



ATTENBERG

ARIANE LABED VANGELIS MOURIKIS EVANGELIA RANDOU YORGOS LANTHIMOS
Written and Directed by ATHINA RACHEL TSANGARI

THE MATCH FACTORY

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BELLA **Did you like it?**

MARINA **I've never had something wriggling in my mouth before.**

BELLA **How does my tongue feel?**

MARINA **Like a slug. It's disgusting.**

BELLA **You have to breathe, or you'll choke.**

MARINA **Should I open again?**

BELLA **Half open... That's it.**

MARINA **Okay, get in there.**

...

You're all slobbery. I'm going to throw up.

BELLA **If it's not wet in there, it won't work.**



There is more meaning, and mutual understanding, in exchanging a glance with a gorilla, than any other animal I know. And so if ever there was a possibility of escaping the human condition, and living imaginatively in another creature's world, it must be with the gorilla.



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Marina, 23, is growing up with her architect father in a prototype factory town by the sea. Finding the human species strange and repellent, she keeps her distance. Instead she chooses to observe it through the songs of Suicide, the mammal documentaries of Sir David Attenborough, and the sexual-education lessons she receives from her only friend, Bella.

A stranger comes to town and challenges her to a foosball duel, on her own table. Her father meanwhile ritualistically prepares for his exit from the 20th century, which he considers to be “overrated.” Caught between the two men and her collaborator Bella, Marina investigates the wondrous mystery of the human fauna.

SYNOPSIS



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I made a film about four people who happen to be in the same place for a short period of time. Three people who become four and then two. Three, of course, being the perfect number in any relation.

DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT



ATTENBERG



2010 / Greece / 95'

35mm, 1:1.85, Color, Dolby Digital, Greek

Marina
Spyros
Bella
Engineer
Undertaker
Hospital Manager

Ariane Labed
Vangelis Mourikis
Evangelia Randou
Yorgos Lanthimos
Kostas Berikopoulos
Michel Demopoulos

Director of Photography
Sound
Production Designer
Costume Designers

Thimios Bakatakis
Leandros Ntounis
Dafni Kalogianni
Thanos Papastergiou
Vassilia Rozana

Editors

Sandrine Cheyrol
Matt Johnson
Alex Kelly & Christine Akzotis
Athens Casting

Written & Directed by

Athina Rachel Tsangari

Casting

Boo Productions / Sevi Morou
Yorgos Serdaris
Emmanuela Fragiadaki

Executive Producer
Producers

Christos V. Konstantakopoulos
Maria Hatzakou
Yorgos Lanthimos
Iraklis Mavroidis
Athina Rachel Tsangari

Line Producer
Production Manager
Assistant Directors

Anna Nikolaou
Athanasia Petropoulou
Daniel Bababekova

Associate producer

Angelos Venetis
Kostas Kefalas

Makeup
Hair styling

Production
Co-production

Haos Film
Greek Film Center
Faliro House Productions
Boo Productions
Stefi Productions
MEDIA Programme
of the European Union

With the support of the



Athina Rachel Tsangari lives and works between her native Greece and the USA. She received a B.A. in literature from the Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, an M.A. in Performance Studies from New York University's Tisch School of the Arts, and an MFA in film directing from the University of Texas at Austin. Her virginal introduction to cinema was a small role in Richard Linklater's seminal film *Slacker*. Her debut feature *The Slow Business of Going*, a lo-fi sci-fi road movie shot in nine cities across the world, was voted one of the best undistributed films in the 2002 *Village Voice* Critics' Poll. She was the co-founder & artistic director of the Austin-based Cinematexas International Short Film Festival, programming avant-garde cinema, music and politically engaged media. She designs large-scale projections for dance, theatre, and site-specific installations. She was the projections designer and video director for the Athens 2004 Olympic Games Opening Ceremony. In 2005, she founded Haos Film, a creative office that develops and produces work by and with fellow filmmakers. Amongst her producer credits are Yorgos Lanthimos' first film *Kinetta* (2005), and his *Un Certain Regard* winner *Dogtooth*, as an associate producer (2009).

SELECTED FILMOGRAPHY

Fit, 8', fiction, 1994

The Slow Business of Going, 101', fiction, 2001

Kinetta, by Yorgos Lanthimos, fiction, 95', 2005 (producer)

Palestine Blues, by Nida Sinnokrot, 72', documentary, 2006 (producer/co-cinematographer/co-editor)

2, by Dimitris Papaioannou, 96', Dance-theatre screen adaptation, 2007

Instant Instants, experimental travelogue doc, China & Southeast Asia, 2008

Kynodontas (Dogtooth), by Yorgos Lanthimos, fiction, 96', 2009 (associate producer)

Antikatoptrismoï (Reflections), 68', animation, 2009

Attenberg, 95', fiction, 2010



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[MARINA]

Ariane Labed was born in 1984 in Athens, to French parents. She grew up between Greece, Germany and France. After studying dance for 10 years, she studied 'Practice and Theory of Art' at Université de Provence. A founding member of *Vasistas Theatre Company*, she has acted in all their performances. She has also acted at the Greek National Theatre.

[BELLA]

Evangelia Randou was born in Greece. She graduated from the State School of Dance in Athens. She collaborates as a dancer with several dance companies in Greece, Cyprus and Germany. She was co-choreographer on Dimitris Papaioannou's team for the opening and closing ceremonies of ATHENS 2004 Olympic Games, and a soloist on the night of the opening ceremony. In 2005, she had the lead role in Yorgos Lanthimos' first film *Kinetta*. In 2008, she played *Medea* in the dance-theater performance by D. Papaioannou, presented in Athens and Beijing.

[SPYROS]

Vangelis Mourikis studied and acted in several films and avant-garde projects in Australia before he returned to his native Greece to become one of its most celebrated cinema actors. He has earned five Greek State Film Awards for Best Actor and Best Supporting Actor. He collaborates with independent filmmakers in Greece and abroad.

[THE ENGINEER]

Yorgos Lanthimos was born in Athens. He studied directing for Film and Television at the Stavrakos Film School. Throughout the 90's he directed a series of videos for Greek dance-theatre companies. Since 1995, he has directed numerous TV commercials in addition to music videos, short films and experimental theatre plays. His first film *Kinetta* played at Toronto and Berlin. His latest feature *Kynodontas (Dogtooth)* won the *Un Certain Regard* prize at Cannes in 2009, followed by awards at festivals worldwide. He is in pre-production on his next film *Alps*, jointly produced by him and Athina Rachel Tsangari.



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