

# MOTORAWAY 95

ELI TRINGOU  
ARGYRIS PANDAZARAS  
KSENIA DANIA

A FILM BY  
EVI KALOGIROPOULOU



FESTIVAL DE CANNES  
COURT MÉTRAGE  
COMPÉTITION 2020

CINEMATOGRAPHY: CHRISTINA MOUMOURT • EDITING: CHRISTOS GIANNAKOPOULOS • COSTUME DESIGNER: MARLI ALIEERT  
MUSIC BY: NEGROS TOU MORIA & MOHAMMED ROWE • SOUND DESIGNER: YANNIS ANTIPAS • GREEK FILM CENTRE • MARNI FILMS WITH THE SUPPORT OF  
CO-PRODUCER: ELEUSTIS 2021 • EUROPEAN CAPITAL OF CULTURE • OFFICE IN GREECE: PRODUCED, WRITTEN & DIRECTED BY EVI KALOGIROPOULOU  
ROSA LUXEMBURG STIFTUNG






# LOGLINE



IN A GREEK INDUSTRIAL TOWN, SOCIAL, RACIAL AND GENDER DIVISIONS GIVE RISE TO HOSTILITY AND DISTRUST, REFLECTED IN THE BOOMING LOCAL AMATEUR SPORTS SCENE AND TWO SIBLINGS' ANTAGONISTIC RELATIONSHIP.



# SYNOPSIS



Two siblings, Sima and Isaac, live and work in a Greek industrial town neighbourhood mostly inhabited by Black-Sea Greek immigrants, which stands opposite an area inhabited by immigrants of varied backgrounds. The two communities never cross over to the other side - only Sima who prefers to hang out with people from the opposite side of the bridge, including her best friend, Ksenia - the only thing they have in common is the bridge Motorway 65 that runs between them. Social, racial and gender divisions give rise to hostility and distrust, reflected in the booming local sports scene and the siblings' antagonistic relationship.

# DIRECTOR'S NOTE

The idea for the film came to me during a visit at a local ammunition factory that shut down three years ago in the Greek industrial town of Aspropyrgos. In the workers' conference room, there were 90s-made graffiti of female workers that fought for labour rights. At the same time, the factory's security manager was describing the process of making an ammunition component to me in much detail, specificity and technical terms. The stories I heard about the ongoing feuds between various local groups rounded out my experience of this very distinctive place and I knew then that I wanted to conjure a story that spoke of all those elements.



Visually, my most important and challenging task was depicting the uncanny heavy-industry landscape in Aspropyrgos, a place imbued with strong patriarchal undertones as dictated by the industry itself. I was interested in capturing the female element in such a dystopian, industrial environment; the hardships a woman faces when living and working there, as well as the strength and sense of female empowerment emerging from experiencing these adverse conditions. My starting point were the stories I was told by women working in businesses such as the graffiti-laden ammunition factory (where industrial accidents have sadly taken place with them as victims) which informed the female lead character of Sima.

Parallel to that, I also collected stories and testimonies that spoke of the hostility among the various ethnic groups that have co-existed in this place for years: on the one side of the eponymous motorway, the Black-Sea Greek community (Greeks who emigrated from Russia to Greece, some of whom have settled in Aspropyrgos) and immigrants from the Balkans, Asia and all over Africa, on the other.

This tension among them, a hugely important element in the fabric of the film, also comes through in the strong presence of martial arts competitions in the area. The kick boxing and free wrestling gym plays a dominant part in the lives of the inhabitants, as they don't have many places where they can meet, have fun and socialize. In this rich, hyper local tapestry of people and experiences, authenticity was crucial. Apart from the three



main actors, the rest are ordinary people appearing as themselves and all the athletes that take part in the film are actual local club athletes and locals, for whom -in the film as in life- sports take on a different meaning: less like a mindless distraction and more like a way out of this dystopian landscape and a hope for a better life.

Mortality and gender and xenophobic violence come into play as the body emerges as a symbol of empowerment, the most direct means of safeguarding one's sense of self in socially marginalized groups, as well fortifying it against the advances of capitalism and its violent manifestations.





# DIRECTOR'S BIOS



Evi Kalogiropoulou is a visual artist and filmmaker working both in Athens and London. Evi has studied at Athens University of Economics and Business at Athens School Fine Art and she holds a Master from the Royal College of Art in Moving Image.

She is an Artist in Residency in Somerset House Studios in London.

She accomplished a film commissioned by Onassis Foundation for the ENTER online exhibition and a film commissioned by PCAI for their film collection.

She is awarded the ARTWORKS Stavros Niarchos Fellowship.

Her sculpture work is represented by The Breeder Gallery.

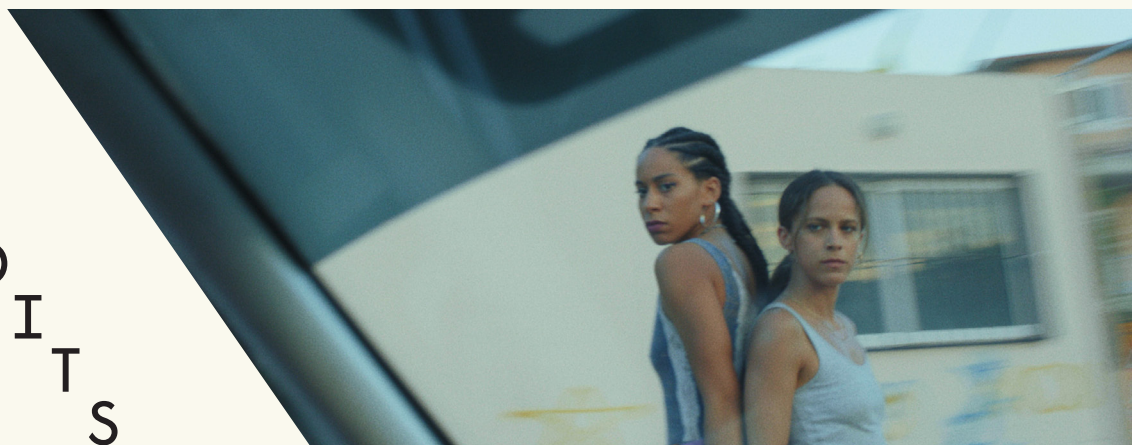
She participated in the exhibition "The Same River Twice" organized by The DESTE Foundation and New Museum.

Her short film Motorway 65 was accepted in the Official Selection for Competition of Cannes 73rd edition.

Evi's films had various screenings in spaces such as the BFI, the Chisenahale Gallery, and the Whitechapel Gallery in London.

Her projects explore ideas associated with the inclusion/exclusion, cross-culture identity, female figures in Ancient Greek mythology frames and post-apocalyptic environments.

# C R E D I T S



## CAST

Elli Tringou  
Ksenia Dania

Argyris Pandazaras  
Stathis Papadopoulos

WRITTEN AND DIRECTED BY Evi Kalogiropoulou

PRODUCED BY Evi Kalogiropoulou

EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS Christina Moumouri & Mina Dreki

DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY Christina Moumouri

SECOND UNIT PHOTOGRAPHY Damianos Aronidis

EDITED BY Christos Giannakopoulos

SOUND Yiannis Antipas

SOUND DESIGNER Mohammed Rowe

SOUND MIXING Costas Fylaktidis

COLORIST Dimitris Karteris

ORIGINAL MUSIC Mohammed Rowe

Negros tou Moria(Kevin Zans Ansong)

Masla.G (Giorgos Kiosses Tasopoulos)

COSTUME DESIGNER Marli Aliferi

MAKE UP Ioanna Lygizou

PRODUCTION MANAGER Romanos Argyropoulos-Ioannou

ASSISTANT DIRECTOR - CONTINUITY SUPERVISOR Andreas Papanikolas

ARTWORK DESIGNER Konstantinos Frangoulis

MARKETING AGENCY asterisk\*

CO-PRODUCED BY ELEUSIS 2021 EUROPEAN CAPITAL OF CULTURE, MARNI FILMS

GREEK FILM CENTRE WITH THE SUPPORT OF ROSA LUXEMBURG STIFTUNG

## TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS

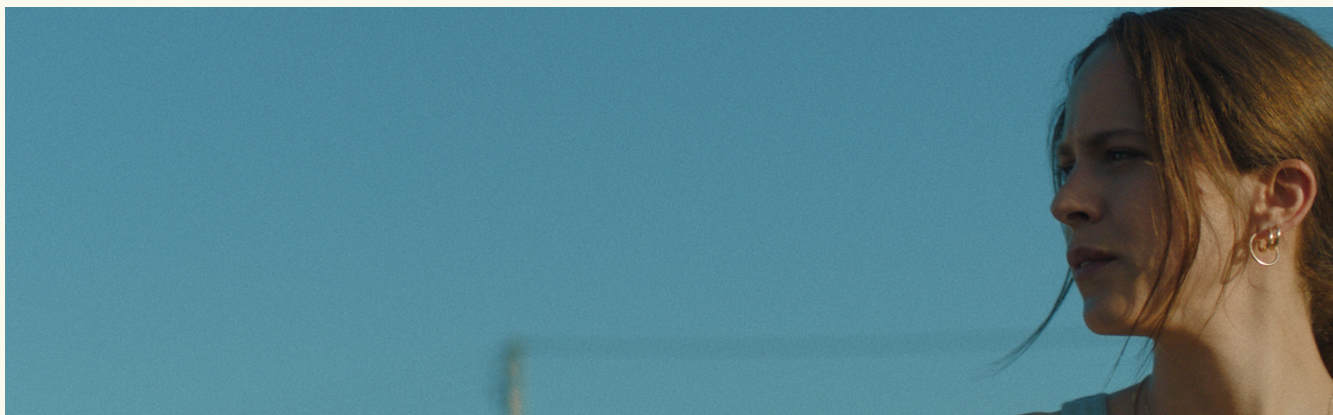
DURATION 14,59 mins  
FORMAT 2K | 1:2.39  
cinemascope | colour

DIALOGUES Greek  
COUNTRY Greece (2020)

# C O N T A C T

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