

Hellenic Film Society USA Presents Romantic Drama, WHAT IF—Christopher Papakaliatis' Directorial Debut Sunday, June 4 at 3pm at the Museum of the Moving Image in Astoria, NY

Astoria, NY – May 23, 2023 – The Hellenic Film Society USA presents the romantic drama, *What If*, starring the renowned actor-director Christopher Papakaliatis, on Sunday, June 4 at 3pm at the Museum of the Moving Image in Astoria. The film is the directorial debut of Papakaliatis, who created and stars in the popular series Maestro in Blue, currently streaming on Netflix.

The film, recipient of two Hellenic Film Academy Awards, underscores how life can be forever changed by a chance encounter, or an action not taken. Two parallel stories demonstrate how mysterious, dangerous, yet enthralling life can be. A <u>trailer</u> for the film can be found on the Hellenic Film Society's YouTube channel. The film is in Greek with English subtitles.

"What If broke box office records when it was first released in Greece in 2012, and it established Papakaliatis, who was already known for his television work, as a young film director to take note of," says Jimmy DeMetro, president of the Hellenic Film Society. "We are happy to present the film for those who want to experience it again and for those who have never seen it. It's as fresh as the day it was originally released, a truly worthy addition to the canon of great cinematic romantic dramas."

For further information or to purchase tickets, please visit www.hellenicfilmusa.org and follow on Facebook and Instagram. The Museum of the Moving Image, 36-01 35th Avenue in Astoria, is conveniently located near public transportation.

The screening is part of Always on Sunday, the Greek film series presented monthly by the Hellenic Film Society at the Museum of the Moving Image. The series is partially supported by funds from the New York State Council on the Arts, Statewide Community Regrants Program with the support of Governor Kathy Hochul and the New York State Legislature, and administered by Flushing Town Hall.

About the Hellenic Film Society USA

The Hellenic Film Society USA (HFS) is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization rooted in the belief that Greek cinema deserves to be part of the American cultural landscape. The organization promotes feature films, documentaries, and film shorts made by Greek filmmakers and those of Greek descent, as well as films that promote the cultures of Greece and Cyprus.

In addition to collaborating with the prestigious Museum of the Moving Image for its series of monthly Greek film screenings, HFS presents the annual New York Greek Film Expo film festival. HFS also hosts a YouTube channel offering free Greek films and interviews with filmmakers.

The Stavros Niarchos Foundation (SNF) is the lead supporter of the Hellenic Film Society USA. Additional support is provided by the Greek National Tourism Organization, the Kallinikeion Foundation, Antenna Satellite TV, and NYC & Company. For additional information, please visit www.hellenicfilmusa.org or call 347-934-9497.

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