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Friday, 8 June 2012

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Art imitates life at the 2012 Los Angeles Greek Film Festival



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Great tragedy makes for great storytelling, as the sixth, annual Los Angeles Greek Film Festival (LAGFF) showcases new films in the dramatic, documentary and short film categories inspired by and dedicated to the current crisis in Greece. The theme this year is "Defeating the Crisis Through the Viewfinder."



The festival, which showcases new films from Greece and Cyprus, along with works by international filmmakers of Greek descent, kicked off May 31st with the world premiere of “A Green Story”. The biographical film tells the story of the life of Van Vlahakis, a Greek immigrant who comes to the US with only a few dollars in his pocket and creates a successful, green product company. The film is directed and written by Nika Agiashvili and stars **Ed O’Ross, Shannon Elizabeth and Billy Zane**.



Also premiering at the festival this year is the **Canadian entry “Fortunate Son”**, which is the autobiographical story of director Tony Asimakopoulos, who, after overcoming a drug addiction, is inspired and motivated to search for happiness. The film, which takes him from Montreal to Greece and back, shows the director’s relationship with his Greek-immigrant parents, his recovery from drugs and the months leading up to his wedding.

VIEW "FORTUNATE SON" TRAILER

The festival, which ended Sunday, June 3rd, paid tribute to the late film director Theo Angelopoulos whose film “Eternity and a Day” (1998) won the prestigious Palme d’Or award at the 51st Cannes Film Festival.

The Los Angeles Greek Film Festival is a great way to exemplify the strength and stamina of our people as they continue to overcome adversity despite the obstacles that stand before them.

The complete film lineup can be seen [here](#)

By Staff Writer: Natasha Tsakiris

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