

The 29th Greek Festival of Sydney proudly presents **Elia Kazan: The Soul of an Immigrant**

**Talk by Associate Professor
Vrasidas Karalis, University of Sydney**

Kazan is one of the greatest American directors of the twentieth century. His work includes some of the most important films in world cinema, such as *On the Waterfront*, *East of Eden*, and *A Streetcar Named Desire*. As a political figure he aroused controversy by testifying against friends and colleagues before the notorious McCarthy committee. This lecture examines the immigrant experience in Kazan's works as a refugee from Asia Minor making his home in the United States. It discusses some of his most personal

films, especially *America*, *America* (1963), together with his autobiographical texts, in order to explain his personality and evaluate his work.

Date: Wed 18 May

Time: 6.30pm

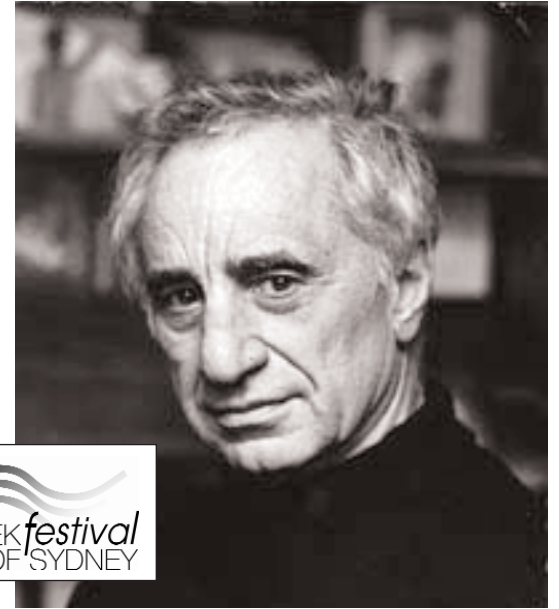
Venue: Barnet Long Room, Customs House,
31 Alfred Street, Circular Quay

Cost: Free Entry

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Boost in migration to Australia

The Federal Government will implement a suite of regional migration initiatives together with an increase in permanent migration – to 185 000 visas – the 2011-12 to deliver on its broader economic and regional development priorities.

Importantly, this also includes a boost to the family intake level as part of Australia's increased migration program.

Minister for Immigration and Citizenship, Chris Bowen MP, said migration was a crucial economic driver and contributed to an innovative and dynamic workforce. "Australia is a country that has been built on migration and the Gillard Government understands that migrants will contribute to our future economic success as a nation," Mr Bowen said. "Around two-thirds of the increased migration program will be for skilled migrants to help fill critical skill needs, particularly in regional areas. "The skill stream intake will increase

to 125 850 places, with 16 000 places allocated to the Regional Sponsored Migration Scheme.

"Regional areas will also benefit from the introduction of Regional Migration Agreements, a new initiative that will bring together employers, local and state governments and unions to cooperate in addressing local labour needs."

Mr Bowen said the important family intake level for the 2011-12 migration program would also increase to 58 600 places, with the majority of the increase going to partner visas.

"The Gillard Government understands the importance of the family program to allow for the reunification of Australians with their close relatives, children and spouses," he said.

"The doubling of parent visas will bring families together and recognises the contribution and commitment that migrants make to Australia."

VETERANS REVISIT GREECE ON 70TH ANNIVERSARY OF SECOND WORLD WAR BATTLE

Six Second World War veterans will return to Greece and Crete next week to participate in commemorations marking the 70th anniversary of their desperate and ill-fated battle to save the country from invasion. The Minister for Veterans' Affairs, Warren Snowdon, will lead the four day mission of Navy and Army veterans who are aged between 88 and 101. The group will attend a number of events including a commemorative ceremony at the Hellenic-Australian Memorial, at Rethymno, on Crete. Mr Snowdon said the Battles of Greece and Crete were fought by Australian, New Zealand, British and Greek troops from October 1940 to May 1941.

"The Battles of Greece and Crete resulted in strong bonds between Australia and the people of Greece, and that friendship has not wavered in the 70 years since. It endures in the hearts of the thousands of Greeks who made their homes in Australia post-war.

"It's fitting that our veterans make this journey on such a significant anniversary. It will be an honour to visit Greece with some of the men who fought to defend it," he said.

Mr Snowdon said the Allies had been poorly equipped to withstand the German onslaught in Greece in 1941, lacking aircraft and armour and being outnumbered on the ground and in the air.

"In spite of this, the Allies slowed down the German advance, offering brave and locally successful resistance. When the force finally evacuated the mainland, 320 Australians had been killed, with 494 wounded and more than 2,000 taken prisoner.

"Withdrawing to the Island of Crete, the Allied troops attempted to fight off an airborne invasion. A further 274 Australians were killed and over 3,000 taken prisoner in defending Crete.

"But Australia's losses paled in comparison with those suffered by the Greeks, with an estimated 500,000 Greek and Cretan lives lost during the war." "While the outcome of the campaign wasn't in the Allies' favour, it was a significant battle that showcased the best of Australia's Defence Forces. "The tenacity and courage of the Greek and Cretan people was seen first hand by our troops, many fighting side by side.

"I hope this mission will help raise community awareness of the service and sacrifice of Australians and their Greek counterparts in this campaign," Mr Snowdon said.

The six veterans making this trip are:

- **Mr Arthur Leslie Leggett**, from Perth, WA
- **Mr George William (Bill) Henry Taylor MID**, from Bremer Bay, WA
- **Mr Daniel (Dan) Mark Bowden MID**, from Bateau Bay, Central Coast, NSW
- **Mr Alfred (Alf) Clive Carpenter ED**, from Newcastle, NSW
- **Mr Basil George Hayler**, from Ferntree Gully, VIC
- **Mr Norman (Norm) William Maddock OAM**, from Melbourne, VIC

Member for Hindmarsh, Steve Georganas, will be also be taking part in the trip as chair of the Greek Australian Parliamentary Friendship Group.

"I feel privileged to be a part of what will be an emotional and significant journey for these special Australians, I look forward to sharing in this experience with them," he said.

The two-week mission will leave for Greece from Sydney on Sunday 15 May and will also visit Australian Defence Force personnel at Al Minhad Airbase, in the United Arab Emirates, in the Middle East.

The veterans will be supported by a small administrative and medical team including a doctor and a nurse.

Over 200 children in India are killed each day by avoidable injuries

A new study published online first on April 14, 2011 by Injury Prevention (British Medical Journal) shows that unintentional injuries among children younger than five years led to approximately 82 000 child deaths in India in 2005. These estimates are two to three times higher than previous estimates for injury deaths among children. The study was led by the Registrar General of India and co-authored by Professor Prabhat Jha, Centre for Global Health Research, St Michael's Hospital and the University of Toronto, and involved researchers from The George Institute for Global Health, University of Sydney, Australia.

These results were collected from the Million Death Study (MDS), which is one of the largest studies of premature mortality in the world. Using a method called verbal autopsy, MDS seeks to assign causes to deaths occurring in all parts of India.

Unintentional injuries were the sixth leading cause of death among children under 5 years of age, with higher risks in rural areas. Drowning was the leading cause of child injury deaths, accounting for over 30% of all injury deaths. More children die from drowning in India than anywhere else in the world, killing more than 26 000 children, in 2005. The north-eastern and eastern regions of the country are hit heavily by monsoon rains, which cause flooding along the major rivers, such as the Brahmaputra, Ganges, and its tributaries, leaving behind flooded waterways and open water ponds that pose as significant drowning risks for children. Deaths due to drowning were three times higher in rural areas compared to urban areas, and were also higher in boys compared to girls.

Injuries from falls led to 12 000 deaths among children under 5 years old in India. Falls were the leading cause of injury deaths in the urban areas, with almost a quarter occurring from building structures. In rural areas, deaths from road traffic injury were reported in higher numbers than falls. More than 40% of the children who died in a road traffic crash were pedestrians hit by a car or heavy vehicle.

Authors note that while major investments to prevent childhood deaths by reducing the burden of infectious conditions, ensuring better nutrition, and promoting safe motherhood continue to be made, avoidable deaths due to injury have received substantially less attention. The authors conclude that childhood injury in India is a significant burden for which prevention programs should be urgently prioritized.