



# Sydney hosts a film tribute all the way from Greece!

Sydneysiders will now have the opportunity to enjoy a series of docos, films, shorts, features, colour and black & white gems from 1956 to 2007 all the way from Greece, in a film tribute, titled "Immigration in Greek Cinema" that will be screened from Sept 2 -10 at the Factory Theatre.

The retrospective, first screened in the greek section of the prestigious Thessaloniki International Film Festival, returns to Australia, after a successful run in Melbourne earlier this year, at the Australian Centre for the Moving Image.

Most will agree with Despina Mouzaki, director of the Thessaloniki International Film Festival, when she says that "Immigration, is a subject that will never date, and expects each new

era to create the cinematic narratives that express it best".

"Immigration in Greek Cinema" will no doubt strike a cord with the Australian community, given that it deals with a social issue that many will relate to both directly and indirectly. This cinematic journey will take viewers within and beyond the borders of Greece, to countries like France and Germany amongst others.

The retrospective aims to



provide a representative picture of the way Greek filmmakers have approached the subject over the years. To date, these approaches have ranged from the so called old Greek cinema's tales of rich Greek immigrants returning from abroad, to more recent productions in which the immigrant/alien attempts to integrate into contemporary Greek society, with interesting films along the way dealing with the condition of Greek immigrants in Europe and the communities of the Greek diaspora.

"The works selected also represent the way in which cinematic narratives centering on immigration have altered over time inline with more general changes in Greek cinema: through the cinema of genres, through the signature style of the auteurs, through documentaries and fiction,

and finally – for the time being – through the mixing of genres and techniques," adds Despina Mouzaki.

The film tribute has been brought to Sydney, very appropriately, by Australia's oldest (non-English) community organisation founded in 1898; namely, the Greek Orthodox Community of NSW, organisers of the very successful annual Greek Film Festival and Greek Festival of Sydney. It was brought to Sydney as part of its 110th anniversary celebrations, in association with the Thessaloniki International Film Festival,

and Century Venues.

"Given that we are a nation of migrants, and there are no language barriers, nor borders in cinema, I am sure this film tribute week will appeal to the wider Australian community" says Harry Danalis, President of the Greek Orthodox Community of NSW.

In addition to the screening of documentaries and movies, there will also be a special discussion forum on the theme of immigration, a free event, on Wednesday, Sept. 3 at the Factory Theatre.

❖ **When: Sept 2 -10, 2008**

❖ **Where: Factory Theatre, 105 Victoria Rd, Marrickville, Sydney. Box office: (02) 9550 3666**

❖ **Tickets: \$9 (concession) \$11 (adults) including booking fee.**

❖ **Opening Night: \$25 (includes food and drinks)**

❖ **All films have English subtitles. Viewing restricted to persons aged 18 and over.**

