DISFF:

History

Every September, the heart of the film world beats in the North of Greece. Drama, one of the most beautiful cities in Greece, hosts the DISFF, creating a magical autumnal setting.

The Festival started as early as 1978, while in 1995 it grew to become the Drama International Short Film Festival, quickly gaining a reputation at home and abroad as one of the most notable short film festivals in Europe.



Inspiring young creatives for more than 4 decades





With 45 years of experience but also a constant desire for renewal, DISFF is more alive and fresher than ever, highlighting and supporting Greek creators, while also promoting the Greek film industry internationally.

Drama Film Festival is Changing

DISFF is entering a new era. It changes and modernizes without losing the prestige of its name and its history.

With a passionate new leadership team, DISFF embraces innovation and extroversion, heralding a new era for the festival.. With a dynamic change of its visual identity, creation of an online platform, renewal of the program and the organization of new sections and events, it aims to stand out resoundingly on a global level as well as to expand the audience that watches short films in Greece.

With the dynamic presence of award-winning young Greek filmmakers who have distinguished themselves at the biggest festivals worldwide (Cannes, Locarno, Venice, Sundance) presenting both with their films and with their participation in the potential of, DISFF45 takes on a new lease of life.











Venice Film Festival



DISFF47 returns with a rich programme that this year includes the National Competition, the International Competition, the International Student Competition, the National Student Competition, the Animation, Short and Green and the new KIDDO programme.

While targeting professionals, the Short Film Hub aims to connect talented directors, writers and producers with the international and domestic film industry. With the distinguished Pitching Lab and other educational workshops, the parallel Cinematherapy programme, but also with brilliant guests from the most important international festivals, DISFF aspires to be the film event of the year again this year.

The Drama Festival becomes the "ticket" to the Oscars

The American Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences has selected the world's leading festivals to collaborate in the formation of the final list of short films eligible to compete for the Academy Award for Best Short Film. The Academy allows films that win first prize at these festivals to automatically qualify for the category shortlist, provided they meet the Academy standards.

Thus, the two short films that receive a Golden Dionysus, i.e. the Best Film Award at the National Competition, and the Best Film Grand Prix at the DISFF International Competition each September, will automatically secure the coveted "ticket" to participate in the Oscar process, which may lead them to the final five for the Best Short Film Oscar.

47 Drama International Short Film Festival



24



Reaching our audience wherever they are

The Platform

One of the positive changes brought about by the pandemic, already in 2020, was the creation of on-line platform of DISFF, in which anyone can now connect and watch the festival and its parallel events online from any device.

In 2020, for the first time in its history, DISFF was experimentally held in a hybrid format: both through a physical presence in the city of Drama and through the parallel online screenings on the new platform built specifically for the needs of DISFF.

Student International Competition





Now, we are strengthening the online platform even more by including, in addition to the screening of films, access to the parallel activities of DISFF.

The public, already familiar with on-demand services is constantly raising its demands, looking for films of different content with high level content.

That is why we believe that the new format of the DISFF online platform will win over even the most demanding viewer, offering them access to a wide range of films to discover their favorite among them.

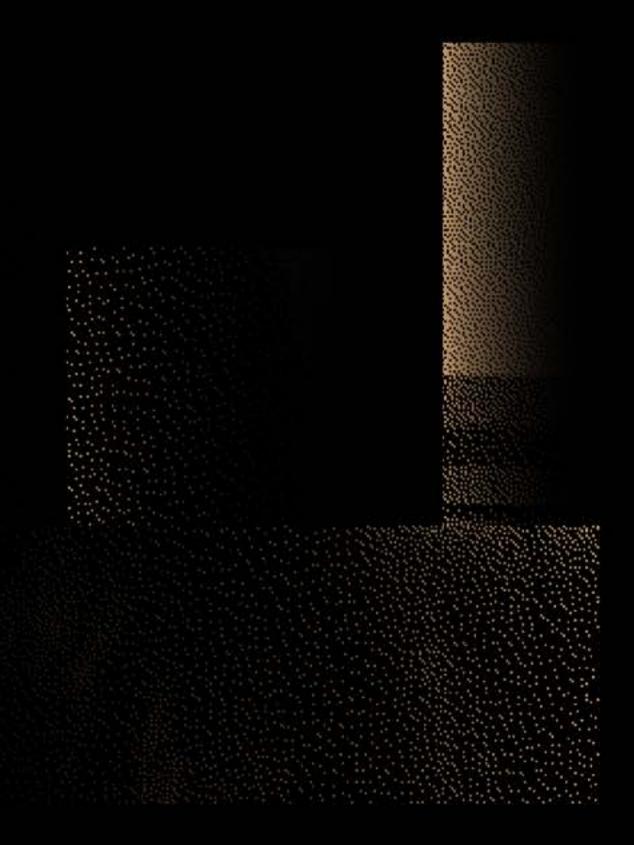


Online platform gathered a total of 1.033.000 views

More than 6.000 viewers visited our cinemas

Designed to Inspire



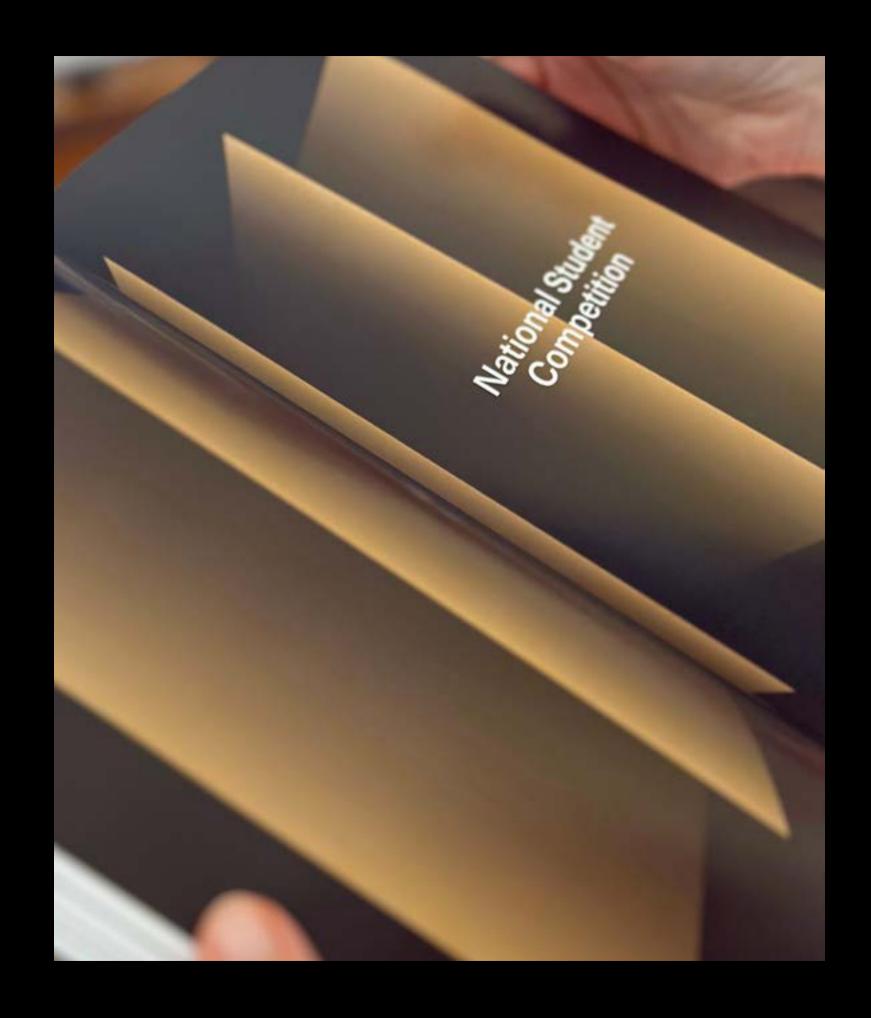




Visual Identity

Our aim was to create a complete system of visual expression that would consolidate the current mission of the Festival, making the institution instantly recognizable to the Greek and international film audience: for the professionals working with the motion picture and for the individuals that are simply inspired by it - for young professionals and acclaimed filmmakers.

















Greek Cinema Now

After the success of Giorgos Lanthimos, who managed to distinguish himself at the Cannes Film Festival for the feature film 'Fang' there is a great opening of Greek cinema abroad. And this opening is mainly done with short films.

In 2019, Vassilis Kekatos achieved the impossible and won the Cannes Palme d'Or for the short film "The Distance Between Heaven and Us", making everyone turn their eyes to Greece again.



FESTIVAL DE CANNES

Vasilis Kekatos, winner of the Short Film Palme d'or for "The Distance Between Heaven and Us"



The new generation of Greek short film directors, who all started from DISFF (Giorgos Zois, Thanasis Neofotistos, Konstantina Kotzamanis, Jacqueline Lentzou, Evi Kalogeropoulou, Manolis Mavris et al.) continues entries and awards success at A-list Festivals all over the world showing us that the moment is of pivotal importance for the course of Greek cinema and the support of the institution now is more necessary and essential than ever.



DISFF



From today to tomorrow

The Hellenic Open University's Undergraduate Programme of Studies (OPF) "Studies in Film Writing, Practice and Research", which is institutionally linked to the Drama International Short Film Festival, has been operating for three years.









Join us in showcasing Drama as a global cultural hub.

DISFF48 September 2025