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## LAGFF to Open with 'A Green Story'

By [Anastasios Papapostolou](#) on [March 30, 2012](#) In [Festivals](#), [Premieres](#)

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Van Vlahakis Biopic starring Ed O'Ross will Serve as Festival's Opening Night Film

The Los Angeles Greek Film Festival has announced that *A Green Story* will be the festival's opening night film. The world premiere of Van Vlahakis Biopic will take place on May 31st at Hollywood's Egyptian Theater and the festival will run through June 3rd.

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*A Green Story* stars Ed O’Ross, Shannon Elizabeth, Annabella Sciorra, George Finn, Malcolm McDowell, Billy Zane, Alexis Georgoulis, Louis Mandylor, Debbie Matenopoulos and Alessandra Toressani. *A Green Story* chronicles the life of Van Vlahakis, a Greek immigrant who arrived in America with only \$22 in his pocket and eventually founded the multi-million dollar Green company, Earth Friendly Products.

The movie was written and directed by Nika Agiashvili and filmed in Los Angeles, Chicago and on location in Greece. Agiashvili produced alongside John Edward Lee, Dimitri Birbilis, Deanna Plascencia and Chadwick Struck. Paramyth’s David Agiashvili served as executive producer.

“It is truly an honor that the LA Greek Film Festival has chosen our movie to kick off their festival,” said Agiashvili. “We felt that if we were going to tell the story of Van Vlahakis, we needed to tell it in the most authentic way possible. When we started pre-production, we were committed to not only shooting in Greece, but also casting Greek actors. To be able to shoot in such a historic location like Athens is a dream for me as a filmmaker and will allow audiences to have an accurate account of what took place early in Mr. Vlahakis’s life.”

“We especially like the uplifting and celebratory message of the film, especially in light of the hard times Greeks are experiencing in their homeland,” said Ersi Danou, Co-Founder/Artistic Director, LAGFF.

“It is important to remember the ancient spirit of Ulysses, entrepreneurial and resilient at the same time.”

Limited tickets are available for world premiere of *A Green Story*, and exclusive opening party, for only \$75. A Gold Pass for the entire festival, including all parties, screening seminars, is only \$200. For ticket information, as well as the entire film line up to be announced in mid-April, please visit [www.lagff.org](http://www.lagff.org).

### About LAGFF

Now in their sixth celebratory year, Los Angeles Greek Film Festival (LAGFF) showcases a wave of Greek Cinema emerging from an irreverent generation of young filmmakers who are breaking ties with past trends and seeing things in their own unique way. The LAGFF as the center for Greek filmmakers from around the world is taking on new significance as it assumes an active role not only in reflecting the blossoming of Greek Cinema but also in promoting modern Greek culture by highlighting its hidden treasures and roots.

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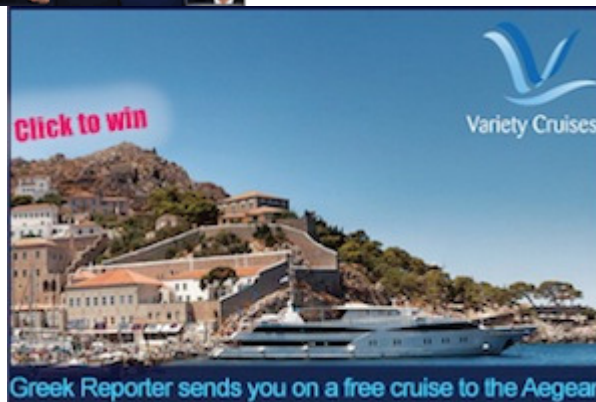
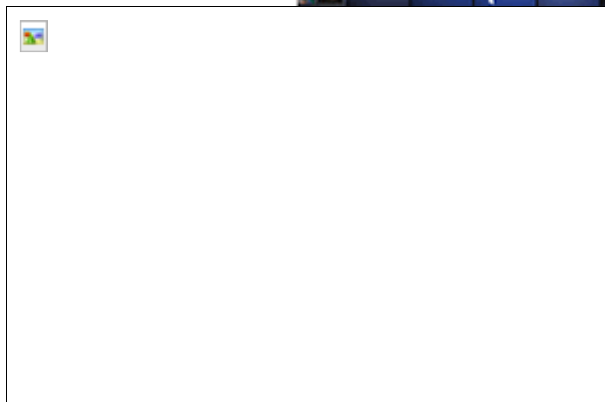
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