of youth, and to the rare art of ageing on stage without losing a single drop of your elegance, sarcasm and class consciousness.

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PARTIES

ASTOR

18:00 TIN CASTLE
(2026, Ireland / France, 96') **D.C.**

Director: Alexandre Murphy

What can one learn from the extraordinary life of an Irish family crammed with their ten children into a dilapidated caravan, struggling to survive in the face of poverty and under the constant threat of eviction? This is the story of the O'Reilly family, as patiently captured by the director's camera over a period of five years. A realistic and often unexpectedly lyrical glimpse into a nomadic reality utterly detached from the rules and customs of the modern world, 'Tin Castle' seems to be the place where the downtrodden of this earth find refuge, amidst children's laughter and dreams of a better day.

YORGOS LANTHIMOS PRESENTS
20:00 THE FIREMEN'S BALL / HOŘÍ, MÁ PANENKO

(1967, Czechoslovakia, 70')

Director: Miloš Forman

As part of an annual celebration in honour of their retiring chief, the volunteer firefighters of a provincial town organize a dance that gradually descends into utter chaos. The raffle prizes vanish, the beauty pageant turns into a farce, and bureaucratic incompetence undermines any notion of order and (fascist-like) morality. In one of the undisputed masterpieces of the New Wave, Miloš Forman draws on bitter humour, disarming and blessed audacity, to construct a brilliant allegory on the collapse of authoritarianism, human vanity and the sheer absurdity of power itself.

21:45 THE RED HANGAR / HANGAR ROJO
(2026, Chile / Argentina / Italy, 81') **I.C.**

Director: Juan Pablo Sallato

The morning of September 11th, 1973 will forever be remembered in Chile. It was the day of the military coup that violently overthrew Salvador Allende from power and established the dictatorship of Augusto Pinochet. That morning, Captain Jorge Silva was preparing for his duty as a trainer at an airbase. However, in the blink of an eye, the world crumbles around him. He receives orders to turn the base into a detention center and interrogation facility. Trucks continuously unload political prisoners, violence erupts, and every freedom and dignity is lost in the blink of an eye. Faced with this new order of things, Silva confronts the great dilemma: Will he collaborate with the tyrants and torturers turning a blind eye? Or will he react, risking his life? And as time counts down to the purging finale, this masterful debut becomes an unbearable noose that traps both heroes and spectators in the dimensions of a fierce Kafkaesque nightmare.

23:30 AT NIGHT / LA NUIT
(2026, France / UK, 87')

Director: Beatrice Gibson

In a nocturnal Paris that seems to have sprung from a dream, in those contemplative hours before dawn, on languid streets illuminated by neon signs, the paths of six different women intersect along with their experiences, their little stories. And the visual artist and director Beatrice Gibson, in her feature film debut, transforms an evening wander into a collective feminist chronicle that evokes the cinema of Chantal Akerman, balancing between fiction, documentary and pure poetry, all unfolding over the course of a single night. The mystical cinematography of Ben Rivers perfectly complements the hypnotic sound design, while the recitations of writer Alice Notley encounter whispers in urban cafés, capturing the secret connections of women in an atmospheric, existential meditation that turns the darkness of the city into a living canvas.

DANAOS 1

17:00 ŽEJTUNE
(2026, Malta / Germany / Qatar, 108')

Director: Alex Camilleri

Upon hearing of the death of her mother, from whom she had long been estranged, the beautiful Mar returns to the tranquility of the Maltese countryside, with the sole aim of selling the land she has inherited and severing all ties with her homeland. In her attempt to claim the estate before her relatives, she meets an eighty-year-old singer of traditional ghanu music. The two of them take turns at the wheel in a touching road movie about the invisible roots that bind us to our homeland, to ourselves and to our fellow human beings. In his second film, Alex Camilleri ("Luzzu") delivers a profound ode to memory, loss and the redemptive power of folk tradition.

19:15 THE DIARY OF A CHAMBERMAID / LE JOURNAL D'UNE FEMME DE CHAMBRE
(2026, France / Romania, 94')

Director: Radu Jude

A young Romanian migrant works as a domestic helper for a wealthy French family, looking after their young son whilst being forced to live apart from her own daughter. At the same time, she rehearses with a theatre company staging Octave Mirbeau's classic novel, thus finding herself caught between the constraints of her daily life and the exposure of the stage. Unleashing his vitriolic humour in every direction, Radu Jude draws inspiration from Luis Buñuel to create, with a similarly scathing and utterly heretical tone, a contemporary satire on class exploitation, the hypocrisy of the Western European bourgeoisie and the grim fate of the invisible labor force from Eastern Europe.

POETIC JUSTICE: TRIBUTE TO LEE CHANG DONG
21:30 BURNING / 버닝
(2018, South Korea, 148')

Director: Lee Chang-dong

Lee Chang-dong's sixth feature is a captivating mystery that revolves around a young man from the countryside, a beautiful woman from his past, and a well-off man. When the girl mysteriously disappears, the boy's suspicions that her wealthy friend may be primarily responsible begin to take hold of him. Loosely inspired by a short story by Haruki Murakami, the film gradually unfolds as a tale of romantic obsession, a reflection of the class conflicts in contemporary Korea and at the same time as a complex cinematic interplay between appearance and reality. All this is brought to life through magnetic performances, astonishing in its simplicity, direction and the requirement that the viewer surrenders to the calm unfolding of the plot in order to reap its marvelous rewards in the end.

Screening without English subtitles

OLYMPIA

19:00 LA GRADIVA
(2026, France / Italy, 145') **I.C.**

Director: Marine Atlan

One of the increasingly rare occasions when the experience of watching a film feels like an exhilarating discovery, the feature debut of Marine Atlan is not merely another hopeful first but the announcement of a significant directorial talent. Irresistibly photographed in the hues of summer, "Gradiva" follows a group of French high school seniors on a school trip to Naples and the ruins of Pompeii, juxtaposing their expectations for the future with the grand and mysterious past that suddenly surrounds them. With keen insight into the characters, bodies and behaviours, and with the multifaceted contribution of an exceptional ensemble of amateur actors, Atlan captures the existential moment of the young people as a collective sigh, made up of tiny breaths. Her film becomes a psychological excavation into adolescence, a seismograph of youth and its unceasing tremors, a sensor for the tectonic passage into adulthood, as it unfolds through thrills, unfulfilled loves, and silent longings. At some point, Atlan will map the abrupt end of innocence as the expensive entrance fee into the world of adults. Then, the teasing and the flirting of the young protagonists will abruptly fade in the face of a rude awakening to real life. Critics' Week Grand Prize at the Cannes Film Festival for a small masterpiece with the hallmarks of a classic film.

Actor Colas Quinard in attendance

22:00 THE DEVILS
(1971, UK / USA, 113')

Director: Ken Russell

For over half a century, "The Devils" has been the most infamous, mutilated and ostracized masterpiece of cinema. Its current release, for the first time in its fully restored and uncut original version, the one Ken Russell prepared before the extensive interventions of the censors, is not merely a vindication for film buffs, but a historic act of artistic restoration. Oliver Reed and Vanessa Redgrave are the unforgettable protagonists of this prophetic epic of psychosis and corruption, inspired by the true story of a Catholic priest who in the 17th century stood against the political machinery of the Church and was accused for his satanic influence in a community of monks before sentenced to be burned at the stake. With its frenetic performances, Derek Jarman's imposing sets, the visual delirium and an aesthetic that remains dangerously incendiary, the film's return to the screen serves as a reminder that true cinema does not bow to convention, cannot be forgotten and, above all, is not afraid to set stereotypes on fire.

Extremely unsuitable for underage audiences
No one aged 17 and under will be admitted to the screening

CINOBO OPERA 1

17:00 GREEK SHORT STORIES - IN COMPETITION IV (2026, 84')

The Rooster's Gospel (Thanos Tokakis)

Hofterline (Alexandra Ntelitheou)

A Moment in Her Life (Nicolas Costes)

Remember Julia (Diamantis Anastasiadis)

Pardales Will Come Tomorrow (Marko Krimpalis Rudic, Apostolos Zarris)

19:30 ONCE UPON A TIME IN HARLEM
(2026, USA, 100') **D.C.**

Director: David Greaves

There are films that delve into history. But there are also films that make history. One of these is "Once Upon a Time in Harlem", perhaps the most important documentary of this year. The film sheds light on a legendary gathering of prominent figures that took place in 1972 at Duke Ellington's home, which was captured on camera by pioneering director William Graves. There, for a few hours, some of the most prominent members of the Harlem Renaissance - one of the most significant artistic and social movements of the 20th century and catalyst in shaping a strong African American consciousness - had a legendary influence on American culture and helped several subsequent civil rights battles. The film offers us a front-row seat to this monumental convergence of literature and the arts in the same welcoming living room, allowing us to hear the conversations and experiences of people who proudly carried forward and perpetuated the great legacy of the Black community. This invaluable material remained unfinished for over 50 years, until the director's son restored and completed it, ten years after his father's death. And what he has given us this year is both a priceless historical and cultural treasure and an inspiring testament that serves as a wake-up call and a moving reminder of the power of human communities in the face of adversity.

YORGOS LANTHIMOS PRESENTS

22:00 WANDA
(1970, USA, 102')

Director: Barbara Loden

Breaking decisively away from the stereotypical portrayal of the American heartland, Barbara Loden, in the only film she ever directed, crafts a definitive and utterly autonomous odyssey, rooted in her radical sensibility, whilst also taking on the leading role. The legendary "Wanda", a woman trapped in the economic and emotional destitution of industrial Pennsylvania, wanders aimlessly, swept along by the decisions of the men she encounters. With a raw, realistic aesthetic reminiscent of cinéma vérité, Loden captures the silent despair and marginalization without a pedantic trace of melodrama. A stark film about the invisible victimization of the American dream where survival is anything but heroic, equating to a perpetual, exhausting inactivity.

Restored by the UCLA Film & Television Archive with funding provided by The Film Foundation and GUCCI

ASTOR

17:00 GABIN
(2026, France / Germany / Switzerland, 105') **D.C.**

Director: Maxence Voiseux

Ten defining years in the life of a boy growing up in the rural parts of northern France, a boy destined to take over his parents' business, yet with a dream of escape within him. Structurally reminiscent of Richard Linklater's "Boyhood", this bittersweet documentary is a remarkable achievement, chronicling the ten-year physical and emotional transformation of a young boy into a man against the backdrop of a rapidly changing world of work and an anachronistic way of life that seems to be slowly fading away. Tenderly, the director chronicles a journey of coming of age and emancipation, culminating in a naturally moving finale - a melancholic acceptance of the inevitable end of certain things, but also the hopeful beginning of others.

19:30 I SEE BUILDINGS FALL LIKE LIGHTNING
(2026, UK / France / USA, 109')

Director: Clio Barnard

Against the backdrop of a rapidly changing urban landscape, a group of young friends watch as their city's skyline transforms, with old buildings being demolished to make way for glass towers. At the same time, they see every certainty shattered by the challenges of coming of age, whilst the modern façades seem to mirror their own inner collapse. The brilliant Clio Barnard adapts the novel of the same name into an atmospheric character-driven drama to capture the existential angst in the face of an uncertain future, using Birmingham's architectural transformation as an allegory for the dreams of a generation that withered away amidst the concrete and buried its hope under tons of glass and steel. The film won the Audience Award at the Directors' Fortnight section of the Cannes Film Festival.

22:00 NARCISO
(2026, Paraguay / Brazil / Portugal / Spain / Germany / France / Uruguay, 101') **I.C.**

Director: Marcelo Martinessi

Narciso is young, charming, charismatic. He is desired by women and men alike, at a time when any form of sexual desire is condemned. In 1959, whilst the country was under a harsh military dictatorship, he arrived in the Paraguayan capital with rock 'n' roll in his luggage. He became a radio producer, introduced the revolutionary sounds of Elvis Presley and Little Richard, and turned his program into a symbol of freedom for young people, provoking the wrath of conservative society. His meteoric rise is, however, violently cut short when he is found mysteriously dead. Who killed Narciso? The answer seems almost irrelevant in the dark and menacing world depicted by the film, a world that conspires fatally against anything perceived as different. Drawing on a much-publicized true story, the Paraguayan director of "Las Herederas" (Golden Athena at the 2018 AIFF) delivers a captivating political thriller about a country condemned to silence and criminal complicity. Paraguay's official entry for the 2027 Oscars.

DANAOS 1

**19:30 EVA STEFANI -
THE WORLD UNDERNEATH**
(2026, Greece, 85')

Director: Elias Giannakakis

Having just become a mother, director Eva Stefani began filming sex worker, Dimitra K., in 2009. It took twelve years to complete her project. In 2018, the filmmaker Elias Giannakakis, a close friend of Stefani, began filming her with the aim of creating a documentary that would explore not only her own struggle with the film she had been working so hard to make, but also her very unique world. The director has been filming the idiosyncratic filmmaker for eight years, aiming to capture the most authentic portrait of her.

Filmmakers in attendance

A wine reception, courtesy of TANINI AGAPI MOU, will be held prior to the screening

22:00 NINA ROZA
(2026, Canada / Belgium / Bulgaria / Italy, 103') **I.C.**
Director: Geneviève Dulude-De Celles

Thirty years after leaving his Bulgarian homeland to move to Montreal, where he went on to make a name for himself as an art appraiser whilst turning his back on his past and his origins, a middle-aged man returns to his country of birth. His aim is to track down an 8-year-old painting prodigy and to determine whether her case is a fraud or a genuine phenomenon. His journey, geographical at first, deeply emotional and existential afterwards, inspires a beautiful and quietly moving film about what constitutes our unique identity and the unseen personal stories that often become the stuff of the purest and most sincere art. "Nina Rosa" won the Silver Bear for Best Screenplay at the Berlin Film Festival and is Canada's official entry for the 2027 Oscar for Best International Film.

OLYMPIA

POETIC JUSTICE: TRIBUTE TO LEE CHANG DONG
19:00 SECRET SUNSHINE / 밀양
(2007, South Korea, 142')

Director: Lee Chang-dong

Following the sudden death of her husband, a young mother moves with her son to the provincial town of Miryang in search of a fresh start. However, the 'good Samaritans' who welcome her soon lead her into a new tragedy. In the throes of an unbearable loss, she turns to religion in search of redemption, only to be confronted with an even harsher existential dead-end. Lee Chang-dong explores faith and the limits of forgiveness, directing a catalytic drama held up as a mirror to existence and bestowing upon Jeon Do-yeon an unrivalled performance (for which she was rightly awarded at the Cannes Film Festival) that captures, in a stunning, powerful way, the absurdity at the heart of religion and the human suffering. Director Hirokazu Kore-eda has called "Secret Sunshine" the greatest film of the 21st century.

22:00 A LONG WINTER
(2026, Canada / UK, 117')

Director: Andrew Haigh

Three years after the emotional rollercoaster of "All of us Strangers", Andrew Haigh returns with a melancholic cinematic ballad, demonstrating just what an empathetic a director he is and how perfectly he attunes himself to the needs of the story he sets out to tell. Based on the short story of the same name by the acclaimed Irish author Colm Tóibín, his "Long Winter" is set in the remote Rocky Mountains of Colorado during the 1950s, and follows the gradual breakdown of a family when the mother mysteriously disappears and the eldest son sets out on a desperate search for her. His journey will bring him face to face not only with the difficult task of coping with loss but also with the need to escape from the shadow of a dogmatic father, to embrace his repressed sexuality and to finally dream of a future that stretches beyond the vast landscape of his childhood. Set against an evocative winter landscape that echoes the characters' profound loneliness, with the frozen snow symbolizing an underlying network of buried instincts and emotions, Fred Hechinger ("The White Lotus") emerges as a worthy leading man, sensitively embodying yet another of Haigh's signature characters, one who will first and foremost have to battle with himself in order to secure his self-awareness and independence.

CINOBO OPERA 1

**17:00 GREEK SHORT STORIES -
IN COMPETITION V (2026, 85')**
Holes! The Ballad of Boulder Valley (Petros Kalfamanolis)
Out of Service (Kostis Maraveyas)
Nios (Odysseas Spyropoulos)
Solountrania (Akis Stavropoulos)

See page 26
PARTIES

YORGOS LANTHIMOS PRESENTS
19:30 WENDY AND LUCY
Director: Kelly Reichardt

With Lucy -a mixed-breed dog- as her only companion, Wendy sets off in her old car for Alaska, in search of a fresh start. When her car breaks down in a small town in Oregon and her four-legged companion goes missing, the young woman is confronted with utter loneliness. Kelly Reichardt delivers a quiet, elegant masterpiece, distilling the unseen tragedy of social marginalization into Michelle Williams' vulnerable, deeply expressive performance. A profound chronicle on the fragility of human nature, on personal freedom and the price of survival in a world without a safety net.

22:00 PHENOMENA
(2026, Australia, 86') **D.C.**
Director: Josef Gatti

Get ready to trip out! Designed to be appreciated on the largest screen possible and under ideal audiovisual conditions, Josef Gatti's spectacular documentary offers the purest hallucinogenic journey -a rare sensory experience achieved exclusively with the help of the alchemies and mysteries of the nature around us. Combining scientific observation with ecstatic spectacle, "Phenomena" attempts to capture the invisible laws that govern the universe. Without a trace of digital effects or artificial intervention, it focuses on handcrafted natural experiments -from the vibration of waves and electromagnetic fields to the "choreographed" allure of bubbles and micro-matter. The screen pulsates and bursts, images dive into incredible oceans of colour, dissolving into imaginative shapes and unfathomable optical illusions, transforming the microscopic into something majestic and cosmic. Accompanied by the sounds of Nils Frahm and Rival Consoles, who provide the deeply evocative soundtrack, the documentary becomes a psychedelic dive into the architecture of nature, reminding us that the wonder of creation lies in the most ordinary, smallest, unseen detail.

ASTOR

**17:00 DOUBLE FREEDOM /
LA LIBERTAD DOBLE**
(2026, Chile / Argentina / Luxembourg / UK, 100')
Director: Lisandro Alonso

Twenty-five years on, Lisandro Alonso returns to "La Libertad", the film that redefined the conventions of slow cinema, expanding it into a perpetual meditation. His protagonist remains isolated in the Argentine pampas, living the same ascetic daily life, until he learns that he must take care of his ailing sister. Then, solitary survival gives way to emotional responsibility. The hypnotic austerity of the form is transformed into a sharp class observation, as the film grapples with the passage of time and the concept of freedom in a world crumbling under the weight of habit.

**19:00 REHEARSALS FOR A REVOLUTION /
بالقن احدى ىارب ىواى ىربت**
(2026, Czech Republic / Spain, 96') **D.C. (R)**
Director: Pegah Ahangarani

Winner of the Best Documentary Award at the Cannes Film Festival, this moving cinematic account by the Iranian actress and director Pegah Ahangarani offers a personal reflection on her life and, at the same time, on the contemporary history of Iran. Through five portraits of her relatives, who represent five different forms of resistance, the filmmaker looks back at over 40 turbulent years in her country's history - from the 1979 Islamic Revolution to the recent geopolitical conflict. With an invaluable audiovisual archive, the film masterfully blends the personal with the collective, presenting the bitter disappointments of people who had no choice but to hope and endure, and their tragic fate to never take peace and freedom for granted.

21:30 COLOGNE 75 / KÖLN 75
(2025, Germany / Poland / Belgium, 112')

Director: Ido Fluk

Nothing will ever surpass the supremacy of the «Köln Concert» as the most successful solo album in the history of jazz and its place as one of the greatest recordings of the 20th century. Few, however, remember that the legendary concert given by pianist Keith Jarrett in Cologne in January 1975, which birthed this monumental album, nearly didn't take place. The true story of what happened and what preceded that eventful evening is recounted in this spirited and energetic film. It does so bursting with love for music, exploring how the 18-year-old (!) Vera Brandes passionately and dedicatedly managed to organize the iconic concert, conducting her own revolution against her wealthy and conservative family, her youthful inexperience, and the numerous adversities that almost completely derailed one of the immeasurable cultural events of the last century.

Vera Brandes in attendance

DANAOS 1

19:15 QUEEN AT SEA
(2026, USA / UK, 121') **I.C.**

Director: Lance Hammer

It may have taken a full 18 years for the American director of "Ballast" to make his second film, but all things come to those who wait. Thematically akin to Michael Haneke's "Amour", "Queen at Sea" features an outstanding Juliette Binoche grappling daily with the demands imposed by her elderly mother's dementia. By her side is a stepfather who stands by his wife with love and understanding. However, an unpleasant incident forces them to make difficult decisions, sparking a complex dialogue about the power of instinct, the nature of companionship and the right to self-determination. Free of melodrama and easy answers, with a clarity that makes what we see all the more emotionally overwhelming, Lance Hammer's marvelous drama won the Silver Bear Jury Prize at this year's Berlin Film Festival and deservedly gave acting prizes to the outstanding Tom Courtenay ('45 Years') and Anna Calder-Marshall.

22:00 HIP HOP MEDITERRANEO
(2026, Greece, 75')

Director: Alfonso de Munno Gallardo

"Hip Hop Mediterraneo" follows Social Waste, an independent music collective that has been carving its own path outside the conventions of the music industry for 25 years. Its members, scattered across different parts of Greece, reunite to create their new album and hit the road once again. Through personal moments, conflicts and archival material, the film reveals both the strength and the difficulties of collectivity. With sharp political and social commentary, Social Waste merges hip hop with the musical traditions of the Mediterranean. A musical road movie about co-existence, freedom and the power of togetherness.

Filmmakers and members of the band Social Waste in attendance

Screening without English subtitles

OLYMPIA

19:00 THE SAMURAI AND THE PRISONER / 黒牢城

(2026, Japan, 147')

Director: Kiyoshi Kurosawa

In 16th-century feudal Japan, a warlord faces the imminent siege of his castle and, at the same time, a series of mysterious crimes taking place within its walls. He therefore seeks the help of a prisoner of dubious intentions in order to solve these crimes. Although bearing nearly 40 years of experience behind the camera, during which time he has established himself as one of the most important directors in contemporary Japanese cinema, Kiyoshi Kurosawa had never directed a jidaigeki – a samurai epic, perhaps the most characteristic film genre of his homeland. The time to change that came this year, with an ingenious blend of historical drama and mystery film that could well have been penned by Agatha Christie and directed by cinema's other great Kurosawa, the incomparable Akira. But who, then, is the true prisoner in this story? Is it the man chained in the castle's dungeon, whose spirit remains unbroken, or is it the man forced to conform to the conventions of his era and society, often against his own wishes and convictions?

22:15 THE MAN I LOVE
(2026, USA / France, 95')

Director: Ira Sachs

How was it to live, love, and die in 1980s New York? Ira Sachs answers with one of the finest films of his filmography, giving Rami Malek ('Bohemian Rhapsody') the opportunity to prove his acting worth in the role of a charismatic theatrical performer who refuses to surrender his brilliance to the shadow of a relentless illness, turning every remaining heartbeat into an act of creation and love. The director pens a sensual ode to companionship and loss, fragile and Dionysian, even as it is set against the twilight of an era. The film brims with life, measuring different emotional temperatures in each scene, attuning to the joys and sorrows of communities bound ever closer by danger and drawing inspiration from a challenging time, the tragedies of which never made anyone lose hope. Unpretentiously spare in its narration, free of unnecessary explanations and superfluous remarks about the hows and whys of the people we see in it, flooded with wonderful musical choices with a dramatic role, Sachs's elegiac creation manages to immerse the viewer in an atmosphere, a reality, a condition of life, and a lost moment in time. Just like its protagonist.

CINOBO OPERA 1

17:00 GREEK SHORT STORIES - IN COMPETITION VI (2026, 95')

Horizon (Afroditi Tavri)

Aftoklitos Fterotos (Vaggelis Panagiotakopoulos, Thanasis Fousekis)

Strays (Anastasia Gkivalou)

Runner (Ermolaos Fotiou)

19:30 THE HISTORY OF CONCRETE
(2026, USA, 101') **D.C. (R)**

Director: John Wilson

Following the finale of his award-winning HBO series, the eccentric John Wilson turns his attention to something completely unexpected: concrete. The world's most ubiquitous building material becomes the catalyst for a labyrinthine exploration, not only of contemporary American absurdity, but also of the mysteries of his eccentric mind. Despite the huge success of the HBO series "How To with John Wilson", the producers are hesitant in the face of such a strange idea. Wilson, in his attempt to make concrete fascinating, draws us into yet another off-the-cuff, chaotic journey through his urban obsessions and existential anxieties, with consequences that take on unexpected social and universal dimensions. With sarcastic humour, drawn from his offbeat perspective and insatiable curiosity, he engages with eccentric figures on the pavements and captures the distinctive features of New York's streets and the most unexpected quirks of contemporary America, creating an unconventional documentary comedy that poses the fundamental question: which aspects of our personality are worth harnessing to build something that will stand the test of time?

22:00 EVERYBODY DIGS BILL EVANS
(2026, UK / Ireland, 102')

Director: Grant Gee

Having made a name for himself with outstanding music documentaries about Radiohead and Joy Division, the English director is now making his successful debut in fiction. He encounters one of jazz's most legendary musicians, the pianist Bill Evans, in the early 1960s during a defining period in his life and career, when personal loss, long-standing addictions and creative dead ends were plunging him into an abyss from which only the healing power of love would provide a safety net. With Anders Danielsen Lie ("The Worst Person in the World") delivering a unique portrayal of the iconic pianist, and Bill Pullman and Laurie Metcalf excellently supporting him, Grant Gee's melancholic and exquisitely atmospheric ballad captures the extraordinarily fragile world of a superb artist who had to confront his personal demons before achieving artistic fulfillment. Winner of the Best Director Award at this year's Berlin Film Festival.

In collaboration with The Friends of Music Society



THE FRIENDS OF MUSIC

ASTOR

17:30 SILENT FLOOD / ТИХА ПОВІНЬ
(2025, Ukraine, 90') **D.C. (R)**

Director: Dmytro Sukholytkyy-Sobchuk

On the banks of a river somewhere in the western Ukraine, a religious community with pacifist beliefs is trying to keep its distance from the ongoing war with Russia. Soon, however, harsh reality will come knocking at their door, shattering their illusions. Four years after his magnificent debut in fiction with "Pamfir", Ukrainian director Dmytro Sukholytkyy-Sobchuk returns to documentary filmmaking with one of the finest documentaries of the year. "Silent Flood" highlights the beauty of peaceful life through images of rare elegance, setting it in stark contrast to the horrors of war, which constantly loom as an impending threat, and emphasizing humanity's unfortunate inability to remain indifferent when history comes knocking at one's door. The director's unparalleled directorial eye results in a gripping cinematic experience, but also serves as a stark reminder of the harsh reality.

19:30 SIX MONTHS IN A PINK AND BLUE BUILDING / 6 MESES EN EL EDIFICIO ROSA CON AZUL

(2026, Mexico / Brazil / Denmark, 105') **I.C. (R)**

Director: Bruno Santamaría Razo

During the years of mass hysteria surrounding AIDS, and whilst Bruno is on the cusp of adolescence, the family happiness in his "Pink and Blue" home is shattered by the news that his father has been diagnosed with the deadly virus. Thirty years later, the director returns to the six months that followed so as to recount the story of his parents, the fluidity of childhood, social stigma and the first, raw awakening of his own erotic desire. Rarely does an autobiographical film manage to resemble at once a poignant 16mm chronicle, a euphoric home movie and a belated confession of a child before the mirror of his own catharsis.

22:00 BEN'IMANA
(2026, Rwanda / Gabon / France / Norway / Ivory Coast, 101') **I.C.**

Director: Marie Clémentine Dusabejamba

How can one forgive something utterly abhorrent? Two decades after the horrific genocide in Rwanda, a survivor of the atrocities attempts to exorcise her own painful memories by taking part in one of the people's tribunals for justice and community reconciliation being held across the country. However, when her teenage daughter's sudden pregnancy unwittingly unearths a family secret, the protagonist sees her convictions shaken. Performed almost entirely by amateur actors who lived through the real events – just as the filmmaker herself did – "Ben'Imana" is not merely a commendable directorial debut. It is a call, as painful as it is redemptive, for compassion and the possibility of reconciliation, delivered with magnanimity and tremendous dignity. Winner of the Camera D'Or and the FIPRESCI Prize at the recent Cannes Film Festival "Un Certain Regard" for a true cinematic milestone in the country's history.

DANAOS 1

19:00 SAD GIRLZ / CHICAS TRISTES
(2026, Mexico / France / Spain, 90') **I.C.**

Director: Fernanda Tovar

Two sixteen-year-old swimmers in Mexico are training together for the Pan American Games, whilst summer seduces them. However, an incident at a party ends up creating an invisible yet deep rift in their relationship. Fernanda Tovar's beautiful and exquisitely paced debut focuses on the moment when a teenage friendship ceases to be a refuge and becomes a battleground of emotional survival. With two revelatory performances and a dazzling cinematography at her disposal, she sees the transition to adulthood as a fluid, almost amphibian drama in which guilt and companionship walk hand in hand on the same razor's edge. Crystal Bear winner Generation 14 plus at the Berlinale.

21:00 THE DREAMED ADVENTURE / DAS GETRÄUMTE ABENTEUER
(2026, Germany / France / Bulgaria / Austria, 167')

Director: Valeska Grisebach

In a remote provincial town in Bulgaria, near the borders with Greece and Turkey, a man of few words arrives in order to carry out a suspicious transaction there. By chance, he meets Veska, an old acquaintance of his who works in the area as an archaeologist. When the man mysteriously disappears, Veska sets out to track him down, a quest that will bring her face to face with the dangerous local underworld as well as her own past. In a forgotten corner of the map, where lawlessness and patriarchy reign supreme, she will stand her ground courageously against a ruthlessly male-dominated world, discovering her own hidden heroism along the way. Portrayed by the formidable Yana Radeva – whom several international critics have high praised as similar to Gena Rowlands – Veska will become the driving force behind this methodical in its pacing and utterly subversive in its moods film, through which the German filmmaker offers her own distorted take on the gangster drama genre. Winner of the Jury Prize at the Cannes Film Festival and Bulgaria's official entry for the forthcoming Oscar for Best International Film.

OLYMPIA

YORGOS LANTHIMOS PRESENTS
19:00 STRANGER BY THE LAKE / L'INCONNU DU LAC
(2013, France, 100')

Director: Alain Guiraudie

Under the scorching sun of the French summer, the shores of a secluded lake provide a refuge for a group of men to have sex in secret. When Franck falls madly in love with the attractive but dangerous Henri, he witnesses a heinous crime. Yet, instead of walking away, he chooses to immerse himself in a dangerous game of obsession, silence and deadly eroticism. Hitchcock meets Bresson in one of the 21st century's finest cinematic moments, and Alain Guiraudie directs an evocative, sensual existential thriller, in which nature is transformed into a setting of pleasure and terror, exploring with relentless audacity the blurred boundaries between desire, voyeurism and self-destruction.

Screening unsuitable for underage audiences

21:45 I PLAY ROCKY
(2026, USA, 127')

Director: Peter Farrelly

Before Sylvester Stallone made his mark on modern pop culture as the humble boxer Rocky, he had to convince Hollywood that he was worthy of playing the character he had conceived and written. And this endlessly entertaining film, directed by Oscar-winning Peter Farrelly, recounts the incredible story behind one of American cinema's most famous success stories, full of grueling battles, self-sacrifice, doubts and constant rejection. Shortly before turning 30, penniless and without a permanent home, a desperate Stallone (played superbly by Anthony Ippolito) writes, in just a few days, the screenplay about the life of a down-and-out boxer who refuses to give up until he reaches the top. The studios are impressed by the script, but refuse to accept his non-negotiable condition: that he must play the lead role. The journey towards one of the most successful and enduringly popular films ever made is a tender ode to the wounded self-confidence of all those who feel, in some way, like outsiders. And Peter Farrelly's uplifting film, as well as thrilling audiences who have seen it abroad so far, has also received the blessing of Sylvester Stallone himself.

ASTOP

17:00 GREEK SHORT STORIES - IN COMPETITION VII (2026, 96')

Good Friday (Loukia Tzortzopoulou)

All the Love in My Body (Carmen Baltzar)

Sisters (Marianna Bozantoglou)

My Cousin's Wedding (Silva Tsoumana)

Square of the Unseen (Theodore Selekos)

19:30 TO THE LAST RESORT / PARADIS
(2026, Denmark / Norway, 98') **(R)**

Director: Maria Sodahl

At a Canary Islands luxury resort, a Danish family's sunny holiday is abruptly interrupted when a chance encounter with a desperate refugee tests the limits of their compassion. As the demands for help escalate, good intentions begin to give way to fear, suspicion and the instinct for self-preservation. Maria Sodahl crafts a sardonic psychological thriller centered on the guilt and hypocrisy of the Western middle class, transforming the tourist paradise into a harrowing arena of moral collapse, where the security and terror of 'the Other' hang in the balance on a tightrope.

22:00 THE RED HANGAR / HANGAR ROJO
(2026, Chile / Argentina / Italy, 81') **I.C. (R)**

Director: Juan Pablo Sallato

The morning of September 11th, 1973 will forever be remembered in Chile. It was the day of the military coup that violently overthrew Salvador Allende from power and established the dictatorship of Augusto Pinochet for the next 17 years. That morning, Captain Jorge Silva was preparing for his duty as a trainer at an airbase. However, in the blink of an eye, the world crumbles around him. He receives orders to turn the base into a detention centre and interrogation facility. Trucks continuously unload political prisoners, violence erupts, and every freedom and dignity is lost in the blink of an eye. Faced with this new order of things, Silva confronts the great dilemma: Will he collaborate with the tyrants and torturers turning a blind eye? Or will he react, risking his life? Will he sell his soul? Or will he safeguard his humanity at all costs? The director poses these critical moral questions to us all. And as time counts down to the purging finale, this masterful debut becomes an unbearable noose that traps both heroes and spectators in the dimensions of a fierce Kafkaesque nightmare.

FLOYD - LIVE MUSIC VENUE

21:30 PINK NARCISSUS
(1971, USA, 71')

Director: James Bidgood

Welcome to the mystery. One of queer cinema's most sensual masterpieces returns to the big screen in all its Technicolor splendor. James Bidgood's "Pink Narcissus", shot entirely in the director's apartment with makeshift sets, saturated color filters and generous doses of highly aesthetic camp, remains a timeless, dreamlike ode to eroticism, fantasy as a means of escape, and male beauty. The electronic frequencies of K. Vita intrude upon the

velvety world of this daring visual poem, cloaking the film's fragile narcissism in analogue pulses and lyrical melodies, transforming the screening into a rare, sensory experience.

With original music performed live by K.Bhta
Screening unsuitable for underage audiences



FLOYD
LIVE MUSIC VENUE



DANAOS 1

18:45 THE SHEPHERDS OF DISORDER
(1967, Greece, 121')**Director:** Nico Papatakis

On the barren slopes of mountainous Greece, a poor shepherd falls in love with the daughter of the region's wealthy landowner, triggering a series of violent clashes with the local community. Nico Papatakis delivers a masterful Dionysian tragedy about class oppression, patriarchal structures and the unflinching hypocrisy of a closed provincial community. With passionate and fierce, almost ritualistic style, the great filmmaker transforms a doomed love story into an anti-authoritarian cry, capturing despair and rebellion with a vital and genuinely anarchic force.

Screening in collaboration with the Hellenic Film Academy on the occasion of the 39th European Film Awards 2027

Film introduction by Maria Katsounaki, journalist

Hellenic
Film Academy**21:30 EVERYTIME**
(2026, Austria / Germany, 124')**Director:** Sandra Wollner

A year after the shocking loss of young Jessie, her mother, her younger sister, and her partner travel together to Tenerife to come to terms with their grief, their guilt and the inexplicable feeling that life has been paused since the tragedy. At the holiday resort, every attempt at healing is thwarted by a sense of unease and the feeling that a presence continues to haunt every moment. Their holiday is bathed in a square sunlight, blurring the line between reality and memory and transforming the characters' anguish into a distorting lens through which everyone will attempt to come to terms with their trauma. Through stunning cinematography, the director's cinema reaches its pinnacle in 2026 with one of his greatest films – as confirmed in the most resounding way by the Best Film Award in the 'Un Certain Regard' section of the Cannes Film Festival. "Everytime" is Germany's official entry for the Oscar for Best International Film.

Protagonist Birgit Minichmayr in attendance

OLYMPIA

17:00 THE DIARY OF A CHAMBERMAID / LE JOURNAL D'UNE FEMME DE CHAMBRE
(2026, France / Romania, 94') (R)**Director:** Radu Jude

A young Romanian migrant works as a domestic helper for a wealthy French family, looking after their young son whilst being forced to live apart from her own daughter. At the same time, she rehearses with a theatre company staging Octave Mirbeau's classic novel, thus finding herself caught between the constraints of her daily life and the exposure of the stage. Unleashing his vitriolic humour in every direction, Radu Jude draws inspiration from Luis Buñuel to create, with a similarly scathing and utterly heretical tone, a contemporary satire on class exploitation, the hypocrisy of the Western European bourgeoisie and the grim fate of the invisible labor force from Eastern Europe.

YORGOS LANTHIMOS PRESENTS
19:00 MIKEY AND NICKY
(1976, USA, 119')**Director:** Elaine May

Trapped in a hotel room whilst trying to escape from a Mafia hot on his heels, Nicky calls on his childhood friend, Mikey, for help; once again, Mikey is called upon to get him out of trouble. The two middle-aged men set off on a nocturnal wander through the city streets, with death lurking on every corner. The third feature film by the elusive director Elaine May ('A New Leaf', 'The Heartbreak Kid'), marks a bold shift in her career, moving away from the exceptional comedy of her earlier films towards a unique, unparalleled blend of bitter humour and remarkable character depth. John Cassavetes and Peter Falk portray two men, each grappling with their own dead ends, and May captures through their seemingly effortless interactions that moment in a man's life when he is called upon to come to terms with his failures, his mistakes and his omissions and accept the passage of time chin up.

21:30 THE BELOVED / EL SER QUERIDO
(2026, Spain / France, 135')**Director:** Rodrigo Sorogoyen

When a world-famous director chooses his estranged daughter for the lead role in his new film, the set transforms into a psychological minefield and the shooting into an undeclared war. Currently one of the most significant representatives of European cinema, Rodrigo Sorogoyen condenses the tension of a thriller (his preferred genre, as he has proven in the past) into a taut chamber drama. Masterfully combining forms and techniques, he sees the desert morph into a volcanic landscape thanks to his imposing lead: Javier Bardem, in the role of the dynastic father/director, simmers until he explodes, adding a deafening, raw energy to the filming. As an ideal counterbalance to his career-defining performance, Victoria Luengo fearlessly stands up to his overwhelming thrust. The two of them are truly captivating in a powerful clash of characters and worlds that Sorogoyen films compellingly, with the latent suspense, the (internal) violence and the electrified atmosphere of an action film.

CINOBO OPERA 1

17:00 GREEK SHORT STORIES - IN COMPETITION VIII (2026, 94')**Don't Eat Me** (Konstantinos Kalogridis)**Hot Wax** (Krysianna B. Papadakis)**Starflyer** (Maria Hatzakou)**Arkansas** (Yannis Karpouzis)**19:30 ONCE UPON A TIME IN HARLEM**
(2026, USA, 100') D.C. (R)**Director:** David Greaves

There are films that delve into history. But there are also films that make history. One of these is "Once Upon a Time in Harlem", perhaps the most important documentary of this year. The film sheds light on a legendary gathering of prominent figures that took place in 1972 at Duke Ellington's home, which was captured on camera by pioneering director William Graves. There, for a few hours, some of the most prominent members of the Harlem Renaissance - one of the most significant artistic and social movements of the 20th century and catalyst in shaping a strong African American consciousness - had a legendary influence on American culture and helped several subsequent civil rights battles. The film offers us a front-row seat to this monumental convergence of literature and the arts in the same welcoming living room, allowing us to hear the conversations and experiences of people who proudly carried forward and perpetuated the great legacy of the Black community. This invaluable material remained unfinished for over 50 years, until the director's son restored and completed it, ten years after his father's death. And what he has given us this year is both a priceless historical and cultural treasure and an inspiring testament that serves as a wake-up call and a moving reminder of the power of human communities in the face of adversity.

22:00 THE ONLY LIVING PICKPOCKET IN NEW YORK
(2026, USA, 88') I.C. (R)**Director:** Noah Segan

As if beamed up from the great American cinema of the 1970s, this little cinematic gem features a veteran pickpocket with a big heart and old-fashioned values as its protagonist. A romantically anachronistic figure in a relentless modern world, Harry wanders like a ghost from another era through the streets of a big city to which he seems to belong less and less. When, one night, he unwittingly pickpockets the son of a powerful criminal family, his life is suddenly in immediate danger. A wonderfully old-fashioned film that knows how to tell a simple story in an irresistible way, a love letter to an authentic New York of the past, the film features a superb lead performance by John Turturro in a role that may well earn him his first (and well-deserved) Oscar nomination. Full of small but generous rewards that we have sorely missed on the big screen, this heartfelt 'Pickpocket' is the ultimate cinematic comfort food of 2026.

ASTOR

17:00 GABIN
(2026, France / Germany / Switzerland, 105') D.C. (R)**Director:** Maxence Voiseux

Ten defining years in the life of a boy growing up in the rural parts of northern France, a boy destined to take over his parents' business, yet with a dream of escape within him. Structurally reminiscent of Richard Linklater's "Boyhood", this bittersweet documentary is a remarkable achievement, chronicling the ten-year physical and emotional transformation of a young boy into a man against the backdrop of a rapidly changing world of work and an anachronistic way of life that seems to be slowly fading away. Tenderly, the director chronicles a journey of coming of age and emancipation, culminating in a naturally moving finale - a melancholic acceptance of the inevitable end of certain things, but also the hopeful beginning of others.

19:15 NARCISO
(2026, Paraguay / Brazil / Portugal / Spain / Germany / France / Uruguay, 101') I.C. (R)**Director:** Marcelo Martinessi

Narciso is young, charming, charismatic. He is desired by women and men alike, at a time when any form of sexual desire is condemned. In 1959, whilst the country was under a harsh military dictatorship, he arrived in the Paraguayan capital with rock 'n' roll in his luggage. He became a radio producer, introduced the revolutionary sounds of Elvis Presley and Little Richard, and turned his program into a symbol of freedom for young people, provoking the wrath of conservative society. His meteoric rise is, however, violently cut short when he is found mysteriously dead. Who killed Narciso? The answer seems almost irrelevant in the dark and menacing world depicted by the film, a world that conspires fatally against anything perceived as different. Drawing on a much-publicized true story, the Paraguayan director of "Las Herederas" (Golden Athena at the 2018 AIFF) delivers a captivating political thriller about a country condemned to silence and criminal complicity. Paraguay's official entry for the 2027 Oscars.

POETIC JUSTICE: TRIBUTE TO LEE CHANG DONG
21:45 OASIS / 오아시스**(2002, South Korea, 133')****Director:** Lee Chang-dong

An ex-convict and a young woman with severe cerebral palsy develop an unconventional, yet deeply and utterly sincere romantic relationship, despite the disapproval and the harshness of their surroundings. Lee Chang-dong directs a bold and genuinely romantic drama that faces the stigma of marginalization and social hypocrisy. With two stunning performances from the lead duo, the film celebrates pure love, offering a true oasis of humanity amidst the absolute cynicism of the modern world. Best Director Award at the Venice Film Festival.

DANAOS 1

17:00 NINA ROZA
(2026, Canada / Belgium / Bulgaria / Italy, 103') **I.C. (R)**

Director: Geneviève Dulude-De Celles

Thirty years after leaving his Bulgarian homeland to move to Montreal, where he went on to make a name for himself as an art appraiser whilst turning his back on his past and his origins, a middle-aged man returns to his country of birth. His aim is to track down an 8-year-old painting prodigy and to determine whether her case is a fraud or a genuine phenomenon. His journey, geographical at first, deeply emotional and existential afterwards, inspires a beautiful and quietly moving film about what constitutes our unique identity and the unseen personal stories that often become the stuff of the purest and most sincere art.

19:30 RED ROCKS / LES ROCHES ROUGES
(2026, Portugal / France / Italy / Qatar, 90')

Director: Bruno Dumont

On the sun-drenched coastline of the French Riviera, summer turns into a dangerous game between two rival gangs of children competing in daring dives from the "Red Rocks". Through the eyes of five-year-old Géo, innocence is intertwined with an instinctive wildness, friendship with skepticism, and the first stirrings of romance with the threat of danger. In what is perhaps his most irresistibly photogenic work, Bruno Dumont presents a highly reimagined adaptation of "Romeo and Juliet" that takes him back to the roots of a realistic, semi-documentary cinema, enlisting young non-professional actors to register, with disarming poignancy and rare tenderness, a harsher version of childhood.

21:45 YELLOW LETTERS / GELBE BRIEFE
(2026, Germany / Turkey / France, 127')

Director: İlker Çatak

The Golden Bear at this year's Berlin Film Festival was awarded (by Wim Wenders, chairman of the jury) to the director who, three years ago, was nominated for an Oscar for the outstanding "The Teacher's Lounge", which was met enthusiastically during its Greek premiere in 2023 AIFF. His new film tells the story of a couple of intellectual Turkish artists who see their lives change dramatically and their marriage put to the test when they find themselves in the government's crosshairs, are blacklisted and forced to abandon the comforts and everything they had taken for granted. Similar to his previous film, the director confronts the characters and the audience with difficult moral dilemmas, questioning, incisively and lucidly, everyone's duty to themselves and their beliefs in the shadow of an authoritarian world order. Filmed (out of necessity) outside Turkey, "Yellow Letters" is nonetheless the most politically charged and explosive film produced by the country in recent years.

00:15 THE ROCKY HORROR PICTURE SHOW
(1975, USA, 100')

Director: Jim Sharman

A downright phenomenon of a film, having rightfully earned the designation of the penultimate cult movie, with its repeated viewings becoming over the years a frenzied and worshipful ritual of mass participation, the legendary musical extravaganza of Jim Sharman fuses the b horror and fantasy flicks of the 1950s with the rock'n'roll freedom of the 1970s into an incredibly kinky combination for open-minded viewers, unabashed party animals and sworn enemies of everything puritanical, accompanied by one of the finest soundtracks ever written. Let's do the time warp again!

Sing-along screening dedicated to Tim Curry, in collaboration with Midnight Express

OLYMPIA

17:00 SAD GIRLZ / CHICAS TRISTES
(2026, Mexico / France / Spain, 90') **I.C. (R)**

Director: Fernanda Tovar

Two sixteen-year-old swimmers in Mexico are training together for the Pan American Games, whilst summer seduces them. However, an incident at a party ends up creating an invisible yet deep rift in their relationship. Fernanda Tovar's beautiful and exquisitely paced debut focuses on the moment when a teenage friendship ceases to be a refuge and becomes a battleground of emotional survival. With two revelatory performances and a dazzling cinematography at her disposal, she sees the transition to adulthood as a fluid, almost amphibian drama in which guilt and companionship walk hand in hand on the same razor's edge. Crystal Bear winner Generation 14 plus at the Berlinale.

YORGOS LANTHIMOS PRESENTS
19:00 WELCOME TO THE DOLLHOUSE
(1995, USA, 88')

Director: Todd Solondz

Never has adolescence been more awkward on the big screen. Todd Solondz delivers the ultimate cult classic of the American independent cinema, following his headstrong heroine through the dystopian jungle of the American high school. Armed with pitch-black humour and a ruthless yet deeply emotional perspective, "Welcome to the Dollhouse" deconstructs the myth of the innocent youth. Heather Matarazzo's unforgettable performance brings to life a grotesque character that refuses to conform, transforming the everyday school nightmare into a corrosive, strangely tender satire on isolation, stemming from a raw, almost primal need for acceptance.

POETIC JUSTICE: TRIBUTE TO LEE CHANG DONG
21:00 POSSIBLE LOVE / 가능한 사랑
(2026, South Korea / USA, 164')

Director: Lee Chang-dong

Winner of the Silver Lion at the recent Venice Film Festival and South Korea's official entry for the forthcoming Oscar for Best International Film, "Possible Love" marks the triumphant return of one of the most important directors in contemporary cinema. At the same time, it is one of the defining films of the year. It unfolds slowly, as almost every film by Lee Chang-dong does, methodically laying out a path that is always expected to lead to something greater and more revealing than the plot initially lead us to assume. Here, everything begins with a chance encounter: when two married couples from different social classes meet, at that very moment an invisible psychological mechanism is set in motion that will lead to friction and inevitable breakdown. Underlying tensions and repressed desires will endow most of the film. But when everything explodes that's when "Possible Love" reveals its magnificence as an exploration of individual moral and emotional responsibility in a cold, materialistic world and a country where social inequalities remain irreconcilable.

CINOBO OPERA 1

17:00 GREEK SHORT STORIES - IN COMPETITION IX (2026, 85')

Art is Missing (George Kontos)

Amaranth (Anthie Daoutaki)

Residua (Nassia Stouraiti)

My Cosmonaut (Eleni Zentefi)

Multi Family Garage Sale (Jacques Simcha)

19:30 THE PERVERT'S GUIDE TO UTOPIAS
(2026, Ireland / UK / Slovenia / Netherlands / Norway, 133') **D.C.**

Director: Sophie Fiennes

Governments fall, Žižek remains! Twenty years after their first collaboration on "The Pervert's Guide to Cinema", which offered us the most devilish blend of film analysis, sociological observation and psychoanalytic theory, and fourteen years after the equally sardonic "The Pervert's Guide to Ideology", maverick philosopher Slavoj Žižek and director Sophie Fiennes return with the third and final installment of their imaginative trilogy. Through a kaleidoscope of pop-culture references, with Žižek once again taking centre stage in delightful recreations of scenes from famous films and television series, he presents a dizzying panorama of today's sociopolitical reality and elevates cinema as the most effective means of confronting our collective fears. For lovers of cinema, philosophy and psychoanalysis, the conclusion of this trilogy is a rare gift, food for thought and, at the same time, useful advice: As the world around us collapses, let us abandon all hope. For only then will we be able to hope again.

22:30 MINESHAFT: THE CRUISING MURDERS
(2026, USA, 85')

Director: Jeffrey Schwarz

Few films have encountered greater controversy (if not outright disdain) than William Friedkin's "Cruising". Very few people also are aware of the gruesome murder that inspired it, which was linked to a series of crimes that terrorized the gay community and New York's nightlife in the 1970s. Jeffrey Schwartz's riveting film ("I Am Divine") initially weaves together the fragments of a ghostly true crime puzzle, but gradually evolves into something more complex: on one hand, a portrait of a hedonistic and liberal world that was soon to be decimated by the onslaught of AIDS. On the other, a calm assessment of a film that many felt demonized an entire community at a time when the latter was fiercely fighting for its rights and visibility. Finally, thanks to an invaluable archival material and revealing testimonies from people who lived through the events, it becomes a documentary of a significant historical and cultural memory for a (tragically) lost generation and era.

TRIANON

20:30 GREEK SHORT STORIES AWARDS CEREMONY

Followed by the screening of the film

FOR THE OPPONENTS / PARA LOS CONTRINCANTES
(2026, Mexico / Chile / France, 15')

Director: Federico Luis

In the tough neighbourhood of Tepito, a young boy chases the great Mexican dream: to become a boxing champion. Winner of the 2026 Short Film Palme D'Or at the Cannes Film Festival.

Invitation only



See page 26
PARTIES

ASTOR

17:00 TIN CASTLE
(2026, Ireland / France, 96') **D.C. (R)**

Director: Alexandre Murphy

What can one learn from the extraordinary life of an Irish family crammed with their ten children into a dilapidated caravan, struggling to survive in the face of poverty and under the constant threat of eviction? This is the story of the O'Reilly family, as patiently captured by the director's camera over a period of five years. A realistic and often unexpectedly lyrical glimpse into a nomadic reality utterly detached from the rules and customs of the modern world, "Tin Castle" seems to be the place where the downtrodden of this earth find refuge, amidst children's laughter and dreams of a better day.

19:00 ROSE
(2026, Austria / Germany, 94')

Director: Markus Schleizer

At the beginning of the 17th century, a mysterious soldier arrives in an isolated rural settlement, claiming the house he asserts belongs to him as an inheritance. He is welcomed despite the reservations of the superstitious locals and quickly proves that he is more than worthy of being a member of the local small community. However, the strange individual happens to be a woman who has renounced her feminine identity to survive a strictly patriarchal world and has adopted the identity of a deceased person. But now that the surrounding community wants her to marry and have an heir, her secret is at risk of being revealed. A modern parable about the fluid human identity, the suffocating gender stereotypes, and the price anyone daring to self-identify against what society allows or imposes must still pay today, this serenely shocking film features the year's best female performance by Sandra Hüller ("Anatomy of a Fall", "Fatherland"), who was honored at the Berlin Film Festival. Michael Haneke called "Rose" a masterpiece. And Austria has chosen it as its official submission for the upcoming Best International Film Academy award.

21:15 BEN'IMANA
(2026, Rwanda / Gabon / France / Norway / Ivory Coast, 101') **I.C. (R)**

Director: Marie Clémentine Dusabejamba

How can one forgive something utterly abhorrent? Two decades after the horrific genocide in Rwanda, a survivor of the atrocities attempts to exorcise her own painful memories by taking part in one of the people's tribunals for justice and community reconciliation being held across the country. However, when her teenage daughter's sudden pregnancy unwittingly unearths a family secret, the protagonist sees her convictions shaken. Performed almost entirely by amateur actors who lived through the real events – just as the filmmaker herself did – "Ben'Imana" is not merely a commendable directorial debut. It is a call, as painful as it is redemptive, for compassion and the possibility of reconciliation, delivered with magnanimity and tremendous dignity. Winner of the Camera D'Or and the FIPRESCI Prize at the recent Cannes Film Festival "Un Certain Regard" for a true cinematic milestone in the country's history.

23:30 AT NIGHT / LA NUIT
(2026, France / UK, 87') **(R)**

Director: Beatrice Gibson

In a nocturnal Paris that seems to have sprung from a dream, in those contemplative hours before dawn, on languid streets illuminated by neon signs, the paths of six different women intersect along with their experiences, their little stories. And Beatrice Gibson, in her feature film debut, transforms an evening wander into a collective feminist chronicle that evokes the cinema of Chantal Akerman, balancing between fiction, documentary and pure poetry.

DANAOS 1

YORGOS LANTHIMOS PRESENTS
18:15 THE BILL DOUGLAS TRILOGY
 (1978, UK, 172')

Director: Bill Douglas

Bill Douglas's autobiographical "Trilogy" remains one of the purest masterworks of world cinema. Tracing the protagonist's childhood and youth in the bleak, post-war Scotland of poverty, Douglas strips the cinematic narrative of every superfluous element, placing his trust in a monolithic power of absolute visual simplicity. Through black-and-white frames of rare beauty and a Doric austerity, the camera captures abandonment and poverty in all their breadth, voraciously seeking out unexpected glimmers of light, weaving an evocative fresco on the themes of memory and survival.

22:00 WILD HORSE NINE
 (2026, UK / USA / Chile, 118') (R)

Director: Martin McDonagh

From the fairytale town of Bruges in Belgium, a small town in modern-day Missouri and a remote island in Ireland in the last century, Martin McDonagh's cinema takes us to the tropical Easter Island of 1973. Two CIA agents arrive there on an unknown mission. The older of the two is called Chris (John Malkovich); he is a veteran of the secret services and knows stories better left unknown. The younger agent is Lee (Sam Rockwell), who treats him with the understanding a son would show his elderly father and constantly cares to smooth over most of his eccentricities. However, during this seemingly cloudless journey, Chris finds himself facing a profound character crisis regarding his life and his troubled past. His CIA superiors (led by the cunning Steve Buscemi) will start to break out in a cold sweat over his sudden change of heart and his escort will have to reassure everyone that every dangerous secret will remain, well, a secret. But nothing is entirely innocent; nobody is what they seem. And the director of "Three Billboards Outside Ebbing, Missouri" and "The Banshees of Inisherin" frames everything with a delightfully wicked blend of spy drama and cynical comedy, with clear political barbs that resonate right up to the present day, and featuring a superb John Malkovich in one of the roles of his career (for which he won the Best Actor Award at the recent Venice Film Festival and is now heading for the Oscars).

OLYMPIA

20:00 CLOSING CEREMONY -
PRESENTATION OF INTERNATIONAL
AWARDS

A wine reception, courtesy of TANINI AGAPI MOU, will be held prior to the screening

21:30 WILD HORSE NINE
 (2026, UK / USA / Chile, 118')

Director: Martin McDonagh

From the fairytale town of Bruges in Belgium, a small town in modern-day Missouri and a remote island in Ireland in the last century, Martin McDonagh's cinema takes us to the tropical Easter Island of 1973. Two CIA agents arrive there on an unknown mission. The older of the two is called Chris (John Malkovich); he is a veteran of the secret services and knows stories better left unknown. The younger agent is Lee (Sam Rockwell), who treats him with the understanding a son would show his elderly father and constantly cares to smooth over most of his eccentricities. However, during this seemingly cloudless journey, Chris finds himself facing a profound character crisis regarding his life and his troubled past. His CIA superiors (led by the cunning Steve Buscemi) will start to break out in a cold sweat over his sudden change of heart and his escort will have to reassure everyone that every dangerous secret will remain, well, a secret. But nothing is entirely innocent; nobody is what they seem. And the director of "Three Billboards Outside Ebbing, Missouri" and "The Banshees of Inisherin" frames everything with a delightfully wicked blend of spy drama and cynical comedy, with clear political barbs that resonate right up to the present day, and featuring a superb John Malkovich in one of the roles of his career (for which he won the Best Actor Award at the recent Venice Film Festival and is now heading for the Oscars).

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

See page 26
PARTIES

CINOBO OPERA 1

18:30 PHENOMENA
 (2026, Australia, 86') D.C. (R)

Director: Josef Gatti

Get ready to trip out! Designed to be appreciated on the largest screen possible and under ideal audiovisual conditions, Josef Gatti's spectacular documentary offers the purest hallucinogenic journey—a rare sensory experience achieved exclusively with the help of the alchemies and mysteries of the nature around us. Combining scientific observation with ecstatic spectacle, "Phenomena" attempts to capture the invisible laws that govern the universe. Without a trace of digital effects or artificial intervention, it focuses on handcrafted natural experiments—from the vibration of waves and electromagnetic fields to the "choreographed" allure of bubbles and micro-matter. The screen pulsates and bursts, images dive into incredible oceans of colour, dissolving into imaginative shapes and unfathomable optical illusions, transforming the microscopic into something majestic and cosmic. Accompanied by the sounds of Nils Frahm and Rival Consoles, who provide the deeply evocative soundtrack, the documentary becomes a psychedelic dive into the architecture of nature, reminding us that the wonder of creation lies in the most ordinary, smallest, unseen detail.

20:30 PULP: WHAT DO YOU DO
FOR AN ENCORE?

(2026, UK / USA, 98') (R)

Director: Garth Jennings

How do you handle greatness when the limelight has long since faded and time has already left its mark? Garth Jennings follows Pulp on their triumphant return to live performance and music, crafting an explosive, emotionally charged celebration of one of the most particular bands the British music scene has ever produced. In the frame of Jarvis Cocker's own ironic, beguiling narration and endowed with four decades' worth of previously unseen archive footage, the film transcends the boundaries of a typical concert documentary. It becomes an electrifying paean to the misfits, to the bittersweet nostalgia of youth, and to the rare art of ageing on stage without losing a single drop of your elegance, sarcasm and class consciousness.

22:45 A PAGE OF MADNESS / 狂った一頁
 (1926, Japan, 71')

Director: Teinosuke Kinugasa

A former sailor takes a job as a caretaker in an asylum, devising a desperate plan to free his imprisoned wife. All he manages to do is sink into a ghostly hallucinogenic universe with her. A century ago, in a world not yet ready for their macabre vision, Teinosuke Kinugasa and his avant-garde fellows of School of New Perceptions penned the manifesto of Japanese horror, a page of untainted madness. With the contribution of Nobel Prize winner Yasunari Kawabata to the script, they witnessed the natural continuation of expressionism refracted into a bizarre, paroxysmal nightmare. The relentless montage and the evocative atmosphere of Noh Theatre dissolve the boundaries between reason, guilt, and delirium. Refusing any hint of traditional narrative, the director visualizes the delirium in an inscrutable celluloid poem, which still stands today, iridescent and radioactive, at the foundations of cinematic avant-garde.

ASTOR

17:00 DAO
 (2026, France / Senegal / Guinea-Bissau, 185')

Director: Alain Gomis

Spanning like a truly striking mural of people and nations, the epic 'DAO' brings together two family ceremonies: a wedding in the wealthy Parisian suburbs and a memorial service in the villages of Guinea-Bissau. Between the wedding celebrations and the mourning ceremony, Alain Gomis blends fiction with autobiographical drama and observational documentary, transforming a journey through memory and tradition into a unique multisensory experience. Set to evocative jazz melodies and exquisite sound design, the camera's circular movements mirror the ceaseless rhythms of real life as the Senegalese director delivers a narratively intricate commentary on identity and origin, both in danger of disappearing at the crossroads between the old and the new world, on globalization succeeding colonialism and on the everyday rituals—big and small—that carry the memories and traditions of a profound cultural heritage.

20:45 ŽEJTUNE
 (2026, Malta / Germany / Qatar, 108') (R)

Director: Alex Camilleri

Upon hearing of the death of her mother, from whom she had long been estranged, the beautiful Mar returns to the tranquility of the Maltese countryside, with the sole aim of selling the land she has inherited and severing all ties with her homeland. In her attempt to claim the estate before her relatives, she meets an eighty-year-old singer of traditional ghana music. The two of them take turns at the wheel in a touching road movie about the invisible roots that bind us to our homeland, to ourselves and to our fellow human beings. In his second film, Alex Camilleri ("Luzzu") delivers a profound ode to memory, loss and the redemptive power of folk tradition.

23:00 NEVER AFTER DARK /
ネバーアフターダーク
 (2026, Japan, 104') (R)

Director: Dave Boyle

A wandering psychic who helps lost souls make the transition to the afterlife comes face to face with an all-powerful, menacing entity in an isolated country house. A gripping example of contemporary Japanese horror, 'Never After Dark' masterfully immerses the viewer in its otherworldly atmosphere, transforming the isolated setting into a living nightmare and imbuing every corner of the frame with a looming sense of menace. Director Dave Boyle skillfully builds a climate of constant tension, combining mystery and humour with supernatural horror, whilst Moeka Hoshi delivers a revelatory performance in the lead role. The result is one of the most spine-chilling experiences of the year, inventive and original, which worthily continues Japan's long-standing tradition in fantasy cinema.

DANAOS 1

19:00 AWARD-WINNING FILM SCREENING

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



© Socrates Baltagiannis

CINOBO OPERA 1

17:00 THE BEST SUMMER

(2026, USA, 90') (R)

Director: Tamra Davis

From a forgotten drawer straight onto the big screen, Tamra Davis's digital diaries constitute a rare piece of rock mythology. With a Hi8 camera in hand, the director follows the Beastie Boys (the band of her then-husband, Mike D), documenting the legendary 'Summersault' tour across Australia and South-East Asia in late 1995. With the help of Kathleen Hanna of Bikini Kill in the role of an audacious backstage reporter, she captures a raw chronicle within a musical time capsule. In front of her lens, Sonic Youth and Kim Gordon, a fledgling Dave Grohl with the Foo Fighters, Beck, Pavement, Rancid and Kim Deal with the Amps shed their media personas and recount the heyday of an entire generation in an exceptionally valuable found-footage documentary that exudes a sense of absolute freedom.

YORGOS LANTHIMOS PRESENTS

19:00 AMERICAN MOVIE

(1999, USA, 107')

Director: Chris Smith

In one of the few truly unexpected and instantly classic discoveries to emerge from the Sundance Film Festival over the past few decades, an ambitious working-class director from Wisconsin fights tooth and nail to complete a horror film on a shoestring budget. Far from the Hollywood glamour, surrounded by dubious collaborators and an everyday reality full of obstacles, Mark Borchardt glimpses what may be his one and only chance. The filming journey is full of bittersweet moments, where spontaneous humour meets despair. The whole community – his mother, the elderly uncle and a cast of local, eccentric characters all support Mark's improvised attempt to realise his vision, inspired in equal measure by 'The Texas Chainsaw Massacre' and 'The Seventh Seal'. 'American Movie' is not merely a documentary adored by Generation X. It captures something far deeper: the cinephile's determination of someone who pursues his dream in a romantic way.

21:30 AWARD-WINNING GREEK SHORT STORIES

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

ASTOR

17:30 VIVA CARMEN! / CARMEN, L'OISEAU REBELLE

(2026, France, 90') (R)

Director: Sébastien Laudenbach

In the sun-drenched alleyways of Sevilla, a rebellious gang of street kids decides to take matters into their own hands to save Carmen – a free-spirited and passionate woman – from the tragic fate destiny has in store for her. Sébastien Laudenbach reinvents Georges Bizet's world-famous opera, reworking its legendary motifs with a contemporary perspective and transforming the classic drama into a colorful musical adventure. A visual feast of warm rhythms and disarming innocence, his 'Carmen' deconstructs the dark finale of the original to deliver a luminous fairy tale about friendship, solidarity and the priceless right to freedom.

19:45 DOUBLE FREEDOM / LA LIBERTAD DOBLE

(2026, Chile / Argentina / Luxembourg / UK, 100') (R)

Director: Lisandro Alonso

Twenty-five years on, Lisandro Alonso returns to 'La Libertad', the film that redefined the conventions of slow cinema, expanding it into a perpetual meditation. His protagonist remains isolated in the Argentine pampas, living the same ascetic daily life, until he learns that he must take care of his ailing sister. Then, solitary survival gives way to emotional responsibility. The hypnotic austerity of the form is transformed into a sharp class observation, as the film grapples with the passage of time and the concept of freedom in a world crumbling under the weight of habit.

POETIC JUSTICE: TRIBUTE TO LEE CHANG DONG

21:00 GREEN FISH / 초록 물고기

(1997, South Korea, 111')

Director: Lee Chang-dong

After completing his military service, a young man returns to his hometown only to find that rapid modernization has changed everything. Looking to find his place in the world, he is drawn into the dark labyrinth of Seoul's organized crime, ending up trapped in a dangerous game of loyalty, power and unrequited love. In his criminally underrated directorial debut, Lee Chang-dong crafts a neo-noir elegy, transforming his protagonist's downfall into a melancholic allegory about the heavy price of urbanization and a scathing commentary on the dark underbelly of a seemingly advanced society.



HELLENIC FILM & AUDIOVISUAL CENTER

ATHENS FILM INDUSTRY DAYS

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 2nd

12:00-14:30

Goethe Institut Athen

(14-16 Omirou st. Athens – Panepistimiou Metro Station)

MASTERCLASS

From Short Films to Fiume o morte!

With director **Igor Bezinovic**FREE ENTRANCE | PRE-BOOKED SEATING through more.comLanguage: **English**

Igor Bezinović's "Fiume o morte!" (2025) is last year's big winner: it won the **Tiger Award at the Rotterdam International Film Festival**, where it also won the FIPRESCI Prize, whilst also being honored with the **European Film Award for Best Documentary (EFA)**.

At the masterclass of the **32nd AIFF**, **Igor Bezinović** will disclose his personal film workshop and talk about his early amateur and short films, and how these shaped the vision, aesthetic and approach we see today in Fiume o morte!. From his earliest attempts at independent filmmaking to a multi-award-winning film that subverts the conventions of the historical documentary, Bezinović will explore the power of freedom, experimentation and collective participation, and explain why the roots of Fiume o morte!'s success lie, to a large extent, in the very tradition of amateur cinema itself.



HELLENIC FILM & AUDIOVISUAL CENTER

ATHENS FILM INDUSTRY DAYS

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 3rd

12:00-15:00

"Giannis Marinos" Hall - The Friends of Music Society, Athens Concert Hall

85, Vasilissis Sofias @ 1, Kokkali st. (Megaron Mousikis, Metro Station)

MASTERCLASS

The Emotional Image

with the internationally acclaimed cinematographer, **Olympia Mytilinaiou**FREE ENTRANCE | PRE-BOOKED SEATING through more.comLanguage: **Greek**

The masterclass by **Olympia Mytilinaiou**, an award-winning director of photography (including "Strella" by Panos Koutras, "Miss Violence" by Alexandros Avranas, amongst others), entitled "The Emotional Image", offers a retrospective of her artistic journey. She will share how she gradually "found the language" of cinema that bears her own distinctive signature, discussing her methodology, her collaborations with creators who have been pivotal to her artistic journey, as well as the mentors who have guided and inspired her. At the same time, she will discuss her challenging journey as a woman in one of the most male-dominated sectors of the film industry, explaining how she managed to stand out, make her mark and develop a personal, emotionally charged visual language, now recognized internationally.



THE FRIENDS OF MUSIC

ATHENS FILM INDUSTRY LAB (closed door meetings)

Focus Forward

A **series of three advisory meetings** with Greek filmmakers whose first student short film is entered in the Greek Competition Section, "GREEK SHORT STORIES".

Each session is held with an experienced industry professional, each specializing in different areas relating to the further promotion and international development of a film, such as participation in international film festivals, funding, grants (including post-production), international sales and distribution.

ELECTRA

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FREE ENTRANCE

FESTIVAL MEETING POINT bar ΣΤΕΡΑ by JAMESON

STERA bar shall be the meeting point* of all festival goers. The audience of the AIFF may show the daily ticket or its season pass so that they can enjoy their first drink for free, if it is a Jameson, or with 20% off in the price if it is any other drink. Come and share the film experience!

STERA (61A Askliou st.)

*Days excluded from the offer: Saturday 3rd, Monday 5th, Friday 9th and Saturday 10th of October



SATURDAY, OCTOBER 3
00:00 / PRAXITELOUS

DO YOU REMEMBER THE FIRST TIME?

A History of British Pop

On occasion of the screening of the "Pulp: What Do You Do For An Encore?" documentary

PRAXITELOUS (33 Praxitelous st.)

Πραξιτέλους

MONDAY, OCTOBER 5
21:00 / ATHENS STREET HUB

LONG STORY SHORT

15 Years of GREEK SHORT STORIES

ATHENS STREET HUB (111 Kerameikou st.)



FRIDAY, OCTOBER 9
22:00 / TRIANON

I FEEL SO GREEK

Closing party of the GREEK SHORT STORIES section

TRIANON VENUE (21 Kodringtonos st.)



SATURDAY, OCTOBER 10
00:00 / ROMANTSO

YOU GOT THE LOVE

Closing all-night party

ROMANTSO (3-5 Anaxagora st.)



TICKETS

PRICES

General admission: 8 euros

Admission price for the screening of "The Shepherds of Calamity" in Danaos: 5 euros

Admission price for the screening of "Pink Narcissus" at Floyd- Live Music Venue: sitting 15 euros, standing 12 euros

SPECIAL Season Card

10 screenings: 80 euros

The proceeds from this year's public donation, when tickets are issued, will be used to cover the cost of medication actions taken by the organization Mission ANTHROPOS.



IMPORTANT NOTICES

- You can purchase your tickets online at www.more.com and at the physical sale points.
- We encourage you to purchase your tickets **before** your arrival at the venue. Ideally, save the tickets on your mobile phone or pre-print them so that the safe and smooth entrance in the venue is insured.
- Each cinema's box office issues tickets for screenings that take place **only** in that cinema.
- During the festival days, the **theaters' box office** is open **60'** prior to the first screening of the day up until **30'** after the beginning of the last showing of the day.
- Cancellations and ticket changes are **NOT** allowed.
- Online ticket sales end **15'** before the start of each screening. In the last 15' tickets are issued only by the venue.
- Season card holders are obliged to issue zero-value tickets by using the unique card code. Presenting the card does **NOT** insure entrance in the venue.
- Season card holders may use their card to issue up to **two zero-value tickets** for the **same** screening.
- Season card holders may use their card and issue zero-value tickets for every screening priced at **8 euros**.

* For any questions regarding your ticket or season pass, please contact **more.com's live chat** customer service or email support@more.com and the Festival's social media:

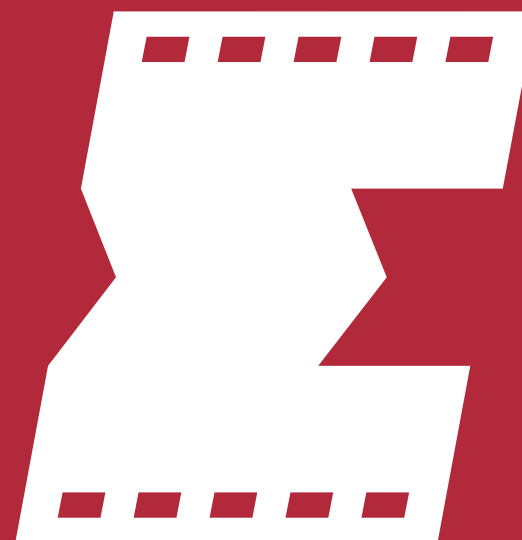
[facebook.com/AthensFilmFestival](https://www.facebook.com/AthensFilmFestival)

[instagram.com/AthensFilmFestival](https://www.instagram.com/AthensFilmFestival)

* Information about the Festival program and ticket sales at www.aiff.gr

**THE SECTIONS
OF THE FESTIVAL** **INTERNATIONAL COMPETITION** **DOCUMENTARY COMPETITION** **OPENING NIGHTS** **GREEK SHORT STORIES –
IN COMPETITION** **MUSIC & FILM** **SPECIAL SCREENINGS** **TRIBUTE****I.C.:** International Competition**D.C.:** Documentary Competition**www.aiff.gr | www.cinemazine.gr****NOTICE FOR PEOPLE
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in Greek Sign Language
[GSL]**VENUES
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(Panepistimio, Metro Station)
T: (+30) 210 3638909**ASTOR**28, Stadiou st. Σταδίου 28 (entry from Korai Sq.
covered walkway)
(Panepistimiou Metro Station)
Tel: (+30) 210 3211950**DANAOS | HALL 1**109, Kifisias Av.
(Panormou Metro Station)
Tel: (+30) 210 6922655**ATHENS MEGARON -
ALEXANDRA TRIANTI HALL**85, Vasilissis Sofias & 1, Kokkali st.
(Megaron Mousikis, Metro Station)
Tel: (+30) 210 7282000
megaron.gr**TRIANON**21, Kodrigtonos st. & 101 Patision st.
(Victoria Metro Station)
Tel: (+30) 210 8215469**OLYMPIA MUNICIPAL MUSICAL THEATER
"MARIA CALLAS"**59, Acadimias st.
(Panepistimiou Metro Station)
Tel: (+30) 210 3642540
olygr**ONASSIS STEGI**107, Syggrou Av.
(Syggrou-Fix, Metro Station)
Tel: (+30) 219 2191000**FLOYD - LIVE MUSIC VENUE**117, Pireos st. 118 54, Athens
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