



GREEK COMMUNITY
OF MELBOURNE



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Not a spare seat in the house at the Opening of the Delphi Bank 21st Greek Film Festival.

The **Delphi Bank 21st Greek Film Festival** opened with a bang in Melbourne last night to a sell-out crowd of 800 people. Pantelis Voulgaris' ***Little England*** was this year's opener, taking audiences on a visual journey of the island of Andros, where two sisters become entangled in a love triangle that develops with life-shattering consequences.

In Melbourne to present their film and launch the Festival was lead actor Andreas Konstantinou and producer Giannis Iakovidis (***With Heart & Soul, Bank Bang, Nisos***). "This film was made with an enormous amount of love on the island of Andros", said Konstantinou. "We're humbled to be here on the other side of the world presenting our film at this important cultural event. By supporting our films, you give Greek artists the strength and inspiration we need to continue to create beautiful work", Konstantinou went on to say.

Thrilled with the large crowd, Greek Community president Bill Papastergiadis noted that "the opening night of the Festival was a sell-out. This highlights the importance of film and culture to Greek-Australians. The Greek Community of Melbourne is proud of its initiation of and involvement in this Festival for 21 years."

Following the screening of ***Little England***, guests enjoyed food and drinks in the Como, dancing past midnight to local band ***Gyftoi Lite***. Taking guests by surprise, Greek-Cypriot singer Mihalīs Hatzigiannis and partner Zeta Makripoulia snuck into the party, staying to mingle and take photos with fans. Hatzigiannis is in Melbourne for a unique concert with the Melbourne Symphony Orchestra as part of the Melbourne Festival, this Saturday 18 October at the Sidney Myer Music Bowl.

For the next two and a half weeks, Palace Cinema Como will become the home of Greek cinema, showcasing comedies, dramas, a special 10th Anniversary screening of ***Brides*** (Dir. Pantelis Voulgaris) documentaries and a stand-out shorts program. Just some of the films on offer include ***Committed***, doing for Cyprus what Scorsese did for New York - a romantic comedy about modern-day relationships, ***Xenia***, a cross-Greece romp meshing Donnie Darko and Almodovar-like surrealism, ***Love in the Time of Crisis & The Other Human***, two documentaries looking at the human side of the Greek crisis, and ***Block 12***, a delightful comedic romp set in Cyprus.

DELPHI BANK 21ST GREEK FILM FESTIVAL

Now until November 2

Palace Cinema Como (299 Toorak Rd, South Yarra)

Full program at greekfilmfestival.com.au

Tickets from palacecinemas.com.au or (03) 9827 7533