



“Greek and Cypriot modern literature, based on the ancient greek myth of the adventure of Odysseus.”

The task was presented in Poland during the second mobility.

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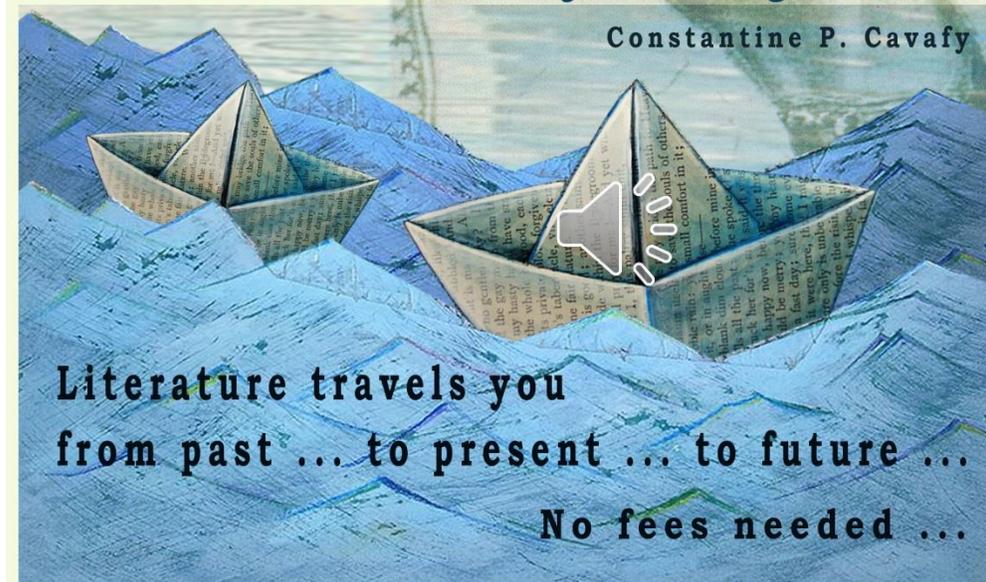
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2016-2018



*“Ithaka gave you
the marvelous journey ...”*

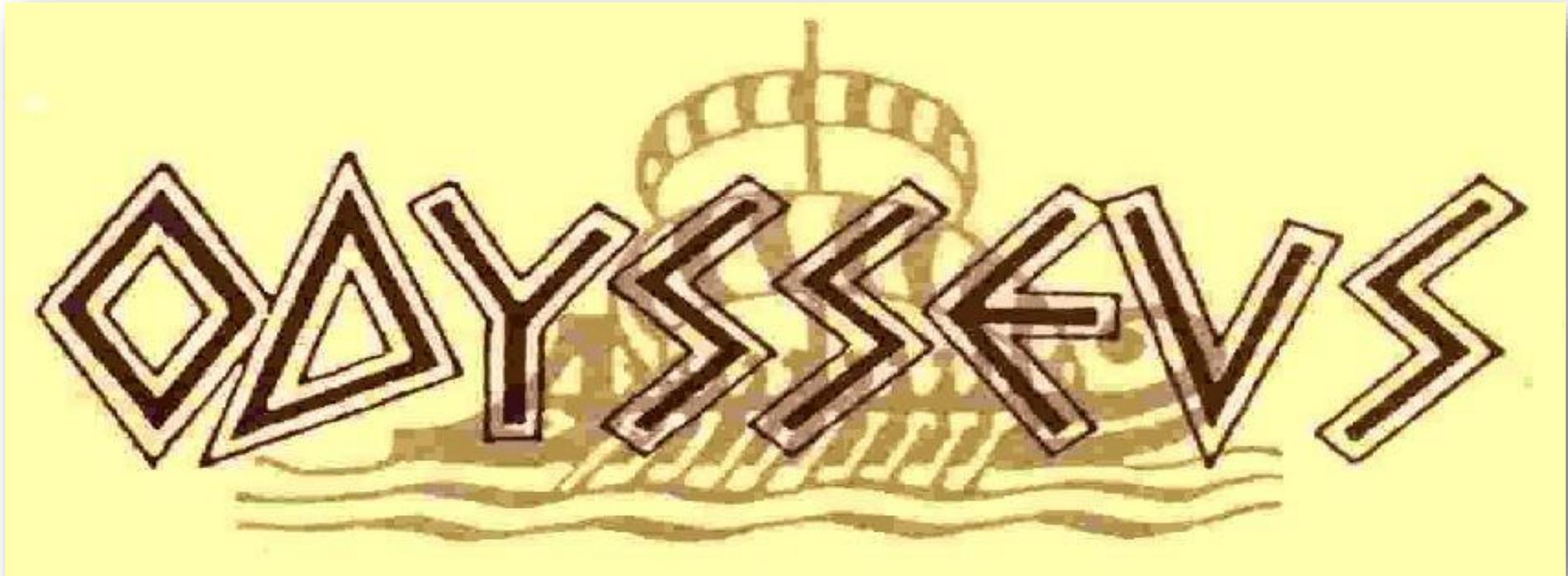
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Literature travels you
from past ... to present ... to future ...

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PERIFEREIAKO GYMNASIO KAI LYKEIO LEFKARON



The myth of Odysseus in modern Greek literature

C. P. Cavafy (1863-1933)



Second Odyssey

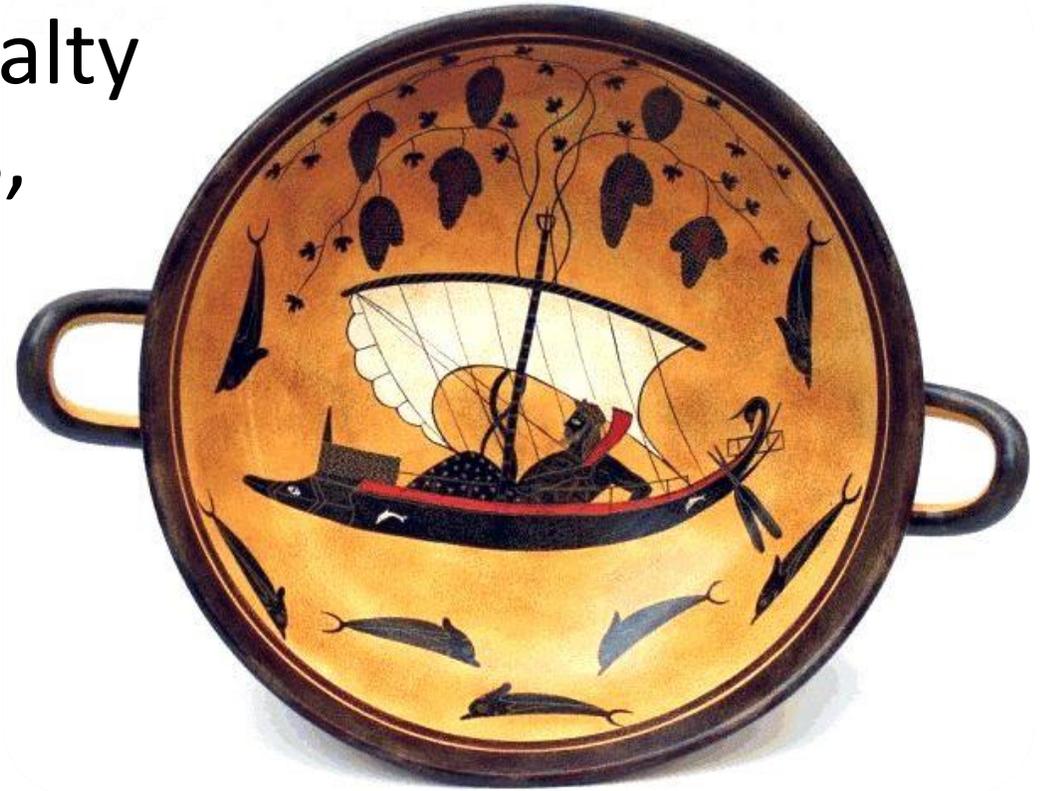
A great second Odyssey,
Greater even than the first perhaps,
But alas, without Homer, without hexameters.

Small was his ancestral home,
Small was his ancestral city,
And the whole of his Ithaca was small.

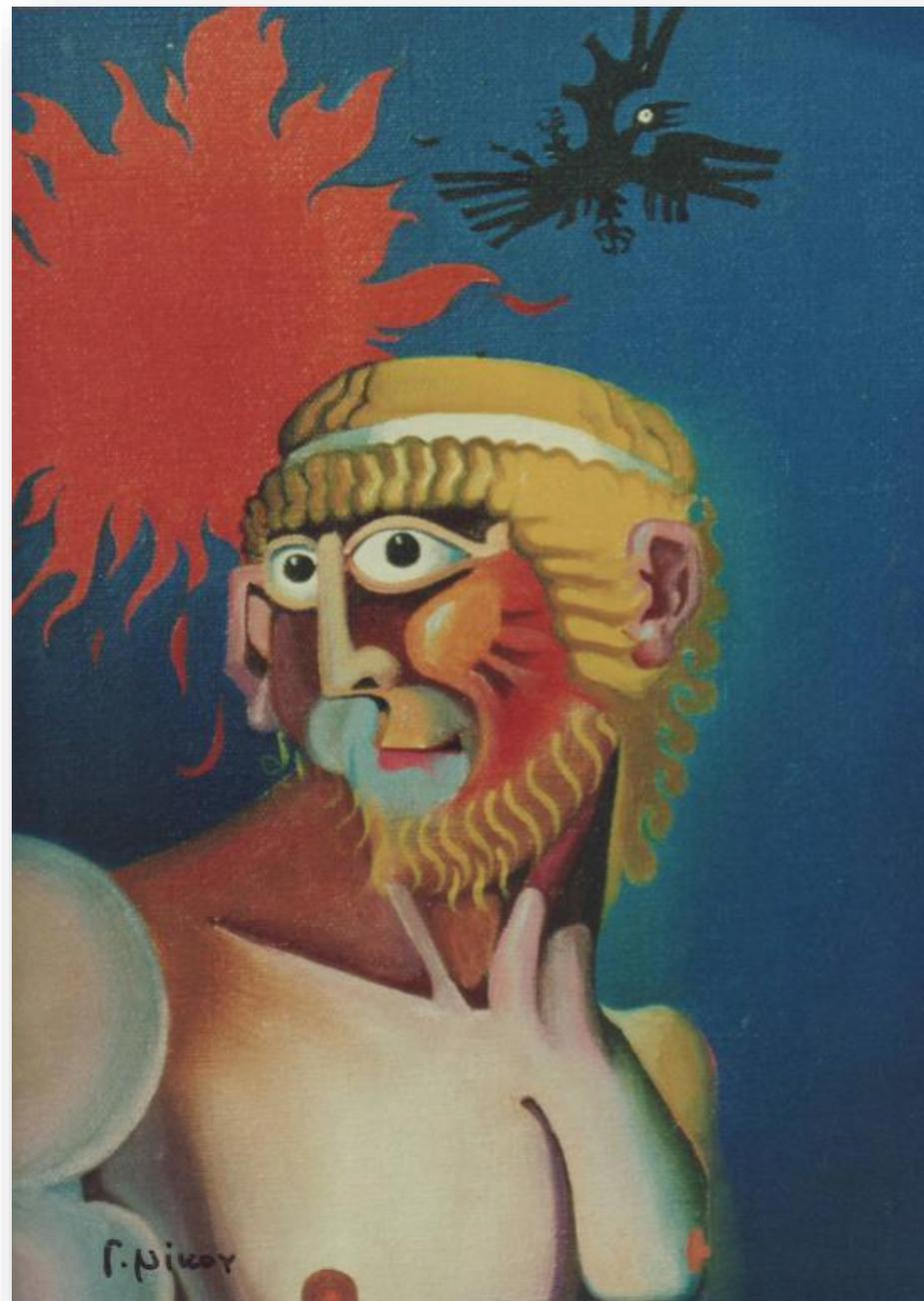


The affection of Telemachus, the loyalty
Of Penelope, his father's aging years,
His old friends, the love
Of his devoted subjects,
The peace and repose of his home
Bored him.

And so he left.



As the shores of Ithaca gradually
Faded away behind him
And he sailed swiftly westward
Toward Iberia and the Pillars of Hercules,
Far from every Achaean sea,
He felt he was alive once more,
Freed from the oppressive bonds
Of familiar, domestic things.
And his adventurous heart rejoiced
Coldly, devoid of love.



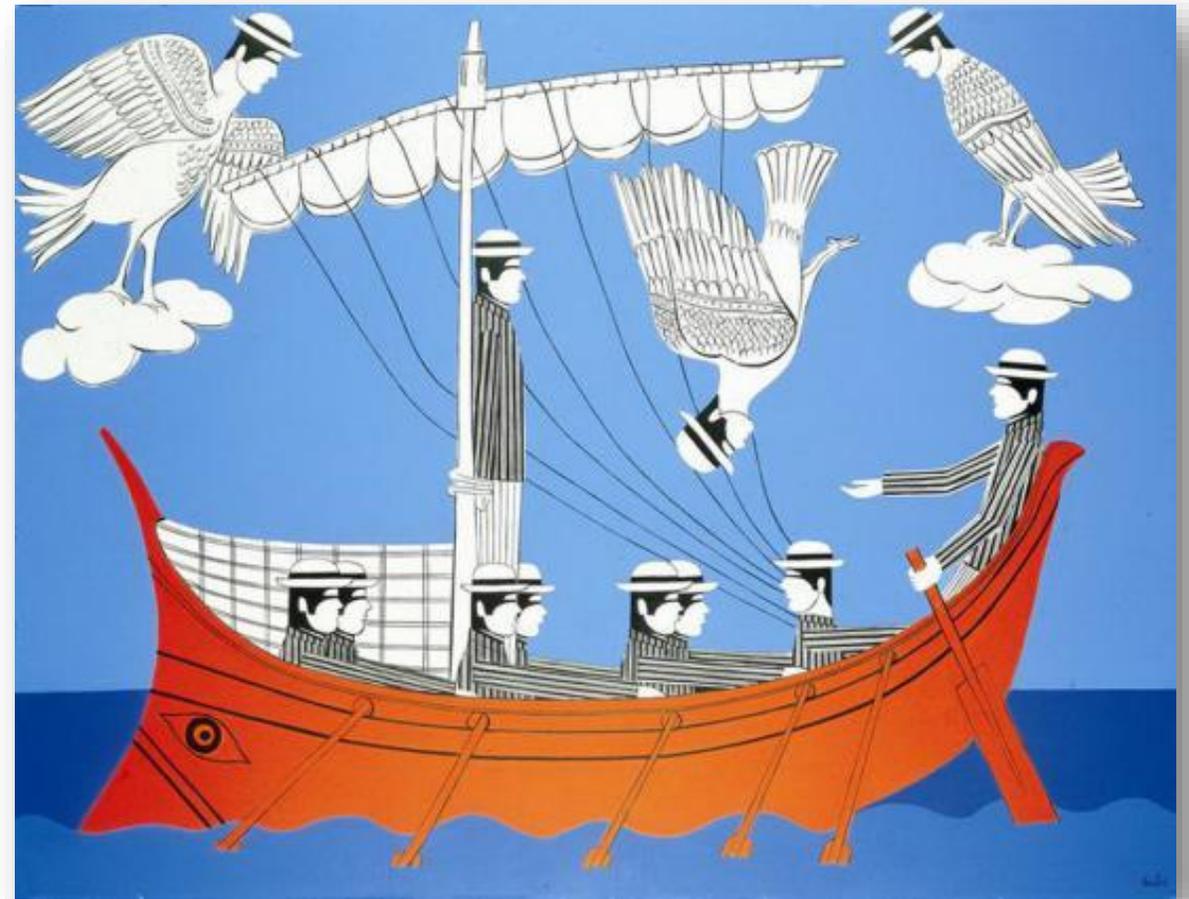
Ithaka

As you set out for Ithaka
hope the voyage is a long one,
full of adventure, full of discovery.
Laistrygonians and Cyclops,
angry Poseidon—don't be afraid of them:
[...]
Laistrygonians and Cyclops,
wild Poseidon—you won't encounter them
unless you bring them along inside your soul,
unless your soul sets them up in front of you.

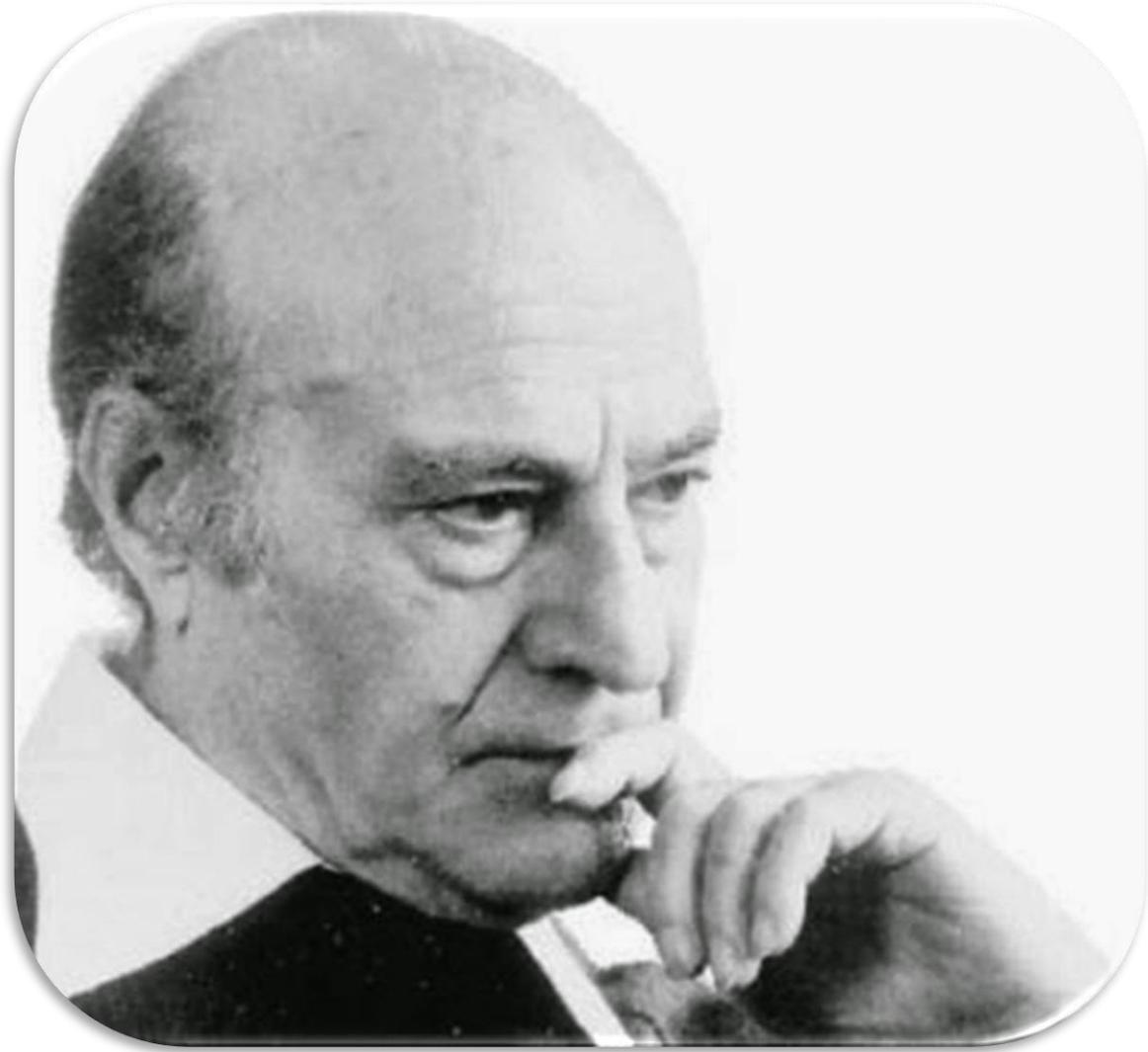




Ithaka gave you the marvelous journey.
Without her you would not have set out.
She has nothing left to give you now.



And if you find her poor, Ithaka won't have fooled you.
Wise as you will have become, so full of experience,
you will have understood by then what these Ithakas mean.



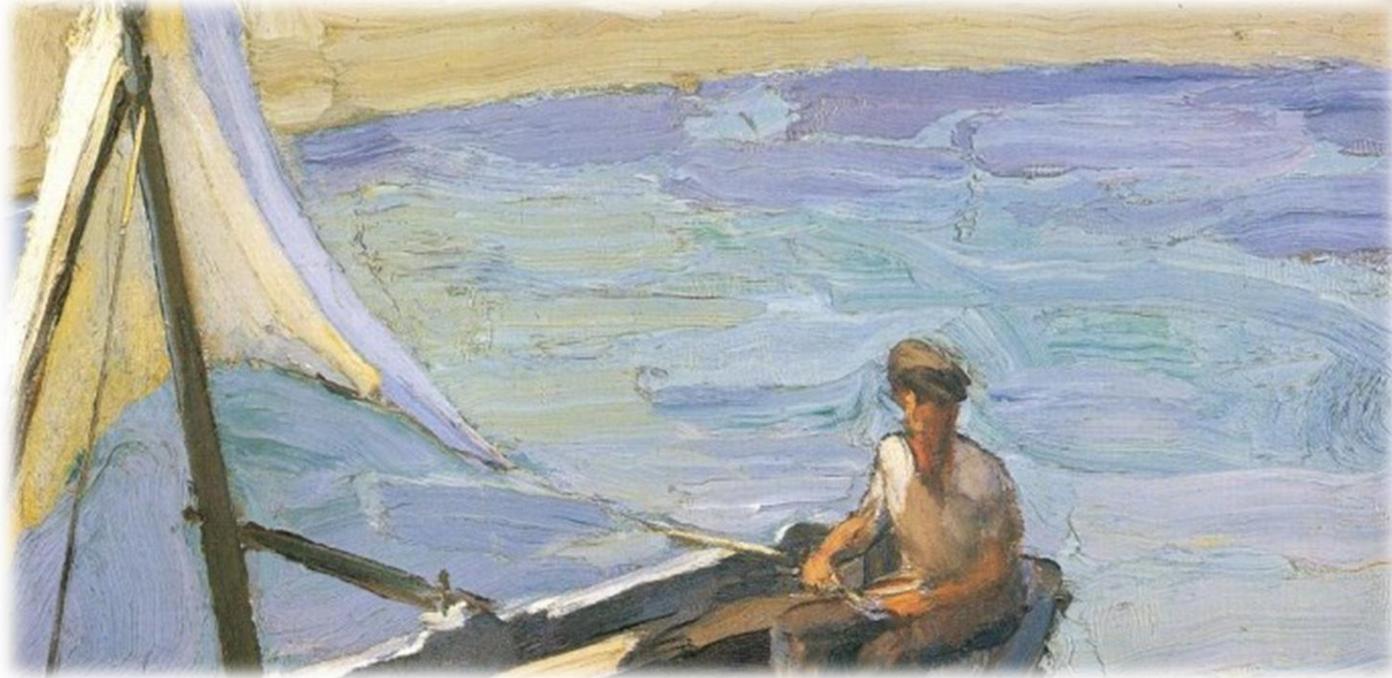
Odysseas Elytis
(1911-1996)

Aegean Sea

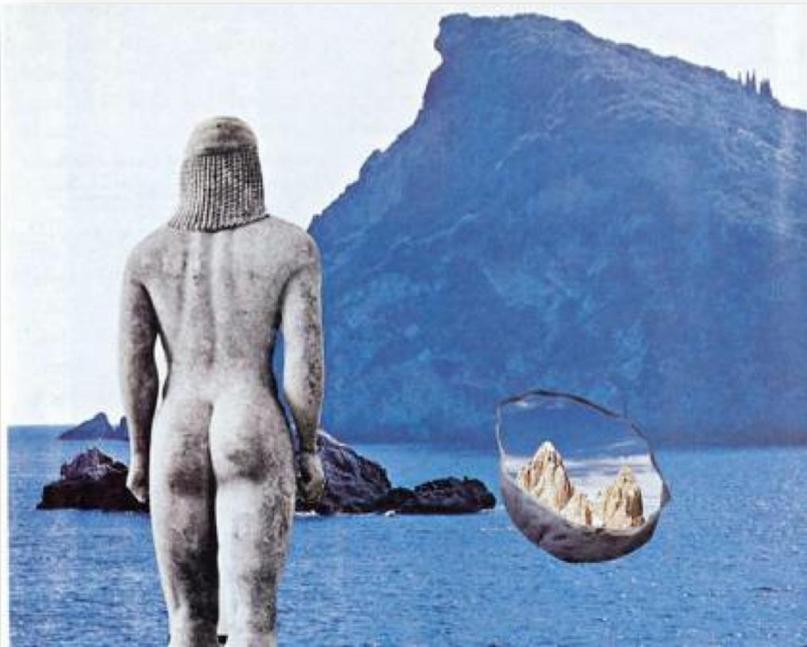
Love
Archipelago
And the bow of the foams
And the dreams of seagulls
In the tallest mast the sailor flaps
A song



Love
The song
And the horizons of journey
And nostalgia's echoes
On the wet rock a woman is waiting
A boat



Love
The boat
And the carelessness of the wind
And the sail of hope
In the most light wave the island welcomes
The return



Pantelis Michanikos
(1926-1979)



In the cave of Cyclop

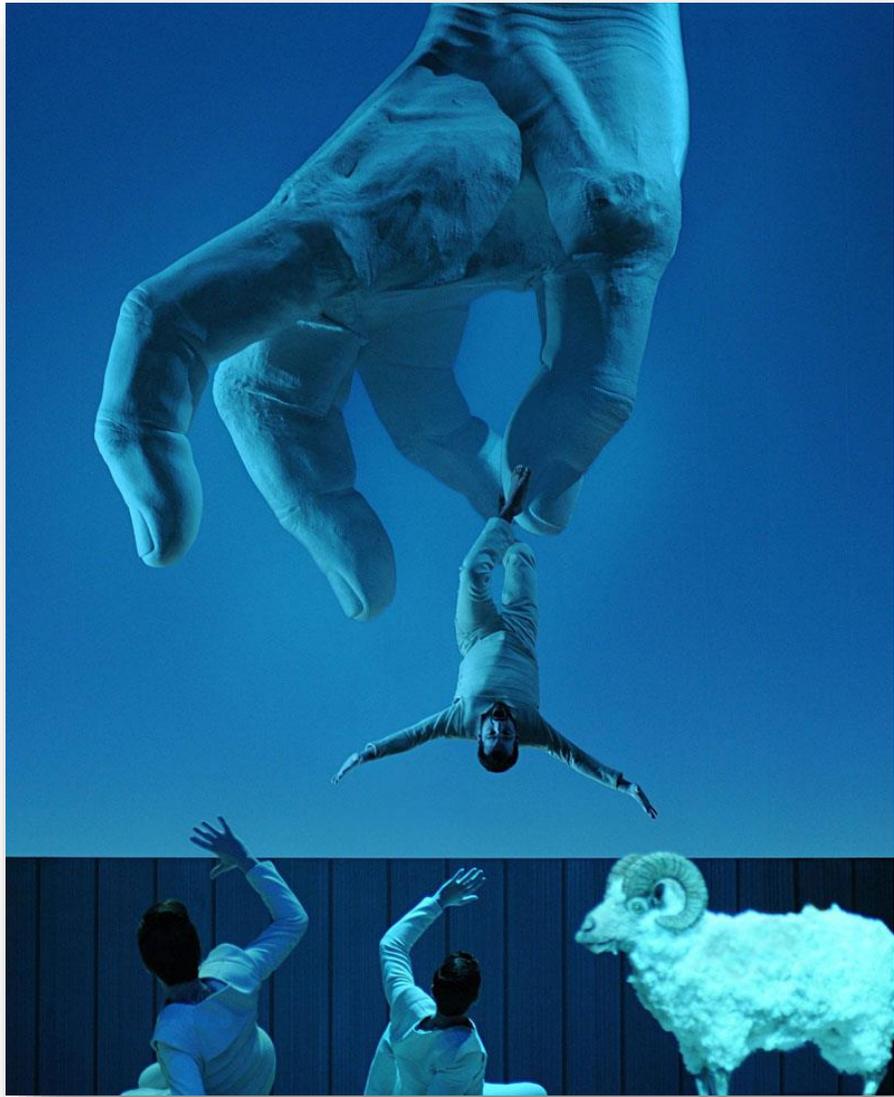
Odysseus was tied under the ram's belly.
(It is not, of course, a poetic image).





We are in the cave
and death stands at the door.
The heartbeat will pass
underneath the palpable
of Polyphemus.





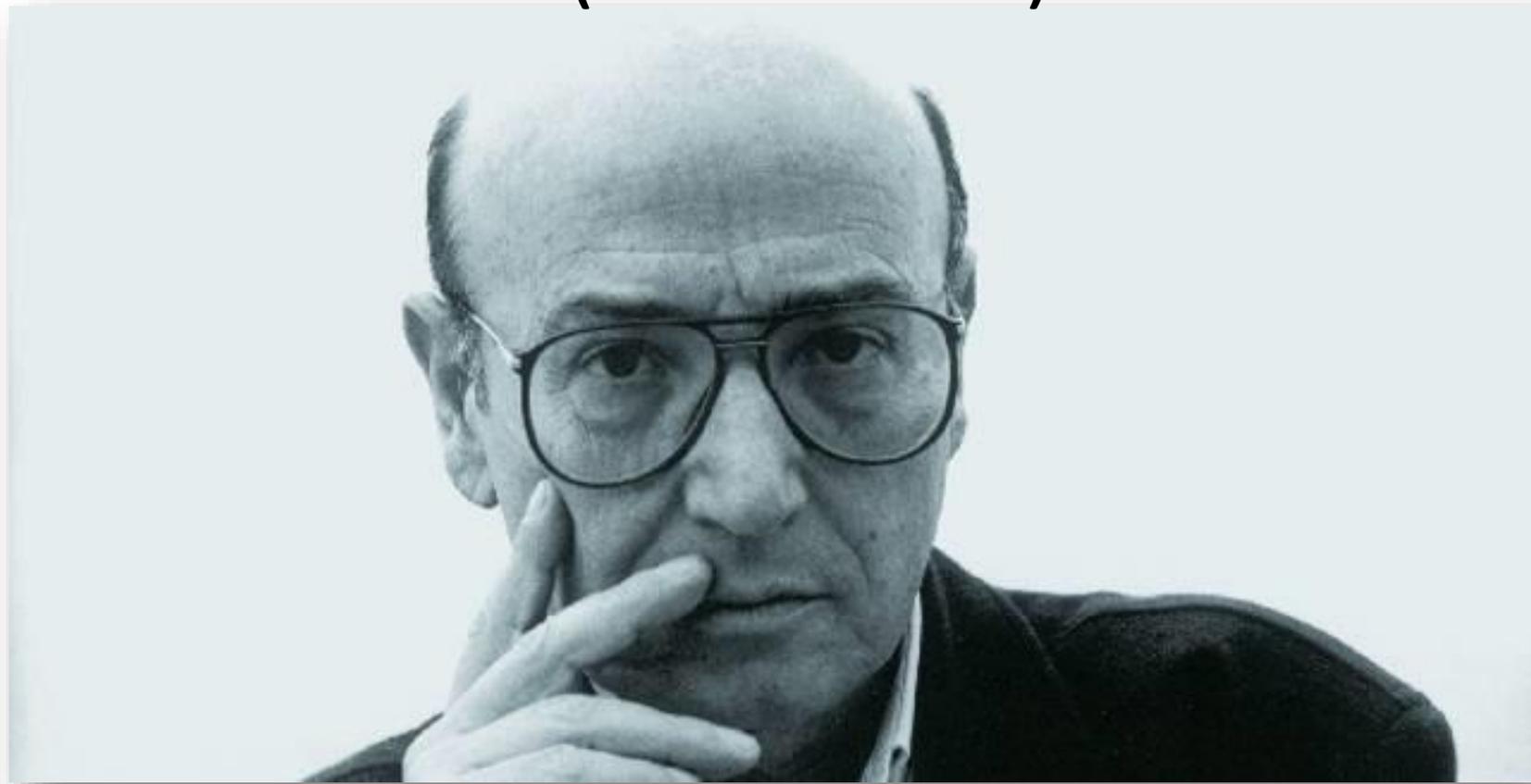
“My ram,
I will make golden horns for you
to copulate with brilliance
the ewes of Polyphemus.
But now
stretched your rugged body
and get me out of the death’s door.
Completely blind Polyphemus does not see light
and the sun is shining out of the cave.
There I will kiss you on the forehead
and caress your groin.”



He said, and giving a strong tweak
on ram's rear
Odysseus dared
towards life or death.



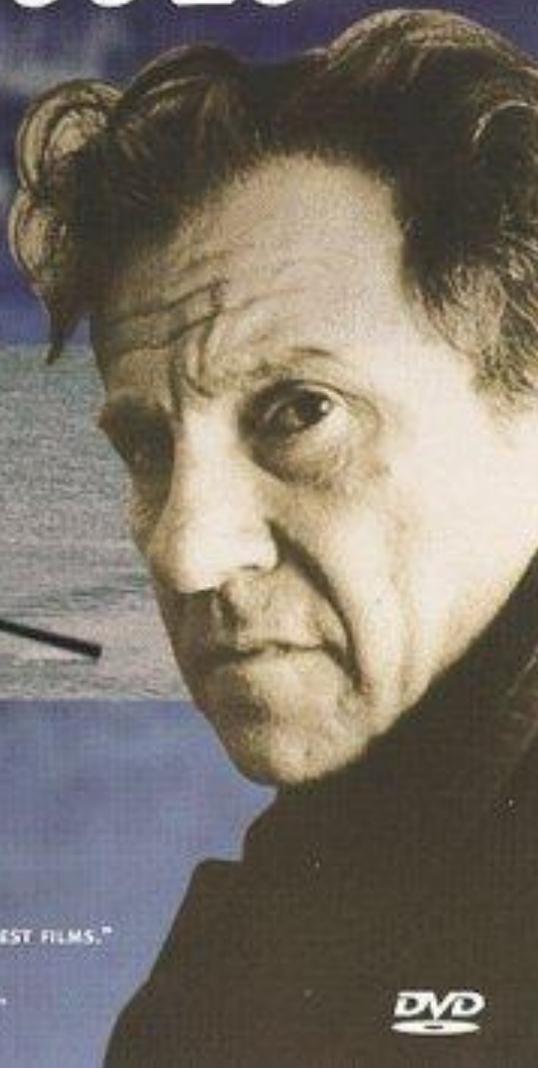
Theodoros Angelopoulos
Filmmaker
(1935-1912)



Harvey Keitel

In Theo Angelopoulos'
Masterpiece

ULYSSES' GAZE



★★★★★

-CHICAGO TRIBUNE, BOSTON GLOBE

"A MASTERPIECE...ONE OF THE YEAR'S TEN BEST FILMS."

-TIME MAGAZINE

"THUMBS UP! STUNNING, I WAS ENCHANTED."

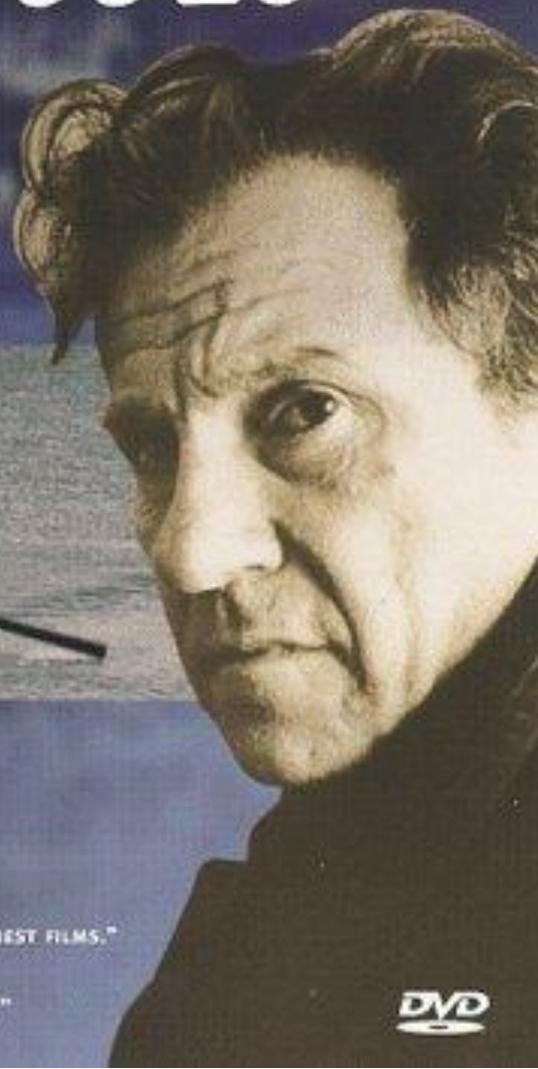
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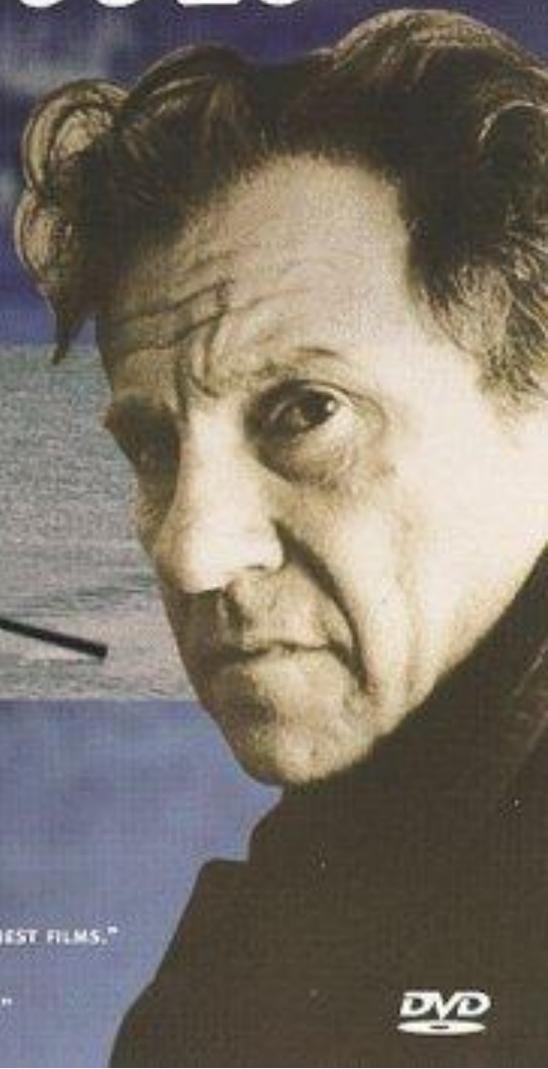
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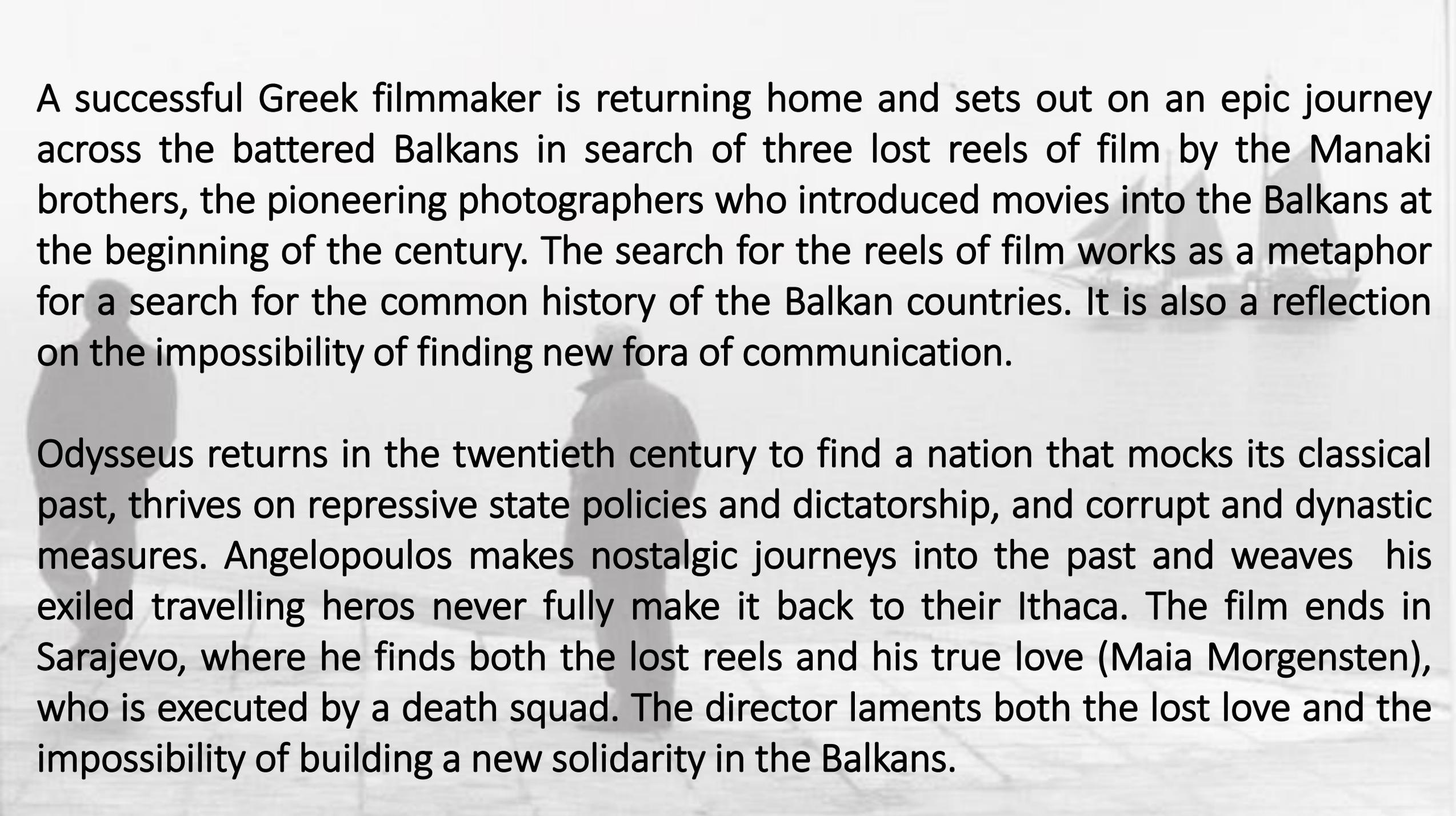
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"THUMBS UP! STUNNING, I WAS ENCHANTED."

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A successful Greek filmmaker is returning home and sets out on an epic journey across the battered Balkans in search of three lost reels of film by the Manaki brothers, the pioneering photographers who introduced movies into the Balkans at the beginning of the century. The search for the reels of film works as a metaphor for a search for the common history of the Balkan countries. It is also a reflection on the impossibility of finding new fora of communication.

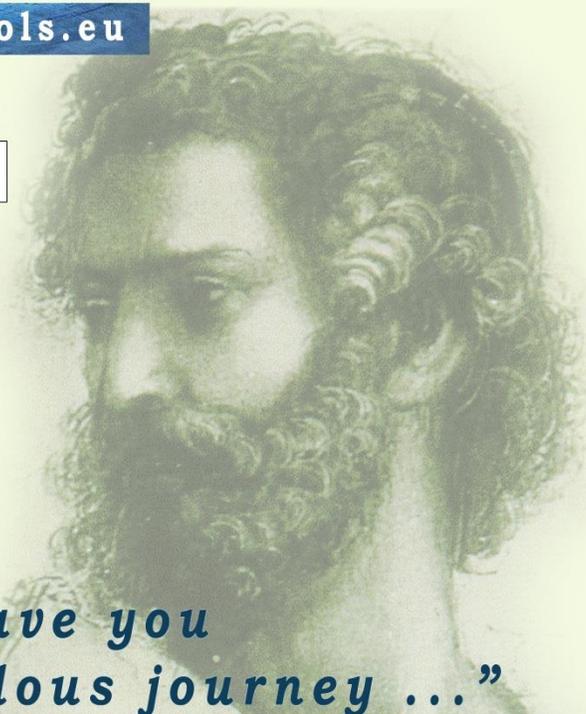
Odysseus returns in the twentieth century to find a nation that mocks its classical past, thrives on repressive state policies and dictatorship, and corrupt and dynastic measures. Angelopoulos makes nostalgic journeys into the past and weaves his exiled travelling heroes never fully make it back to their Ithaca. The film ends in Sarajevo, where he finds both the lost reels and his true love (Maia Morgensten), who is executed by a death squad. The director laments both the lost love and the impossibility of building a new solidarity in the Balkans.





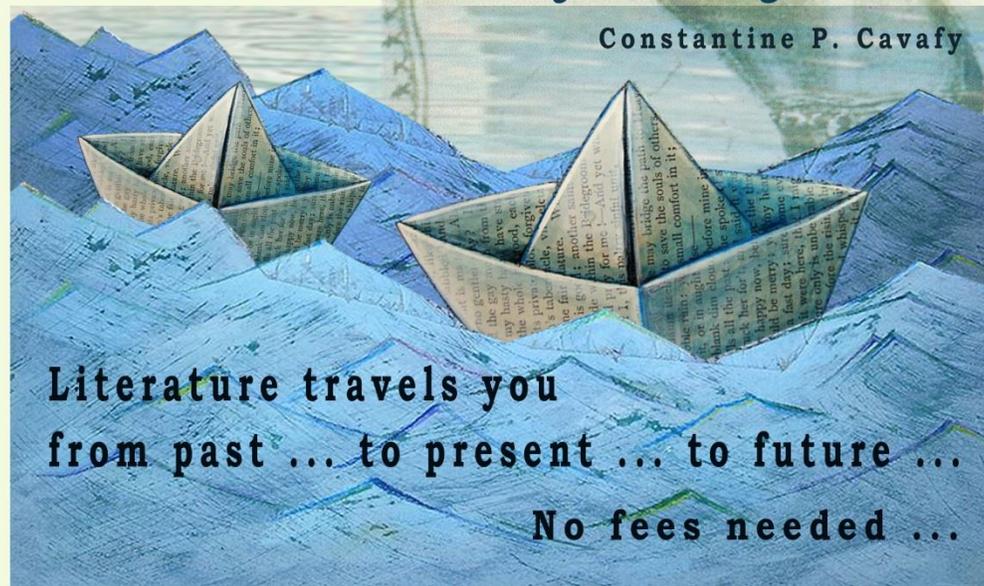
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