

## **Director of the Department of Film Studies: Dimitris Panagiotatos**

**Dimitris Panagiotatos:** Dimitris Panagiotatos is a director, producer and film theorist. He studied in France (Bachelor's and Master's in Film Studies from the University of Paris VIII). He is director and producer of seven feature films in co-production with the Hellenic Film Center, with many distinctions and participations in Greece and abroad (San Sebastian, Barcelona, Montreal, New York etc.). He was honored with the State Directing Award for his film *"The Night with Silena"* and with a State Award for Quality and Technical Skills for his film *"Lovers in the Time Machine"*. Other films by him include *"L'usine du vampire"*, *"The Third Night"*, *"Everything My Loneliness"*, *"Strangers in a foreign country"*. He has directed TV movies & series for both state and private television (Mystery and Fantasy Stories, Magic Night, Bold Stories, etc.). He is the author of two books for the cinema, while reviews and studies of his have been published in many magazines. He is a member of the Association of Directors and Producers of Greek Cinema and a founding member of the Hellenic Film Academy. As a professor with 30 years of experience, he has taught directing and film history and aesthetics in many film and theatre schools, while he has been director of studies and a professor in the Film Studies department of New York College since 2005. He has a particular weakness for what he calls the dark side cinema (the film noir, the thriller, the fantastic).

**Voula Georgakakou:** Voula Georgakakou has been working in the audiovisual sector since 1974. During her long career in the field, she has worked as Director of Finance in the Hellenic Office of FOX NEWS MOVIE/TON, as well as in the Hellenic Film Organization and in Greek state television as an independent producer of television programmes and documentaries. She was also Director of HELLAS FILM, and was responsible for the promotion and distribution of Greek films of the Hellenic Film Centre from 1981 to 2006. During her tenure as head of HELLAS FILM, she contributed to the international recognition of Greek cinema through the organized and dynamic presence of Greek films at major international festivals and international markets. Since October 2008, she has held a managerial position at FEELGOOD ENTERTAINMED, one of the most important Greek production and distribution companies. Based on her extensive experience in the production and distribution sector, Voula Georgakakou has participated in many European programmes in support of the European Cinema such as EUROIM (1988-1994) and EFDO (1988-94) as well as being Greece's national representative at the European Film Academy (EFA), Film Awards (1988-93) and now as Voting Member of the EFA. Voula Georgakakou studied Economics at the Athens University of Economics and Law at Athens Law School. She has taught as an expert in film production, distribution and promotion of many university seminars in Greece and other European countries. Today she teaches film production, distribution and promotion in the Department of Film Studies of New York College.

**Katerina Maragoudaki:** She was born in Chania, Crete. She studied photography at film schools in Greece, Italy and Australia. Since 1990, she has worked as director of photography in feature and short films, many of which have been awarded at Greek and international festivals (Drama, Thessaloniki, Alexandria). She has also worked for television in documentaries, series and commercials. Since 1992, she has been responsible for the design of lighting in over 300 theatrical performances (opera, concerts, musical performances and

dance theatres in Greece and abroad). In addition, in August 2004, she undertook the design of lighting of the closing ceremony of gymnastics at the Athens 2004 Olympic Games. She is a member of the GSC and the Hellenic Film Academy and has been a member of the qualifying committee of the Thessaloniki and Drama Film Festival. Since 2005, she teaches at New York College, in the Department of Film Studies, Directorate of Film Photography and Camera. The courses aim at the specialization and development of students in modern cinema and television.

**Dimitra Hatoupi:** She was born in Thessaloniki. She studied theatre in the schools of Theatre of Art and P. Katselis. She is a graduate of English Literature from the University of Athens and has studied classical dance and singing. She has taught acting at the drama school "Iasmos", the course of Directing at the University of Patras and since 2003 she has founded and conducted the School of Theatre "Delos", where she teaches Hypocritics and Improvisation. Since 2005, she teaches the course of Hypocritics in Cinema at New York College. She has collaborated with many well-known directors (Andreas Voutsinas, Theodoros Espiritou, Spyros Evangelatos, Giannis Iordanidis, Kostis Kapelonis, Giorgos Kimoulis, Nikos Koundouros, Theodoros Terzopoulos, Kostas Ferris, etc.) and has starred in over 40 theatrical performances. She starred in many films (*Factory, Karavan Sarai, Numbered, The Flea, Tranzito, Mirupafsim, The Third Night*, etc.) She also starred in many TV series (*Bulukia, Anatomy of a Crime, You Decide, A Woman from the Past, The Prince*, etc.). In 1997, she was awarded the Kotopoulos Prize for her performance in the *Quartet* directed by G. Michaelides. She has been awarded at the Thessaloniki Festival twice for first female role and twice for second female role. In 2000, she received the first female role award for the television series *Powerless Lies*. In 2003, she founded the Urban Non-Profit Company "Pandemos los".

**Vicky Hassandra:** Vicky Hassandra is a professional screenwriter. She has written the scripts of two feature films, which have been successfully played in cinemas and at international festivals (*The Third Night, Strangers in a Foreign Country*) while her script "So close so distant" is in production process. At the same time, she has written scripts for tv and series for public and private television. She is a graduate of the French Language and Literature Department of the Philosophy School of the National and Kapodistrian University of Athens. With studies in literary translation, a graduate of the Centre de la Traduction Littéraire (IFA Centre for Literary Translation), she has translated into Greek, works of classical and contemporary French writers, (*Mme de Sevigne, Anatole France, Alfred de Musset, Paula Jacques* etc.). She has also trained in European Union issues, attending specialized seminars in Athens and Brussels. She is a founding member of the Hellenic Film Academy. She is also a member of the Association of Screenwriters of Greece, while she has also served as a member of their Board of Directors. Since 2006, she has been teaching screenplay at New York College in the Department of Film Studies. With extensive teaching experience, she integrates in her courses the reading of Aristotle's work *On Poetry* as a means of understanding the basic principles of dramaturgy. She is connected with her students by a relationship of trust, a prerequisite for cooperation in the script workshops she directs. Her goal is, through her meeting with young students, to encourage them to discover for themselves the themes and cinematographic genres of interest to them, to draw on their own experiences and stimuli, and to write their first complete script. Vicky Hassandra is responsible for the scripts of the graduate films of the Bachelor Film Studies of the University of Greenwich, films that achieve high scores and distinctions, while also being screened at well-known international film festivals.

**Efthimis Hatzis:** Efthimis Hatzis grew up in New York and studied Visual Communication & Psychology at the University of Pennsylvania, U.S. As a fellow, he continued his studies at Master's level in Directing at the prestigious Tisch School of the Arts at New York University (NYU). He was a student of Al Pacino, Sidney Lumet, Alan Alda, Spike Lee and Martin Scorsese. For his graduate work, he received a grant from Paramount Pictures. His short films have won many awards at international festivals. His first feature film, *The Pink Beaches*, received international acclaim from critics at festivals around the world. Efthimis Hatzis has created over 50 short works of fiction for a program that includes high schools throughout Greece. He was the lead writer for the series *TRACE* for tv station MEGA. He directs television programmes and advertisements, and teaches directing at Aristotle University and New York College, where his students awarded him the prestigious award of Best Professor of the Department of Film Studies in 2006.