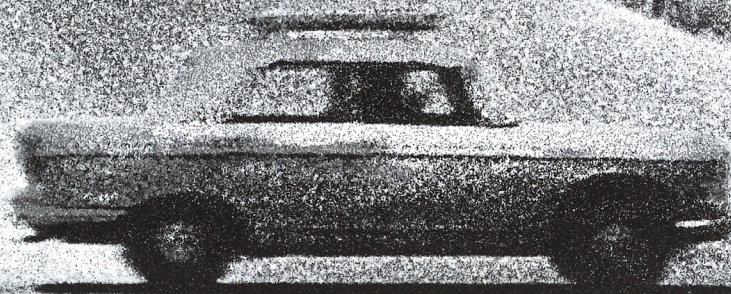
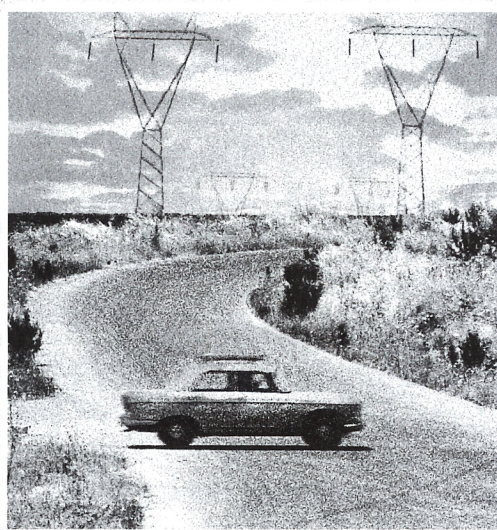


BALKANISATEUR

a film by SOTIRIS GORITSAS



A GREEK, SWISS, BULGARIAN, CO-PRODUCTION



BALKANISATEUR

Cast

Starring

Gerassimos Skiadaressis
(as Stavros)

Stelios Mainas
(as Fotis)

Yiota Festa
(as Eleni)

with

Sabine Berg
Bernhard Betterman
Snegina Petrova
Thanos Grammenos
Dimitris Mavropoulos
Lili Lazarova
Ivailo Geraskov
Yves Raeber
Jean-Michel Raeber
Katerina Zapatka
Vassilis Hallakatevakis

Directed by
Sotiris Goritsas

Screenplay by
Sotiris Goritsas
(based on Sakis Totlis' novel "The Combination Edessa-Zurich")

Cinematography
Stamatis Yannoulis

Music
Nikos Portokaloglou

Editing
Takis Koumoundouros

Sets-Costumes
Anastasia Arseni

Sound
Nikos Papadimitriou

Co-producers
Pierre-Alain Meier, Kroum Manoilov, Tassos Vassiliou

Producer
Dionyssis Samiotis

Production
Mythos Ltd. (Greece)
Thelma Film A.G. (Switzerland),
Tchappline Film (Bulgaria)

in co-production with
Greek Film Centre
Office Federal de la Culture, Bern
ERT S.A.
SF DRS (Zurich)
Bulgarian National TV
JBA Production (France)
Rosebud S.A.
Sotiris Goritsas

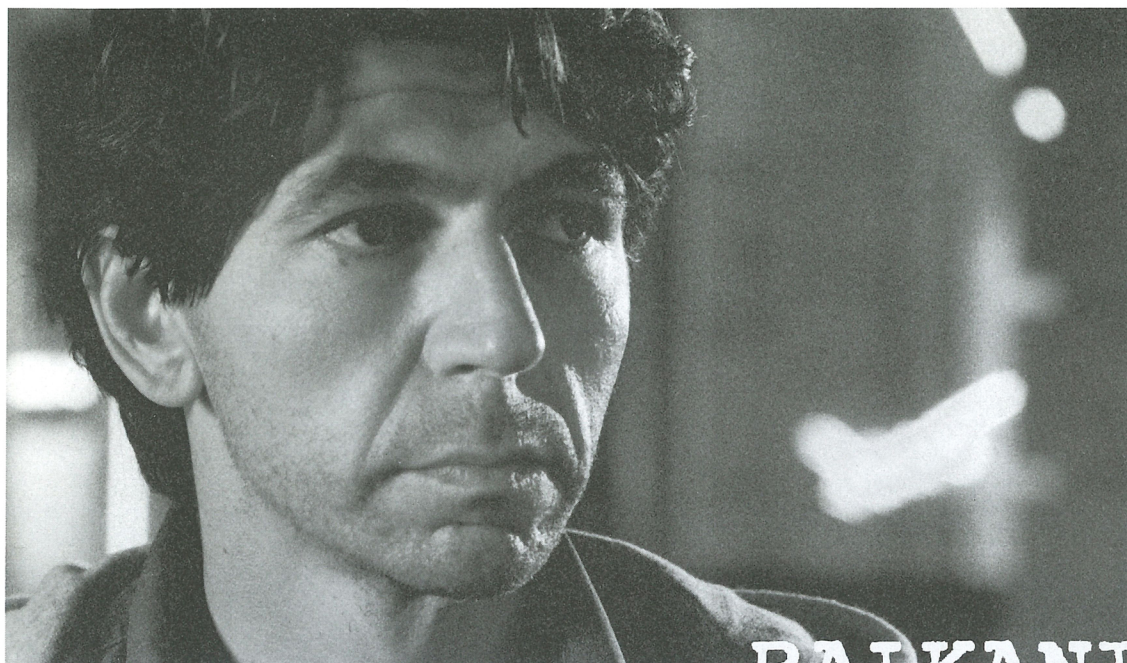
*With the participation of the Greek General Secretariat for Youth
and the Organisation for the Cultural Capital of Europe-Thessaloniki 1997*

*Developed with the support of the EUROPEAN SCRIPT FUND and EURO AIM.
Supported by the EURIMAGES Fund of the Council of Europe
and ACTION PLAN 16/9.*

Distributed with the support of the MEDIA Programme of the European Union.

FEBRUARY 1997 35 mm Colour 97 mins. 1:1.66





BALKANISATEUR
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GERASSIMOS SKIADARESSIS

(Stavros)

Born in Patras on 18 December 1960, he is a graduate of the E. Hadjikoou Film and Theatre School.

He has appeared in films by some of Greece's most distinguished filmmakers including LANDSCAPE IN THE MIST and THE SUSPENDED STEP OF THE STORK by Theo Angelopoulos, BORDELLO by Nikos Koundouros, SLAUGHTER OF THE COCK by Andreas Pantzis, DONUSA by Angeliki Antoniou (which won him the Ministry of Culture State Award for Best Supporting Actor), THE NOOSE by Costas Coutsomitis (for which he got a special mention at the Thessaloniki Film Festival) and FARTHER RIGHT THAN THE RIGHT by Nikos Antonakos for which he won Best Actor Awards at the Valencia and Thessaloniki Film Festivals as well as the Ministry of Culture State Award for Best Actor. He was also featured in E. Berman's THE TREE.

BALKANISATEUR is the second film directed by Sotiris Goritsas in which Skiadaressis stars. The first time the two worked together was in FROM THE SNOW, Goritsas' award - winning feature that won the Grand Prix in the international competition at the Thessaloniki International Film Festival.

Gerassimos Skiadaressis has also a distinguished career on the stage, starring in plays such as "La Mosgheta" by Ruzante, "Le Jeu de l' Amour et de la Fortune" by Marivaux, "Le Médecin malgré lui" by Molière, "Luv" by Sichgall, "Our Town" by Thornton Wilder, "Oleanna" by D. Mamet.

He has also appeared in leading roles in many popular Greek television series.



NI SATEUR

STELIOS MAINAS

(Fotis)

Born in Syros in 1957 he lives in Athens since 1959.

He graduated from the Veaki Drama School in 1983 and began his acting career in films, theater and television while still a student.

He made his film debut in DESERTER by Giorgos Korras and Christos Voupouras and won the Best Actor Award (Stars de Demain, Geneva) for his performance.

He has also appeared in films by Michael Cacoyannis and Nikos Perakis.

His notable stage appearances include roles in "Blood Wedding" by F.G. Lorca in which he played Leonardo, "Black Comedy", "Arturo Ui", "Lysistrata", "Hamlet", "Oedipus Rex", "Antigone" and "The Sweet Bird of Youth".

Stelios Mainas has appeared in many television series and teleplays and for the past three years stars in one of the most popular television serials.



YIOTA FESTA

(Eleni)

Born in Athens, she is a graduate of the National Theater Drama School.

A distinguished career in films includes leading roles in ABOUT LOVE by Maria Gavala, HOMECOMING SONG by Iannis Smaragdis, REVANCHE by Nikos Vergitis (for which she won the Best Actress Award at the Thessaloniki Film Festival), THE SCENT OF VIOLET by Maria Gavala, FURTHER RIGHT THAN THE RIGHT by Nikos Antonakos, A WEDDING ON THE FRINGE by Vassilis Kessissoglou, THREE SEASONS by Maria Iliou, THE LOVER by Kostoula Tomadaki and BALKANISATEUR by Sotiris Goritsas.

Yiota Festa has also appeared on stage in a wide variety of roles from both the classical and modern repertory, such as Shakespeare's "The Merchant of Venice", Sophocles' "Antigone" and Goldoni's "The Servant with two Masters".

One of Greece's most talented and sought after young actresses, she has also starred in television series and telefilms.

BALKANISATEUR

FEBRUARY 1997 35 mm Colour 97 mins. 1:1.66





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BALKANI

BALKANISATEUR SATEUR

(Greek title: VALKANISATER)

"...Nowadays, the dream of every Greek is to pull off the scam that will get him out of that place where they're always knocking him down.

We're going to make that dream come true!

We're going to jump on that gravy train!

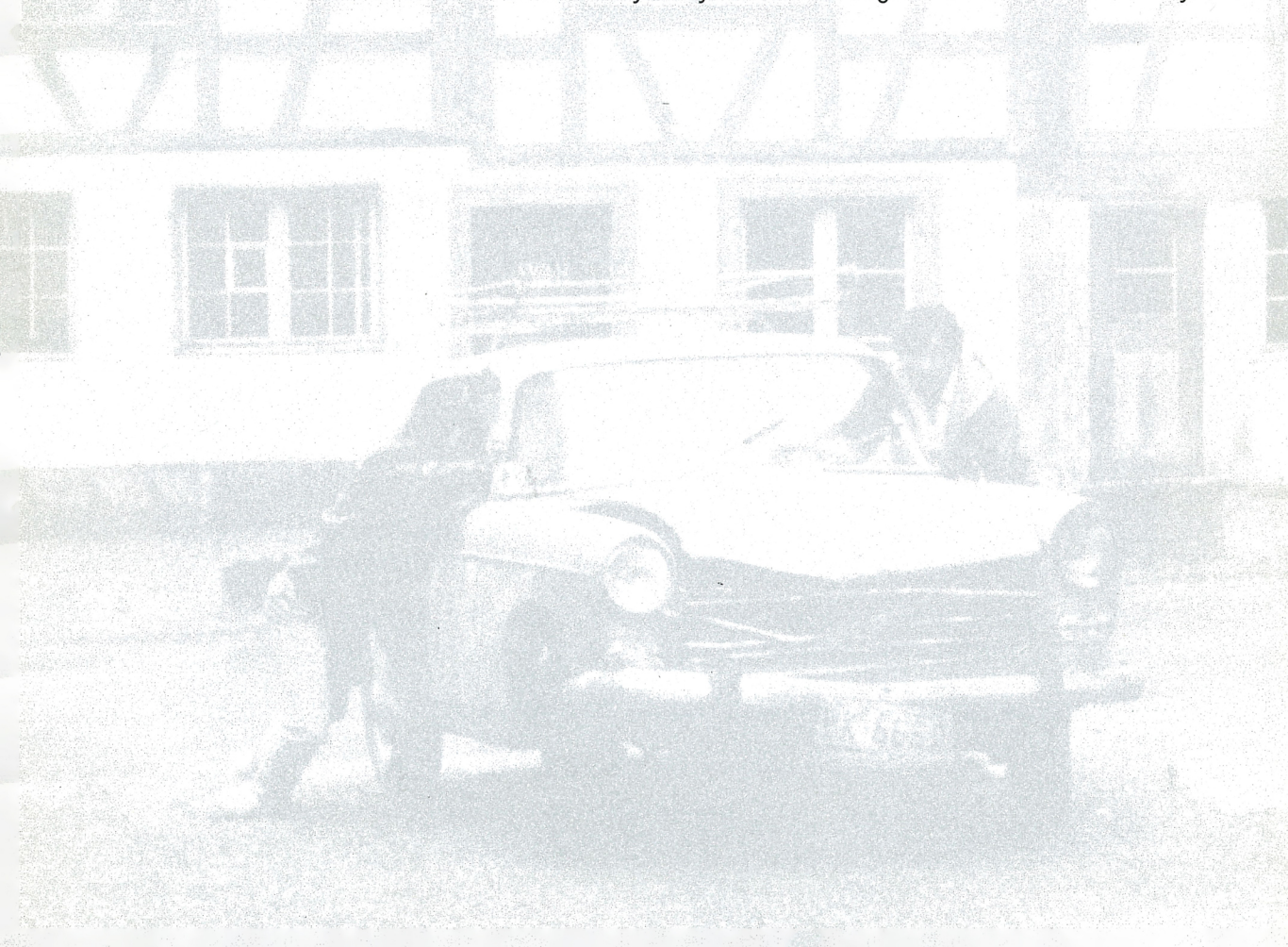
NO MORE TALK! LET'S DO IT!"

A road movie that follows the adventures of Fotis and Stavros, two friends and partners whose attempts to "strike it rich" take them across the Balkans and Western Europe.

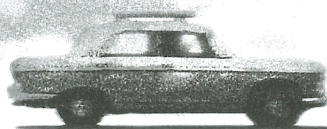
The dangers and the adventures they encounter in dealing with the people and situations they meet along the way only serve to intensify the constant bickering of the two friends who disagree about almost everything.

Through this journey they will get to know two entirely different societies. And at the same time, through their fights and reconciliations they will gain a deeper knowledge of themselves.

The adventures of two "thirty five year-old... teenagers" on the road to maturity...



TEUR



The subjects of all three of my films deal with “neo-Greek reality”.

That is because I need to understand and to talk about things going on around me and that I have experienced personally. Besides, “investigating” social life in Greece which was never something stable but was always characterized by an intense fluidity, is something very interesting for me.

The first films I did were documentaries with their themes taken from Greek social life. Trying to look under the surface of Greek everyday life, I came to discover many things about myself!

This is precisely what happens to the two heroes of my film. Setting out to make what the last few years has become the «collective dream» come true, that is “making money without sweating” they come face to face with the different cultures of the people of the Balkans and Western Europe, and through their unexpected adventures they get to know themselves better.

A journey of self-knowledge, a journey that helps them pass from their protracted adolescence to maturity, to adulthood and the unavoidable responsibilities that go with it.

Something which I believe is sorely needed for the social life of Greece at the end of the twentieth century.

Sotiris Goritsas

