

Story Studios Films

K. Xenou 11
29100 Zakynthos, Greece
+30 6944150130
lukas@story-studios.com
spiridoula@story-studios.com

My Human Self (2017) sponsorship package

Overview

The feature-length documentary My Human Self (2017) was shot over a period of over three years, between 2013 and 2017. It was completed in February 2017 and was in the Official Selection of the Thessaloniki Documentary Festival, one of the world's top 10 documentary festivals, where it had its world premiere on 6 March 2017. It is also in the Official Selection of the Fair Trade Greece film festival, April/ May 2017. The micro-budget production was completely self- financed by the producers/ directors with the help of four friends.

Synopsis

The middle-aged Kostas is struggling with unemployment. With his stubbornness and selfishness driving him, he creates a social kitchen with which he cooks on the streets of Greece every day, trying to come closer to people in need. When his social venture becomes famous, his ego and stubbornness bring him close to failure and in conflict with his life partner and his own self.

Goals of the film

1. **Promote the cause of solidarity:** As the film's protagonist states: "There is a huge difference between solidarity and charity. Charity means to be well off and to offer to people because you feel sorry for them, from your leftovers. Solidarity is not the same. Solidarity means to sacrifice. To sacrifice a meal that you won't eat tomorrow so that somebody else can eat it today. To sacrifice your time and your money."
2. **Promote the concept of everything being possible:** Rather than a depressing look on the outcomes of the Greek crisis, the film is a positive reinforcement of human achievement. The protagonist started off with no money at all, being unemployed and manages to create 15 autonomous Social Kitchens in Greece and is now looking to bring his cause to other countries, too.
3. **Contribute to building cross-cultural bridges:** Our protagonist operates in a world that is divided by the rise of extremism and terrorism. His human values of respect and dignity towards people of all cultures is clearly seen in the film when he goes to a refugee camp on the island of Lesbos and cooks for, and with, hundreds of mostly Syrian refugees.
4. **Promote social inclusion:** The Social Kitchen "The Other Human" started off with cooking on the streets of Athens, Greece. Most volunteers are homeless themselves, and with them helping others, they come a step closer to re-entering society. All kinds of social groups are represented in the team of the Social Kitchen: from homeless to well-off individuals.
5. **Promote communication:** The aim of his venture, Kostas says in the film, is to communicate. To start talking again, like we used to do. It isn't really about the food in most cases. It is about eating together like a family.

6. **Why do we help?:** The film also asks why do we help people in need? The protagonist is very clear: There is no solidarity without self-interest. The feeling of inner accomplishment and being respected drives him forward. He also finds his boundaries when his stubbornness and intuition mean he doesn't sufficiently prepare a trip to Italy where he goes with the aim of promoting his social venture.

Specifications

Running time: 75 mins. Genre: Documentary. Directors: Lukas Agelastos & Spiridoula Gouskou. Year: 2017. Language: Greek (with English subtitles). Country of origin: Greece. Format: 1920x1080,16:9, 24 fps, Sound: Stereo

About the directors

Lukas Agelastos and Spiridoula Gouskou are the owners and creative directors of the wedding photography / videography company [Story Studios](#). This is their first feature documentary, after having created an award-winning short version of the film called "[The Unemployed Man Who Feeds The Homeless](#)". They are already developing their next projects, including a Turkish-Greek co-production documentary about the population exchange, a narrative Social Realism film, and a short narrative film. They are attracted by stories with timeless and universal themes and thus also more easily attracting interest outside Greece. They both strongly identify with the themes of marginalised people, social justice, self development, human kindness and solidarity.



Milestones

1. Production

Principal photography started in Athens in November 2013, and continued with a series of 25 interviews of organisations that deal with homelessness and homeless people between March 2014 and March 2015. While these interviews did not make the final cut, they provided us with great insights on the plight of homeless people. In January 2016, the crew travelled to the island of Lesbos and Athens with Kostas and his volunteers, and in October 2016 to Umbria, Italy, where the protagonist attempted to create a Social Kitchen in Perugia. In January 2017, some last additional scenes were shot in Athens.

2. Post Production

The editing process began in September 2016, when our editor Ioanna Pogiantzi, who was on the team of the Academy Award- nominated Dogtooth (2009), started reviewing the footage. In November 2016, the directors joined her to begin the central editing process, which went on until January 2017. Music recording with the band Ypogeia Reymata took place at Polyphoniki studios in Athens in January 2017, while the sound mix with the sound editor Persefoni Miliou was done in Athens in January/ February 2017. Finally, colour correction was also done in Athens by Giannis Ageladopoulos of Kinematic Productions between January and February 2017.

3. Promotion and festival run

The festival run of the film started very successfully at the Thessaloniki Documentary Festival in March 2017. It continues with the Fair Trade film festival in Athens and Thessaloniki in April/ May 2017.

We have also applied to the following international film festivals, but now we need further financing to get there and promote this film, as well as apply to more festivals:

Los Angeles Lift-Off Film Festival, Philadelphia Independent Film Festival, Girona Film Festival, Tirana International Film Festival, Filmfestival Münster , San Francisco Greek Film Festival

Sponsorship tiers

Item	Gold	Silver	Bronze
Film-opening credits	✓		
Film-closing credits	✓	✓	
Website- all pages	✓		
Website- sponsors page	1st priority	2nd priority	3rd priority
Social media	1st priority	2nd priority	3rd priority
DVD- front of case	✓		
DVD- back of case	✓	✓	✓
Poster- front	✓	✓	✓
Price	€3000	€2000	€1000