

GREEK AUSTRALIAN WIN IN HOLLYWOOD

Greek Australian writer and filmmaker **Kosta Nikas** has just scored a major victory in Hollywood, after winning the Best Experimental Film Award at the Academy accredited Los Angeles International Short Film Festival.

The film titled **LIGHT** was screened at the historic Laemmle Theatre on Sunset Boulevard, Hollywood on Saturday, July 21.

LIGHT is about a blind man that slowly regains his vision, but decides not to tell his wife.

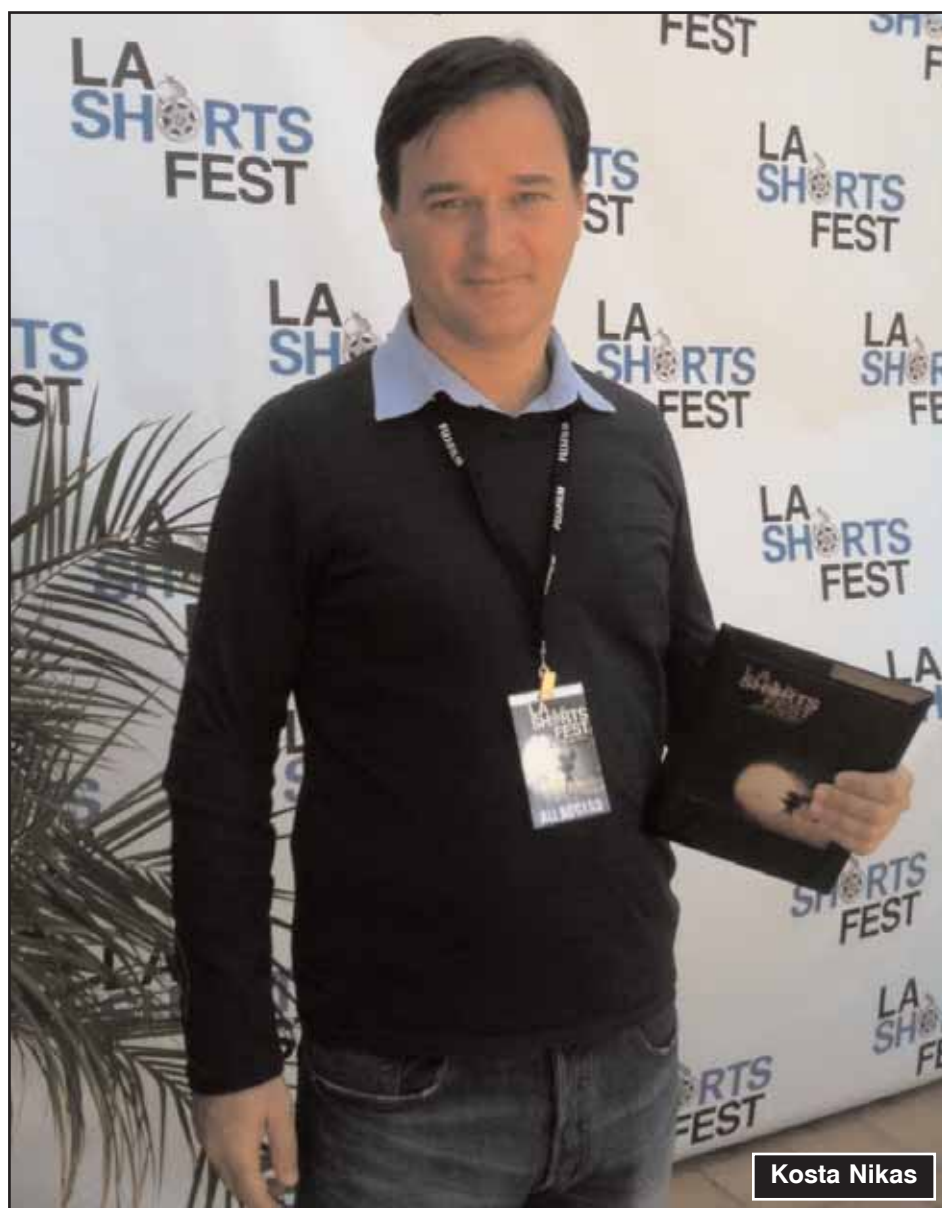
Kosta Nikas was commended by audience members and many filmmakers for his brave and original approach to

telling a story and experimenting with the vital organs of the cinematic experience which is Light and Sound.

"We are very proud of the work Kosta created and looking forward to the full length feature we are working on next" said Bill Giannakouras, executive producer.

As winner at an Academy accredited festival and category, Nikas film will now be eligible for consideration for an Oscar in the short film category of next year's Academy Awards.

"I thank my cast, crew, friends and family for their support and faith in my works," said writer/director Kosta Nikas.



Kosta Nikas



Census
abs.gov.au/census

For a brighter future

Shed some light on Census night

The Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) is reminding everyone in Australia, including residents and overseas tourists, to accurately complete a Census form on Census night, Tuesday, 9 August 2011.

The Census is a snapshot of the nation and accurately measures the number of people in Australia on Census night, their key characteristics, and where they live.

Head of the Population Census program, Paul Lowe says, by the 7 August everyone in Australia should have received either a Census form or information on how to access eCensus, the fast, easy and secure online option for completing the Census.

Some 29,000 Collectors will have delivered approximately 14.2 million Census forms to Australia's 9.8 million households. Mr Lowe says your Census Collector will provide the information you need to be able to participate in the Census.

"It's so important to complete the Census form accurately because it will shed some light on your community. Census information is used to allocate funding for critical infrastructure and services such as roads, schools, parks and hospitals," Mr Lowe says.

With more than 100 languages spoken across Australia and a large section of society coming from a non-English speaking background, fully completed and accurate forms will help ensure no community is left out while assessing community services and needs for the future.

"Taking a few minutes to complete the Census lights the way forward for a brighter future for everyone who calls Australia home," Mr Lowe adds.

"The ABS is expecting 30 per cent of the population will use the eCensus option, a convenient alternative to the traditional paper form, which is protected by the strongest encryption technology available," Mr Lowe adds.

"Whichever way you take part in the Census, your information will be kept private and confidential and not shared with anyone else."

Mr Lowe says anyone having trouble completing the Census should visit www.abs.gov.au/censushelp

The first results from the 2011 Census will be released in June 2012.

More information is available online at www.abs.gov.au/census or call the Census Inquiry Service Language Helpline on 1300 340 120.

Key Census dates

- 9 August 2011 – Census night.
- From 10 August – Collection of Census forms.
- June 2012 – The first results from the 2011 Census will be released.

LIGHT was received critical acclaim from many in the film community:

"Understated in its simplicity; this is more than just a clever concept. This is also a brave experiment that takes the viewer on a journey that reflects upon the very nature of the cinematic experience itself."

-Mike Wilcox
Producer "The Delinquents"

"Visually challenging, LIGHT is a powerful glimpse into a side of life rarely seen."

-David Michael Brown
Film Critic
EMPIRE Magazine Australasia

"This is a film underlined with substance, burning a trail upon that which is dormant and can no longer, stay hidden.?"

-Helen Goritsas
Film Critic, Film Mosaics - Screen Culture Community (Australia)
Vice President, NSW Women in Film and TV

"The sharp and cynical plot resolution nicely undercuts the feel good set up. A filmmaker to watch.?"

-Antony I Ginnane
Producer, "Patrick", "The Lighthorsemen"
President, IFM Films

"Using 'light', the very metonym of cinema as it's title and theme, the film brazenly depicts its absence. And illumination, at the end of the film, brings no 'light' to the life of its protagonist."

-Iqbal Barkat
MA (Film/Theatre)
Lecturer, School of Communications Arts,
University of Western Sydney
Co-Author, "Screen Media Arts", Oxford University Press