

SEMELE

PRESS KIT

ΣΕΜΕΛΗ

tiff.40 toronto
international
film festival
OFFICIAL SELECTION 2015



66 Internationale
Filmfestspiele
Berlin
Generation

TRIBECA
FILM
FESTIVAL
2016
OFFICIAL SELECTION

A FILM BY
MYRSINI ARISTIDOU

Director:

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Producer:

Reinaldo Marcus Green
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Executive Producer:

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SEMELE

SHORT FICTION, 13'

**“This is an astutely observed,
ultimately heart-rending story”**

J. Anderson TIFF Programing

Logline

‘A signature, is the excuse for Semele to visit her long absent father.’

Synopsis

Semele will do anything to spend some time with her long absent father. A school note becomes just the excuse for her to visit him at his workplace, where her presence highlights their fragile relationship.

Festival Screenings



Festival Specifications

Original Title:	ΣΕΜΕΛΗ
International Title:	SEMELE
Original Language of Film:	Greek
Film Type:	Fiction, Short Film
Genre:	Family, Drama
Running Time:	13 min
Camera:	Arri Alexa Plus
Image Format:	16:9 / 1.85 HD, Color
Sound Format:	Dolby 5.1
Subtitles:	English
Completed:	2015

SEMELE

MYRSINI ARISTIDOU



Biography

Born in Limassol Cyprus, Myrsini is an award winning writer and director. She is currently receiving her MFA in Film Production at NYU Tisch School of the Arts with a Tisch Department Scholarship. In 2013 she completed her BFA in Film and History of Art, at Pratt Institute in New York as part of the President's List.

In 2016, Myrsini was granted with the Spike Lee Film Production fund for the production of her next movie. Her movies have screened in festivals all around the globe, from Toronto to Berlin, and from USA to Cyprus and Australia.

Her latest award winning short film 'Semele' (TIFF Official Selection 2015, Berlinale Generation 2016) won the Special Jury Award for Best Short Film at the Berlinale Generation Kplus in 2016. Other works of the filmmaker include the short documentary shot in Argentina 'Ma' (2014), the award winning short film 'Not Now' (International Short Film Festival of Cyprus 2014 - Best Directing Award), and the short documentary 'Lost Hopes' (2011).

In May of 2009, Myrsini had her first photographic book publication and exhibition 'Mother India' (edition Athens Voice), where all the proceedings from the sales, were donated to the MSF (Doctors without Borders). Photographs taken by the artist have been accepted and exhibited in many parts of the world.

Filmography

2015 | **SEMELE** | SHORT FICTION 13'

2014 | **MA'** | SHORT DOC 6'

2013 | **NOT NOW** | SHORT FICTION 9'

2011 | **LOST HOPES** | SHORT DOC 10'

Director's statement

'Semele' highlights the delicate relationship of a daughter and her long absent father, as an unsigned school note becomes the excuse for young Semele to visit her father and try to rediscover their lost bond. Although her father Aris, at first doesn't want Semele around, as the day goes by they share precious moments that they will both treasure for life.

For me, this film is an exploration which shifts beyond a parent and child relationship, as it sets out to further question any relationship of love between two people. There is an underlying understanding between the two characters, and certain feelings and behaviors which are universal. Semele's desire to feel acknowledged and loved by her father, her determination to understand his behavior, is an effort to ultimately feel free and understand herself. Aris' inability to provide for her and reveal his own feelings, eventually leads to him becoming aware of his daughter's own needs.

As a young girl I rebelled in many ways, but I never admitted that the core of my frustration was the absence of a father figure in my life. Semele exposes how fragile and vulnerable human relationships are, and how important it is to accept one self in order to take the leap forward.

SEMELE

CAST



Yiannis Stankoglou

Aris - Father

Yiannis was born and raised in Evros, Greece, near the border of Turkey. At the age of 23 he studied performance studies and acting at the Giorgos Kimoulis Modern Theatre in the Athens Drama School. He moved and worked in New York for a couple of years and then returned back to Greece. Since then, he has had a remarkable career in theatre, TV, and movies that have screened in many international film festivals.



Vasiliki Kokkoliadi

Semele - Daughter

Vasiliki has no previous on screen experience. She was discovered by the director by doing a street casting in Athens.

SEMELE

PRODUCTION TEAM

Producer **Reinaldo Marcus Green**



Producer Reinaldo Marcus Green's films have premiered at prestigious film festivals around the world. His most recent film ('Stop') made its premiere at

Sundance 2015, and his previous short, 'Stone Cars', had its international premiere as an official Cinefondation selection at the Festival de Cannes 2014, as well as winning the Grand Jury Prize at Le Temps Presse Festival (juried by Jane Campion, Gus Van Sant, Gael Garcia Bernal, Gaspar Noe, Mira Nair, and Wim Wenders).

It went on to screen at numerous film festivals around the world including Telluride and the Los Angeles Film Festival; it is currently available on HBO GO.

As a graduate film student at NYU's Tisch School, Reinaldo was recognized as a Wasserman Award Finalist, and earned some of the highest awards in the NYU film program, including the 2014 Media Services Producing Award and the 2014 Honorary Award from the Princess Grace Foundation.

Most recently, Reinaldo was recognized as one of Filmmaker Magazine's 25 New Faces of Independent Film in 2015.

Cinematographer **Pepe Avila Del Pino**



Pepe is a director and cinematographer born and raised in Mexico City. After studying Communication (UIA) and Philosophy (UNAM) Pepe has worked in

different areas of film production such as advertising and documentary. His short films Kukatko (Prague, 2005) and Breve were screened and awarded in festivals around the world. In 2008, with the support of the FONCA and The Tisch School of the Arts Fellowship, Pepe enrolled in the NYU Graduate Film program.

As a cinematographer, Pepe has worked on commercials, short films, music videos, and the feature film Black Dog Red Dog (2012). In April, 2012, he was honored to receive the Volker Bahnemann Award for Cinematography from ARRI-CSC, and his spot for Axe, Assume the Consequences was a finalist in the 2012 AICP Show & Next Awards.

Working in Mexico and New York with a few short films in postproduction, Pepe is now developing his first feature film.

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SEMELE

ΣΕΜΕΛΗ



Cast

Yiannis Stankoglou

Vasiliki Kokkoliadi

Paris Aristides

Athos Antoniou

Kimonas Apostolopoulos

Sara Pitsikali

Crew

Written and Directed by Myrsini Aristidou

Cinematography by Pepe Avila del Pino

Executive Producers: Christina Drakos and Paris Film

Produced by Reinaldo Green

Assistant in Production: Maria Stylianou

UPM: Monica Nicolaidou, George Pantzis

Production Design by Lydia Mandridou

Costume by Elena Vaphea

Assistant Director: Dominik Waldstätten

Casting Director: Lydia Georgana

Hair and Makeup by Anastasia Vanelli

Gaffer & Mia Cioffi Henri

Grip & Electric: Aristos Steliou, George Pantzis

1st Assistant Camera: Ivan Vountides

2nd Assistant Camera: Alexander Asplind

Sound Mixer and Boom Operator: Gregory Oke

Sound Design by Arjun G Sheth

Foley Artist: Hollie Bennet

Music by Jacob Pavek

Color by Alan Gordon

Set Photographer: Christina Drakos

Post Lab: Film Factory

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FILM STILLS



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POSTER

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YIANNIS
STANKOGLOU

VASILIKI
KOKKOLIADI

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A FILM BY
MYRSINI ARISTIDOU

PARIS FILM AND MYRSINI ARISTIDOU PRESENT SEMELE FEATURING YIANNIS STANKOGLOU AND VASSILIKI KOKKOLIADI DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY PEPE AVILA DEL PINO
EDITED BY MYRSINI ARISTIDOU AND LYDIA NEROUTSOPOULOU PRODUCTION DESIGNER LYDIA MANDRIDOU MAKEUP BY ELENA VAPHEA SOUND MIXING ARJUN G SRETH MUSIC BY JACOB PAVEK
EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS CHRISTINA DRAKOS AND PARIS FILM IN ASSOCIATION WITH TISCH SCHOOL OF THE ARTS AND DRAKOS DMC PRODUCED BY REINALDO MARCUS GREEN

NYU
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PARIS FILM

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