

# ZIZOTEK



Karlovy Vary  
International Film Festival  
East of the West – Competition



A nine year old boy's quest to find family

# ZIZOTEK

(92', fiction, Greece)

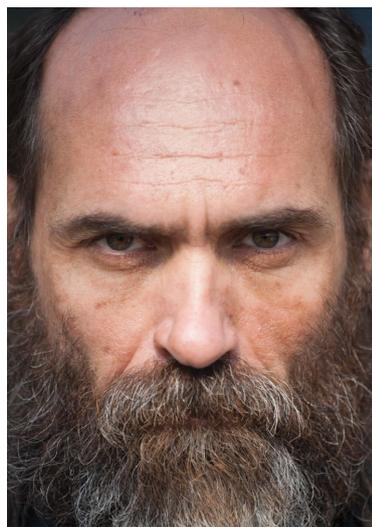
After nine-year-old Jason is abandoned by his mother at a folk festival, he takes refuge in a cabin in the middle of the forest belonging to a mute loner named Minas. Although at first the man won't take him in, a series of circumstances eventually leads them to form a family – something both of them have lacked for a long time. A touching tale of harmony and the yearning for intimacy that will captivate audiences with its dreamlike atmosphere. (KVIFF)

## DIRECTOR'S PROFILE

Vardis Marinakis is a Greek film director. His debut feature *Black Field* (2010) won several international awards and was described by Variety as "...undeniably handsome and delicately crafted". His second feature film *Zizotek* (2019) is premiering in competition at Karlovy Vary's 54th IFF. He also works in advertising wherein in 2017 he directed an online fiction drama series winning him the Golden Lion at Cannes.

## DIRECTOR'S FILMOGRAPHY

- *Black Field* (2010, fiction, Greece, 104') premiered in Karlovy Vary out of competition, award for best actress at Seville FF, Special Jury award in Mumbai FF, Young Audience Award in Tous Ecrans Geneva, 1st award in Toronto LGBT FF
- *Second Nature* (2005, short, Greece, 10') Special Mention at Locarno FF
- *Summer Love* (2002, short, Greece, 15') Best Intl. Director at Bello Horizonte FF, Brazil



"After his compelling drama *Black Field* (2010), Greek director Vardis Marinakis returns to Karlovy Vary with his sophomore effort about nine-year-old Jason, whose mother abandons him at a folk festival. The unusually independent boy takes refuge in a cabin in the middle of the forest belonging to a mute loner named Minas. Although at first the man won't take him in, a series of circumstances eventually leads them to form a family – something both of them have lacked for a long time. This touching tale of mutual harmony and the yearning for intimacy captivates audiences with its dreamlike atmosphere, subtle emotions, and poetic depiction of nature as a refuge for those rejected by the people around them."

**Natalia Neudačina, KVIFF**

"It was a rainy day, seven years ago, when I got the idea for *Zizotek's* ending. I was on my bike and time stopped, the slippery pavement betrayed me, I was one with the road. Lying down my mind was traveling very far, but I was ok. What I then dreamed is now a reality; a few scratches and bruises from the long journey, proud of all my collaborators who helped us to make this *film*, stronger than ever. *Zizotek* is a word that does not exist, a word I heard in the middle of a night muttered by my wife in her sleep."

**Vardis Marinakis, writer-director**

A **STUDIOBAUHAUS** PRODUCTION

PRESENTING **AUGUST LAMBROU-NEGREPONTIS**

WITH **DIMITRIS XANTHOPOULOS PENELOPE TSILIKA**

CASTING BY **ATHENS CASTING & TATIANA VERBI**

MUSIC BY **TED REGKLIS**

FILM EDITOR **LAMBIS HARALAMBIDIS**

ART DIRECTORS **PENELOPE VALTI STAVROS LIOKALOS**

COSTUME DESIGNER **EVA GOULAKOU**

DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY **CHRISTINA MOUMOURI**

SOUND BY **YIANNIS ANTYPAS PERSEFONI MILIOU COSTAS FYLAKTIDIS**

CO-PRODUCED BY **IXOR VFX & TWOTHIRTYFIVE**

WITH THE SUPPORT OF THE **GREEK FILM CENTRE & HELLENIC BROADCAST ASSOCIATION**

PRODUCED BY **KONSTANTINOS VASSILAROS**

SCREENPLAY **VARDIS MARINAKIS & SPYROS KRIBALIS**

DIRECTOR **VARDIS MARINAKIS**

**Dimitris Xanthopoulos** (Minas) is a Drama School of Theater 'Forward' graduate. As an actor, he has collaborated with the countless theaters Embros (The Sand Diary), Sfendoni (The Good Man of Se Chuan), Kefallinia Street (Mud), Pallas theatre (The third wreath) and many others. He has taken part in feature films such as 'False Alarm' by Katerina Evangelakou, 'Soul Kicking' by Yiannis Economides, 'Gold Dust' by Margarita Manda, 'All Cats Are Brilliant' by Konstantina Voulgaris etc.

**Pinelopi Tsilika** (Eva) is one of the most up and coming Greek actress. Her first film, Pantelis Voulgaris' 'Little England', where she had the leading role, was a huge box office and artistic success. It won 6 awards from the Greek Academy of Cinema, and 3 awards in 2014 at the Shanghai International Film Festival, for best film, best director, and best female lead for Pinelopi. She also recently participated in Papadoulakis' television series "The Word You Do not Tell".

Introducing **August Lambrou-Negrepontis** (Jason) in his first feature film appearance.



StudioBauhaus, based in Athens and founded in 2014, aims to tell stories with a solid narrative for international audiences, working with new and established directors. Vardis Marinakis' (*Black Field*, 2010) sophomore feature *Zizotek* (2019) will premier in competition at 2019's KVIFF. Araceli Lemos' debut *Holy Emy* (CineLink 2017 winner, EAVE & Ties That Bind project) will shoot in late 2019. Orfeas Peretzis' debut *Riviera* is developed via MIDPOINT. Elina Psykou's (*Son of Sofia*, 2017) 3rd project *Patrimonial Fears & Other Symptoms* in early development in association with Homemade Films was presented at Berlinale's Co-Pro. StudioBauhaus also ran the Athens painting-animation studio for the Oscar-nominated *Loving Vincent* (2017).

#### CONTACT PERSON

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**BAUHAUS**

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