

17th Psarokokalo Festival – Press Release Psarokokalo 2025:

The Psarokokalo International Short Film Festival in the heart of [Folegandros](#) Island in Greece

From **July 10 to 17**, Folegandros was transformed into an international film destination with the 17th Psarokokalo International Short Film Festival returning with a bang, bringing with it 136 films from 42 countries.

A celebration of cinema that serves as a platform for the new generation of creators, but also an opportunity for cinephiles to rethink the world through the lens.

The screenings are not limited to the screen. The festival extends to masterclasses, open discussions and networking evenings, composing a multidimensional cultural experience — and all this under the light of the meltemi and the watchful gaze of the Aegean.

One of the most distinctive features of the festival is the [“Environment and Architecture”](#) section, which explores the interaction between the space we inhabit and the nature that surrounds us.

Through documentaries and tributes, the festival raises questions about sustainability, social justice and the place of man in an ever-changing landscape.

The collaboration with the Canadian Centre for Architecture enriches the program, bringing the [Groundwork series](#), which follows three architects who are trying to redefine

the concept of space in different corners of the planet — from the islands of China, to the heart of Brazil and the centers of Europe.

In the [International competition section](#), young and established creators present works that reflect their social and personal quests. From Alex Lawther's "Rhoda" starring Emma D'Arcy (House of the Dragon) and Juliet Stevenson, Matty Sidle's experimental "Bozo Over Roses" starring Cate Blanchett, Nick Blake's dark comedy "The Viewing" starring award-winning actors Patsy Ferran and Leo Bill, Alexander Thompson's "Em & Selma Go Griffin Hunting" starring Milly Shapiro (HEREDITARY) and Pollyanna McIntosh (WALKING DEAD) and directed by Alexander Thompson, who, with the Marvel VFX Artists team, present an allegorical coming-of-age tale of mothers, daughters and the beasts they hunt, to the enchanting anime BUDŌ and the documentary "Workers' Wings" by director Ilir Hasanaj, the festival showcases narratives that captivate, provoke and move.

The [national competition](#) section offers a selection of young emerging talents from Greece and Cyprus. It is the main program that promotes the festival worldwide.

Each year, the festival highlights the cinema of a selected country; in 2025, the baton is taken by [MEXICO](#). From Eduardo Moreno Fernández's “A Whisper Starts a Fire,” where Olivia (Arcelia Ramírez) struggles with the artificial alteration of her voice, to the documentary “Voices from the Abyss,” which follows the legendary cliff divers of Acapulco, Mexican cinema brings a wind of rebellion and tradition to the festival.

The festival is not just a series of screenings. It is a platform for dialogue, a bridge between cultures, a call for collective thought and action through the art of cinema

The Jury

Behind the Psarokokalo Awards is a group of twenty-two personalities who combine experience, creativity and a multicultural perspective. Artists, directors, actors and architects, from countries such as Armenia, South Korea, Brazil, France, Mexico, and of course Greece, join forces to highlight the strongest voices of the festival.

Each jury — fiction, animation, documentary, architecture and national — composes a multifaceted dialogue, reflecting the variety and depth of global short cinema.

The Screening Venues: A Real Cinematic Experience

Psarokokalo invests in the concept of space as part of the viewer's experience.

Three distinct locations in Folegandros offer the ideal setting for a unique encounter with cinema.

- Primary School, Folegandros Town

A courtyard that comes alive every night with projections under the open sky and the gentle waves, a gathering where collective memory and emotion find their place.

- Spina, Ambeli Bay

Where the legend of the meltemi meets the serenity of the landscape, among thyme trees the festival transforms into a dreamy Dinner & Dream, with the Aegean Sea stretching out in the distance.

- Gundari, Southeastern Coast of Folegandros

Luxury and nature in harmony, a haven of peace on the rocks, with a panoramic view that turns each projection into a unique experience of high aesthetics.

Psaroloco: The Children's and Youth Festival

For the first time, Psarokokalo incorporates a separate section for children and families, bringing to the stage selected films from Psaroloco, an international festival dedicated to the youngest cinephiles. An attempt to cultivate a love of cinema and critical thinking from an early age through stories that touch young and old.

Psarokokalo 2025 is not just a festival. It is a breakthrough in the international film scene, a celebration that honors diversity, art and the meaningful meeting of people and ideas. With the backdrop of the enchanting Folegandros, it creates a bridge between tradition and the future, between the place and the world.

All roads lead this year to the small paradise of the Aegean, where cinema meets life.

Reservations and information: <https://www.psarokokalo.org>

Art knows no borders.

