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REAL INSIGHT INTO GLOBAL PRODUCTION

FOCUS 2021

#8

CRYING OUT FOR CREW

As film and drama production booms, hiring is tougher than ever

LAST CALL FOR INDIE FILM?

Independent features battle for talent, finance – and attention



STUDIO GREECE

YOUR IDEA IN ACTION!

- ✓ 40% CASH REBATE
- ✓ 30% TAX RELIEF
- ✓ NETWORK OF FILM OFFICES

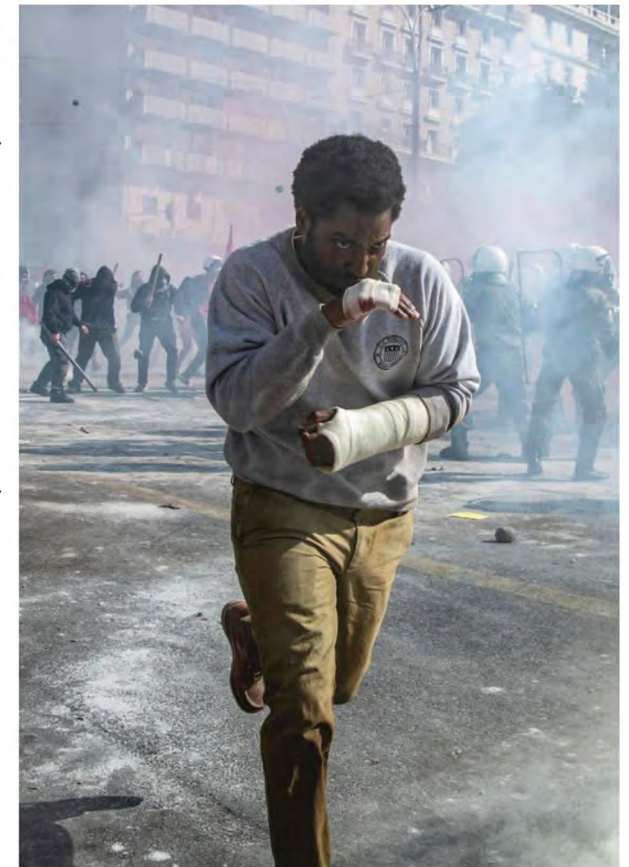
INVEST IN THE GREEK AUDIOVISUAL SECTOR

We manage the Greek cash rebate and tax incentive programs, coordinate the national network of film offices, fostering entrepreneurship and creating the proper infrastructure for the development of audiovisual production in Greece.



Everybody Knows Greece

FOR ITS
HEAVEN-LIKE
LOCATIONS,
HIGHLY
EXPERIENCED
CREW, A
RANGE OF
INCENTIVES
THROUGH
FLEXIBLE
PROCEDURES,
SAFETY
PROTOCOLS,
EASY ACCESS



JD Washington in Ferdinando Cito Filomarino's manhunt thriller *Beckett* on location in Athens, Greece
© 2021 BECKETT / Yannis Drakoulidis.

Greece is beyond dispute a gem country in the Mediterranean offering an attractive combination of sunshine, blue skies, ancient sites, and monuments. On top of these, two strong financial incentives have been created to work towards supporting the local audiovisual industry and attracting international productions.

A spotlight filming destination in the south-east of Europe, Greece offers stunning locations versatile both in terms of landscape as well as in architecture, incredible financial incentives (40% cash rebate and 30% tax relief), qualified crews and a devoted local talent pool.

Greece is blessed with heaven-like diverse locations and landscapes some of which can double for other countries. It offers a highly competitive 40% cash rebate and a 30% tax relief. The country's manpower includes extremely experienced and efficient production companies and film professionals capable of servicing even the most demanding audiovisual productions. Public institutions

coordinate their efforts to support international audiovisual productions with all means possible. On top of all that shines the renowned Greek light and the Mediterranean climate.

The successful operation of the Greek cash rebate programme since 2018 led the Greek administration to further raise the cash rebate to 40%, in July 2020. In addition, there is another incentive related to tax relief. It is complimentary to the cash rebate incentive and provides a 30% tax return.

New provisions of subsidy for productions with eligible expenses over EUR5 million offer the possibility to foreign production to include non-resident labour

BROUGHT TO YOU BY

HELLENIC
FILM COMMISSION



EKOME
National Centre
of Audiovisual Media
and Communication



Steve Coogan & Rob Brydon in Michael Winterbottom's *The Trip to Greece* on location in Peloponnese, Greece © THE TRIP TO GREECE.

invoices. A cultural test applies. The eligible costs in the tax relief are the same as the eligible costs in the cash rebate. The two incentives are complementary but you need to apply for each one separately. Both the 40% cash rebate and the 30% tax relief are administered by EKOME, the Greek National Centre of Audiovisual Media and Communication.

From April 2018 up until September 2020, 99 projects have been approved for financing (of which 54 are Greek and the other 45 international). The amount of invested funds in the country amounts to EUR96 million, while the amount returned to the production companies reaches EUR33.5 million.

The support of the audiovisual production is inextricably linked to the national goal to make Greece one of the most attractive and safe destinations for the realisation of audiovisual projects. In this direction, the services provided by the Hellenic Film Commission of the Greek Film Centre and the implementation of the National Film Offices Network in the 13 regions and the two main cities (Athens and Thessaloniki) paves the path for the promotion of the comparative advantages of each region and provides them with the potential of attracting investments.

Greece is a natural studio, a point for which we have an added value that only a few countries can match. It is not only the fact that to shoot a film you need great light, but, also, that the country offers an incredible variety of locations covering ancient Greek, Roman, Medieval, Byzantine and later elements for every occasion. From snowcapped mountain ranges to forests, lakes, beaches, even volcanos (!) we can offer every type of scenery. The variety and versatility of locations is ideal for filming any kind of genre be it a romantic comedy, a drama, an action film, a thriller, or, even, a period drama.

In addition, Greece can provide production companies with the full package. Starting with the location, the natural sunlight, the crew, the production set, the equipment, all the incentives and the right infrastructure as well as the backing of the Greek state. Greece has every potential to be a one-stop-shop for productions. Major US studios including Netflix, Amazon, Disney, Paramount and Universal have already expressed interest in filming in Greece and some of them have already begun production on Greek territory. Last year, Warner and Universal filmed a TV series each in the country, while Sony Pictures shot another film in September.

Aside from on-location production, Greece has a growing post-production industry, mostly based in the capital of Athens, who work with European and international producers. Greek crews speak fluent English and have the expertise to collaborate flawlessly with international audiovisual productions. From outstanding drone operators and



Anna Castillo in Marcel Barrena's *Mediterraneo* on location in Attica, Greece © MEDITERRANEO.

post-production labs equipped with high-end industry technologies to world-class VFX artists servicing demanding projects, Greece provides dream teams.

Greece has coped with the pandemic efficiently and is one of the first European countries to have resumed filming after the pandemic began. Keen to capture post-coronavirus work, several measures have been introduced including the release of safety

guidelines for filming in Greece by the Ministry of Culture and Sports in collaboration with the National Public Health Protection Committee against the COVID-19 coronavirus. EKOME, the Greek National Centre of Audiovisual Media and Communication, as well as the Hellenic Film Commission of the Greek Film Centre, are always available and willing to provide any creator, artist, and producer with the right kind of tools so that they can bring their idea to fruition. There is the seal of approval of major investors coming to Greece to carry out multiple infrastructure projects. In other words, it is not a matter of incentive but a matter of perspective.

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:

Venia Vergou, Director Hellenic Film Commission, v.vergou@gfc.gr
Vasiliki Diagouma, Head Communications & International Relations EKOME
vdiagouma@ekome.meida
Stavroula Geronimaki, Operations Manager, Hellenic Film Commission, s.geronimaki@gfc.gr
Eleni Kostala, Film Offices Project Manager/ Cash Rebate Directorate EKOME
ekostala@ekome.media

INVEST GREECE

LOCATIONS

DESTINATION GREECE

Let us guide you

HEAVEN LIKE DIVERSE LOCATIONS • INCREDIBLE CULTURAL HERITAGE THAT SPANS THE MILLENIA • LOCATIONS THAT DOUBLE FOR OTHER COUNTRIES • HIGHLY SKILLED ENGLISH-SPEAKING FILM PROFESSIONALS • MEDITERRANEAN CLIMATE AND RENOWNED GREEK LIGHT

40% CASH REBATE
30% TAX RELIEF



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