



## **10th Aegean Film Festival,**

The Aegean Film Festival completed its 10th edition, which took place from the 18th to the 25th of July in Spetses and from the 30th of July to the 2nd August in Paros. Over 4,000 people attended screenings and activities throughout the festival and had the opportunity to enjoy 9 feature films, 55 short films and 13 documentaries – 42 of those being national premieres. In addition to screenings, parallel events, panels, presentations and Q&As were hosted during the Aegean Film Festival 2021.

The festival hosted 75 guests from cinema, culture and tourism. Award-winning directors and journalists, of which including Eva Sangiorgi, artistic director of the Vienna International Film Festival; Phaedra Vokali, producer and president of the Hellenic Film Academy; Thodoris Koutsogiannopoulos, film critic and journalist; Dimitra Papageorgaki from the Helidoni Foundation; representatives from the Sundance Film Festival and UNESCO as well as directors and filmmakers from the competition section of the Festival.



## Location Greece Conference



In Spetses, the Aegean Film Festival presented the first edition of the **Location Greece Conference**, a two-day conference with guests, keynote speakers, workshops and Q&As covering the themes of location management, tax or cash rebates, co-productions and financing medium to large scale budgets. The conference aimed to establish Greece and the Aegean as a film destination for international productions and co-productions. The **Location Management Workshop** was held as part of the conference, with guest speakers and representatives from the

Location Managers Guild International (LMGI) – JJ Levine, 1st Vice President; Alison A. Taylor, 2nd Vice President and Dan Connolly, Board Member – was co-organized by the Hellenic Film Commission of the Greek Film Centre and with the support of Stefi Productions, the American College of Greece, Deree and EKOME. It attracted producers from Greece and abroad and managed to reach over 13,000 individuals throughout the live broadcast.



## Filmmakers and Q&A's

Major part of the Spetses program was the short film competition, the award ceremony and the Q&As. Among the filmmakers who attended and took part on the Q&A's were Argyris Papadimitropoulos - **Monday**, Giovanni Aloi - **The Third War**, Andrei Dascalescu - **Holy Father**, Maya Cueva - **On the Divide**, Giannis Kolozis - **Yiorgos of Kedros** and Anni Ólafsdóttir - **The Hero's Journey to the Third Pole**. From the competition program, the filmmakers who attended were Stelios Moraitis, Petros Goritsas, Dimitris Tsakaleas, Anthi Daountaki, George Kyvernitis, Michalis Kalopedis, Aleksandr Vinogradov and Thanasis Tsimbinis. As part of the Echoes Programme in Paros, Olivier Pollet - **Ophir**, Bruno Pavic - **Landscape Zero** and Sarah MacDonald - **The Great Green Wall** attended.





## Echoes - Call to Action



The fourth edition of the Echoes Programme took place in the beautiful setting of Paros Park. It was a successful gathering of filmmakers, festival partners, supporters and guests from around the world. Throughout the weekend, we screened 5 feature documentaries from the United Kingdom, Croatia, Germany, France and Georgia/Switzerland, 5 short films, hosted 2 panel discussions, and presentations from the Helidoni Foundation, WaterBear, UNESCO, Mission Blue, and Make Waves.

The Helidoni Foundation kicked off the weekend alongside their partners at Impact Hub Athens to present their work on a new project, Ten Million Hands – focusing on Conscious Consumption. This was followed by an engaging conversation between Andreas Chatzidakis, Elena Lamprou, and Dimitris Kokkinakis about sustainability and conscious consumption.



Our partners at WaterBear joined us on day two to discuss storytelling and inspiring the next generation. Sam Sutaria, Poppy Mason-Watts, Sarah Macdonald, and Sian Kevill joined AegeanFF Director, Babis Tsoutsas and showcased the newly formed WaterBear and their mission and new projects from the Make Waves team.



Day three brought inspiring projects to the stage of the Echoes Programme – Eleni Atsikbasis from Healing Lesvos presented the work being done with Mission Blue to create the first marine protected area in the NE Aegean. Sarah Macdonald and Sian Kevill joined us again to present their new documentary funding and social actions that they are working on with Nicolas Brown and Jayda G – Blue Carbon.

## Awards

Throughout the festival, five awards were announced from the Aegean Film Festival 2021 programme, which was carefully selected from a total of 1,000 or more films by the programming team.

The **Best Aegean Short Film** was awarded to **Naya**, directed by Sebastian Mulder.

A documentary following Naya, a wolf that walked from East Germany to Belgium tagged with a GPS collar. The first wolf in Belgium in 100 years, she suddenly makes headlines - but her presence takes a mysterious turn. This voyeuristic collage of wildlife and surveillance camera footage explores the relationship between humans and this iconic wild animal.



The **Best Greek Short Film** was awarded to **Route-3**, directed by Thanasis Neofotistos.



In a tram on Route-3, the Old Lady in the leopard dress treats the passengers with juicy oranges during a hot, but rainy day in the centre of Sarajevo. Nadja, the princess-teen in her pink hijab; Luka, the virgin bully; an Orthodox Priest; an old creepy man and many, many more ordinary people in this tram have nothing in common, but a juicy slice of orange. All except a shy, yet horny, teenager named Amar.

The **Special Jury Mentio** was awarded to **As If Underwater**, directed by Anthi Daoutaki

The film tells the story of Hera, a 35 year-old woman. Her home is her world and her world is magical. Her loneliness is filled with objects. She forgets herself in her daily routine and gets tangled in her made-up micro worlds. Her difficulty to cope with social gender norms and an awkward encounter with a jeweler, lead her to buy a wedding ring. The ring gives life to an imaginary relationship, fleeting like a dream.





The **Feature Film Audience Award** was awarded to ***Monday***, directed by Argyris Papadimitropoulos



*Monday* is a tender, romantic and bittersweet character drama that narrates the frantic and frontal love affair between Mickey (Sebastian Stan) and Chloe (Denise Gough) in the heart of Athens, during the summer.

The mutual connection, the flirting and the heady feeling of love, during the course of a promising Friday Night.. inevitably will collide with the reality of compromises that coexistence requires. Just like a hangover on a Monday morning, that follows a wild, frantic weekend.

The **Documentary Audience Award** was awarded to ***The Bee Gees: How Can You Mend A Broken Heart***, directed by Frank Marshall

Brothers Barry, Maurice and Robin Gibb find early fame in the 1960s and go on to write over 1,000 songs, including 20 No. 1 hits. This film follows the group's meteoric rise as they navigate the complexities of working so intimately alongside family.



Renewing our appointment for 2022 with more films, guests, destinations and love for cinema, the Aegean Film Festival thanks everyone for their support: Poseidonion Grand Hotel, Waterbear Network, Helidoni Foundation, the Hellenic Film Commission of the Greek Film Centre, Deree: The American College of Greece, EKOME, EOT, Blue Star Ferries, Hellenic Seaways, Ferryhopper, Bouboulina Museum, Anargyrios and Korgialenios School, Paros Park, Monastiri Paros, The Municipality of Spetses and Paros, UNESCO, Don Papa Rum, Fischer, Stefi & Lynx Productions, Bob Studio, Throubi Bar, Bikini Bar, Orlof Restaurant, Rose Cafe, Agosta, SugarHigh Films, Ferve Tickets, Adobe, Red, NBC Universal, Cosmote TV, Pepper 96.6, Athinorama, Move It, ElHype, Popaganda, Cineuropa, Tampere Film Festival, Barnes Film Festival, Festival Scope.

***We will meet again soon...***



The poster features a blue background with a large yellow sun in the top left. The text '10<sup>TH</sup>' is prominently displayed in a large, bold, serif font. Below it, the words 'AEGEAN' and 'FILM FESTIVAL' are written in a similar bold, serif font. A white diagonal banner across the middle contains the text 'SPETSES', 'JULY 2021', and 'PAROS'. Under 'SPETSES', there is a list of venues: 'CINE TITANIA', 'BOUBOULINA MUSEUM', 'AGIA MARTINA BEACH CINEMA', and 'KAPODISTRIAKI STEGI'. Under 'PAROS', there is a list of venues: 'PAROS PARK', 'LEFKES THEATRE POP UP', and 'MONASTIRI BEACH BAR'. The dates '18-25' and '30-02/08' are also included, with arrows pointing left and right respectively. In the bottom right corner, there is a seahorse logo and the text 'TICKETS AND PASSES' and 'WWW.AEGEANFF.COM'. A small hashtag '#CANNOTBE DOWNLOADED' is visible in the top right.

**10<sup>TH</sup>** #CANNOTBE  
DOWNLOADED

**AEGEAN**

**FILM FESTIVAL**

**SPETSES** **JULY 2021** **PAROS**

CINE TITANIA  
BOUBOULINA MUSEUM  
AGIA MARTINA BEACH CINEMA  
KAPODISTRIAKI STEGI

← 18-25 →  
30-02/08 →

PAROS PARK  
LEFKES THEATRE POP UP  
MONASTIRI BEACH BAR

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AND PASSES  
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