

17TH GREEK FILM FESTIVAL

Films screening Saturday 23, Sunday 24 and Monday 25 October 2010

• 5pm Saturday

From Olympos to Everest

Dir. Pavlos Tsiantos

It's a long way from Mount Olympos to Mount Everest and there's about 20,000 ft between them, but with some dreams, there's no limit.

For a group of Greek mountaineers scaling to the top of Mount Everest has been a life-long goal and in the way there's been many obstacles. With no experience, no support, hardships, fights and even death, they will prove they have the determination to make it. Following one team as it attempts to take the south route to the summit and meet up with a second team from the north, the cameras catch every moment of the journey.

With breathtaking images, From Olympos to Everest is an inspirational story for anyone who dared to dream big.

Greek language with English subtitles

• 7pm Saturday

Nisos

Dir. Christos Dimas

With a fortune on offer the skeletons in this town's closet are about to get an airing. Scandalous affairs, unsolved crimes, hidden double lives – one small island can hold a lot of secrets.

After his sudden death, the island's richest man reveals himself as mischievous troublemaker from beyond the grave. With no one to inherit his estate he offers it to the four leaders of the village, the mayor, the police officer, the teacher and the priest. There's just one catch, to earn their prize they each have to read a letter to the public detailing their dirty little secrets.

Outselling Avatar at the Greek box-office, Nisos was a surprise standout hit with a lot of heart – a funny and clever whodunit where one revelation leads to another, mysteries unfold and no one is safe.

Greek language with English subtitles

Written by Kostis Papadopoulos and Elena Solomou

Produced by Yiannis Iakovidis

Cast: Eleni Kastani, Elisavet Konstantinidou, Vladimiro Kiriakidis, Odysseas Papaspiliopoulos

• 9pm Saturday and 9pm Monday

The Mountain in Front

Dir. Vassilis Douros

Racism, religious belief and provincial pride come under close scrutiny in the Mountain in Front, a social drama with a very clear message.

When a van full of pyrotechnists breaks down in a mountain village on Easter weekend, old feuds ignite between local farmers. For Albanian shepherd Luan, a vna full of fireworks means some long-awaited fun for his seven-year old son. But for the local farmer Thymios, the idea of a Muslim setting off rockets on a Christian holy day brings old grudges to the fore with tragic results.

An honest and thought provoking examination of old beliefs clashing with new ideals, stirring up the prejudices that lie just below the surface for many in an ever-changing society.

Greek language with English subtitles
Greece/2008/102mins/35mm
Written by Giannis Tsiros
Produced by Vassilis Douris
Cast: Gennadios Patsis, Karafil Sena, George Moroyannis, Costas Kazanas

• 4.45pm Sunday

El Greco

Dir. Yannis Smaragdis

Painter, sculptor and architect of the Spanish Renaissance, Domenicus

Theotokopoulos' paintings inspired all, he was known by one name- El Greco.

In the 16th century a journey from Crete to Toledo brought one artists up against the greatest adversary of his time, the Spanish Inquisition. Fighting for freedom, love and creative pursuit, his story is one of adversity, overcoming barbarity to lead a renaissance of culture and art that would change the course of history. In the face of betrayal and accusation, El Greco would stand tall.

A box office success in Greece, El Greco is an epic tale about the power of one man and his fight against ignorance and persecution, a legacy and inspiration that lives on today.

Greek language with English subtitles
Greece, Spain, Hungary/2007/119mins/35mm
Written by Jackie Pavlenko, Yannis Smaragdis
Produced by Eleni Smaragdi
Cast: Nick Ashdon, Juan Diego Botto, Laia Marull, Lakis Lazopoulos

• 7pm Sunday

I Love Karditsa

Dir. Stratos Markidis

Weird science, 30 million dollars in missing mob money and a couple of hit men on a mission create a riotous comedy farce from filmmaker Stratos Markidis.

When New Yorker Mike Kanas stops for some cigarettes and loses a truckload of mafia money he knows it's only a matter of time before the mob comes looking for him. But Mike isn't your average guy – he's the world's first human clone, created in the 70s by a group of pioneering scientists. Now to escape his pursuers he's travelling to the small Greek village of Karditsa to trade places with Grigoris Kanas, the man they cloned him from, but lazy womaniser Grigoris is in some trouble of his own.

Both cleverly funny and over the top, I Love Karditsa features hilarious performances from Costas Apostolakis and Katerina Papoutsaki.

Greek language with English subtitles

Greece/2010/93mins/e-cinema

Written by Antonis Paliopoulos and Dionissia Tsi-tiridou

Produced by M.S Media and Odeon

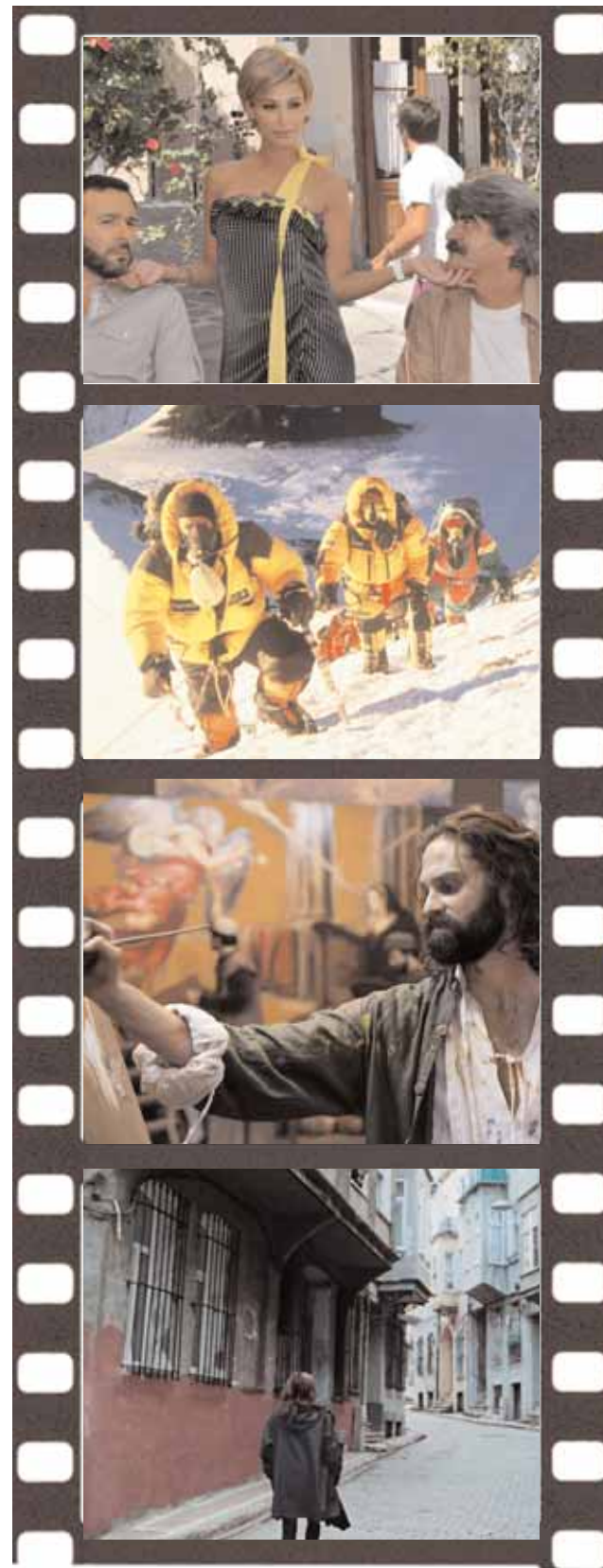
Cast: Kostas Apostolakis, Katerina Papoutsaki, Bessy Malfa, Gerasimos Skiadaressis

• 9pm Sunday

Athens – Istanbul

Dir. Nikos Panayotopoulos

A thought-provoking road-movie of chance encounters, lost loves and new adventures where it's



not the destination that matters, but getting there.

Setting off on a journey to visit his sick father in Thessaloniki becomes a journey of self-discovery for one middle-aged recent divorcee in Athens – Istanbul. Depressive, lost and on the run from his past, a chance encounter with a young woman and her musician husband takes him on a detour to Istanbul where he might just find himself.

Love, life, death, sex and money, the big and the not so big questions and everything in between are faced at every stop along the way. Featuring gentle humour and a standout performance from Lefteris Voyatzis.

Greek language with English subtitles

Greece/2008/103mins/35mm

Written by Michel Fais and Nikos Panayotopoulos

Produced by Greek Film Centre, Finos Films, Alpha

Cast: Lefteris Voyiatzis, Alexia Kaltsiki, Dimitris Poulikakos