



A SUMMER PLACE | THIS IS A GIRL PRODUCTIONS, LA CELLULE PRODUCTIONS

A SUMMER PLACE

Alexandra Matheou | Greece, France | 21 mn | 2021

Original language : Greek, Cypriot, Arabic | English & French subtitles | Color | 2.35 | 5.1 | DCP & HD FILES



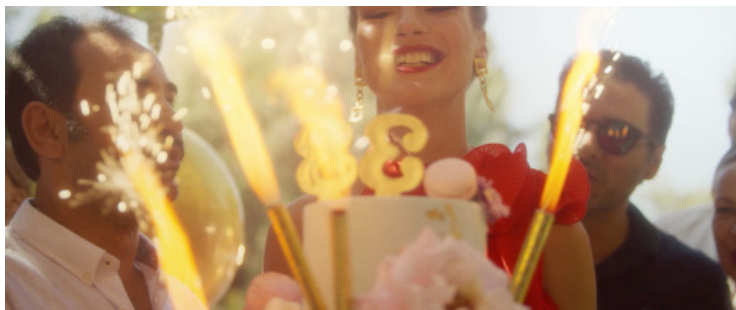
Synopsis

Summer is a permanent state of mind in Limassol, a once small seaside town in Cyprus that has transformed into the oligarch paradise of the Mediterranean. Being both a player and a victim of this city transformation as a food stylist, Tina is depressed. On the day of her birthday, she is ready to give up on everything, until an extraordinary encounter changes her life.

Director's note

« Within the universe of 'A Summer Place', Tina becomes a vessel for me to observe not only her world and story alone, but also the transformation of a city that's going through a similarly grave existential angst. Beyond Tina's story, this is also a deeply personal and satirical portrayal of Limassol (my hometown), and its current socio- economic state, through the eyes of a non-Cypriot.

As I refrain to employ any sort of moralistic or didactic elements to serve my story, I rather prefer to focus on the daily absurdities within the contemporary Cypriot society of the nouveau riche and how the influx of Russian oligarchs has literally reshaped the landscape of a once simple island town. Amidst these changes, the old face of Limassol has become a ghost that's hovering over the lives of utterly confused people, and a society in free fall.



Tina herself perfectly represents this confusion. She aphorises the bubble but then again, it was her choice to partake in it. Her job is superfluous yet she carries on doing it. Flawed as she is, Tina belongs to a generation that's been promised the world but has somehow seen her hopes and ambitions crash and burn. This is a cry for help and I find it interesting to observe.

On the other end of the line, the character of Nadine does not only act as a catalyst but also, a reminder of some of the truly urgent issues lying beneath the murky waters of a dreamy summer destination's sea shore. In a film that so intently touches on present socio-economic issues, I find it hard to simply ignore what's happening right next door to Cyprus. The beaches so cherished and enjoyed by the locals in 'A Summer Place', belong to the same sea that's been washing off dead bodies over the last two years. Staying true to the realm and tonality of the film however, the boat scene with Nadine and Tina gets a similarly absurdist spin as the relationship dynamic between the two women appears reversed. Ultimately, who's gotten to save who? »

Director & Screenwriter



ALEXANDRA MATHEOU

Alexandra Matheou is a Cypriot screenwriter, director and producer based in London, Cyprus and Athens. She holds a Law LLB and an LLM from King's College London and an MA in Film Studies from University College London (UCL). Her short films have screened internationally and she is an alumni of Talents Sarajevo 2018. She has previously worked for The Discovery Channel in London and is now Head of Development at Athens based production company Topcut-Modiano. In 2019, Alexandra was invited to join the Euro-Connection forum at the Clermont-Ferrand International Short Film Festival with her short film *A Summer Place*.

Cast & Crew



CAST

Mary Mina, Aurora Marion

CREW

PRODUCERS Savvas Stavrou, Soyo Giaoui

PRODUCTION COMPANIES This is the Girl productions, La Cellule Productions

DIRECTOR & SCREENWRITER Alexandra Matheou

ASSISTANT DIRECTOR Christina Tryfonos

DOP Yorgos Rahmatoulin

EDITOR Livia Neroutsopoulou

SOUND Christos Kyriakoullis, Valia Tserou, Costas Varypombiotis

Festivals

Tampere International Film Festival | 2021

Regard Saguenay | 2021

Palm Springs Shortfest | 2021

Festival du court en plein air de Grenoble | Press Critics Award | 2021

Odense Film Festival | 2021

Sao Paulo International Film Festival | Best 10 shorts Audience Award | 2021

Odense Film Festival | 2021

Festival Courts d'un Soir | 2021

Festival international de Contis | 2021

Drama International Film Festival | Queer Short Award + Best Actress Award | 2021

Athens International Film Festival | 2021

Maui International Film Festival | 2021

Cyprus International Short Film Festival | 2021

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Private screeners can be provided upon request

