



WORLD SALES
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STELIOS CHARALAMBOPOULOS

Born in Athens in 1956. He studied economics and film in Greece followed post-graduate studies in Paris. He was the publisher of the art magazine Graphi. Since 1988, he is the co-founder of Periplus, an independent film and tv production company, along with producer Thanos Lambropoulos and director of photography Yiannis Varvarigos.

FILMOGRAPHY

2009-2010: The signature
2006-2007: The night that Fernando Pessoa encountered Constantine Cavafy
Best Documentary, Greek State Quality Awards 2008. Greek Film Critics' Association Award. Best Documentary – ODYSSEUS AWARDS 2009, London Greek Film Festival
2005-2006: Michalis Ganas, doc.
2005: Yiannis Moralis, doc.

FIPRESCI Prize - 8th International Documentary Film Festival.
2000-2001: Log Books-George Seferis doc.
First Prize for Best Documentary, Salonica International Film Festival.
1999-2000: Mediterranean stories doc.
Grand Prix Teramo International Environmental Film Festival 2000.
First Audience Award Salonica International Film Festival. Second Prize State Quality Award Salonica International Film Festival.
1995-1996: Hades (first feature film)
Best New Director (national competition), Special Mention (international competition), Award for Best Make-up, Best Production Award (Union of Greek Film and Television Technicians): 1996, Thessaloniki Film Festival, Ministry of Culture State Quality award 1997.



SYNOPSIS

Angel has kept memories of his lover, the famous painter Maria Demou, alive ever since her mysterious death 15 years ago. He shows Anna, a researcher who is preparing a retrospective exhibition about Demou, some paintings she did not know existed and awakens Anna's curiosity about the past.

Although Angel appears to cooperate in her investigation, shedding light on the murky aspects of the painter's work and her former life in Paris, Anna soon realizes that Angel isn't telling the whole truth. And yet, as her admiration for Angel grows, she does not want to assume he is covering for his possible involvement in Maria's death.

She continues to probe into their stories until she learns about an engineer who, on Demou's recommendation, undertook the renovation of Angel's village house. His sinister presence in their lives seems to be a clue to unlocking the secrets of the past, but Angel gives no further sign of cooperation.

When Anna threatens to cancel the exhibition, Angel feels compelled to open his heart to her, revealing the truth of his life: the enigmatic existence of an alter-ego and the transcendent beauty of his art.



DIRECTOR'S NOTE

The film Signature describes the course taken by two people in their effort to change their lives, to assume the consequences of choices that seemed final and binding, to refuse professional roles and artistic identities, an undertaking that will end up by destroying them. Angel, a gifted painter, but with no material support or contacts in Paris, is obliged to create his art in the margins of an everyday struggle to make ends meet. Maria, also a painter, a developing talent, has the support that only early success can afford and the means to exist materially, which enables her to bask in the desirable, but ephemeral, limelight. They meet and try to free themselves from the burden of their destiny, thereby exposing themselves to an ultimate challenge: Integrity as the guiding rule of life. What saves them is Love, with its inherent morality. But their art world circle has already assigned them roles and identities; it wants to affirm their "image" without regard to their essence. Angel remains forgotten in his darkness

until Maria comes to pull him into the light. Her influence is twofold and divisive. Through love, the flame of creativity is rekindled; it generates life. On the other hand, she "lends" herself and Angel a public image that blurs identities and roles, gradually invalidating their very essence, confusing them in their "raison d'être", and finally causing love's wounds to fester into guilt. For Angel, a decisive escape from his dark solitude towards Maria's world of light becomes both Heaven and Hell. Like the "Split Faces" in his exhibition, he walks a tightrope on the verge of nightmarish incongruities. In the end, Angel – even though he is given the option – chooses to remain in the darkness, refusing to rewrite their story, refusing to restate the truth. He sacrifices his own identity so that the public image of Maria remains untarnished. Angel' position is consistent, moral. He is a man who bathed in Love, experienced it's causes and effects and was not afraid to get burnt by it's flame. It is to love that he answers, and it is love he defends.



Cast

George Corraface
 Maria Protopappa
 Alexia Kaltsiki
 Nikos Kouris
 Dimitris Lignadis
 Marco Gastine
 Jerome Keen
 Evri Sofroniadou
 Nikos Doukas
 Thodoris Gonis
 Vasso Kavalieratou
 Stathis Kokoris
 Christos Sougaris
 guest-star
 Michalis Mitroussis
Production
 Periplus, Republic of Cyprus
 -Ministry of Education and Culture, Greek Film Centre, Two Thirty Five, Hellenic Broadcasting Corp. ERT

S.A., Screensky Productions, Arctos, CL Productions, NOVA
Executive production
 Periplus
Production oversight
 Giorgos Kyriakos
Production managers
 Dimitris Hatzivoyiatzis
 Michalis Karachalios
Visual Arts consultant
 Chronis Botsoglou
Paintings
 Panagiotis Koulouras
Visual effects
 Nikos Moutselos
Casting
 Sotiria Marini
Make-up
 Fani Alexaki
Sound
 Panos Papadimitriou

Sound mix
 Costas Varibiotis
Editing – sound design
 Kenan Akkawi
Sets & costumes
 Ioulia Stavridou
Music
 Nikos Kypourgou
Cinematography
 Elias Konstantakopoulos
co-producers
 Vassilis Konstantilieris
 Nikos Moutselos
 George Corraface
 Alexandros Ioannidis
 Kostas Lambropoulos
Producer
 Thanos Lambropoulos
Written & Directed by
 Stelios Charalambopoulos
Time: 130min
 Dolby Digital. Color